

THIRD SITTING ON FRIDAY, THE 9TH 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, Deputy Speaker, 11 Ministers and 26 Members were present.

QUESTIONS

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

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BUSINESS

2. Resolution

S P E A K E R : "For judgement is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy; yet, mercy triumphs over judgement".
James 2 : 13

We shall take questions. Starred Question No. 37 is common question from Pu Sainghaka and Pu Saikapthianga. Who will ask? Yes, Pu Sainghaka.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. Starred Question No. 37 are as the following :

- (a) Is there a proposal from the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) to lay pipe line across Mizoram?
- (b) If so, what area of the land will be required?
- (c) Has the Government of Mizoram issued permission for this purpose.

S P E A K E R : Pu B. Lalthlengliana, Minister of Land Revenue and Settlement Department to give answer.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, the following are the answers to the question asked by Pu Sainghaka and Pu Saikapthianga.

- (a) Nothing has been known by the Revenue Department on this matter.
- (b) Nil.
- (c) Nil.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question. The hon'ble Minister said that nothing has been known about this. In spite of this, people are aware of this. The Gas Authority of India has proposed to lay pipe line as mentioned in the question. The map has already been published, according to which the said pipe line will cross Mizoram from Parva to Hriphaw through Buarpui Constituency and Phaileng. Will the Government of Mizoram acknowledge it now?

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO: Mr. Speaker Sir, is there any department other than Revenue Department to know this?

S P E A K E R : I also know this from the newspaper. If the concerned department does not know this, how shall we do? Is it known by the Leader of the House? Does he have anything to mention about it even if it is not in detail.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Gas Authority of India has not communicated the Government of Mizoram in this matter. Therefore, we have not known this officially. However, they may have a proposal to do so.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr. Speaker Sir, let us hope that nothing much has been done in this connection. But, we need to take precautionary measures. The news item should be a good warning for the government. Many states have had problems of this kind. Therefore, I request the Government of Mizoram to take advantages for the benefit of our state when it is communicated by the Gas Authority of India in this matter.

S P E A K E R : The Leader of the House had mentioned that the Gas Authority of India has not communicated the Government of Mizoram officially. Let the request from the opposition bench be noted by the Government. Can we leave this subject?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon'ble Chief Minister said that no official information has been given to the Government of Mizoram. Does he know this matter unofficially?

S P E A K E R : There has not been any concrete proposal relating to this matter. As I have mentioned, the Government should remember the request from the opposition bench. Now, let us call upon Pu Andrew Lalherliana to ask Starred Question No. 38.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister of School Education Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Is there any proposal to provincialise Model High School Khawzawl?
- (b) What amount of grant has been given to this School during the period of this Ministry?

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the answer to questions asked by
MINISTER the hon'ble Member Pu Andrew Lalherliana are as follows -

- (a) There is no proposal to provincialise Model High School Khawzawl. This school is not qualified for provincialisation since it has been upgraded to aided status only a year ago.
- (b) No grant has been given to this school during this Ministry. However, all the schools which are upgraded to aided status will be given grants shortly. Model High School Khawzawl is among them under 'A' Category. Last year, Rs. 6,00,000/- (six lakhs) is given to this school from BADP fund for construction of school building. This grant is not from School Education Department.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question. In 1998, during the election campaign, the MNF Party promised provincialisation of various schools including Model High School Khawzawl. But no action has been taken in this matter till date. This is very bad as it can bring about distrust between the people and the politicians. Now, we have listened that grants can be given to school from BADP. In the beginning of this year, it is known that some amount of fund for School Education under the BADP has been diverted for other purposes. Is this true?

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, a supplementary question. One Private High School is established in 1993 at Chhippui. In the election to Village Council last year, Congress Party got majority. However, the members of Village Council are asked to convert into MNF Party so that the said Private High School would be upgraded to Grand-in-Aid status. They agreed and now this village has MNF V/C. But this High School is not included in the list. Can the Government include this High School in the list?

PU H.ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, N.E. Khawdungsei Higher Secondary School was included in the list of Grant-in-Aid on October 1, last year. But it was deleted from the list on December 12, the same year. When I asked the reason for this I was told that this school has no permission. But now, permission has been given to this School. Can this School be included again in the list?

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Dr. R.Lalthangliana, Minister of School Education Department to answer Supplementary question.

**Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, replying to Pu Andrew Lalthangliana I would like to mention that as far as my knowledge is concerned I do not make any promise during the election campaigning. Besides, Private Schools cannot be upgraded to Provincialised status directly. Therefore, I cannot assure that Model High School Khawzawl will be provincialised or not in future. And regarding diversion of BADP Fund, Building grant is given to Khawzawl Higher Secondary School other than Model High School because Model High School had already received Rs. 6,00,000/- from BADP fund in the previous year.

In regard to the question raised by Pu Liansuama, there is no political consideration on upgradation of Schools. However, some Schools are missed in the Cabinet Meeting. They will be considered again. But I would like to mention that there is no political consideration in this matter.

Coming to the next question regarding N.E. Khawdungsei Higher Secondary School, the Speech of the concerned M.L.A. is true to some extent, But, Schools without permission cannot be upgraded to Grant-in-Aid status. Anyway, this school has permission recently, there is no time to look at its performance. However, we will remember this request.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding N.E. Khaw-dungsei Higher Secondary School, they thought that no permission is needed as they already have College and examination has also been conducted since a very long time. Therefore, I would like to make another request to remember this school.

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Pu Zodintluanga to ask Starred Question No. 39.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister of School Education Department be pleased to reply Starred Question No. 39 - Is the Directorate of School Education Department truly aware of the posting, retirement or death of its employees ?

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Directorate of School Education keeps a record of posting of its employees. Regarding the retirement or death of its employees, the names of its employees are written in the record as soon as it gets report.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary questions Education Department is very very important. In the last Session we were given the list of posting of Staff under School Education Department. However, there are some teachers who were not known by the people of their posting villages, some teachers were also attached to Office but recorded as teachers in the list. Besides, one teacher who had passed away in 2001 was also there in the list. Chakhang High School is also completely missed in the list. Can the Hon'ble Minister given assurance to take rapid steps so that every teacher would join their actual post as shown in the list ? Secondly, the students and their parents do not know when will the HSLC examination be held. Can the Minister reply this ?

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question. The Department of School Education seems to have too much liabilities on medical re-imburement bill. Can this liability be cleared quickly ?

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, are teachers permitted to send substitutes on their behalf? If not so, will the Minister take action against such teachers if report is given to him.

In my constituency, there are some teachers who render irregular services. Can the Hon'ble Minister solve such problems if detailed report is given to him?

In my constituency, there are some teachers who render irregular services. Can the Hon'ble Minister solve such problems if detailed report is given to him?

Besides these, the Office of the SDEO Darlawn Sub Division has been placed at Bawngkawn, Aizawl. This can make many problems for the people of Darlawn and its surrounding villages. Can this Office be placed in the right place?

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is said that a private building has been constructed within the area of Govt. Maubawk Primary School campus. Does the government know this can the Minister enquire this.

Secondly, one teacher of Govt. Khawlek Middle School is said to make his substitute and he became the Secretary of the Village Council. Is this known by the Government.

Lastly, a sanction for special Scholarship for High School students has been kept in the K.Deposit. Can this sanction be released immediately?

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, strong action has been taken against those teachers who make Substitute on their behalf. To check this bad practice, we set up VEC (Village Education Committee) in every village. From the report made by the VEC 7 teachers have been terminated from their post. Rapid steps have been taken in this matter. Regarding H.S.L.C. Examination it will be held in the beginning of next year. Besides, I would like to mention that we try our best to settle Medical Re-imburement bill as much as possible. However, Education Department has 26% of the Government Servants in Mizoram. Therefore, we cannot clear all the liabilities at once due to shortage of fund.

Replying to Pu Lalduhoma, Hon'ble Member from Ratu constituency, we have not made decision to place the Office of SDEO at Darlawn or to retain it here in Aizawl, it will be decided shortly. In regard to Pu Zira's question, the Government does not know construction of private building within the campus of Govt. Maubawk Primary School. This is the first information. So, we will enquire it. And, using a teacher of Govt. Khawlek Middle School for V/C Secretary as mentioned by the Hon'ble Member is not allowed. So, we will enquire this and action will be taken if it is right.

Lastly, regarding the fund for scholarship, about Rs. 19 lakhs has been retained now. I would like to request the Finance Department to remember that we are eagerly waiting for this. So, let us hope that it would be released shortly.

SPEAKER : Teachers who send their substitute is said so many times. The concerned Minister now said that strong action will be taken against such teachers. It is good to cooperate the Minister for every member in our respective constituencies. Now let us call upon Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma to ask Starred Question No. 40.

PU N.K. CHAKMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister of School Education be pleased to state the reasons for closing school at Sumasumi Village in my constituency.

**Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, the inhabitants of Sumasumi Village fled to the neighbouring village Puankhai along with the Bru people. This is why School cannot be ran in this village. However, they have returned home to this village last year and education has been continued under S.S.A. Project where Pu Bimoy Chakma, Education volunteer was employed.

PU N.K. CHAKMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not know how far it is true regarding the report given by the Hon'ble Minister. But, they did not flea their home village. I clearly know that the teachers who were in this village had been transferred and no replacement has been made till date. Sumasumi remains without a school since many years. The matter has been reported to the concerned authority but no action has been taken.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, there are many High Schools without Headmaster, when will those High Schools be given Headmaster? At the sametime, some High Schools seemed to have Headmaster such as Mimbung High School, Kawlbem High School and Saichal High School in my constituency, but they do not occupy their post. I had asked this question in the previous session, when will they return to their post?

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Dr. R.Lalthangliana, Minister of School Education to give answers.

**Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, replying to Pu N.K. Chakma I got an information from the concerned SDEO and CEO that there are no students in sumasumi at that time. However, I, myself did not go to this village. Anyway, this village has been given school and teacher under S.S.A. Mission. In this connection I would like to mention that we need to try very hard to develop education especially in Tlabung constituency. Of 37 singled Teacher Schools in Mizoram, 9 falls in this constituency. Therefore, priority is also given to this constituency. According to the latest report, Tlabung constituency got the greatest amount of fund under S.S.A. in Lunglei District. Besides this, 80% of Education quarantee scheme in Lunglei District falls with in Tlabung constituency.

In regard to Pu Rohluna's question, DP & AR and MPSC take immediate steps to fill up vacant Headmaster's post. So, I hope that this problem will be settled shortly.

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Pu Lalrinliana Sailo to ask Starred Question No. 41.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you. Will the Hon'ble Minister of School Education Department be pleased to state -

- (a) What steps have been taken to upgrade 48 Govt. Aided Middle Schools to full fledged Govt. Schools?
- (b) Is the proposal still going on?
- (c) If so, when will those schools be upgrade?

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Dr. R.Lalthangliana, Minister, to give answers.

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am happy to know that many members are deeply interested in Education Department. There is no proposal to upgrade Grant-in-Aid Middle Schools to full fledged Government Schools. Besides, regarding the number of Aided Schools mentioned by the Hon'ble Member, it should be 38 Middle Schools other than 48 schools. Since there is no proposal for upgradation of Aided Schools the last question cannot be answered.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question. If I am not mistaken, the number of Aided Schools is 48. However, the speech of the Hon'ble Minister should be regarded as correct answer. On 5th September, 2003, the Hon'ble chief Minister told the teachers of Aided Schools in his Bungalow that their Schools would be up graded to full fledged Government Schools soon after General Election. But no action has been taken till date. What is the reason for this.

Secondly, many schools are upgraded to Government Aided status with effect from October 1, 2003. Are these schools given adequate facilities including financial assistance till date ?

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, last year we seemed to have lost Rs. 2500 lakhs under S.S.A. since we could not contribute our State share. Also this year, there is no fund allocated in the budget for the State share again. Therefore, cannot we allocate some amount of money for this purpose ? Mr. Speaker Sir, there is no adequate fund in the budget provision for Elementary Education. S.S.A. is the only hope for this purpose.

PU H.ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, when will the order of Provincialisation for eight Deficit Middle

Schools and High Schools be implemented ? The said order had been issued on 8th August, 2003. What action has been taken against the lost file in this matter ?

S P E A K E R : We have listened about the lost file yesterday. Let us call upon Dr. R.Lalthangliana, Minister to give answers.

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, before up grading 213
MINISTER Schools to Aided status on October 1, 2003, we have had 38 schools under Government Grant-in-Aid status. These schools are not appropriated to upgrade to full fledged Government Schools. Now, they still enjoy facilities such as basic pay with half allowances and building grants. When we provincialised all Deficit Schools, they begged to be upgraded them too, which will be considered soon. In regard to newly upgraded schools to Grant-in-Aid, we have not settled their facilities fully. However, due to the efforts of the hon'ble Chief Minister, they will be given a lumpsum grant shortly. They are categorized into 'A' and 'B' categories on the basis of their enrollment of students. Mr. Speaker Sir, we just have School Education Act in May last year, a proper Guidance to look after these Aided Schools will be made under this Act.

Regarding S.S.A. as asked by the hon'ble Member Pu R.Lalzirliana, last year, about Rs. 3000 lakhs is approved by the Central Government for Mizoram. This year, about Rs. 47 crore is proposed for our State. Meanwhile, it is difficult to mention about the state matching contribution before knowing budget allocation for the state. This seems to be the main problem faced by every state. Now, we request the Central Government to lessen this matching share for the N.E. States. We still are waiting for their answer. Anyway, let us hope that the Government of Mizoram will try its best in this matter.

As I had said yesterday, the lost file has been reconstructed now. And, regarding the implementation of provincialisation of Deficit Schools there are many formalities to be followed, immediate steps are still being taken in this regard.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over. Will the Minister complete his speech? Yes, let him continue.

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, there are many formalities to be followed. So, it is difficult to take immediate steps as we desire.
MINISTER But, the Cabinet meeting has made the effective date which is dt. 1.11.2003 Government Notification has been published. Therefore, the order of provincialisation of Deficit Schools will be implemented shortly.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, may I clarify one or two points in the statement of the hon'ble Member. I was alledged as having assured the mentioned village to have
CHIEF MINISTER

their Schools provincialised after the election. I think, we are too sure of ourselves in our statement as if we have a document to produce to prove our points.

S P E A K E R : We will go to the next business which is Private Member's Business Pu D. Thangliana is to move a Resolution "The House shows its appreciation of improvement done on Bawngkawn to Durtlang Road". Now, let us call him first to move his Resolution which will be followed by discussion.

P U D. THANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me a chance to move my Resolution. My Resolution is "The House shows its appreciation improvement done on Bawngkawn to Durtlang road" Mr. Speaker Sir, the road between Bawngkawn and Durtlang is very important. Many road accidents have had happened due to bad condition of the road. But today, we see great improvement under the MNF Ministry. As my resolution is relating to appreciation I hope every member of this House agreed with me.

The MNF Ministry under the Leadership of Pu Zoramthanga made many achievement even in the previous term. I would like to point out such achievements, they are Bairabi Thermal Power plant, Rural Connectivity Scheme, construction of Border Trade Centres at Zokhawthar in the east and Kawrpuichhuah in the west to maintain trade connection with Myanmar and Bangladesh respectively. (SPEAKER : Our Rules No. 128 says that the discussion of a resolution shall be strictly limited to the subject of the resolution. Let us try to follow our Rules) Yes, Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to point out such achievements made by the MNF Ministry to show my thanks on Bawngkawn to Durtlang road. I also opine that the people of Mizoram appreciates such achievements as they made the MNF party win General Election for the second term.

As I have said earlier, Bawngkawn to Durtlang road, in the past years, was very bad and dangerous many road accidents have had occurred. But today, due to the efforts of the hon'ble Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga, one of the worst roads becomes the best road. This road leads us to many important places such as Presbyterian Hospital, Aizawl Theological College, Women Polytechnic College, Veterinary College and many more. Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to express my thanks to the P.W.D. for trying its best for this purpose. This road shows that our state P.W.D. is a reliable Department.

There are many other points on which to express thanks. However, I do not deny that Bawngkawn to Durtlang road is not a road without blame. But it is good enough as we have had no better roads than this. Therefore, we are credited to show appreciation on this great achievement. That is why I move this resolution today. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Today, we have 10 Resolutions, they Are very important. Shall we pass them without having long discussion? How many minutes of time will be enough for one member, 7 minutes or 10 minutes? Yes, 10 minutes each will be given to members warning bell will be rang at 8 minutes. Who will speak now? Yes, Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am not going to take too much time. I also appreciate the improvement of this road between Bawngkawn and Durtlang. I have visited the place some days ago where I found that the road needs to be repaired in some places. Besides, I would like to suggest better and under pavement than the existing one. Anyway, I am happy for we can have such improved road. However, I am in the opinion that passing a resolution in the House on the achievement made by the Government is not necessary. Being a Government with very great financial power, construction or improvement of roads, Bridges, Community Hall, etc. is a must. The previous Ministries also had made great achievements. There is no need to pass a resolution on such achievements. Passing a resolution on such achievement seems to be unnecessary and time wasting. Thank you.

PU H. LIANSILOVA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you. I also appreciate this great achievement. However, when I heard that a resolution of appreciation on this achievement is to be moved, I still remember those who suffered during the work was going on. Their sufferings seemed to be countless. Therefore, if we are going to move a resolution of appreciation I opine that we have to express our thanks to such people too.

Improvement of the road between Bawngkawn and Durtlang seems to be a new achievement and it is a good thing. On the other hand, the development fund is a type of investment with liability. Now, I am not sure of the amount of sanction for this work. As far as my knowledge is concerned, the sanction is Rs. 700 lakhs. I hope that the correct figure should be mentioned by the concerned Minister later. The length of this road is about 2Kms. If so, it must be a record in the history of Mizoram, it might be the most expensive road in Mizoram. Therefore, I do not understand how to appreciate this achievement. Lastly, I would rather like to express my thanks to the people who suffered very much due to this work than to the achievement itself. Thank you.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you. Today, I would like to mention that I support this resolution moved by the hon'ble Member, Pu D.Thangliana. The road

from Bawngkawn to Durtlang is improved in accordance with the resolution passed by this House two years ago. Therefore, it is our duty to show appreciation on this great achievement through a resolution.

As we know that we have gone through many difficulties to complete this work. All the previous Ministries could not improve this road even the BRTF did not know how to improve it. But today, due to the untiring efforts of the hon'ble Chief Minister, we can have a very good road with pedestrian pavement. It is a very great achievement for the Government. So, I opine that we should thank the Ministry too for making great achievement.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Pu Speaker, thank you. First of all I would like to thank Pu D.Thangliana for the private resolution, however time will tell us of the quality of the work. C.P.W.D. has norms for the construction of national high way. Any way, I would like to thank the hon'ble House leader for the double lane.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I would like to ask if compensation are given to those whose land site has been damaged by the road construction.

Pu Dy. Speaker, it is the gateway of Aizawl, there is one point I would like to mention regarding the footpath. P.H.E. pipe is used for the hand grip of the footpath, which is not up to the mark, different material could have been used as it could make the foot path more attractive. The quality of the footpath is not up to the mark as well. Pu Dy. Speaker, if we look at the pavements of Aizawl town, the quality is so poor that it merely last one year. Lastly, I would like to suggest that the govt. find a way to change the hand grip of the foot path. Thank you.

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you, I would like to thank the hon'ble member Pu D.Thangliana for the important resolution. Pu Dy. Speaker, I am eager to pass this resolution. As we all know, this road has been fatal to many people, it is fortunate to say that, now it's double lane and people are moving freely. The P.W.D. Minister of previous ministry even made a commend that it's a miracle that this ministry is able to receive such a huge sum from the central govt. for the construction. It is true what the House Leader mentioned that the sanction is received through political forcep. In the previous ministry, inauguration of roads to be constructed were done here and there without proper construction. But, as of now, we have Durtlang and Lengpui roads constructed and there are many other roads which are completed, but there is no inauguration. As for the quality of the foot path, the Chief Minister himself visited the site and dismantled some of the poor quality foot path, due to this, the people are able to walk freely now. Therefore, we should all join hands and pass this resolution.

PU C. LALRINSANGA : We will now call Pu Lalrinliana Sailo.
DEPUTY SPEAKER

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you I am not against the resolution. Infac, I am grateful for this road. But if we are to pass the govt's achievement as a resolution in the House. I feel we should be more careful in future. Therefore, there are some points I would like to mention.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I visited the road this morning to see the latest position. I went through the sign board at the beginning of the road, the length of the road is not given. I, therefore took measurement of the road, it is 2 Km. 300m. The approved cost of the road is given on the sign board. Pu Dy. Speaker, calculating the length and the cost of the road, it will be one of the most expensive roads.

Pu Dy. Speaker, hon'ble member from Mamit mentioned about the previous ministry, if I am not mistaken, in the year 1989. Pu Hawla's ministry took up the widening of Durtlang road, they completed 3 Km. Therefore, I want to high-light that the previous ministry took steps in this regard, though there may not be huge fund. We've heard from the member that the Chief Minister himself dis-mantled some of the poor quality foot path, there is nothing to be happy about his. The Chief Minister should give instruction to the dept to maintain quality. As we've heard, there are some people who have not received compensation. Pu Robert Lalchhuana, MJA President is among them. I request the govt. to pay attention towards this matter. The hon'ble member from Ratu mentioned about the quality of the work, repair work has been done in around 20 places, only time will tell us of the quality of the work. I request the govt. to give specific instruction for the maintenance of the road. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will now call Pu Z.H.Ropuia.

PU Z.H.ROPUIA : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. I am very grateful for today's resolution. The Bible tells us that, 'Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanks giving let your requests be made known to God'. Therefore, we should learn to give thanks in every thing.

As we all know, Durtlang road is the gate way of Aizawl, it is a busy road, we all know the condition of the road during raining season. It is the wish of the people that this road be widen with foot path and railing. I have submitted a resolution for the widening of this road way

back in 2001, but I was unlucky in the balloting. This govt. gives priority to this road as all our essential commodities arrive through this road. There is one important factor regarding this road, this road brings peace among drivers, since the drivers can pass by one another with - out difficulties as it's double lane now.

Pu Dy. Speaker, we should thank the govt. for showing such keenness in this project, we cannot expect it to be perfect, there may be some area where the work is not up to the quality, but on the whole we should all give thanks for this project and pass this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now call Pu Andrew Lalherliana

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. From the discussion of today's resolution, it seems there is misunderstanding by the treasury bench that we the opposition members are not happy with the resolution. Pu Dy. Speaker, the project itself is an achievement as we've heard, with this road, accident will be avoided and this road will provide proper communication channel for ATC, Durtlang Hospital and Vety. College. In this connection, some of the hon'ble members seemed to have a notion that the opposition members are not pleased with the achievement. This is not so. Our smile on the wording chosen by the hon'ble Chief Minister, who has quite a good number of vocabulary does not mean we are not pleased with the achievement. But Pu Dy. Speaker, what I would like to high light is, we Hon'ble members are the representatives for the people of Mizoram. So, resolutions that are discussed in the House should concern the people of Mizoram on the whole. Resolution that are passed in the House should have impact on the state. A resolution such as pressuring the central govt. for a particular cause should be passed in the House, like attaining a High Court for Mizoram. Since it is part of the agreement signed in the peace accord. The Central Govt. has not fulfilled this agreement, therefore, such a resolution should be passed to give pressure to the Central Govt. Pu Dy. Speaker in this matter, resolution which concern the welfare of the people of Mizoram should be submitted and it will be more appropriate for we, the representatives of the people, to discuss such matter in this august House and the dignity of the House will also be up hold. Any way I will thank for the resolution. Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. When I see the list of Resolution to be discussed today, I can see that most of the resolutions are acknowledgement and appropriation. I feel that the resolution does not concern the welfare of the people, as it is to be discussed by the representatives of people. Being a full-fledged state, resolution that are discussed in the House should concern and have impact on the people. It is still too early to give appreciation for Bairabi Hydel Project, we should wait untill everything is cleared for the project.

It is appreciated that this road has been widened, but, if the people realized that the fund is sanctioned from non-lapsable pool fund, I don't think the people will be too happy. This road is the most expensive road in the state. It is true that the Chief Minister mentioned that the sanction is received through political forcep. The BJP sanctioned the project fund so that the MNF party would gain political advantage in the election to defeat the Congress party. The construction of the road itself is a huge source of corruption. There are some contractors who does not execute any work but who receives payment. There are many roads in the state which requires improvement but which are neglected. What we should keep in mind is, whether this road will bring good record for this state. If we really feel that this road is worth appreciation, then, expenditure should be high - lighted on the sign board. Therefore, once a resolution of appreciation is submitted in the House, it is very difficult to go against the resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please wait, we'll allow the hon'ble member to complete his speech. Please continue.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. We are not oing to go against the resolution, but we should question ourselves if this practise is adviceable to carry on in the future. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We'll now have break. Meeting will resume at 2:00 P.M. Sitting adjourned at 1:00 P.M..

Afternoon Session :

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Lalzama.

Dr. LALZAMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I am grateful for this resolution. I feel that this House should also give appreciation. As we all aware, this road is an accident prone road. This ministry gave priority to this road. The road is expensive as the condition of the road was very poor. The Engineers monitor the construction work, the stones that are used are first tested in the laboratory. Those who are not aware of the nature of work may say it's expensive. It is true that people faced problem during the construction of the work. However, what I would like to mention is, without blocking the road, the construction could not have been completed.

As we've heard earlier, we should give thanks in every thing. In 2002, my resolution was discussed and passed in the House for the improvement and widening of the road. Now, because of the Chief Minister's keenness, we are able to complete this road, it is indeed a great achievement. Repair work has been done in some area of the foot path, this is because, the quality of the work is not up to the mark. I am proud to say that this govt is able to point out areas where it feels it is not up to the quality. Pu Dy. Speaker it is only through this practise that we will be able to acquire good quality of work.

Hon'ble member Pu Saikapthianga must have received wrong information regarding payment being made without executing any work. There is no such practise. Due to this road, the house site in Durtlang areas has gone up. Pu Dy. Speaker this road leads to many important centers of the state, like the Theological College, which held a grand convocation last year. It is the gate way of Mizoram. Therefore, the widening and improvement of this road should be given appreciation as it is a very important road. I therefore give full support to the resolution and I also would like to thank the hon'ble member for submitting the resolution. Thank you.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing a resolution for the appreciation of double lane road between Bawngkawn - Durtlang. The treasury bench accused the opposition members of not giving appreciation for the road. The fact is, this road is too expensive and it is too small a topic to be discussed in this august House. As we have heard earlier, we, representatives of the people should discuss resolution which concern the welfare of the people of the state. Resolution that are passed in the House should have strong impact on the

central government and it should be for the people. Pu Speaker, we are therefore wasting our precious time, I request the hon'ble members not to further waste time on this resolution, but to move on to hon'ble member Pu R.Lalzirliana's resolution, which stated that, 'The Mizoram govt. should step up with effective measure to control the insurgent activities within the state'. This resolution is very important for our people, as the people are suppressed of their freedom due to the free movement of the insurgent. Therefore, let us take up this resolution and pass it. Let us make use of this precious time. Thank you.

PU H. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble member Pu D.Thangliana submitted a resolution for the appreciation of the road between Bawngkawn to Durtlang. I gladly except this resolution, as we all know, this road is the gate way to Aizawl, it is in fact the face of Aizawl. We all know the importance of this road, this road leads to one of the most important hospitals of our state. Being from Aizawl North Constituency, I have spoken to the P.W.D. Minister of the previous ministry, if this road could be improved. I don't see the need to argue over this resolution, as this is an important road as this road is a lifeline for many while at the same time it has cost many lives. We should therefore pass this resolution. The construction of the road may not be perfect, but we should keep in mind the importance of this road. Thank you.

PU K.LALRINLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. As this is my first speech in the House. I extent my greetings to all the hon'ble members. I would like to thank the hon'ble member Pu D.Thangliana for the resolution. It seems every one agreed on the resolution, except for the few 'but'. This road is an important road for Kolasib District, Kawnpui and Bilkhawthlir constituency, every day people from these constituencies ply on this road, it usually took us 4 hours to reach Aizawl from Kolasib. But now, after the widening, it took us 1 ½ to 2 hours to reach Kolasib. We are therefore very grateful. It is a privilege that, the Mizoram P.W.D. is able to complete the project with 6.81 crores, when the original estimate made by the Border Roads organization was 9.31 crores. The expenditure of road construction where there is heavy traffic is more expensive. What we should bear in mind is the importance of this road and that we have a good road now. Therefore, can we pass the resolution now? Thank you.

**PU H.VANLALAUVA
MINISTER** : Pu Speaker, thank you. I would like to thank the hon'ble member for the resolution. I would like to thank the opposition members for excepting the resolution. I thank the hon'ble Chief Minister for the efforts he has made for the construction of this road.

After going through the resolution bulletin the first point that cross my mind was this road will now be safe for the people as this road has cost many lives. This resolution is therefore not a small matter to be discussed in the House as it concerns the lives of the people. The House should give appreciation for this road.

With this widening and improvement of this road, as we have heard, time is saved. It is the gate way of Aizawl, it is therefore very important. Besides this road, I feel the roads in Aizawl is worth appreciation as they are all black - topped and the beautiful checker tiles for the foot path. Pu Speaker, we should all support this resolution, and pass it. Thank you.

PU H. ROHLUNA

: Pu Speaker, thank you. As we discuss this resolution today, the treasury bench accused the opposition members of not appreciating the Bawngkawn - Durtlang road. But this is not so, as we have heard, the hon'ble members spike of the quality of the construction of the road. Anyway, according to my view. I do not see the need to give appreciation as a resolution in the House. It is the people of Durtlang and Sihphir area who are to give appreciation and not we hon'ble members. As we are the representative of the people, what we discuss in this august House should concern the state. Resolution that are submitted should deal with the welfare of the people. Resolution should be submitted where treasury bench and opposition members work together for the welfare of the State.

The estimate of the project is 681/700 crores, which means for construction of 1 Km. Rs. 300 lakhs has been invested, what we should bear in mind is, whether the expenditure tally with the work. It is also known that the side drain, retaining wall and culvert works are allotted without call of tender. From the information received, there was distribution of money in this regard to please the persons who were not given the work, as the election was ahead of us. We should therefore consider whether the expenditure tally with the estimate. It is also learned that the road will be handed over to BRTF once it is completed. However I would like to suggest that, the Mizoram govt. should step up for the maintainance of the road. I would further like to suggest that sodium vapour light should be installed along the road as it could be of great help for the people. The govt. should be more careful of what are being sold by these few houses which are located along this road,

Regarding the quality of the work, we have heard from hon'ble member from North - I that some area are under repair, this shows that the supervision of the work is not up to the mark, therefore the supervision of the work should be done more strickly.

Lastly isn't it still early to give our appreciation even before the work is completed? Pu Speaker, thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalhmingthanga.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Today hon'ble member from N.Vanlaiphai submitted this resolution. But what I would like to state is if this resolution was submitted by an opposition member, it could have been more appropriate. The people would have been more happy, for they will not be aware of all the misdeeds of the govt. within this project.

By this grace of God, I represent North - I Constituency during the year 1983 - 98. This road is an important road for the people of North - I. I have submitted resolution for the construction of this road, but I was unlucky in the balloting, I even raised questions in the House, however nothing much could be done as there were no Non-lapseble fund.

Pu Speaker, now with an estimate of 7 crores, this project has been taken up. From the information we received this expensive project is taken up to raise party fund for the election and it seems to be true. What I would like to high light is, when there is so much of fund for the project, it could have been mmore appreciated if th eproject could cover Neihbawi. Any way, we are still happy with whatever the project covers as this is an important road as we all know, therefore we cannot reject this resolution of appreciation. But as for the quality of the work, it is not up to the mark, trucks have been plying on this road for the past 30 years. The present work is just widening of the road and construction of foot path. Therefore, this resolution seems to be a self praised resolution by the ruling plarty.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I too have submitted a resolution which is No. 10. If this resolution is discussed and pass by the House, the youth would have benifitted. Any way, I give my partial support to this resolution. Thank you.

PU R. KHAWPUITHANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. It seems it is difficult to give words of appreciation when the good work does not originate from us. Some of the hon'ble members mentioned that resolution that are discussed in the House should have impact on the Central govt. But, Pu Speaker, this project receive sanction from the central govt. only because of the great determination of Chief Minister. Therefore, this project is needed to be given an appreciation as a resolution in the House.

The widening of this road is not a small issue, th e length is 2.26 K.M. this road is under the General staff road, Ministry of Defence. Therefore, permission has to be obtained from central

defence. After permission was obtained, Pushpak Chief Engineer was asked to make estimate, however the estimate made by BRO was rejected by Planning Commission, therefore Mizoram P.W.D. was asked to submit the estimate, which was 7.27 crores. Thus the project was taken up by the Mizoram P.W.D. and the work is completed within 11 months. Some of the members mentioned that the work is not completed, but the work is completed, it is only the repair work that is going on now. As the work has to be completed within the allotted period, there may be some area where the work is not up to the mark, however, on the whole it is appreciable that we are able to have such a good road, it may be a little expensive, however, we should remember the difficulty of the nature of work.

Pu Speaker, Bawngkawn - Durtlang road is only atoken, there are other projects that has been taken up from the central non-lapseable pool of Resources, like the Chawngte - Borapansuri road with an estimate of Rs. 1000 lakhs. Whatever project that is taken up is the state's asset, the Durtlang - Bawngkawn road is also for the people of the state. There are many on going projects in various places however, we cannot highlight all the projects since there is no time, so I request this House to pass this resolution. Thank you.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA

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Pu Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing a resolution on the appreciation of the improved roads between Bawngkawn - Durtlang and making it a

double lane. Pressmen met George Fernandes, Defence Minister when he visited Aizawl, the pressmen pleaded for the improvement of this road, the hon'ble Chief Minister too did whatever could be done for the improvement of this road. It is worth-while to give appreciation to this road. But I regret to say that we, the representative of the people are discussing an appreciation of the improvement of one internal road of Aizawl town the whole day, when there are so many important issue to be discussed in the House. This road was once known as the gateway of Christian city, but now, it has turned into a gate way of corruption. The road which has been extended is not even half the size of the original road, we all know the huge estimate that is involved in the construction work. It is true that party workers were given payment without executing the work, P.W.D. officials will be aware of this payment. The construction work has been completed but, as we all know, the repairing work has been taken up, which shows the quality of the work. Some members proudly mentioned that the Chief Minister himself demolished some parts of the construction work. Which is very disgraceful. The department would maintain the quality of the work, it is their duty. Pu Speaker, the Soil from the construction work has been dumped in private land site, the owners of these land site has claimed Rs. 54 lakhs for the damaged, if the Govt. therefore, does this road really deserve appreciation?. Pu Speaker, we are wasting time discussing this road when, there is so many other important issues to be discussed like corruption in general and the corruption in Home Department particularly in the House, Any way I am not against the resolution. Thank you.

**PU AICHHINGA
MINISTER**

: Pu Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing a resolution moved by hon'ble member from Vanlaiphai, a resolution was passed in the House for the improvement of this road, now that the road has been completed, we are now discussing a resolution on the appreciation of this road. I therefore expect that we will all join hands in passing this resolution. There may be times when we discuss issue concerning the state and the welfare of the people and times when such type of issues are discussed in the House.

We all know the condition of the said road before its improvement, there are many important centers which this road leads to, like the Theological College Vety. College and as we know, it is the gateway of Aizawl. We are fortunate that the hon'ble Chief Minister is able to find a solution to receive fund for the improvement of this road. The construction of the road may not be perfect, but on the whole, the construction work is up to the mark. P.W.D. department has adopted new techniques for construction of roads which they have constructed Airport roads, Worl Bank roads and Durtlang roads. P.W.D. should be given appreciation for being able to complete the work with a low estimate, therefore the House should give appreciation for the completion of this road. I request all members to support this resolution. Thank you.

PU RASIK MOHAN CHAKMA :

Pu Speaker, thank you. As we discuss this resolution it reminds me of a Chinese saying which says that, 'One should proclaim one's good deeds'.

The present resolution is not self-praise resolution but a resolution to proclaim the good deeds. We all know the importance of this road and that it is in the hands of BRTF. Pu Speaker, there are persons who are worthy of praise and who deserve to be given appreciation for their deeds, the hon'ble Chief Minister is such a person for, being able to find a solution to construct this road. The opposition members too appreciate this road, except for the one point that is 6 crores, 81 lakhs is invested for 2.6 K.M. road which they feel is a doorway for corruption. But what we should bear in mind is construction of roads on rocky hill has to be expensive. P.W.D. department should be given appreciation for the work. I expect we will be able to pass this private resolution in the House. Lastly we should learn to proclaim the good deeds of the govt. Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: We'll now call Pu Sainghaka followed By the concerned Minister, the hon'ble Chief Minister.

PU SAINGHAKA : Pu Speaker, thank you. As we discuss this resolution, it reminds me of the accident that occurs in 1984 in which the daughter of Asst. Director Geological survey, Shillong was killed. This road as we know has cost many lives, I am grateful that this road has been improved. There are many accident prone roads in and around Aizawl which also need attention. The previous and present ministry is fortunate that, the Indian govt. have new policy and programme in which if proper schemes and project reports are submitted in the central govt, there are ways of funding these schemes and projects. There were no such funding system earlier even if these roads were accident prone roads. Chaltlang - Chanmari road foot path was constructed under L.A.D. and so was Bawngkawn to Zemabawk foot path, these foot paths however greatly saved lives to a certain extent.

As for corruption in this road, I don't know any thing about the involvement of corruption, but if rural connectivities roads are constructed in this manner it is likely that we'll be having good quality of roads in rural area. As we've heard, P.W.D. department has adopted new technology for the construction of roads, these technology should also be applied in the rural area so that there will be good quality of roads. The department is able to produce good quality of work with this technology if there is fund. Rural roads should be constructed in this manner so that, appreciation could be given in the House. Today a resolution on the appreciation of Durtlang - Bawngkawn road is discussed in the House the whole day, it could have been more appropriate if we could discuss topic like, 'Mizo language should be included in 8th Schedule' and regarding Municipal Corporation. Any way, the present resolution is lucky in th ballot. I wish the govt. could make this an official resolution in the next sitting. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Will call the hon'ble Chief Minister now, after which the mover of the resolution . Do the hon'ble member agree with this? Now we'll call the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER** : Pu Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing an important resolution, we have heard from various members the importance of the road, we know that with the widening of this road, it could turn into a life saving road. All previous govts have given importance to this road, I personally saw the need for improvement in this road, therefore, being the head of the state. I approach the Central Government. At first we face difficulties as the road belongs to BRTF. However, talks were held between representatives of Home Ministry, Defence Ministry, BRTF and myself. Conclusion was made that the funding will be made

from non-lapseable pool fund. We faced yet another problem after the estimate was submitted, the Home Ministry rejects the estimate saying it was too high. Then, the Mizoram P.W.D. made the project estimate to 6.81. The estimate was sent to Border Road Director General Office for technical approval by the Planning Commission, the estimate was rejected by the BRDG Office as the estimate was too low. We then approached the Planning Commission, to let us implement the project with the Mizoram P.W.D. estimate, thus, the funding is sanctioned from non-lapseable pool fund with an estimate of Rs. 6.81 crores. Appreciation should be given to P.W.D. for completing the work within 11 months.

Pu Speaker, some of the hon'ble members mentioned that it is an expensive road. This road is not an ordinary road as we all know, in order to width the road, having blasting work has to be carried out Central Mining Research Institute was called for the blasting of Leitana area, as technically, it was not convenient for the local contractor's to carry out the work. As for the foot path, only 1 ½ K.M. was included in the original estimate, therefore ½ K.M. is beyond the estimate. Then, the road is black-topped, where in some area it is 8L30 metres, where as, in some area it is 10 metres which was not included in the original estimate. All these makes the road expensive. As for payment being given without the implementation of the work, mentioned by members, I would like to clarify that, they must have been given wrong information. There is no such practise. I would also like to mention that, there is room for corruption in this project. This road has been sanctioned after going through various obstacles it is a hard-earned project. When an Indian plane was hijacked - Pu George Fernandez was in my Bungalow, a call was received from the Prime Minister for the Defence Minister to reach Delhi as soon as possible, to handle situation arising because of hijack. As I escorted the Minister on his way back to the helipad. I told the Minister that I too, am going to hijack him to see for him self the need to improve this road. I therefore, took him to the site. In this manner I have given every possible way to improve this road, therefore, this road is worth to be given an appreciation in the House. It may not be perfect as some members mentioned, I too agree. The government will mark those points for improvement in the future, as of now, I request the members to support this resolution. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We shall now call the mover to wind up the resolution.

P U D. THANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble Chief Minister has wind-up the resolution therefore, I don't see the need to go any further. I am grateful that members agreed to the resolution, this shows that this road is worth to be given an appreciation in the House. The opposition members too appreciate this road. There are some points that the hon'ble opposition members mentioned, which needs improvements, all these points were given in good faith. Therefore, Pu Speaker, I plead this august House to pass my resolution. Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: Now all those who agree to pass the Hon'ble member from North Vanlai-Phai's resolution said 'agree' and those Who disagree said 'disagree'.

Now the hon'ble members resolution is passed by this House. With this, we have come to the end of today's business. 10th - 11th July 2004 will be a holiday, meeting will resume on 12th July. Sitting is adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 P.M.