

**FOURTH SITTING ON FRIDAY, THE 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2005**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

PU LALCHAMLIANA, SPEAKER at the Chair, Pu Zoramthanga, Chief Minister, Deputy Speaker, 11 Ministers and 23 Members were present.

**QUESTIONS**

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

**LAYING OF PAPERS**

2. PU AICHHINGA to lay on the Table of the House a copy of corrected reply to Unstarred Question No. 7 put by the Hon'ble Member Pu Zodintluanga on 26.9.2005.

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

3. \* RESOLUTIONS.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILL**

4. PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Aizawl Municipality Bill, 2005"

**ALSO**

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

**AND**

to move that the Bill be passed.

SPEAKER : And he said to them, "Take heed, and beware of all covetousness ; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Luke 12:15.

We will now take up our questions. To start with Pu Lalrinliana Sailo to ask starred question No. 61.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Thank you Mr Speaker Sfir, Here is Starred Question No. 61, answer be given by concern Minister for Finance Department -

- (a) Will the Financial sanction for Mizoram Municipality and Panchayat amounting to Rs. 10 (ten) and Rs. 20 (twenty) respectively on the Report of 12th Finance Commission be utilised? If so, what is the amount which has already been received? On what purposes it is used?

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker sir, here is the answer - (a) This sanction is planned to be utilised for the year 2005-2006. (b) Prosal is now going on for drawing of this sanction. (c) Plan has also been laid for utilisation of this fund.

S P E A K E R : Starred question No. 62 to be asked by Pu Zodintluanga.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, here is starred question No. 62, answer to be given by the Hon'ble Minister of Taxation Department.

- (a) How many appointment has been given under Taxation and without through Employment Department?
- (b) May the names and detail addresses of those appointed be furnished here in the House.

S P E A K E R : Pu B.Thlengliana, the concern Minister to answer the question.

PU B. LALTHLEGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, here is the answer to the questions raised by Pu Zodintluanga. (a) 28 persons have been appointed on contract and Muster Roll basis

(b) Contract Employees :-

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>Name &amp; Addresses</u>	<u>Name of Post.</u>
1.	Benjamin Lalremruata, Dinthar Veng	Inspector of Taxes.
2.	Lalramnghaka, Champhai.	Inspector of Taxes.
3.	Saizama Sailo, Khatla, Aizawl	- do -
4.	C.Vanlalhriata, Kolasib	- do -
5.	B.Zoljankhumi, Bethlehem Veng	- do -
6.	Carolyn Laldingngheti, Bethlehem Veng	- do -

**Computer Operator ( Muster Roll)**

1.	Sangzela, Kiangte, Dinthar Veng	Computer Operator.
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**L.D.C. ( Muster Roll)**

1.	B.Sangmawii, Champhai	L.D.C.
2.	Zohmangaihi, Laipuitlang, Aizawl	- do -
3.	Lalruatlani, Tlangnuam, Aizawl	- do -
4.	L. Deli, Saiha.	- do -
5.	Lalveni, Champhai	- do -
6.	R.Lalbiakliani, Vairengte	- do -
7.	Daniela, Ramhlun North, Aizawl	- do -
8.	Lalmunpuii, Serkawn	- do -

**Checker (Muster Roll )**

- |    |                                |   |            |
|----|--------------------------------|---|------------|
| 1. | Kapthuama, Champhai Vengthlang | - | Chowkider. |
| 2. | Biaksanga, Kolasib             | - | - do-      |
| 3. | H.C.Vanlalsanga, Saiha         | - | - do -     |
| 4. | Johana, Serchhip               | - | - do -     |
| 5. | Lahmingthanga, Vairengte       | - | - do -     |

**Peon ( Muster Roll )**

- |    |                            |   |      |
|----|----------------------------|---|------|
| 1. | Lalsangluaia, Ramthar Veng | - | Peon |
|----|----------------------------|---|------|

**Sweeper (Muster Roll )**

- |    |              |   |          |
|----|--------------|---|----------|
| 1. | Vanneihzuali | - | Sweeper. |
|----|--------------|---|----------|

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Supplementary Question for favour of answer to be given by the concern Minister again.  
Mr Speaker Sir, it seems that certain appointments are made without knowing appropriate address and I opine the government needs to correct as it is inappropriate to make appointment to someone whose identity is not known.

When the government was planning to introduce Value Added Tax in Mizoram, we all know very well that the problem of insufficiency of staff is very serious among Government employees. Keeping in mind this problem, Finance Department too gives permission for creation of 87 new posts yet no appointment has yet been made in respect to those posts. On the other hand, it is learned that number of appointment is made under Taxation Department but without going through Employment Exchange and no advertisement was made to that respect. According to Recruitment Rules, 2004 of the appointment of Group 'B' under Taxation Department, appointment of Inspector of Taxes should be made through MPSC. It seems that such appointment has been made against the said recruitment Rules. It is much regretted that the said appointments have been made against the given Rules even though Indian Constitution Article 16 gives much importance to Equality of opportunity in matters of Public Employment. As we have seen at Section (1), ' There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State'. If so, Mr Speaker Sir, mode of appointment of the said post is against the Indian Constitution.

In connection with this appointment, I would like to ask the concern Minister as to when appointment for the aforesaid 87 posts was done ? Secondly, whether there is an intention to regularise those persons appointed against Recruitment Rules ? Is there any intention to regularise those persons of well-to-do background being appointed without facing any personal interview and written test ?

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as we are going to practise Value Added Tax in Mizoram, Local News Papers spread number of points against introduction of this Value Added Tax. What are the weak points for introduction of Value Added Tax ? How is the government plan to take step in this regard ? It is learned that Value Added Tax has already been introduced in some of the North Eastern States and no such reaction is made to that respect. How will the Government react to such points raised against introduction of Value Added Tax ?

PU H. LIANSAILOVA : Thank You Mr Speaker Sir. In relation to this matter, it is learned that various appointments had been made on contract and Muster Roll basis. In this regard, the problem of insufficiency of staff of the concern department may be alleviated to a certain extent. Yet the problem of unemployment among the youths seem to increase. May, the government give attention to this problem and also determine how to evade this problem?

Secondly, it may also be necessary for the government to determine how to erase impression that job opportunity as being available only for some well-to-do family background. In order to do so, we should give priority to "Right to Equality in Employment Opportunity" by calling any job with open advertisement and through employment exchange. Relating to this problem, I would like to ask the concern minister whether there is possibility to make any appointment through Selection Board and DPC.

In regard to introduction of Value Added Tax by Taxation Department, it is much regretted to learn that mode of appointment for certain posts in the department seen to be done inappropriately. Will the government stop this practice once and for all ?

It is necessary for the government to determine misappropriation of the said appointment as this could be a problem for maintaining equality and justice in the future.

SPEAKER : The concern Minister to answer the question.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA  
MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, matter relating to questions raised by certain members are agreeable from some points of view yet, it is to be noted that appointment only for regular post is done through Public Service Commission. As for this reason, appointment for 16 posts of inspector has also been referred to Public Service Commission. Appointment for 6 posts however, is done due to urgent need of the department and so is made on contract and Muster Roll basis with appropriate bindings as to evade pressure for regularisation from those appointed in the future.

In regard to the address of those appointed as mentioned by our fellow member, checker Lalhruaitluanga is of Kahrawt Veng, Champhai and Sweeper Vanneizuali is of Venghnuai Aizawl.

In response to the question raised by Pu Lalthlengliana, I would like to mention that we have received number of criticism as soon as Value Added Tax was introduced on 1st April. In this regard, it is to be noted that in order to maintain this newly introduced Value Added Tax ideally, it is necessary to face the challenge and problem which may arise on the way as anyone can learn from experiences to buy a positive future.

In regard to the point raised by our fellow member of increasing pressure of criticism against introduction of value added tax in Mizoram where as it is hardly known in other north-eastern states while the same was introduced, it may be necessary to compare and contrast our items and fixation with that of others north-eastern states.

Under Sales Tax of the Government of Mizoram, there are 46 taxable items. Where in other states tax has been taken from almost all taxable goods. Even under the Government of Nagaland, 12.5 is taken from the said items and it does not effect the normal life. In respect to Mizoram, the people hardly understand as 1%, 4% and 12.5% are taken from 500 items of 46 taxable goods and this raises criticism. It is also mentioned that cost price of commodities may be raised after introduction of VAT. In this regard, I have to mention that central sale Tax will be reduced to 2% per annum as soon as VAT is introduced in our State and then again to 1% after two years and eventually to 0% after three years.

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

PUR.LALZIRLIANA : Thank you, Mr Speaker. Due to the introduction of VAT in Mizoram, there is provision for sanction of a number of posts in Taxation Department. For the interest of those who enjoy the sanction, the government plans to levy value Added Tax from the under privileged people. The DP & AR has made sanction for the appointment of Inspector of Taxes. But, prior to this notification, 6 persons who are later known to be the relative of the Ministers were given appointment for the posts. And when the notification was issued by the DP & AR, the posts are already filled up. Mr Speaker, can this kind of improper act be stopped ?

- PU H.VANLALTHALIANA : Mr Speaker, VAT has been enforced since 1.4.2005. What is the total amount of tax so far collected up to 5.9.2005 ?
- PU R.KHAWPUITHANGA : Mr Speaker, the introduction of VAT in Mizoram has automatically brought the demand of more manpower in the Department. In this regard, is there proposal for sanction of fresh appointment.
- PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr Speaker, regarding the question raised by the member from Saitual, the case of the appointment of Inspector of Taxes will be referred to MPSC. Therefore the matter cannot be rushed.

In response to the question raised by Pu Khawpuithanga, under Mizoram Sales Tax Act, tax has been imposed on taxable items and on another 500 items under VAT. As this is the case, work load has become very heavy for departmental staff. The Government has therefore planned to make more sanction for this cause.

In response to the question raised by Pu Thaliana, the total amount collected out of the tax under VAT, during the period between 1.4.2005 - 15.9.2005 was Rs.2055.28 lakhs whereas the amount collected from sales tax during the same period was 1508.79 lakhs.

- PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker even if large revenue is collected it is not beneficial as the people have suffered.
- PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr Speaker, VAT has already been introduced in almost all the states in India including Mizoram. Only 6 States have not done so. I would further like to state that the percentage of the tax collected is 36.22 %.
- MINISTER
- PU H.ROHLUNA : Pu Speaker, the main problem faced by the people seems to be the increase in rate. Hence it may be suggested that the rate be reduced to 4% as that of the CST collected at the Center.
- MINISTER
- S P E A K E R : Can the Minister clearly furnish the specific number of goods reviewed
- MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, around 17 goods are reduced from 12.5 - 4% in consultation with various joint trading committees, it may not be appropriate to go against it.
- S P E A K E R : We will take Starred Question No. 63 to be asked by Mr Sailothanga Sailo.
- PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Mr Speaker Sir, I asked Starred Question No. 63. Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge Transport Department be pleased to state -

- (a) The No. of places where parking fee is collected.
- (b) The system of selection for parking fee collectors.
- (c) And What is the duration of term for each collector ?
- (d) The Revenue expected from Parking Fee during 2004-2005.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, to Starred Question 63 are as below :-

- (a) There are 337 parking places within Aizawl city which are grouped into 33 areas.
- (b) Parking fee collectors are selected through quotations.
- (c) The present collectors are appointed for a period of a year.
- (d) The total amount received from parking fee during 2004-2005 was Rs. 11,64,552/-

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to ask if there is proposal to make parking place in New Market Area.

PU H. VANLALTHALIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, it had been heard from the authority that fresh permit for Bus, Auto Rickshaw and taxi cannot be issued for Lawngtlai District. What is the reason for this ?

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, regarding the problem of parking in New Market area, it will be taken into consideration. As for the case mentioned by the members from Lawngtlai, the matter will be proceeded as necessary.

PU LALDUHAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I asked Starred Question 64. Will the Hon'ble Minister incharge Rural Development Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether Rural Development Department has disbursed piglets and where.
- (b) If so, how many ?
- (d) How many percent have expired ?
- (e) What is the variety of piglets ?
- (f) Under what scheme ?

PU AICHHINGA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, the answer to Starred Question no. 64 asked by Pu Lalduhawma are as below :-

- (a) Being a project under SGSY, Integrated Piggery Development (IPD) piglets are distributed to Lunglei and Hnahthial Rural Development Block.
- (b) 1239 piglets have already been disbursed.
- (c) The rate is Rs. 2,500/- per piglet.
- (d) Out of the 1239 piglets disbursed, 95.46% percent have expired.
- (e) These piglets are of Yorkshire/Hampshire/Landrace varieties.
- (f) This is special SGSY Project under SGSY Scheme,

PU LALDUHAWMA : Mr Speaker, this Government has given great interest in the supply and rearing of pigs. Though 1239 piglets have been given out, only 8 have survived. I have even doubt on the claimed variety. Being the supplier from shillong, the variety is probably of Khasi variety. It is even learnt that the quality of the variety is very poor. Hence, this case required proper investigation. The reason for the high mortality rate may also be probed. Action should be taken against the supplier or the officials concerned. What is the programme set by the government for the selected seventeen Self Help Groups.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, from the replies furnished by the Minister, the piglets supplied to pig farmers are of foreign variety. According to the information received from the pig farmers, the supplied piglets carried epidemic diseases which brought to the death of local varieties as well. Is the Government aware of this ? If yes, what are the steps intended to be taken ? I was also informed that the Officials of Rural Development, Directorate encroached the jurisdiction of Block Development Officers in regard to the distribution of piglets. Can the Hon'ble Minister look into this matter ? It may also be suggested that better arrangement be made for transportation of piglets in order to reach the destination safely.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, 1239 piglets have already been distributed to farmers what is the total number of piglets purchased by the department ?

In support to the point raised by the Hon'ble Member from Lunglei, I would like to ask why the project was taken up by the Directorate while the DRDA Lunglei seems to be the implementing agency ?

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to suggest that suppliers who are unreliable should be blacklisted.

Mr Speaker Sir, we have Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department which can supply piglets. Presently, this Department is going to supply 1200 piglets to Manipur state. If so, why did not the Government give order to the State Vety Department to supply piglets.

SPEAKER : Let us now call upon the Minister in-charge Rural Development Department.

PU AICHHINGA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, I would first like to clarify about this project. This is a special project under SGRY. DRDA Lunglei District has opted for piggery and the 75 Self Help Groups were already supplied with 60 piglets each. For this Project, the Central has contributed 500 lakhs whereas the States share is 140 lakhs. The rest has to be acquired from the prescribed Bank. The Government had been trying to get piglets from the State Vety Department. However, the latter was not able to supply the required number which was 1500. Eventually, Annee Enterprise Shillong was negotiated to supply piglets at the rate of 2500/- per piglets. Officials and experts have verified on the spot. However, 126 have expired on the route. Decision was made after department officials and Vety experts have studied the variety at the spot. I have stated this from the report of the officials. Anyhow, the matter is being checked and probed.

The Government has no intention to hurt the sentiments of the Self Help Groups. The project would be proceeded as necessary.

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In regard to the case mentioned by Pu Lalhmingthanga, the Government has no information of whether the imported varieties have carried epidemic diseases. However, the matter is noted and will be looked into.

This Project is being taken up by the Directorate of Rural Development as DRDA Lunglei has found the project rather heavy for a District.

- S P E A K E R : Even a great scheme can fail if the execution is not good. This is important for the executing authority. Let us now call upon Pu H.Liansailova.
- PU H.LIANSILOVA : Thank you Mr Speaker. In addition to my starred question No. 65. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to ensure that BAFFACOS is continued to cover Aizawl North- I & II, Aizawl West.
- PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker, the answer to Starred Question No. 65 are as follows :-
- (a) Financial assistance for animal husbandry was provided to a number of families in 2004.
  - (b) The Selection Committee has taken up the assistance as per Government's guidelines.
  - (c) (1) Two families are assisted with 2 cattles each, pot for feeding the cattle, bucket, milk and fodder. Insurance has also been done for the cattle.  
(2) 55 families who have taken up piggery were assisted with 4 piglets, pot, buckets, fodder and materials for construction of sties.  
(3) 36 families were given 200 broiler breed of chicks each.  
(4) 38 families are also provided 100 layer breed of chicks.

As for the question regarding BAFFACOS, I would like to inform the member that this scheme will continue to cover urban areas, though the majority share would be given to rural areas. ( Pu S.Hiato : It is understood that BAFFACOS cannot be taken up for urban areas. Even the statement given by the Chief Secretary. supported this. But, now, the Hon'ble Minister has stated that the scheme would cover urban areas as well. Which one is to be believed)

Mr Speaker, I was about to clarify that point. According to the Planning Department, BAFFACOS scheme is not to cover town and city areas. But, there are many families in urban areas whose livelihood depend on Jhuming and farming. Therefore, urban areas can not be ignored completely.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is now over. Before the next business is taken, I would like to inform the House that Pu Lalrinliana Sailo, the member from Khawhai has asked to avail 'special mention' period and he was granted. As shown in Bulletin Part-II dated 25th November, the All India Presiding Officers Conference had recommended to adopt 'special mention' instead of 'Zero Hour'. According to this recommendation, 'special mention' time may be availed after the completion of question Hours. The matter to be raised should be connected with the event within the last 24 hours. And no speech shall exceed 2 minutes in duration. However, the time limit can be extended to 5 minutes. If the concerned Minister deemed it necessary the matter raised in the Special Mention would be answered. Let us now call upon Pu Lalrinliana Sailo to utilise 'Special Mention' period.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Thank you, Mr Speaker. This 'Special Mention' is not availed to point out the misdeeds of Government Officials but, because it is of utmost importance for the Country. Experts said that oil energy would be exhausted by 2050. The late Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi had even set up Minister of Non-Conventional Resources. In Mizoram, the task is taken up by ZEDA under Power & Electricity Department. In accordance with the information received, fund coming from Central MNES is misappropriated. This information was investigated but finding the truth is not an easy task. During my visit to New Delhi with the Opposition Trades, I approached the staff at the MNES office and from them I was able to find out the truth. After returning to Mizoram I investigated the matter and eventually found that there was indeed misappropriation of fund through ZEDA.

Firstly, in December, 2004 sanction was released with an amount of 4 lakhs for maintenance of Bio-Mass at Mamit. This sanction was released in favour of Dong Dong Enterprise which is a bogus firm.



Not only this, the staff at ZEDA reluctantly showed me the registered not where important Bills are made. It was found that false bills are made for the purchase of 200 Solar Photo Voltaic system (a) Rs.1,31,001/- each. Bogus list of beneficiaries was also made. Mr Speaker, I would like to inform the House about this serious matter. In the beginning of the year 2004, an amount of Rs.299 lakhs was sanctioned by MNES for ZEDA Mizoram and another 61 lakhs was also released by the Government of Mizoram. This sanction was made for the supply of Solar Home lighting system and street light to remote areas where electric facilities have not yet been provided. Provision is to be made for the supply of 1454 sets of home lighting system to remote areas-plus 151 street lights. In order to check the spending of this fund, I have made an enquiries and found that Swastic Enterprise was selected to supply the materials without tender. There are a number of Mizo Suppliers who are willing to get this supply works. But, supplier from outside the State was selected. Another serious matter is that the Supplier charged each beneficiaries Rs. 2000/- per set for transportation. In reality, the Central has sanctioned Rs.2000/- plus Rs.300/- as transportation and fitting charge per set. Contrary to this, the Supplier charged the beneficiaries Rs.2000/- each. Probably this Supplier has convinced the Board Members of ZEDA. Not only this, since VAT has been introduced in Mizoram, Rs.2000/- was even raised to Rs.3000/-. I have even informed the hon'ble Chief Minister of this matter. Despite all my struggles for this cause, the Director at ZEDA is still enjoying his freedom. The question is why does not the hon'ble Chief Minister take any action against the Director of ZEDA. Presently, another 1743.36 lakhs is expected from MNES which is to be executed in 2005-2006. It is important to check this Director from misusing this fund as he had done earlier.

As for my part, there is nothing much I can do even if I am a member of Consultative Committee. As this is the case, I have approached Taxation Department in this regard.

Mr Speaker, it is unfortunate to see that the share of the people is being misused by one officer who is so untrustworthy and unreliable. Therefore, I demand that this office should not be let free without penalty. Why has not action been taken even after I have informed the hon'ble Chief Minister, Commissioner and the Chief Engineer of power & Electricity Department? Action should be taken against this Director.

S P E A K E R : As I have stated before, the concerned Minister may reply if he finds it necessary.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker, I have not idea beforehand that the member was going to mention this matter today. Therefore, I do not know how to respond to the subject. However, if necessary, action will be taken when and where the situation demands.

S P E A K E R : W will now go on to the next business, that is Laying of Papers. Pu Aichhinga, Minister may be asked to lay on the Table of the House correction of Answers to Unstarred Question No. 7 put by hon'ble Member, Pu Zodintluanga on 26.9.2005.

PU AICHHINGA MINISTER : Mr Speaker, with your permission and the House, I lay on the House correction of Answers to Unstarred Question No. 7.

S P E A K E R : The copy may be circulated to the members. Government departments are reminded to be particular in the furnish of answers relating to their respective departments.

The Hon'ble Members are also requested to make their unstarred question as light as possible so as to avoid unnecessary tasks.

We shall now go on to Private members Business. 8 Resolutions are submitted which were balloted on the 22nd. According to the ballot, the first resolution was the one submitted by the hon'ble Members from Buarpui, Pu Zodintluanga. The Resolution is - Let us now call upon Pu Zodintluanga.

S P E A K E R : Each member will be allotted 10 minutes and the Leader of the House and Leader of Opposition would be given 15 minutes each. Let us now call upon Pu K.Lalrinliana.

PU K. LALRINLIANA : Thank you, Mr Speaker. By listening to the mover, it seems that this resolutions is a must for the Government. But, the resolution focused only on Mamit District while there are three Districts where citrus especially orange declined severely. Therefore, it may not be appropriate to take up only Mamit District. Also, to declare citrus decline within Mamit district as a natural calamity cannot be accepted. There are matters which can be declared as natural calamity and not citrus decline. It is not the purview of the State Government to declare citrus decline as a natural calamity. As recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission, the cases which can be declared as natural calamities are cyclone, Earthquake, landslide, avalanche and Tsunami. Calamity Relief Fund can only be used only on emergency which affects the life and death of humans. Hence, citrus decline cannot be declared as a natural calamity. This problem is being faced through out Mizoram where orange Plantation is concentrated. It is therefore, wise not to concentrate this matter only for the area of Mamit District. In regard to declaration of natural calamities, it is to be noted that there are conditions on which natural calamities can be declared on a particulars area and is not a matter which can be done by the Government of Mizoram. After careful scrutinisation of the matter by Finance Commission, it will send its recommendation to the Government of India for favour of approval.

As already pointed out, there is a particular fund for natural calamities and is called Calamity Relief Fund ( CRF) and as recommended by the 11th Finance Commission, the following conditions can be accepted as natural calamities such as cyclone, earthquake, landslide, Hailstorm etc. Besides, Tsunami too is included recently. Calamity Relief Fund is used only in emergency case and not for preventive measures. What is happening at Mamit district hardly befitted a case of natural calamity. Yet the Government of Mizoram determine solution for this problem since long time back, by prevailing research and consulting experts from outside.

So Mr Speaker Sir, it is not appropriate to pass this resolution as it is since it concern only Mamit District. It may be wise if it is resolved so as to cover through out Mizoram.

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Thank you, Mr Speaker Sir, I first of all extent my appreciation to Pu Zodintluanga for using his valuable thought for solution to the existing problem within my constituency. Yet, it may be necessary to think this matter in wider sense. As already pointed out, the same problem has also been there in other States like Maharastra and Assam and determination had also been made to a certain extent. It is therefore, obvious that it is of a common problem in the areas where orange plantation is concentrated.

Even in our State, steps has been taken for the solution to the problem by acquiring the ideas of experts from abroad. Yet there is no appropriate fnding. As that of orange plantations, ginger grower are also unfortunate that they need help from Government.

The Missionary Research for Citrus Scientists from Nagpur who visited Mizoram does not know the reason for citrus decline. It appears that they pointed out only their belief and thoughts. MIF also does its best to solve the problem of various plants grown in the State from its periodical declination. In this regard, the 11th Finance Commission recommended cyclone, earthquake, drought, Flood etc. as natural calamities. The 12th Finance Commission recommended four types of calamities, like landslide, periodical pests etc. the Central Government or State Government could not declare or recommend natural calamity easily. The finance Commission is to recommend such occurrence as natural calamity. The motion of the resolution is very good but we cannot do it. This Government searches the way and means to plough the plains of Nalzawl and Bawngva.

It is very pleasing that special importance is given to our farmers/planters unfortunately it is impossible to do so in the administrative system of Government. Anyhow, I hope that this resolution will bring many blessing to the farmers and Cultivators in the State. Thank you

CHAIRMAN : Let us call upon Pu R.Lalzirliana.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Pu Chairman, Resolution moved by Pu Zodintluanga wanted to draw the attention of the Government to the problem faced by western belt of Mizoram due to decline in citrus plantation. he also urged the House to have Citrus Scientists investigate the reason for the decline.

What I feel we should consider is the importance of our subject in the resolution instead of banking on the number of members we have on our side. This resolution meant that the farmers of citrus decline need help from Government. We should remember this. The State Government can recommend it as natural calamity. And we can help them from our own sources or can forward the case to Finance Commission for further recommendation. That is the purpose of this Resolution

The Congress (I) Party entered it in its Election Manifesto as natural calamity. If the plants dried up, no one can help it. But it is the duty of the Government to take its preventive measure. The Government may seek help from Japan Scientists or Isreal Scientists before the plants dried up. I feel that what is not true should not be spoken here in the House. Any crop can be grown well in Mizoram. The Government also takes various steps for the benefit of the cultivators Garden Colony, Jhum Control, NLUP and now MIP for the benefit of the cultivators are introduced. Among various crops, orange plantation seemed to be the most successful one. I feel that more attention should be given to orange plantation and we should think as to how we will develop. The wording of this resolution directed Mamit District in particular because there are no other regions where orange plantation is done in large scale.

If the Government is willing to take steps on any ground I am sure that there will never be any problem. A very big project had also been launched to fight against Bamboo flowering. In fact, citrus decline is more dangerous than bamboo flowering for the people of Mamit District. I, therefore, support this resolution to pass here in this House. Thank You.

PU R. KHAWPUITHANGA : Mr Chairman, Thank you. The opposition members seemed to be interested in this resolution. I am sorry for we have no time to take another resolutions. I, proudly want to mention that Mizoram got first position in Primary Health and second position in maintenance of Law and Order in India. But we have no time today.

In the matter of orange plantation, I was so interested and planted more than 700 oranges. When I heard that citrus decline had occurred in the western belts I hope that the Government would take preventive measures for other areas. But today, it is found in every part of Mizoram. I, therefore, appreciate this resolution whether it would be passed or not. Mere discussion also would become great achievement. In this connection, I would like to mention that the nodal department Horticulture had taken various steps. Research had already been done as many times under the guidance of the experts from central India and even from foreign countries like Japan and Israel. We cannot forget various steps taken by the department and the concerned Minister. Dr I.P.Singh and Dr G.Gupta also came to Mizoram from National Research Centre for citrus in November, 2004 to study citrus decline in Mizoram.

National level workshop was held by Dr. M.L.Choudhary, Horticulture Commissioner, Government of India. Thus, the Department has made awareness, and demonstration in regard to citrus decline. It has taken whatever measure is possible. Therefore, without this resolution the government has taken every possible step. Pu Speaker, the orange plantation that I have does not bear fruits lately, therefore, I followed whatever demonstration the department gave. As I have mentioned earlier, the government is carrying out whatever measure is possible to meet the problem of the growers. But as for financial aid, it is impossible to distribute financial aid to all the growers. Therefore, I don't see the need to pass this resolution, as it is the priority of the department anyway. Thank You.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA

Pu Speaker, First of all I would like to thank the Hon'ble Member from Buarpui constituency for this resolution. The resolution demands for the declaration of natural calamity due to citrus declined and that, the growers be given financial aid. The resolution further demands for a research to the cause.

Last year, I raised a question in regard to citrus decline in Kawlkulh. The answer I received was, scientist is sent to have a study. However, after enquiring the local people about the said scientist study tour, I learned that the said scientist never visited their village. It is regretting to highlight such case. It is the main means of livelihood of the people. The Government should declare natural calamity. We are very much certain that natural calamity does not need to be declared by the 12th Finance Commission alone. Tsunami was declared natural calamity by the Prime Minister before the declaration of the 12th Finance Commission. Why is the Government reluctant to declare natural calamity when its people are suffering from natural calamity. Last year I was unable to awake the Government in context with citrus decline in my constituency. Therefore, hon'ble member from Buarpui constituency is intending to awake the Government with a resolution. Since the people are suffering immensely. As for the declaration of Natural calamity, this will help in benefiting financial aid, and this will help declare that it is Natural calamity for Mizoram. We must bear in mind the destruction of their means of support for the growers. Therefore, we should help in passing this resolution. The Government is negligent in this regard, till date. There is no official report, as to the reason/cause of citrus declined. Pu Speaker, by passing this resolution there could be an official report, as the resolution demands. I therefore request that, we pass this resolution to solve the problem of the people as we are the representatives of the people. Thank you.

PU S. HIATO

: We will now have lunch break. Meeting will resume at 2:00 P.M.

2:00 P.M.

S P E A K E R

: We will continue with our proceeding on Private member's business we do not cross the allotted time, i.e. 4:00 P.M. Therefore, it will be wise if members from various parties give each other a chance to speak. Pu H. Liansailova.

PU H. LIANSILOVA

: Pu Speaker, thank you. Today we are discussing a very important resolution by Pu Zodintluanga. We can assume the importance of the resolution from the various information given by the hon'ble member. We heard this morning the huge lose suffered by the people of Mamit District and Kawrte due to citrus decline. Unlike ginger, Orange is produced after many years of hard work and a large fund is invested in the process. Growers depend their livelihood on this plantation alone. Therefore, with citrus declined their means of livelihood is destroyed. It is a great disappointment for the growers, and I expect we are all sad as well. It is therefore, from this sentiments that this resolution originated.

As their means of livelihood for many years is destroyed. It is not enough for the Government to just know the problem faced by the farmers. Therefore, it is quite a reasonable idea for the mover to declare massive decline as national calamity. Though the damage is not serious now, in some places we cannot ignore/neglect it. It will, therefore, be good for the House to pass this resolution considering the problem faced by the victims and take united stand to solve their problems keeping aside our party feelings.

In my opinion, Government should take this matter seriously. As painted out earlier, we have not much revenue while orange could earn 30-40 lakhs revenue. The real value will be much higher than our calculation in term of money circulation within the areas.

At the same time, the hard works rendered by the growers for many years worth to be considered. Considering not only the affected districts but the whole economy of Mizoram, it is a must for the Government to find solution to this problem.

Mention had been made that Finance Commission made criteria to declare natural calamity. I would like to make it clear that the declaration made by the Assembly can not be objected by any one. This is a genuine natural calamity because even the Department had taken various steps with the help of various experts but with no results hence it is beyond our ability. I therefore, would like to suggest to pass this resolution as it is by finding ways to help the victims. Thank you.

PU H. VANLALAUVA  
MINISTER

: Thank you, Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that the Hon'ble member from Buarpui Pu Zodintluanga had moved a resolution which is important for Mizoram. I do hope that our discussion alone will bring favourable results. Even if the House does not pass this resolution as it is, I feel it is important to pass by amending it. There may be some reasons for the House in hesitating to pass the resolution as it is. But before that, I thought about the motive for moving this resolution. There are three resolutions with the same wording and one from the opposition bench. It is also written 'specially in Mamit District' which means it does not include the damage of Oranges throughout Mizoram. And this further means that bye election in Mamit District is drawing near and this issue will be used by the opposition for election campaign. But let us hope that there is no such motive. In regard to the warding, 'paying more attention by the Government' The Government is paying much attention as mentioned by the hon'ble Horticulture Minister in our previous session. To say that 'the House insists' is also not clear - whether the Mizoram Government or Central government is being insisted. Thirdly, we cannot simply declare natural calamity because there is a list that can be declared as natural calamity. Hence, this matter needs re-consideration. Fourthly, the resolution requires thorough research by the experts which according to the concern Minister and the Department is being done. As such is the case, I think it will be good to make amendments in the wordings of this important resolution because it is too good to object it and at the same time it is not appropriate to pass as it is. Therefore, it will be pleasing if the hon'ble mover allow to make the amendments so that it can be passed unanimously in the House. Thank you.

PU LALDUHOMA

: Mr Speaker Sir. The present Ruling Party came into existence since the previous Mautam Famine period. We are now facing the same famine within their term. It can be said that this party is having relation with various kinds of famines somehow or the other. The most important thing for the Government is to have Crop Insurance Scheme, because various crops cultivated by our farmers can get severely damaged beyond our control. In this way, our farmers/ cultivators could have incentive even in the case of famines and crop damage.

The wording of the resolution 'specially within Mamit District' does not exclude other areas. In the mean time, I think it is good to give priority to Mamit district specially in orange plantation without neglecting other areas.

I myself had studied about the damage of oranges. As far as my experiment, the main reason for the damage is ants, the roots of oranges are eaten by ants. In this way, it is important to find out the reason why they got damaged for our experts had published booklets for the growers to be aware of them. We asked about this in previous sessions but the Government could give no answer. It would be pleasing to know the findings/official reports of the present researchers/experts.

In the mean time, there are many who make wood vinegar. Wood vinegar is a good fertilizer and protects orange trees from ants and other insects. This had been practised by our farmers/ cultivators. Hence it will be good to purchase wood vinegar in a large quantity thus solving an unemployment problem to some extent.

In regard to the declaration of natural calamity, I do not find in the Indian constitution that it will be the decision of 12th Finance Commission. So if we desire, we have to declare by ourselves. At the same time, even without declaring natural calamity, Government can make declaring schemes to help the orange growers as being done under BAFFACOS.

It is a pity that whenever we talk about the problems faced by the people, Government is making financial problem as an excuse. Which can be accepted if the Government uses the fund/money economically. Large amount of money had been spent for unnecessary things like toilet van, expensive socks for Police and goat mess wire. In my opinion, high level of the Ministry had involved even in the case of the corrupted Agriculture Director. Today also we had listened about the Director of ZEDA

for which no action has been taken against him till date. It is my opinion that these officials will not do these things without the knowledge of their authorities. As that is the case, we proposed to form Joint Parliamentary Team to enquire about these matters. It is a pity to ignore the sufferings of the people while some few people are spending money uneconomically.

Besides these, VAT is also being collected now. Had the tax been taken as it was passed in the House, we would not criticise it. Various hospital charges has been increased and several taxes under Revenue have also increased numerously. While other states are practising privatisation, our State Government is snatching private business. The Government now sells timbers and increases revenue from stone quarries. In spite of this we find no measures taken by the Government to spend the said income for the benefit of the people. Mr Speaker Sir, we do not oppose the tax itself. Therefore, I would like to request the ruling members too to agree to pass this Bill. Thank you.

PU F. LAL THANZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, thank you. As I was very interestd in horticulture I pay great importance to this resolution. However, studying the wording of the resolution in detail, I would like to raise the following reasons for not agreeing to pass it as it is. First of all, this resolution is drafted mainly for those who cultivated orange in Mamit District only. I, the representative from Hnahtial constituency, cannot agree it to pass because citrus decline is a great problem throughout Mizoram. In my constituency too, large area of orange cultivation have dried up.

Secondly, I do not believe that the Central Government will accept the citrus decline as a natural calamity since we cannot find out the main reason for this. We cannot produce technical proof to alledge pest attack as the main reason for citrus decline. Therefore, it cannot be declared as a national calamity. However, I am eagerly wanting to give assistance to orange cultivators. Hence, I suggest an amendment to the wording of this resolution to cover every orange planter throughout Mizoram as mentined by the hon'ble member from Aizawl East-I constituency, only then will I agree to pass this resolution.

Thank you.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr Speaker Sir. The Orange planters, specially in the Western belt are very pityful as mentioned by Pu Zodintuanga, the mover of this resolution. I think every member of this house will agree to pass it if they have seen the said area. Although there may be some orange planters in other constituencies too, but they would be less in number than the area of Mamit District in particular. I myself opine that citrus decline seems to be a natural calamity. I cannot identify what is the reason for this calamity. So, it is required to find out the reason scientifically. Meanwhile, the people are still looking forward to the Government with great hope.

Mr Speaker Sir, we, the opposition members do not hesitate to cooperate the Ruling members for good reason, I, therefore, hope the Ruling members too will support this resolution, whether it is moved by the opposition member or not. If we analyse this resolution in detail in respect of its wording, it may not perfect as we desire, however, this will relieve their suffering to some extent. So, I request this House to agree to pass it unanimously. Thank you.

PU TAWNLUJA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir. Being a member from Mamit District, I would like to speak few words. As we know that orange plantation is one of the main occupations in the western belt since a very long time, the planters earn lakhs of money every year. Therefore, citrus decline is a great calamity for them. However, the Government of Mizoram does not neglect them. The concerned Departments - Agriculture and Horticulture Departments had informed of this calamity to the Central government. According to which detailed analysis had been undertaken in 2001 under the leadership of Dr J.P. Singh. Besides this, in the year 2003 and 2004, NRCC had sent Scientists led by Dr S.T. Gupta to examine the occurence at the spot, consequently, systematic study on citrus decline had been undertaken from Horticulture Commission, Government of India and Farmers Commission of India. I therefore, want to point out that the Government does not neglect their sufferings.

According to the findings of the above study on citrus decline in Mizoram, they made a conclusion that citrus decline is caused by lack of water feeding during spring season, improper tending of the plantation, making of plantation on a cliff area and lack of preventive measure from pest.

The Twelfth Finance Commission made criteria for Natural calamities, in which citrus decline is not included. So, we cannot declare it to be a Natural calamity. Therefore, I would like to change the wording of this resolution to strengthen its objective so that the said study team would be able to take rapid steps and it will also cover the whole state. In fact, citrus decline had been there in other Districts also, so that, every orange planter in Mizoram will be pleased. Thank you.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir. Since our traditional Jhuming practice cannot provide us sufficient livelihood we need to search for its alterations. For such purpose, I opine that Orange plantation seems to be one of the best. Being a full fledged state we need to have a sustainable economy of our own. Therefore, this resolution would become a very big challenge for the Government.

Orange plantation has a long history in Mizoram. It has been started during the British period. From our experience we know that it is a good source of income for the people. However, orange, like a bamboo, has a natural life cycle too. Citrus decline had already occurred in 1954. In spite of this, it becomes a good cash crop for about 45 years. Therefore, orange plantation cannot be neglected. This resolution has to give us an idea to find out better method. Although citrus decline occurs in the whole State, the western belts specially within the district of Mamit is the main growing area and the victims would also be much more these than they are in other districts. I therefore, agree to pass this resolution, so that the planters would have fresh enthusiasm and orange plantation would continued in future. Thank you.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, Thank you. When I read this resolution I also share the grievances of the farmers. When I visited Mamit in the beginning of this month the planters asked for reliefs. But I told them that citrus decline cannot be declared a natural calamity since the Central Government has proper guidelines. I, therefore, suggested to them to contact Horticulture Department. As for as my knowledge is concerned, I am aware that Horticulture Department still takes various steps for the benefit of orange planters. If so, I opine that, we need no resolution to pass here in this House today.

According to the guidelines drafted by the Central Government, natural calamity can be applied on destruction of plantation area due to landslide or cyclonic wind. So, the Central Government will not accept this problem to declare as a natural calamity. Further, I think that, it is better to know first the steps taken by the concerned department in this regard. Anyway, it is important to search for any possible way to relieve the victims from any source. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Nearly 50 minutes of time is still there. I think the concerned Minister will want to speak. The Leader of the House and the Opposition Leader are also still there. So, we have not much time. Let us call upon Pu H. Rohluna now, then the concerned Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, Leader of the House and the mover of the resolution. Do we agree? If yes, Pu H. Rohluna, now.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr Speaker Sir. Thank you. The resolution moved by the hon'ble member from Buarpui constituency is very important. Most of the people in Mizoram are cultivators. So, the Government has to pay due importance to the farmers. The ruling members had pointed out 'Mamit District' as being particularly targetted in the wording of the resolution. Anyway, I opine that this resolution would be an initialed step to be taken then the whole Mizoram State would be covered soon. Besides this, most of the victims of citrus decline are from Mamit District. I, therefore, request the Government to take quick and positive action on this calamity. As we set up BAFFACOS in respect of bamboo flowering why should not we establish orange famine combat scheme too? Citrus decline is, in fact, a great loss for the planters. It is so important to search for any possible way to declare it a natural calamity. I opine that, it is not difficult for the Government to help the orange planters whether their sufferings could be declared a natural calamity or not.

Mr Speaker Sir. I support this resolution to pass and I would like to express my thanks to Pu Zodintluanga, hon'ble member from Buarpui constituency for moving this important resolution,  
Thank you.

PU S. HIATO  
CHAIRMAN

understand me. Now, let us call upon Pu H. Rammawi, the concerned Minister.

Although there are other members who want to speak. We will follow the proposal made by the hon'ble Speaker. I, therefore, request all of you to

PU H. RAMMAWI  
MINISTER

political gain since by-election to two vacant seats in the concerned area will be held shortly. The wording of this resolution contains that 'the Government should pay great importance to this matter'. I, therefore, opine that the Government of Mizoram is paying great importance to this matter. The concerned Department Horticulture had taken various steps since a very long time. We still think for its alternatives to revive the zeal of the farmers.

Thank you Mr. chairman. This resolution seems to have two main objectives, which are financial assistance to the orange growers and also a

Mr Chairman, I would like to point out various steps taken by Horticulture Department on this matter. The said Department asked the Central government to send expert teams. According to which Dr I.P. Singh and other experts had come from National Research centre. Besides this, training had been organised twice on 13- 18 October, 2003 and 27 - 28 February, 2004 under the guidance of Dr A.G. Gupta. Another expert team including Dr M.L. Choudhury, Dr R.P. Singh and Dr J.L. Cole had already come from National Horticulture Commission, and even an expert team from Japan had also come to Mizoram and stayed for 12 days. From the finding of the above experts, it is said that orange plantation needs proper care from the very beginning and it is difficult to reconstruct it when it has started declining. Though we have tried our level best we cannot prevent our plantation from declining.

We now have a new idea that precautionary measures should be taken from the seed of orange. Therefore, we now work very hard in collaboration with the Isreal Corporation of Agriculture, to obtain better quality of seed. The concerned Department still takes such positive steps. So, this resolution seems to be inappropriate to pass as it is. We cannot declare citrus decline a natural calamity because it is not included in the criteria drafted by the Twelfth Finance Commission. Research is now still going on, we are waiting for the report of the said research. I, therefore, opine that, we should not make bad image in this august House. So, this resolution is not appropriate to pass as it is. Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: I now call upon Leader of the Opposition Pu Lal Thanhawla.

PU LAL THANHAWLA

: Mr Speaker Sir. I first of all want to express my appreciation to Pu Zodintluanga for his idea to submit this resolution. Point mainly criticized by the members from Treasury bench is a matter relating

to compensation to families affected by the decline particularly of Mamit District for which he explained clearly that he meant to say the concern families throughout Mizoram and he only gives Mamit district as an example.

The fact is that we have been facing this problem throughout Mizoram and all feel the need to find remedy for this problem.

In order to solve the problem, a research has been prevailed many years back, yet there is no appropriate solution till today. We have even acquired the knowledge of Horticulture scientists from abroad but no solution is found to that effect. Yet it is believed that the condition of our soil is to be the main problem.



Despite of this failure, it is important for the Government not to give up our effort to find the remedy. In this regard, it is necessary to give important to the idea and suggestion of our local experienced farmers in this particular field as pointed out by the concerned Minister of the experience he had in the family that ran this plantation for more than a decade. In the same way, the reason given by some members may be taken for granted as the quality of this plant could be improved by giving special attention from the stage when seeds is collected.

As already mentioned by our fellow member, orange plantation is concentrated only in few communities in each of the district in Mizoram. What is important in this regard is to alleviate the problem that pervades orange plantation in our State for which this resolution too is moved by the concern member.

As we have already listened various opinions on the need to compensate those families who face declining citrus, it is equally important to determine for the Government to determine marketing of the products and preventive measure for citrus decline. Various steps have already been taken in this regard, yet it is necessary to determine still the most effective measure so as to encourage the concern families. Regarding compensation of the concern families, the department have to determine financial sources even if the State government fails to do so.

Regarding declaration of Natural Calamity in the effected area of Mizoram, I believe the Government have the power to do so if the necessity is felt as the Government of India too declared the same as problem arises among the farmers as a result of natural calamity. It is, therefore, depending on the definition of natural calamity in our State and of the decision of the government. It is a waste of time to have a long debate on this matter here in the House. Instead let us determine how to alleviate the existing problem of citrus decline.

I myself do support this resolution even if text of this resolution is said to be inappropriate as long as it is aimed at resolving the said problem. Yet, the idea of resolving the text too may be acceptable as long as it is of the same goal. Thank you.

PU ZORAMTHANGA  
CHIEF MINISTER

: Thank you Mr Speaker Sir. It is much appreciated that we all seem to have a common opinion on this resolution as our main concern is how to tackle this matter with an effective outcome. As for this reason, it is important for the Government to make its best effort for which it may be wise to consult the Government of Isreal as their Scientists are known to be of the most advanced Scientists in the filed of Horticulture and Agriculture.

In regard to the idea of passing this resolution, I opine it is more appreciate to approach the Government as it will be more effective as this will be passed unanimously by the House. On the other hand, it is to be noted that the same problem has also been faced in the southern part where plantation of orange is concentrated such as in Hnahthial, Tawipui, Thiltlang, Pangzawl, Bualte, Rawpui, Darzo, South Vanlaiphai etc. It is somewhat difficult for the State Government to give eual amount of compensation to each of the family of orange planters. It is, therefore suggested that amendment be made with the text so that financial assistance is availed not only by the concern family within Mamit District but also by other concern families in other parts of Mizoram.

Regarding declaration of Natural Calamity in Mizoram, it is true that it is not a problem to do so. But it is to be noted that Central Government sanction Central Relief Fund only for Natural Calamity such as floods, drought, cyclone and storms. Nevertheless, I think it will still be effective to approach Central Government even without passing this resolution. Step which may be taken first is approaching the Central for declaration of Mizoram as the area affected by Natural Calamity and then followed by financial assistance under the scheme of natural calamity.

It may therefore be wise for us to flip-off this chapter but watch the result of research made by our experts so that approach to the Central Government come out with affective result. Since, the text of this resolution does not mention whether to approach the Central government or not, it may be best to resolve this resolution and then approach the centre after passing it. In this way, I strongly hope this House too will pass this resolution unanimously.

S P E A K E R

: We will now conclude our discussion on this matter. Before calling up mover of this resolution, I have to express my regret to those who suffered the problem of declining citrus in Mizoram. Opinion of the members may not be the same in regard to the solution to this problem, yet we are having a good discussion for which I am much grateful to each of the member.

Members from Treasury Bench suggested amendment of the text of this resolution but according to the Rules and Procedure No. 129 this may not be taken for amendment, yet it may be noted by mover of the resolution that modification of this resolution is desired. It may, therefore be necessary to take decision of the House as to whether text of this resolution will be modified as necessary.

I now call upon mover of this resolution to have his speech.

P U Z O D I N T L U A N G A

: Mr Speaker sir, it is much pleasing that the dignity of this House is much improved today with your valuable guidance. If we look back the practice of the House in decision making, it is a common practice to object any suggestion made by the opposite party no matter what idea it may bring. But such practice is now beginning to fade under your guidance as members from Treasury Bench too expressed their coordination with my resolution.

To start with, I would like to explain my reason for targetting Mamit District. It is to be noted that Mamit District is having the highest number of families who depends solely on orange plantation. In fact, most of the victims of declining orange are from this district for which a research is being prevailed.

The concern Minister have pointed out the finding of a team of Scientist from Natural Research Centre on declining orange in Mizoram. Despite of their findings, MIP ( Mizoram Intodelh Project ) Guidelines includes orange plantation among other plants as their project if planted at an attitude below 700 metres which means that the guidelines for MIP indicates our soil as still being productive for orange plantation. Hence, it condtradicts the findings of our scientists. I therefore, suggest to resolve text of this guidelines and once again do research on this problem so that true solution is achieved this time.

Lastly, I am inviting each member to support the resolution that insist on declaration of Natural Calamity to certain areas so that research is prevailed as soon as possible. In this connection, I would like to inform the House that I agree to edit the context of the text of my resolution as necessary.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: As pointed out already, this matter cannot be called an Amendment but modification may be made as suggested. I do hope mover of the resolution too agrees with it

I now call upon Pu H. Vanlalauva the Hon'ble Minister to have his speech.

P U H. V A N L A L A U V A  
M I N I S T E R

: Mr Speaker Sir, our reason for resolving the text is not just making objection to the resolution from the opposition but to improve its wordings, as it can be interpreted as if it meant only for Mamit District. As this resoluion covers orange plantation throughour Mizoram, we are suggesting to change the wordings. Not only this Mr Speaker Sir, the text does not mention clearly the reason for insisting on financial assistance to the victims of orange decline. Not only of changing of its wordings, it may also be necessary to make a strong demand to the concern authority for taking up research work as fast as possible and to further provide any source of financial assistance to the said victims. Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: The Hon'ble Minister is making clear enough of the point. Since this resolution is not a matter to be amended technically, decision cannot be prevailed on the basis of vote.

But if mover of the resolution insist on doing so as its original form, we may decide by voting. Yet, if there is opinion to change its wording, it can also be decided by voting, I now call upon mover of the resolution to have his speech.

PU ZODINTLUANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, if the members hesitate to pass my resolution that concern the problem of orange planters as its original form, I agree to the decision of the House in a modified form.

S P E A K E R : Certain members expressed their opinion of the need to modify the text of the original form of the resolution moved by Pu Zodintluanga and he himself agree to go along with the majority. Do we all agree to pass as modified form? Those who agree may say 'yes' and those who do not may say 'no' ( The members 'yes' ).

Private members Resolution from Pu Zodintluanga is now being passed by the House unanimously.

We have now finished our business schedule for today. Before leaving, I am having some announcement to make.

First, the President of India Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam visited Aizawl on the 24th September, 2005 and then addressed the Mizoram Legislative Assembly for the first time. This is a remarkable event in our history of Mizoram. In this relation, I want to express my thanks to each of the member for giving me full co-operation on the occasion of his visit. For that reason and of the efficiency of officers and staff of the Assembly, we are able to receive President to address and to have Power point Presentation smoothly. Besides, we have received good support from I.T. Wing, Information Department NIC Wing so as to achieve Power Point Presentation for which I have to extend my gratitude to the officers and staff of every concern departments.

Next, I want to give brief report of the business taken up during this 6th session held on September, 26 - 30.

QUESTION : In regard to the question, there are 216 questions, rejected 17, admitted 199, clubbed 11, and 80 are being referred to list of business. 16 questions are answered in the House and the rest 64 has not been answered due to limit of time. There are 107 questions converted to unstarred questions. There are 108 unstarred questions out of which 9 was rejected, admitted 99, clubbed 11, over all, 188 questions are laid on the table of the House. All the questions including starred and unstarred questions are fully answered during this session.

During this session announcement was made in regard to resignation of two members Pu Liansuama and Pu Saikapthianga as provided under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly 194, chapter 2. In respect to special mention applied by our fellow member Pu Lalrinliana Sailo in connection with alleged financial missmanagement under Project Director of ZEDA, permission was given for the discussion. Besides, all the 9 Private Member Resolutions submitted during this session are admitted. The Resolution of Hon'ble Member Pu Zodintluanga too is being passed with minor modification.

The following are presented to the House :-

- 1) Business Advisory Committee Report presented by the Hon'ble Speaker for this session.
- 2) 16th Report of Public Accounts Committee in respect of Rural Development Department which is presented by Pu Lalduhoma, the elected chairman of Public Accounts Committee.
- 3) Pu Lalhmingthanga, Chairman Subordinate Legislation Committee gives the following reports :-

- (i) Industrial Estate Rules, 2002.
- (ii) The Mizoram Minor Consession Rules, 2000.
- (iii) The Mizoram Election to Village Council 4th Amendment Rules, 1974.
- (iv) The Mizoram Regulation of Animal Movement Rule, 2000.
- (v) The 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th has been presented by Pu Andrew Lalherliana.

LAYING OF PAPERS : The following papers are being laid on the Table of the House :-

- 1) Report of Comptroller & Auditor General of India, Audit Report 2003-2004 relating to Government of Mizoram
- 2) Delimitation Commission of India Order No. 7 & 10.
- 3) Audit Report and Accounts in respect of Mizoram K.V.I. Board for the year 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 18th Annual Report 2002-2003.

Next, I would like to inform the House about Sensitization of Mizoram State on Earthquake risk Management for which the department of Relief & Rehabilitation scheduled the programme on the 4th October at 10:30 A.M. Keeping in mind the importance of this programme, the concern Minister have even circulated notification to all the Ministers.

I have already given 9 points of Papers which has been laid on the Table of the House, yet there remain certain bills. Such as No. 10 The Mizoram inter-State Workmen Regulation of Employment and condition of Service Rules, No. 11 The Mizoram Sports Council Rules, 2005 No. 12 The Institution of Charters and Financial Amendments of India University Mizoram Ordinance 2005 No. 13 Copy of Reply to unstarred question to No. 7.

Besides, there are certain bills which have already been passed by the House such as :-

- 1) The Mizoram Fisheries Bill, 2002.
- 2) The Mizoram Societies Registration Bill, 2005.
- 3) The Mizoram Civil Courts Bill, 2005.

During this session Pu Andrew Lalherliana has moved Private Meber's Bill- The Aizawl Municipality Bill, 2005 but unfortunately it has not been discussed due to limit of time. Yet, the Governor will give his assent to the bill which has already been passed in the 5th Session ; The Aizawl Development Authority Bill, 2005.

Last but not the least, I want to express my thanks to each of the member for giving their valuable support. In the meantime, I would like to stress the need to use Parliamentary Language in the speech we make in every discussion so as to preserve the dignity of this House. I am extending my thanks to all the members for making possible to run this Session very smoothly.

Sitting adjourned Sine die at 4:23 P.M.

T. SAIKUNGA  
SECRETARY.

