

SECOND SITTING ON THURSDAY, THE 8TH JULY, 2004

(Time : 10:30 AM to 1: 00 PM and 2: 00 PM to 4:00 PM)

PRESENTS

Pu Lalchamliana Speaker, at the Chair, Chief Minister, 11 Ministers and 27 Members were present.

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPER

2. PU TAWNLUIA to lay on the Table of the House Twelfth Annual Report of the Mizoram Public Service Commission 2002 - 2003.
3. PU B. LALTHLEGLIANA to lay on the Table of the House the Mizoram Public Demands Recovery Rules, 2004.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

4. PU LIANSUAMA to present to the House the Second and Third Reports of Committee on Subordinate Legislation.
5. PU ZORAMTHANGA to present to the House The Second Vote on Account for the months of August to November, 2004 and Voting on Vote on Account.
6. PU ZORAMTHANGA to beg leave of the House to introduce the Mizoram Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004

Also

to introduce the Bill
to move that the Bill be taken into consideration
to move that the Bill be passed.

S P E A K E R : 'Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand'.

Matthew 12 : 25.

Starred Question No. 21 to be asked by Pu Liansuama.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I ask Starred Question No. 21 -

- (a) The number of pending cases of pension till 31.5.2004.
- (b) The average number of pension cases that are being settled monthly during 2003 - 2004.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the answers to Starred Question
CHIEF MINISTER No. 21 are as below -

- (a) The number of pending cases of pension till 31.5.2004 is 597.
- (b) The average number of pension cases that are settled during 2003 - 2004 is 67.

PU LIANSUAMA : A supplementary question please. Many pensioners have met difficulties when they retired. This is mainly because they failed to abide by the rules that are required to be followed by government employees. In order to solve this problem, it is important for the Head of Officer to fulfil their responsibility as demanded by the Rules. I would like to ask the hon'ble Finance Minister to take steps for this cause.

To alleviate this problem I would like to suggest that new column be inserted in the ACR form where the officer could make a remark on whether the service record of the person under his charge is settled.

It has been heard from the hon'ble Chief Minister that 767 pension cases has been settled during the last financial year. But, these cases had been left unsettled for a number of years. This is not the fault of the department of Accounts and Treasuries, but the problem starts from the Head of Office. Therefore, I ask whether Central Civil Service Pension Rules 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64 could now be followed. If not, can the government take action against those officials?

S P E A K E R : The Chief Minister to furnish his replies.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the government is deeply concerned
CHIEF MINISTER with the unsettled pension cases. To solve this problem, new employees have been roped in on contract basis. But, it has been found that the departments are responsible for the delay in pension cases. In this regard, as suggested by Pu Liansuama, departments will be instructed to settle the service record of government employees within three years before the time of retirement.

As for the suggestion of inserting remark column in the ACR record book, I, too, suggest it if there is no technical inconvenience. This suggestion will be considered.

As stated by the member, it is not basically right to make fresh nomination at such a late state when one is going on retirement. Anyhow, we will look into the matter.

S P E A K E R : Pu Liansuama.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, adoption case has now become a problem for the government. Hence, I would like to remind the hon'ble Chief Minister to have a critical look into the matter as it is a matter of importance for the people.

On rule 58 of Pension Rules, it reads as 'Every head of office shall undertake the work of preparation of pension paper in a form 7 two year before the date on which a government servant is due to retire on superannuation or on the date on which he proceed on leave preparatory to retirement which ever is earlier. If the head of office can make a remark in the ACR format that all the pension papers are being processed in preparation for retirement, things would be very much easier for the reviewer as well as for the pensioners. The same problem has been faced by the MLA pensioners.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to assure the member
CHIEF MINISTER that the government will look into the case.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 22 to be asked by Pu
Zodintluanga.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I ask Starred Question No. 22 -
Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Taxation Department be
pleased to state -

Has the hon'ble Chief Minister made a commitment to United Sports Association of Mizoram to collect Re. 0.50 per litre from petroleum products in order to have a matching share which the state has to contribute to prevent lapse of Rs. 2367.53 lakhs coming for development of Sports in Mizoram ?

S P E A K E R : Pu B. Lalthlengliana, Minister to reply to the question.

PUB. LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, United Sports Association is in -
MINISTER formed of the intention of the Government.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, a supplementary question please. Our sportspersons have relentless zeal in the field of sports. But, the budget allocation for this department is too meagre in order to develop infrastructure. It is most regretting for sports lovers that fund coming from the center has to be returned as the state cannot contribute a matching share. We have already lost 2500 lakhs coming as SSA scheme due to our failure to contribute a matching share of 25%. In the meantime, the hon'ble Sports Minister had informed the Sports Association on May 28th, 2004 that Re. 0.50 per litre of petrol would be collected as tax provided that political parties and NGOs have approved. In this regard, I would like to ask since when the government require to take approval from political parties and NGOs ?

To prevent lapse of fund, can't fund from lottery and from a source from which no other except Mizoram could draw fund be used for meeting the state's matching share ?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, a supplementary question please. There is no doubt that our youths have endless quest for Sports. If we are to provide CSS fund from the Center, what is the matching share required to be contributed by the State Government?

I would further like to ask if the required matching share could be diverted from non - lapsable pool fund?

S P E A K E R : It has occurred to me that instead of collecting tax, the involvement of Finance would be more appropriate.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is not only a matter of matching share but also the promotion of Sports. Promotion of sports is the bigger volume in our talks with the Sports association. The same problem of failure to meet the matching share has constantly been faced by other states as well. No state has adequate fund for Sports promotion. In view of this, various Sports associations have approached the government. Collection of Re. 0.50 from per litre of petrol as a tax was also the suggestion of the associations. As such, the Sports association are advised to collect as is the opinion of political parties and NGOs only after which the government can proceed the matter.

As for the suggestion raised by Pu Saikapthianga, the State Government pressed the Centre to cut the state's matching share from non - lapsable pool fund to be received by the state. But, the reaction is negative as the centre has emphasised that non - lapsable pool fund is not meant to be diverted to other heads. According to the policy of the Centre, State's matching share has to be borne from the State's own resources. As this is the case, the State Government has a big problem. Other special category states also have this problem.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, as seen from DONER News line, the total amount of fund received by Mizoram from Non - lapsable Pool fund between 2001 - 2004 is 344.71 crores. It is further learnt from this information that this fund is to be utilised for infrastructure developments. If so, can this fund be also utilised for Sport development?

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. When and from whom the approval for collection of tax from petrol was taken? I have raised this question because I have no knowledge of political parties having given their assent for this cause? Therefore, I demand a document to prove this.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the State Government has been pressurising the Centre to divert non - lapsable pool fund for sport infrastructure.

As for the question of Pu Lalduhawma, Sports Association have produced a written document of approval claimed to be collected from various political

parties. The copy was given to me by the Sports Association and I have no doubt of the authenticity of the document. But, I regret to state that the copy is not in my possession for now, but, can be product later. Since, a written approval from political parties are produced, the government decided to proceed the proposal.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 23 to be asked by Pu Lalhmingthanga.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I ask Starred Question No. 23 - Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Civil Aviation be pleased to state -

- (a) Does the government intend to fulfil the proposal to construct air port at Lunglei Kawmzawl. If so, how far step is taken by the government.

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon the Chief Minister to furnish his replies.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the answer to Starred Question CHIEF MINISTER No. 23 are as below -

- (a) Detailed project report has already been sent to NEC. As soon as fund is received from NEC and Planning Commission the project would be proceeded.

The State's PWD and Civil Aviation Wing has done the required survey and verification. Smaller aircraft like DONER and ATR 42 are expected to operate. At the expense of Rs. 2,37,264/- detailed project report was made in which an amount of 4,53,88,000 was estimated. The same was already sent to NEC Meghalaya on 13.9.2002. The report was also sent to Airport Authority of India on 19.5.2001 to get technical clearance.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is a pleasing matter to hear from the hon'ble Chief Minister the steps taken so far for Kawmzawl Airport. As Lengpui Airport is the only one in Mizoram the poeple living in Lunglei District have problems in case of emergency. Also, there is no ticket booking facility except in Aizawl. Hence, the people in that area have problem when they are going to travel by air. Is the Government aware of this ?

Secondly, Lengpui Airport project was made on special problem provision when the members of the 10th Finance Commission came to Mizoram. 11th and 12th Finance Commission have come to Mizoram. Does the government approach the Commission to make such provision for Kawmzawl Airport as well ?

To conclude my speech I request the hon'ble Chief Minster to put more pressure on the Centre.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr. Speaker Sir, if the survey and investigation is

completed, what is the required run way length for smaller aircrafts ?

It has been said earlier that the hills around Kawmzawl has blocked air traffic. Is this problem already cleared ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am fully aware of the need for
CHIEF MINISTER Airport at Kawmzawl. It is only due to the zealous efforts of the former Congress Ministry led by Pu Lalthan Hawla that we could have Lengpui Airport. I will do my best to have airport at Kawmzawl.

I have already approached the Finance Commission to make Kawmzawl Airport project as special problem provision. But, the Commission can not ascertain if provision could be made. It is not the policy of the Planning Commission to open another airport before the existing airport at the State Capital is fully equipped.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr. Speaker Sir, when will instrument for landing
system (ILS) facilities be acquired so as to resolve the existing problem ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, potential effort has been made by
CHIEF MINISTER the concerned authority to acquire instruments for landing system.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 24 to be asked by Pu Sailothanga Sailo.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Mr. Speaker Sir, Starred Question No. 23 - Will
the hon'ble Finance Minister be pleased to state -

Whether fund for various departments is being held up at K deposits upto the ending of the financial year of 2003 - 2004. If so, what is the amount?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the answer to Starred Question
CHIEF MINISTER No. 23 are as below -

- (a) Fund meant for certain departments is held up under K deposits.
- (b) The amount is Rs. 42,88.29.655.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Mr. Speaker Sir, the government may have appropriate
reason for holding up such fund at K deposits. But the public have suffered a lot. It will be a great relief if the government determined reduction of such fund being held up under K deposits.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon'ble Chief Minister mentioned
in his reply to the question raised by Pu Lalziriana that the total amount of fund being held up at

K deposit was Rs. 9,62,58,704. Again, he has just pointed out that the amount was Rs. 42,88,29,655. Does this denote that the amount has increased by 33.25 crores? For what purpose such amount is held up? Does this include fund for LIC Housing loan provided through LAD?

I would further like to ask whether 2.62 crores in respect of Co-operation Department, 55.2 crores in respect of Health Department has already been released.

Again, I would further like to ask if Rs. 40,13,83,448 meant for Housing loan facilities which was held up during the previous year has been released?

The hon'ble Chief Minister is requested to kindly furnish the list with the amount being held up in respect of various departments.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, a supplementary question please. Is the practice of holding funds coming from Centrally Sponsored Scheme at K deposits violates the Central guidelines?

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it has been learnt that out of the amount of Rs. 60,000/- to be received by each MNF returnees, Rs. 20,000/- each has been kept in the K deposit. Is this true?

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble Chief Minister to answer the question.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding the question raised by the hon'ble member Pu Sailothanga Sailo, we also want to keep least amount of money in the K deposit. This seems to be the common problem faced by every state. We, therefore, try our best for this.

In regards to the question raised by Pu Liansuama, we have released LIC money. However, I cannot mention the exact amount of money which has been released now. Anyway, I will furnish the copy of the list to the members shortly.

Regarding the question asked by Pu Zodintluanga, K deposit does not violate the guidelines of the Central Government.

In reply to the question asked by Pu Andrew Lalherliana, last installment of financial assistance will be released to MNF returnees, which has been passed by the meeting of cabinet.

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Pu R. Lalzirliana to ask Starred Question No. 25.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister of Law &

Judicial Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Is there proposal for separation of Judiciary from executive in Mizoram?
- (b) If yes, when will it be implemented?
- (c) If not so, what is the reason?

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr. Speaker Sir, the answers to questions raised by
MINISTER Pu R. Lalzirliana are as follows -

- (a) Yes.
- (b) It is still under consideration.
- (c) NIL.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, separation of Judiciary became one of the Manifestos of MNF Party even in the previous Ministry, what is the reason for not implementing it till date? Does the government try to control our magistrate? Moreover, in other states, High Courts are located in the midst of their capital but not in Aizawl. Is there proposal to locate the Aizawl bench of Guwahati High Court in the area to be vacated by the Assam Rifles or the Governor?

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr. Speaker Sir, every Ministry favours Separation
MINISTER of Judiciary from executive since the beginning of our statehood. But no Ministry had taken actions for its implementation except MNF Ministry. We have passed this in the Cabinet. It needs careful thinking for its implementation. We need to examine it carefully, the Chief Justice of the Guwahati High Court also helped us by appointing three Justices to examine this. The next Starred Question is related to this. So, I will give clear explanation along with the answer to the next question.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister of Law &
Judicial Department be pleased to state -

- (a) How many Mizoram Judicial Service (MJS) Officers are there under the Government of Mizoram?
- (b) Is there any proposal to recruit new MJS?
- (c) If so, will examination be conducted by the MPSC according to the Rules?

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr. Speaker Sir, we are still searching for a site for
MINISTER the High Court. However, it is very difficult to find it. Mr. Speaker Sir, the answer to Starred Question No. 26 are as the following -

- (a) There are 15 MJS Officers under the Government of Mizoram.
- (b) Yes, there is proposal to recruit new MJS.
- (c) Recruitment will be done by the MPSC in accordance with the Rules.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I got an information that the
Government of Mizoram had pulled back the re-

cruitment order of MJS from the MPSC. Is this true? Secondly, in the matter of Separation of Judiciary, Mizoam is said to be the only state in North East India who has not implemented this. What is the reason for this? Do we have slave tendency. Does the Government think about this?

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Pu H. Rammawi, the Minister of Law & Judicial Department to give answer. Question hour is over, we will take no more supplementary questions.

**PU H. RAMMAWI
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, there are 15 Judicial Officers, of these 2 are Grade - I senior, 4 are Grade - I junior, 6 are Grade - II and 3 are Grade - III. As far as my knowledge is concerned, DP & AR now forwarded proposal to MPSC to recruit new MJS officers. I know nothing about pulling back of the said proposal. We put our best effort in this matter. Shortage of Magistrates becomes a big problem in every District in Mizoram. Now, 18 posts are lying vacant. We are in haste to fill up these posts, so that we can implement Separation of Judiciary properly. Mr. Speaker Sir, in fact, the Congress Party had formed Ministry for ten years. What have they done during their terms?

S P E A K E R : Question Hour is over now. So, we cannot admit any more question. Before going to the next Business, we have one important announcement. The Assembly Secretariat is going to compile the bio - data of the sitting MLAs. Some members have not submitted their bio - date. So, I request you all to submit it during this Session.

Now, we will go to the next business, which is Laying of Papers. We will call upon Pu Tawnluia, Minister, to lay the 12th Annual Report of Mizoram Public Service Commission, 2002 - 2003 in this House.

**PU TAWNLUIA
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission, I lay on the Table of the House, the 12th Annual Report of Mizoram Public Service Commission, 2002 - 2003.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. Now we will call upon Pu B. Lalthlengliana, Minister of Land Revenue and Settlement Department to lay The Mizoram Public Demands Recovery Rules, 2004 in this House.

**PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA :
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission, I lay the Mizoram Public Demands Recovery Rules, 2004 in this august House.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. Now let us call upon

Pu Liansuama, Chairman, Subordinate Legislation, to lay the 2nd and 3rd Report of Committee on Subordinate Legislation in this House.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission, I lay the 2nd and 3rd Report of Committee on Subordinate Legislation in this House.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : The Committee on Subordinate Legislation under the Chairmanship of Pu Liansuama becomes very active. It has submitted three Reports during this term. I would like to express my sincere thanks to this Committee. Let the copy be distributed. Now, we shall call upon Pu Zoramthanga, the Leader of the House and Finance Minister to present the Second Vote on Account for the month of August to Novemebr, 2004 in this House. Since this is Vote on Account, let him beg leave of the House to pass it.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. I would like to say that during the last session of this august House in March, 2004. I had obtained a Vote on Account for expenditure/requirement of the first four months of the current financial year from April to July, 2004. That was necessary as the government had to work for finalisation of Plan outlay and central support for 2004 - 2005. The budget in respect of annual plan 2004 - 2005 was, therefore, prepared tentatively as the last year's allocations. I regret to inform hon'ble Members that due to formation of new government at the centre and the re - constitution of Planning Commission of India, finalisation of annual plan of the state is likely to take sometime. I am, therefore, not in a position to present the final budget as promised earlier due to the reasons stated above which is beyond our control and I have constraint to present another Vote on Account for another four months from August to November, 2004. I will seek the approval of this august House for the budget of 2004 - 2005 before finalisation of the annual plan size of the state by the Planning Commission of India. I hope the House will appreciate arrangement made and give its approval to the Vote on Accounts proposed by me.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. As he has mentioned, he presented Vote on Account for the month from August to November, 2004 as we cannot finalise our annual plan till date. Let him beg leave of the House to pass it. Yes, Pu Liansuams, he has to speak few words.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, if general discussion is not appropriated, I would like to beg your permission and consent of the House to allot time for the members to make questions on some points which we do not understand. This does not mean that we will not give vote to the budget. It is not good to pass crores of money silently.

S P E A K E R : It depends on the opinion of the House. Can we

agree with the request of the hon'ble member from Phuldungsei constituency ?

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr. Speaker Sir, we cannot avoid vote on account. MINISTER
MINISTER In the meeting of Business Advisory Committee, we agreed to pass our budget without having discussion where every political party has a representative. Can we pass it now unanimously ?

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, in the meeting of Business Advisory Committee, we mentioned that clarifications on some points will be allowed. Crores of money is going to be passed. So, it is good to ask some questions on some points other than having discussion.

S P E A K E R : If I am not mistaken, this is the second time to pass Vote on Account in a year. It happened first in 1955. Since we have supporters of Pu Liansuama's proposal, can we spare times for asking questions? Our morning shift is upto 1:00 p.m. shall we spare our remaining time of an hour for this ?

PU K. VANLALAUVA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Business Advisory Committee is formed by the leaders of every political party. Its decision should not be neglected. Besides, it is difficult to make boundary in our discussion since general discussion is not appropriated.

S P E A K E R : We are not against the decision of the Business Advisory Committee. Our speech will be a question type. No member is allowed to take more than 3 minutes. We will try to control ourselves. Now, time is opened for those who have questions.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for accepting my request. I have mentioned about the grant - in - aid system of Middle Schools, High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools even in the previous session, in which the concerned Minister and the Chief Minister had said that 209 schools should be given grant - in - aid. Consequently, office order had been issued on 27.8.2003. But, no grant has been paid to any school till date. I would like to know the reason for this. Many private schools eagerly waited for this grant in many villages and parents contribution for the schools has been ceased but no grant has been paid. This can make a critical problem in the standard of education.

Secondly, a notification had been issued on 28th August, 2003 to provincialise various High Schools. However, no single High School has been provincialised till date. I got an information that the application for creation of post for the said High Schools was lost. Will the government take action against this? This Ministry neglected Education Department.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr. Speaker Sir, we are going to pass a budget of Rs. 511.54 crore today. This seems to be less than the previous budget of Rs. 518 crore. The greatest difference falls on General Administration Department which is under the charge of the hon'ble Chief Minister. Is it due to the authority measures taken by him?

In regards to Horticulture Department, some villages in my constituency are selected for demonstration area and money has also been drawn for this purpose. However, misappropriation of such fund seems to be there. Will the Minister enquire this? I request for this.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. Public Health Engineering Department, Public Works Department and Power & Electricity Departments are essential department without which we cannot live. However, there are MR and Work Charge employees in these departments. Since we pass our budgets on Vote on Account, the hope of those employees was shattered. If we pass Vote on Account once more, it means we have passed two third of our Annual Budget. Therefore, can the Government take steps to upgrade MR Workers to at least Work Charge status and the Work Charge employees to regularised status? I request the hon'ble Leader of the House to note this request.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I will not take too much time. I am going to speak two points only. I eagerly want to speak about the problems to be created by an agency of what we called NBCC and the fund under the Technology Mission. But we have no time to mention this. Here in Mizoram, the people, especially those who live in rural areas are very poor, they eagerly wait for MIP. When I visited my constituency some days ago, I found such people. Therefore, I would like to ask that - Is MIP included in our budget which we have to pass today? If not so, can the Government take quicker step in this matter?

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to ask about ginger loan given to the ginger growers. It is said that their loan will be written off by the Government. But, they are not sure whether their loan has been written off or not till date. Can the Government announce its final decision in this matter?

Next, I would like to mention about MIP. The total amount of money to be given to the farmer under this policy is Rs. 7500/- each, which will be the first installment. However, the first installment was given divided into two phases. Therefore, Rs. 3000/- each was given to the farmers. When will the Government release the remaining money? Besides, what achievements do we have under the policy (MIP)?

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, as soon as the General Election was over in 1998, the former Ministry left a deficit of Rs. 79.36 crores. Therefore, the new Chief Minister, in his interview in the private TV Channel, he said that his Ministry inherited too much deficit and Mizoram became wounded, it needed to undergo major operation. During the past five years, was the MNF Ministry successful in that operation?

PU S. HIATO : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. Recently, three Ministers resigned, however, the budget for the Council of Ministers is still the same with the previous budget. What is the reason for this? Besides, when Pu P.P. Thawla became a Minister the people of South Mizoram were happy. Does the Government withdraw its love for the people of South Mizoram now?

Secondly, in the Department of Rural Development, the hon'ble Minister allows 142 families to be beneficiaries of Rural Housing Scheme for Saiha District. But, selection of the beneficiaries is done here in Aizawl where there is misuse of this scheme. 68 beneficiaries are fake names. Can actions be taken against this? Also in Food & Civil Supplies Department, the concerned Minister says that sufficient food stuff has been stocked in every godown in Mizoram. But in practical, I would like to say that almost all supply godowns in rural villages have no stock. People bought rice from the market. Besides, in regard to BPL quotas, 20% of rice is cut for carrying charge since the Department cannot provide carrying charge beyond Lawngtlai in South Mizoram. This brings about great problem in Saiha, Sangau and many villages.

In regards to the School Education Department, when the hon'ble Minister visited Saiha for election campaigning, he announced many schools to be upgraded to deficit and provincialised status. However, no order has been issued till date. We are eagerly waiting for this. Does the hon'ble Minister cheat us? Again in this department, B. Laldhawmi was given appointment for Hindi Teacher in Chakhang High School in 2001. But, she has not joined her post till date. In Government Higher Secondary School Saiha also, the Principal is attached to Lunglei with his post. I, therefore, request the hon'ble Leader of the House to enquire this.

Lastly, I would like to mention about District Council Affairs. The Government of Mizoram makes many Acts and Rules to be used in District Council areas without taking approval from the concerned District Council. Therefore, I request the government not to mis-use Governor's Discretionary power on District Councils again.

PU H. LIANSILOVA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. First of all, I would like to mention about Administration of Justice. I am aware that there was proposal to amend the Mizoram Judicial Service Rules to be suited to the ruling of the Supreme Court since five years ago. But no amendment has been made till date, this created problem on recruitment of MJS Officer. Therefore, I request the government to take rapid steps for this purpose.

Secondly, in the matter of Land Revenue and Settlement Department, we have repealed The Mizoram Land Revenue Act since we have passed The Mizoram Land Holding and Settlement Act in 2001. However, we have not made Rules on the new Act. At the same time, we need to create Land Holding under NLUP or MIP. Therefore, I request the concerned Minister and the Chief Minister to note this.

Thirdly, I would like to request the government to introduce Science subject upto CI - XII standard in Chaltlang Higher Secondary School and Zemabawk Higher Secondary School. This will help those student who want to take Science subject. Otherwise, Republic Higher Secondary School is the only Higher Secondary School in Aizawl North area where Science subject is introduced upto Class XII level. In Rural Development Department also, I would like to say that no devel-

opment scheme can be taken up within Aizawl city. However, there are many ongoing projects such as construction of Community Hall. Therefore, I request the government to take any possible step for completion of such ongoing projects.

Lastly, I would like to mention about Trade & Commerce. We know that there is no place in the market buildings for local farmers to sell their own products. They need to stay on the road side for a whole night. They are very pityful. I request the government to solve their problems.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, we shall call upon the Chief Minister who takes the charge of Finance to clarify the above questions. Let him beg leave of the House to pass the Vote on Account.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. Today, we are going to pass Vote on Account, which is unavoidable due to the emergence of new Ministry in the Central Government. The Planning Commission cannot still finalise the Plan size of every state. All allocations of fund for various departments are made on the basis of last year. Mr. Speaker Sir, many important questions come from hon'ble members, let me try to clarify those questions relating to the Vote on Accounts as much as possible.

In regard to grant - in - aid for various schools, we are still waiting for fund from the Central Government. However, we will use fund from any possible source for this purpose which will be recovered when we get fund from the Planning Commission, approval had already been taken for this purpose. Sanction order will be issued shortly. And, in regard to the lost of file in the matter of provincialisation of schools, we open new files now. This problem will be solved soon.

Regarding the question asked by Pu Sainghaka, the budget for General Administration Department for this year is less by 7 lakhs than last year. This is due to expenditure for General Election during last year. Such expenditure is not required now.

Replying Pu Lalhmingthanga, we cannot upgrade the salary of MR and Work Charged Employees since our budget is estimated in accordance with last year's provision. When we know our plan size, every Department can take positive steps in this matter. Besides, MIP fund is included in this Vote on Account. And, loans given to the ginger growers is also to be written off, which is promised by the Central Government.

Coming to the question raised by the hon'ble Member Pu Zodintluanga, we are successful in financial management during the past five years. Since we have adopted the 5th Pay Commission our monthly expenditure for salaries and pensions of Government Servants rises from 23 crores to 50 crores. However, we can give such amount of money till date. This shows that we are successful in this matter. Meanwhile, fiscal deficit cannot be avoided by any state because 10% of our Annual Plan is compulsorily loan. Anyway, we thought that our financial management is satisfactory.

Regarding the budget for the Council of Ministers, those who stepped

down from the Minister of State still entitle their facilities since they became Chairman of various Boards and even Deputy Speaker. Therefore, this budget is still the same with the previous budget.

The other questions such as carrying charge under Rural Development Department, appointments in the Education Department, distribution of lands, construction of Market building and many more will be clarified by the concerned Minister in the Demand wise discussion. Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg leave of this House to pass the Vote on Account of Rs. 5,11,54,47,000/- (Rupees five hundred eleven crores fifty four lakhs and forty seven thousands) for the coming four months.

S P E A K E R : The Chief Minister and Finance Minister now begged leave of the House to pass Vote on Accounts for the month of August - November, 2004. Those who agree to pass will say 'yes' and those who disagree will say 'no'. (Members say 'yes'). The second Vote on Account of Rs. 5,11,54,47,000/- for the month of August - November, 2004 is passed by the House unanimously.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you.
CHIEF MINISTER

S P E A K E R : Now, we will go to the next business. Let us call upon Pu Zoramthanga, Chief Minister and Finance Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce the Mizoram Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission and with the consent of this House, I beg leave of the House to introduce The Mizoram Appropriation Vote on Accounts Bill, 2004, Bill No. 4 of 2004.
CHIEF MINISTER

S P E A K E R : Do we agree with him ? (Members say 'yes'). If so, let him move it for consideration along with introducing the Bill. And, let him beg to pass it.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission and with the consent of the House, I, hereby, introduce The Mizoram Appropriation Vote on Accounts No. 4 Bill, 2004, Bill No. 4 of 2004 in this House. (The copy of the Bill is distributed).
CHIEF MINISTER

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Appropriation Bill is authorisation to use the Vote on Accounts which we have passed. Therefore, I beg leave of the House to pass The Mizoram Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004.

S P E A K E R : Now, the Chief Minister and Finance Minister have moved The Mizoram Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004 and he have begged leave of the House to pass it. Do we agree with him ? (Members say 'yes'). If

so, The Mizoram Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004 is passed by this House unanimously.

We have finished our business for today. We will have a break and meeting will be resumed tomorrow i.e. 9th July, 2004 at 10 : 30 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 12 : 45 P.M.