

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

**SIXTH SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 19TH 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.

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPERS

2. PU LALRINCHHANA to lay on the Table of the House a copy each of :
 - 1) “The Mizoram Grant-in-aids to Village Councils Rules, 2007”.
 - 2) “The Mizoram Special Grant-in-aid for Housing Rules, 2007”.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

3. PU K.LALRINLIANA to present to the House The Fourth Report of Subject Committee-I 2007 – 2008 (relating to various Mizoram Houses outside the State and Circuit House at Kolkata) (General Administration Department).

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bills for introduction

4. PU H. RAMMAWI to beg leave of the House of introduce “The Mizoram Organic Farming (Amendment) Bill, 2008.

**Also
to introduce the Bill.**

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

5. PU LALRINCHHANA, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.
6. PU H. RAMMAWI, Minister to submit to the vote of the Houe various Demands under his charge.
7. PU K. SANGTHUAMA, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

S P E A K E R : Now therefore, if you will obey my voice and keep my covenant you shall be my own possession among all peoples; for all the earth is mine.
Exodus 19 : 5

QUESTIONS

Let us now call the hon'ble member Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to ask Starred Question No.61

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Finance Minister be pleased to state –

- (a) Is government Treasury closed during the year 2003 – 2008 ?
- (b) Government Treasury is often closed, what is the reason ?

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

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the answer to the hon'ble member's question is – (a) During the year 2003 – 2008, Treasury was not closed. (b) The reason for the closure of Treasury is – there is no fund left in the account of government Reserve Bank of India, beside this, the ways and means, and overdraft account is over.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question. Who gave the closing order, is it the RBI? What is the criterion for the closing of Treasury? Is the government's account really empty ?

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Speaker, during the year, 1984–1998, had Mizoram Treasury being officially closed? If so, the number of the closing order?

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the answer to hon'ble member's question is – there is no need for order to close Treasury as each day RBI update the accounts of the government in ways and means advance and overdraft. 16 crores is deposited as security, which is compulsory. After the utilization of this fund, there is ways and means advance of Rs.60 crores. If this fund is not sufficient, then there is limited overdraft. After the limited overdraft is used up RBI gave information. Thus, automatically Treasury is closed.

As for the closed Treasury during the year 1994 – 1998, I cannot give the answer as I have to go through the record.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Speaker, it is a surprise to know that the hon'ble Finance Minister cannot recollect the close of Treasury.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question, after going through the old questions, I regret to state the absence of the hon'ble member Pu Sainghaka. In March 2006, hon'ble member Pu Andrew asked a question in regard to the figure of liabilities of the state government, the answer was 2313.19 crores. Thereafter, in 2007 March, hon'ble member Pu R.Lalzirliana made the same question in which the answer was Rs.2634.77. There was increase in the liabilities. My question is during 2006 -2007 financial year, it was highlighted that Rs.33492.90 lakhs is allotted for liabilities return. Pu Speaker, had the government not returned the said fund ? Why is the increase in the figure ?

From the information I have from ruling MLA, Kamal Mundra had Rs.45 crores LOC from Power & Electricity Department during the last financial year. My question is – from which Treasury is this LOC allocated ?

S P E A K E R : The question is about government Treasury. Thus, personal account is not relevant. Pu Sailothanga Sailo.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Pu Speaker, thank you. I would like to know by what figure the liabilities is higher than the annual plan.

S P E A K E R : Treasury account and liabilities account is different. Infact, it is not relevant. Pu Andrew Lalherliana.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. During the year 2003 – 2008 is there any fixed figure of withdrawal in the Treasury ? What is the withdrawable amount per day ?

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, will it be possible to inform the members during this session as to why Treasury is closed in the previous terms and how many times ?

S P E A K E R : Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. What is the reason for Tlabung Sub-Treasury not functioning ? When will it function ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, first of all, regarding Pu Thlenga and Pu Zodintluanga's question, I will try and give the list within this session.

As for the question in regard to Kamal Mundra, I cannot give the answer as there are many persons who draw bill from Power & Electricity and I cannot give records of individual.

Hon'ble member Pu Sailothanga Sailo wanted to know the figure of liabilities, I will try and distribute to all the members. We are among the five states listed in low liabilities. I will give the North – Eastern states liabilities, Arunachal – 3012 crores, Meghalaya – 3206, Mizoram – 30611, Nagaland – 30506, Sikkim – 1669, Tripura – 5917, Manipur – 4548, Assam – 21051. Special category states – Jammu & Kashmir – 22168, Uttarakhand – 14988.

The limit of sanction in state treasury per day is Rs.50 lakhs in Aizawl South and Aizawl North, 25 lakhs at Lunglei and 15 lakhs at other treasuries. There is a proposal to increase the limit.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Speaker, the present government controls the Treasury by arranging limited draw, thereby which, avoiding the closing of treasury. I would like to ask if the government still feel the need to carry on the policy ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, definitely the policy had to be carried on. The financial management had improved, it is not only the treasury that remains open, but we have not touched ways and means advance except last year during April – May. Pu Speaker, even this was filled-up promptly.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, if other states liabilities....

S P E A K E R : I would like to make a suggestion. We have a procedure, question and answer hour. Let us all try to follow the procedure.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, before we could finish answering, the members come up with different questions, we sometime function as general discussion. Pu Speaker, the withdrawal limits of other state is not constant.

It is pleasing that we are capable of managing without depositing in K.Deposit at the end of financial year. At present, only Rs. 17 lakhs is deposited.

We are taking whatever necessary step is to be taken for the functioning of Tlabung Treasury.

S P E A K E R : Let us now call the hon'ble member Pu Andrew Lalherliana to ask Starred Question No.62.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare Department be pleased to state – Is there missing fund for the institution of Mizoram college of Nursing which the central government have sanctioned ?

S P E A K E R : To answer the question, let us call the hon'ble Health & Family Welfare Minister, Pu R.Tlanghmingthanga.

PU R.TLANGHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. The hon'ble MINISTER member is a little mixed up with the question. We have not received fund for Mizoram. Nursing school, but have received Rs.150 lakhs for the upgradation of Nursing school. We felt that fund is missing, thus Enquiry Committee had been set up and from the Enquiry Committee report, Vigilance had been approached to have special audit as the report proved significant for enquiry.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. It is fortunate to know that enquiry committee had been set up. Last year I read in the newspaper that assistance for development of nursing services upgradation fund is missing. Utilisation certificate for the construction of building for Rs.70 lakhs was submitted to the central government. However, the said building does not exist. Through RTI it is also learnt that Rs.50 lakhs utilization certificate for furnitures and accessories was also being submitted.

Pu Speaker, after visiting Nursing college it was found that according to the bill there is suppose to be 3 xerox machines, but was only one, Likewise, Fax machine, Laser machine, Digital camera, Video camera, Book case, Godrej Almira, Plastic chair, Computer table, LCE, Scanner and Projectors which were highlighted in the bill does not tally with the actual figure present. Thus, my question is – why is the government taking so long to investigate the case ? Can the government speed-up the investigation ?

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Speaker, it is a serious matter. Will the hon'ble Chief Minister take action against the Minister who gave order to issue utilization certificate ? Pu Speaker, last year in the same department, One machine was missing, I cannot even pronounce the name of the machine. What is the progress of the enquiry ? Can the concerned Minister take responsible for these two serious lapses ?

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question. Is tender for saturating and dressing materials allotted to the lowest non-mizo bidder, ie. Indian Instrument manufacturing company ? From the information I received, the order had been extended in emergency, is it true ? Also, for the supply of mammography X-ray film, Aizawl Photo House had been selected by DPAB, but due to the intervention of the hon'ble Minister, there is an intention of allotting to Indian Instrument manufacturing company, is this true ? What is the reason for allotting non-mizos who do not pay tax in Mizoram ?

S P E A K E R : Let us now call upon the Minister to answer the questions.

PU R.TLANGHMINHANGA : PuSpeaker, what Pu Andrew Lalherliana had just stated is somewhat tally to the report of enquiry committee. From the report of the enquiry committee, we felt it is worth giving the case to the hand of Vigilance department. I would request the hon'ble member to contribute whatever information and material he possessed.

The officials who are responsible had been questioned. Various receipts and orders had also been produced.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, I mentioned about a missing machine in the previous session, it was pleasing that enquiry committee was constituted. But, the enquiry committee asked for information and I gave them, but no action had been taken. Thus, can different method be applied for the enquiry ?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, I would like to know if the person who sanctioned the L.O.C. had been suspended.

PU R.TLANGHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, taking all these into
MINISTER consideration, we will speed up the
enquiry.

Regarding suspension, let us expect the enquiry report will give indication. If required, government is expected to take whatever necessary action. From the information given by the hon'ble member Pu Zira, many more equipments are liable for question.

PU H.LIANSILOVA : Pu Speaker, the L.O.C. sanctioning
officer is not suspended, it could tamper
the enquiry, thus will it be possible to
suspend the said officer as usual
practice?

PU R.TLANGHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, there are times when
MINISTER usual practice is not applicable.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Pu Speaker, why is not suspending the
officer applicable? The Minister should
give the reason in the House.

PU R.TLANGHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, regarding suspension, it is
MINISTER not the subject to be discussed in the
House and suspension order cannot be
issued from the House. However, the
suggestion that hon'ble members gave would be taken into consideration. Taking all
these into consideration, we will try and function to the best of our ability.

The Home Ministry had stated that they have sanctioned Rs.10 crores for upgradation of Civil Hospital, why did pre-condition engineer delayed the work and why did not materials purchase while 30% is for the purchase of materials. But from the past experience, we had informed them that we will not purchase materials before the completion of the buildings where it is to be located. Pu Speaker, I request the hon'ble members to give their suggestions and support.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let us now call Pu H.Liansailova to ask Starred Question No.63

PU H.LIANSAILOVA : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No.63.

Will the hon'ble Minister for Sports & Youth Services Department be pleased to state –

Had Mizoram Youth Commission constituted.

If not, what is the reason ?

If constituted, what is the term of reference and how is it constituted ?

S P E A K E R : Let us now call Sports & Youth Services Minister Pu Z.H.Ropuia to answer the questions.

PU Z.H.ROPUIA : Pu Speaker, the answer to the hon'ble MINISTER member's questions are as follows –

- (a) Mizoram Youth Commission 2008 had not been constituted.
- (b) Youth Commission bill had been submitted for the approval of cabinet. The cabinet had approved the bill, once the cabinet minute is finalized, it will be submitted in the House for approval.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Pu Speaker, few days back, the ruling party stated that Youth Commission had been constituted. But now as we are aware the bill had not reached the House.

My question, is will it be possible to submit the bill within this session ?

PU H.LIANSAILOVA : Pu Speaker, Youth Commission is in every party's manifesto. If there is no problem in the constitution, why is government delaying the constitution ? I would like to know what step is to be taken for Youth Commission.

Pu Speaker, as mentioned earlier, the purpose for the constitution of Youth Commission is to uplift the youth with idealistic approach and aspiration for the youth not only in sports activity but in various fields like employment information technology etc. It is not that, National Youth Commission had been constituted, thus we should as well follow in the constitution of Youth Commission. Therefore, my question is, will it be possible to constitute in this manner?

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Due to the pressure from student union, the government had taken steps to constitute Youth Commission. What I would like to know is – what will be the work of Youth Commission and how will job avenue be opened ? Also, how will the blue print be available ?

S P E A K E R : We will receive the bill shortly, then we will have discussion. Why the big hurry ? Anyway, let us call Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Pu Speaker, is it true that there is an intention of politicizing the Youth Commission by political leaders since general election is approaching ? Is Mizoram the first state to constitute Youth Commission in the country ?

PU Z.H.ROPUIA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the answer to hon'ble member from Aizawl North-II and Tlungvel is – I am not aware of what was mentioned in regard to the constitution of Youth Commission. I am aware of the fact that they gave statement of appreciation for the fund allocation for Youth Commission in the budget. My

statement had always remained as we are waiting for the report of the National Youth Commission study group.

As for the terms of reference, the bill will be introduced shortly, therefore, I suggest that we wait for the bill to be introduced.

Regarding the delay, as I have mentioned, we are waiting for the report of the study group. Infact, no other state in the country had constituted the Youth Commission, thereby which making it difficult to process as National Youth Commission is the lone commission to be observed.

S P E A K E R : We will now call upon Pu R.Lalzirliana to ask Starred Question No.64.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon'ble Minister for Land Revenue & Settlement Department be pleased to state –

- (a) Is there rules for Land Revenue & Settlement to detail the people to make self assessment besides the rules being written all in English?
- (b) Is there any proposal to simplify the rules and change the language into Mizo.

S P E A K E R : Let us now call upon the hon'ble Land Revenue & Settlement Minister Pu Dr.R.Lalthangliana to answer the questions.

DR.R.LALTHANGLIANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the answer to the hon'ble member Pu R.Lalzirliana's question is – the forms have been revised and put it in Mizo language. Apart from the forms, there is no intention of putting the rules in Mizo.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, regarding Vairengte Army occupied land, why had the government not solved the problem for so long ? The people are giving up hope as their plead had not been heard. Can the government solve their problem ?

S P E A K E R : The question is not relevant however, if the hon'ble Minister can give the answer it will be interesting. Pu H.Liansailova.

PU H.LIANSILOVA : Pu Speaker, I expect my question to be relevant since it is about the rules of Land Revenue & Settlement. First of all, the Mizoram Land Holding Act, 2001 had been passed in the House, as per this Act it was stated that it will supercede all the Mizoram Land Revenue Act. Why had the rules not completed till date ? If we are apprehensive of the Act, why did not an alternative is considered ?

DR.R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I will give a short answer to hon'ble member Pu R.Lalzirliana's MINISTER question. The Parliament had passed the Tribal Act and had further instructed the states for its implementation. Social Welfare Department is the nodal department. Under the guidance of the hon'ble Chief Minister proposal is on to solve the problem, Pu Speaker, when there is a clearer picture of the matter let us expect for a definite answer, as of now this is all I can say in this regard.

Pu Speaker, what hon'ble member Pu H.Liansailova had mentioned is very important. However, it is only recently that I have taken up Revenue Department. Pu Speaker, it will take sometime for me to study the department. Land Holding Act and its implementation is an important subject, we will look into the matter. We welcome suggestions and advice from hon'ble members.

S P E A K E R : Let us take one more question instead of Supplementary Question.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, regarding Vairengte compensation, the number had gone up from 193 to 433, can the hon'ble Minister take note of this.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over, anyway though the allotted time is over, we will call the hon'ble Minister to answer the question.

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we will look into the matter.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over. Member absence - Pu Lalduhawma is unable to attend the sitting due to illness.

Regarding question and answer, I would like to request the hon'ble Ministers to remind their respective departments to be cautious in the subjects and names of MLAs as this cause confusion in the Assembly Secretariat.

Laying of Papers - Let us now call the hon'ble Minister Pu Lalrinchhana to lay, "The Mizoram Grant-in-Aids to Village Council Rules, 2007" and "The Mizoram Special Grant-in-Aid for Housing Rules, 2007".

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and the House, I lay, 'The Mizoram Grants-in-aids to Village Councils Rules, 2007' and 'The Mizoram Special Grant-in-aid for Housing Rules, 2007'.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. Presentation of Reports - Let us now call upon Subject Committee-I Chairman Pu K.Lalrinliana, to lay 'The Fourth Report of Subject Committee-I 2007 – 2008 (relating to various Mizoram House outside the state and circuit House at Kolasib).

PU K.LALRINLIANA : Pu Speaker, with your permission and the House, I lay, 'The Fourth Report of Subject Committee-I relating to General Administration Department (GAD).

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. It is pleasing to know that various committees are functioning actively on behalf of the House. We will now move on to Legislative Business. Let us call upon the hon'ble Minister Pu H.Rammawi to introduce 'The Mizoram Organic Farming (Amendment) Bill, 2008'.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I seek your permission and the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Organic Farming (Amendment) Bill, 2008.

S P E A K E R : Can the House give permission? Let the bill be introduced.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and the House, I introduce 'The Mizoram Organic Farming (Amendment) Bill, 2008'.

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble Minister had introduced "The Mizoram Organic Farming (Amendment) Bill, 2008". Let the copies be distributed to the members.

Now, we will have discussion on demands for grants and vote. Today, we will discuss demands of 3 Ministers without discussing them one by one. Let us call Pu Lalrinchhana to move his Demand Nos.19,34 and 42 to the House.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, on the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission I move demand Nos.19,34 and 42 for Rs.63,54,55,000/- only for meeting expenses during 2008 – 2009 in respect of the following departments :- Demand No.19 - Local Administration – Rs.20,53,35,000/-. Demand No.34. AH & Vety Department – Rs.21,48,65,000/- and Demand No.42 - Transport Department – Rs.21,52,55,000/-. Total = Rs.63,54,55,000/-. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, Pu H.Rammawi, Minister to move Demand Nos.4, 12, 31 and 32 to the House.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, I move the demand Nos. 4, 12, 31 & 32 for Rs.95,15,95,000/- only for meeting expenses during 2008 – 2009 in respect of the following departments – Demand No.4 Law and Judicial Department – Rs.6,73,45,000/-, Demand No.12 Parliamentary Affairs – Rs.26,05,000/- Demand No.31 Agriculture Department – Rs.72,96,05,000/-, Demand No.32 Horticulture Department – Rs.95,15,95,000/-.

S P E A K E R : Now, let us call upon Pu K.Sangthuama, Minister to move his Demand Nos.17, 30, 37 & 41 to the House.

PU K.SANGTHUAMA MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker, on the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission sir, I move the demand Nos. 17, 30, 37 and 41 for Rs.127,32,30,000/- only for meeting expenses during 2008 – 2009 in respect of the following departments – Demand No.17. Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs – Rs.103,54,65,000/-, Demand No.30. Disaster Management & Rehabilitation – Rs.7,71,60,000/-, Demand No.37 – Cooperation – Rs.8,97,40,000/- and Demand No.41.Sericulture – Rs.7,08,65,000/-. Total = Rs.127,32,30,000/-.

S P E A K E R : The three Ministers have now moved their demands. We will have discussion on the said demands and have vote after the discussion. Each member will have ten minutes except leaders of each group as it had been practised. Who will start the discussion?

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, would you show me favour to spend more time as I am the only member who attend the session from ZNP Legislature Party.

S P E A K E R : Yes, we will have consideration as far as possible. Pu R.Lalzirliana.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I will start from demand nos.31 and 32 – Agriculture and Horticulture Department.

First of all, the people of Maite village are industrious and hard working for livelihood. The people are generally rich in production of crops. As such it is good to show favour by declaring them as a pivotal village in Agriculture and Horticulture products. The department is expected to start bigger project in this village as an encouragement.

Plenty of seeds were distributed by the department, but it was too late. It is better to supply such seeds in time this year.

Action Committee of Congress party had a spot visit to Vairengte cold storage, capable of storing 3500 metric tonne of vegetable. But, the products got all rottened while government notified that the storage is good. The government should instruct cultivators and farmers to pick cash crops for keeping in the cold storage.

It is timely that the Action Committee saw the unfitness of the cold storage while the department is happy with their work and awarded Lalit Project Private Ltd to construct another project viz. construction of 10,000 metric tonne multipurpose cold storage at Champhai. The government also awarded the Lalit Project Private Ltd. to renovate cold storage at Serchhip. The Action Committee had

spot visit and witnessed the unfitness of the said cold storage. It is therefore not decided to float tender for construction of such storages.

Since the last two years, oranges in Mamit were simluteniously dying. This caused great problem to the people while they are to be declared as Natural calamity affected area. Unfortunately a serious famine occurred from the last year. Hence the government could not take initiative to help them. I feel that the government should give financial assistance to orange growers of those area.

Under demand No.19 – Rs.17,79,73,000 had been received from central government for BPL family. But the concerned village councils claimed that they did not receive such fund properly, it is, therefore, necessary to have enquiry. I feel that the fund is not to be diverted nor corrupted.

Regarding market price of beef, pork etc. a particular village council fixed the price as their own will. What I want to say is that it is the duty of the government to fix such price. The rate of pork, beef, etc is meaningless. Government may impose fine of Rs.1000/- to the butcher who do not follow government's rate that had been so fixed. What I want to say is that government should interfere in such matter.

Demand No.34, it is learnt that a vety doctor seized seven piglets at Zokhawthar on 22.1.2008 and sold all of them on the same day. The doctor seemed to pocket all the money which is not right. The vety doctor should not pocket such money. He should return it to the person concerned.

In Supply Department, Minister's vehicle collided with vehicle belonging to the Pioneer Force and a fine of Rs.20,000/- was said to be demanded. In view of all that had happened Pu Speaker, I think we should have systematic way of passing supply bills. The people could not afford to have Retail and Supply bills. The department should make proper arrangement in billing system. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu Saikapthianga.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Thank you hon'ble Speaker, Demand No.31. Agriculture Department, if the state government is to supply rice seeds it is necessary to select good seeds carefully. If not, the supplied seeds may not produce productive crops in a particular area. It appears that the Agriculture and Horticulture Department never see the result of production of the crops/seeds supplied by the department. It is necessary to see the result of production.

In demand No.32, Horticulture Department, oranges were dying before flowering of bamboo. Government of Mizoram did not take any action to assist the growers. The growers needed assistance from the government. Let us therefore extend financial help to the growers.

In Local Administration Department, the village councils have no power as a matter of right. It is time now to give them power by law.

As it is the year of famine in demand no.17, I would like to say that the western belt have no sufficient stock of rice while many rice bags entered into Tripura state through storekeepers. I also want to point out inaccuracy of weighing balance used for rice. All balances used under Food and Civil Supply are inaccurate in the whole of Mizoram. This needs improvement. This may further increase problem to the people. I also want to inform the hon'ble Minister that if rice is not stocked in the western belt during dry period it is sure that there will be serious problem in transportation in the rainy season because of road construction. It also seemed that we need more fund in the state for inflow of more rice.

Regarding famine, it seemed that assistance given to famine effected area is not fair enough although District Famine Committee had been set up in each district. MLAs have no venue to interfere in this matter. It seemed that it is necessary to have MLAs participate or get involved in those District Famine Committees.

The hon'ble Minister invited me once in the Disaster Management Committee, there I made suggestion regarding saving options for drown-persons in our rivers. Persons with swimming skill should be inducted into police service so that their skill could be used when such happens. Thank you.

PU S.HIATO : Thank you hon'ble Speaker Sir. In the local news paper today, it is reported that there are families who have no rice to eat. What I want to say is that let the authority of the state government be moved and take action to know the exact position of the poor people in the state. There are many people/families who have no rice to cook at Hruitezawl village in Lawngtlai district. In this connection I would like to request the hon'ble Chief Minister to visit villages seriously effected by famine roping in helicopter service if necessary.

Saiha district had three distribution centre. The requirement of Saiha is 76,000 qtls. As reported on 15.3.2008 we have only 600 qtls of rice at Saiha godown, there can be no rice to distribute to the people. The requirement of distribution centre at Kawlchaw is 22,000 qtls of rice, while there are only 370 qtls of rice at the godown. While the requirement of Tuipang distribution centre is 22,000

qtls, there are only 450 qtls of rice at the godown. There is no rice to distribute outside the centre. It is clear that there are many quintals of rice at FCI godown, but have not yet sent off. I therefore request the hon'ble Minister to send off rice directly to the distribution centres of Saiha district without unloading at Lawngtlai. And I also want to request the hon'ble Minister to clear all contractor bills and retailer bills as early as possible as it adds serious problem to the people.

In Agriculture, there is no seed of crops nor is there paddy seeds to grow the next year. As the hon'ble members said before, it is necessary to supply seeds in time.

And I would like to say that the hon'ble Minister sent the seeds of potatoes in large quantity to his constituency. While some villages where he had ordered to clear jungle for potatoes like Tuisumpui, Theiva, Chhualung and Siahta had no potato seeds to be sown. I request the hon'ble Minister to supply potato seeds to them.

In Transport Department, I would like to request again the government to set up Insurance Agency / Company at Lunglei and Saiha. Many vehicles do not want to enter into the city if they do not have Insurance document.

In AH & Vety Department importing of beef and pork are strictly prohibited due to bird flu. What I want to say is that let the state government enquire the rate of beef and pork in the state.

Lastly, LAD is said to cover rural areas, I would like to ask how far LAD cover the rural areas? Thank you.

PU K.VANLALAUVA : Thank you hon'ble Speaker Sir. First of all, I would like to say demand no.14. AH & Vety Department. The department is not a big one although the progress of their work is good. They can do construction of building easily but not for occupation it seems. That's why, I would like to suggest that construction of building without occupation be stopped. It is waste of money.

Demand No.4. Law and Judicial Department. It appears that there is proposal for separation of judiciary from the executive. I would like to advise the hon'ble Minister to look before he leaps to the matter.

Demand No.31 and 32. Whenever ginger or turmeric is said, the selling price always comes to our mind. What I want to say is that the growers need instruction to clear their ginger or turmeric when process for sale. Under these demands, there are many persons who grow red-oil palm. Nowadays, they have a serious problem, that is, rat and mole eat the roots and died. Due to this, Mamit

district demand more red-oil palm to be planted this year. We would therefore need to take necessary action.

Regarding climbing wire of passion fruit and grape fruit, I would like to suggest that the climbing wire be given to the ready farmers after spot verification by the concerned department.

Lastly, I would like to say about demand no.30, Disaster Management and Rehabilitation. It is commonly known as silpouline department. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to show favour to the members without partiality.

Thank you.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Thank you hon'ble Speaker Sir. Demand No.19. LAD. As it is the year of famine in the state, the government and NGOs and churches are busy preparing to combat the coming famine. What I want to say is LAD allotted works in the villages which is generally handled by the concern village council. If works are allotted to village council, the benefit will go to the poorer section of the people. In this time of crisis, partiality should not prevail.

The Treasury Bench repeatedly urged the department and the people to work together for successful implementation of the BAFFACOS. But the scheme is a failure for the farmers and cultivators. It is a success only for MNF party members.

Demand No.17. Food and Civil Supply. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to have rice stocked at remote areas which vehicle could not reach due to landslide during the rainy period. If godowns of rice could not contain stock, temporary godown be set up during this dry season, especially for Kawnpui, Darngawn and Dengsur in my constituency.

Regarding BPL quota, it seemed that only 35 kg will not do as famine arrived in the state. Agriculturists among BPL had production last year before famine strikes. But now they have no production. That's why, it is good to increase their quota.

Demand no.31. Agriculture Department – the state government now confronted famine while the department tried to set up a project of farmers information system. The project is estimated to be Rs.59 crores. Rs.2 crores is also estimated for the project report. What I want to say is that the project is too costly. The project itself is good but too costly. I think we should revise the cost.

Demand no.32. Horticulture Department. Last year, the House resolved a resolution to give assistance to the growers of oranges which had died massively within a year. What assistance had been given to them?

Regarding Anthurium, the state highly encouraged growing of this particular flower and the state earned large sum of money through this. But the poor people did not benefit from Anthurium. What I want to suggest is that let Anthurium be encouraged for the poor farmers so that they too can benefit from it.

PU R.KHAWPUITHANGA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I will start from demand no.31, Agriculture. We are now facing famine as a result of bamboo flowering which had also occurred back in 1958 – 1959. Mr.Laldenga, Father of Mizo tribes had his political carrier laid since then. I think our God had confidence in MNF party to face famine.

What I had given importance to is land development. In this regard, steps have been taken at Champhai, Serchhip and Saiha. MIP is also important for land development, it is not adequate to provide Rs.20 crores in the budget. It is better to provide Rs.60 crores. Now, the state government worked out land development scheme by means of machine. 2351 hectares have been completed.

It will also be a great achievement if Phaisen cultivation adjoining to Cachar district is developed with machine. It will be a great success, not only for paddy but also for cash crops. I believe that an early use of machine will bring success in agriculture.

Besides these, water resource development is important for the state. It is important and necessary to have tanky for stocking of rain water for six months. An early stocking of rain water will prove early success of agriculture in the state. The state had minor irrigation which should be utilized. The state have not yet practised dripping system or sprinkler system. To introduce this system it is necessary to stock rain water during the rainy season.

Orange nursery is being set up at Chite with the help of Israel experts. There are 20 varieties of oranges in Israel such variety should also be introduced here in our state. No other states of India have oranges. That's why, it is necessary to encourage orange plantation in the state. If the state is successful in orange plantation, the success of Agriculture and Horticulture will flourish in the state.

In Food & Civil Supply Department LPG Agency be set up to cover each corner of Aizawl city. It is very troublesome to get gas cylinder from far distance. It is truly necessary to have more outlet in the city.

Regarding Food supply, MLA of Saiha praised the hon'ble Minister. It is really praiseworthy to have a hard working Minister. He have godowns filled with rice from where rice is dispose off for the public.

AH & Vety Department is a department that provides our daily needs, the department is praiseworthy. The government did the right thing in encouraging implementation of various departmental schemes. Let us therefore pass the demands.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Pu H.Lalsangzuala.

PU H.LALSANGZUALA : Thank you hon'ble Speaker. First of all, I would like to say about Local Administration Department. Its importance may not be felt in term of development but as they are the head of villages they are very important to each village administration. Three village councils have been dissolved in my constituency. Two villages are now to be dissolved. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister not to dissolve those village councils. It is not good to dissolve village councils while we are facing severe famine.

In AH & Vety Department, Rs.30,000/- each is given for piggery as assistance, but it does not bear fruit. Instead it is far better to give loan for milk production as those villages may have self-sufficiency in milk. BAFFACOS fund should be used effectively.

In Food and Civil Supplies Department, I would like to say that I had visited Khawlian, Phuaibuang, Daido and N.E.Tlangnuam. Rice position is not good. It is about 1000 qtls the area needed. During the coming of rainy season 1000 qtls of rice will be gone after a few days. They are now living from hand to mouth as they had no food production this year due to famine.

Anyway if there is large quantity of rice at the godown it is meaningless for the people if they have no money for purchasing rice from godown. But fortunately the state government issued an order for the poor families to purchase rice on credit basis. But the government is required to formulate guidelines to issue rice on credit basis. I therefore would like to ask the hon'ble Minister as to who will issue credit card and where will registration be done.

Developmental works taken up under Agriculture Department is at a slow pace. Recommendation of the MLAs are not implemented to improve

agricultural products. I therefore request the hon'ble Minister to implement the recommendation made by the members.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Time is up now. We will have a recess and start the discussion at 2 : 00 PM.

Sitting adjourned at 1 : 00 PM

2 : 00 PM

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we will start our discussion. Who will start ? Yes, Pu Sailothanga Sailo.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Thank you hon'ble Speaker Sir. Let me start from Demand no.34 AH & Vety Department.

Pu Deputy Speaker, a dreaded swine-flu disease broke out in Hortoki village. On behalf of the piggery association Pu Rothanga submitted a report to me, which I latter submitted to the Vety Director on 27.4.2007, no action had been taken so far, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to look into the matter. I would further like to request the Minister to supply animal feed at the cheapest rate.

Coming to Agriculture & Horticulture – demand No.31, Pu Deputy Speaker, from the beginning of this present MNF Ministry, they have introduced various crops for self sufficiency but none of these crops have proved successful. It had been 10 yrs since MIP had been implemented, even this is unsuccessful inspite of the huge fund invested. The main factor for the failure is due to the fact that, the Minister control the whole procedure. Thus the farmers are facing great problem.

In my constituency emphasis had been laid on Horticulture and Agriculture. The government had supplied wire but it is not sufficient, thus I would request for more.

Demand No.17 – I would like to thank the efficient Kawnpui SDO (Civil) in the House. The said SDO constituted a committee under his

chairmanship to combat famine. Pu Deputy Speaker, just yesterday 80 bags of foodgrain was distributed by him. I would like to express my gratitude on behalf of my constituency.

Pu Deputy Speaker, as per supply department 68,000 BPL families are to receive foodgrain. I suggest that the quantity should not be reduced. Also, the retailers should strictly be controlled.

Demand 30 – Disaster and Rehabilitation. The financial assistance for the famine stricken farmers whose paddy were destroyed by rodents is too meagre and on top of this all the farmers who have reported themselves have not received the assistance.

Demand No.4 – Law & Judicial. I would like to suggest that separation of judiciary should be completed as early as possible.

Pu Deputy Speaker, in 2006. L.T.Kapa's 407 met an accident. The owner L.T.Kapa was the driver, his wife Malsawmtluangi claimed compensation in Accident Claims & Tribunal, but no action had been taken till date. I would, therefore, request the hon'ble Law Minister to take action.

Demand No.42 – Transport. I would like to make a suggestion that instead of having huge bus plying in villages, mini bus should be arranged as it is more convenient. The condemned MST bus should be auctioned without delay as the parts tend to get lost. Pu Deputy Speaker, the registration and permit of public service carrier should be restricted.

Lastly, in Agriculture, the government should review the cultivation of crops for self sufficiency and land development. Thank you.

PU D.THANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing three Minister's demand, I would like to start with AH & Vety Department. It is pleasing to note that 5000 litres of milk storage is constructed in every district. Also, it is amazing to see the animal feed plant at Ramrikawn, hon'ble members should visit the plant. Pu Speaker, maize farmers will be able to sell their product at reasonable price due to this plant. It is worth mentioning that 1227 families are given assistance from BAFFACOS fund by Vety department. I would further request the government to look into the various steps taken by the department.

Demand 42. It is a huge development that in every district the vehicle Registration had been computerized. Also, that the department had began functioning without loss. I would like to make one plead, that is, if the department

could increase the state transport bus in my constituency it will relieve the problem of the people.

Demand No.31 – Agriculture. The land development scheme is proving to be a beneficial scheme for the farmers. In my constituency the product of crops had increased due to this scheme. However, I would like to suggest the authorities to take careful step in its implementation.

It is pleasing that Irrigation Department had been set up. Water plays a major role in attaining self sufficiency. I would like to applaud the step taken by Horticulture Department to solve the problem of citrus decline. However, I would suggest if the department could negotiate with more of Israel companies.

Food & Civil Supplies, due to bamboo flowering there is a shortage of foodgrain. At present, in my constituency there are stock only in three godowns. But, I would like to request the concerned Minister to fill-up other godowns before monsoon.

Demand No.41 - Sericulture. This is a department where self sufficiency could be attained without jhum cultivation as it had better market potential. The budget allocation for this department is too meagre. I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister for the steps taken in Serchhip district, but I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to take further steps.

Pu Speaker, I request all the hon'ble members to support and pass the demand of the three hon'ble Minister's demand. Thank you.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing three Minister's demands. The three demands that we are discussing today is, infact, are important departments as they are related to famine / bamboo flowering. First of all, I would like to discuss Agriculture / Horticulture Departments. As per the answer of Starred Question given in September last year, there are 89496 families who are earning their livelihood through Agriculture. Out of these 89496 families, 39366 families, are selected for the cultivation of turmeric under MIP scheme, and Rs.2000 lakhs is allocated for MIP every year. Pu Speaker, if such is the case why are we still facing famine ? It seems that the fund allocation for MIP does not reach the rightful beneficiaries. The people are in serious poverty, thus if the government does not come up with a better implementation programme, the fund allocated in the present budget for MIP will fritter away.

Pu Speaker, regarding the distribution of G.I. wire for passion fruit development, I have asked a question last year but nothing had been done so far.

I would like to remind the hon'ble Minister that the people of Pawlrang are facing problem in this regard.

According to the question asked in 2005 September session for the preventive measures taken by the government to face bamboo flowering, the answer was – to control upsurge of rodents, distributed of rodenticide to farmers and diversification of crops cultivation like maize, potatoes, onion. Pu Speaker, it is unfortunate that these crops are the favourite of rodents. Thus, the step taken by the government is inappropriate.

I would like to remind the hon'ble Minister of the problem faced by grape grower in short, since he is aware of their problem.

Pu Deputy Speaker, during the year 2007 – 2008, 3 lakh quintals of potatoes have been supplied. However, it is unfortunate that there is great partiality in the distribution. Pu Deputy Speaker, it is amazing how the government is looking into the welfare of the farmers. Thus, I would like to state that the farmers should be given their due. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now call hon'ble member Pu Liansuama.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. Demand No.4 – Law & Judicial, Parliamentary Affairs. It seems that the government is neglecting High Court. The most important in state structure is Legislature, Executive, and Judiciary. If we look at the country's capital, supreme court, Delhi High Court and Parliament are adjacent to each other. I would like to request the Law Minister to take initiative in placing the High Court in its rightful place.

Demand No.42 – Transport. Aizawl city is getting congested. Due to traffic jam there are times when it takes 1 hour to reach Assembly House from Raj Bhawan. Pu Deputy Speaker, it is time we have Traffic Road Control Regulation, state like Sikkim, Shimla which is as small as our state does not face any problem due to the proper Traffic Road Control Regulation. Above this problem, there is no proper co-ordination between various departments like for example, recently Chanmari West road was constructed and resurfaced by P.W.D. department, the road after its completion of work was dismantled by P.H.E. department after few weeks. Pu Speaker, if there were co-ordination, such case could be avoided. I wanted to highlight these few points for the information of Transport Minister.

Regarding citrus decline, resolution was passed in 2005 September session. It is a serious problem for West M.L.A. I would, therefore, request the government to take steps in this regard.

Coming to Agriculture Department, I regret to state that there is no provision for the purchase of rice seeds. However, I believe in the hon'ble Chief Minister as he had stated that MIP fund could be utilized for any required cause. Pu Speaker, there is one point I would like to highlight in regard to MIFCO and MAMCO. I would like to suggest that MIFCO and MAMCO should be shifted under Agriculture as it will be more convenient in its functioning.

It is pleasing to note that Minor Irrigation Department had been made full fledged department. For the successful functioning of Agriculture and Horticulture, Irrigation Department plays key role. Infact, Irrigation Department should be declared as Engineering department.

Lastly, few words in regard to Sericulture Department Pu Speaker. I feel that Sericulture is not given priority. If this department is given its due importance, it is a department in which the people could attain self sufficiency. Thus priority should be given to this department. Pu Speaker on the whole it is a satisfactory budget. But it is disheartening to note that there is no budget provision under BAFFACOS head. Thank you.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, regarding demand No.42 – Transport. It is time to conduct smoke emission in our congested city rather than lost Rs.3 crore, 29 lakhs as shown in the CAG report ? We have Pollution Control Board now, it is time to take some measures in prevention of smoke pollution. Also, motor insurance should be undertaken by Finance, not Transport.

I want to go to demand No.34 – Vety. We fail completely in Kawlkulh Piggery Village and Kawlkulh – II. We have to import from outside state as pork is scarce in our state.

Regarding demand No.31 & 32 – Last year purchase of soiled potato seeds result in low-yieldings. As I traveled, almost all the districts faced this and the concerned Minister's constituency are also the sufferers. This year they still supply it. From what I heard from the farmers, a good seed should shrivelled. Rs.69 lakhs 30 thousand worth of soiled seeds had been purchased this year, it is very regretful.

Regarding Hi-tech Green House, it is set up in Champhai and in other places. The actual size is around sq.metre 5000 in which sq.metre 1 cost

Rs.325/-, but it is not done accordingly. Fund for this is tampered and because of this farmers and benefactors are deprived of its advantages.

In organic farming, organic manure had been purchased through Japana from Silchar for incentive as soiled potato seeds were supplied. As such cannot be harvested, large quantity of soiled seeds had piled up. Misappropriation of fund is very upsetting.

One thing regarding MIP. We have 20 crore fund in MIP. Last year Champhai MNF Block divide MIP fund among themselves, this was drawn by the President of North & South block from DAO office on 29.8.2007. Mr.Deputy Speaker, we may put large amount of fund, but if we are not careful in its spending what is the use of that fund.

On demand No.17 – the concerned hon'ble Minister Pu Sangthuama works hard and is very energetic. On behalf of my constituency, I want to express my thank to him for delivering enough foodgrain during last year within my constituency. On the otherhand, I want to raise a question regarding court cases of supply Inspector and Store Keeper, who embezzled around 20/30 lakhs and who are still at large. If we have strong administration this can be stopped.

On demand No.37 and 40 – as our hon'ble member Pu Suama said, Sericulture Department progressed in Khawhai, Sialhawk, Biate and its surrounding area. While they have a good scope, they need to pursue more closely to the project and its ongoing works.

Regarding silpauline, I agree with the hon'ble member from Khawzawl that as MLA we are more informative in regard to the actual condition of our respective constituencies and as such distribution of fund can be done accordingly. And it will be very useful for us if we have silpauline at our disposal Mr.Deputy Speaker.

Thank you.

PU K.LALRINLIANA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing our Minister's demand. They are all very important departments for our self sufficiency and alleviation of our condition in this current famine.

On Demand No.19 – L.A.D. They supervise 739 village councils. Compare to previous years they come a long way in their payment of remuneration to VCP, Vice President, Member and Secretary at Rs.600/- for VCP, Rs.500/- for Vice President, Rs.300/- for member and Rs.400/- for Secretary while Rs.250/- for the crier.

Regarding Housing loan, they increased the rate at Rs.50,000/- from Rs.30,000/- in LIC (Low Income Group) and Rs.50,000/- to Rs.80,000 in MIG (Middle Income Group) so that many homeless can built their own.

In many district they built DLAO office, here in Kolasib we have a new one which is very helpful for the people. They also create park, recreation centre in many places and ongoing works for development of Lengpui is still running.

On demand No.34 – AH & Vety. Their development programme is wonderful. They built Animal Health Centre, Dispensary and 204 assets for the betterment of animal health. Animal Feed Plant of 50 metric ton capacity built at Ramrikawn help our farmers enormously. Their product of corn and soya bean can be sold locally and can supply enough animal food without bothering foreign products.

Milk Processing Industry in Aizawl, Lunglei and Kolasib are finished and in Champhai it is almost completed. It is satisfying to know that we can drink undiluted milk. Besides we are self sufficient in dairy product and more herdsman come along.

The Animal Disease Investigation Laboratory established in every district within Mizoram is very helpful and enable us in eating healthy meat.

Poultry breeding stocks set up in every district help in self sufficiency in breeding for the farmers. Besides, about 1227 are supported through BAFFACOS by Vety Department.

On demand No.42 – Transport. They collect Rs.5412 lakhs during 1998 to 2008, their contribution is praiseworthy. They equipped DTO office with computer and all important documents are computerised.

I want to ask our hon'ble Minister about the shifting of Silchar station Superintendent office to Kolasib. If this can be done it will be sufficient for all of us and will be more useful.

On demand No.4 – Law and Judicial. We already have District Court building in Saiha, Lunglei and Aizawl. When can the building in Kolasib be opened ? And it is a great development that Family Court is going to be opened soon in New Capital Complex.

On demand No.31 – Agriculture. For cultivation of Oil Palm we signed MOU with three company and I think it is necessary to establish Oil Palm Factory as soon as possible and I want our hon'ble Minister to brief us in their step taken so far.

I want to ask about crop insurance, which is to be done under National Agriculture Insurance Scheme. Is it true that they are going to be insured ? I also heard that Growers Card and Soil Health card is to be made and because of this

farmers have to select their main trade correctly. The government should also distribute grant-in-aid according to their trade respectively. So, I think that all farmers should be given the exact card according to their trade.

It is important to have certified Seed Production Programme so that we don't have to depend on import. It is satisfying to know that we have ongoing programme.

Regarding Water Shed Development Programme it is a necessity to have NWDPRA and WDPSCA from CSS for Shifting Cultivation Control so that we can have permanency in our cultivation system. Finding ways and means to built Green House in a more cheaply price is also a must. Last year we attended 8th China International Vegetable sell-tech fare, they show us their vegetable village near Weifang city and their Green House, it is very productive and their capita income increased to 70 to 1 lakh Yen from 40 thousand Yen. If we follow this system we can abandon Jhum cultivation and concentrate on a more productive system of cultivation in the future.

There are also achievements under MIP (Mizoram Intodelh Project). Cold storage is opened, but we have to be more careful in items to be stored. MIP spent large amount of money in cold storage and in Champhai, work is going on for cold storage building. The people of Mizoram benefit MIP greatly.

We have spent lot of fund for cultivation of Red Oil Palm and step had been taken in the selling of passion fruit, turmeric, patchouli, jatropa and ginger. The fund is also used for building Hatkora godown in Hortoki, Papaya pack house and for cultivation of Banana and Pineapple. Even Sericulture Department benefit immensely from MIP and we thank the Chairman for our achievements.

In Minor Irrigation Project, 104 project had been finished and 1600 beneficiaries utilized it. Water ways for cultivated field had been prepared and many other projects are also in the making.

Regarding Food & Civil Supply, DCSO office at Kolasib is nearly finished and will be opened soon. Supply of Gas, K.Oil, Sugar and rice are sufficient. We are well stocked in foodgrain for the coming monsoon. Our Minister give importance to foodgrain that will see us through and his work is praiseworthy. Mr.Speaker, Thank you.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Mr. Chairman, thank you. As the only representative from our party in our Legislature party I want you to give me additional time. Right away I want to discuss demand No.34 – Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department. While our budget speech have many to be thankful about, I found it disappointing that our Chief Minister omits Vety Department in the priority sector. We all know that Agriculture linked with AH & Vety from way back as it is the source of our livelihood at the beginning of mankind existence. Priority should be given to Agriculture.

I don't know whether they have mistakenly omitted Vety Department because their programme is one of the best in development by constructing Animal Feed Plant, which was already commissioned in 2001 – 2002. It is learnt that they are making 10 matric tonne in a day. On the otherhand if they make the exact capacity which is 50 matric tonne ie. 500 qtls and appoint a society or corporation to run with enough revolving fund they can produce about one lakh in a year. But as they produce only one fifth in a day from the beginning we are making our machine idle. As our Finance Minister had already said we don't have enough Plan Fund because of our lack in state owned resources. Our balance on current revenue is minus 149 crore they cannot give us enough Plan fund. We have many excuses in this regard but in reality it is because of our bad financial management not the other way round. In order to get more Plan fund we have to have productive asset and make income generate unit. AH & Vety Department is the only department to make income generate asset by Building Animal Feed Plant. But we have to make use of it in future.

In order to make Animal Feed Plant more useful we have to activate it so that we will be self sufficient and will not need other state to supply us. Our income rate will rise and meat will be bought cheaply. To make it work the department will have contract farming with rural people and cultivate the important crops like Maize, Soyabean and others so that more can be produced and our resource will grow. When our resource grow, it will have effect on our Plan fund. So I urge our government to activate it to meet its capacity.

I want to point out few things regarding Horticulture. As already pointed out by other members in regard to the decline of orange which is also taken up by the MIP. In the west, about 34 villages in which 1828 families suffered the orange decline. Whenever there is going to be famine, orange decline which always happened first according to the expert. In order to treat this as a natural calamity we passed a resolution in this House stating that the central government should be requested to compensate the farmers. This resulted in the introduction of BAFFACOS. BAFFACOS is introduced to alleviate the people suffering from famine. If it is so, why is the orange planters are omitted whose plantation declined immensely. The government should take step to help them.

Regarding Agriculture Department, the I.T. firm in Mizoram are aching that without call of tender the Optimous Consultancy Firm is selected with a contract worth Rs.59 crore for the establishment of Agriculture Farmer Information system and from the look of it the Chief Minister Secretariat, is involved. But it appears that they cancelled the contract as it was not done under normal procedure and I pray that it is done not only for this session period. This is a very serious matter and an enquiry committee should be formed to the case.

Last of all, I want to say about ginger. Supply had been stopped by MAMCO and EIRI according to newspaper. The trouble is over supply as EIRI cannot buy more than 10 trip a day while there is about 50 trip. Suppliers are worried. Their main trouble in this respect is that there is no fund for Market Intervention Scheme. If there is enough Revolving Fund there will be no trouble, but as step had not been taken to improve, it is the government's responsibility.

S P E A K E R : Is it enough now ? Three minutes are already added to your time.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Only two minute please. What is important is that the government should put fund in the budget for purchase of vegetables and all our problems will be solved. In our current situation without having fund we cannot intervene in the market and buy the products when the rate is low.

S P E A K E R : Enough now that three minutes had been added to you. Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Mr. Chairman, as 10 minutes is only the time allowed for the discussion of 11 departments of our three Minister's portfolios I will try my best to be thoroughly brief.

I want to go through L.A.D. - Demand No.19 - Their achievement is great by constructing steps and covered them with checker tile and making foot-path for pedestrians. As they are the guardian of our village committee, I

want them to ensure the integrity and maintain law and order to strengthen the integrity of our V/C.

Nowadays, some NGOs and our V/C are in a parallel situation, it is the duty of LAD to be more specific in this regard. As LAD are going to take initiative in rural areas again, I want to request them to give us more works through tender for rural development.

On demand No.34 – AH & Vety Department, it is satisfying to learn that due to their commitment and hardwork we face no problem in Bird flu which prevails in our neighbouring states. The department take great measure in building infrastructure and ensuring the welfare of its staff. On the otherhand they have to take step in self sufficiency in livestock and make fund for livestock farmers for assistance.

Under BAFFACOS scheme, thousand are given aids, but they are a long way from success, they have to work harder for self sufficiency.

On demand No.42 – Transport Department, they opened DTO office in every district thankfully. In the past, option to close down is very strong as it had no earning, but under the guidance of the star they have earning and it is thanks to the concern Minister and staff. On the otherhand, their building which is at the centre of the city is dilapidated, they have to demolish and vacate it.

Purchase of motor vehicles without thinking causes problem in traffic management, the concerned department need to have a new way of thinking with our city's future in mind. Roadside parking can be seen everywhere day in and day out. We have to collect taxes in this regard. Collection of taxes will motivate vehicles owners to built their own garage and it will be beneficial for our states income.

On demand No.41 – Sericulture. More importance should be given. All their products are good in marketing especially silk. Last year through BAFFACOS they planted 120 lakhs of mulberry and distribute 2.80 lakhs of cocoon and harvest around 4,10,000 kgs. There is no problem in marketing and it is beneficial for the people.

On demand No.30 – Disaster Management & Rehabilitation. The department became more and more popular due to the change in our weather system. All of us need their support and help when disaster prevails in our own constituency. To be more helpful, they need strengthening in every aspects especially in man power. They have to conduct workshop and seminar on disaster management on a regular basis for precaution.

On demand No.37 – Cooperation. They are the main body for the weaker society, who needs their strength and support for functioning. Rightnow,

there are 10 state level societies under their wing who always need government aid to function in the previous year. Thankfully, now they have the department to watch over them, they are self sufficient and have surplus in earning and conduct their own revolving fund.

On demand No.17 – Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, almost all of us expressed our opinion about the hardship we faced because of mautam. In this regard, I want to express my thanks to the concern Minister and officials for their hardwork in their preparation to face mautam. Because of their preparedness sufficient foodgrain is supplied throughout Mizoram and no one is found lacking. Wrong information are given in this regard, so we have to be careful in order to built our peoples' moral. We need to stand together and give our full support to the government whether we are opposition or not.

Lastly, regarding demand No.31 & 32, daily incentive should be given to our hardworking cultivators according to their harvest.

Cultivation of turmeric under MIP looks more profitable than ginger. We have to ensure their well beings and purchase their harvest by every means.

Thankfully, a new Minor Irrigation Department had risen and it should be monitored accordingly. Mr.Chairman, Thank you.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Chairman, thank you. I want to discuss about demand No.17 – Food, Civil Supplies Department. As it is a year of famine, it became a political, social and daily issue. Distribution of foodgrain programme is not workable. The procedure to get foodgrain is very lengthy for the famine affected. A new and fast procedure should be made.

Next, is it right to make allowances for only the affected while 70% of Mizos people are cultivator who depend on their harvest throughout the year. We have to make allowances for them too. The government should review their decision and make ways for our cultivators to get foodgrain on credit.

Famine affected have no purchasing power. While REGP (Rural Employment Guarantee Programme) is there, it is not enough. Fund from REGP should be put aside for purchase of school books and others. Beside this, emergency fund should be made from BAFFACOS to get purchasing power to get more wages for their livelihood.

On demand No.41 – Sericulture. Now they have a fully working Director. They are very important for our country and should be well taken care of to grow. If we make more awareness campaign we can get more sustainable economy in this respect as our climatic condition and our mentality favoured them. Fund provision for this year is the same as last year, we have to upgrade their fund position as many people depend on their project.

On demand No.31 – Agriculture Department. It is not necessary as other members pointed out to put 59 crores for Farmer Information System, while our system is shifting cultivation. Instead of this, fund should be made for Minor Irrigation. If Minor Irrigation system is well founded our cultivators will have more to harvest.

As an Engineering Department, Minor Irrigation Department, should be made into a fully Directorate. If we built them well our land development will become more productive, hence, minor irrigation should be well promoted.

Regarding silpauline, Disaster Management and Rehabilitation Department distribute heavily. It is very useful in every aspects, but it is wrong that we used them only for disaster. Under Agriculture and Horticulture Department, silpauline should also be distributed to our cultivators, so that it will become more useful. It is very useful to them for stocking water by digging a pit and then covered it with silpauline and also for drying rice in the sunshine and for cover when raining. Therefore, we have to make ways for the benefit of our cultivators.

On demand No.42 – Transport. Motor Insurance Scheme should be upgraded by the government. Our present system should be improved so that the insurer can get their insurance more quickly.

On demand No.34 – Animal Husbandry Department. Still we are not self sufficient in meat production especially in beef. We are still heavily depended on imported Pork and Chicken also. But the last two can be bought locally now due to the department hardwork. Special emphasis should be given to beef to have local production.

Our main problem in Agriculture product is market linkage and bank facilities. We have to have identified crops to have bulky production and make ways for our farmers to have a better bank facilities and market linkage with revolving fund in hand so that sustainable economy can be enjoyed. That is all I have to say about in demand No.31. Thank you.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA : Mr. Speaker, thank you. There may be some mistakes in my pronunciation especially in mizo. I hope hon'ble member will bear with me.

First of all, about Demand No.30 – Disaster Management Department. The occurrence of natural calamities in our state made this department one of the most important departments. The government have to give importance, we have to increase their fund.

Regarding demand No.17 – Food, Civil Supplies etc. department, our people face many problems because of Mautam. As representative of the people, it is our duty to express the problem they faced. At present, their condition is very serious, scarcity of food drives our people to hunt for food by every means. There is no stock of foodgrain in Tlabung and Tuichang Godown. Before monsoon, we have to stock every godown in Mizoram with foodgrain. Preventive measures have to be taken for the welfare of our people. Funds from BAFFACOS are spent for construction and repairing of godown. Within my constituency Mulsuri godown is closed, I request the hon'ble Minister to clarify this.

On demand No.37 – Cooperation. Tlabung is now a great town and vehicles are also increasing day by day. So, I request the government to establish atleast POL outlet, because the nearest petrol pump is at Lunglei which is about 100 kms.

On Agriculture, my area have a potential for development but nothing had been done till date. It is very pathetic to know that the whole sub-division is maintained by one S.D.O., one C.O. and a chowkider, and no clerical staff. The government have to give us some importance to be self sufficient in food and land development.

Demand No.19 – Local Administration Department. Mr.Speaker, I like to thank the Minister-in-charge for looking after Relief & Rehabilitation Department very well and for his work within my constituency.

Thank you.

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr. Speaker, thank you. What I have to say is important for all the members and the Mizo people.

S P E A K E R : Please hold on. As we are nearing 4:00 PM we require the Houe permission to continue our discussion. We are going to pass 4:00 PM after Pu Thlenga's speech. Are we going to continue or have a break and resume our discussion ? What is our opinion ? He is number eighteen, not much are remaining only four or five are there. Pu Thlenga may resume his speech for 10 minutes.

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr. Speaker, thank you. What I want to discuss about are very important. I request our hon'ble House Leader and the concern Minister to mark my points.

On demand No.19 – Local Administration Department. Their main work is to watch over the V/C and their wages. Beside this, they have not much to do. Their previous works like construction of LAD step, side-drain are now in the hand of Urban Development. It is sad to learn that rural area development by LAD had ended. Can this be continued as before.

Regarding demand No.30 & 32. We all know that orange cultivation had soiled throughout Mizoram, still no relief fund had been made, they are neglected. They work day and night for 7 to 8 years to harvest, especially within my constituency Mamit. I think it can be put into natural calamity and the government should give more interest in this regard. While there is relief fund for destroyed crops, none had been there for destroyed oranges. I want our House Leader to put his foot and ask the help of the central government.

While having a strong government, I want them to take an initiative in this regard. All the people including MUP in my constituency take part and have the exact data of the destroyed orange plantation in their hand.

Regarding our city, it becomes congested. We have to make a new Aizawl at Lengpui if possible. Its location is very favourable, it had a plateau and surrounded by small villages and will be around 36, 40 kms with its surrounding areas. Ring-road can be built and also cross-road for about six vehicles to circulate. If this cannot be done, Aizawl city will become more congested and progress cannot be made. Therefore, we have to find a solution to solve our problem. We have to give our thought regarding Lengpui. It had all the facilities. Airport is there and hotels can be built nearby. Drainage system can be arranged systematically, it had a good potential. LSC can be arranged and still Aizawl will always be the commercial centre. So, let us give our best to make Mizoram into a pleasant home for the Mizos Mr.Speaker, thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, it is 4:00 PM, we will have recess and resume our discussion at 4:30 PM.

4:30 PM

S P E A K E R : We will resume our discussion. Who will be the next Pu Vanlalthaliana.

P U H. V A N L A L T H A L I A N A : Mr. Speaker, today we are going to discuss our three Minister's demand. Our government give importance to our demands and they are all related in someways. They are the department who can satisfy our needs in our present situation, that is mautam.

First, on Sericulture Department I have the opinion that Sericulture activities do not reach up to the mark. At the same time, it is pleasing to note that the government had given due importance to the administration of this department. Sericulture industry does not require much potential. It can provide easy and prominent occupation for rural people. Therefore, I would like to encourage the government to give more interest to sericulture industry.

Next on demand No.30 – Disaster Management. We all agree that silpauline is highly utilized particularly in rural areas. It would be more beneficial if silpauline can be distributed according to the needs of the people.

Coming to Cooperation Department, the performance of this department had deteriorated for the last 30 years. Perhaps it is because of the negligence of the government. It is also important to impart proper education on cooperation and its activities.

Due to the periodic bamboo flowering, our farmers have harvested only a small quantity of rice last year. Let us presume that the monthly purchase of extra 50,000 quintals of rice at a higher rate by the government could suffice the needs of the people. I feel satisfied to see that Emergency Famine Committee had been constituted to deal with the various difficulties faced by the rural people. It is important to have good coordination in the district and village level in regard to identification of beneficiaries for government assistance.

The government had made significant achievement through AH & Vety Department. District AH & Vety Offices have been opened in all the

district headquarters. Besides, I am happy to state that chicken breeding machines have been installed in Mampui Vety farm. Presently, steps have been taken for setting up of poultry breeding station in all the district headquarters. Here, I would like to advise the authority to arrange piggery insemination in all the district headquarter so as to lighten the burden of the rural people.

Coming to Transport Department, it is indeed an achievement that DTO Office have been opened in all the District Headquarters and on behalf of the people of Lawngtlai District I express my gratitude to the government for allotting just the vehicle code number we want that is MZ-07 for Lawngtlai District.

I am pleased to mention that Transport Department had made great progress towards motor registration and taxation.

Emphadizing on Law & Judicial, I am glad to note that 'The Mizoram Compulsory Marriage Registration Rules have been notified. I hope this would bring favourable results in our social life.

Though the majority population in rural areas are depending on agriculture, it seems that Agriculture Department had not been utilized extensively. I am glad to mention that District Agriculture Office have now been opened in all the districts. Let us hope that there could be more efficient administration in the district level. I also believe that a more vigorous step could be taken to increase agriculture products.

Coming to Horticulture Department I am proud to declare that the horticulture products in Aizawl, Serchhip and Lunglei areas have greatly increased in quantity and quality since the beginning of 2004. This is indeed an achievement of the department. If the government continue to keep up the good work the state is not far from being self sufficient in the production of vegetables and fruits.

Therefore Mr.Speaker, I support the demands moved by the 3 Ministers for passing. Thank you.

PU A.B.CHAKMA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will start my speech with Supply Department. I appreciate the various steps taken by the hon'ble Supply Minister to ensure food security in the state. It is further pleasing to see that Supply Department had satisfactorily achieved its target of advance stocking of foodstuff in various supply centres. At the same time, the people of my constituency particularly in Parva and Vaseitlang are worried that the supply godowns in these two villages are still empty. The people of Parva area are beginning to meet shortage of foodstuff.

Therefore, I request the hon'ble Minister to see that sufficient foodstuff is stocked in these areas before the onset of monsoon.

Regarding LPG Gas, this is another problem faced by the people of my constituency. The two LPG agencies Zomawi Gas Agency and LP Gas Agency have failed to meet the requirement of the people of my constituency particularly Parva area. It would be appreciated if the concerned Minister could take note of this matter.

Amongst the various developmental steps taken through Vety Department I would like to point out that 204 department offices and staff quarters have been constructed. Animal feed plant with the capacity of 50 metric tonne had also been set up at Ramrikawn. Also, Dairy Plant with a capacity of 5000 litres had also been installed at Lunglei and Kolasib. All these performances are indeed quite an achievement. However, again within my constituency of Chawngte the vety complex had been diverted to private property because the staff of Vety Department refused to occupy the quarters. This results in the malfunction of the Sub-Division Office. When I raised this subject to the hon'ble Minister I was informed that the matter was within the jurisdiction of the Lai District Council and therefore the government had no alternative but to hand over the Sub-Division to Chawngte-P. In my opinion, this is not an appropriate decision. Therefore, I would be very pleased if the government could have a negotiation with the District Council authority in this regard.

In the department of Agriculture as well, we are facing similar problem in the Sub-Divisional level. The SDAO office building and staff quarters have been turned over to private property. I request the hon'ble Agriculture Minister to pursue this case and take action as required.

I am happy to mention that Motor Vehicle Registration Office is set up at Lawngtlai. It would be appreciated if the MST Bus service could be made more regular and dependable for lower economic class of the people.

I would like to conclude my speech with the Department of Sericulture. I appreciate the infrastructure development and mulberry plantation made by the government through this department. I would like to encourage the department to continue this good work. Thank you.

PU H.LIANSILOVA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me start with Food & Civil Supplies Department. As we are all aware, we are facing the dreaded mautam famine. The government may not be needed to remind about this. And I remember the statement made by the hon'ble Chief Minister that the government would not allow anyone to starve because of mautam. It is important for the government to fulfil this. I would

further like to urge and remind the hon'ble supply Minister to see that sufficient foodstuff is stocked in various godowns.

As we have seen from the Governor's Address, more than 5000 families have been engaged in sericulture activities in 2007. As for this year, the number is increased to 10000 which is quite satisfactory. Mizoram had a good potential in Sericulture. If the department could be extended larger, major programmes could be made for the benefit of the people.

Coming to Local Administration Department, it is important to have proper rules and regulations to control village establishment. If this is not taken into account we cannot stop the growing of unauthorized establishment of small villages on the roadside.

Regarding village census I would like to suggest that village census register should be made for the account of the village council and various NGOs. This is deemed necessary for maintenance of law and order.

It may also be suggested that the existing village council law be reviewed.

Again on Vety & Animal Husbandry, I would like to emphasize that we have a good potential in Mizoram. There is enough suitable animal grazing ground not to mention the land for installation of fodder plant. With better coordination between Agriculture and Horticulture Department there could be a better chance of development and self sufficiency.

On Demand No.14 – Law and Judicial, I would like to remind the authority to take more vigorous steps for the separation of judiciary from the Executive. I request the hon'ble Minister to take note of this.

The Departments of Agriculture and Horticulture could not be neglected since 70% of the population of Mizoram is depended on it. Therefore, the government should be more generous for these departments. It seems that the government is more concentrated in making fresh programmes and policies but failed to provide necessary education to the farmers. Which is why our system cannot be a success till date. The government should give more attention to the farmers. The government is merely focused on programmes and sanction but failed to reach the human aspect. If we review the agriculture programme, the investment cost per unit for development is rather high and the benefit goes to the middle-men rather than the target which is the farmers. Therefore, this matter may also be considered.

On Horticulture the major step taken is mainly Anthurium which involved large budget. But, if we study closely we cannot deny that the families engaged in anthurium plantation and the beneficiaries for government assistance are mainly well to do families. Hence, I would like to advise the

government to make policies which can be benefited by the lower section of the people. Thank you.

PU F.LAL THANZUALA : At the outset, I would like to express that I have supported the point mentioned by the member who stood before me.

On Demand No.19, there is Local Administration Department. I would like to say only one point regarding this department. One of the greatest performance made by this department is the increase of the amount of housing loan given to the public. However, it is important for the department to ensure that the loan is utilized for the right purpose. It is also important to instill in the minds of our youth that honesty is the best policy.

BAFFACOS had often been mentioned. There had been an allegation that BAFFACOS fund did not reach the rural people. However, we have to understand that through BAFFACOS, roads have been constructed, medical equipments were also purchased. As this is the case, some people may say that BAFFACOS fund had not been spent for the rightful purpose. But, we must know that the ones who benefited the most from these good roads and new medical equipment are the rural people. This means that BAFFACOS had indirectly reached the rural people through construction of new roads and purchase of new medical tools.

I would like to praise the government for its decision to make Minor Irrigation as a full fledged department. Despite the various programmes and measures taken by the government our rural farmers have hardly seen success in the field of Horticulture and Agriculture. One of the vital reasons for this failure is lack of sufficient water supply. Hence, more emphasis should be laid to strengthen infrastructure facilities. Irrigation potential area should also be maximized.

I would like to commend the steps taken by the hon'ble Supply Minister. Due to the earnest efforts rendered by the hon'ble Minister and the supports coming from various organizations the department had achieved its target of advance stocking of sufficient foodstuff in the identified supply centres. However, it is necessary to stock foodstuff that can last till the end of the monsoon period. In order to survive the impending MAUTAM famine we all need to cooperate. We should obstrain ourselves from exploding over a petty incident. I am sure that if we all work together we can successfully combat MAUTAM famine.

S P E A K E R : Let us now call upon Pu Lalrinchhana, Minister to wind up the discussion of the demands.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr.Speaker, at the outset I would like to express my gratitude to the members
MINISTER for their constructive criticisms and suggestions. I have recorded the

important points coming from the members and I am ready to pursue the points wherever possible.

I will start with L.A.D. This department left important development marks in the past. However, since last year a new department called the “Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation Department” was formed. Therefore, the budget allocation for LAD is only Rs.2,05,353,000. Urban Development Department coped with the progressing urban development works whereas Rural Development Department had administered rural development areas. As this is the case, the scope of developmental steps to be taken under LAD had become smaller. Many of the questions raised by hon’ble members, therefore, do not concern LAD but under the purview of Rural Development Department and Urban Development Department.

Some members have raised questions concerning village council establishment. There is also suggestion for empowerment of V.C. To answer these questions and suggestion I would like to say that village council Elections Rules and Village Council Rules itself are being reviewed for amendment. The department had been working very hard on it. The department concerned had now been working very hard over this Rules. As soon as it is ready it will be laid in the House for approval.

Following the approval of the Finance Commission, the state had been making of record of village data. We all now expecting sanction from the centre for this.

Under Local Administration Department there are 556 village councils excluding Autonomous District Council. The preparation of Village Council Rules is underway.

One of the important programmes taken up by LAD is the distribution of Housing Loans to both the public and government employees. Housing loan to the public was granted to 10, 334 families and composite cash loan (HBA) to government employees were granted to 11,974 employees so far. Fresh beneficiaries for Housing loan for the current year will soon be notified to the public.

Local Administration Department had formed 6 districts in which DLAO office are opened and functioned smoothly. Office buildings are also constructed in the 5 districts except Mamit where the office had been operated in a rented building.

Another important project made by LAD is setting up of recreation centre in urban areas. The department had set up recreation centres in Lawibual and Airport Road. Besides the district park at Lunglei there are picnic spots in Thingdawl and Kolasib. Preparation is being underway to construct city park at Mamit and picnic spot at Serchhip.

The Local Administration Department had also utilized the funds from the grant recommended by the 12th and 11th Finance Commission. Public assets were created in the urban and rural areas. As there are separate Urban Development Department and Rural Development Department to cope with the development works in urban and rural areas respectively, the developmental work load for LAD alone had been reduced to a certain extent. Therefore, the Local Administration Department had concentrated on creation of recreation centres and village administration.

Coming to Transport Department the members have emphasized on matters concerning motor insurance, pollution control and traffic regulations. First, I will react to the question of Pollution Control. With the priority given by the central government pollution testing equipment will soon be acquired by the State Government.

As for the case of motor insurance, only Transport Department cannot take up this matter. After careful consideration, it is decided that such case will be hand-over to Finance Department.

Hon'ble Member, Pu D.Thangliana had pointed out the need for bus service within his constituency. Pu K.Lalrinliana had also emphasized the case of Transport Superintendent Office at Silchar. The government had been considering the matter. As for the service of MST bus the matter will be taken as priority.

I would like to inform the House that auction had been conducted to dismantle the building of Transport Directorate. The government is now all set to construct a new building in the near future.

The hon'ble member from Chawngte had mentioned the need to make regular bus service at Chawngte. The government will take every possible step to settle this.

I would further like to say that motor registration and issue of licence are now being taken up by District Transport Office.

Presently, 57 buses have been plying through various routes inside and outside the state. The department is collecting Passenger and Goods taxes. Enforcement check gate is set up at Vairengte where a large revenue is collected.

Another achievement made through Transport Department is the opening of Railway Agency at Lunglei. Railway Ministry had also made programme to connect Sairang by railway by the year 2010.

Lalsawia Bus Terminal Building at Chaltlang is completed and is now functional. The department also successfully run Driving School for light motor vehicle and medium vehicle.

I am proud to say that there is improvement in regard to collection of revenue. This year the department had exceeded the revenue income of last year.

The department had 57 serviceable buses, 3 mini tankers, 4 recovery vans, 1 ambulance, 2 pick-ups, 4 gypsies and 2 maruti vans. Transport Department had now been bifurcated into two wings, namely MV wing and MST wing.

Amongst the minor Transport reforms made in the Department is the reduction of the number of the service of MST buses. MST bus service are minimized and instead private buses are operated. This reform was done so as to provide larger means of livelihood to the public. At present, restructuring of the department is being prepared. The department is now awaiting the consent of the Cabinet. It is the objective of the department to entrust more services to the public whereas the administration and collection of various fees would be in the hands of the department.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker, can the Minister explain whether the case of private garage could be enforced.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : It is true that proper regulation concerning private garage is necessary as suggested by Pu Liansuama. The government will take the matter as priority.

Members have mentioned various points of their concern on AH & Vety Department. Regarding the import of animal from our neighbouring country of Burma I would like to inform the members that the government never issue permission for such matter. However, the cabinet had approved rules for the restriction of the quality of the animals coming from a foreign countries. As for now, due to the spreading of Bird Flu in Burma and Bangladesh Government of India had prohibited the entry of animals from these countries.

Regarding the case of the vety doctor mentioned by the member the department had been investigating the matter.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker, the vety doctor involved is Dr.C.Lalrinawma. If action is not taken, I think the police may be required to apprehend the person.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr.Speaker, this matter had only come to my knowledge in this session. I was informed by the Directorate that the matter had been under investigation.

Anyhow, I will urge the department to take more vigorous steps.

The government had already received report on the epidemic of animal disease in Hortoki. In pursuance of this report doctors were sent to the place from Kolasib and they concluded that the disease was not that of Bird flu. It is regarded that the epidemic had now been controlled. I regret to say that there is no provision for compensation for this case. However, if possible, the department will make provision for the same.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Mr. Speaker, regarding Hortoki incident the government did not pay interest. What I would like to request the hon'ble Minister is to take positive action for the people of Hortoki.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the step taken by the government in checking entry of domestic pigs from Myanmar. It is reported that Myanmar is now free from Bird flu. If that is so, can the government loosen its restriction ?

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, it is the central government that make prohibition order for the entry of foreign domestic pigs and cattle. The state have no power to stop the order.

Regarding the incident at Hortoki I respect the request of the member but, the government have no such provision for compensation. The department will note the case as priority whenever there is a chance.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to see that sufficient supply of animal vaccine is provided to Hortoki.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr.Speaker, our doctor have successfully taken up vaccination programme in the entire Hortoki area.

Pu Lalrinliana Sailo had mentioned the case of piggery village. Under BAFFACOS each family who are involved in piggery were assisted with Rs.30,000 / 40,000. Unfortunately, improvement can not be made as expected. Presently, new methods with foreign collaboration had been searched.

The department had established Animal Feed Plant which manufactured animal feed from locally procured crops like corn and soyabean. It can be seen that the plant had a great progress.

The hon'ble member, Pu Lalhmingthanga suggested rearing of hill cattle for meat. But the central government cannot give permission for cattle rearing for the sake of meat.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Meghalaya practised private cattle rearing which the state government had supported. The state does not obtain permission for government Farm as that is not possible from the national context. It is from the private cattle rearer that the people get benefit.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, the government will consider the suggestions made by the members. The department of AH & Vety had been taking vigorous steps towards the improvement of milk product in the state. In order to increase wholesome milk availability for consumers dairy plants are being set up at Aizawl, Kolasib and Lunglei. Another plant at Champhai is being underway. For more conveniency Vety district headquarters are also established in all the districts.

For cattle rearers fodder bank had been set up at Champhai, Thingdawl and Serchhip where varieties of fodder would be stocked the whole year.

The rearing of turkey is being taken up extensively now. The department had more and more experience in the rearing of turkey. The percentage of breeding had also been improved. With the improvement in the breeding plant private turkey rearing will soon be entertained.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : One minute Pu Speaker. It is true that breeding of eggs of turkey can be successful 100% if put under the control of vety to evade disturbance from male turkey.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, usual practice of the department is not failing totally yet the percentage is somehow low. Import of cattles from Assam and Meghalaya - the department is now collecting male and female calves for breeding at Selesih farm so as to evade import from outside.

Besides Mr.Speaker Sir, we have now established laboratory for testing of animals feed here at Aizawl and is now functioning regularly, thanks to the efforts of the concerned officers and staff. Place for artificial insemination had been set up at various places like Kolasib, Champhai, Lunglei, Serchhip and even at Aizawl and for Saiha and Mamit, it will soon be done too. Not only this, animal diseases investigatory laboratory will soon be set up at various districts as it is done here at Aizawl. Regarding improvement of Poultry farming, effort had been made for setting up of chicken breeding plant at each districts which will also cover breeding of duck.

Regarding improvement of pig farming, the department put the effort by providing assistance to pigfed.

In short, the department had put its best effort to attain sufficiency in livestock for which number of infrastructure is being set up. As a result, population of rearing animal in our state is increasing every year. According to the latest census i.e, 2007 population of the following types of rearing animal in Mizoram are as follows :-

1.	Cow (cross breeding cattle)	-	10,713 nos
	Cow (indigeneous cattle)	-	24,244 nos
2.	Mithun	-	5,832 nos
3.	Buffalo	-	1,939 nos
4.	Sheep	-	974 nos
5.	Goat	-	15,710 nos
6.	Horse / Pony	-	1,373 nos
7.	Pig	-	2,67,361 nos
8.	Dog	-	35,572 nos
9.	Chicken	-	12,41,835 nos
10.	Rabbit	-	873 nos
	Total	-	16,06,460

The population of 2007 census increases by 1,69,652 since the census of 2003.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Pu Speaker, breeding of mithun is rarely mentioned. Whether breeding at Zawlnghak had already been stopped ?

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, breeding in the area of Zawlnghak is still running, yet the progress is rather slow as its maintenance is more complicate than expected. Pu Speaker, to curtail the discussion I now move to this House demand No.19. LAD - Rs.20,53,35,000/- , No.34. AH & Vety – Rs.21,48,65,000/- , No.42. Transport Department – Rs.21,52,55,000/- Total – Rs.65,54,55,000/- for favour of passing by the House.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Alright. The concerned Minister had now moved his demands to pass by the House such as demand No. 19. LAD – Rs.20,53,35,000/- (Rupees twenty crore fifty three lakh and thirty five thousand only), Demand No.34. AH & Vety – Rs.21,48,65,000/- (Rupees twenty one crore forty eight lakh and sixty five thousand only) and Transport Department Demand No.42 – Rs.21,52,55,000/- (Rupees twenty one crore fifty two lakh and fifty five thousand only) the total amounting to Rs.63,54,55,000/- (Rupees sixty three crore fifty four lakh and fifty five thousand only). Members who agree to pass may say ‘yes’ and those who don’t may say ‘no’ (The members ‘yes’).

The demand of Pu Lalrinchhana, Minister AH & Vety etc is now passed by the House unanimously. (Pu Lalrinchhana :- Thank you Pu Speaker).

I now call upon Pu H.Rammawi, Minister to move and wind up his demand here in the House.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, 22 members have spoken
MINISTER in regard to my demands and most of them expressed their concern for improvement of my departments and is much appreciated. Since our time does not allow us to make clarification point by point let me make few important points.

To start with, Pu R.Lalzirliana had pointed out about cold storage at Vairengte. In this regard, we are now in transition period as the department cannot afford to maintain it and it will be privatized. I, therefore, inform the House that failure on management of this cold storage is due to the said transition period and the condition of this cold storage itself is good. Matter relating to Maite, I must say that this is due to the blessings from above and not of their peculiar performances. Re-opening of Vairengte ‘S’ cold storage in my opinion, is due to lack of instruction. The problem is evasive and the concerned people suffered due to ignorance of the nodal in-charge. Anyway, the said plant is now being given for privatization and will soon be leased out by floating advertisement.

Thank you.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, it is learnt that Lalit company asked 20/24 lakhs for its maintenance and electrification. Whether the plant had already been leased out to the said firm ? Is there any plan to make payment of 24 lakhs to that firm ?

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I cannot say the exact amount but we both have certain amount to pay to each other. Since the department needs certain cells for storage of local products, we cannot give 100% to that firm despite their request to give the whole chamber. Hence, they still need to pay hiring charge of certain cells as we have some to pay to them.

Regarding devastation of orange plantation in the areas around Mamit, I too have witnessed the devastated plantation fully covered by weeds and an eyesore to look around. We have approached the central authority for financial relief yet the problem is that this cannot be accepted as natural calamity. Hence, an alternative approach may be made to refer the matter to disaster management scheme for inclusion under bamboo related famine relief fund.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Speaker, I opine financial assistance for devastated orange plantation may be obtained if bamboo related famine is declared as disaster as it will then be included under this provision.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the matter is being processed for inclusion to the said provision. It is to be noted that damage done by rats related to famine during year before last had already been verified and the Government of India too had already sanctioned the provision. Again, verification for last year's landslide too had already been done but provision for that relief had not yet been received by the government of Mizoram. As of relief fund for the existing year, Disaster Management will process for further action of central authority. Likewise, the next fund may be processed by Disaster Management in phase manner as necessary and the said damage will also be included when the time comes.

Regarding point raised by Pu Lalrinliana Sailo alleging the variety of potato distributed for seeds as bad, I must say that it may not be an ideal variety but befitted for the purpose after being processed and treatment. In this connection, I would like to mention that there are many variety such as hill variety, Giriraj variety which is normally shriveled and smaller in size. Research centre promised us to supply an ideal variety but failed to deliver in time and the variety which had been placed afterward is said as being treated and befitted to use as seed. That distributed variety is supposed to be able to germinate positively and the concerned farmers too appreciated the seeds they received.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, it is pleasing that the concerned Minister himself admits the quality being distributed. It is true that large amount of bad potato seed is being left un-used in certain places of his constituency I believe that is not befitted for the purpose even after treatment like those of distributed at Vaphai, Serchhip division and the areas around Khawhai.

Not only this Mr.Speaker Sir, the department procured large amount of organic manure for further maintenance after germination of seed. The problem is that this will be left un-used (Pu H.Rammawi, Minister :- Your point is not relevant as procurement of organic manure is of last year)

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Speaker, only one point please. May the concerned Minister clarify how criticism brings negative effect on farmers and why? (Pu H.Rammawi, Minister :- They've threatened us to ensure our action despite our request not to do). The minister must not be afraid of pursuing certain members if his action is fair and good. Does it mean action taken is unjust ?

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the said selected seed is good but we opine that it is wise not to take up any criticism (Pu Lalrinliana Sailo :- The seed distributed is bad and it can be proved from those which had been left un-used at Company Peng) If he wishes, we can give them to his constituency too. (Pu Lalrinliana Sailo :- No one needs that bad variety).

Secondly, Mr. Speaker Sir, there is allegation that MNF Block of Champhai drawn 17 lakh rupees from the department. In this regard, I have to point out that there is no provision for MNF Block Champhai yet they can draw it since there are many departmental works at Champhai connecting with irrigation and land development and those persons who had drawn such amount might have been involved with such works.

Regarding point raised by Pu Zodintluanga, Pu Andrew Lalherliana and Pu Lalhmingthanga, it is true that work order of 59 crore rupees is made to Farmers information system. In this connection, it is to be noted that there may be some errors in doing heavy works and so does with preparation of DPR. Infact, the said work order is cancelled instantly and I have no knowledge of this work order being issued.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, it is so unusual to issue such work order without the knowledge of the concerned Minister.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : It is obvious that work order is issued deliberately and it is cancelled later, it is done so only after complaint.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Obviously this work order will be getting through unless the process is exposed.

S P E A K E R : This is a kind of an argument. The Minister said that he had no knowledge about it. It is possible and so we may take his words.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, the said DPR (Detailed Project Report) is now being processed. In this regard, it is to be noted that DPR had not been prepared for the application of provision; yet, I admit that there was a mistake.

Regarding Law Department, it is much appreciated that most of the members expressed their concern for separation of Law and Judiciary. Here, it is to be noted that this is not a matter to be achieved in a month or so as it is new to us. Yet we have been praised by Guwahati High Court for being the first in furnishing requirement for the process so far. High Court had now given its approval and matter relating to criminal court too is already processed and now it is pending under High Court. Besides, notification had already been made and arrangement also made for judicial district. Yet our capacity could not afford to make more judicial district in addition to Aizawl and Lunglei due to lack of enough MJS officer. Presently, Aizawl Judicial District covers undivided Aizawl District and Lunglei Judicial District will cover Lunglei District and District Council areas as soon as approval is obtained.

Besides, regarding newly introduced rule i.e, "The Mizoram Compulsory Registration of Marriage Rule, 2007", there is a plan to introduce in our state with immediate effect for which notification had already been issued and appointment for Registrar of marriage will soon be made. Hopefully, this rule will come into effect from the next financial year.

Not only this Mr.Speaker Sir, I would like to inform the House that the work of computerization of all the Civil Court is now in full swing and for Aizawl District it is almost completed and will be continued for other districts too.

As for Court Rule, it is on the verge of completion and Family court too will soon be opened at New Capital Complex, Khatla. Regarding Mizo customary law, it had now been completed with the efforts of the concerned officials and I have to extend my appreciation to the concerned persons for rendering their relentless effect for the achievement of mizo customary law.

Moreover, I think it is also necessary to point out here in the House that with a view to impart Parliamentary Practice Awareness among the youths, youth Parliamentary competition was organized for the first time in Mizoram in which 8 Higher & Secondary schools participated. This competition is found to be successful and may be continued in future.

Coming now to Irrigation Department, it is to be noted that this newly trifurcated department from Agriculture, though new, could not be maintained as a full-fledged department, yet some sort of arrangements are being made with the system to suit the needs of the concerned farmers.

Regarding Horticulture Department, it is worth mentioning that remarkable achievement had been made by newly bifurcated department – Horticulture especially with plantation of Anthurium. Yet, it is true that setting up of this plantation can be done only by well-to-do families but not by the poor. It is, therefore, wise for the government to give attention towards Rural Business Programme in which poor people too can be given opportunity to pursue the said plantation. Yet, it will be necessary for the concerned authority to make careful

selection keeping in mind the prospect of its marketing besides selection of the site selected for plantation.

Regarding plantation of Grapes at Hnahlan, it is to be noted that the success is mainly due to practice of the said system of Rural Business Hob Scheme in which the whole population of this area concentrate on the programme. It is, therefore, suggestive for the people in other areas to follow that practice by applying assistance from the concerned department. It is to be noted that achievement made by growers in Hnahlan proved that the soil of Mizoram is adaptive for the said plantation. As for processing of wine, there is a plan for replacing sintex by steel tanker for processor since the former material is found to be unhealthy. Effort had now been made for such replacement by Hnahlan Farming Society and Champhai Grape Farming Society. The problem in this regard is filtering of beneficiaries as Rural Bank concerns with giving loan which may later be subsidized by Food Processing Ministry of the Government of India. If there is any balance of payment, it will be the state government to support the two societies with recovery. The government will lend support by privatization of plants from the beginning.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Pu Speaker, this is an important matter as it involves growers. In this connection I must say that there is doubt with the concerned growers due to lack of enough provision from the department which compels them to contribute Rs.1,50,000 as a single self-Help-Group and that their winery may not be successful as expected. It may, therefore, be necessary for the government to give assurance to the concerned growers that relief fund will be provided if any winery is found unsuccessful.

PU H.LIANSILOVA : Pu Speaker, I support the opinion of Pu H.Rohluna. It may as well be appreciated if the department give guaranty to the concerned growers like certain Banks are doing. May this matter be considered.

Secondly, it is learnt that grapes grown in the said areas are a variety of acidic taste which is generally used for processing wine. This variety may pleased be changed with sweeter one so that the fruit could also be sold in the market.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, the said variety is not table
MINISTER variety but of wine variety and as
suggested by our fellow member,
selection of newly variety is under
consideration learning that any variety is adaptable to the soil of Mizoram.

Regarding guarantor, the department has responsibility for the
safety of the concerned farmers.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, it will be much appreciated
if clarification is made in regard to
provision for supply of silpouline
from the department of Agriculture and
Horticulture.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, we have Agriculture
MINISTER Farm not of Silpouline.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, will the government make
contribution at the initial stage on behalf
of self-help-group so as to relieve the
concerned people.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, matter relating to provision
MINISTER for silpouline may be pursued.

Regarding suggestion made by Pu Saikapthianga, it is to be
noted that unless burden is laid on the concerned farmers there will be no incentive
mind with their works. The department provide assistance only after identifying each
individual performance.

As for a variety of papaya which is called 'solo variety, there is
a problem in importing the seed even though the taste is proved to be satisfactory.
Yet, the department is seeking the possibility keeping in mind the demand and its
adaptability to the soil of Mizoram.

In the same manner Pu Speaker, we are introducing newly
variety of banana which is called 'Spanish Banana' and this proved to be satisfactory.

Yet it may be necessary to be careful in selecting the site for plantation as there is a problem in disposing off the product due to remoteness of the selected site.

Regarding orange plantation, some experts suggested discontinuation in the western belt where mass damage of plant is concentrated. From the government side, no solution could be found since the damage is done and plants cannot be saved in time. Yet, we are having alternative plan in consultation with Israel Company and a pilot project is to be introduced in these areas. We are now starting the plan in selected compact areas with 12,000 seed plants which will be extended gradually.

Pu Speaker, a member from Kawnpui constituency allegedly claimed that some farmers are being forced to carry out spice plantation despite their lack of interest and inadaptability to the soil. In this regard, I want to mention that no selection had been made by the department during last year and only the applicants were given permission to do so. In this connection, spice has medicinal value in various ways and one London based news paper even publisized that it is good for treatment of cancer.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, it is learnt that now is the best season for harvesting spices. May I know whether the concerned farmers harvested the said crop at this season ? If so, how much ?

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, it is to be noted that spices harvested in the second year is much preferable than the first year.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, may I criticize that point. The minister himself mentioned in reply to my question last year that the first harvest is the best. His statement infact is much confusing Mr.Speaker Sir.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, my answer to the question of Pu Lalrinliana Sailo last year too is correct in the sense that the said crop cultivated in Chakma area is of a variety

which is harvested on the first year and in the same way, the point of Pu Lalrinliana Sailo too is acceptable to some extent.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Pu Speaker, as per experience of the farmers within my constituency atleast 100 qtls is expected from cultivation of 6½ qtls, and more production is expected from the second cultivation.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, production from the first cultivation is seldom satisfactory whether the Minister agrees to my point or not.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I must say that production of spices in Mizoram is very meagre at present and the concerned authority therefore, intended to circulate the seeds in various places so as to make enough production to feed central processing plant at Sairang established in collaboration with Diamond Shipping and Sunrise Spice and the government of Mizoram.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, here is my question for favour of answer from the concerned Minister. Last year, the department procured 1,04,375 qtls of spice for the seed where as 1 qtl is expected to produce atleast 5 qtls. If so, we are able to produce 5 lakhs qtls within Mizoram. Local production therefore, is sufficient enough to supply the seed for next year without importing again from other states.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, there is no plan to procure the seed from outside Mizoram in the present condition. It will be purchased from the concerned cultivators of the previous year and be distributed only to fresh applicants as the farmers are expected to be able to have the enough from their products to plan in the next year.

As already pointed out, registration is being done by the concerned authority in respect of those Growers Society at district level and Growers company of each district which also is known as Grower Society Producer Company. It will then be sold in dry form via Lengpui Airport and no longer through Bagha with appropriate value of the market.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, seeds of spice amounting to 15 crore rupees had already been procured last year at the rate of Rs.8/- per kg for local product and Rs.17/- kgs for non-mizo production. If procurement from outside had to be stopped, do we really have sufficient amount of local production and at what rate such local products will be purchased ?

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Pu Speaker, it will be purchased on the spot at the rate of Rs.6/- for further cultivation in green form and be distributed to the neighbouring areas for which fund is collected from various departments. It is pleasing that clearance had already been issued from Agriculture Ministry for purchase of humidifier amounting to Rs.2 crore and it will soon be entered in our account.

Besides, Pu Speaker, Rs.135 lakhs had already been received from ministry of Renewable Energy. Here, it is to be noted that the project will be privatized from the beginning with the intention of building up world class production.

Coming now to tomato production, there is a good prospect of having Hitech Green House in Mizoram which also includes other vegetables. Those members who visited Israel will know that 5000 qtls can be produced from 1 hectare of land. If so, the same can be achieved from our soil. We may therefore, introduce appropriate study in regard to this production.

Not only this Mr.Speaker Sir, it is learnt that 800 qtls of orange can also be produced from 1 hectare of land for which the said study will be made to cover up for orange production.

PU K.LALRINLIANA : Pu Speaker, as already pointed out, wooden structure can also be used as a substitute for steel structure and also bamboo to minimize expenditure. It may be appreciated if the concerned authority consider in that direction too.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I could never say what I want to say when I wind up my demands. Hon'ble Speaker, the main problem of passion fruit is G.I. wire. As a result of the effort made by the hon'ble Chief Minister we could have 25,000 qtls of G.I. wire in the past. We get G.I. wire from Technology Mission.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, G.I. wire is a concern for farmers as it is very important. Pawlrang village is concentrating on passion fruit for two years without agricultural cultivation. The farmers did not have G.I. wire as required. The requirement is the same at Khawhai village. Kindly supply G.I. wire to them to meet the requirement as early as possible.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : 1004 qtls of G.I. wire had been given to Pawlrang village.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I know about it. But it does not meet the requirement. The adjoining village too needed the G.I. wire for growing passion fruit.

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : It is very pleasing to note the earnestness of the hon'ble member.

PU K.LALRINLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, yellow variety of passion fruit are grown enormously in Kolasib district. The yellow variety of passion grown there is said to be unfit for the climatic and soil condition. The growers are disheartened by this. What could be done ?

S P E A K E R : It is not a time for question hour. It is not time to ask.

PU R.LALRINLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it is needed to discuss the matter. Many people spent lots of time and money besides having marketing problem.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over. We need to maintain the dignity of the House hence, we may not continue our discussion without having House's approval.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I would like to say
MINISTER about KVK. Director General of ICAR for the North East said that Mizoram is fortunate to have KVK in each district.

Mizoram is the only state to have KVK in each district. When we tried to make KVK function, we have difficulties as it had its own guidelines for recruitment. It is therefore necessary to amend the guidelines in order to accord the Mizoram condition. But now we are nearly ready to function. It may be functional around April this year. Agriculture University set up at Selesih is meant for creating competition venue with KVK in each district. Each KVK will be administered by a Joint Director having 16 staff. The importance of KVK is that it will function as a Farm Science centre which will help produce healthy crops. At these centres the farmers and cultivators will be imparted the methods of looking after the crops.

In Agriculture Department, concentration is given to maize and bean cultivation. About 5000 families are engaged on maize and bean cultivation.

We do our best on oil palm. Malaysian company will not encourage its plantation before bamboo flowering is over, because the seed of oil palm is a good food for rats. Now, the survival rate had been reduced. We are now trying to make improvement from the present position.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, we have a new policy that is National Watershed Development Programme in Rain Fed Area (NWDPRRA) and Watershed Development Programme and shifting cultivation will be changed by a new method. 140 projects will be taken up under NWDPRRA which covers about 97000 hectares. The PIA and DAO will be removed at Watershed Area. D.C. will be the Chairman at the district level. Step will be taken in each Watershed area. And step will also be taken for implementation of 61 projects under Watershed Development Programme and shifting cultivation area. 30,000 hectares have been targeted. Rs.88 crores have been passed in the 11th Plan for those projects. With good co-operation from the public, the projects will be carried out successfully. Rs.6.44 crores have been provided for those projects. Some of these fund have been released. If we want to see those projects at the spot I will give you the list of projects.

Crop insurance scheme is now to be followed. The state government had signed MOU with insurance company.

Lastly, I would like to say that the rapid water zone of Tlawng will be blasted using MIP fund. Therefore, the farmers will be selling their production of cash crops easier.

Although there is a complaint against cold storage, the project will be carried out by the government. Truly speaking, the state will make surplus of cash crops as Kolkatta does. We also have 241 km of potential area connectivity. But the quality of the connectivity is poor as the condition of the road is very poor. In regards to land development, the department see all corners. But now the development is set right. The department will now confine to Champhai, Serchhip and Palak plain. After completing these, the land development will be shifted to other potential areas.

Fortunately Kolasib area is handed over to Japan International Corporation Agency (JAICA). The JAICA will look after Kolasib Area. The corporation requested the department to extend upto Serchhip District. It is now analysed in Japan. Himachal Pradesh Farmers earned Rs.10 – 24 lakhs in a year. They are junior to our state to employ JAICA.

Now, we are going to avail UNO fund i.e., Carbon Credit Fund. The Science and Technology Ministry will give our consultancy cost. Step is now taken for this purpose. If we are successful we will receive more than the annual budget provision. I therefore would like to inform the House to cooperate with this scheme.

Lastly, I want to request all hon'ble members to support our projects meant for improvement of our workers in the state. This is the most important policy for the members of the House.

I therefore beg the House to pass my demands no.4 Law and Judicial Rs.6,73,45,000/-, demand no.12 – Parliamentary Affairs – Rs.26,05,000/-, demand no.31 – Agriculture – Rs.72,96,50,000/- and demand no.32 – Horticulture – Rs.15,20,40,000/-. Total = Rs.95,15,95,000/-.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu H. Rammawi, Minister may wind up his demands and beg the House to pass it. May we pass it. (The demand is voted and passed)

PU H.RAMMAWI MINISTER : Thank you, hon'ble Speaker.

S P E A K E R : Now, let us call upon Pu K.Sangthuama, Minister to wind up his demands and to beg leave of the House to pass it.

PU K.SANGTHUAMA MINISTER : Thank you, hon'ble Speaker. Let me start with Cooperation department. It is very important department not only for the state, its importance is recognized in India and outside. In developing world, many are engaged in co-operative movements. In Mizoram, the people have not give much importance which the government regrets.

Any way, we also have profit from Cooperation department although it is difficult to earn profit. The Apex Bank and MIZOFED earned profit. The state had about 2000 primary societies at the village level. All of them are not properly functioning. But as a whole, we are now progressing and going forward.

In Apex Bank, loan is given to the churches. About 25 crores have been given to 310 churches. Loan repayment is generally good from the churches. Deposit is also good. Rs.16,225 lakhs is deposited during 2006 – 2007.

In Sericulture Department, the hon'ble members are aware that sericulture development could change economic situation of the state easily. Now, the Sericulture Department had fullfledged Director. That is the progress of the department.

Regarding the progress of Sericulture Farming, about 12,000 families grow mulberry tree. Some families earned Rs.1,00,000 – Rs.15,00,000/- in a year. We hope to have a good progress in the state.

Silkworm Breeding Centre is also set up at Zobawk. As the Breeding Centre needed Technician it is very difficult to meet requirement in technical staff. The farmers also needed training from time to time. Shawl and quilt are also made.

Now, the department is going to set up seedling centre at Champhai. 200 farmers are expected to be given training. 3,50,000 seed is expected to be produced in 2008 – 2009 and 4000 kgs of Silk is expected to produce in the New Year.

The fund received from BAFFACOS is usefully spent for assisting farmers and for purchase of cocoon. It is also used for purchase of mulberry tree. Cluster development of sericulture farming is also to be set up at Khamrang and Keifang village. Development of sericulture is going to be pursued throughout the state. We could not develop one or two families in a village but we expect at least 20 families to be selected. I would like to request, the hon'ble members to highlight government's policy and intention on sericulture farming in their respective constituencies.

PU S.HIATO : Hon'ble Speaker, sericulture development flourished in 6 districts. Why did Saiha and Lawngtlai district left out ?

PU K.SANGTHUAMA MINISTER : The reason why sericulture farming do not cover three southern districts is because the districts have projects specially from the central government. Besides this, R.D. Department refused to release fund for the district which they think is not suitable for sericulture farming.

In Disaster Management and Rehabilitation, we have no budget provision. But a large sum of fund is usually received from the central government

under Central Finance Commission & Recommendation (CRF). But we have to contribute 25% as a matching share. The fund provided in the budget is non-plan fund.

From the last two years, rat started destroying crops in Mizoram. We received Rs.881 lakhs from the central government. This fund is distributed to 8 districts in accordance with the severity of such calamities. The state government contributed Rs.1 lakh as a matching share. The central government (CRF) also provided Rs.367 lakhs as agriculture input subsidy. This fund is also distributed to the 8 districts in the state.

The state also received fund from the central under CRF as cash component. This fund is distributed to the 4 districts where NREGS did not cover.

Due to heavy rain and landslide, Mizoram met serious problems last year. The report had been given to the central government and Inspecting team visited Mizoram in December the same year. We did not yet know the exact amount the central government will give the state. Last year, many crops and paddy field were also destroyed by rats. Report had also been given and we estimated that damaged crops and paddy fields could value around Rs.591,00,63,640/-. The central team is now requested to investigate the matter at the spot. But orange dying could not be included in this report under this CRF.

Anyway, Disaster Management Department is doing all it can within its purview. There is much work to do because of all the natural calamities we faced. The strength of the staff required improvement. It had only 17 staffs. Anyway, the department is to be made fullfleged department.

The hon'ble members mentioned about silpouline. Many villages asked silpouline for household purpose. Hence, the guidelines will require amendment as the present guidelines did not cover household purpose.

Rice is now the main problem of the state. More than 20 members said about it. But current famine due to bamboo flowering is far better than the previous famine occurred due to bamboo flowering. I want to request hon'ble members to co-operate the government and stand together to fight this famine.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker, village crier of Rulchawm announced that there is rice for MNF at the rate of Rs.10. What is the reason?

PU K.SANGTHUAMA MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker, if there is such case, we will examine the matter.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : At Thenhlum village, in my constituency, President of MNF, Lunglei district issued a letter for allotment of 5 quintals of rice to MNF member.

PU K.SANGTHUAMA : Hon'ble Speaker, we have now strictly
MINISTER observed not to issue rice for individual but only for organization. If District Officer issued in such a manner, we will inform him not to issue rice for individual importance.

In regards to rice consumption I want to say again that allotment of rice from central is not enough to meet the requirement. The present state quota is 116400 qtls, APL – 42600 qtls and BPL – 14700 qtls. The state government spent Rs.11,95,50,500/- per month. The state government purchase rice at a high rate, but made subsidy for the people. State government demand 30,000 qtls of rice to meet our requirement which means that the government will spend more fund for purchase of rice. Anyway the state government is to be regarded as having fund for purchase of rice.

It appears that all of us give importance to stocking of rice for monsoon season. The state government also give importance to this. We will therefore do our best to have rice stocked where no road communication is suitable during rainy season.

I would like to request the hon'ble members to give more attention to villages which famine invaded and the concerned MLA are included in the Famine Relief Committee at district level. I would like to request all District Famine Relief Committee to be more active than before.

If there is no rice to be issued immediately BDO/SDO are to be informed for necessary action. The officers will take action as necessary. Information to the Minister or publishing in News Paper take times that may cause further delay in helping famine effected area or family. I would like to request the hon'ble members to take prompt action to inform the people what they should do in times of such famine. Anyway we will try to stock rice as many quintal as possible. The main problem is rail transport. It is necessary to write to Railway Minister for 20 to 30 wagon that will carry rice supply to the state everyday to meet our requirement.

Now, we have 1,41,879 qtls of rice stocked. It is important to see the bright sight of things.

Regarding wastage of rice mentioned by Pu Zira – it was examined and it was about two bags only. A woman took it and showed other and then reached this august House.

Hon'ble Speaker, I would like to inform the House that there is no BPL rice or APL rice. They were given from the same godown.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it is not necessary to clarify about it. The rice taken by BPL is BPL rice.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Hon'ble Speaker, all V/C had written as BPL rice.

PU K.SANGTHUAMA MINISTER : Some persons used to say that there is BPL rice of two variety - special and different. Truly speaking, there was two bags mixed with small sand stone which can be separated from rice. Rice purchased by the government could not be 100% fine quality. Now, rice purchased are generally good.

I therefore, request the House to pass my demands no.17 – Food & Civil Supply and Consumers Affairs – Rs.103,54,55,000/-, Demands no.30 – Disaster Management & Rehabilitation – Rs.7,71,60,000/-, no.37 – Cooperation – Rs.8,97,40,000/-, no.41 – Sericulture – Rs.7,08,65,000/-. Total = Rs.127,32,30,000/-.

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble Minister wind up his demands and begged the House to pass it. Can we pass the demands. (The demand is voted and passed).

PU K.SANGTHUAMA MINISTER : Thank you hon'ble Speaker Sir.

S P E A K E R : We have now finished the business for today. Sitting of the House will be resumed at 10 : 30 AM on 20.3.2008. We will now adjourn the House.

Sitting adjourned at 8 : 30 PM.