

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIRST MIZORAM
STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2ND SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, 17TH AUGUST, 1988

PRESENT

PU J. THANGUAMA, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister,
11 Ministers and 24 Members were present.

QUESTION

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

LAYING OF PAPERS

2. PU H. RAMMAWI, Minister of State i/c Transport Department etc. to lay on the Table of the House a copy each of :-
 - (a) Government Notification No. STV.28/81-83 and
 - (b) Government Notification No. STIV 127/87/18

ANNOUNCEMENT

3. The SPEAKER to announce that the Business Advisory Committee at its sitting held on 16.8.88 agreed to extend the current session upto Monday 22nd August, 1988.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

4. (a) PU R. LALAWIA, Chairman, Committee on Estimates to present to the House the First Report of the Committee on Estimates on Local Administration Department Part I.
4. (b) PU VANLALHURUAIA, Chairman, Committee on Government Assurance to present to the House the Second Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bill for consideration and passing.

5. PU ZORAMTHANGA, Minister in-charge Finance Department etc. to move
 - (a) that the Mizoram (Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Taxation) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1988 be taken into consideration.
 - (b) that the Bill be passed.

S P E A K E R : The LORD lifteth up the meek; he
casteth the wicked down to the ground.

Psalm 147:6

Question, Pu Vanlalngbaka.

PU VANLALNGHAKA : Pu Speaker, my Starred Question
No. 14 -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Rural Develop-
ment Department be pleased to state -

When can we start the construction of Saikuti Hall
building at Lunglei ? Where shall we build it ?

PU NGURCHHINA : Pu Speaker, the answer to this Ques-
MINISTER tion is the final decision has not
been made for when and where can
Saikuti Hall be built.

PU VANLALNGHAKA : Pu Speaker, Additional Question -
Lunglei Town Committee had been
formed during Congress Ministry
and this Committee Selected Lawn Tennis Court for the site
of Saikuti Hall. Is not Rs. 1,00,000/- allotted for the
construction of D.C. Office building ?

PU P.LALBIAKA : Pu Speaker, Additional Question -
Our Hon'ble Agriculture Minister
said in the Public

that the site for Sa
He also said that it would be transferred to Saiha,
site for the proposed Hall had already been selected long
time ago. While the matter is secured for consideration, how
can they said that it would be transferred to Saiha ? They
have no respect for the public of Lunglei Town.

S P E A K E R : Keep silence please. For Point of
claridication the members should
not ask question directly.

PU NGURCHHINA : Pu Speaker,
MINISTER P.C. Party's M.L.A. at that time
moved resolution on date 9.9.1985
which runs - "This Assembly resolves that a new Hall to be
constructed by the Government of Mizoram at Lunglei be
named as Saikuti Hall". This Resolution was passed. They
selected a site for it. But Revenue Office had been cons-
tructed on this site and they did not even make estimate.
Now we have P/D made the estimate and it is about Rs.97.76
lakhs. This Hall is estimated to accomodate 1000 people
and it includes Library room, Reception Room, Office Room,
Canteen Room and Conference Hall. The construction cannot
be started because they could not get Revenue pass. We
allotted Rs. 1,00,000/- as taken provision from Current
Budget, and we think it will be enough for site development.
It cannot be started only because we have no site allotment.

PU VANLALINGHAKA : Pu Speaker, One Additional Question - The matter of the site is under consideration as our Hon'ble Minister said. But when the Revenue Minister visited Lunglei, the official told him that plot is not the ear-mark for Saikuti Hall due to the wrong briefing. Had he not make the decision at that place ?

PU F. DALBIKA : Pu Speaker, my Question is not answered yet. Is there any intention to transfere Saikuti Hall to Saiha ?

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, I want to say about this matter. It seems that the resolution had been passed by our former authorities. But till today, we say that it is being under consideration. In my opinion, the Minister in-charge could make final decision in this matter with the help of the people of Lunglei. But he has made a slow progress in the matter of the site. We are talking only about token provision after two years had passed. The question to be answered is whether there is an intention to transfer the proposed Hall from Lunglei to Saiha. The question if not yet answered.

PU NGURCHHINA
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, Saikuti Hall is not going to be transferred to Saiha. Another estimate is made for Saiha Hall. Out of my zealousy, I spoke hypothetically at the public meeting to start the work soon because the public of Saiha are asking repeatedly to transfer it to Saiha.

The site is to be selected by the people not by us. They formed a Committee. This matter is neglected for a long time and the estimate is only finished by April this year.

S P E A K E R : Question No. 5, Pu Liansuama.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, my question No. 15 -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Finance Department be pleased to state -

- 1) Will the Government accept the proposal made by the Pay Anomalies Committee to examine the Pay Scale of the Government Servants.
- 2) What is the reason if it is not accepted.
- 3) If accepted what will be the effective date.

PU ZORAMTHL. NGA
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the answer is this. This matter is under consideration. The second questions cannot be answered now. All the Finances due were submitted to the Government. Therefore, the Government will soon consider this matter.

PU K.L.LIANCHIA : Pu

I asked this same question in the last Assembly Session. Pu Speaker, I received the same answer at that time and a long time had passed since that time. What is the exact duration of their short time? That is my first question for the second, the Government Servants are appointed on the basis of interview. I know that some outsiders recommendations. But no member of the Assembly get this list. While outsiders can get. What is the reason for this?

PU LIANSUAMA :

Pu Speaker, it seems that the Government do not pay attention to the Pay Anomalies. We, the MLAs including you, the Speaker are successful in our demand about the pay of our Ministers. It is clear that the authorities neglect the Government Servants. Therefore, they want the Government to pay more attention Government Servants enjoy their new pay scale can our Hon'ble Minister the month of September?

PU VANLALNGENA :

Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question - Regarding the Committee Report, the Salary of Clerical Staffs is much better than that of the Technical Staffs. Is not it better to regard their difference as they were always in the same status before this. Will it be able to reconsider this matter?

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA:

Pu Speaker, It seems that we are trying to make our state into a Model State. As we listened yesterday. We are trying to make the whole India into a model state. When this report was received by the Police Force, they were really in despair. Is this our way to make a model state? Will they be neglected longer?

PU ZORAMTHANGA
MINISTER :

Pu Speaker, as our respected members said earlier, there are many things which needed careful consideration, such as, technical, clerical, Police, different departments, associations on the basis of Pay Anomaly Committee's Report. The Pay Anomaly may have advantages and disadvantages. Besides these, it is needed to consider Departmental points of view. After Pay Anomaly Committee submitted the report we received many letters and suggestions from any departments and Associations. Therefore a long time is spend to consider all this things after the Pay Anomaly Committee's report had been submitted. But all these necessary considerations have been finished now. So I hope that we can start working on this matter within this year.

We cannot distribute the report of Pay Anomaly Committee's will try to finish this work as soon as possible. Now we have all necessary documents and we are ready to start this work.

S P E A K E R :

Question No. 16- Pu Vanlalngena.

PU VANLALINGENA : Pu Speaker, my starred question No.16

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Civil Supply Department be pleased to state -

How many quintals of rice are taken in by the Government from 1st April, 1988 - 31st July, 1988 (within 4 months) ?

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, the answer to this question is this - The Government of Mizoram procured 2,47,692 quintals during 1st April, -31st July, 1988.

PU VANLALINGENA : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question - Supply Minister always broadcast on Radio and Press that the Mizoram has sufficient food supply. When our Hon'ble Chief Minister came back from Delhi he reported that our food supply has been increased by 80,000 quintals. But the problem of food supply is increasing till today. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister said at the cere ony of Independence day that there is sufficient supply of food in Mizoram and that they have already stocked enough quantity for the rainy season.

But regarding the payment of allotment, the town area get only one third of their share and the allotment for the month of August has not been given till today. We are facing serious problem on food supply and the rural areas suffer more. According to the Government's Press released March, 1988 it is found that one third of our food supply during the month of January - March had been lost which was about 1,30,000 quintals. It is clear from the allotment for the month of April that our Minister always propogandized the false information while the real position of Mizoram is as above.

I state these facts for the better understanding of my questions. We are facing problems on every necessities for our living. Kerosene Oil is also very scare. Why don't you pay more attention to these daily necessities ? Don't you know how to solve these problems let we do it. We can do better than you. If you could not take in even from Silchar, let me hold this important position. I will supply sufficient quantity for our state. I give you my assurance.

PU SAIKAPTHINGA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - In my opinion the Hon'ble Supply Minister's speech yesterday was grievous. We all know the scarcity of food in Mizoram. Can we believe his statement as a fact while we are ifacing the problems of food, supply ? Did he answer my question yesterday ?

PU VANLALINGENA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - How many quintals of rice are consumed by the whole Mizoram in one week ? For the second, Why even one quintal of rice could not reach the godown of Thingsai Vaillage ? The Minister knew that the supply could not reach his constituency. Can you send only a weeks quota to the Thingsai's Godown for my constituency within this week ?

PU F. LALRAMLIANA : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question -
Our Hon'ble Minister said that
2,47,692 Quintals of rice were pur-
chased within four months. How many quintals of rice are
lost out of this? How did the Government find out? Did
our Hon'ble Chief Minister not take an information from the
Supply Minister before he said at the ceremony of Indepen-
dence Day that they stocked enough quantity of food supply
for the rainy season?

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, Food is most important
for our State. We had said about
this matter in the last Session. You
also had visited Kolasib, Vairengte Godowns and Kawrthah
Constituency in connection with this problem which was very
pleasing. Large quantity of rice were purchased from 1st
April to 31st July. The Central Government also increased
our allotment by 5000 quintals monthly. In the last session
the Supply Minister said that all our quota was lifted. "c-
ording to the record of F.C.I. Godown and Supply Office it
is seen that we took full quota. But we are still suffering
from food problem. What is the reason for this problem?
How many persons are found responsible for the lost of
Supply? To whom did they take action?

PU H. RAMIAWI : Pu Speaker, There are so many ques-
MINISTER tions. Therefore, please remind we if
I miss some questions.

The answer for the first question is,
we had given allotment for the month of August in Aizawl
Town. The allotment is made for two weeks. The retailers
are taking out their quota for the month of August. I want
to explain this matter more detail. The term is made for
retailers to draw their quota from the Godown. But due to
bad facilities the retailers could not take out their quota
within the given term so we always extended their term.

For the second, the allotment for
Kerosene Oil is cut down for monsoon block in the while India.
But we asked the Petroleum Ministry to increase our quota.
But Silchar to Shillong Road is blocked and gas could not
arrived our State which resulted in consumption of more Kero-
sene. We reported our problem to the Petroleum Ministry and
they are very understanding. We had lifted our quota for the
month of August and the Ministry of Petroleum told us to
report immediately. When we use up our quota and we already
reported this matter, now we are waiting for their answers.

The answer to the question of our
respected member of Thingsai Constituency is we are sending
food supply to Thingsai. Regarding Pu Ramliana's question -
We admitted the lost of our food supply. We are investiga-
ting this matter. Regarding the speech of our Hon'ble
Chief Minister, we get sufficient food supply according to
our allotment and to the record of F.C.I.

Our basic problem on this matter is
that the Central Government could not provide us sufficient
food supply through F.C.I. The F.C.I. should bring our food

supply to Zuangtui Godown. This is not our responsibility. But when they failed this we helped them in transport. That is the basic reason for this problem. But we must also regard the cause of their failure. India suffered a draught last year and it affected the whole country in food but the Central Government supplied as much food as possible to all the States and no State suffered a severe famine. So the Central Government is praise worthy for this. And our State is the only State which had finished lifting its allotment within the allotted month. So we had lifted all our allotments. The other reason for our food problem is that our allotment is based on 1981 Census, therefore our allotment is not enough for our allotment. We were always giving help to F.C.I., Sometimes we lifted from Gauhati also Pu Speaker that is our real position in this matters.

PU F.LALRAMLI:NA : Pu Speaker, Our Hon'ble Minister admitted the lost of our food supply. I asked him whether action was taken against the persons responsible for lost of rice supply? For example Rice was sent from Lawngtlai to Maubawk, but only the Challan reached Maubawk and the Store-keeper did not want to receive, the Challan only. But they got official letter from the office of Saiha Deputy Commissioner and it ordered the Store-keeper to receive that Challan. To whom do you take action in this case? Secondly, at Diltlang Village in my Constituency, the retailer never brought their food supply to their Village. I had reported this matter to the Government, to the Deputy Commissioner. But the Administrative Officer (A.O.O of Diltlang Village appointed the same retailer to take inquiry. Is this the Government's way of taking action? Is this how you make enquiry?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, my Question has not been answered yet. Please give me the answer.

PU VANLALNGENA : Pu Speaker, the Supply Minister said that they could not increase our quota although they tried very hard.

But it was broadcasted on radio and Press that our allotment had been increased by 8000 metric tons's when our Chief Minister and Supply Minister visited Delhi. But, how can our Supply Minister say that they could not increase our allotment now? Another thing I want to point out is from the month of April 9,538 supply of food reached Mizoram monthly. Our quota for the month of March was 65,000 quintals, therefore even without the increment there is sure to be lost of food supply while in transit.

Why could not they find out the persons responsible for this? Is there anything behind this? The Government Press release No1127 said that the Assembly Speaker Pu J.Thanghuame and Supply Officers are going to visit all the Godowns from Silchar to Aizawl to investigate this case. It had been investigated but you did not solve till today. How could you not find any responsible persons. You have due to start- the number of the carriers the amount of quintals they

carry and the date on which their Challans are issued. Why don't you trace them since they are very easy to trace? This seems that some of you are involving in this matter. You have to take up this matter seriously since food supply is most necessity.

PU LAL THANAWLA : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question - If what we hear from our Supply Minister is not wrong, I think he said that the Central could not provide us sufficient food supply. Is it right?

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, I want to say about the lost of food supply. S.D.O. of Lawngtlai received only the Challan No. DP/MAP/12 of 17.1.88, the food supply brought by ZRM/ASC 6935 to Lawngtlai on 23.3.88 which had a shortage of 49 quintals and 25 kgs, and only the Challan given by ZRM 1064 on 15.2.88 to Lawngtlai which the Store-keeper dare not received they get the S.D.O. countersign and they made the Store-keeper received afterwards.

You did not want to take action on all these cases. And another challan was received by the S.D.O. Lawngtlai without food supply the challan No. was BDO/RRGR/R-2 on 12.8.88. Instead of punishing this S.D.O. you promoted him. Moreover, the D.C. of Saiha transferred the Store-keeper of Sangau because he found him guilty. But our Hon'ble Supply Minister ordered the D.C. to reinstate him in his former post. Does our Supply Minister know that the Store-keeper's relatives at Hnahthial have a farm of pigery and they feed their pigs with fine rice.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, regarding the question of our respected member of Lawngtlai Constituency about the food supply of Diltlang Village - This case is reported to Supply Directorate and Government and I cannot give any answer because we received no information from them.

Secondly, the Store-keeper in-charge was immediately suspended from his duty as soon as we received the information. If you can produce document to prove about the officer who gave order for receive of that challan to the Storekeeper, the government will take action against the officer immediately.

Regarding the increment of our allotment. We asked the Central to increase our allotment but, Pu Speaker, I will explain the said increment. Our allotment for the months of April, May and June was increased which must be adjusted afterwards. It was not increased for our whole allotment just for the said three months.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, our consumption in one month is 6500 metric ton. According to our population one person can

receive 13 Kgs for one month. Taking in average there are six members in one family. So every family can receive 78 Kgs per month. Our Minister said that all our allotments were lifted. But we are still having food problem every where. What is the reason for this ?

PU SAIKAPTHI/NGA : Pu Speaker, whether our Supply Minister believe or not when he said that we receive sufficient supply of food while our Godowns are empty?

PU K.L.LI/NCHIA : Pu Speaker, give me one last chance to raise question and give advice. I believe what our Hon'ble Minister said. He said that the Central could not give us sufficient food supply and F.C.I. could not put our food supply in our Godowns. Besides these there are other problems like roads blocked etc. Therefore, regarding all these problems, our government must admit that they could not give us sufficient food supply.

The Government would do well in asking the people for their understanding in this failure without broadcasting and publishing on radio and press the false information. In my visit to my Constituency I learned that they received only half quota. Therefore the government must admit their failure providing the people sufficient food supply.

PU L.L. THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, We are not getting sufficient food supply although we lifted all our allotments. Our allotment is more than enough for us. Therefore, the Central would never increase our allotment beyond what is necessary. Therefore, it is wrong to say that the Central Government could not give us sufficient food supply. Our government must admit that the Central give us sufficiently but they themselves could not give the people sufficient food supply.

PU H.R.MML/WI
/ MINISTER : Pu Speaker, According to the opinion of Supply Department the Central Government did not give us our demand allotment based on our census.

Secondly, F.C.I. could not reach the supply to the Godown. We advised them to make a new rate for transportation but they did not want to change. This is beyond our control. F.C.I. is responsible for this problem and I want all of us, the people to understand this matter. When the people suffered due to the failure of F.C.I. to reach our food supply to our Godown we were giving help to F.C.I. in transportation.

That is our real position. In calculating on population wise the amount of our own product and our allotment was too much more than our consumption. But we always have food problems during the last Ministry. Therefore, the Central did not give us sufficient supply as much as we need. I want to give our example, if we weight again

all the supply at Zuangtui Godown there will be some shortages naturally. The amount can never reach the same. Therefore, in my opinion, it is more important to try to understand than to argue on this subject.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, It is clear from our allotment that the Central give us sufficient food supply F.C.I. always could not reach their load to our Godowns. During our Ministry we were picking our food supply from Gauhati to save the people from starvation. Therefore our Godowns are always full and the people received their quote in full. Why cannot they do like that also now.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, Please let him answer my question. I am asking repeatedly.

PU H.RAMMAWI
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, there are so many questions, at the same times. So I may be a little forgetful. Please report his question.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, Our Hon'ble Minister told us that there is sufficient supply of food in Mizoram. Pu Speaker, you know that there is no sufficient food supply in your Constituency and I know that in my Constituency and even our Minister. Knows that there is no sufficient supply in his Constituency, he also knows that Zuangtui Godown is empty today. Did he tell us from his heart when he told that food supply is sufficient while our real position is very bad. Whether he himself accept his words or he just say it using his freedom of speech ?

PU H.RAMMAWI
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, Regarding the first Question of our Opposition Leader the Central do not give us sufficient food supply in our opinion. And we are asking them more supply and we will try to increase our allotment. The number of our recent population is much more than the number of population in 1981 census. This shows our demand clearly.

Regarding the question of Pu Saikapthianga, according to our allotment and F.C.I. works we have done our duty completely.

S P E A K E R : We will call upon Pu F.Lalramliana to ask question No. 17 -

PU F.LALRAMLIANA : Pu Speaker, Question No. 17 -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Excise and Taxation Department be pleased to state -

1. Whether the present Ministry intent to give licence of foreign liquor (IMFL).

2. If there is any intention? How many License will be issued?
3. Which is more important to the Government the tax or the sellers and drinkers?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker -
MINISTER

1. This matter is under consideration.
2. We can not give the answer to this question.
3. The Government regards all the three are equally important.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question -
I will ask in percent because to say
in percent is very common among them.
In how many percent they succeed in their work? Is it 50%?

Secondly, the Minister said that they pay equal regard to the liquor tax, permit holder and the drinkers. I want to ask which one is regarded more important the persons who objected the licence of foreign liquor and the non-drinker or the sellers?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, In regards to the first
MINISTER question of Pu Zosiama Pachuau. Our success could not be calculated in percent.

Secondly, we give equal regard to them all.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, I think it is good to consider not only the food but also the drinks. The former Ministry thought they would attract the public if they sell liquor. Because during election campaign some Campaigners said that they would open liquor bar themselves. But the Campaigners of M.N.F. Party object the permission of IMFL, because some of the members are religious persons. But while we think our new Ministry will not permit this liquor matter it now seems that they want to give permission but they dare not. Why could you not decide this matter? What is the reason for this? Have you not collected enough public opinion?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, Government is not run by
MINISTER individual interest. We must run the Government for the good of the majority of the people and according to the ability of the people. Therefore, it is difficult to run the Government according to the mentality of the individual or to the wish of a few people. A Government cannot be efficient if it is run according to the interest of only few people. Therefore, we also try to run the Government and make our policy as much as possible for the good of the people and according to the ability of the people not as we wish.

As regards to the termination of the licence of IMFL. In our election manifesto we said that this policy will be terminated taking the opinion of the people. Now we are taking the opinion of the people some said that the time is too long and other said that it is too short. Therefore, the Government is taking time as they think necessary.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, Question No. 18. Why could not the Silsury voters cast their vote in the election of Marpara North Village Council ?

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, An order is made to attached the Silsury Sub-Village to the Pukzing Village. Because of this the Silsury Voters could not east their votes in the Election of Marpara North Village Council.

PU F.LALRAMLIANA : Pu Speaker, Question No. 19 - What are the rates of different quality of rice in Government Godowns and Ex-Godowns ?

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, the Godown rate and Ex-Godown rate are the same. That is

- (a) Super Fince Rice - Rs. 216/- per quintals.
- (b) Common Rice - Rs. 178/- per quintals.

PU VANLALNGENA : Pu Speaker, Question No. 20 - When can you grant Vehicle loan and Housing loan to the M.L.As ?

PU SAINGURA SAILO : Pu Speaker, The rules relating to grant of loan to members for construction and purchase of Motor Vehicle has already been finalised, members of the Mizoram Legislative may not apply and obtain as per the rules.

PU S.HIATO : Pu Speaker, Question No. 21 -
Hydel Sub-Divisional Officer, Hydel Project Saiha is camped at Lunglei.
What is the reason for this ? Is there any intention to shift to Saiha ? If so when ?

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, Hydel Sub-Division Saiha created for Tuisumpui Micro Hydel Project is attached temporarily to Executive Engineer, Lunglei, who is also in-charge of Saiha, for the purpose of designing estimation and other initial works of the Project. This was administratively convenient.

The Sub-Division shall be shifted to the worksite before the start of the construction work on Project expected sometimes in October/November, 1988.

PU K.L.LIANCHIA : Pu Speaker, Question No. 22 -
What is the qualification requires
for the post of College Lecturer ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, First Class Master degree
MINISTER in the subject concerned or allied
subject or 2nd Class Master Degree
with honours at Graduate level in the subject concerned.
Desireable (1) Research Degree.

PU K.L.LIANCHIA : Pu Speaker, Question No. 23 - When will
PU VANLALNGENA the Government grant the compensation
for the burnt down of houses and pro-
and for the properties and Houses destroyed by fire
during we were under the disturbed area.

PU TAWNLUIA : The compensation will be distributed
MINISTER when the Central Government allot the
sanction. The proposed sanction is
Rs.5,000/- each for burnt-down houses
and Rs. 4,000/- each for destroyed houses and properties.

PU VANLALNGENA : Pu Speaker, Question No.24 -
Has the Government fix up the rate of Taxi and
Town Bus fare ? What is the rate made by the
Government ?

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, It is being processed.
MINISTER The Government is preparing the rate
and it is being compared with written
opinion of the people.

PU VANLALNGHAKA : Pu Speaker, Question No.25 -
Whether the construction of P.H.C. Building at
Cherhlun has been completed. If not, Why ?
and. E:

PU LAIRINCHHAN : Pu Speaker, not yet.
MINISTER

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, Question No. 26 -

Is there any advance of fund upto date 7.3.88 or
if more convinient date 29.2.88 out of A Supplemen-
tary Demand Rs. 103 crores which had been passed on
date 7.3.88 in the Assembly Session ? If so, how
much ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, Rs. 1,488.18 lakhs was used
in advance. But there was no over
draft.

PU F.LALRAMLIANA : Pu Speaker, Question No.27 -

Whether the position of food supply is good enough?
To which places the food supply had been dropped
by the Helicopter during the year of 1988 ?

PU H.RAMMAWI
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the position of food
supply is good enough. Upto date
1.8.1988, the food supply had been
dropped to the following Villages -

- (1) Parva
- (2) Vaseitlang
- (3) Tongkolong
- (4) Tuithumhna
- (5) New Jognasury
- (6) Sangau
- (7) Vawmbuk

PU S.HIATO : Pu Speaker, Question No. 28 -
The posts of Fourth Grade for which
an interview had been finished have
not been filled up till today. What is the reason for this
delay? Is there any intention for filling up? If so, when?

PU LALRINCHHANA : Pu Speaker, They are being filled up.
It has been delayed due to the need of
post creation and re-checking.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over. Now we will
call upon Pu H.Rammawi, Minister in-
charge of Supply Department to lay
the paper.

PU H.RAMMAWI
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission I
beg to lay the Government Notifica-
tion No.STG. 128/81/83 and Government
Notification No.STG. 127/87/80 on the table of this House.

S P E A K E R : B.A.C. had a meeting yesterday.
According to our programme our
Session will last till this coming
Friday. But our Session is extended upto next Monday due
to necessity. Now we will call upon Pu R.Lalawia, Chairman
Estimate Committee to give the report.

PU R. LALAWIA : Pu Speaker, with your permission, I present this House First Report Part-I, Local Administration Department of Committee on Estimate. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now we will call upon Pu Vanlalhrusia, Chairman Committee on Government Assurance to present the report to the House.

PU VANLALHRUSIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I the Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurance having been authorised by the Committee to submit its Report on their behalf, present this Second Report of the Committee to the House. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Distribute the copies again. Yesterday, The Mizoram Professions, Traders Calling and Employments Taxation Second Amendment Bill, 1988 had been introduced by Pu Zoramthanga Minister in-charge Finance. Now we will call upon him to ask the permissions to consider.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, I want to say one thing before the Hon'ble Minister makes a speech. The Report of Privilege Committee which had been laid yesterday was about false publication made by Rawlthar against our senior most Pu H.K. Chakma. Editor and Publisher was present in the House Yesterday. When will we discuss about this? (Speaker : That will be tomorrow). We may have many things to say about clarifications submitted by our Chairman of Estimate Committee. When will you give us time to discuss about this?

S P E A K E R : We will consider it as we have time. Now lets call our Finance Minister to move.

PU ZORAMTHANGA MINISTER : Pu Speaker with your permission, I beg this House to consider this Mizoram Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Taxation Second Amendment Bill, 1988.

S P E A K E R : Do we agree? let us call upon him to explain.

PU ZORAMTHANGA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission, I am very please that the House agrees to consider "Mizoram Professions, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation Second Amendment Bill, 1988".

From 1964, Employment and Taxation, Trades, Callings and Professions Bill was being enforced, and this amendment is to fix the tax. Before the Amendment

lower this tax is levied from persons whose yearly income is above Rs.6,000/- and the upper limit is Rs.35,000/-. Rs.30/- was levied from the persons whose income was between Rs.6,000/- Rs. 10,000/-. And Rs.50/- was levied from Rs.10,000/- Rs.15,000/- and Rs.75/- was levied from Rs. 10,000/- Rs.15,000/- and Rs.75/- was levied from the yearly income of Rs.15,000/- Rs.20,000/-, Rs.100/- was levied from the income of Rs.20,000 - Rs.25,000/-, Rs.150 was levied from the yearly income of Rs.25,000/- - Rs.30,000/-, Rs.200/- was levied from the yearly income of Rs.30,000/- - Rs.35,000/- and Rs. 250 was levied from the persons whose yearly income was above Rs.35,000/-.

There may be a question about why did Rs.250/- only was levied while there were many persons whose yearly income was much more than Rs.35,000/- The reason for this is the Indian Constitution prohibited to levy not more than Rs.250/- in this Bill. But now when the department and the authorities study the limit carefully they suggest that the limit must be Rs.10,000/- as the salaries of the Government Servants have been increased. This amendment is made from this point of view. Therefore, the existing seven steps of taxes will be reduced to four steps only. They are from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.15,000/- we will take Rs.50/- Rs.100/- from Rs.15,000/- Rs.20,000/- Rs.175/- from Rs.25,000/-Rs.35,000/- and Rs.250/- from Rs.35,000/- above. It will be easier to collect and the collected tax will be much more than before. The objective in the amendment is to collect more amount of taxes with fewer steps. Therefore to amend this bill is good for our country. Therefore, I beg the House to agree to amend this Bill. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : It seems that the explanation is clear enough. Is there anyone else to say about this Bill?

PU VANLALNGENA : Pu Speaker, It seems that the explanation about the Amendment Bill given by our Hon'ble Finance Minister is good enough. In my opinion to exempt persons whose yearly income is less than Rs.10,000/- is most likely. (The Schedule Section 4, begins. In the case of every person where the total 'gross income' and makes the ending as - 'The rates provided in this regulation was reviewed by the Mizoram Resources and Taxation Inquiry Committee who recommended reduction of the existing 7 steps to four and raising the rates of tax from the largest income group of Rs.20,000/- to Rs.30,000/- in order to mobilise additional revenue from this items hence the bill'.

According to this statement the largest income group is of Rs.20,000/- to Rs.30,000/- and the tax is Rs.175/- according to the amendment. But almost all the Government Servants are in this income group it looks as if to punish the Government Servants.

On the other hand, as our Hon'ble Minister stated that the upper limit is Rs.250/- as the Government of India forbids to levy more than this. I believe that this is right. But if we consider the wealthy persons who have many vehicles or Industry or Workshop and

the poor Government Servants who wait eagerly their monthly salaries, the effect of this Amendment will be different greatly on these two classes of people. Therefore in my opinion it may be better to continue the existing rules. It is very good to increase the lower limit to Rs.10,000/- but if the upper limit remains the same the tax will be very heavy for the poor Government Servants. And this will exempt the wealthy class.

Therefore let us not agree to pass this Amendment Bill easily. Let us refer to the select Committee. If we amend this Bill easily it will be a punishment for our Government Servants.

L.D.C., U.D.C. and other most important Office Staffs will become among the largest income group. That's all I want to say.

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

PU R.LALAWIA : Pu Speaker, In my opinion this Amendment try to exempt the lower class of the people whose income is not more than Rs.6,000/- only. In this Amendment the existing 7 steps is reduced to four steps. The recommended step is good enough in my opinion. Regarding the example given by our respected member from Hnahthial Constituency about the Owners of Motor Vehicles. Vehicles cannot be taken as an example because the Owners pay Vehicles tax. In this amendment even the Middle Class give tax to the Government. I believe that the Government will plan another source of taxes for the upper class.

Regarding the Sales Tax we had discussed Yesterday, the wealthy did not give tax. They increase the prices in lieu of giving Sales Tax. Therefore, in my opinion this Amendment Bill is good enough and we must agree to amend this Bill.

Thank you.

PU VANLALNGHAKA : Pu Speaker, I did not say that the clarification would hurt the Government Servants. But if we pass this Bill they will eventually. I know that it is direct tax as this has to be paid from gross - income not from net income.

PU K.D.LIANCHIA : Pu Speaker, I want to say few things. The Speech of the respected member of Hnahthial Constituency may contain some truths. The tax is being levied today and the objective of this Amendment is just to change the rates and the step of the tax. The existing rate is too detail and low. In this rate, the recipients of IRDP are under the lower income group. Therefore, the lower rate i.e. Rs.6,000/- is upto Rs.10,000/- In my opinion, it must be Rs.12,000/- instead of Rs. 10,000/-.

This tax is not mean to be paid only by the Government Servants. The Merchants also should have to pay after making proper assessment and the contractors also will have to pay from their profits. Therefore, it includes almost the whole Class of Society.

The Financial Memorandum shows that this will increase our resources by 5.5 lakhs. And it seems that the maker of this Amendment is careful enough. Therefore, it is good to agree to amend this Bill.

Thank you.

PU VANLALHURUAI : Pu Speaker, I support our respected MLA. In this some may have to pay higher rate but the additional amount they will have to pay will not be much. In fact, many of them may have to pay smaller amount than they expected. Besides these, the Merchants are always ready to pay highest amount of Rs.250/- because they never kept accounts. So it is pleasing that they reduced the existing detailed 8 steps to the simpler four steps. From Government Servants point of view, it may seem that the tax they have to pay is going to increase, but if we calculate the exact rate of increment it will be very low. I believe some may pay the same amount as before. Therefore, in my opinion it will be better to agree to amend this Bill easily.

PU VANLALNGENA : Pu Speaker, We are a new State and there is a suggestion to increase our taxes. The Revenue Committee consider carefully how to increase the rates of our different kinds of taxes. But what I want to criticize is the Sale Tax Bill introduced Yesterday and this Amendment Bill will affect more the poorer classes than the higher classes of people. We really need more Revenue as we are a new State. But we need to promote the living standard of our people in the first place. In fact, 80% of our total population is in need of I.R.D.P.

The yearly income group of Rs.10,000/- includes Peons and L.D.C. and whereas the upper income group could not pay more than Rs.250/-. Therefore, in my opinion this Amendment Bill needs reconsideration. The Collection of this Professional Tax is also not proper. There are many irregularities in the collection of this tax. All these also need Amendment. As earlier said, we need more revenue but we must consider carefully from whom we levy the taxes. We must not impose any taxes to make difficulties for the poor. We are under a disturbed area for 20 years and we are only a newly State, so our standard is not good enough and we need more time to promote our standard in everyway. So let us leave this Bill for reconsideration as we have done yesterday.

Lastly, we must not levy this tax from the income group of Rs.10,000/- to Rs.15,000/-. We must reconsider this Bill more carefully. So I beg not to agree to amend this Bill.

PU H. RAMMLAWI
MINISTER

Pu Speaker, I want to have a short speech. Our respected member before me might not give a careful examination to this Bill. It is not to introduce a new Bill, it is only an Amendment. If we amend this Bill all the persons whose income is less than Rs.10,000/- will not pay this tax. This Amendment Bill will exempt the poor, and also will raise the amount of our revenue by about 5 lakhs according to the Financial Memorandum. Regarding the upper ceiling limit, the Indian Constitution does not permit us to levy more than Rs.250/-. So it is the Constitutional ceiling limit, and we cannot break our Constitution. It is very likely to exempt Peons and Fourth Grades as said earlier. According to the existing rules, not only Peons and Fourth Grades, but also Casual Employees are also included in this Professional Tax. If we raise the lower limit Rs.6,000/- to Rs.10,000/- it will be much better than before as it will exempt the lower income group. As our respected member of Bilkhawthir Constituency said earlier, the existing rates have too many steps. To make things easier for and the public and the Government, it is necessary to reduce the many step of taxes.

The aim of the amendment is to increase our revenue as well as to exempt poorer people from taxes. We can not make better Amendment than this in this regard today. Therefore, in my opinion, we must agree to amend this Bill.

Thank you.

PU R.C.ZOR MSANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, It is pleasing to discuss this Bill, as it is for the increment of the State Revenue. But whenever we introduce or discuss any bills, they always affected the lower classes of the people. In this bill also the lower limit will still affect the lower classes of the people while the upper limit is too small for the wealthy classes whose income reach about some lakhs. There are many persons whose income are much more than others and it will be good to levy more taxes from such people if there is a way. This will be used to aid the poor as well as to increase our States Revenue. It is not to be misused.

Therefore, we must try to raise the upper ceiling limit, so that we can levy more taxes on the wealthy persons.

Regarding the last session, only Rs.60 lakhs is allotted for the rural areas while Rs.950/- lakhs is allotted for our Ministers and other few people. Today's discussion remind me that we are really under the power of the wealthys. In my opinion, we make some plans as if we are paid off by the capitalists. Therefore, I think this Amendment Bill is not good enough to amend today.

The income group of Rs.10,000/- to Rs.15,000/- are under the group who are in need of IRDP. Regarding the inflation today we must not add the hardship of the poor by levying this kind of tax from them. Instead we must try to find the way to levy more taxes from the capitalists who can affords luxury. As this is the case, this amendment needs careful reconsideration.

Thank you.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, We had a discussion about the taxation even in the last Session. Our Hon'ble Minister said that they formed the Resources Mobilisation Committee and they carefully considered about the tax. Today, we are discussing the outcome of that Resources Mobilisation Committee. I support the Speeches of our respected members before me. It seems that there will be some way to raise the amount of our taxes while exempting the poor. On the last page of the explanation of this Amendment Bill, it explains that due to this Amendment our revenue will be increased by about Rs.5.5 lakhs. As I had pointed out in the last Session about the motor fare - The State Transport Bus in my Constituency for example has a full passengers but the actual amount of money submitted to the department is very little. I want our Hon'ble Minister to record this - On last Saturday I was coming from Kolasib by the State Transport Bus, I found many persons who paid the fare but did not take the Bus ticket. In this way our Government always did not receive the revenue and this creates many problems.

Regarding this Professional Tax - the upper limit - Rs.250/- only is too low. It means that there is no justice. If the persons whose yearly income is much more than Rs.35,000/-, lakhs and the persons whose income is just about Rs.30,000/- to Rs.35,000/- will contribute the same amount of taxes. Therefore the rates must be made as percent wise. The income group of Rs.30,000/- must also be the lower ceiling limit. The Principle of this Bill needed Amendment in my opinion. And I think it will be better if we do not agree to amend this Bill today. That is all I want to say.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA ; Pu Speaker, I support our respected member who speak before me. This Amendment Bill seems to affect even the poor classes. Although we need more Revenue, we may create our own problems if we amend this Bill. Regarding the rate, I have no suggestion regarding the exact rate for highest ceiling limit, but I want to suggest to reconsider the rate.

S P E A K E R : We have discussion enough. The Minister in-charge begs to pass the Mizoram Professions Calling Unemployment Taxation Second Amendment Bill, 1988, therefore raise your hand those who agree to pass this Bill may raise your hands. How many persons who disagree ?

(All except four/five persons raised their hands in agreement).

Okay, we will discuss the Privilege Committee Report mentioned by our respected member Pu Liansuama next Monday. I have included it among the list of business. Motion will have to be moved for discussion. Besides this, if we want to discuss the Estimate Committee's Report next Monday the motion must be submitted by any member. Now we have finished our business for today. We will have a meeting tomorrow at 10:30 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 A.M.