

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MIZORAM
(TWELFTH SESSION)

LIST OF BUSINESS

SECOND SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, THE 12TH MARCH, 2008
(Time 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

PRESENT

Pu Lalchamliana, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, 11 Ministers, Deputy Speaker and 26 Members were present.

OBITUARY

1. **PU ZORAMTHANGA** to make a reference on the demise of Pu R. Thangliana former Minister of Mizoram.
2. **PU ZORAMTHANGA** to make a reference on the demise of Pu K.Zahungliana former MLA of Mizoram

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPERS

4. **Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA** to lay on the Table of the House a copy of Gazette Notification relating to RTI Act, 2005 (Exemption from the application of the Right to Information Act, 2005)

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

5. **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

6. **PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA** to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Industrial Area (Management, Regulation and Control) Bill, 2008”

Also

to introduce the Bill.

DISCUSSION ON MOTION OF THANKS

7. Discussion on Motion of Thanks on the Address of the Governor (to be concluded)

S P E A K E R : “He who exhorts, in his exhortation ; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal ; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.
Romans 12: 8.

OBITUARY

Unfortunately, Pu R.Thangliana, Ex-Minister and Pu Zahungliana, Ex-MLA had passed away. We will, now, observe obituary on the deceased Ex-Members. We will call upon Pu Zoramthanga, the Leader of the House to make obituary reference in respect of the departed members.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Hon’ble Speaker Sir, it is unfortunate to
CHIEF MINISTER observe obituary reference on the two
ex-Hon’ble Members of the House. Pu
R.Thangliana ex - Minister and Pu
Zahungliana ex-MLA

Pu R.Thangliana Ex-Minister was 72 years old. He passed away on 22.11.2007 at 5:15 A.M. He was the fifth children of Pi Sappuipari and Pu Tuma, Khawpuar village. The couple had thirteen children. Pu R.Thangliana married Pi Lalliannhuri and had three sons and four daughters after the death of his first wife Pi V.L.Chhuangi.

He passed his HSLC examination from Bengali High School, Imphal at second division. He completed his graduation from St. Edmund’s College, Shillong in 1962. He served as the Headmaster and Asst. Headmaster at Sawleng High School for seven years.

Pu R.Thangliana entered into politics in 1967 and joined Mizo Union Party and became a Member of High Command. He was elected for MDC from Ratu constituency in 1970 in the District Council Election. He was a General Secretary of Mizo Union in 1971 – 1972. In the first election of Mizoram Union Territory he was elected from Aizawl ‘N’ constituency. He was the first Development Minister. He had taken charge of Finance and Revenue Departments at the end of his term. In the last U.T. election he was elected again from Ratu constituency and became a Minister taking charge of Food and Civil Supplies, Transport, Cooperation and Parliamentary Affairs. He was also a veteran leader of Congress Party. He was the Chairman of Mizoram KVI during 1990-1993 and Vice President of Congress Party in 1991-1993.

He was a healthy man but complained his health from May, 2006. He was taken to Vellore Christian Hospital on 9th June, 2006. During

investigation period his sense and balances fell down day by day. He went to sleep on 30th June 2006 and could not regain his consciousness till he passed away. He was brought back from there on 4th July, 2006. After that a stone was found in his kidney at Bethesda Hospital, Aizawl on August, 2006. He took treatment for this at home. The doctors felt that Pu R.Thangliana was suffering from Kretschfeld Jacob Disease. It is said that the central nervous system had been dismantled. He left his wife and children on 22nd November, 2007 at 5: 15 A.M.

Pu R.Thangliana left his wife, three sons and four daughters and 23 grand children. We, the people of Mizoram deeply mourn the death of such talented man.

Pu K.Zahungliana (56) Ex-MLA died of heart attack on 9th December, 2007 at 1:25 A.M. at Aizawl Civil Hospital. He was born in 1951 at Mamit village. He was the third son of Pu Lianthlawka and Pi Lianchhungi. He had two brothers and four sisters. He married Pi Lalnunemi on 7th September, 1977. He had one son and two daughters.

In education, he is a talented learner. He had completed B.Th and B.A. in the same year. He finished MA(Eco). He served as lecturer at Mamit College from 1983-1984. After this, he served as lecturer/teacher at Government K.M. Higher Secondary School till his last day. In 1985 – 1986 he served as a missionary in Delhi sponsored by Mission for Christ. During this time he was called to serve the people. He was elected as an MLA from Mamit constituency in the First Mizoram State Election by MNF ticket. He served as the Chairman of ZOHANCO. He abandoned politics after President's Rule was declared in Mizoram 1988 and returned to Govt. K.M. Higher Secondary School to teach.

Pu K.Zahungliana served God as far as possible. He held an important position in Chaltlang'S' Presbyterian Church.

Pu K.Zahungliana never complaint his health except his permanent back pain. But he had chest pain after he parked his vehicle on 8th December, 2007 at 9:30 PM. His breathing pace could not be controlled so on 9th December, 2007 at 1: 25 A.M. he left for his eternal life.

We, the members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly have to observe obituary reference in respect of these ex-members of the House. It is a great loss for the state. Thank you.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it is unfortunate to have obituary reference regarding the death of two veteran political leaders Mr R. Thangliana and Pu K.Zahungliana. It is surprising and shocking to us. The hon'ble House Leader had spoken about their personalities and I will not speak much about them.

Pu R.Thangliana may be regarded as a veteran politician because he was a High Command in Mizo Union Party and a member of this House during District Council period. He was also a member and a minister in Union Territory after Mizo Union and Congress parties were merged. We had a very good cooperation between the two parties. He had educated member of young men and women. He was one of the most important persons to serve the people. I am proud to say that he was a very efficient minister among my colleagues.

Due to his bad health he could not continue to serve the people. We had once contested once together in Aizawl North constituency, but Although our friendliness never changed and we campaigned together happily for our own.

Further, he spent his time serving in the Church in his late time. He was one of the veteran leaders in various ways. He was an important member in this august House even during District Council period. To lose such man is a great loss for the state. We wish that may God bless his bereaved family

On the other hand, Pu K.Zahungliana was personally my friend, we had visited Delhi together for our State Government. During our fellowship, he was a man who deeply feared God in any circumstances. He was not an extremist but he was a very patient man to use his brain. His performance was very good both in the House and even outside the House. It is unfortunate to lose such man for the House. We condole his bereaved family and pray that God may bless them.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : It is unfortunate to have obituary reference on the departed hon'ble ex-members of this august House Mr R. Thangliana and Mr. K. Zahungliana. I will add few things about them which had not been pointed out by the hon'ble House Leader and Opposition Leader.

Mr R.Thangliana was my dear fellow since 1972 i.e. the year of Mizoram Union Territory Election. In this year I was called up by Mizo Union. We had a closer relationship since 1978 up to his last day. He was an efficient minister having a talent to get good answer. He migrated to Aizawl from Khawpuar village on political ground. Though they were poor, he was an industrious man. I would like to say that we lost a great man.

In political field he was a frank and sincere man. He hated bribery and corruption. He was a treasurer in Mizoram Congress Party (MCP). He had a keen interest and earnestness in Mizoram politics. He was a patient man and a man of zeal in social life.

In regard to his medical treatment, Government of Mizoram and many of his friends and relatives supported him with huge money. I would like to give thanks to all of them on behalf of Pu R.Thangliana. It is unfortunate to lose such a man and we pray for his bereaved family.

At the same time, Pu K.Zahungliana was personally known to me since childhood . He lived at Mamit village during his childhood.

He was obedient to his parents from his childhood. Since he entered into politics we were closer than before. It was a great loss to lose such a man. I want his bereaved family to be blessed by God.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I will not say much about them. My relation with Pu R. Thangliana started from Shillong while reading in College. He entered politics before me. While he was a minister, he always requested me to visit him to discuss things.

As said before, he had a good character, patience and great zeal for our state. Even when he became a minister in 1984, he worked for the Government with patience, efficiency and a great zeal. It is unfortunate for the state to lose such man. It is not a lose only for his family but for the sate as well. We wish his bereaved family will be blessed by God.

Pu K.Zahungliana is younger to me although we have close relation. His fear of God is highly praiseworthy. Although he did not spent long time as a member, he had left us a great lesson for the members of this august House. He did everything with the hope that God will help him. He also wanted to do all things fairly. We prayed to God to bless his bereaved family. Thank you.

PU LALDUHOMA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I was acquainted with Mr R.Thangliana since he joined Mizo Union. At that time, I was the Block President of the Mizo Union in Champhai constituency. From that time, we had a good relation till date. What I want to say is that it is a great loss for Ratu constituency and the House. We pray his bereaved family be blessed by God.

Before his days of politics, I had known Pu K.Zahungliana as missionary in Delhi. He had lived in a poor house. During those time, I was an M.P. living at 128th North Avenue. I gave him half of my quarter and his friend for a period of one and half years without any rental charge. As it was not appropriate to put a missionary sign board at M.Ps quarter it was put only on the door of their own entrance. After his term as an MLA he served as a political secretary. But after that he resigned the post of secretary on ground of family problem. He left his wife Pi Nemi and his children and we pray that God will bless them. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : I think all of us will have a lot to speak about them but refrained from doing the same as obituary takes the time of question hour. Now, we will stand one minute in silence to mourn the departed leaders. (The House observed one minute silence).

Now, we will have question hour. Let us call upon Pu Lalhmingthanga to ask Starred Question No. 1.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister Finance Department be pleased to state –

- (a) From which year budget provision for BAFFACOS is made ?
- (b) The amount of fund allotted for each year since it's been started.
- (a) Number of families benefited under BAFFACOS till date. Can the beneficiaries be categorised trade wise ?

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon the hon'ble Chief Minister to answer.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Answer to the above Starred Questions
CHIEF MINISTER are –

- (a) 2004,
- (b) The amounts allotted in the budget in year-wise are –

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount in crore</u>
2004-2005	20.00
2005-2006	40.00
2006-2007	30.00
2007-2008	<u>35.00</u>
TOTAL -	125.00

(c) As the answer to question No.(c) is a bit complicate I can not give the answer now. It shall be furnished later on Department-wise.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Chief Minister be pleased to state the expenditure side of BAFFACOS i.e. Rs.125 crores in more detail.

PU K.LALRINLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, can the hon'ble Chief Minister give the members how BAFFACOS fund is utilized by various departments within this session ?

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it seemed that Rs.12500 lakhs from BAFFACOS had been spent for famine relief. Will the government examine the accuracy of the utilization of the said fund from 2004-2007?

Secondly, how much the government expect to receive BAFFACOS fund from Central Government ? If so received, will the government utilize it in accordance with the provision of its guidelines ?

S P E A K E R : Pu Sailothanga Sailo.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Thank you, hon'ble Speaker Sir. The guideline of BAFFACOS provides that the fund should be utilized for relieving poor cultivators in the villages other than in the urban areas. Whether the said guideline is true ?

S P E A K E R : Let us now call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister to answer the supplementary questions.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, as some questions are of the same kind, I will answer together.

First of all, the departments which utilized BAFFACOS fund may be stated as follow –

<u>Name of Department</u>	<u>Rupees in crore</u>
1. Agriculture Department	6.4
2. Horticulture Department	15.87
3. Soil & Water Conservation Department	2.78
4. A.H. & Vety Department	6.84
5. Environment & Forests Department	9.64
6. Land Revenue & Settlement Department	4.25
7. Rural Development Department	24.03
8. Industries Department	17.72
9. Sericulture Department	2.90
10. Food Civil Splies & Consumer Affairs Deptt.	5.78
11. Health & Family Welfare Department	3.35
12. Information & Public Relation Department	1.76
13. Public Works Department	20.00
14. Local Administration Department	0.50.

The detail report will be supplied in written during this session.

Regarding the beneficiaries, they were examined by government to prevent misuse. Even in the selection of beneficiaries, the guidelines can not be followed properly because there are some cultivators in urban areas whose farms are situated in remote areas. That is why some farmers in urban areas are also benefited by BAFFACOS Fund.

We made no more demand to the Central Government for the coming financial year as it is expected to be a blessed year.

The steps taken by the government through BAFFACOS is vastly noticed. The period of famine due to flowering of bamboo is only two or one year. But we need to be prepared for two or three years ahead. The detail report of the step taken by government through BAFFACOS will be supplied to the hon'ble members within this session. Generally it is the step taken by government to fight famine which is praiseworthy.

S P E A K E R : I will call upon two members Pu H.Rohluna and Pu Lalduhawma and one member from my right side. Now, let us call upon Pu H.Rohluna.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, whether the Government of Mizoram accepted its failure to fight famine after spending Rs. 12,500 lakhs.

PU LALDUHAWMA : Thank you hon'ble Speaker Sir. As we know, Food and Civil Supplies Department utilized not more than 6% of BAFFACOS fund. About 94% was used by other departments. I feel that the procedure of utilization of the BAFFACOS fund is not right. What I want to ask is whether the Government of Mizoram can spend the existing balance of BAFFACOS fund for the purpose of purchasing rice to meet the requirement of families effected by famine ?

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, our adjoining states too have bamboo flowering. Whether the adjoining states used BAFFACOS fund? Secondly, whether BAFFACOS is thoughtful formulation of the hon'ble Chief Minister's idea ?

Secondly, whether any charge sheet had been imposed against any minister or official on ground of misused of BAFFACOS fund ?

Can it be a political game played by the opposition parties ?

Fourthly, whether the publication in today's Vanglaini is true regarding road connectivity constructed for Vankal village through BAFFACOS fund. Does this mean BAFFACOS fund is properly used ?

S P E A K E R : Two minutes left. Let us call upon the hon'ble Chief Minister to answer all questions.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, in regard to Pu Rohluna's supplementary question I would like to inform the House that we totally accept the success of BAFFACOS.

The hon'ble member Pu Laldhawma said that BAFFACOS fund is too meagre to purchase rice as it is a fund to relieve famine. It is true to some extent but we used enough amount to purchase rice. Many alternative channel is needed to fight famine. That is why, it is needed to use BAFFACOS fund under various departments.

Regarding BAFFACOS, Pu Chhandama asked whether the adjoining states have BAFFACOS. The answer is that they have no BAFFACOS though bamboo flowering which caused famine affected them.

I also like to inform the House that no chargesheet is made against anyone regarding the distribution of BAFFACOS fund. In fact, number of roads have been constructed to connect the remote villages which could not be covered by PMGSY etc. But we can not reach our expectation.

We believe that we can survive during famine by means of various schemes undertaken through BAFFACOS.

In short, it is very pleasing that valuable contributions had been made by voluntary organization, say, YMA and Churches. The Government of Mizoram had a lot to thank them.

LAYING OF PAPERS

S P E A K E R : Question hour comes to an end. We will proceed to our next business.

Before this, Pu K.Lianzuala the hon'ble member applied leave of the House to have medical check-up at Vellore.

Now, let us call upon Dr R.Lalthangliana, the hon'ble Minister to lay on the Table of the House "The copy of Gazetted Notification relating to RTI Act, 2005 Exemption from the Application of Right to Information Act, 2005".

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : With your kind permission and permission of the House Mr Speaker, I laid on the Table of the House the copy of Gazetted Notification relating to RTI Act, 2005 Exemption from the application of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

S P E A K E R : The copy be laid on the Table of the House.

The Business Advisory Committee carefully chalked the programme of this session which is to be followed now. I am now presenting the report of BAC. The copy had been published on the Bulletin. Let the copy be laid on the Table of the House.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Although we were orally informed the date on which our Starred Questions are to be asked. We, sometimes mixed them up, can there be better proposal to fix date when our Starred Questions will be answered.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

S P E A K E R : The copy may be distributed to all the members today. We shall now go on to the legislative business. The hon'ble Minister Pu B. Lalthlengliana may be asked to introduce 'The Mizoram Industrial Area (Management, Regulation and Control) Bill, 2008.

**PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA
MINISTER** : Mr Speaker Sir, with your permission and approval of the House I beg leave of the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Industrial Area (Management, Regulation and Control) Bill, 2008.

S P E A K E R : If the House permits, the Minister may introduce the Bill

**PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA
MINISTER** : Mr Speaker, with your permission and approval of the House I hereby introduce 'The Mizoram Industrial Are (Management, Regulation and Control) Bill, 2008.

DISCUSSION ON MOTION OF THANKS

S P E A K E R : The copy of the Bill may be circulated to the members and the same would be left for future discussion.

We shall now go on to the last business which is Motion of Thanks. The Governors Address had already been moved for discussion of the House. Let us now call upon the mover Pu A.B. Chakma. The mover would be allotted 15 minutes and the other members would be allotted 10 minutes.

PU A.B. CHAKMA : Thank you, Mr Speaker for being able To participate in the discussion on motion of thanks. I would like to highlight that the crime rate had dropped by 6.83% compared to the previous year. As seen in the Address, maintenance of law and order and investigation and persecution of crimes in the state are being made effectively in the state. I think this is truly a big step forward. As we are all aware the state had been facing economic problem due to unsuccessful cultivation of paddy last year. It is pleasing to witness the relief measures taken by the government. I am glad that the Governor's Address does not miss this achievement.

I am also glad to note that mention had been made in the Address that Chhimtuipui Multi Model Transport System had been started.

It is a great pleasure to note from the Governor's Address that Mizoram achieved 1st position in literacy. I am also proud to mention that safe drinking water system had been provided to various schools in Mizoram.

I am also proud to see that various developmental works have been awarded for Chakma Autonomous District Council area. New branch of State Bank of India had also been opened. There are many points to be mentioned. However, I will not go into detail. Therefore, Mr Speaker, I move this motion of thanks in the House. Thank you.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Thank you, Mr Speaker. First of all, I would like to say on matter relating to law and order. Law and order does not mean procurement of police materials and purchase of bullet proof jacket. If we call Mizoram the most peaceful state in India we should not concentrate only on procurement of defence materials at an extremely high price. The Government seems to be more interested in purchasing expensive unnecessary materials. It should be more concentrated in providing proper law and order facility to the people. As we have seen in the death of Rev. Chanchinmawia the majority people have not been satisfied with the police report . Therefore it is the responsibility of the government to provide true and proper law and order to the people instead of accumulating unnecessary and expensive vehicles and other materials.

Page 4 of the Address had mentioned that improved variety of paddy, maize, oilseed and pulses have been distributed to the farmers as a mean to combat the coming Mautam famine. However, where is the produce ? I feel very disappointed in the action of the government in this regard.

On page 7 of the Address there is mention about the various performance made by the MNF Ministry. However, I would like to emphasize that construction of many government buildings and black topping of internal city roads are not to be considered as an achievement if there is no work quality.

Again page 8 of the Address had mentioned that the Greater Aizawl Water Supply Scheme Phase-II had been commissioned on 19.5.2007. Though the name is great the project does not generate even a single drop of water.

Health Services had been mentioned on page 9 of the Address. However, there is no mention of special medical re-imburement scheme or the construction of Out Patient Department building. Does this signify that the MNF Minister had been hiding something behind medical re-imburement scheme and the construction of Out Patient Department at the Civil Hospital ?

The Governor's speech had emphasized the improvement of the quality of education in Mizoram. On page 10 of the Address the literacy rate of Mizoram which is 89.42 % had been highlighted as an achievement. However, this information had been obtained from the September issue of India Today. Any information to be given in this august House should be obtained from reliable sources.

Regarding the much debated case of BAFFACOS, we can not deny the fact that fund under BAFFACOS had not been utilized according to the scheme. It is the fault of the MNF Ministry that BAFFACOS fund does not reach the rural population. It is most regrettable that the MNF Ministry had failed in implementing this scheme.

On page 20 of the Address mention had been made on the Mizoram Civil Court Bill, 2005. Here, I would like to argue that the government of Mizoram had not yet exercised separation of judiciary from the executive. The Criminal Court under the Deputy Commissioner's Court had barely been going on whereas the Civil Court is going on from bad to worse. It seems that separation of Judiciary from the executive had not yet been implemented because the ruling Minister still want to exercise their power over the Judges and the Magistrates.

On page 21 of the Governor's Address there is mention of the sanction of Rs.300.00 lakhs for housing assistance of MNF returnees. Though this provision is very pleasing, it would be more appreciated if it was done before. I would further like to suggest that more than Rs.300.00 lakhs be sanctioned for rehabilitation of the returnees.

The introduction of VAT also requires review as it can create problem for the Mizo traders.

S P E A K E R : Before I call upon the next person, I would like to make an announcement regarding the late Rev.Chanchinmawia. His bereaved wife had made an appeal to all the Mizos not to give any more statements regarding the death of her husband. I would like to request all the members to keep this in their minds.

Let us call upon Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Thank you, Mr Speaker. I think there are many points to be grateful for in the Governor's speech. He deserved to be called Father of the State for he tried his level best in delivering his first Address in Mizo language. This introductory speech also made the House in a jolly mood.

It is , again delightful to hear that our Governor, in his meeting with the Press of various parts of India frequently pointed out about Mizoram relating to its position in literacy, its credibility in maintenance of Law & Order situation and developments which had been made so far for which he deserves much appreciation.

Further more, it is appreciated that our Governor pointed out achievements under Agriculture and Horticulture Departments where as 70% of the total population of Mizoram are engaged and his appreciation to the government for its plan for upliftment of those farmers. He further outlines steps taken by the government to combat bamboo related famine with the help of Agriculture and minor irrigation which is also highly appreciated.

It had also been stated that the government distributed Rs. 1293 lakh from gratuity relief fund for bamboo related famine and 1000 lakhs rupees to provide employment to the concerned people which is much appreciated.

On the contrary, it is regretted to learn that the central government issued less than half of our demand of food grains despite approach made by our government to provide 6810 metric tones. Our Governor, therefore deserves much appreciation for showing his concern for our government by pointing out this need.

In regard to Industry, it is worth taking note of the distribution of aids to 1110. Skilled persons, and the sending of 100 uneducated students for training to Delhi and Calcutta. Further, it is also worth giving praise to the arrangement made for safe drinking water to 2926 schools and the construction of 55258 toilets under sanitation campaign, 762 Anganwadi centres are provided with

toilet. Pu Speaker, it is also worth taking note of the achievement made in regard to Health Department, like the construction of Lunglei Civil Hospital, Accident and Trauma Centre. Kolasib, Serchhip, 6 District Hospitals and the investment of 1 crore for management of Civil Hospital. Further, it is also pleasing to note that Rs.11.50 crores had been sanctioned as first installment for the construction of additional five hundred beds at Civil Hospital and 100 beds at Champhai Hospital. Also that the Detail Project Report of 19.15 crores had been completed for Saiha Civil Hospital.

Pu Speaker, it is appreciated that the Governor highlighted the huge progress made in education. In fact, it is worth mentioning that our state is number one in Primary level in the country as per grading of India Today, the widest magazine which covers the country. I am grateful that the Governor highlighted all these amazing achievements of the government, and that, we could listen for one hour with forbearance. Thank you.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. To me it seems that the Governor read out the vision and achievements of the government like hon'ble members before me have mentioned there is hardly any huge project in the achievements highlighted in the speech. Instead, only minor works such as the construction of Anganwadi toilets, statistical hand-book, the construction of check-gates are highlighted in the speech. Pu Speaker, three mechanical rope ways are mentioned in the speech, I know of only one mechanical rope, I need a clarification on this. I regret to state that there is no land mark project and assets for the state in the achievement highlighted. IAY and PMGRY are centrally sponsored scheme which comes from central government every year, it is not famine combating scheme. The central government takes great care for the welfare of this state. As we have heard from the hon'ble House Leader, Rs. 142 crores had been sanctioned for BAFFACOS.

Pu Speaker, in Sport Department, it is surprising that nothing is mentioned in regard to Rajiv Gandhi's Stadium. The government had floated tender for the project, but it is surprising that no tender had been received till yesterday inspite of today being the last date. I am concerned that the government will not take up the project in reality as it is one of the major projects which the youth of this state is looking forward to.

Pu Speaker, as I have mentioned earlier, in the achievement highlighted in the speech there is no project that could be the assets of the state. If this is the vision and the achievement of the government, I feel that the present government no longer deserves to hold on to the ministry. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let us now call Pu Andrew Lalherliana.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. This is the last Budget Session of the 5th Assembly. Since this is the last Budget Session, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of my constituency for electing me as their representative and the hon'ble Speaker for his calm and effective guidance. Also, the hon'ble House Leader for his able leadership and the opposition group leaders for being effective and responsible opposition leaders.

Pu Speaker, the way I view this Governor's speech is, as the Governor is constitutional head he is not involved in day to day administration, thus I was expecting that the speech will highlight visionary perspective of Mizoram. However, the speech is prepared by official which is not systematic. There are points in the speech which are minor works that need not be included in the speech. Thus, in future I would request the official to take more careful steps in preparing the speech as it is the speech of the constitutional head.

Pu Speaker, there had to be achievements made by this government that are worth giving praise. However, from my point of view, like BAFFACOS, which is mentioned in the speech is not implemented accordingly. The Church had to take up the famine relief which prove that the famine management is not implemented accordingly.

In section 25, Urban Development. I regret to state that nothing is mentioned about Urban Local Body. Pu Speaker, the people are in a hurry and so is the government, there by which, Municipality Bill was passed in the House but nothing is mentioned in the speech as of its take off.

In regard to infrastructure development, section 12 of the Governor's speech mentioned about call centre. But, how will it be possible to constitute a call centre if power is not sufficient. Thus, the question is when will there be sufficient power supply to have call centre. Further, in order to constitute call centre. Multi National Companies had to be invited where the state government will only be the facilitator. Also information highway is required, but, BSNL Broad Band is not sufficient, thus power grid corporation is required, if not, without information highway it is impossible to have call centre. Thus, proper plan is required to constitute call centre.

There is one point in the speech which makes me happy, that is, section 17 which stated that National Frame Work shall be implemented in Indian educational system which does not have the desired effect from the look of the

people's civic sense and the out break of violence, the educational system is only theoretical. Thus, NCERT is constituted for focus group, comprising of intellectual, thereby which National curriculum frame work emerges out of these focus group. It is a satisfactory . I am therefore, grateful that the Mizoram government is adopting the system.

There is one more point I would like to point out that is, Lengpui Airport had functioned without Instrumental Landing System for the past 10 years. Recently, German Doctors have to return home after their flight was cancelled for 4 days. I would request the government to give priority to Instrumental Landing System.

There is not much to discuss today, I would suggest that next Governor's speech should contain developmental programmes for Mizoram. Thank you.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Pu Speaker, thank you. I would like to thank for the Governor's speech. We should bear in mind that if the government is humiliated it is the humiliation of the people of the state, as well.

Pu Speaker, I would like to point out certain points which the Governor did not mention but which I feel should have been mentioned. Our state is still facing huge set-back in infrastructure like in Power, Railway and Air connectivity. The government should take step in this regard.

Pu Speaker, there are centrally sponsored scheme and state government's project. If we categorize these schemes, there is hardly any state government's project. PMGSY, SSA, IWDP, BADP food for work programme, Rural connectivity, appointment of Hindi Teacher, distribution of text books and uniforms, construction of market buildings, community hall, transport terminal building, construction of school building, distribution of BPL food grains are all on-going schemes of the central government. Pu Speaker, all the on-going projects are centrally sponsored scheme, there is no on-going projects of the state government. These projects will come from the central government no matter who is holding the ministry.

I would like to point out in regard to Law and Order as to how I observed the present government. The performance of the government can be judged from the way it execute Law and Order in the state. The present government, instead of executing law and order for the security and welfare of the state, is more concern with the coming election and staying in power. Thus, Mizoram does not have a secure and healthy government Pu Speaker, various associations have sprung

up lately who vested power on themselves which will eventually lead to the survival of the fittest. I, therefore feel that for a secure Mizoram we need government who govern according to the requirements of time and circumstance that arises. Pu Speaker, the authorities should execute their power and should uphold the rights and dignity of the people. In this present government the focus is only on MNF party, there is nothing expect for people outside the party. Therefore, the government should examine itself.

I would like to point out few points in regard to social reform during this MNF ministry, the law and order in the state had gone down and the moral values of the people is deteriorating. As per population ratio, drug addict rate had gone up immensely. The Church realizing the present situation of the state had to take up steps in social reforms. It is good to learn that various organizations have sprung up to safe the people from deteriorating. Thank you.

PU K. VANLALAUVA : Pu Speaker, thank you. First of all I would like to thank for serial No. 4 of the speech which stated the government intends to give grants for dwelling houses to MNF returnees.

Pu Speaker, I would like to highlight serial No. 33 Sport and Youth Services. It was pleasing to note that international standard stadium it to be constructed. However, it is unfortunate that some of the hon'ble members spoke doubtfully of the project and from the information, we have spoken against it to their leaders at the central government. Pu Speaker, we should work together for the fulfillment of the project.

No. 14 of the speech highlighted significant achievements made in the construction of National Highways and bridges. I would like to thank the government for Tuipui bridge in my constituency since it had been the craving of the people of the constituency for the past many years.

As we are all aware, the government had taken all effort to check and combat entry of the dreaded bird flu disease which broke out in the neighbouring countries and states. Due to this reason, the rate of pork had gone up drastically, therefore, I would like to suggest that if it will be possible, to deploy doctors at the borders to check all animals and station the animals for examination at least for three days and thereby which, the animals if passed the examination, could be imported. Pu Speaker, I just wanted to highlight these few points. Thank you.

PU S. HIATO : Pu Speaker, thank you. Though there are certain points to give thanks to the Governor's speech, I also do not think that if the Governor himself had drafted the speech I would not prefer to as it had been drafted now. Pu Speaker, how can we give thanks to Agriculture census which is still under printing that was mentioned in the speech. The speech is too detail.

The Governor's speech highlighted the recruitment of Ex-servicemen to the Army, Navy and Coast Guard. But, Pu Speaker, these are not the achievement of the government but personal achievement that are highlighted in the speech.

Pu Speaker, there is nothing pleasing for District Council. The Budget increased not even by 1% whereas the state Budget increases by 17%.

It is pleasing that MBC had been increased but it is also unfortunate to state that fake notes were floated during Chakma District Council Election. In spite of the distribution of money, it was significant to note that MNF party could not regain majority.

Can we call the sending of two youths to Japan an achievement ? so does the distribution of scholarship an achievement ? Also, it is mentioned in the speech that Champhai Hospital will be upgraded and DPR of 19.45 crore for Saiha had been submitted. Is there any thing to give thanks for when only the application is submitted. Infact, it was submitted last year, we expect it to be materialized by now. Thus, there is nothing pleasing.

Regarding the grants to families of MNF returnees mentioned in the speech, the fund is diverted from Disaster Management which means that the people will have to suffer while you are pleased with the grant.

Pu Speaker, we are facing gregarious flowering of bamboo, and the rural people are facing famine, there is no food grain. I made a call this morning to Vawmbuk, Lungpher and Bualpui NG. Today, there is no rice in Chhualung and Niawhtlang. In Saiha, there is only 140 qtls. also, what will we eat if there is no rice ? In our previous Budget, our Chief Minister promised us that " We are not going to allow any member of the citizen to suffer from the depression of famine, because of this I am very thankful.

Our Minister also said, "don't worry we will not die of famine". But, where is the rice ? If there is no rice what will we eat ? They said we built godown, and construct road for carrying. But what is the use of godown if there is no rice to stock. The other day, I went to Parva, in their godown there is only cow-dung. So, let us not console ourselves falsely. We need an efficient Finance Minister just like Joseph, who provide all the Egyptians with rice through out the famine period.

They said they prepared themselves through BAFFACOS, but the fund was diverted to other schemes. Because of this, we all now, face hardship which cannot be rectified. As they use the scheme for their party workers benefit, that is why we are now facing famine.

Mr Speaker Sir, we cultivate land and prepared a vast land for cultivation of paddies, but the seed is not provided. But I will come to this subject later.

We always said Power and Electricity is the main source for development of the country. But only small projects are highlighted in the Governor's speech. Project like Tuirial, Bairabi and Chhimtuipui are omitted while small project like Serlui'B' are highlighted. From this point of view it appears that we have no desire to build and develop this country which made me feel sad instead of happy.

Lastly, Mr Speaker Sir, I am very happy to say that Multi Model Transport is going to be done in Chhimtuipui which is also good for Mizoram. Credit should be given to the central government and Myanmar government not the MNF Minister. So, I would like to convey my thanks to the central and Myanmar government. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, our time is almost over, let us have a break and resume at 2:00 P.M.

2 : 00 P.M.

S P E A K E R : We will continue our discussion. Eight Members have already delivered their speech, who will be next? Pu Saikapthianga.

P U S A I K A P T H I A N G A : Mr Speaker, thank you. As a whole, our Governor's speech is adequate. It had neither development nor backwardness and will not meet the expectation of our young generation and does not highlight step taken for development for the welfare of the state.

On the first para, we see that crime rate is stated to be going down, while it appears that crime rate had been going up in an around Aizawl more than before. But, the official report does not show any of these. I think we have to be more accurate in our statistic.

Last year, record showed that while different crime rates are declining, rape case is increasing. So, we have to take a special measures in this area and have to think hard.

In the third para, we see that minor irrigation in 53 areas are going to be completed during 2007-2008. We have to take drastic measure to improve our minor irrigation system. As it is, we faced many problem due to lack of good irrigation system.

I like to make a suggestion in regards to our Governor's speech. To face the coming Mautam, turmeric and its seeds are purchased and delivered in various parts of Mizoram. But, we also have to think about how to export it and I hope that our Finance Minister will have a way for its export and import in the budget.

Regarding rice as shown in no. 8, the central government know that we are going to face famine and preparation was made through BAFFACOS. What I cannot understand is that knowing we are about to face famine they reduce our quota. I do not know about other states, but according to the concerned Department 2,44,600 quintals had been cut down. And request had been made by our government to increase our quota. We can have 55000 qtls. per month from our original quota of 680100 qtls. and the price is also raised, because of this the government have to spent Rs.5/- per Kg in every ration.

As we are still facing Mautam, the policy taken by the central is not equitable. I saw poster posted in the street demanding free distribution of rice and some of us from this House also demand it so that they can take all the credit and strengthen their position. Sometime we give all the credit to the central government by saying it is not them but the central who is responsible for our development. If it is, why not blame them. Why not pass a resolution demanding half of our quota be distributed among the people free of cost. As representative of the people, it is our duty to pass it and demand the central government to implement it in our present situation, we have to stand united. If not, we are really going to face famine come June, July, August especially the backward areas. So, we have to be united and not blame one another to improve our food condition. The ruling ministry alone can not shoulder this responsibility so let us give all we can and think hard.

In point no. 13 – regarding Power. Not much progress can be seen, but I am not going to say on the negative side as we all are aware of how it is. As I have already said in the previous session, in point 14, Mr Speaker, I like to point out what I think is important. While the government takes step for National Highways, we have to improve our bridges in various parts of Mizoram as it causes

problems during rainy season especially in Hachhek area. Widening of road for Karimganj pass made the road slippery and muddy for supply vehicles to pass. Entrance of Teirei bridge from Mamit had been repaired by YMA and PWD but need much improving otherwise all of Mamit and its area will be cut off during rainy season. So, step had to be taken for the betterment of the under privileged.

Mr Speaker, I want to return to our previous subject regarding rice. Preparation for 100 days labour had been going on but will come into effect only on May and June. The gap is too long, I suggest that arrangement should be made and ask the Central to increase our quota. Thank you.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr Speaker, thank you. While having a discussion on our Governor's speech, the present ministry's second term is almost over. Our Chief Minister promised us in three years time we will be self sufficient, but there is still no sign of sufficiency and it sadden me.

Regarding crime rate, it appears to be decreasing . But the government had to take serious measures as many lives have been lost due to road accident. Our Newspaper flash on and off of the incident. Besides, raping of underage is a serious and worse crime the government had to take a step forward to stop it.

Regarding Agriculture, it shows that the Mizo people are still facing hunger because of Mautam. They know that we are going to face Mautam and made preparation since 2004.

Our House Leader accepted their success in their preparation. From 2004 preparation have been made through BAFFACOS scheme for the coming Mautam. Still, all our cultivators had nothing to cultivate. Many questions had been raised regarding BAFFACOS. And the government assured the people they will be alleviated. But, I think that it is time for them to accept their failure. Beg forgiveness to our farmers and cultivators. If we say, why, from 2004 rupees ten thousand lakh twenty thousand five hundred had been put in our Budget and spend almost all of it and still we are still facing famine. We see in our Governor's speech that " Within a short time the plight of the rural farmers shall be greatly lessened due to active measures taken by the government". It is not right to give our people wrong assurances. For those who had no food to eat for today and who are poverty stricken there is no consolation. We may think that we put all the blame to our government, but what can we do or say if the decision taken by the government cannot alleviate us from poverty. It is their responsibility to protect and see that their citizens are freed from poverty but if they failed, they should take all the responsibility. So, the government should give its people assurance and take step to improve the situation.

Last year we heard from our House Leader how an Army General planned a strategy for war, likewise our government also make strategy to face mautam. But, while having a great strategist we are still poverty stricken. Let our government accept that they failed us.

Regarding Power & Electricity Department, we saw that under RGGVY, rupees 102 crore had been accepted by REC Limited. But it had not been used during 2007, because they repeated 2007 Governor's speech word by word in this year Governor's speech. As this department is under our Chief Minister's portfolio it is very humiliating to know that there had been no development taken by this department.

Mr Speaker, building check-gate at Vairengte makes our ginger buyers in a state of discord. Why not let them roam the villages and let them purchase any amount they want freely. The government imposed restriction in sale, our growers are unable to sell it and a large amount of trips are going to be wasted. Therefore, the government have to find a solution for the farmers in this regard.

I am very happy to learn that the government is intending to finance the MNF returnees for the construction of their houses. This should have been done long ago not in their last tenure.

Our Governor's speech brings many praiseworthy things, but overall there is not much development to praise for in regard to the work done by the government Mr Speaker, thank you.

PU F. LAL THANZUALA : Mr Speaker, in our Governor's speech there are many big things which we are to be thankful about. Firstly, it is great to know that our crime rate decreased by 6.3%. This is good news for all of us as crime is what makes our lives miserable. 6% of crime rate had been decreased since last year, so, it is a point to be celebrated about for Mizoram in our Governor's speech.

Crime occurs where there is a weak government. As the crime rate decreases it shows that our government is strong enough to take care of its citizen and is strong enough to stand up against crime. If crime rate decreases we can have social security. Mostly crime occurs because of poverty, under development, particularly in weak governance. But as we all heard from our Governor's speech, our crime rate decreases, this shows that we can see growth in our economic development, because less crime produced economic growth. So, yesterday we received a great speech from our Governor.

So, when crime rate decreases, it shows that in Mizoram we have improvement in our moral and it will be joyful for our churches to hear this. We all thought that the Mizo people moral is lost for awhile, but the decrease of crime rate shows that all is not lost. While we read in a newspaper that we are going to face punishment for our crime, it appears it is not so, instead our Governor proclaimed that our crime rate had decreased, we should be thankful for that.

On the 10th pages we see that our literacy rate is the highest with 89.42%. Some of us speak disparagingly of our success, said we have no real value in education and no real learned men. We compare ourselves with our neighbouring state like Assam, whose society is much older than ours. Compare to them we are only an infant. Our ancestors are savages when missionary came to our land and we celebrate Gospel centenary only a year ago during that time, Assam already had great kings and they are already in history book. While we started having High School they already have University. So, it is not fair to compare ourselves with someone who are much older than us in many field which dissatisfied us.

Highest literacy rate in India shows that the Mizo people in general are well educated and advanced in literacy. It also shows that we have taken a step to implement democracy as we are in a democractic state. It is a great achievement for us and for the department. So, it is very satisfying to know that our Governor's speech show us that we are now going forward in upliftment of education and become number one instead of Kerela.

Regarding Kolodyne Multimodel Transport Project, I am very thankful to say that in the past Lunglei to Tlabung are the main route as there is an opening for the southern part which produced political leader and learned men. But after independence, all our route for transport are stopped, only Silchar route is open. So, the future of southern part was then very bleak. Because of this we try to fight for ourselves and started having organization to fight for the southern and try to demand Union Territory. The reason for all of these are because we have no source of income and no opening all source of income go to the northern side. But now we are going to have an opening and a source of income through this project. This is going to be very useful for the southern part as it will give us a chance to have a solid income and money will flow from this part and we will become developed. We may think that our Governor's speech had no vision but on the otherhand we can see vision in every aspect whether it is moral or material. So, I am very thankful. Thank you.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr Speaker, thank you. We can see that in our Governor's speech some lines are repeated from last year's Governor's speech as the other honourable members pointed out. As the honourable member from Saitual constituency said they may have nothing to interest them, may be nothing to be joyful about and nothing newsworthy, even the mover does not fulfill his time. I want to stress truthfully regarding crime rate. It appears that while the people put their trust in our Police, it is the ruling government they do not trust. Our Mizoram Police are the best in India once. Now they are still the same as before it is the way they are governed that makes them lost their privilege. Many bereaved family stopped reporting their bereavement. Because of this our crime rate looks like it decreases. Many incident like murder in Venghlui and also one of the most popular figures in Aizawl had been found binded in his own bedroom, but the culprits are not still found. Everywhere big crime occured but nothing was solved. Look like Lawngtlai Bank robber also goes scotfree. Increasing of big crime is dangerous for all of us. Say, our opposition member Pu Zira, he needs tight security while we, the other MLAs are also provided with double PSO. Mr Speaker, a vehicle of our hon'ble member from Aizawl North had been stolen and had not been found yet. This shows that crime is increasing, this can be stopped if the government pay their interest.

On No. 18, we see Education Department. I am very thankful that mid-day meal had been provided. As this had been provided by the Central, do we not have anything to discuss about other than this.

It sadden me to learn that our Colleges are given C+ by the NAAC (National Assessment Accredited Council). Mr Speaker, you alone know clearly that Hrangbana College were given B++, but today we are in C+ category. The government had to look into the matter seriously.

Regarding Supply Department we said that our quota had been cut from 2446 Mt. to 6810 and we have Press Conference in this subject. Let us not try to politicalize this issue. Let's put together with Agriculture, what we reported as our one year production may be high. This may be the cause for our problems as 6810 cannot feed us. I saw that there are many stock in FCI godown, but the government can not buy it as they have no money. So, let us not try to blame the central for the cut in our rice quota to gain political advantage.

Regarding Kolodyne, I am very pleased to know that Rs.500 crore had been put for 117 Kms, with 40 metres width for construction from Lawngtlai to sea route. I went to Right Limited and saw External Affairs Minister for this project. It had been started from 1994-1996, but the real works started only on 1997, our ten years old government awaken too late.

Mr Speaker, Roads construted under World Bank is very important as many of our roads are ruined. I know Public Works Department is the

responsible Department and they are very efficient. But as there is some mutual understanding between the contractor and the authority, the works can not be as it should be. Even the southern part faced many problems because of this. I do not want our present government to execute this work instead of Border Road Organisation and Right Limited. What I am afraid is that they will take money as donation for the election. Because of this practice, we already destroyed Sateek area. So, we have to oppose it strongly.

Mr Speaker, I regard this very important and it is very welcoming to know that Additional Secretary post in Assembly Secretariat had been created (Speaker : 8 minutes had already gone) why not highlighted this important point in the speech. Besides, their work had been too heavy for the current officers and staff, why not create another post. (SPEAKER : Your time is up, but you can have a minute.

Mr Speaker, thank you. I want to repeat this. On 2004, we went for orientation course but we were intercepted. Our Chief Minister said it is the third time that they intercepted us and went home happily. We asked the reason to the staff and showed what awareness we have during this ten years times.

Mr Speaker, only one more thing, our Chief Minister said that Indian Airlines owed us Rs. 200 crore for Landing and other facilities. As we make no demand it goes up to Rs. 300 crore. So, in future, let us try to be more truthful and not contempt this hon'ble House by giving wrong information. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Due to failure in our micro-phone system, we will have to resume our meeting tomorrow. Unlike before, Budget Presentation will also be done in the afternoon.

Sitting is adjourned to be resumed tomorrow.

Sitting adjourned. 4 : 10 P.M.