

S P E A K E R : "If possible, so for it depends upon you, live peaceably with all"

Romans 12:18.

Starred question No. 141 to be asked by Pu H. Rohluna.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker, my question, Starred Question No.141. Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Home Department be pleased to state –

- (a) Whether any custodial death has occurred inside the Lock up of Khawzawl Police Station on 22, 23.2.2005.
- (b) If so, what is the reason ?

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, on 22.2.2005 one person had died inside Lock up of Khawzawl Police Station. The reason of death was not known as PME report is not received.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker, from the information I received, on 22.2.2005 Sawma of Rabung was questioned and assaulted by 5-policemen as he was suspected of being a witness to the looting of Rabung PHC. After severely beaten up he was taken to Khawzawl Police Station and he was found dead at 6 AM the next day. The people of Rabung concluded that his death was caused by the assault of the police. In this regard, I would like to ask if the Government has taken action against the responsible persons.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr. Speaker, I think my question is relevant to the point under discussion. On the 23rd February, 2005, Laldusiamia of Serchhip was summoned to Serchhip Police Station on suspect of robbery. He was escorted to the Police Station by his mother. As soon as they reach the Police Station, Police S.I. Pepe had severely beaten him up and he was seriously injured and was taken to Serchhip hospital. He was then referred to Aizawl Civil Hospital as his case could not be treated at Serchhip. After having all the necessary medical examinations the doctors concluded that he could not be fully recover as his injuries were too critical I have already informed the authority of this matter. It seems that unwarranted torture is quite prevalent these days.

Another incident is that on the 22nd of this month Lalduhawma S/o V. L. Mawia, Electric Veng was arrested by the Police at Bairabi on the case of illegal possession of proxyvon. He later died suspiciously while under police custody. According to the report of the Police, an autopsy was done, but, there was neither any sign of autopsy nor is there report on his body. Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of custodial deaths of late. I ask the hon'ble Minister if actions are taken against these incidents.

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, the Government regrets to know about the incident mentioned by the member from Ngopa. The authority has already set up a magisterial inquiry to probe into the matter and a report was even submitted. The Government has also taken steps according to the Official procedure. We hope to receive full report by 15.4.2005. Post mortem was even done. I would like to say that the Government has seriously investigating the custodial death at Khawzawl.

The Government is also aware of the case mentioned by the Opposition Leader. As soon as the incident was reported, the matter was pursued. The responsible person was also suspended from Official duty during the enquiry.

Regarding the incident at Bairabi, it was reported that post mortem was not done as the doctor deemed it unnecessary for he had received medical treatment before he died. Anyhow, this matter has been under investigation.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker, whereas the responsible person for the incident at Serchhip was suspended, no one was suspended from Official duty for the incidents at Khawzawl and Bairabi. It seems that there is discrimination.

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, the Government of Mizoram does not have any discrimination. But the members are expected to know that all Government servants are not suspended from official duties while under investigation.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 142 to be asked by Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker, I ask Starred Question No. 142. Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Local Administration Department be

Pleased to state -

(a) Whether there is guidelines for the formation of Advisory Board when Village Council is dissolved. Is the Advisory Board to be consisted of representatives from all recognized party?

- (b) In case of a member leaving his party for another, will the party he left appoint new member in his place?

PU H. VANLALAUVA : Mr. Speaker, the answers to
MINISTER Starred Question No. 142 are
as below :

- (a) There is guidelines for the formation of Advisory Board which is to be consisted of representatives from all recognized political party.
(b) If a party representative left his party, the VCP in charge can make fresh appointment.

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker, a supplementary
question please. The same case
has happened in Khuangleng.
I would like to ask the hon'ble
Minister to note this.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr. Speaker, a similar case has
also happened in Lungtan.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker, I think it is not
appropriate for the C.A to take
charge of the VCP when the
latter is dissolved. Therefore, it
may be suggested that responsible or gazetted Officer should take charge
of the VCP.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr. Speaker, Changzawl one VC Member has resigned. The MNF VCP and one member have temporarily appoint one party unit member to replace the vacant post. The party unit member has been functioning as one of the VC members. Does the Government approve this?

S P E A K E R : Pu K. Vanlalauva.

PU K. VANLALAUVA : Mr. Speaker, has the Government audited the account of the Advisory Board? The Advisory Board member at Khuangleng has left his party ZNP for MNF. This case has become very controversial. How is the Government reacted to this matter?

S P E A K E R : The Minister in charge to furnish his reply.

PU H. VANLALAUVA : Mr. Speaker, to become a member of the Advisory Board, any person from all political parties is qualified. Regarding the suggestion raised by the member from Phuldungsei, that gazetted officer should be appointed to take temporary charge of the VC when the latter being dissolved, I would like to react that this seems to be a good idea and would be looked into.

As for the case mentioned by Pu H. Rohluna, the Government has no knowledge of this and it is against the law. Instruction will be given at once.

I would like to inform the members that the financial account of the Advisory Board is audited as that of the VC. If there is any complaint in this regard, you are welcome to inform the authority.

If there is any member of the Board who would like to join the ruling party in Khawbung, it may be permitted.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 143 to be asked by Pu R. Lalzirliana.

P U R. L A L Z I R L I A N A : Mr. Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Food and Civil Supplies Department be pleased to state -

Whether there is proposal to construct Supply Godown at Saitual Sub-town area.

P U K. S A N G T H U A M A : Mr. Speaker, the Department of
M I N I S T E R Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs has no proposal to construct Supply Godown at Saitual Sub-town area. Only repairing works at a cost of 1 lakh is proposed.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 144 to be asked by Pu Sailothanga Sailo.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Mr. Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department be pleased to state --

- (a) The period in which MCS and MPS Officials are posted in the same post.
- (b) I would further like to ask if there is norms for the posting of MCS and MPS Officials.

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

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, normally MCS and MPS Officials remain in the same posting place for 2 to three years and if necessary more than these years.

There is no proper rules or norms for the duration of time spent in the same place. Each Officials is posted alternately between rural and urban areas.

S P E A K E R : Pu Liansuama.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker, the SDO of W. Phaileng who is a senior Grade MCS has taken charge of BDO post. While the Chairman of the Block Development Committee is the SDO of the concern block, the BDO usually become the Secretary. In this regard, it is not suitable to hold the posts of Chairman and Secretary at the same time for execution of work. Therefore, new BDO may better be appointed for W. Phaileng.

It seems that the post of Administrative Officer has been terminated. But for sensitive and remote areas like Tuipuibari and Marpara, Gazetted A.O may be posted. There are staff and IV Grades and even infrastructure like office building and quarters are still intact. Therefore, I suggest that Gazetted AO may better be reposted in these places.

PU F. LAL THANZUALA : Mr. Speaker, is it true that the SDO of Hnahthial is to be transferred to Aizawl. If so, will there be a replacement or substitute?

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, order for the posting of Junior Grade MCS for W. Phaileng BDO has been held up because the concern MCS has been in charge of enumeration of Electoral Roll. So, order has been held up till the completion of enumeration of Electoral Roll Final publication of Electoral Roll is completed and this case will be taken into matter of importance.

As for the case concerning Administrative Officer, it will be considered after the Assembly session.

Regarding the SDO of Hnahthial, if transferred replacement would be considered – postings will be considered after the Assembly session.

S P E A K E R : Starred question No. 145 to be asked by Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker, I ask Starred Question No.145. Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Local Administration Department be pleased to state--

- (a) The names of the members of LIC Loan Board. When was the Board constituted?
- (b) When will the tenure of term be terminated?
- (c) Is there guidelines for the creation of this Board.
- (d) If so, can the copy be made available?

PU H. VANLALAUVA : Mr. Speaker, the answers to
MINISTER Starred question No. 145 are as below :-

- (a) The members of LIC Board 2003-04 are :-
 - (i) Commissioner Secy. LAD, Chairman.
 - (ii) Director, LAD, member Secy.
 - (iii) Addl. Secy. Finance, member.
 - (iv) Addl. Secy. LAD, member
 - (v) Adviser, Planning, member.
 - (vi) Dy. Director i/c Loan LAD, member.The Board was set up in 29.10.04.
- (b) The term will be over right after the disbursal of LIC loan for 2003-2004.
- (c) There is guideline for the creation of Loan Board. This loan Board is set up in accordance with the provision laid out by the Mizoram State grant of Loans for Housing Rules, 1989. Rules No. 5.
- (d) The copy of the guidelines is made available to the members.

PU LALDUHOMA

: Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the hon'ble minister to circulate the copy when important Board is set up under the

Government.

I would further like to suggest that loan facilities for dwelling houses be given to all the needy Government employees except to those who are nearing retirement.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA

: Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the hon'ble LAD Minister is clear in his speech.

to ask if the opposition MLAs recommendation.

At the same time, I would like could be allotted quotas for

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO

: Mr. Speaker, has the Board members been formed by the designation ?

As for the recipient, some people have received LIC loan for more than once whereas there are Government employees who have been applying for 4/5 times but, unsuccessful can the selection be done in a careful manner ?

**PU H. VANLALAUVA
MINISTER**

: Mr. Speaker, regarding the suggestion of informing the MLAs on the new Boards formed by the Government, I would like to say

that it will be considered and discussed.

Regarding the provision of LIC loans the State Government has a quota for each financial year and loan is given out in that order. If necessary additional fund for this can be sought from the centre.

In regard to the recipient, the nodal Department has made final decision on the basis of the recommendation made by the concerned Department. The Departments and nodal Department will be more careful in future.

S P E A K E R : Starred question No. 146 to be asked by Pu Zodintluanga.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker, starred question No. 146. Will the hon'ble minister i/c Home Department be pleased to state –

- (a) Had the operation against insurgencies been continued before it was suspended just before the 2003 MLA General Election ?
- (b) When was that suspension withdrawn.

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, the operation had been continued. The suspension of Operation was withdrawn on 23.10.2003.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question please. I think the statement made by the hon'ble Chief Minister and that of the replies furnished by the hon'ble Home Minister contrasted with each other.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker, Has the operation been suspended while the Government of Mizoram has been holding talks with the BNLF.

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, the question raised by the member from Saitual is not connected with the subject under discussion.

We are fortunate that there is no local underground movement within the State. However, our Police forces are active in enforcing law and order against unlawful activities from outside the State.

It was decided in the talks between the Government of Mizoram and the Brus that operation and activities should be stopped. Similarly, operation has also been suspended against the HPC (D) as there is intention to have talks with the latter. In the course of peace initiative, operation needs to be suspended.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker, the Bru communities have approached the Human Rights Network and even the Supreme Court that the Mizo youths have sexually abused 37. Bru women. As this is only a fabrication to convince the Human Rights, can the State Government take steps to urge the Brus to withdraw the accusations?

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, this accusation has defamed the reputation of the Mizo people as a whole. We are against this. However, it may not be an easy task to convince the Brus.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker, the hon'ble minister has stated that operation was suspended from 23.10.2003. In that case, operation was still in force during the election. The statement given by the Minister has to be put into record of the House. So, can the Minister clarify his point?

PU TAWNLUIA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, the copy of the suspend order is with me now.

S P E A K E R : There is still two days left for session. The Minister is expected to furnish explanation within that time.

Starred question No. 147 to be asked by Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr. Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Food & Civil Supplies be pleased to state –

Whether proposal can be made to set up K. Oil storage at Sakawrdai for the convenience of the people in the northern areas of Ratu.

The K. Oil dealer of Lungsum refused to deliver K. Oil as the quota is too low and there can be no profit for the dealer. As such, the people have to buy K. Oil from the market at a high price. Can K. Oil quota be increased for the area?

**PU K. SANGTHUAMA
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker, the Government has been aware of the problem faced by the people in regard to K. Oil supply. The company has already been approached to solve this problem. However, immediate steps cannot be taken as the decision has to be made by the company.

K. Oil supply is reduced by the Central Government annually. Hence, I cannot make a commitment to increase the quota. However, the case of Lungsum will be checked from the department level.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over. I have an announcement to make in regard to question. There are certain replies that are submitted late from the departments. Instead of simply rejecting these questions, the Secretariat had grouped them in the Unstarred questions so as to provide information. I have mentioned this for the information of the House.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr. Speaker, I would like to raise my question which was placed in the 'Unstarred'.
The amount of fund received for BAFFACOS and to which departments the fund is given.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker, with your permission. I lay on the Table of the House the 9th Report of MIFCO.

S P E A K E R : The House will have Discussion on Voting on Demand for grants. There are 13 Demands to be taken today. Each member will be allotted 13 minutes each. Dr. Lalzama, Minister.

Dr. LALZAMA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, on the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, I move the demand No. 7,12,23 for Rs. 43,65,27,000.00 only for meeting expenses during 2005-2006 in respect of the following departments.
Demand No. 7 – State Excise – Rs. 8,06,45,000/-
Demand No. 21 – Higher & Technical Education – Rs. 32,31,52,000/-
Demand No. 23 – Art & Culture – Rs. 32,73,000/-
Total Rs. 43,65,27,000/-. Thank you.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, on the recommendation of the Governor and with Your permission, I move the Demands No. 1,2,3,5,9,14,15,39,40, 45 only for meeting expenses during 2005-2006 in respect of the following departments.

Legislative Assembly	-	Rs. 598,75,000/-
Governor	-	Rs. 5,10,000/-
Council of Ministers	-	Rs. 189,60,000/-
Vigilance	-	Rs. 106,26,000/-
Finance	-	Rs. 120,50,03,000/-
Planning	-	Rs. 59,72,34,000/-
GAD	-	Rs. 22,32,24,000/-
P & E	-	Rs. 142,16,55,000/-
Industries	-	Rs. 25,67,19,000/-
PWD	-	Rs. 175,73,59,000/-
Total	-	Rs. 556,11,65,000/-

Thank you.

PU LALDUHOMA

: Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to mention the unsatisfactory performance of the Government in regard to the implementation of the agreement with the HPC.

The commitments enshrined in the peace agreement are not pursued by the Government that results in the rising of new underground movements. Till now there is no Act for Sinlung Hill Development Council and is in the mercy of the State Government. The Chairman of the council is appointed by the Government and the ruling party has politicized the appointment of the Chairman. The Council has been going on as an interim Council. It is high time that the Council has Chairman which is elected by the people. Hence, I would like to urge the State Government to make Sinlung Hill Development Council Act.

There is budget provision of Rs.110 lakhs for the Council. The Council Office building has not yet been constructed. It would be desirable if a separate provision could be made for the construction of Council Office.

I would like to emphasize on the controversial case of Tuirial Hydel Project. Against the report of Forest department, NEEPCO agreed to pay fund for compensatory afforestation amounting to 24 crores. 7 crores is already sanctioned to Forest department. But, NEEPCO is not been to pay the remaining 17 crores realizing that Forest department has not properly preserving the area. Meanwhile VC pass owners within the area are proposed to pay compensation. Some families are even selected to receive a compensation of Rs. 150 lakhs. As this is a controversial matter, NEEPCO has temporarily abandoned, the project whereas the people do not receive compensation either. Therefore, to solve this case, I would like to suggest that the remaining amount should not be expected from NEEPCO and the sum which was already given to Forest Department be surrendered to the people as a compensation. In this manner, NEEPCO can continue the project and the people will also receive the compensation. If not, there will be no Hydel Project and even the people will not get their compensation.

If Forest Department abandon their demand to NEEPCO, I am certain that the latter would be contented. As for Forest Department the State Government can make budget provision each year. The Department had been managing with the assistance from outside in the past and can continue to do so without the compensation from NEEPCO. Therefore, I have raised this suggestion to solve the problem for all.

The proposal Tipaimukh Hydel Project will also face similar problem of compensation. If this is not settled immediately more serious case will come up. It has been known that an agreement was signed between the State Government and the Central Government to hand over the entire Power Department to a corporation by the year 2007. But, this issue has not yet been raised in the House for discussion. As we are aware, power has a bill amounting to over Rs. 10 crores. If Power Department is taken over by corporation we may add the burden to the people.

Solar energy has become quite prevalent in the State of Manipur. It has been heard that the Department also proposed to start the same. But the Government is not transparent enough to inform the people about it can budget provision be made so that the general public can avail Solar energy at a reasonable cost.

Another important matter I would like to emphasize is that there is no street light at Ratu. It would be appreciated if this matter can be taken into priority. 6 Villages within my constituency have not been electrified. I would even like to request the authority to note this and to provide power supply to the villages of Palsang, Mauchar, Khawpuar, N. Khawdungsei, N. Tinghmun and Zokhawthiang.

While the liabilities against electric bill has been mounting, the Government has placed an amount of Rs. 46 lakhs to K. Deposit from the budget allotment of the department. This is a burden for Power Department. It is desirable that this amount be released immediately.

Coming to PWD, the construction of National Highway 54 between Akyab and Tuithumhnar had been started

by Rights Highway Division. But, the Government of Mizoram has not given interest to this project. While Rights Highway Division has to start the work from Akyab, the State Government has a share of construction work of about 119 kms. starting from Tuithumhnar. As this project would be an important land route for Mizoram, the Government should better give more interest.

Under the funding of NLCPR construction of Zohmun-Mauchar road was started. But, the project is said to be taken over by NEEPCO. If this is true I would like to ask the hon'ble Chief Minister to take steps towards the success of this project.

In my question, I asked whether tender document could be provided to me. But, my request was turned down on the excuse of the bulkiness of the tender document. Mr. Speaker, this tender document consists of only three envelops containing earnest money, and bill of quantity. If any member is interested in the document, it should be made available. Hence, I made my request again to the hon'ble Minister to show me the tender document.

I would like to extend a few points relating to Planning implementation and Finance. In 2004 an amount of Rs. 2,00,000/- was drawn as a fund for Lok Sabha MP for the construction of Chhanchhuahna Hall. The person who drew the money was President, Vohbik Cultural Club. Recently, I visited the Chhanchhuahna khawpui but there is no hall in the Village. Where has the money gone to. This may be investigated immediately.

I am proud to have a Chief Minister who has great proposals for a more efficient CCS funding system. I am also glad that Economic Advisory Council is constituted under the aegis of the Chief Minister I too extend my support.

For the department of Higher and Technical Education, a laboratory equipment was purchased for Rs. 500 lakhs. But, due to the absence of laboratory technician the machine was left untouched and unattended. Therefore, laboratory technician may be appointed to tend to this expensive machine.

I will conclude my speech with Polytechnic institutions. The budget provision for Polytechnic has been the same for the past years. There are two Polytechnic Institutions now and the budget allotment should be increased. Is there a way to increase the budget amount ?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA

: Mr. Speaker, today we are discussing important subjects one of the subjects which is BNLFI issue is a complicated and sensitive one. Therefore, we need to be cautious in dealing with this problem.

On demand No. 45 there is PWD. The roads within my constituency require repairs. I have often mentioned this in the House. Particularly the roads between Kanhmun and Tuilutkawñ may require thorough work as it has been neglected for a long time. I have also come to know that Tuipuibari to Tripura road has been under reconstruction. This road is an important interstate route and thus painstaking effort should be given to this road.

Some years back, the Government made proposal for the launching of Power Sub-Station at Kawrtethawveng site for this had already been acquired. If this proposal is still active, I would like to remind the Government to start the project.

Next, I would like to emphasize on Excise Department. I would further like the hon'ble Minister to know my enthusiasm for this department. In the entire area of Mamit District, there are no excise forces. Meanwhile, there is a number of passenger's vehicles plying through Tuipuibari to Tripura. Due to the absence of check gates in the route abusive drugs and alcohol can be transported freely to and fro. It is also heard that Proxymon have been coming to Mizoram through the same route from Tripura. Therefore, Excise Department should be strengthened by deploying excise forces in Mamit district. But, Mr. Speaker, it is disappointing to see the budget allotment for this department. Only an amount of 5.50 lakhs has been allotted for secret service. I think this is an indication of how far the Government has given importance to fight against illegal drugs and liquor.

There are also many vacant posts in excise force. This may also be filled up immediately. I think this is far more important than giving compensation. We have been hearing thro' media report the various steps and efforts taken by the YMA to counter drugs and liquor. It seems that this organization has no longer confidence in the Government. I think it is the responsibility of the Government to provide security to the YMA for the vigorous tasks it has been taking so far financial assistance of 1 lakhs and Rs. 20,000/- from the Chief Minister and the Home Minister was given to the YMA. But, this is too meager considering their volume of works. In conclusion, I would like to repeat that excise personnels should be placed between Tuipubari and Tripura road. I have stated this for the notice of the House Leader and the concerned Minister.

PU K. LALRINLIANA

: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the outset, I want to say that the demands presented are quite satisfactory.

The performance made by Art & Culture Department is very pleasing. 9600 Mizo youths are already given training on Mizo traditional dances. Besides the State library, this department has been care taking 5 District libraries and 390 rural libraries which are benefited by the people. There is also proposal to set up a new museum for research on Mizo ancestors. I believe this museum would serve its purpose.

It is worth mentioning that despite the financial crises, the government could manage to take 60 guest lecturers each year. And a number of private colleges are upgraded to a deficit status. This is the result of the efforts rendered by the concern Minister and the Officials and Staff of the department.

Between the years 1999 to 2003, 71098 students have been assisted with tribal scholarship. For the current year, Rs. 900.99 lakhs is received from the Central. I believe this assistance is benefited by the students.

It is also a matter of appreciation that Hindi Training College and College of Teacher's Education are under headway.

Under demand No.7, it is important to equip Excise department with District Office, Staff quarters and the office itself.

As stated by the members who stood before me it is important to give cash incentive to NGO like the YMA as an indication for acknowledging their works.

On demand 20, there is Industries department. Amongst the various steps taken by the government it is pleasing to note that works on infrastructure like Export Promotion Industrial Park at Bairabi, Tlabung and Champhai is actively going on.

The proposal to set up District Industrial Centre at the newly opened Districts has given high expectations to people who has given interests to industries. It is also great that the Government has inclined towards producing our natural resources. Bamboo processing unit located at Sairang will also serve beneficially by providing employment to the unemployed youth of Mizoram. I am also glad to witness that emphasis is given to bamboo chipping in various places. Appreciation may be given to private industries like Zonun Mat Ply and Association run 'Hnamchhantu'. These industries are important help for the Government.

Since the year 1999 PWD has covered 1448 kms of formation cutting and widening of roads under NABARD, World Bank, PMGSY, NEC and NLCPR and also completed 1244 kms of pavement work and black-topping. I think this department has made a great achievement under this ministry.

It is a matter of appreciation that there is a scheme of computer education for School children under 11th Finance Commission, I hope this scheme would be a great help for the youth who have no computer facilities in their homes.

Realising the need to upgrade various facilities at Lengpui Airport, various projects and schemes like upgrading the refueling capability have been initiated. When this project is implemented our airport would be more well-equipped.

The department of Power and Electric has been going on smoothly under the Chief Minister Particularly in rural electrification the performance made by this government is quite remarkable. As for urban area extension of electric line is imperative due to the expansion of town areas in the District headquarters. It would be appreciated if this matter can be taken as priority. Thank you.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the Outset, I would like to request The hon'ble Chief Minister if Proposal could be made to divert Serkhan – Bagha road as highway or taken as a project under world Bank. The road is under NEC funding, but the work is very poor. The affected people has been 26171 according to 2001 census. The road passess through to villages. It is also an important approached road to Tuirial Hydel Project. The road under mentioned has been maintained under NEC funding which is too meager and satisfactory result is far from it. At the same time, the Junior Engineer and his associate were ambushed by two villains while inspecting works. Due to the hard work of Kolasib S.P. and the O.C. of Kawnpui, the two culprits have been arrested and remanded in police custody. As this is the case, the project has been going on without the supervision of J.E. I request the authority to appoint J.E. for the project immediately.

I will go on to demand No. 39 In reply to my Starred Question raised on the 23rd the hon'ble Minister said that the financial liabilities of the State Govt. for the supply of power from outside the State has mounted to Rs. 10,77,74,310.61. As we can see the amount of liabilities for power is tremendously high which seems to affect the State's economy. Therefore, the Govt. should find a way to clear this debt.

I would like to extend a few words concerning Excise department. In order to tackle the menace of drug trafficking and drug abuse, it is necessary to strengthen State Excise Department. The strength of State Excise force should also be increased considering the volume of tasks they had to meet. As already stated the road between Serkhan and Bagha has been used for drug trafficking as there are no check gate or police outpost on the route. Therefore, I suggest that a police outpost or Excise force be posted in the said area.

I would like to conclude my speech with matter concerning Industries Department. I have gone through the list of recipients of Central Transport Subsidy circulated by the Minister. I have known many of the recipients personally and quite certain that most of them have not utilized C.T.S fund for the right purpose considering the amount of CTS received industrial infrastructure should have been visible in the State. But, the recipients do not use the fund for creating necessary infrastructure for industry but use it for other causes. Therefore, the Govt. is advised to look closely into this matter.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker I will start with Higher and Technical Department. The budget allotment for Higher Education is found to be too meager. The fund allotted for this department is 1.34 per cent from the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) The Gross State Domestic Product for Mizoram this year is 2393.86 crores. In contrast to the recommendation of the Review Committee on National Policy on Education that 6 percent of GSDP should be allotted for Higher Education, Mizoram has set aside only 1.34 percent for the same cause. Amongst the States of India only Mizoram and Manipur have not been up to this recommendation. As this is the case, fund is found to be insufficient. And there is not enough fund to pay for the salaries of lecturers in the Deficit College. Some of them have not even drawn salaries since February. It seems that the State Govt. is not too keen to invest in human resource development. On the other hand, it continues to elevate more and more private colleges to deficit statues. But, fund has not been increased only, number of deficit college is also increased.

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Another difficult matter concerning to deficit college lecturer is the absence of Higher Education Service Rules. In accordance with the existing Rules, only Doctorate Degree holder should be appointed as the Principal for Deficit College. And so, senior degree holders are appointed only to consume the fund already raised by the deficit college for their pension fund and leave salary. Therefore, deficit Colleges have not financial constraint. The first and foremost desire of the lecturers is to have Service Rules so that they could have principal on direct recruitment. Moreover, the college can also benefit from it. Another problem faced by college teachers is in regard to seniority. As the DPC has not held a sitting for more than a year, their seniority can not be settled. The hon'ble Minister is requested to note this.

Coming to Power, I would like to mention about power connection to Kawlkulh Piggery farm. For deposit work Vety. Department has given Rs. 14,26,482 to Power Department. With this fund, electric power is proposed to be supplied to the farm. But, against the estimation of 58 electric posts to be fixed only 17 posts has been used. The electric post has cost Rs. 6288/- not only this, electric wire has also to be estimated to be fixed for 5 Kms. In four adjacent lines. But, here also, the wire has been fixed only in two lines. When the deposit work is completed the fund remains is not returned to the parent department. If the remaining fund is return to Vety. Department, the beneficiaries in the Piggery farm could have benefitted from it.

I would like to extend a few workds on Tipaimukh Dam. Though we are proud to be able to commission Tipaimukh Dam, we need to know that only 1% MW is to be are share from the entire power generation. 17 Sq. Kms of our land and the catchment area of 2153 Sq.Kms would be sacrificed for this dam. Why does the Govt. sacrifice such a large area of land while power we have to receive is only 1 M.W. I am afraid that approval is given only in the hope of getting compensation. Therefore, I request the hon'ble Chief Minister to have re-negotiation.

Another important point to be mentioned is in relation to the border conflict. In a memorandum sent to the Central Government by the Assam Government regarding boundary conflict, Mizoram State was accused of accupying 1355.5 hectares of forest area which is within the boundary of Assam. This has been published in

the newspaper headline. But, our Chief Minister has not been reacting to this statement. We portray this State as a peaceful one but, this is what we get from outside. It is time for the Chief Minister to have a reaction for the dignity of the people of Mizoram. Thank you.

PU VANLALTHALIANA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I will start with Excise department. This department is an important Department to meet the prevailing menace of illegal trafficking of liquor and drugs. It is pleasing to note that there is proposal to construct department building. In the midst of shortage of excise force, I would like to add that there are no excise force in Lawngtlai District. At the same time, I want to extend my appreciation to the department for the relectless work it has extended for Mizoram.

Next on demand No. 21. It is pleasing that Lawngtlai College and Hnahthial College which are the Senior most private institutions are being proposed for provincialisation. It is also an achievement to have a separate women Polytechnic Campus at Durtlang. All these prove the deep commitments of this government towards fulfillment of its objectives through various programmes.

The way the government manage financial position is quite an achievement. The employees of Finance department also deserved special praise. The Government, by exercising extreme caution, has ensured efficient fiscal management. It is a matter of pride that this government has an efficient financial management which results in surplus budget.

Settling of many pension cases each year is also a great sign of efficient performance. I think this deserves special mention.

Coming to Power & Electric Departments, it is no doubt that this department is the most important one. Now, electronic meter box has been introduced. There had been various

criticisms on this meter box that it could be a kind of suppression of the lower section of the people. But, it has been learnt that with the introduction of electronic meter box power tariff has become lower than before. I would like to praise the government for going through this matter amidst all the criticisms and accusations.

The steps taken by the hon'ble Chief Minister for Bamboo by-product industries is quite remarkable. It is great to see different bamboo products from Bamboo processing Industries, Sairang. It may be a good idea if those products could be displayed when the discussion is wound up.

The achievements made by PWD towards road communication and construction of building is not to be missed. I am proud to have a department like PWD. Thank you.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO

: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Starting with Demand 21. Last year, Women Polytechnic, Lunglei organized a strike, demanding the

release of Salaries for the lecturers at the institutions. The amount of Salaries demanded was 17,50,000 only but only Rs. 1,78,000 was sanctioned. The hon'ble Chief Minister has also assured that lectures would be given a bonus of Rs. 2500/- each. How does the government proceed with this matter? In regard to college is it too difficult to follow UGC norms? I would further like to ask if the pay scale of guest lecturer could be increased from Rs. 4500/- to Rs. 8000/- guest lecturers are important agents of human resource upliftment and therefore generous incentives may be given to them.

Coming to demand no. 9 I understand that all the funds coming from the central have to be reported to Finance department in order to have allocation of Head of Account. If this procedure is not followed direct funding from the center can be misused by the departments.

Under the department of Industries, about 100 families of Biata have been engaged in tea

plantation. In the previous years the government used to set aside amount Rs. 10 lakhs as equity participation for these tea cultivators. But, this year this has not been highlighted in the Budget Book. The cultivators have been expressing their grievances as the only security provided by the government is not highlighted. How is the government reacted to this? It has been further said that tea plantation is proposed to be taken up by Soil & Water Conservation department. This may also be classified by the Minister as the cultivators are awaiting an explanation in this case.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon'ble Minister that the norms of receiving central transport subsidy requires review. I suggest that only those deserved should be recommended for this subsidy.

I think GAD has played an important role in the selection of beneficiaries for compensation on Serlui 'B' Hydel Project. Bring compensation crazy even the District Collectors are involved.

The performance of PWD in regards to the construction of road is found to be satisfactory. However, the road between Khawzawl and Biate needs repairing in many places. As heard from the local people, the construction, company had used low quality materials for the construction of their roads which brings poor results. I would like to request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to take note of this matter.

As seen in the unstarred question No. 216, there is road construction project worth 29.8 crores at Artahkawn. But, this project has not been started till date. This may also be clarified by the Hon'ble Minister.

According to the order issued by the Under Secretary, Government of Mizoram, Revenue Department, house site with an area of 121.61 Sq.ft. has been allotted to Pu Lianghmingthanga S/o Rodingliana at Tuikhuahtlang. This order has been objected by the VC and YMA of Tuikhuahtlang as the house pass was made within the PWD area. It is disheartening to see that departmental area has been allotted for private property.

The case of compensation has become a controversial one. Therefore, the Government is advised to settle compensation case before going too far.

S P E A K E R : The House will have a recess till 2:00 PM.

2 : PM

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Lalhmingthanga.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker. Today, we are discussing important demands which directly concerns the people.

I will start with Excise department. As we are all aware, this department, though small, has been relentlessly engaged in controlling the menace of drug trafficking and violation of MTPL law. But, the budget allotment for the department is too small. Realising the menace of drugs abuse, religious institutions and the NGOs have contributed their endeavors to counter this problem. The only agency that can support the endeavors of these organizations is Excise department. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen this department in terms of the service conditions, equipments and even manpower. I request the government to increase the budget provision for Excise department in the Supplementary demand.

Coming to Higher & Technical Education, I would like to emphasize the problem faced by Lunglei Polytechnic Institute. The students are not given book grant for 2003-2004.

At the same time I appreciate the speedy reaction of the Government by releasing stipend to the students upto the month of October. But, Mr. Dy. Speaker, most of the students come from Socio-economic deprived background, I request the authority to release the remaining stipend as soon as possible. Laboratory Technician is also highly needed in order to make use of the equipments at the institutions. I would further like to emphasize that the budget provision for Higher & Technical Education department should be increased.

The department of Art & Culture has been working to protect the Mizo identity and promote the rich culture and traditions of Mizoram. But, the budget provision is found to be inadequate. The library also needs to be strengthened. The service conditions of the staff at the State Museum also needs to be reviewed and regularized. Therefore, higher budget allotment should be given for this department.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for his prompt reaction to my demand for the repair of 'District road' within Lunglei town. This road had been left unrepaired for the last 15 years. I had brought up this matter to the Hon'ble Chief Minister when I visited Lunglei on February I found the road completely repaired. Once again, I convey my gratitude in honour of the House leader and the concerned department.

Whereas, there are various achievements made by PWD, the system of PMGSY is found to be unsatisfactory. It appears that works under PMGSY have been used for raising party fund and an open doors for corruption.

In reference to my statement made during the discussion of Revenue demand, the Hon'ble Chief Minister is advised to react to the issue of inter-state boundary. We have learnt that the Supreme Court has formed a Sub-Committee to look into the state boundaries of NE States. The Hon'ble Chief Minister is requested to take advantage of this and promptly react to this.

I would like to conclude with Power & Electricity Department. Power has been the most important

development infrastructure. But, Mizoram is lacking this infrastructure. Therefore, the government is advised to take steps towards making power project which is solely the state's property and which can produce revenue for the state. Thank you.

PU D. THANGLIANA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker, let me start with Industries Department. Under the MNF Ministry, Industries department has made a significant progress. Due to the efforts made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. M/S Venus Bamboo Product has been set up. It is great to see the various steps taken by the government for the extraction of marketable bamboo wealth of Mizoram. It is heartening to note that emphasis is given to make use of our raw materials. It is truly a great achievement that the programmes and policy made for bamboo has become a reality. Another great programme which recently been implemented is the opening of cement processing unit at Industrial Complex, Zuangtui.

Apart from the existing Food Park at Chhingchhip, proposal for opening of Passion fruit concentration plan has been actively going on. When this project is started, it can provide employment opportunities to the people of Mizoram.

There is one point, I would like the Hon'ble Chief Minister to note in regard to road construction, road between N. Vanlaphai and Chekawn which is 20 Kms is to be maintained thro' World Bank. Though the road is proposed to be completed by March, 2005, but the work has not yet been started. The construction firm TARMAT has been delaying the works. As the said road is very important for the people of the area the Hon'ble Minister is requested to put pressure in this regard.

Meanwhile, there is a good reason to be grateful for in the government for selecting Keitum-Artahkawn road for reconstruction with an estimate of Rs. 5 crore.

As we know, the KTP General Conference is to be held at E. Lungdar next year. I would like to request

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the Hon'ble Chief Minister to note this and see that the road to E. Lungdar is maintained before the conference.

Coming to demand no. 39, the government has made relentless effort towards improvement of power supply in the State. It is pleasing that Bairabi Thermal Plant which can generate 22.92 megawatt is completed. With the recent issue of all the necessary clearances I am optimistic that we will see fruitful outcome. The much debated projects of Serlui B Hydel and Maicham Phase III have also been going in speedy progress. It is pleasing to see that the projects are to be completed before the end of 2006. Therefore, Mr. Dy. Speaker, the demands of the Hon'ble Chief Minister may be passed unanimously. Thank you.

PU LIANSUAMA

: Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker, I will concentrate on only two points :- that is Excise and Vigilance. We are all aware that

drugs abuse has been a real threat for the people of Mizoram. The question remains how to tackle this menacing problem. When the Hon'ble Chief Minister was the Opposition Leader, he had committed to support the then government in countering this problem. But, he seems to forget his commitment now that he becomes the Chief Minister. Vigorous steps have been taken to eradicate diseases like Malaria, TB and others. Unfortunately, the problem of drug abuse has not been dealt with as expected. Therefore, I would like to suggest that the hon'ble Chief Minister takes charge of Excise department. I also opine that the departments under the charge of the Chief Minister is rather heavy for him to handle. Instead, he should take over the responsibility of the department which directly concerns the problem faced by the Mizo youths. We may have made progress in PWD, Power and even education but, all these would become worthless if thousands of our youths have lost their lives due to drugs abuse. Therefore, Excise department needs to be strengthened.

Some members have expressed their appreciation to the Government for creating new I.R. Battalion. But, there are more important tasks to be undertaken, like strengthening I.R.

Department. Excise Department is more important than I.R. Battalion. Hence, new step needs to be taken. This state has been morally attacked from our neighbours. In order to tackle this problem Excise Department is the agent which requires more budget provision and strengthening.

Another serious matter which cannot be ignored is corruption. The body that has been entrusted to deal with this problem is Vigilance. This Department has done its responsibility without showing any partiality. But, the report of the Department seems to be tampered in the high level in certain cases. As that is the case, if we really desire to remove corruption in Mizoram, the government should have new programme and policy to be undertaken through Vigilance Department. When the ruling members sat in the opposition bench, they had moved a Resolution for the set up of Lok Ajuta, a body to deal with corruption case. Now, the same members sit in the ruling side, they could have set up the body if they are serious in tackling corruption in the State. Today, demands which are needed by the people and the State is being discussed for passing. As already mentioned, drugs and corruption have become a threat to the Mizo people. But, looking into the demands made against Excise Department, we can conclude that the budget provision is inadequate. The Department needs more fund budget, better equipments and most of all man-power. Therefore, Mr. Dy. Speaker, if Vigilance Department is not strengthened we should not even discuss corruption in the House other Departments may progress, but the primary interest should be Vigilance and Excise. Lastly, what action has been taken against the case of bogus Master Roll in the Education Department.

S P E A K E R : Pu K. Vanlalauva.

PU K. VANLALAUVA : Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker.
I would like to start with PWD, we have listened to many points of criticisms on the performance of PWD. But, Mr. Dy. Speaker, it is quite remarkable that the PWD have completed construction of 59 major link roads and maintenance work. The completion of Durtlang road is also quite an achievement.

Next, I would like to mention of few points concerning Art and Culture Department at Lunglei has not been well equipped by the Government. There is not even D.D.O in the office and therefore, the staff have to draw their salaries from Aizawl. New posts also seem to be in demand. One floor of Saikuti Hall has been prepared for District Museum as the same design with that of Indian Museum, Calcutta and Calcutta Victoria Memorial Hall when the Museum is completed, caretaker will be needed for it. This may also be taken into consideration.

I will go on to matters concerning Serlui 'B' Hydel Project. This project was abandoned by the Congress Ministry due to certain obstacles. But, this Ministry has revived the project and project works have been going on speedily. 50% of the project has already been completed. However, 15 Kms of approach road from the main road is still left unblacktopped. If black topping is not taken up, the approach road will not be fit for vehicle during monsoon period. I have mentioned this for the immediate reaction of the authority.

Within my constituency, Lamsial Hydel Project is going on in full swing. The local people have been provided with employment in the project. Even before completion of the project the people in the area have already benefited from it. They are full of anticipation that the project will be commissioned soon since the area is near the birthplace of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Survey is also done for Tlawva Hydel Project and is found to be satisfactory and more convenient than Lamsial Hydel Project. If this project is taken up successfully, it can provide power to the remote areas of the neighbouring Champhai. I am also eagerly awaiting the time for the opening of Kau-Tlabung Hydel Project as this place has great significant in my personal life. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now call upon
Pu R. Lalzirliana.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker, Sir.
Before, going to the demand, I
would like to raise a suggestion
concerning the department officials.

Being a budget discussion Head of Officials and other top officials are expected to attend the session. But, this can create difficulties for the public who would like to meet the Officials. Therefore, from the next session one room may be reserved inside the Secretariat building for these official where they could deal urgent matters concerning their respective departments.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has often stated that Mizoram is one of the States with the lowest amount of debts. But, it may not be appropriate to compare this state with other Indian States considering the difference in population and its existence as a full fledged state. We have to accept the fact that our liabilities and debts are extremely high for a 20 year old state.

According to the Notification dated 15.2002 issued by Labour and Employment Department on the basis of Minimum Wages Act No. 11 of 1948, all Master Roll Labourers should be classified according to their qualification. But, this notification is not abided by PWD Mechanical Division while all other Divisions have been going according to it. In the Mechanical Division there are Diploma holders and trained Mechanic, but, they are all categories in the class with untrained mechanic. This is really insulting for them, this case does not seem to be difficult to settle.

Today, I would like to repeat about the sinking road at Armed Veng. Though I have stated this in the House before, no repair work has been done till date. If this is VIP road, I think I will have no chance to report the matter to the authority. This proves that there is partiality even in the repair of roads. It is true that there is enough fund, it should be utilized wherever necessary.

Coming to Excise Department, we need to know the nature of works of the police forces and the excise forces had been the same. Therefore, they should be treated in an equal manner. They need to be equipped with better facilities. Strengthening of Excise Department and enactment of Right to Information are also the priorities of the Church leader. But, the government is not going towards this. As we all know MLTP Act has been enforced in the State.

Meanwhile, the MNF workers who accompanied the Hon'ble Minister in his tour to Seling during Chapchar Kut celebration had procured liquor from the BRTF. I can even produce the document to prove that the MNF worker had purchased IMFL liquor from the BRTF at Seling. As this is the case, total prohibition Act can not be implemented successfully. If we really want this Act to be a real success, we, the member of this House should lead the way. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu H. Rohluna.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.
At the outset, I would like to say that I have supported the point mentioned by the member from Saitual in regard to Excise. As stated by the members before me Excise department needs to be strengthened. The pay scale of Excise Constable should also be fixed with the same level with that of the Police Constables. The Staff and Excise forces of this department has been working very hard day and night and therefore needs better facilities like vehicle. Their ration money may also be increased.

I would like to say few points on Polytechnic with the establishment of a women Polytechnic. Women have made progress in technical line. But, these two polytechnic institutions are not given adequate interest by the government. The annual budget provision after the existence of two polytechnic institutions has not been increased from the time when there was only one institution. As this is the case, it is no wonder that the staff and lecturers of the institutions can not draw their salaries. Hence, it would be desirable if the government can consider their case.

Coming to demand no. 45, the road between Ngopa and Mimbung was repaired at a tremendous cost. The working contractor was a close relative of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

But, the repair work is very poor and the road would be unsuitable for vehicle during monsoon season. Considering the amount of fund spent for the repair works, the road should be better than this. I have raised this for the information and immediate action of the authority.

Regarding PHE Department, when new water connection is given, the consumer has to pay certain amount in case of road cutting. Nevertheless, PWD has become very sluggish in repairing the road. And so, in many areas, there are inland roads that requires immediate repair. I think, the government should see to this so that PWD could be more prompt in this matter.

I would like to express a few point on development of tea industries. As stated by the member from Khawhai constituency, there are certain impediment in the supply of tea seeds since last year. The people of Ngopa has been deeply concentrating on tea cultivation. Anticipating tea seeds supply from the government the cultivators had prepared polypot for tea nursery. But, the supply had not come as the supplier had met an accident on his way to Ngopa. As this is the case, all their preparations had gone in vain and even lost more than 10 lakhs rupees. This year, the people has taken fresh steps but, unfortunately for them, the quality of the seeds supplied to them are below sub-standard and only 13.5 percent of the seeds supplied are found to be of acceptable quality. If it goes in this manner, the cultivators will lose another 10 lakhs with which they have ventured. They have taken up this trade expecting assistance and support from the government. If the government fail to reciprocate their expectations their poverty would be added. I would, therefore like to ask the Hon'ble Chief Minister to look closely into this matter.

I have often mentioned Tuivai Hydel Project. All the necessary clearance has already been done. But, no real steps have been taken so far. This project is supposed to generate 210 MW power. If this is so, I do not understand why the government is not too been in pursuing this project. We have often mentioned Serlui 'B' and Bairabi Hydel Projects. But, looking back into the performance of the government we are having high expectations. There are still a number of remote areas that are not yet been electrified. Realising this, the government is urged to take rapid steps towards electrification. I

understand that the government plans to electrify Vaikhawtlang and Selam during the current financial year. I would like to convey my appreciation for this. Thank you.

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker. I will start with Higher & Technical Education. The Government has been taking various measures to upgrade the educational quality in the State. The number of private colleges has been increasing tremendously. Realising the advantage of this the government has introduced new policy and so, private colleges have been amalgamated. State Level Quality Assurance Co-ordination committee is also set up and functioned for the upgradation of educational quality in the State. Steps have also been taken to provide all deficit colleges as permanent affiliation for assistance could be received from UGC. There is sanction for the posts of 294 guest lecturers. It would be more appropriate if more fund could be allotted for this head so as to give large pay to these guest lecturers. The Central Government has set aside 6% of the Educational budget for Higher & Technical. But, here the State Government has allotted on 1:54 percent for the same. Does this denotes that the State Government has neglected higher & technical education.

In matter relating to Demand no.40. Mizoram has began to experience new thing by processing bamboo. Mizoram is rich in bamboo resources but had never realized this. Now, with the relentless efforts given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Industries Department has taken many steps. And bamboo processing plant is now set up at Sairang. This is a great achievement made by the government. As often mentioned earlier, bamboo has become an useful resource for the State. Even the people within my constituency has collected large income from bamboo. It would be pleasing if the Hon'ble Chief Minister can display the varieties of new bamboo products when he wind up the discussion.

In regard to Excise Department I am glad to note that the members of the House have now become consistent in our policies towards tackling and countering of drugs abuse.

The support of the members from the left has brought about the success of total prohibition in the State. It is also pleasing to receive active supports of all NGOs towards furthering the initiatives taken by the government. I am confident that Excise Department has enough non-governmental forces from various organizations hearing the words of enthusiasm from the Opposition members is an evidence to show that Total Prohibition Act is successful from our side.

The performance made by PWD is not to be missed. I will mention few projects completed by the State PWD, 1488 widening and formation cutting and 593 new culverts have been completed by the State PWD. Rawpuichhip-Buarpui road has been constructed under the finance of NABARD, 210 kms of Reiek-Lungdar road is also completed and another 554 link roads were constructed under PMGY whereas another 300 kms of road has been planned to be constructed. It is also great to see that a total of 493 roads have already been constructed under world bank. All these project could be undertaken due to the strong and efficient administration of this government. Therefore, the government deserves commend. It is also visible that the employees of PWD have been encouraged by the interest given by this government. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu H. Liansailova.

PU H. LIANSILOVA : Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker.
I will start with demand no. 45, PWD. In the last session I had mentioned certain approached roads within my constituency that requires immediate repair. Reacting to this, approach road to Edenthav Veng has now been black-topped. I express my appreciation in this regard. However, the road within Bawngkawn Hmarveng has been left uncompleted. I request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to note this that the road be completed soon.

As already raised in my unstarred question, the approached road from Ramhlun South via Sports Complex to Bawngkawn Vengthar has been left for black topping. I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister to allot sanction for the same. It may further be suggested that the said road be extended for truckable road. If this road is a busy road. It would be great if my suggestion could be considered.

Coming to Power & Electricity Department, I would like to state one point that concerns public safety. 11 KV wire line pass through Ramhlun area. The wire has been hanging loosely just over the roof. In times of cyclone, it can be dangerous for the people of the area. Therefore, I would like to ask if the electric line could be transferred or at least guard wire be made in case of emergency. I request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to note this matter.

On Planning Department, I want to extend a few point of importance. As already stated by other members, it is important to have better co-ordination in undertaking developmental works under State Plan and Centrally Sponsored Scheme so that we may have benefited more from it. I would also like to suggest that sanctions coming from CSS should be submitted and accounted to Finance Department and then the department could make fresh sanctions.

In the Department of Excise, it can be concluded that Total Prohibition Act is a success to certain extent. However, it is important to have better coordination amongst Excise Department, Law Department and even GAD in the high level. It also come to my mind that volunteers should better be formed from the government level according to Home Guard system.

Mention may be made of the problems faced by State Librarian. The problem of pay scale faced by them is of a genuine case and it does not seem to be a complicated one to settle. Therefore, I remind the hon'ble Chief Minister to note this matter and consider the case.

Art and Culture Department has been doing a great performance by focusing attention to development of the culture and tradition of Mizoram by promoting cultural activities.

Lastly, Art and Culture Department has Archive branch. In Mizoram, there are number of individuals who keep old records of importance. Some of them have even passed away. It may be difficult for their families to keep these records. Therefore, it may be suggested that their families be asked to hand over these records to be kept in the Department's Archive and in exchange they be given remuneration. These old records will be helpful for the future generation for research work.

PU H. LALSANGZUALA : Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker, for allotting me time. At the outset, I would like to express my wholehearted gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for the achievement made by PWD in regard to road construction. The people of my constituency has been enjoying this. Meanwhile, there are many families who have been living in poor dwelling houses. Though there is no separate provision for this head, I would like to request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to make special provision for the repair of their houses.

As for PMGSY, I am sorry to say that most of the works under PMGSY have not been taken up satisfactorily. Guidelines are not followed by the contractor. The fund has not been utilized in an appropriate manner. As a result, the blessing of PMGSY have not been benefited accordingly. This may be noted and checked by the authority.

Coming to Power and Electricity Department, though emphasis has been laid on Bairabi and Serlui 'B' Hydrel Project, the time when we could benefit from these hydrel projects seems to be far off. Therefore, I would like to advise the department to concentrate on Mini Hydrel Projects so that groups of villages in the area could be provided with power generation. Rivers like Vaikai, Vawkte lui and Vawra lui may be earmarked for mini-hydrel projects.

It seems that power problem would not be solved for rural areas. The people of Thanglailung had informed Power Department that they were going to clear their jhums by

burning. But, the department did not take action. So the forest fire had destroyed electric wire which results in failure of power supply. If the department had taken precautionary measure this could be avoided. Most of the villages in Suangpuilawn constituency have not received power supply for two weeks.

I would like to conclude my speech with the department of Excise. I think the budget allotment for this department is too meager considering their workload and nature of work. Therefore, additional fund should be made for this department.

PU F. LAL THANZUALA : Thank you. Many points of importance have been raised in regard to Excise Department. The entire population of Mizoram have been busy countering the problem of drugs abuse. Excise department have now become the most important one. Even if developmental works have been going on in a rapid manner, it would be worthless if we fail to defeat drugs problem. Therefore, top priority should be awarded to this.

Secondly, in regard to Higher & Technical Education, I would like to advise the government not to concentrate only on colleges within the city but also to colleges located in smaller towns. As raised in my question as many as deficit colleges should be provincialised as it may not involve high amount of fund.

One member has stated that the departments under the charge of the Hon'ble Chief Minister is too heavy to handle efficiently. Contrary to this idea, the function of his departments is quite satisfactory. For a person who can lead the ruling party in a full-fledged state it is not too heavy.

It is pleasing to hear that there is proposal to upgrade facilities at Lengpui airport. This airport is a valuable asset for the state, whenever, the name is mentioned, the former Chief Minister Pu Lal Thanhawla may also be remembered for his efforts for the emergence of this airport. It is also learnt that in order to upgrade the existing navigational aids and to facilitate safe operation the scheduled

flights even under adverse weather conditions, a new instrument is proposed to be installed at Neihbawih peak. I think this is an act of developmental step for the people.

Coming to power, the government has made relentless efforts towards improvement of power supply in the State - As a result, the state has been improved in power supply. We have thermal generation at Bairabi, Tuipang mini hydel project started to generate 3 mega watts of power. Tlabung, Serlui and Maicham Phase - II projects are also nearing completion. It is also pleasing to backs that oil and natural gas are present on Mizoram and are set to be explored.

The State PWD has utilized its budget for the programmes that concern the socio-eco deprived people of Mizoram. That is development of road connectivity. During the last few years major improvement of road and its rehabilitation were undertaken through the State PWD. This department truly made great achievements. Thank you.

PU ZODINTLUANGA

: Thank you, Mr. Dy. Speaker.

First of all, I would like to mention points regarding Planning and Programme Implementation.

Today, we are about to pass large amount of budget. For this it is important to see that the Planning and Programme are implemented. One such programme I would like to point out is Mizoram Intodelhna Project. We have already passed 20 crores for this project without proper guidelines for its usage. It is regretful to see that such a large fund had been passed without making proper plan and programme for the project. Due to the absence of guidelines for MIP the Scheme has not been successful so far.

On demand no 45, the members who stood before me have mentioned various points of appreciation and criticisms on State PWD. Yesterday, the Hon'ble LAD Minister had stated during the demand wind up that the NBCC had better work quality than other departments. In my opinion, the State PWD is not free to do any work in a quality manner due to pressure from the higher level. As we know, National Building construction corporation (NBCC) is an Indian

government undertaking. It receives sanction from Urban Development Ministry and make programmes accordingly. The corporation utilized the fund according to the plan. On the other hand, for the State PWD, the working system has not been appropriate from the tender stage. The department had to pay 3% of the plan fund as party fund and therefore, the working rate becomes too low that the work quality under PWD are normally below quality. PWD Engineers are far more efficient than the NBCC Engineers. Many members have praised the government for the progress in road connectivity under PMGSY. Even if the government is under President's Rule PMGSY will still be our share as it is a programme set by the Prime Minister. If the Hon'ble Chief Minister has freed the PWD from his control, the former could implement any projects according to the planning estimate and so, the fact that the State PWD is far more efficient in work quality than the NBCC which could clearly be seen.

Under demand no. 39, there is Electronic Meter Box. According to the speeches of the Governor and the Chief Minister Electronic Meter Box is introduced as an additional Power Resource Revenue. But, this is not true as this does not collect more revenue. As stated by the member from Lawngtlai, after the introduction of EMB, power tariff has become lower and those who used to pay Rs.500/- before the introduction of EMB has to pay only Rs. 150/- now. Therefore, only from this, we can conclude that electronic meter box does not increase revenue collection from power tariff. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will have a recess
till 4 : 35 PM.

4:35 P.M.

S P E A K E R : Pu R.M. Chakma.

PU R.M. CHAKMA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the outset I want to express my gratitude to the members sitting in the opposition bench. Since the first day of our session they have shown their trust and confidence in this Govt. They have contributed many points of suggestions for they know that this Govt. is trustworthy. Therefore, I am thankful to them.

Coming to Demand No. 45. though I feel grateful to PWD Department for constructing and black topping Ruantlang – Chawngte road, I would further like to make a request to do widening of the same.

I would also like to ask the authority to complete pavement work at the ongoing Borapansury road during the next financial year. I would further like to remind the authority to take up construction of three new roads within my constituency during the next financial year. It is also desirable if Kalamanagar road which is not long be taken up as well.

The department of Power and Electricity has made great achievement at Chawngte by providing regular supply of Power. In the meantime, most of the villages have not been electrified. I would like to urge the Department to give special attention to my constituency in the next financial year. Going back to Chawngte, the people have appreciated the installation of electric meter box.

Coming to Higher & Technical Education, the Kamalanagar College was established way back in 1992 and has been the senior most private college in Mizoram. The management, enrolment and even the examination result show the superiority of this college. Therefore, it deserves a deficit status or at least provincialisation. In the midst of financial constrain I request the authority to give special consideration to the college. Thank you.

PU R.KHAWPUITHANGA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Due to the prayer offered by various Churches the Assembly Session has been going

Smoothly. But, It is most regrettable that two of the members, Pu Lianzuala and Pu Sainghaka are unable to attend the sitting for some time.

First of all, I would like to emphasize on Finance for their efficient financial management. A generous amount of revenue have been received owing to the relentless efforts given by the officials of this department.

Next, it is great to see the achievements made by the G.A.D. I think more rapid step should be taken to shift the Assam Rifles from the heart of Aizawl town.

The department of Art and Culture has been an important agent for the promotion of Art & Culture in Mizoram. It is desirable if cultural meet could be held more frequent outside Aizawl so as to instill a feeling of oneness amongst all the Mizo clans and sub-clans.

In the southern part of Mizoram, the government has been making projects for the construction of bridges in several river like Chawngte lui, Tuisih, Vanva and Tuipui. The Govt. has proposed to speed cross of rupees in these projects. Besides, there are also on-going big projects like the construction of national highway no. 44 between Sairang and Tripura, Seling to Tipaimukh road and Bilkhawthlir to Bairabi. It is indeed a great achievement to have 3 Highways being undertaken. Not only this, achievements have been made towards building construction. Therefore, we should pass today's demand without further hesitation. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : If there are no more members left to stand. I will call upon the Opposition Leader Pu Lal Thanhawla.

P U L A L T H A N H A W L A : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Looking back to the budget, there are revenue surplus to which some members have expressed their appreciation. There are some points to be gratified for. Finance Department also deserves special praise in its performance. However, there is not much to be grateful for in the revenue surplus as the surplus has not been gained from one resource production. At the same time, without efficient fiscal management this is not an easy task. We also have to bear in mind that our capital deficit has greatly increased this year.

The greatly increased this year. Therefore, there is bright side and dark side. As for the Congress Legislature Party, it is enjoyable to see that the treasury bench is contented and satisfied with the UPA government at the center.

As we all aware, the government of Nagaland and Naga insurgencies have been holding talks of negotiation for quite some time. But, unlike the MNF the talk have not been successful so for I think the Central Government played an efficient diplomacy in its dealing with the N.E. States. By showing favors to the MNF Govt. the Central Govt. can persuade the Naga insurgency leaders to come over ground as they, too, could enjoy all the favors like the MNF Government if come over ground. This could also lead to national integration and all the States in India will contribute to the Indian National mainstream.

Under the department of Higher and Technical Education, there are 2 Polytechnic Institutes where the Women Polytechnic has been neglected by the Government. It is desirable that the commitment made by the hon'ble Chief Minister could be fulfilled immediately.

Various points of suggestion has been said in connection with Excise Department. What is most important in this department is to reform the existing norms and procedure within the department. It has been said that since the prevalence of cell phone in the State, the quantity of liquor seizure has been tremendously low. This may be because the liquor vendors have agents inside the department. These agents can easily inform the vendors through cell phones when and where the Excise Forces intend to raid. Not only this Heroin (No.4) and IMLF liquor seized by the Excise Force are sold by the department at cheaper rates. This can lead to the increase in liquor supply. Any illegal drugs or liquor seized should be destroyed by the department. The department should not use it for collection of revenue. The Minister and the department officials should see to this. Therefore, instead of the strengthening of forces the inner quality of the department needs reforms and strengthening.

Coming to Art and Culture Department, it is a matter of satisfaction that this department has made good exposure on our culture and tradition. More fund should also be provided to this department for this. I would like to raise a suggestion for culture improvement and modernization of quality. This suggestion is raised only to encourage the government to keep up the good work it has done so far and not because I feel disappointed with its performance. Total prohibition has been adopted during the Congress Ministry following the wishes of the churches and the people of Mizoram. But, we realized that the success of the Prohibition Act depends & on the people. I thin whether the Act is a success or not is quite debatable. But, it is commendable that this government decided to continue the Act in this situation. It is however, important for the Government to make use of the volunteers from different church denominations and NGOs.

Drugs addiction has now become our biggest enemy. To liberate our youths from this fearful enemy more efforts are demanded. Now is not the time to make mudslinging at each other, but to stand united. In this regard, I would like to ask the initiative and the programme intended to be taken by the Government. In these days, the Legislative Assembly has become very efficient for which I would like to commend. Mr. Speaker I would like to convey my gratitude to you and your staff for this.

As already listened in the morning session, corruption is quite prevalent in Mizoram. In order to root out this nature, CBI may be called in. For this, Vigilance Department must be strengthened so that it may prepare all the necessary procedures. Whereas we are busy tackling drugs, addiction, another serious problem in Mizoram is the emergence of people whose sole purpose is to make money by any means. We have after said of the achievement made in regard to construction of Durtlang road. But, with such an amount of 7 crore a more better road can be achieved. Looking into the expenditure on PMGSY fund, it is no wonder that there are certain people who suddenly become rich within a short period. So, we should all stand together to fight this evil and we, the members of this House should lead the way.

As I have said earlier, this ministry has been sluggish in asset making. To state one example, Tuirial Hydel Project is said to be abandoned and Tuivai Hydel Project also does not show any sign of progress. Bairabi Thermal Project is opened but, is not of much use. Kau-Tlabung project was also opened but, it can operate only on the day it was opened. If we go on in this manner, our hope of development for the state would be in vain. Speaking of Serlui 'B' Hydel project it aroused the feeling of doubt. For the interest of the Mizos it is not right to lose trust in the leaders of the Government. There is no time to repeat about World Bank. Even if we can not call in CBI to probe into these, we should try to clear ourselves of whether there is abuse of power. We can even set up Parliamentary Enquiry Committee. It is not enough to clear our own names. We, the members sitting in this House are responsible for all these. The Government is also welcomed to probe into the previous ministry. If any wrong doing is found action should be taken for the welfare of the people.

Law and Order situation has become deteriorated. The police forces have been during their duties satisfactorily. However, while they are supposed to be on duty for 24 hours. There are no police patrol during night time. The Government may see to this.

Private firms and individuals have sought financial assistance from different Ministries. For this, the recommendation of the Department of Planning & Programme Implementation is required. Therefore, the authority is requested to see that priority be given to these applicants so that large fund would be received from the Centre.

The YMA Conference is set to be organized in October at Chhiahtlang. There are various tasks to be undertaken for the conference like the renovation of field, road communication and infrastructure for the conference. But, due to illness of the concerned MLA I was approached to look into all these. As requested I have contacted the concerned authorities for border roads. They too, agreed to take steps. Unfortunately, the MNF unit of the area is not too happy with the steps I have taken. Therefore, I would like to request the Govt. to note this and see that all the necessary steps are taken for the conference.

The requisition for SBI Branch at Chawngte is not new. I would like to remind the hon'ble Chief Minister to take fresh steps for the set up of SBI Branch at Chawngte.

To conclude my speech I would like to repeat that the foremost task for the Government is to clear Mizoram from being a corrupt state and win back the confidence of the people by inviting CBI to probe into corruption or set up Parliamentary inquiry. Thank you.

S P E A K E R

Let us now call upon the Minister, Dr. Lalzama to wind up the budget discussion.

**Dr. LALZAMA
MINISTER**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the outset, I want to express my gratitude to the Members for the constructive speeches. This department of Excise has been going on without plan fund. Realising this, the department also receive support from the people for which I convey my appreciation. The Govt. has been taking steps to construct commissionerate building and is expected to start soon. The Govt. is aware of the need to set up District Offices at Mamit and Lawngtlai. However, due to financial constraint steps cannot be taken at a fast pace. As for the case of the measures to be taken for the tackling of drugs invasion in Mizoram, I am extremely happy to receive active supports of all NGOs and church denominations. I am confident that the Govt. will continue to get their wholehearted support in time to come. It is high time for all the MLAs to become available for our own people in fighting this hateful drugs abuse that have been taking the lives of our youths. Perhaps it is due to the tireless works of the NGOs that the death rate due to drugs overdose this year is expected to be lower than the previous years. The budget for this department has also been increased to 13.18 this year and we are expecting various equipments from the centre.

We cannot deny the fact that Art and Culture department is an important agent for the preservation of our culture and tradition. The department has reprinted and published valuable traditional books through Tribal Research Institute and has been collecting archaic materials. Steps have been taken to renovate and refurbish State Museum. Despite acute budget, this department has continued to expose Mizo culture and tradition to the outside world by sending cultural troupes to India and abroad. Even within Mizoram cultural meet has frequently been organized to preserve Mizo culture and tradition. There are 410 recognised libraries where the department distribute books.

The department has been developing District Museum at Saikuti Hall, Lunglei with an assistance from the Indian Museum Calcutta and there is plan to renovate District Library at Lunglei. As soon as fund is received District Library building will be constructed.

The celebration of Chapchar Kut every year has marked the integration of all the Mizo clans living within Mizoram. Without the contribution of Art & Culture Department. Our tradition and culture would be long gone.

Coming to Higher & Technical Education, the members have mentioned various important points concerning colleges and Polytechnic institutions. I have noted down all the points. As for laboratory technician, the government has recently appointed 2 laboratory technicians for Polytechnic institutions. We are aware of the point mentioned by the opposition leader in regard to Women Polytechnic. Steps have been taken to solve the problem within the institution.

As mentioned by some members, the GDP percentage in Mizoram for School Education is very low. Realising this, the Government has been doing its best to sanction additional requirement and is awaiting the result.

Though the Govt. have adopted better pay scales and Recruitment Rules for lecturers, it has not yet fulfilled the required number of lecturers. I am not denying that the State has not followed UGC norms up to the mark and the pay of guest lecturers is not satisfactory. Anyhow, according to the fund available this problem will be solved within a short time.

Regarding coaching center, Govt. Aizawl College has operate one between 4 to 7 P.M. where 50 students are being enrolled. This is Central and State service and is following UGC guidelines from which fund is expected.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker, I would like to enquire if there is Coaching fee at the Coaching center.

Dr. LALZAMA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of the amount of fees for the students. This center is still new for the State. This center has already released Rs.1,99,000/- for the center. There are group A, B and C classes where efficient tutors have given good lectures. Lunglei Govt. College can also apply for coaching center if interested.

Another important matter concerning Deficit College is to become permanent affiliated to University. After permanently affiliated to University it can become an UGC recognized automatically and assistance could be obtained from the same.

As already stated by one member, State level quality Assurance Coordination Committee and quality Assurance cell have been set up to prepare deficit college for their way to become Accredited College. Another important point I would like to say is that the Department has set up a separate cell to look into this and the institution internal quality Assurance cell where the details of the institutions are recorded. In this manner, the quality of the students have been trying to be assured and improved Accredited College would be conferred grade for five years by the UGC. The different colleges cannot be negligent for want of getting higher grade in the next assessment. Another step taken in Education is betterment of infrastructure. Fund has been sought from the center for reconstruction of buildings. All these have already been explained to the principals of all colleges.

In regard to SLET exams 15 students out of 203 have gone through SLET last year which is only 7 percent. As already accounted in the last session, the UGC has given direction to set up SLET Exam center in every State. For NE State center was set up at Guwahati and the State Government has given Rs. 1,00,000/- as an affiliation fee and another Rs. 25,000/- for center fee. The central Government has given due importance to SLET and so, sub-committee of Parliamentary Committee on HRD had even decided on 2003 that SLET exam should be accepted all over India. This is how far SLET has been given importance by the Center.

In regard to the College Library, the DP & AR has sanctioned five categories for College Libraries. Post creation have been on the way.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Mr. Speaker, how far step have been taken to form Higher & Technical Education Service Rules ?

Dr. LALZAMA MINISTER : The Govt. has been working on it. Mr. Speaker, I beg leave of the House to pass Demands No. 7, 21 and 23 totaling Rs. 43,65,27,000/- Thank you.

S P E A K E R : The Minister has begged leave of the House to pass his Demands. Member who agree to pass may say 'Yes' (Members agree).

The House has unanimously passed the Demands.

Let us now call upon the Chief Minister Pu Zoramthanga.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Though I have noted down all the points mentioned by the members there will be no time to react in a detail manner.

Firstly, it is a matter of satisfaction that the States Plan and non-plan budget for 2005-2006 has increased by 262 crores. For Higher and Technical Education alone. The plan and non plan budget have increased by 174 lakhs which is very pleasing 10% of the total amount of increase has gone to School Education. I hope this has a positive effect on the internal management.

The member for Ngopa has mentioned about the poor maintenance of Mimbung road. The maintenance work has intrusted to BRTF but the result was not as expected. Therefore the State PWD has continued the work at a low budget. And the road cannot attain high quality status.

Tuipuibari to Kawnpui road maintenance has also been aware of by the Government proposal is submitted to Ministry of Road Transport to upgrade the said road.

In regard to Khawzawl - Biate road, the work contractor had done poor job in the construction and the matter had already been exported to the World Bank authority. Presently, new steps have been taken by the World Bank to improve work quality.

Coming to Power and Electric Department Tuipang Hydel Project was recently Commissioned. However, due to low supply of water, power cannot be produced now. But, the river has beginning to provide more quantity of water and the project will be generating power. Kau-Tlabung Hydel Project will also be commissioned in the near future.

Tuivai Hydel Project was taken up by NEEPCO but, due to funding system, it was abandoned. The Government of Mizoram has passed NEEPCO to State whether the company had completely abandoned or is still intending to continue, so that the State Govt. would take over it. And now, we are awaiting replies from NEEPCO.

In regard to the controversial case of Tuirial Hydel Project, the work performance in the initial stage was satisfactory, but, it is most regretful that there is problem now. The problem has not been arising out of compensation. The original estimate was 36.8 crores but NEEPCO intends to revise the estimate to 806 crores. If the Power Ministry at the Central agrees with this it is between the two parties. There would be not a single loss for us. To discuss this matter, Central's Power Secretary has called a meeting for Power Secretary, NEEPCO, CMD, Chief Secretary and the Chief Engineer to be held in the coming Friday. If NEEPCO and Central Government can have a negotiation, Tuirial Project is expected to be continued without a single budget from the State.

It is the policy of the Central Government to hand over Power Department to corporation. This matter has earned a lot of debate here also. To adopt this policy, Government of Mizoram has submitted various points of suggestion to the central like benefit and security of the employees of Power Department. Since this policy is to over the whole of India let us presume that there would not be an adverse effect on the employees.

Coming to Tipaimukh Hydel Project, the share of Power for Manipur and Mizoram has been divided according to the area of land the project has to cover. Government of Mizoram has not yet given its approval and is being under process.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Mr. Speaker, Mizoram has to surrender 2153 Kms. of land for only 15 Mega Watt of power.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr. Speaker, whenever Hydel Project is started, compensation is always the first problem. Therefore, is there a way to take measures so as to avoid this.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, it is important to defend ourselves from all corners. But, we also have to consider that 15 mega watt of power is not too little for a state like ours. Even Serlui 'B' can produce only 12 mega watt. What I want the House to know is that we are trying our level best not to face problem out of Tipaimukh Hydel Project.

Pu Andrew Latherliana has mentioned misappropriation of fund meant for piggery village. This matter will be enquired.

We have listened to electrification of remote areas and the poor supply of existing power. In view of this, the Govt. has made scheme for electrification of all the villages. Fortunately, REC has agreed to give out loans on 90/10 system where it will be provided 90% and the remaining 10% would be contributed by the State Government on this basis, scheme is made with an estimate of 78 crores for covering line extension throughout Mizoram. The scheme has already been approved and this is a cent per cent village electrification scheme. We are expecting positive result from R.E.C.

Regarding the introduction of electronic meter box, it can be said that this is a good policy as power demand has been greatly reduced now that the consumer become more economic for fear of paying high tariff.

Pu Lalduhoma has pointed out Chhinlung Hill Development Council. The department has been considering ways to improve the existing system.

In regard to Inter State boundary, it is not convenient to include our case to the Assam - Nagaland case. But, we need to approach the Supreme Court separately. For this, a committee is formed and its report is due to be sent to the Supreme Court after the Session.

Regarding bamboo industry, being the first to install the machine, there are many complications in the technical side. We are now making trial operation on the machine and is expected to operate fully.

Another achievement in bamboo project is bamboo road construction. Our engineers have been working relentlessly on this.

It is pleasing to note that we have become more and more efficient in making plan. It is believed that certain amount of fund for salaries has to be provided from non-plan fund which was formerly obtained from plan fund. If this can be attained, the financial position can improved to some extent.

Some members have said that the budget for some departments is too meager. This problem can be solved from Revised Estimate budget. There is reserved budget in the plan fund. This budget reserved can be used for the department that needs the fund.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker, I would like to state only one point as a suggestion. Financial sanctions received under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, SSA and LIC are normally deposited in the Vijaya Bank and State Bank of India which have no contribution for State development. We have State owned bank like Apex Bank and Rural Bank. Therefore, I would like to suggest that bulk of financial sanction received from the above mentioned may be deposited in the Apex Bank so that it would enjoy the facilities available. Can the hon'ble Chief Minister make a commitment in this matter?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker, nationalized scheduled
CHIEF MINISTER Bank are insisted for transaction.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker, United Commercial Bank is also a nationalized Bank. Does that mean all nationalized Bank are not insisted?

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Mr. Speaker, the Government has been doing its best to solve this problem. For quite some time, the Govt. had discontinued transaction with State Bank.

However, the Government has now continued to deposit Govt. money to the same. As for the case of the Apex Bank, the Govt. will try to strengthen and support the Bank as far as practicable. As for our parts, it is important to import amongst us the banking system.

To conclude my speech, I would like to express my gratitude to all the members for having a constructive discussion. Points of misappropriation pointed out by opposition members are no doubt, important issues. Not only the Ministries have knowledge of the points but also the concerned department are informed. Anyhow, the matters that are pointed out by the members will be taken as priority and we will try to make improvements. Mizoram has been receiving countless of favors and financial benefit from the Central Government. Meanwhile, we need to improve our efficiency. To attain this, your suggestions and advice are welcomed. So, Mr. Speaker, I beg leave of the House to pass my demands totaling Rs. 556,11,65,000/-. Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: The hon'ble Chief Minister Pu Zoramthanga has begged leave of the House to pass his demands. Any members who agree with it may say 'yes' and those who are against it may say 'No' (members said 'yes')

The demands are passed by the House.

S P E A K E R

: The House will proceed to the last Business of the day.

Let us now call upon Pu Zoramthanga, the hon'ble Chief Minister to introduce 'The Mizoram Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2005.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Mr. Speaker, with you permission I beg leave of the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2005.

S P E A K E R : If the House agrees the Bill may be Introduced.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER** : Mr. Skpeaker, with your permission and the approval of the House I introduce 'The Mizoram Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2005.

S P E A K E R : The copy may be circulated to the members. The House has the tradition not to have a discussion on a Bill. Therefore, the mover of the Bill may now move and beg leave of the House for passing the same.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER** : Mr. Sppeaker, the Bill will open doors for the Plan and Non Plan fund for 2005 – 2006. The total amount is Rs. 18,02,10,63,000/-. I now ask the approval of the House to pass 'The Mizoram Appropriation (No.2) Bill,' 2005.

S P E A K E R : We shall take voice vote. If the members agree, you may say 'yes' (Members say 'yecs') The Bill is passed.

Today's Business is completed. The sitting will be adjourned till 30.3.2005 10:30 A.M.

Sitting adjourned.