

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 7TH SITTING OF THE FIRST MIZORAM STATE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ON 24TH MARCH 1987.

P R E S E N T

Pu J. THANGHUAMA, Speaker at the chair, Chief Minister, 11 Ministers and 26 members were present.

LAYING OF PAPERS

1. Mr. Saingura Sailo, Minister i/c Law & Judicial and Parliamentary Affairs Department to lay on the Table the "Members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly (Disqualification on Grounds of Defection) Rules, 1987.

VOTING ON DEMANDS

2. a) Mr. Rualchhina, Minister i/c Printing and Stationery Department to move various demands under his charge.

b) Mr. Aichhinga, Minister of State i/c LAD and power & Electricity Departments to move various demands under his charge.

c) Mrs. Lalhlimpui, Minister of State i/c for social welfare etc. Department to move various Demands under his charge.

d) Mr. Lalrinchhana, Minister i/c Health & Family welfare Department to move various demands under his charge.

S P E A K E R : "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers, but his delight is in the law of the LORD. And on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree,

Planted by streams of water that yields its fruits in its season, and its leaf does not wither in all that he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will punish.

- psalm 1:1-6.

In our list of business for today, there is no question and item no.1 is laying of Antidiffection Rule by pu Saingura Sailo, Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs Department. But he cannot attend sitting today and he authorised no one to lay the Rule on his behalf. Therefore we shall go to the next item No.2, i.e. Voting on Demands. (Pu Hipei - The Hon'ble Minister must authorised someone to lay the paper on

his behalf if he cannot attend the sitting owing of Business and it is improper to leave it behind) He did not authorised anyone and there is no rule that once a business is listed in a list of Business, it should be taken up without fail, Now we shall proceed to "Voting on Demands"

PU HIPHEI

Mr Speaker Sir, alternation of the list of Business yesterday was also a violation of the rules. As per the rules, the leader of House should orally notify the House a necessity to make alternation of the list of Business, and after the Speaker obtains ascent of the House the alternation should take effect. The leader of the House did not make any oral notification. As per the provision of Rule 12(2) at page 114 of the rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly. "The Demands for grants shall be presented in such order and discussion shall containe for such time within the period allotted under Sub-Rule(1) as the Leader of the House in consultation with the leader of the opposition, may determine. Neither the Leader of the House nor the opposition Leader was consulted. You did it on your own Mr Speaker Sir, please explain first of all why you conduct the House in violation with the rules.

PU RUALCHHINA
MINISTER

With the recommendation of the Governor and with your permission Mr Speaker Sir, I stand to move demands No.37 and 38 amounting to Rs.3,35,00,000/- in respect of Printing and Stationery and Sericulture Departments for the year 1987-88 for consideration of this House.

S P E A K E R

Now the Sericulture Minister moved demands in respect of various Department under his charge for the year 1987-88. Do we agree to take it into consideration? It is now 10:30 and every member will be allotted 10 minutes to speak.

PU HIPHEI

Mr Speaker Sir, please explain the point of order. Yesterday the list of business was altered violating the rules. If you are going to conduct the House on your own without consulting any rules, the rules will become meaningless. We must respect the rules. The rules must prevail our all other things unless it is amended. (Speaker : I open the discussion) You cannot simply open the discussion like that, Mr Speaker Sir, please open at page 114 of the rules, of procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly where it is clearly written that the

Speaker in consultation with the opposition leader and to each member in the discussion, until and unless you give clarification of the point of order, you cannot open the discussion.

S P E A K E R : Anyone can speak now.

PU HIPHEI : Mr Speaker Sir, you cannot open the discussion, please read the contents of page 114 of the Rules of procedure and conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly. We must abide by the rules.

PU ZORAMTHANGA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, as we see in the demands moved by the Minister i/c Sericulture, a sum of Rs.160 lakhs for printing and Stationery and Rs. 175 lakhs for Sericulture Department, totalling Rs.335 lakhs. As Mizoram attains statehood, the Government Printing Presses must improve the quality of printings. Therefore, as much as Rs.160 lakhs is allocated for the purpose. At page 71 of the demands, separate funds for Government Presses at Aizawl, Lunglei and Saiha are reflected. The amount of fund allotted for the Departments is considered to be quite enough. I hope members also consider it good enough. Sericulture can become the best sources of earning revenue and the amount of funds allotted for the Department is quite enough. I hope this House could approve it.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is sad to note that the total amount of funds demanded by a senior member of the Cabinet is only Rs. 335 lakhs while the amount of demands moved by even a Minister of State comes to the tune of 26 crores.

The amount of funds allotted for purchase of machineries of Printing Press is too meagre considering the fact that even calendars required to be got printed in Calcutta. The working conditions of the staff also require much improvement. Important documents like the budget, Governors speech and ballot papers are all printed in Government Press and the building also required to be improved. It is learnt that there is a proposal for construction of Stationery building at Luangmual but till today no action seems to have been taken. I would like to ask Government to pursue the matter vigorously so that stationaries which is occupying many rooms in Government Press can be shifted. I would also ask Government to look into the working condition of staff members of the Department and to make necessary improvement.

Sericulture Department has been bifurcated from Industry Department since a few years back progress in its functioning of all other development Departments. Sericulture is expected to become the best source of earning revenue for the state. The problem being faced by the Department is that it cannot afford to pay the prices of cocoons at purchased from local silkworm rearers. While I was the same Minister i/c of this Department the problem was the same. I hope that, from now on the problem could be gradually solved since there is more provision of fund for the purpose.

In the detailed scheme is reflected a proposal for setting up of Sericulture Marketing Board which had already been proposed the previous Ministry. I would like to suggest that this Board be made function as a Co-op-Society having an autonomy of its own. If I am not mistaken, the rules and by laws for this Board has not yet been framed. I would like to ask the Minister concerned to apprise this House of the action taken by Government in the latter part of the preceding year in this regards. Thank you.

PU HEPHET

Mr Speaker Sir, Printing and Stationery Department is a small but very important Department of all Government Departments; this Department has the best building of its own and the machines its own are of standard qualities. It is because of lack of experts that good quality calendars cannot be printed here. The performances of the staff desires to be landed. While printing of budget is in progress, some members of the staff work day and night for more than a week.

Sericulture Department is also a small Department but it is the only Department which provides a means of earning money to villagers. This Department is not much popular in Chhintuipui Dist. the Minister i/c Sericulture and Printing and Stationaries will not have much official works since there are very rare occasions when the Ministers has to m de Therefore, in order to make him a bit busy in official work, it is advisable that more Department or at least one major Department be allotted to him.

I would like to viterate that the way an alternation was made in the list of business yesterday was against the rules. At page 77 of the RP & CB in MLA ((Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly) it is clearly written "No variation in the allocation of me Order shall be made except on the request of the leader of the House who shall notify orally to the House that there was general agreement for such variation, which shall be enforced by the Speaker after taking the consent of the House" But this provision was not adhered to yesterday in making alternation of the list of business regarding allotment of time to members in the discussion also it is clearly written at page 114 of the RP & CB in Mizoram Legislative Assembly (Rules 12(2)) That "The demands for grants shall be presented in such order and discussion shall continue for such time

within the period allotted under sub-Rule (1) as the leader of the House in consultation may determine". This is quite democratic but it was not adhered to again yesterday.

The conclude, I would once again ask leader of the House to allot more Departments to the Minister who moved his demands today.

Thank you.

PU VANLALNGENA

: Pu Speaker Sir, it is a pity that what we said for the welfare of the people and Development of our state is merely a cry in the wilderness.

The amount of fund allotted for purchase and maintenance of vehicles of printing and Stationaries. The Department is a small Department with a small member of staff. Why is it that so many vehicles are required by the Department? It is abevious that we forget the welfare of the people I can not under stand why as much as Rs.10 lakhs have been allotted for vehicles alone. The utilisation of Government vehicles is not fair. Every year at the time of taking School Admission a long convey of Government Vehicles is to be seen a long Aizawl Shillong road. In Aizawl town also at a bout 8 AM to 9 AM in the morning, Government vehicles dropping school children always cause Traffic Jam. Vehicles is a key to corruption. They are use for shopping, many Government vehicles are parked on the lawn of bars. This unfair use of vehicles requires to be checked in this budget, the total amount of fund allotted by this poor state for vehicles is Rs.6,87,77,000/- while a small amount of fund is allotted for rehabilitation of MNF returnees.

Now an atmosphere of peace and harmony prevails a U.T. budget is now prepared. The whole budget requires over-handling. There are many loopholes for corruption. While too much money have been allotted for vehicles in respect of printing and stationary Department, the amount allotted for Sericulture Department is too meagre. The only Department which can be expected to extricate the people from the grip of object poverty is sericulture Department. It is extremely sad that the people have no share in the budget prepared by a nationalist Government. Therefore, this budget must be overhauled
Mr Speaker, Sir,

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA

: Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to remind you that officers took very lightly your request to provide Vehicles to MLAs you gave wrong

information to the House and I would like to know the reason why you don't have any control or authority over the officials at the same time the mount of fund for purchase and maintenance of vehicles is too much. Had Government liberal in providing

funds towards purchase of new machineries for the printing Press, it would have been much more beneficial to the people. It would be appreciated if the service conditions of staff working in the Press are improved. The staff is working very hard. There is a morning and evening shift and the work goes on round the clock.

There is also a need to look into the source from which stationaries is procured. In order to effect proper utilisation of the fund, Government should have a control over the expenditure. This Department has been incurring too much excess expenditure. For example while there are approved suppliers to supply stationaries, some varieties are procured from local dealers. The Secretary of the Department must know how the expenditure is adjusted. I would also like to suggest provision of more funds for purchase of better machineries, instead of for purchasing and maintenance of vehicles.

The functioning and inception of this Government is under the cloud from the very beginning, while the MNF Party won majority seats in the Assembly and it could form a Ministry with its own members, a P.C. M.L.A. who severally attacked the M.N.F. Party during the election campaign was inducted as a Minister superseding those who suffered untold hardships in the jungle under the circumstances, a smooth functioning cannot be expected from this Government. Of all the budget I have ever seen during the past eight years, this budget I have ever seen during the past eight years, this budget is the most meaningless. Plans and schemes already started by the previous Governments are merely reflected again and there is absolutely no new projects or schemes formulated for Development. Meanwhile, the most important project for Development - Bairabi Hydel Project is omitted.

Sericulture Department is the only Department in Mizoram which the common people derive direct benefit. Therefore, the Department requires to be much improved and enhanced. The price of cocoons purchased from poor silkworm rearers remain unpaid for a very long time thereby giving great hardships to them. This is a case in all Ministries. The people of Mizoram are very interested in silkworm rearing. In Mamit Village alone as many as two hundred families solely depend upon this profession, when the cocoons are supplied to the Department, it took a long time to get the money which makes the rearers unable to carry on the occupation. I would request Government to take note of this.

PU D. LALBIAKA

Mr. Speaker Sir, as I have said the discussion of the speech of Governor the Department of Printing and Stationery plays an important role to enable us to have an election as scheduled. I am very disappointed that the Governor did not make any mention of the performances of this small Department in his speech and in my opinion it was a contempt of the Hon'ble Minister i/c this Department. Whatever may be the amount of funds allotted for the purpose, the most important thing is to make good use of the funds we have.

Sericulture department is the department upon which the poor peasants of rural areas as well as urban area depends solely for their livelihood. But the amount of funds allocated for the department is too small. Now that the department has a separate direction of its own, it requires more funds to help the poor people alleviate their burden and hardship in earning a livelihood. One of the blunders in the functioning of the department which greatly affected the people is that when cocoons are sold, the money requires to be collected from Aizawl. The hardships faced by the people will be alleviated to a great extent if the prices of cocoons can be collected from Lunglei town. I would also like to request to make necessary arrangement to enable the department to pay the prices of cocoons at the time of making the purchases. Thank you.

PU F. LALRA MLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to say something about Sericulture Department, it is a new department, and we have a new Department. The people of Chhimituipui District have a fervent hope in the Government as well as in Sericulture Department to extricate them from poverty. The hardships being faced in Aizawl and Lunglei District, is much more acute in Chhimituipui District. It would be highly appreciated if a Superintendent of Sericulture is posted for the District. But there seems to be no provision of funds in the budget for the purpose. Therefore, I consider these demands unworthy of voting.

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, the hardships faced by the people which members have pointed out enlighten me much. I would like to make it known to members that the Department of Sericulture and Printing and Stationery have many problems while they are making many achievements too. The machineries of Printing and Stationery are also much improved that at present the Department owns two colour offset machines, automatic centre stitching machine etc. I would like to convey my thanks to the members of staff in the Department for their hard work. A proposal is made to purchase one camera colour open particle for which 5 lakhs rupees is earmarked. For purchase of linytype and monotype machines a sum of Rs.6 lakhs is also earmarked. Besides, this one melting furnace is proposed to be purchased at an approximate cost of Rs.1 lakhs.

At Luangmual Complex, a building and administration-cum-depot is being proposed to be constructed for which a plot of land has already been purchased. For the construction of building a sum of Rs.160 lakhs is earmarked.

Sericulture Department functions on a family oriented scheme the main objective of which is to give maximum benefit to the rural families been purchased. For the improvement and upgradation of the department a sum of Rs.175 lakhs is allocated.

Payment of the prices of cocoons is always delayed because concurrence of Finance Department cannot be obtained unless the plan is obtained approved. To find ways of solving this problem, a Marketing Board is proposed to be constituted, for which a sum of Rs.5 lakhs is earmarked. This fund will be revolving fund and steps are being taken to enable rearers to get the prices of cocoons at the nearest possible place.

The Sericulture marketing Board is proposed to be made an autonomous body. A bylaw is under preparation for which the bylaw in use in other states are being examined. The Department will take all possible steps to make the best possible use of the small funds we have for the development and for the uplift of of the people. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Anyone who agree to pass demand No. 14 amounting to Rs.1,60,00,000/- in respect of Printing and Stationary and demand No. 39 for Rs.1,75,00,000/- in respect of Sericulture Department may now say "agree" Okay, the demands are passed.

We shall call Pt Aichhinga to move demands for various departments under his charge.

PU AICHHINGA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, On the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, I stand to move demand No. 15, 21, 22 and 37 for Rs.26,85,32,000/- in respect of L.A.D. and Electricity Department for consideration of this House.

PU H. RAMPAWI : Mr. Speaker Sir, the importance of Electricity Department for the Development of Mizoram cannot be our emphasized. All the previous Government's also made schemes for setting up hydel projects. It seems that amount of demands for the department is so large in compared with these of other departments. However, considering the schemes and proposals proposed to be taken up by the Department the amount is far from sufficient many interior places in Mizoram are totally devoid of power and Electricity. Had Mizoram adequate supply of electricity, all the high places which are not suitable for agricultural purposes can be converted into agriculturally productivity areas, which will eventually bring about self sufficiency in food.

The condition of road, communication is very poor, communication and electricity are inter department and have to go side by side.

The success or failure greatly depends upon the sincerity or otherwise of the staff working in the Department. Besides passing these demands, it is the duty of all members to give advises to the Department and Minister concerned in their endeavour to make progress in the field of Electricity. Thank you.

PU S.HIATO :

Mr Speaker Sir, first of all I would like to point out the usefulness of Housing Loan particularly in the Southern part of

Mizoram. Had a housing loan not been given, none of the families would have had tin roofed houses. Last year there was a provision of Rs.3 lakhs for the purpose but in these demand a sum of Rs.137 lakhs is allocated. I would like to suggest giving of the loan on need basis. This year a new loan board has been constituted. Unfortunately, no representative from Chhimitupui area has been included as member, while we are expecting that the CEM would be nominated as a member by virtue of his office. I would request Government to revise constitution of the Board.

I would like to say something about Electricity Department. The Leader of the House told the House that Tuitlawk project had been approved, but it was again omitted in the budget. Why is it abandoned? For Electrification scheme, Aizawl, Lunglei and Serchhip are reflected while Lawngtlai and Saiha are omitted. He were very happy when a new Generator was commissioned but now the power supply is too irregular especially at night. I fervently request Government to improve the power generators at Lawngtlai and Saiha.

Investigation for setting up a micro-Hydel Project at Chhimitupui river had already been made, representatives of the NEC too have an on-the-spot verification but the project has not been shown in the budget again.

Bairabi Hydel Project has also not been included in the budget. I wonder if it has been completely abandoned. I would like to know whether this Government intends to take up the project.

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA :

Mr Speaker Sir, I went to make some suggestions. Electricity is the most important thing in our daily life and all of us are eager

to have self-sufficiency in Electricity. Even MLAs are not provided with regular supply of electricity. I would like to know the reason why supply of power is very irregular. Is it because the machines are worn out or because of the inefficiency and negligence on the part of the staff? A diesel generator of good condition has been installed at Lokichera but diesel is very often out of stock. But from the record of issue of diesel kept in the office, it seen that enough quantity of diesel is provided for the generator to be able to generate power regularly.

During the Congress Ministry, Government of Mizoram and Government of Tripura had made an agreement to transmit power from Agartala up to Kawrtethawveng. While there was proposal to shift the generator at Lokichera to TuipuiBari NEPCO finished construction of the transmission line up to TuipuiBari and the proposal was cancelled. I would like to know the steps this Government is intending to take to pursue the matter. In Tripura, a

communist party is in power and here in Mizoram a regional party is in power and I hope this Government has friendly relations with Government of Tripura. The stumbling block which hampered the progress of work was absence of truckable roads for transportation of transmission posts. Now, the condition of communication have improved a lot and I would like to ask Government to take immediate steps to persue the scheme.

The western part of Mizoram is suitable for Agriculture and the officers of the Department know that green revolution can be started from that region. If there is a better Electricity, the productivity of the area will be greatly raised and Kawtathawng alone will be much more productive than Vairengte. It would be highly appreciated if Government takes steps to improves supply of power in the area.

The schemes already made by the P.C. and Congress Ministries are omitted in the demands and in the budget. The only ones which are reflected are Turivang and Khawhai, but no clear specification as to how works would be taken up is not made.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU

Mr Speaker Sir, I do not know on what basis the provisions of fund for circuite and session houses at Imnglei, Chhinguipui Silchar, Calcutta and Delhi have been made, to me it appears that the further the place, the more fund it gets. But no provision of fund has been made for Delhi. I wonder if the funds are meant for entertainment of VIPs on tour. I would request the Hon?minister to clarify the position.

At demand No. 21 Housing, there is a provision of Rs.137.43 lakhs only while there are about 1999 applicants in Aizawl District alone. It is expected that in the whole of Mizoram a total number of applicants would be 10,000. It is too difficult a task for the Board to make proper distribution of the fund among such a number of applicants.

Of all existing loans in Mizoram, repayment is the best in housing loan. Why is it that only such a small amount of fund is allocated for housing loans? Can we not allocate any more fund? Now there are many MNF returnees who do not have any houses and who will require housing loan over and above local people, therefore, the amount of fund allocated for the purpose is too small. In the previous years a sum of Rs.129.28 lakhs was allocated for housing loan and the amount increased a little this year. Considering the price like, the amount of loan becomes too meager and it is impossible to have a house constructed with the amount unless the amount is revised and raised.

Regarding Electricity, we seem to follow a wrong path in our endeavour to produce more power. Instead of making schemes for construction of hydel projects, attention is concentrated on purchase of diesel again, generators. In my opinion, this tendency arises out of ignorance and

not unwillingness. In Aizawl town also, we do not have sufficient powers and load shedding is required which causes much inconveniences. Are the Ministers aware that there is no power supply once in every week ?

Our Electric engineers are as good as those of other states. They can do what engineers in other parts of India can do. But unless any scope is made for utilisation of their talents, there will be no progress at all. In this Government no mention is made of construction of hydel project. Even if an issue to which Government pays more attention rehabilitation of MNF returnees and compensation for damaged houses and properties - can not be materialised, there is absolutely no hope in electricity. After sometime the generators we purchased will require overhauling and diesel will not be available in the rainy season and the power supply would be automatically stopped. Electricity is the source of Development and progress in Agriculture, industry etc. More and more electric power is required with the progress of the people. It is extremely sad to see the small amount allocated for electricity. The tendency this year is wrong. It will be highly appreciated if the Minister concerned admits this and promises to repeat in the coming year.

Thank you.

PU K. LIANCHIA :

Mr Speaker Sir, I want to say something regarding demand No. 15 other "administrative Services" The Finance Minister stated that Home guards were reorganised and that the daily wage was also raised from Rs. 10 to 15 per day. At the present rate the monthly salary of a Home Guard is Rs. 450 only, which is too meager for a member of a uniformed and armed force to which important security tasks are entrusted. It is impossible to manage a family with this small printance. If the organisation is to continue to exist, the wages of the Home Guards should be revised, after a revision of pay, even Grade IV staff draw more than Rs. 1000 per month. Therefore, the wages of Home Guards should immediately be raised, say from Rs. 15 to at least 30 per day so that it will create incentives to the force and its services can be better utilised.

Regarding demand No. 21 it may be stated that a sum of Rs. 170 lakhs allocated in respect of urban Development seems to be meant for something other than the main works. The people have an impression that construction of water and septic tanks are the main works to be taken up by the Department, for which a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs is allocated to be given as a loans. A sum of Rs. 73 lakhs has been provided for minor works is quite vague. The works included in the minor works are not indicated here. It is unfair to make provision of fund against a budget head which is not clear and which is too flexible. This can create a loophole for corrupt practices. Almost the whole amount of fund is provided for intravelling expenses, office expenses, maintenance of vehicles, purchase of vehicles and miscellaneous contingencies there by leaving behind a very small amount for schemes, which would benefit the public. It is improper to do what the predecessors had done.

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Regarding demand No. 37 Electricity, I would like to say that there appears to be something wrong in the building system. It is true that within one month, more than half the rights are spent in darkness, yet the consumption bill is never less than Rs. 120/- Anyone who makes a complaint against the bill always have the bill deducted to a certain extent. This prove that there is something wrong somewhere. The Finance Minister stated that energy bill would be increased. Instead of raising energy consumption charge, it is much better and much more convenient to raise the amount of tax collected from the sole of IMFL or other luxury items so that the public will be spared from the burden of tax. In my opinion, increase in bus fare is still to be avoided since the burden directly falls upon the shoulder of poor people. Rich people never board a bus and it is only the poor people who travel by bus. At the present taxation, the rich and the poor pay almost equal amount of taxes, while the value of the assets owned by the two classes greatly differ. In order to make the rich pay more taxes, more taxes should be levied on luxury items which the poor cannot afford to purchase.

A land use policy is introduced in rural areas and some families own permanent cultivation. At the same time the amount of revenue is raised. With the present tendency, instead of doing away with poverty, the poor will be driven away.

Lastly, procurement of diesel generators is a must since we are not interested in construction of hydel projects. The Bairabi Hydel Project which was started by the P.C. Ministry has now been completely abandoned. Therefore, we have no alternative but to depend solely upon diesel generators for electricity supply. It is quite gratifying to note today that as many as 162 generators are proposed to be purchased. At the same time, great care must be taken in the distribution, instead of adding to the existing ones, these new Generators should be utilised for supplying electricity to areas which are devoid of the same. As the places for installation of these generators are not shown, I would like to ask Government to install at least one generator at Khamsam within my constituency so that Ngentiang, Lungpho, Thibollan, Hmunzawl, Rullam and Vanchengpui villages can be electrified with the power generators by that generator.

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Thank you.

PU LIANSUAMA

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Mr Speaker Sir, a compliant has always been made against poor attendance in the official gallery. In my opinion, it quite enough if the officers concerned are present. Other officers the demands of whose departments are not discussed should be present in their respective officers to attend to commulating works which are understood to have a risen at the fag end of fiscal year. If their absence cause any lapse in budget money, members of this House are sure to make compliant against it in this House.

All the demands now being taken into consideration, Nos. 15, 21, 22 and 37 are all important demands with a direct concern with the common people. L.A.D. is a small Department yet it has a direct concern with the people. It is the Department which constructs community halls and steps in villages as well as in towns. Moreover, all the villages councils are under its direct charge. It therefore, deserves to be greatly enhanced and the amount of funds allotted for the purpose should also be greatly increased so that it can properly perform the tasks entrusted to it.

As usual, Village Council elections are to be held this year. The amount of funds allocated for Lunglei administration and Aizawl Administration is very small and in the case of Aizawl in particular, the amount allotted this year is less than that of current year. I wonder if the Ministry forgets that Village Council elections are to be held this year. If elections are to be held, a huge amount of additional would be required for conducting elections. I would request the Hon'ble Minister to State if elections would be held this year. If so, are the proposed expenditures for conducting the elections reflected under the head other charges ?

During the period of insurgency in around 1977, Government of Mizoram had submitted a resettlement programme with a financial implication of about Rs 19 crores for resettlement of the people whose houses were burnt down or whose properties were damaged. The programme was abandoned as it was expected that the problem would be solved with the signing of the accord. I would like to know what action does Government intend to restle Villages from L.A.D.

The Aizawl town becomes filthier with years, as its population is soaring. Everywhere are located automobile workshops, sawmachines, and cotton Mills making great noises. This industries scattering everywhere greatly disfigured the town, what action is Government intending to take for the sanitation and proper planning of the Town ? At Vengthar and Dinthar Veng there is only one sawmill. It is a nuisance for the peoples near it. What action does LAD intend to take to remove such industry which is a pulic nuisance as well as health hazard.

The performances of PWD in repairing and renovating roads within the town is praiseworthy. A few days after the PWD finished blacktopping of the roads, a PHE Department or Electric Department begins digging the side of the road for laying of pipelines or cables. Can there be no way of avoiding such unnecessary expenditure by co-ordinating with these Department ? It is learnt that electric cables are proposed to be laid underground instead of overhead. I think a lot of unnecessary expenditures can be avoided if there is a good coordination among PWD, PHE, Electric, and Telephone Departments stopping destruction of the roads resurfaced and blacktopped by PWD for laying of pipelines or cables.

As the people become richer and richer, more and more sky crapers begin to crop up in our Towns. Unless some restrictions are imposed against constructions imposed of tall buildings obstructive to others, our streets will become mere ravines extremely dangerous for pedestrians.

A provision of fund has been made in the budget for resumption of the construction of Tuirivang and Khawiva Micro-Hydel Projects, while no provision of fund has been made for Serlui 'A' project. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs has been allocated for Serlui Hydel Division. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister to clarify the meaning of this allocation of fund.

As I had pointed out during the discussion of the Governor's speech at the function of commissioning of Diesel Generator at W.Phaileng, the Hon'ble Minister incharge Power stated that a Micro-Hydel Project was proposed to be set up at Teirei next year. That next year is this year. At that time I and the opposition Leader Mr Lal Thanhawla were present. It is extremely disappointing to note that no provision of fund is made for the scheme.

Last year a transmission line was proposed to be constructed from Lungleng/Vawkzawn to link Khawrihnim at an estimated cost of Rs. 10,00,000 but it was abandoned owing to certain inconveniences. Will this work be resumed this year? I would also ask the Minister concerned to tell me the reason why streetlights installed in many places are never put off during daytime. Is it because the bill is paid by L.A.D.

Lastly, the water connection at Mizoram circuit House in Delhi is not working. A sum of Rs. 15,00,000 is allocated for entertaining guests while a small amount is allocated for maintenance of the Building. Will Government pay more attention to the maintenance? It will be highly appreciated if the Hon'ble Minister could clarify the position when he winds up the discussion.

Thank you.

PU VANLALNGENA : Mr Speaker Sir, I cannot but groan to see that out of the total amount of Rs. 66,75,00,000, there is absolutely nothing for the poor people in Suangpuilawn constituency. And in a total of Rs 187 lakhs for Housing, the people of Suangpuilawn constituency have no share at all. Similarly the people of Suangpuilawn Constituency have no share in Rs. 1934 lakhs for Electricity. This makes me extremely sad.

The budget provision mainly concentrates on urban areas. As stated by the Hon'ble MLA from Ngopa constituency, under Housing, a sum of Rs 53 lakhs is allocated for MIG in Aizawl District and in LIG a sum of Rs 15.7 lakhs has been allocated. Every time not less than 2000 applications are received out of which less than 100 are given the loan.

For Lunglei District, there is a provision of Rs. 28,75,000/- in MIG and Rs. 9,10,000/- in LIG for Chhimitpuipui District there is a provision of Rs. 24,15,000/- in MIG and 6,60,000 in MIG. Our houses were burnt down and destroyed during two decades of insurgency and many people who are badly in need of reconstruction of Houses,

are not in a position to do so, why is it that only a very small amount of fund is allocated for the purpose ?

For water tank and septic tank loan only Rs.20 lakhs is allocated while many people require the loan. With this amount not more than forty people can be benefitted. Some mistakes may have been committed in the preparation of the budget, but the fact that the common people have too small a share in it is extremely sad. Let us get the budget overhauled.

Our streets are dirty and filthy. L.A.D. requires some more trucks for carrying rubbish. Why is it that funds for purchase of at least ten trucks are not allocated ? A sum of Rs.15 lakhs allocated for purchase of Helicopter is not necessary. Let us divert the fund for purchase of trucks for use of L.A.D.

Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to point out that there is something wrong in the system of making energy Bill. Matters of sub-standard quality were supplied to the Department some of which cannot function. Because of this matter readers always make a guess calculation in making the bill. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister to take action to have matters of best quality supplied to the Departments.

PU AICHHINGA
MINISTER

: Mr Speaker Sir, the most important thing for development is electricity. In the endeavour to attain self sufficiency in power supply Government has to face many problems. However, Government is making every effort to attain its goal sooner or later.

L.A.D. is Department which is responsible for the cleanliness and development of out town and villages some of us many consider the amount of funds allotted for LAD too small out of real. However the amount is considered by Government to be sufficient to meet the expenditures incurred in various steps proposed to be taken by the Department. Self sufficiency in power and good communication have to go side by side. Many distant Villages cannot yet be electrified because of absence of communication. Heavy machineries and post requires to be transported with trucks. We are very eager to replace diesel generators with power generated by Hydel projects, but at present we are not in a position to do so. The Departments is also aware that with diesel engine generators, the expenditure is very high, and it is trying to find a way of replacing the diesel generators.

Government is taking steps to construct mini-Hydel Projects in order to get more power supply within a short span of time even though there are some gigantic projects which are to require more time to be completed. At present the projects at Khawiva and Tuirivang are under active construction. Investigation in respect of various places is going on. If any places Government is ready to take up the work with any fund available.

Even though no provision of funds is made for Bairabi Hydel Project, The Hon'ble Chief Minister told us that he took up the matter with the planning Commission and that he hoped that works in the projects would soon be started.

A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs allotted for construction of Serlui (B) Hydel Project is considered too small by many members. Investigation in respect of this project is being awaited. Therefore, only a token provision of Rs. 2 lakhs is made in the budget for the project.

Regarding the amount of Housing loans, it may be stated that the Department knows that it is too small and Government desires to give the loans to many more people. Government made a proposal to Government of India that adequate funds should be provided so as to give loans to all the needy. There is also a scheme being implemented for provision of building materials, C.I. sheets in particular to the people of rural areas. Another programme known as IYSH is also being implemented which is mainly meant for villages. The L.A.D. has been taking active steps in developing rural areas and these demands are also made for those purposes. I would like to ask this House to pass my demands No. 15, 21, 22 and 37 for Rs. 26,05,32,000.00 in respect of L.A.D. and power and Electricity Departments.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : The Minister i/c L.A.D and power and electricity Department has moved demands No. 15 other Administration service amounting to Rs. 79,000.00 demand No. 21-Housing amounting to Rs. 1,80,74,300 Demand No. 22 urban Development for Rs. 1,70,00,000.00 and demand No. 31. Electricity amounting to Rs. 19,44,10,007.00 the Total amount being Rs. 26,05,32,000.00 anyone who agrees to pass the demands may say "agree" Okey, the demands stand passed.

We have a few minutes left, We now invite the Hon'ble Minister i/c Social welfare Department etc. to move her demands.

PI LAHLIMPUII MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, with the recommendation of the Governor and with permission Sir, I stand to move demands No. 26 and 27 amounting to 3,26,35,000.00 for the year 1987-88 in respect of labour and Employment and social Welfare Departments.

PU ROKAMLOVA : Mr Speaker Sir, there is only a few minutes left, it is not better to have a recess before starting discussion?

S P E A K E R : We shall now have a recess if the House agrees. Hon'ble Ministers may instruct concerned officials to be present in the officials are gallery during question have. The Officials are very busy towards the end of financial year. But Minister must instruct them to be present in the gallery when a subject concerning the Department is discussed by the House.

Regarding provision of vehicles to members, it may be stated that there is almost nothing I can do beyond making a request to the GAD to do so. However, I will try once again. I am also provided with only one vehicle which is hardly in a running condition.

We shall have recess now to resume at 2 in the afternoon.

Recess till - 2 : 00 P.M.

S P E A K E R : Now, we shall start a discussion on the demands moved by the Minister i/c Labour & Employment etc. Department. Every member is allotted ten minutes.

PU ROKAMLOVA : Mr Speaker, I wonder why members are not interested in participating in the discussion of budget. In Labour and Employment, the same norms and procedures have been followed since a long time back and it is now a high time to devise new methods or procedures. We require the services of non-mizo labourers or carpenters since no sufficient labour forces can be obtained from amongst the Mizos. Most of us require the services of non-Mizos. But all Ministries gone by did not escape criticism for entry of Non-Mizos into Mizoram. I consider it necessary that labour and employment Department, should take steps to meet our requirement bearing in mind the shortage of labour force among Mizos. The approximate number of labours required by Mizoram may be worked out and the rate of daily wages may also suitably fixed so as to avoid exploitation of labours.

A guest house for labourers who come from outside Aizawl has been built at Armed Veng. Hardly a single labourer stays in this House in a year. If such a house is constructed in a better place, it is sure to serve its purposes much better.

Since some years back there has been mutual distrust between the Mizos and the people of neighbouring state. It will be a good idea if skilled labourers from other parts of India could be procured. When Bihar labourers were employed in the repairing of air field, they were found to be very efficient and hardworking. In this budget there seem to be no new improvement. We must know that the services of other are required for the Development of Mizoram.

The progress and improvement made by the ITI are not satisfactory. With a provision of fund of Rs. 10 lakhs much improvement can be made. It will be highly appreciated if Government could give more attention to the improvement of the only technical institution we have.

Social welfare department has a very wide range of scope. From the care of unborn babies to the welfare of the physically as well as mentally handicapped persons are all its responsibilities. Moreover, it takes responsibility in carrying drug and alcohol addicts and juvenile delinquents. As the society advances, the last two evils are likely to increase and more and more efforts would require to be made to control them. This new state Government also should give priority to the control of these evils.

In the U.T. stage Government was reluctant to give financial assistance to voluntary organisations like YMA, MHIP etc. by reflecting their nomenclatures in the budget for fear of objection from Central Government yet funds for the same were allotted against other heads of account. As Mizoram became a fullfledged state, I hope that a separate head of account would be reflected in the budget for assistances to this organisation, and also that more than Rs.2 lakh would be allotted against the sub-head "Central YM I know understand very well that for these who are in power it is difficult to be liberal to the public. However, this will never lessen the importance of YMA, I don't think Govt. would pay less attention to the organisation. At the same time the amount of demands for the department is too small. I hope that more funds and also for carrying alcohol and drug addicts and juvenile delinquents, I would also like to ask the Hon'ble Minister to note that we attach great importance to social reform.

In the demands under consideration nutrition programme is included. Great care should be made in the distribution of nutrition and it should be distributed need based as far as practicable. Thank you.

PU S.HIATO

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the Government Mr Speaker Sir, for realising the party's manifesto of upgradation of the status of women by making the only female member a minister. In connection with the functioning of labour & Employment, I would like to say that Government issue an instruction to the effect that for candidates for Group C & D staff from Chhimituipui District and interview board would be constituted at Saiha which would conduct the interview. This greatly allocates the burden of the people. But some departments did not comply with this instruction and candidate from Chhimituipui District had to appear before the interview Board at Aizawl. This poses a big problem to the candidates.

The postal service in the area is extremely irregular. For example, a cheque in favour of printing and Stationery Department was sent to Saiha on 27th Feb '87 and till 7th March, the cheque has not yet been received. I like this house to know that a letter takes more than a month to reach Saiha from Aizawl. As a result, a calling letter for an interview is seldom received in time. This greatly reduces the chances of getting appointment for candidates from the area. Under the circumstances, I would request Government to make arrangements to conduct interviews for group C & D posts at Saiha for Chhimituipui District. I think similar arrangements are required in respect of Champhai, Kolasib etc.

Regarding women's welfare which appears at page 202, it may be stated that there are many people in Chhimituipui District, particularly womenfolk, who have never been to Aizawl. It will be highly appreciated if womenfolk of this area are given preference in awarding chances to go outside Mizoram on tour conducted by Government.

There are a number of orphans everywhere Chhimituipui District is not an exception. Fortunately, the Salvation Army has established an orphanage at Saiha last year and that is the only institution we have in the whole area. I request Government to make necessary arrangements for improvement of the orphanage at Saiha.

Some Aganwadi buildings have been constructed within my constituency but most of them are without teachers. Most villages are also without aganwadi Schools. I would like to ask Social welfare Department and all other Departments concerned to take steps for the uplift of a mass of illiterate children in the area, by establishing Schools with a standard prevailing in the northern areas.

Thank you.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Mr Speaker Sir, to most people, Employment Exchange seems to be the only branch which functions in the whole of Labour and Employment Department. We are indebted to the previous Governments for establishing a full-fledged, employment Exchange at Aizawl while Government is taking steps to make labour and employment Department discharge its rightful duties, there are certain departments which deviated from it in recruiting staff. I think Government is aware of this. Making appointments by passing Employment exchange is a very good chance for appointment of non-Mizos. It will be highly appreciated if the department under the leadership of the Hon'ble Minister Mrs Lalhlimpuii takes stern action against the defaulting departments so as to effectively control any recruitment except those routed through employment exchange, so that sons of the soil can be given preference for appointment to vacancies.

While the performances of the officers of Employment Exchange are laudable, there are many instances when they are forced to include certain persons in the list of candidates forwarded to a Department to the extent that sometimes forwarded to a department to the extent that sometimes they have to go office on Sunday. While we are expecting them to do beyond their ability, there is a very little what we do for them in return. It is therefore desirable that we must know their positions.

The amount of demand at Demand No. 26 is very small. The Department might not have sufficient vehicles required for the performance of its duties. It will be a good idea if a certain amount of fund is made available for purchase of vehicles. If the welfare of members of the staff is neglected while the Department is overworked, I am afraid anyone who gets appointment in the Department may consider it a kind of punishment. If many things are expected from the Department, the welfare of the staff should also be born in mind while making demands.

To me, Social welfare Department deserves to be renamed Mizo Welfare Department as countless poor people find comfort in it. Poverty has been widening and strengthening its grip in Mizoram as a result of low yielding primitive Agriculture being practised in Mizoram and a poor scope for business. The only Department which preaches a gospel of comfort among the poor is social welfare Department considering the importance of its functions, the amount of demands made for the Department is too small. From the provision made in the budget, it is apparent that the Department is intending to give assistances to various voluntary organisations and to any organisation which has done any outstanding works.

Regarding giving of old age pension, it may be stated that the mode of selection of persons to receive the pension requires to be revised. At present old aged people living in an area which is frequently visited by the Hon'ble Minister appear to be prone to receive the pension. Since the Minister does not have time to visit all places, elders in the area not visited are prone to be deprived of this benefit. It will be gratifying if the Department knows that elders of these places too are in need of the pension benefit.

It is a matter of great pleasure to learn that the Department provided almost all branches of YMA with petromax, parachutes, tarpaulins, tea cup etc. while branches tea cups, pots petromaxes etc. their counterparts in rural areas have to face many difficulties to purchase the same items. In any public gathering, there is no petromax, tarpaulin or C.I. sheets to lend for making sheds. Under the circumstances, it will be a good idea if small villages in distant places are given preference in giving assistances, and if at least one petromax each is given to all branches of YMA or MHIP in rural areas.

Social welfare Department, through its Nutrition programme, save the lives of many infants who would otherwise die of malnutrition and makes many children grow up to become normal persons. There is a problem in the transportation of nutrition for distant villages, the distant the villages, the more nutrition is required. In ICDS Centres and near by villages, it can be carried with Departments vehicles. In distant places it is carried by headload

free of charge - when the villages are busy with their Jhum works, it is impossible for them to spare their time for carrying the nutrition. It will be highly appreciated if a provision is made in the budget for transport subsidy. When Government makes any free distribution to the people for whom it is meant receive it it.

Thank you.

PU K.L.LIANCHIA :

Mr Speaker Sir, I am very happy today for being able to participate in the discussion of the demands moved by the first lady Minister in Mizoram.

The whole of Mizoram is a tribal area, and the people are backward citizens. A great advantage can be made of this status and we should be much more careful not to register non-Mizo plain people.

When Mizo district attained a status of U.T. we can hardly differentiate a U.T. from a District. At present, also I am afraid we would fail to identify the difference of a state from U.T. It is important for M.L.As and Ministers to know the exact status of a state. We are now in the beginning of a state administration. Unless we make a good beginning, it will be hard to make corrections afterwards. I would therefore like to advise this Government to take utmost care in registration of unemployed people in the State Employment Exchange.

Mizoram is economically a backward state and Government service is the dream of everyone. In other states, a farmer is better off than Government servants. In any competition for appointment to vacant posts, candidates from poor families in villages. The gap between the rich and the poor is too vast. It will be a good idea if Government gives preferences to candidates from poor families for appointment to vacant posts provided they have the same qualifications. If there is any eligible candidate from a family where there is no Government servant, he or she should be given preference for appointment so that the wealth of the state can be better and more properly distributed.

We are now looking forward to raising of additional battalions of MAP when there would be many vacancies. If candidates from well-to-do families who are appointed in these vacancies. The administration and functioning of the Department are sure to suffer a lot in a new state of Mizoram, many more new posts are expected to be created. If there is any candidate qualified for the new posts from poor families, they should be given preference which will go a long way in bringing about economic equality among the people.

The performances of social welfare Department are quite satisfactory. Many poor people in villages depends upon this department for their sustenance. The number of recipients of old aged pension now becomes around 1563. But the monetary value diminishes a lot and Rs.60 per month is too meagre at present. It will be highly appreciated if the amount is raised a bit.

..... 1/39/-

At demand no. 27 no provision of fund is made against the sub-head "Central YMA" but it is understood that the YMA has share in the allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs against "Voluntary Organisations". Previously a grant was made for YMA in particular and the YMA also has been expecting to have a separate fund in the budget. I am afraid the organisation would be disgruntled when it learns that no separate fund is allocated in the budget for the YMA. It will be highly appreciated if Government revise the budget and see if the present system would be the best.

Thank you.

PU HIPHEI :

Mr. Speaker Sir, considering the heavy responsibilities, the Department of Labour and Employment is very small. members of the staff

are also overworked and the Department requires to be strengthened.

Government does not seem to give any attention to the entry of BRTF labourers and other labourers imported to saw timbers. If I am not mistaken, the BRTF Government should know the number of labourers who came to Mizoram with valid permits, the duration of the validity of these permits, etc. In order to have such a knowledge, there should be a labour Law. I would like to ask the Minister to move the authority to continue the reservation of seats for Mizoram.

A few days from now, a National Safety Day will be observed throughout the country. The Department responsible for the observation of this day is labour and Employment Department funds is capable of meeting various requirements for observation of this day. The Department has to teach the public the danger which can be caused by liquid petroleum Gas fire etc. and has also to teach them how to avoid damages of properties and loss of lives from them. Under the circumstances, the department requires to be enhanced immediately.

Social welfare department is a department which help unborn babies to developed to be normal babies. When they are inside their mother's wombs I hope Government would take steps to produce more and more healthy babies which would grow up to become assets to the Government.

My predecessor stated that the amount of old aged pension is too small. I can not with him. I do not considers greatly increases in Mizoram and a small percentage of them are now in receipt of the pension benefit. Those who do not get the pension are eagerly waiting for the time when any of the recipients of old aged pension dies for it is the only way of getting a chance to get the benefit. Under the circumstances, I would like to suggest reduction of the person amount say Rs. 50 or 40 per month so that more elders can get the benefit.

Thank you.

PU LI NSUAMA

Mr Speaker Sir, One of the Manifesto of the MNF Party is upgradation of the status of womenfolk in Mizoram. Today, I am very glad that, the only female member of this House has been, true to the manifesto, made a minister to look after the welfare of women-folk. At the same time I am sad to note that a small amount of fund is allocated for looking after the welfare of womenfolk and for various organisations.

The leader of the House stated in a public meeting at Sefchhip that his Government would depend upon God for anything it required. This Government lays emphasis on self sufficiency, but a very small amount of fund allotted in respect of social welfare Department makes one think that it would be impossible to achieve the goal of self sufficiency. I wonder how the social welfare department would function without depending upon allotment of funds from the centre. At the same time I am glad to note that a sum of Rs. 8 lakhs has been allotted for grant-in-aid to voluntary organisation.

When a Minister is on tour, his vehicles are always laden with items like petrolmax, microphones, Pots and others for distribution to various organisations in villages. But for an ordinary MLA there is hardly anything in his disposal for distribution. Today, I would like to suggest one thing. Will it not be possible to release the whole or even part of the amount allocated for voluntary organisation to the organisation concerned.

Out of the total amount of funds allocated in respect of women welfare. Rs.20,000/- is earmarked for travel expenses and Rs.20,000/- for reception of illegal traffic in women and girls. I shall be much grateful if the Hon'ble Minister could clarify as to how the womenfolk would benefit from such schemes.

MHIP Branches are under the care of social Welfare Board. MHIP branches are set up almost in all villages and these branches require assistance from Government. To look after these branches a social Welfare Advisory Board is set up. In order to enable the Board to give Assistance to MHIP Branches over and above running its own office, the amount of fund allotted for the social Welfare Department should be raised. Upon this greatly depends the Welfare of Women.

Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister to explain for what purposes the fund of Rs.30,000/- allocated against "Social Economic Programme" is meant for.

Thank you.

PU VANLALINGENA :

Mr Speaker Sir, there is one thing which we should not forget in Labour and Employment Department.

Owing to shortage of labour force in Mizoram, we need the services, of non-Mizo labourers to work in construction works or to saw timbers.

Once these non-Mizo labourers enter Mizoram, they usually settle permanently and take up business in Mizoram. At present there are as many as 300 non-Mizo traders in Mizoram without valid trade licences. The main reason can be attributed to the fact that once an innerline permit is issued, there is a no follow up action after expiry of the permit thereby giving a good chance to a non-Mizo labourer to settle permanently. Again, the trading by non-Tribals regulation is not put into force effectively.

The people have a hope that this new Government would take steps to check trading by non-Tribals. But after a lapse of one month, nothing has yet been done in this respect. Even though the innerline Regulation Act remains in force, the gateway to Mizoram is open to Non-Mizos as wide as it was in the past. I fervently request Government to take action to check the influx of Non-Mizos into Mizoram. Similarly, let Government take steps to detect and to deport Non-Mizo traders having no valid trade licences in Mizoram.

What the Chief Minister laid stress upon is social reform and upgradation of the status of women. I don't see any scope for achieving that goal in the budget. There is no much difference from the U.T. budget therefore, this budget is not prepared to achieve the goals set by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Who will start the work of social reforms? There is an YMA with branches all over Mizoram, this organisation is taking the responsibility of reforming social life. The organisation requested a fund for construction of office building. Why is it that Government cannot give even Rs.20,000/- Government should give due attention to the requirement of the largest organisation in Mizoram set up to make necessary social reform.

It is a pity that even Rs.20,000/- cannot be allotted for social reform while as much as Rs.15,00,000/- is allocated in the budget for purchase of Helicopter. A sum of Rs.20,000/- allotted for social organisations is meant for various organisations like MHIP, Camas Associations, VDP etc. Today I insist upon allocation of separate fund for YMA, which helps the poor, safeguards our culture and which comforts the bereaved.

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA :

I would like to say something in connection with labour and employment. To a great extent this department's success depends upon the efficiency or otherwise of postal services. For example, when a candidate from villages in my constituency receives a calling letter from the employment Exchange, someone from Aizawl had already got the appointment. Therefore, the postal Department and Employment Department have to function side by side so as to make the employment department function satisfactorily. It would be highly appreciated if this new Government could devise a means to avoid the aforesaid problems.

Till today, the rate of labour charges has not yet been fixed. A bag of vegetable which comes from Sairang is to be carried by a labourer to the Market place, and the labourer charges as much as he likes. Therefore, it is now a high time to fix the rate. And if government cannot deport the Non-Mizo labourers, it would be a good idea to get them registered in Government and allot them numbers so that they can easily be identified.

Concerning social welfare, I am of the opinion that instead of placing funds for Voluntary Organisations at the disposal of Ministers or MLAs, it is better to place it at the disposal of the YMA which is likely to utilise it much better. At present even the YMA seems to deviate from the path it is supposed to follow, i.e. helping others. The branches in villages are in a habit of asking for assistances from Ministers or MLAs who visit their villages. It is quite a pity that no allotment of fund has been made in the budget for the YMA. I think it is a mistake.

I would like to tell this House that the budget and demands are prepared without even consulting the Ministry which greatly degrades the dignity of Government. This is testified by the fact that the amount of demand is less wherever the proposes are important, while a huge amount of fund is allotted against the head - "Miscellaneous Expenditure", could the Hon'ble Minister tell the House the purposes for which the fund under the head - "Other charges" is meant ?

Thank you.

PU NGURCHHINA
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, now is a time for demandwise discussion yet some members wandered beyond the boundary of our subject today. The Hon'ble member from Tuipang Constituency stated that there is no labour law in Mizoram. The fact is that the Hon'ble member is not aware even with the minimum wages Act. This Act cannot interfere in any case when the employees give wages to labourers not less than fixed as minimum previously no bonus could be given to a labourer rendered handicapped while discharging his duties on an excuse that there was no rule. This Government has not yet time to take up this matter. Now a consultative committee has been constituted afresh under Minimum wages Act since the existing one is composed of representatives of employees and employers on equal ratio. From now on, the wages fixed for labourers would be reasonable enough.

Some members complain that there was no fund for uplift of women in the demands. I have nothing to say in this regards except to ask them to study the demands more meticulously. If the amount of fund is considered too small, that depends upon the opinion of an individual member. Mr Speaker Sir, These demands need not be discussed any longer if they should be passed now.

PI LALHLIMPUII
MINISTER

: Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to convey my thanks to members for enthusiastically participating in the deliberation on the demands for social welfare Department. It is a matter of great pleasure to hear some members laud the performances of the Department. Government takes note of suggestions, advises and the hardships faced by the people which members contributed.

In Social Welfare Department, I would like to say that a Remand Home for detention and care of female criminals under the age of 18 is established at Aizawl under children Act. There is a proposal to establish similar institutions at Lunglei and Saiba during 1987-88. This Children Act is proposed to be substituted with the Juvenile Justice Act, 1960 and Government of Mizoram also intends to adopt this Act, a proposal for which has been submitted to Government of India. The expenditure incurred towards the care of children under this Act is to be shared by state Government and the Centre fifty-fifty. It is proposed that 50 children would be looked after at an estimated cost Rs. 11,00,000.00.

There are various programmes under Central Government and state Government for upgradation of the status of women like women Development corporation etc. Government is taking steps to introduce these programmes in Mizoram. At page 195 of the budget Book is reflected a fund allotted for Suppression of immoral Traffic in women. Since women indulged in immoral Traffic always disfigure the image of our Society, Suppression of the practice of immoral traffic is felt necessary. Two institutions, viz Reception Centre and protection Home are proposed to be established.

In a reply to a question raised by one of the members, it may be stated that socio-economic programme is meant for looking after widows and their children. Again, there is a proposal to procure locally available food items like banana, Soyabean, papaya etc. for distribution. The programme was experimented in Serchhip and Thangulthliah and many more places will be covered in the coming year. With this new scheme, we are hopeful of helping cultivators in villages in selling their products.

Under Labour and Employment Department a girls Hostel is under construction for ITI and extension of boy's Hostel has also been completed. The statement of one member that approximately one guest stays in the guest house within a year is not correct many labours have stayed in this Houses.

In addition to the existing branches of training in ITI many more branches are proposed to be introduced which are radio and television mechanics serveyors, draftman etc.

A labour cell has also been established in Employment Exchange, with Labour Officer and Staff to man the cell. There is no denying the fact that the amount of various demands is not to our satisfaction. However, the small amount we have, if properly utilised, can go a long way in the development.

Lastly, I would ask this House to pass the demands in respect of L & E and Social Welfare Department for 1987-88 amounting to Rs. 326,35,000.00.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Any one who agrees to pass the demands moved by the Hon'ble Minister i/c social Welfare Department etc. in respect of various departments under her charge amounting to Rs.32,63,5000.00 may say "agree" (Members-Agree) O.Kay, the demands are unanimously passed.

PU HIPHEI :

Mr Speaker sir, have the committees of the House been constituted? If so, could you please announce them before the end of this session?

S P E A K E R :

Committees are being constituted and they will be announced at the end of the session. We have another items in our business. We shall now invite the Hon'ble Minister i/c Health Service Department to move demands for the Department.

PU LALRINCHHANA
MINISTER :

Pu Speaker, with the recommendation of the Governor and with your permission sir, I stand to move demand No.19 in Respect of Health Department amounting to Rs.30.74.50.000.00 for the year 1987-88 for consideration of the House.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr Speaker Sir, Health Service Department is a department which directly concerns the health of the people. As it is a large department, the amount of demands is also large yet the performances of the the Department are far from the expectation of the public. However the Department has been taking steps to improve its performances and the amount of demand for the Department is not sufficient. Considering the rate of increase in the budget in the previous years, the rate of increase in the amount of fund this year, particularly in respect of Health Department is fairly good.

Members appear to be familiar with the functioning of this Department and to me no detailed discussion is necessary. Therefore, the demand may be passed without much discussion.

PU VANLALNGENA : Mr Speaker Sir, Health Service Department is a very important Department dealing with the life and death of the people. Doctor working in this Department got discontentted about their salaries to the extent that they went on strike for some time, causing untold hardships and inconveniences to patients even for a short period. A few says back, one person sustaining serious injuries in a vehicle accident was taken to the Hospital owing to the absence of doctors, he remained unattended for about 40 minutes and subsequently died. As this because of shortage of doctors or overwork of doctors or negligence of their duties ? If such inconveniences are caused due to shortage of doctors, steps should be taken immediately for appointment of more doctors,

Fracture of bones is incurable in Aizawl Civil Hospital. Even simple cases of bones fracture cannot be cured. It is quite unfortunate that our doctor - in the largest Hospital in Mizoram cannot join ordinary fracture bones. Many cases of bone fractures are treated in Civil Hospital. Almost all of them required to be refered outside Aizawl for better treatment after taking treatment in Aizawl. What action is to be taken to improve the condition ? I would request to Hon'ble Minister to give special attention to this problem and to take steps to find the solution immediately.

Thank you.

PU K.L.LIANCHIA : Mr Speaker Sir, first of all I insist upon one clarification. We are not certain if the Hon'ble member of Sangau Constituency has been made a Minister. I request you to please clarify it. In a parliamentary practice, whenever a member is made a Minister, it is announced in the House.

In my constituency there are some Health Sub-Centres manned by male and female workers. But these people are never present in their stations of posting as a result, the people cannot get medicines allotted to them by Government. I would like to ask Government to take note of this fact and to take necessary action.

When a tender is floated for supply of diet or any item for PHC's or Sub-Centres, rates apparently inapplicable are always selected. This is where a door is wide open for corruption. Therefore, a definite guideline has to be made in selection of tenders.

To illustrate the backwardness of my constituency, I would like to say that at present there is only one gazetted officer in the whole constituency. Subsidiary Health Centres are opened at Chhingchhip and Ngentiang which are under the charge of Newly appointed Pharmacists. Last year I made request to Government to post at least one doctor for my constituency but to no avail. It is learnt that there are surplus doctors somewhere, this time also I would like to make once again a request to Government to post at least two doctors for my constituency, this time also I would like to make once again a request to Government to post at least one doctor in my constituency, which will greatly alleviate the hardships being faced by the people.

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, what I have to say is the concern of your constituency too during the P.C. Ministry, PHC's and Sub-Centres were opened in almost all villages within Kawrthah constituency. Nurses and pharmacists were also posted there. When a coalition Government was formed working at PHC Kawrthah was transferred elsewhere till today, in an area inhabited by as many as 50000 population, there is no even one doctor. This poses a great hardship to the people between Christmas and this new year, there was an incident of murder at Kawrthahveng. At that time we had to wait for fine days to get a doctor from Aizawl to conduct post-mortem of the dead body. The case is abominable to be the same in the ask you, Mr Speaker to get the PHC buildings at Kawrthah renovated and to get doctor posted there. Again I would like to say that construction of a 30 bedded dispensary building is nearly completed if this new Government could immediately provide beds and also have a doctor posted there.

Thank you.

PU P. LALBIAKA : Mr Speaker Sir, Buarpui constituency is one of the most backward constituencies. Except the development schemes made by the first Congress Ministry in respect of the areas no development is to be seen afterwards. The budget also reflects no new schemes of development for the areas, yet I am hopeful that Govt. can do something if it has willingness to do so.

HPC's are opened at Buarpui Binghamun and Lungsen. In this budget there is a small amount of fund. For levelling the site for construction of PHC budget at Lungsen. Tenders for this work have also been floated, but till today construction of the building has not yet been started. I request Government to look into the matter and to do whatever necessary at an early date. Binghamun area is a malaria infected area and the people need medical treatment much more than other people do. Although we are not in a position to insist upon posting of a doctor there at least a good medical supply should be provided for the area.

The PHC building at Buarpui is in a delapidated condition. In the erstwhile Congress Ministry I made a complain and request many time but to no avail in this budget also, no allotment of fund seems to have made. However, I request Government to get the building repaired immediately.

Thank you.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, every year towards the end of summer, an epidemic diarrhoea/dysentery claims many lives particularly among children. Despite the fact that Government has been taking steps to put the epidemic under Central, the disease does not appear to have been completely eradicated. I think research requires to be conducted to find out the best way to eradicate the disease once and for all. It be higly appreciated if the Hon'ble Minister could tell the House steps taken by Government in this regards.

Regarding posting of conductors in PHC. I would like to say that even if posting of doctors in PHC's is not possible owing to shortage of doctors, nurses and health workers already posted in this centres should be instructed not to leave station except in genuine cases. Phuldungsei constituency is the only constituency in Aizawl District which is infetec by leprosy. Government therefore, should pay special attention to this region with regards to the condition of Health of the people.

It is a long time Mizoram was a U.T. there was a proposal to create more than one thousand posts in Health Department. If these posts are created, it would have been a good chance of promotion for some people while get employment. But till today no action has yet been taken. Opening of SHC's and PHC's is meaningless if they are without staff. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Chief Minister to finalise sanction of creation of the posts which remain pending with P & AR Department.

We have many doctors, even specialists who had undergone training in Delhi, London etc. owing to the absence of tools and implements in our Hospital, there specialists cannot put what they learned into practice. What we need most at the present situation is adviced tools and equipments. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister to take steps for procurement of advanced equipments.

Thank you.

PU ZOSIAM PACHUAU : Mr Speaker Sir, first of all I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister i/c Health Services to take note of what I have to say.

Now, Mizoram is having a number of PHC's and SHC's. Even though they are not yet sufficient to meet our requirement, we have the largest number among all other states in India considering the small area of our state and the small population. Yet this is not a matter of satisfaction. The buildings of PHC and SHC, unless staffed by doctors, cannot help to cure our illnesses. Shortage of doctor is the result of negligence on the part of Government. In case the availability of Mizo doctors is limited, there is a provision of fund in the budget for employing Non-Mizo doctors on deputation against existing vacancies. I wonder if Government as it does to PWD or PHE in which many outsiders are being employed on deputation. Government must understand the exact position of poor people who came to Aizawl for treatment without any means of purchasing medicines. I would like to suggest that if some mobile doctors are employed to visit rural areas at an interval of a month or two, the hardships being faced by the people would be greatly alleviated.

The service conditions and facilities being provided to doctors required to be improved. They live in poorly finished quarters and only very few of them are provided with vehicles. In compared with the condition of officers of the same grade in other departments the condition of doctors is very poor. How can we expect them to serve the people with enthusiasm and love while Government turns a deaf ear to their welfare? Therefore, they deserve better living quarters and vehicles for conveyance. At the same time their service condition requires to be improved. One cannot be expected to be efficient without any scope for promotion. In Health Department promotion chances are very limited and doctors cannot have any incentives in the performances of their duties. Unless the service condition of doctors is improved, we have a very small chance of having a good doctors. Under the circumstances the service condition of doctors as well as the facilities provisions, should be made for employment of mobile doctors.

PU IALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to convey my thanks to members in anticipation of passing my demands for 1987-88 in respect of Health Service Department. I am also very glad to hear members give good advice for better functioning of the Department.

It is our desire to make more demands for the Department but we are not in a position to demand more funds from plan budget. For the remaining three years of the plan, the existing funds require to be adjusted. A proposal for creation of many posts has not yet been approved. Therefore, no new posts can be created as a result we are not in a position to make a demand for additional funds.

One member spoke as to the proposal was kept pending with P & AR Department. The fact is that the proposal is now in Finance Department for concurrence. Had the proposal for creation of posts been approved earlier, the amount of demands could have been raised. It is a pity that due to some reasons stated above, are not in a position to make demands.

There is a complain that some specialists do not enjoy the rank pay. The fact is that at present there is one doctor which has a post graduate degree but who does not enjoy the rank pay. The reason is, a post graduate degree holder is entitled to get the pay of post graduate only after putting in three years service the present one, Mr Lalbiakkima has had only two years service, and after putting in another one year service, he will get his rank pay.

The main problem being faced by this department is shortage of doctors. After careful scrutiny, it was found that as many as 25 posts are lying vacant in the administrative live alone, and there are no qualified persons to fill up these vacant posts. At present there are about 90 students studying M.Phil. About seven or eight persons are expected to finish their studies in the near future. Moreover, it is difficult to obtain the services of outsiders on deputation most probably because Mizoram was a disturbed area. An advertisement has also been issued many a times seeking employment of deputationists but there is hardly any response. However, steps will be taken to fill up as many as vacant posts at the earliest possible.

PHC's are opened in various places bearing in mind the equitable distribution. While it is the duty of Government to improve the welfare of doctors, it is the duty of the people, MLA's in particular to see if the doctors posted in various places remain in their respective places of posting. I do solicit the co-operation of members in this matter.

Government is aware that facilities provided to PHC's are not satisfactory, you will see that many proposals are made for construction of PHC buildings and for completion of buildings already started. Mizoram is supposed to have around 170 sub-centres but the total are not in a position to properly maintain these sub-centres. Government is of the opinion that Mizoram needs more sub-centres rather than a few well maintained sub-centres, and accordingly stress is laid upon quantity rather than quality.

The Department has many things to do. Forestablishment of PHC and Hospitals at Mamit, Bairabi, Lungsen, Tawipui, Lawngtlai, Chawngte, Kawrthah Thingsulthliah and Thenzawl a separate provision of fund has been made in the budget. There is also a proposal to improve the building of PHC's at N.E. Bualpui, Lungpho Ngentlang, Kawrthawveng, Cherhulun and Khawrihnim. The establishment while medical centres in various places like Tlungvel, Chhingchip, Hualtu, Keitum, Sihphir, Chhiahtlang, Pangzawl, Leite, Zobawk, Tawipui, Lawngtlai and Tuipang have now been converted into sub Centres. Beside these, a provision of fund is also made for repairing

of staff quarters at thirty places. Even though the amount of funds is far from sufficient to meet all our requirements, I hope that if the people co-operate us to make proper utilisation of the small amount of funds we have, we shall be able to make steps for gladly approve the demands which I have moved.

Thank you.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, though I am not against passing the demands, I would like to say that last year a certain amount of fund was provided for employment of additional staff in Health Department but the fund remained intact due to ban on creation of new posts. It will be a good idea if the fund is diverted elsewhere. And I would like to know the reason why the amount of fund in the plan budget is less by 40 lakhs than that of last year.

S P E A K E R : There is no time to clarify that because you do not ask for the clarification while you were given a chance you may enquire it from office.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I did ask for the clarification but the Hon'ble Minister did not give any clarification to that particular point members must be apprised of the reason why the amount is less by 48 lakhs this year.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, there are at present three years left in this plan and the funds left are divided into three and one share is allocated for this year's budget. We can do nothing beyond this, we made a demand much more than this but the present amount of fund is the maximum what can be allocated in plan budget.
MINISTER

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr Speaker sir, why is it that a restriction on the amount of fund is imposed in respect of Health Department while the same is liberally allotted in respect of other Departments ?

S P E A K E R : The Hon'ble Minister i/c Health service Department has now moved demand no. 19 amounting to Rs.74, 50,000.00 in respect of the Department under this charge. The House has had a deliberation and the Hon'ble Minister begged leave of the House to pass the demand. Anyone who agrees to pass may say "agree".

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Mr Speaker Sir, the list of Business for today was received just before we come to attend sitting. Can it be sent a bit earlier so as to enable us to attend sitting well prepared?

S P E A K E R : It is a good suggestion. From now, members will receive the list of Business well in advance along with the copies of proceedings of the previous sitting. If any members receive the list of business later than what I said, please inform me.

Okey, we shall resume the sitting at 10 : 30 A.M. tomorrow. The House is adjourned.

The House is adjourned at 4:35 p.M.

J.K. K ENGLAWT
Secretary.