

# MIZORAM STATE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## GOVERNOR

Pu A. Padmanaban

## SPEAKER

Pu R. Lalawia

## DEPUTY SPEAKER

Pu Vanlalhlana

## SECRETARY

Pu H.L. Chunga

## CABINET MINISTERS

- |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. PU ZORAMTHANGA<br>CHIEF MINISTER        | 1. Finance Department<br>2. Agriculture Department<br>3. Horticulture Department<br>4. Political & Cabinet Department<br>5. DP & AR<br>6. General Administration Department<br>7. Secretariat Administration Department<br>8. Vigilance Department<br>9. Economic & Statistics Department<br>10. Planning & Programme Implementation<br>Department |
| 2. PU LALHMINGTHANGA<br>Dy. CHIEF MINISTER | 1. Power & Electricity Department<br>2. Industries Department<br>3. Soil & Water Conservation Department                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3. PU TAWNLUIA<br>MINISTER                 | 1. Home Department<br>2. Public Health Engineering Department<br>3. Taxation & Excise Department                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 4. PU R. TLANGHMINGTHANGA<br>MINISTER      | 1. Public Works Department<br>2. Co-operation Department                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 5. PU LALRINCHHANA<br>MINISTER             | 1. Land Revenue & Settlement Department<br>2. Animal Husbandry & Veterinary<br>Department                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6. PU RUALCHHINA<br>MINISTER               | 1. Forest & Environment Department<br>2. Printing & Stationary Department                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7. PU AICHHINGA<br>MINISTER         | 1. Food & Civil Supplies Department<br>2. Trade & Commerce Department<br>3. Relief & Rehabilitation Department |
| 8. Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA<br>MINISTER | 1. Rural Development Department<br>2. District Council Affairs Department                                      |
| 9. PU F. MALSAWMA<br>MINISTER       | 1. School Education Department<br>2. Information & Public Relations<br>3. Law & Parliamentary Affairs          |
| 10. PU K.L. LIANCHIA<br>MINISTER    | 1. Health & Family Welfare Department<br>2. Sericulture Department                                             |
| 11. Col. LALCHUNGNUNGA<br>MINISTER  | 1. Social Welfare Department<br>2. Labour & Employment Department                                              |

### **MINISTERS OF STATE (Independent Charge)**

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12. PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA | 1. Higher & Technical Education Department<br>2. Sports & Youth Services Department |
| 13. PU H. VANLALAUVA     | 1. Local Administration Department<br>2. Fisheries Department                       |
| 14. PU J. LALTHANGLIANA  | 1. Art & Culture Department<br>2. Tourism Department                                |
| 15. PU LALRINZUALA       | 1. Transport Department<br>2. Prison Department                                     |

**LIST OF MEMBERS OF FOURTH  
MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 1999**

Sl.No.	Name of the Constituency	Name of Members	Address
1.	Tuipang	K.T. Rokhaw	Hunthar Veng, Aizawl
2.	Saiha	Zakhu Hlychho	Chaltlang, Aizawl
3.	Sangau	H. Rammawi	Tuikual 'A', Aizawl
4.	Lawngtlai	C. Thanghluna	Assembly Hostel
5.	Chawngte	Nirupam Chakma	Assembly Hostel
6.	Tlabung	N.K. Chakma	Assembly Hostel
7.	Buarpu	Lalrinzuala	Zohnuai Lunglei
8.	Lunglei 'S'	J. Lawmzuala	Assembly Hostel
9.	Lunglei 'N'	Dr. R. Lalthangliana	Kanan Veng, Aizawl
10.	Tawipui	Z.H. Ropuia	Salem Veng, Lunglei
11.	Vanva	C. Lalrinsamga	Bazar Veng, Lunglei
12.	Hnahthial	F. Lalthanzuala	Zohnuai, Lunglei
13.	N.Vanlaiphai	R. Lalawia	Tuikhuahtlang, Aizawl
14.	Khawbung	K. Vanlalauva	Venghlui, Aizawl
15.	Champhai	Zoramthanga	Chaltlang, Aizawl
16.	Khawhai	K.L. Lianchia	Electric Veng, Aizawl
17.	Saitual	R. Lalzirliana	Armed Veng North, Aizawl
18.	Khawzawl	Aichhinga	Babutlang, Aizawl
19.	Ngopa	P.B. Rosanga	Kanan Veng, Aizawl
20.	Suangpuilawn	H. Laltanpuia	Venghlui, Aizawl
21.	Ratu	Lalthan Kunga	Chhinga Veng, Aizawl
22.	Kawnpui	Sanghmingthanga H.Pautu	Chhinga Veng, Aizawl
23.	Kolasib	Rualchhina	Luangmual, Aizawl
24.	Bilkhawthlir	Lalchamlia	Electric Veng, Aizawl
25.	Lokicherra	Tawnluia	Kanan Veng, Aizawl
26.	Kawrthah	K. Sangthuama	Electric Veng, Aizawl
27.	Mamit	Brig. T. Sailo	Kanan Veng, Aizawl
28.	Phuldungsei	J. Lalthangliana	Republic Veng, Aizawl
29.	Sateek	B. Lalthlengliana	Bethlehem Veng, Aizawl
30.	Serchhip	Er. K. Thangzualla	Chanmari Veng, Aizawl
31.	Lungpho	Vanlalhlana	Venghlui, Aizawl
32.	Tlungvel	L.N. Tluanga	Electric Veng, Aizawl
33.	Aizawl 'N' I	Dr. Lalzama	Chaltlang Lily Veng, Aizawl
34.	Aizawl 'N' II	F. Malsawma	Chaltlang, Aizawl
35.	Aizawl 'E' I	Lalhmingthanga	Khatla, Aizawl
36.	Aizawl 'E' II	H. Vanlalauva	Chhinga Veng, Aizawl
37.	Aizawl 'W' I	Col. Lalchungnunga	Bungkawn Vengthar, Aizawl
38.	Aizawl 'W' II	Lalrinchhana	Tuikual 'A', Aizawl
39.	Aizawl 'S' I	R. Tlanghmingthanga	Venghlui, Aizawl
40.	Aizawl 'S' II	C. Sangzuala	Chaltlang, Aizawl

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE FOURTH  
MIZORAM STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 1999**

**PRESENT**

PU R. LALAWIA, Speaker of the Chair, Fifteen Ministers, Deputy Speaker and 22 Members were present.

**QUESTIONS**

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

**REPORT**

2. The Speaker to report to the House the time table chalked out by Business Advisory Committee for the Fourth Session.

**LAYING OF PAPER**

3. PU LALHMINGTHANGA to lay on the table a copy of the Audit Report & Annual Accounts of the Mizoram Khadi and Village Industries Board for the year 1997 - 98.
4. PU J. LALTHANGLIANA to lay on the table a copy of the Mizoram Publication Board Rules, 1999.
5. COL. LALCHUNGUNGA to lay on the table a copy of the Mizoram Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Rules, 1999.

**PRESENTATION OF REPORT**

6. PU H. RAMMAWI Chairman, Public Accounts Committee to present to the House the First, Second, Third and Fourth Report of the Public Accounts Committee.

**OFFICIAL RESOLUTION**

PU TAWNLUJA to move official resolution :-

"This House has strongly objects the policy of certain political party to divide Mizoram by demanding Union Territory. In this regard, strong effort shall be put against any policy to divide Mizoram into pieces".

**SPEAKER** : You shall not be partial in judgement; you shall hear the small and the great alike; you shall not be afraid of the face of man, for the judgement is God's;

Deuteronomy 1:17

Members absent today : Dr. R. Lalthangliana applied leave of absence on account of his tour to New Delhi to pursue important works of the Government.

PU SANGHMINGTHANGA H. PAUTU : Mr. Speaker Sir, here is my question for favour of answer to be given by Hon'ble Minister for Industries - Whether there is an intention to upgrade Geology & Mining Wing to a full - fledged department? If yes, when will it be done?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, here is the answer to the question raised by a member from Kawnpui Constituency (a) The Government have no definite proposal in regard to upgradation of Geology & Mining Wing to a full - fledged department yet the Government is finding ways and means to achieve it. Answer to his question (b) may not be necessary to answer as answer (a) covers it.

PU SANGHMINGTHANGA H. PAUTU : Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary Question - It is known to all that Geology & Mining Wing would someday play an important role in extraction of mineral wealth in our State. In this connection, it is much pleasing to learn from the Hon'ble Minister that the Government is finding the way for upgradation of Geology & Mining Wing to a full - fledged department. At present, the Department somehow functions loosely under the department of Industries. Here, it is not to blame Industries Department for the maintenance but the fact is that maintenance of Geology and Mining is bound to fail since the department of Industries is not a technical department.

On the otherhand, it is to be noted that Geology & Mining Wing had already acquired asset such as Lands for Office building and quarters and workshop and even a separate budget head and Finance Account Officer which enable the wing to function as a separate department practically.

Even when a meeting concerning Geology & Mining Wing is called, it is necessary for the Director of Industries to attend the meeting as head of the department with one or more technical officers from Geology & Mining Wing to accompany him as he does not have full knowledge of the matters that concerns the meeting.

I, therefore, opine that if the government so determines to upgrade Geology & Mining Wing, it is important to consider whether it will be more convenient to put this Wing as a full - fledged department. And as such, I would like to request the concern Minister to give his thought on this matter.

PU H. LALTANPUIA : Supplementary question. Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to emphasize my question on Geology as a number of RCC Buildings here in Aizawl have come up with the development of the State. In this regard, it is necessary for the government to determine preventive measures against earthquake and other natural disasters. I would like to ask what step has been taken so far by Geology Wing in regards to this preventive measures ?

As we all know, we all feel unsafe whenever heavy rainfalls strike contineously even for a day or two and it is only Geological knowledge that could save us from such terrible disaster.

Er. K. THANGZUALLA : Supplementary question. Mr. Speaker Sir, Geology & Mining undertakes ground water exploration development and management with drilling drig machines. The department of Public Health Engineering too undertakes the work of ground water exploration development and management separately. But the difference is that Geologist pursues the work upto drilling works where as Public Health Engineering goes upto supply of water. I, therefore, would like to know whether the government intends to put this work under the supervision of one department in order to save time and money?

SPEAKER : I now call upon Pu Lalhmingthanga to answer the questions. Though some questions may not be relevant to the main question, yet it will be much informative if the answer to that issue could be made as well.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I first of all would like to extend my thanks to those members for their supplementary questions. I suppose I have answered certain questions in my previous speech.

First of all, I would like to mention the main objective of Geology & Mining Wing which is to explore mineral resources within the State of Mizoram. By exchanging correspondences with ONGC, step has been taken to find out of whether petroleum ore is available within our State. According to the findings of the department, oil structure is identified in more than thirty places out of which 10 places has been prepared for special investigation.

Not only this, the department identifies structure of silt limestone in five places and step has been initiated for the establishment of its industry.

Regarding the question of Pu H. Laltanpuia in connection with Disaster Management Unit, a new idea is proposed by the government so as to take some precautionary measure against natural disaster such as earthquake, landslide and also land - sinking problem. The government is now well aware of such impending danger throughout the State and in fact investigation is now being taken by Geology Wing, so that preventive measure could be prevailed throughout the State as necessary.

Moreover, the government has now determined to adopt Minor Mineral Control Act so that Minor Mineral, such as boulder rock or other stones could be classified on the basis of the demand for building materials and thereby put this unit under the maintenance of Geology Wing.

Regarding preventive measures against earthquake and other natural disasters, it is often necessary to acquire helps from other departments such as Public Works Department, Power & Electricity and even Agriculture whiie preparing assessment. We are now preparing temporary norms to be followed in the activities of Geology and Mining whenever necessary. With the help of papers prepared by our young experts in Geology & Mining Wing, I am confident that the government could take progressive step in order to attain remarkable achievement. In response to the question raised by a member from Kawnpui Constituency, I regret to mention that no definite proposal has yet been made to make Geology & Mining Wing a full - fledged department due to its financial involvement. Yet, the government feels the necessity and efforts has been made to fulfill the above.

The matter regarding suggestion made by Pu Thangzuala about underground water drilling and its management, I must say I agree to his suggestion. As

already mentioned, Public Health Engineering Department also undertakes underground water drilling and management. Usually Public Health Engineering Department informs Geology & Mining Wing about the requirement for drilling works and in the same manners, Geology & Mining Wing informs Public Health Engineering Department about their undertakings or whatever is necessary mainly because of lack of adequate machinery and financial resources. Yet, Geology Wing could not function actively in regard to seismic and Geology assessment and also in disaster management.

The department is now determined to have the best use of Geology Wing. Fortunately, we have not experienced departmental duplication. Yet, we are now preparing risk classification map. For example, it is necessary to identify geological condition of Serchhip town which is a developing town and also district Headquarter. In this regard, the department is taking spot verification of its Geological condition such as of which area is lying at risk of sinking ground or landslide. Such activities may be accepted as a petty work yet it is necessary to upgrade by enlarging the department with more financial resources so as to enable the department to function ideally.

The department is also now planning to establish mineral water Industries by taking advantage of abundant amount of mineral water within our State. If it is achieved, it is expected that it will become one of the most important resources for the State government.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 2 and Pu Zakhu Hlychho to ask.

P U Z A K H U H L Y C H H O : Pu Speaker, here is my question for favour of answer to be given by Hon'ble Minister for Supply Department.

Whether the Government is able to dispose - off damaged rice under Supply Department?

S P E A K E R : Pu Aichhinga, Hon'ble Minister for Food & Civil Supply to answer the question.

P U A I C H H I N G A M I N I S T E R : Pu Speaker, here is answer for the question raised by Pu Zakhu Hlychho.

Presently, the department have no knowledge of availability of damaged rice and as such no intention of its disposition as yet.

P U Z A K H U H L Y C H H O : Pu Speaker, Supplementary question please.

The Hon'ble Minister for Food & Civil Supply mentioned that damaged rice is not available presently. Recently, I personally enquired one retailer in my locality the reason for his failure to deliver his ration quota and I was informed that he did not deliver because of poor quality of rice.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we have shown you here in this House in our last session the quality of rice being delivered from our railers and made a request to dispose - off such damaged - rice. It is regretted that our people are now consuming such quality since they have no other choice.

Not only this, it is also learned that many retailers don't want to deliver

damaged - rice due to the fact that shortage is bound to happen as they are compelled to mix such damaged one with better quality. Mr. Speaker Sir, I am strongly convinced by our doctor's words that the number of kidney patient rises in our State mainly because of poor quality of rice we are consuming. Despite of such effects, it is much regretted that no improvement is made by the department to change the quality of rice even though demand is made repeatedly here in the House. I wonder the Hon'ble concerned Minister ever visits our Godown to see the quality of rice being stored or may be he himself never eat rice delivers from the retailers.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA** : Mr. Speaker Sir, in his first Press Conference on 22nd January, our Hon'ble Minister for finance mentioned that the department seized a number of miscreants at Bagha and Silchars who are involved in changing of fresh rice with that of damaged - one thereby, he promised that he will never let that practice happen again. In this connection, I would like to ask of how the government had taken action against such miscreants. Is it true that they were released without giving penalty by compromising with the Hon'ble Minister and other concern officers ?

Mr. Speaker Sir, It is also true that consumers of supply ration deliver damaged - rice at the rate of super - fine rice. What is the reason ? May the government dispose - off any damaged rice at our Godown which are hardly befitted for consumption of our domestic animals.

**PU C. THANGHLUNA** : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Minister incharge Food & Civil Supply have once mentioned that quality of rice which are not fit to eat are being sent back to FCI. In this regard, I would like to know what amount were already sent back ? Is there any possibility that such amount which were returned to FCI are again received here in our State as a fresh ones ?

Regarding fixation of rate of essential commodities such as rice, kerosine oil, it is supposed to be sold at no profit no loss basis. What is the reason of this rapid rising of rate for such essential commodities in a short period of time ? Whether dealers of Government Fair Price Shop deliberately sell essential commodities at the rate higher than the rate fixed by the government ?

**PU LALCHAMLIANA** : Mr. Speaker Sir, I believe we have the chance to consume an ideal quality of rice if we determine the way. As we have known, it happens that certain amount of rice crop harvested in Mizoram are sold outside the state due to the fact that a number of non - Mizos were being deployed to take care of paddy fields owned by the Mizos. It is wise for the government to capture all the crops harvested in our State by constructing a separate Godown.

**PU AICHHINGA  
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, here is my answer for supplementary question raised by Pu Zakhu Hiychho. The Government knows very well the quality of rice being received. It is true that certain amount of poor quality of rice too is available in our Godown but the department cannot declare it as damaged and as such its desposition has not yet been determined. In this connection, it is important to remember that the quality of rice being received depends on the decision of FCI Instruction is also being given to the concerned officers of supply department not to receive poor quality of rice but some diversion evolves without the knowledge of the department. Moreover, it is also important to know in this regard that FCI compulsorily issues 10% of URS quality of



rice. The department also have problem in checking each and every trips coming from FCI because of the said diversion. Yet, we are determining to prevail strict regulation to improve the system.

Regarding ration quota of MLA, it is not the departmental concern of whether the retailer deliver such items or not. Perhaps he didn't find an ideal quality. But I have to inform the House that it is now available at Zuangtui Godown.

However, it is also important to note that whether the rice received is 'C' quality or superfine rice, various qualities are received in bulk. Regarding the question of the amount of rice being returned it is the concern of workers at FCI Godown at Kolasib and Bairabi and our concern is to give strict instruction to receive only acceptable quality from FCI Godown.

PU C. THANGHLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have one more supplementary question. The Hon'ble Minister have mentioned that 10% of URS rice is to be received compulsorily. If so, rice being stocked at the Godowns of the southern part are of only such quality. I would like to know whether the department sent only URS for the share of the people in the southern part ?

PU AICHHINGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, my answer to that question is 'no'.  
MINISTER As a whole, old stock of rice in our godowns is beginning to fall down in quality due to the fact that we now have more than enough of stock and the department also is now checking their condition.

Regarding the question of Pu K.T. Rokhaw in connection with Rs. 14 crores from my statement, I would like to mention that the department had drawn its financial requirement for purchase of rice from Finance Department every year. Usually in the previous years, the department loses around 18 crore rupees from Sale proceed. But fortunately during the last nine months, the department made a profit by 14 crore rupèes from its capital which happens to be one of the achievements of the department during this term.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, could the profit mentioned by the Hon'ble Minister be the amount of debt being collected?

PU AICHHINGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, if it is the amount collected from  
MINISTER the previous debt, it is important to determine why the previous government indebted such a huge amount. Fortunately, the new government somehow manage to recover loss of the previous term by making a profit of 14 crore rupees.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Why did the government sell ration quota for profit ?  
The process of the profit mentioned by the Minister is absolutely incorrect. It should rather be implied as that the said profit is coming from sale deposit of the previous government Mr. Speaker Sir, I demand the Minister to explain it more clearly. Not only this, it is necessary to explain whether the Minister is making correction of his speech in the previous session about damaged rice as being sent back ?

PU AICHHINGA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is not important of whether it was send back or not since its all are of FCI what is more important for us is to give instruction to FCI not to receive poor quality.

In this connection, it is also important to note that we received rice at the rate of Rs. 9/- per kg and then issued at the rate of Rs. 9.50 p per kg which means 50p is profitted in each kg. This profit may also have come from sale deposit of the previous years, anyway, I would like to mention that sale profit of this year exceeds the capital of 14 crore rupees which happens to be the achievement of the department.

S P E A K E R : May you also answer the question of Pu Chakma regarding procurement of rice ?

PU AICHHINGA MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, I apologise for my mistake. The question is whether there is a possibility to procure rice harvested in Mizoram. My answer is that we are not, presently in that condition yet it is done by FCI.

In this relation, it is to be noted that in order to undertake procurement, it is necessary to receive fund from the Central government. Since we cannot receive such fund yet, we have to depend on the procurement of FCI. Above all, our main objective is to improve the quantity of our own production so that we don't need to import from outside the State. Now we are not in the condition to survive without FCI since our own production is hardly satisfactory even if it is fully procured.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalhmingthanga, Minister for Power & Electricity to answer the question.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, my answer to that question is 'yes'.  
DY. CHIEF MINISTER

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is learnt that among the selected beneficiaries of compensation, only few on the dam site had been granted. May the government compensate rest of the selected at the earliest ?

My second question is that whether the Bramaputra Board have any plan of construction of dam of Tuirivang river. If yes, in which place it will be constructed ? If my memory serves me well, the plan is called Tri - junction which seems to be located at our boundary with Manipur State. But Cachar seems to be included considering from its name. My question is - What is the reason for naming it as tri - junction ? I request the Minister to explain the situation more clearly.

PU H. LALTANPUIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have to make few questions in respect to the matter of compensation. Fortunately, Tuivai Hydel Project, which located in my constituency has also been included in 100 days Agenda of the National Policy.

The people in my constituency are very happy to learn the government decision but on the contrary, they feels insecure as this project seems to devastate the areas maintains for their cultivation for six years and this could lead them to suffer hunger. It is, therefore desirable to know how the government determine to solve the problem alternately.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker Sir, in the same situation the government deems unnecessary to shift Phuaibuang Village even though their main resources for food is devastating. I opines the problem of this village deserves special consideration of the government.

This project includes in the central sector it is our concern to follow up the necessity since it is our own soil. A meeting in this regard was even held here in Mizoram with Chairman and various Officers of implementing Agency from NEEPCO. This project is to be financed by NEEPCO and the assessment of revenue and District Administration is to be taken up by the State government. In this respect assessment and other necessities of the areas on dam site had already been done. In this connection, I would like to mention that our government also had taken up necessary works towards the river mouth which is not included in our sector as it is the interest of our own people.

**S P E A K E R** : We have now received question about Tuivai Hydel Project while our main topic is Tuirial Hydel Project. In this regard, I would like to inform the members not to involve other matters which do not concern with the existing topic from now on. However, we may accept the question raised by Pu H. Laltanpuia and the Hon'ble Minister in charge may answer it.

**PU LALHMINGTHANGA :** With your permission Mr. Speaker Sir, I will try my best to answer all the questions.

Tuirial Hydel Project is included in the central sector. It comes into existence during the previous Ministry as a result of Memorandum of Understanding signed by our Government with the Central government. Speaking in regard to construction of drain on Tipaimukh river, Brahmaputra Board is no longer its construction agency and it was transferred to NEEPCO since June this year. Regarding the construction, no definite decision has yet been made as joint verification is now being taken by NEEPCO and the Government of Manipur and this dam could damage various areas within the State of Manipur. Not only this, it is also necessary to point out that the project which has also been called Tipaimuk High Dam has been put by the Government of Mizoram under the maintenance of Power & Electric Department since Flood Control measure for the same has been prepared. In this regard, no definite decision has yet been made by the government of Mizoram.

To clear up the confusion in connection with the name of the said Project, I have to mention that it is incorrect as the name 'Tri-junction' does not fit the location as it does not have any concern with the territory of Assam nor the government of Assam have the knowledge where the dam is to be constructed. We have even submitted a complaint to the Central Government, Manipur Government and also to NEEPCO and made clarification that this project does not concern Assam.

Regarding the matter of Tuivai Project also, the problem mentioned by Pu H. Laltanpuia, the concern member of this Constituency are much considerable as it is evident that the people of Phuaibuang and the neighbouring villages would suffer the problem of supply of foods if the areas for their cultivation has to be taken over by the government for construction of the said project.

When the new ministry came into existence, at the Central I happened to visit Delhi to convey my felicitation and taking advantage of the opportunity, I have made a request to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Power Minister to include this project under 100 base Agenda and was fulfilled.

In pursuance of that decision, spot verification had been taken by a

team of Environment Board from the Central and follow-up discussion had also been held in my office Chamber. Consequently, Dr. O.P. Singh, Director of Agriculture was sent to New Delhi to attend the meeting on 19th November, this year with the Project Report and its relating demands for rehabilitation. The Central Board of Environment then gave its consent of the project and assessment for rehabilitation which shall be financed from the project cause.

I, in fact would like to request the concern Member of this constituency to convey this message to the people of Phuaibuang and 15 villages of effected areas that the government put its best effort not to cause problem in construction of this project and necessary agreement has already been made.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 4 and Pu Lalchamliana to ask.

P U L A L C H A M L I A N A : Mr. Speaker Sir, Starred Question No. 4 for favour of answer to be given by the Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development.

- (a) What is the reason for stoppage of 6 schemes of central Relief Funds such as IRDP, TRYSEM, etc.
- (b) Is there any scheme to replace the above?
- (c) If yes, when will it come into effect?

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

P U F. M A L S A W M A M I N I S T E R : Mr. Speaker Sir, the said schemes come to an end as a result of the decision of Central Government. The Central Government ends the said Six Schemes due to the fact that such relief funds were often misused for personal benefit which is absolutely against the policy.

- (b) Answer to his second question is 'yes'. They are :- SGSY, Swarnjayan and Gram Swajona Yojna.
- (c) It will come into effect from 1.4.1999.

P U L A L C H A M L I A N A : Mr. Speaker Sir, my Supplementary question is that whether the said schemes come to end only in Mizoram or also in other states too?

The Hon'ble Minister mentioned that it will come into effect from the 1st April, 1999 but we have not seen it yet in reality till today. If my memories serve me well, it is said that among the staff who deal these schemes, only few are permanent employees and the rest are very much desirous to be a permanent employee. Is there any possibility to employ them as regular employ with the installation of new schemes? Otherwise, I am afraid it will effect the normal dealing of this scheme.

P U K. V A N L A L A U V A : Mr. Speaker Sir, I supposed my question would be relevant to our main question. My question is :

Whether step has also been taken for improvement of Suangpuilawn and Khawbung along with other Development Blocks ?

DR. LALZAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know whether SDS has yet been granted ? Is there any plan to locate DRDA in every district ? When will sub-blocks such as Phullen and Khawbung be upgraded to a full-fledged Development Block ?

PU F. MALSAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, let me start from the last question. The SDS is to be disbursed or distributed to the beneficiaries in cash of Rs. 2500/- from today. In accordance with the instruction from the Bank, some installments will be distributed from Tlangnuam and Lunglei Blocks. And the Central Government agreed to give DRDA in all Blocks of Mizoram.

And Phullen and Khawbung Sub-Block is already made fullfledged Block. It is expected to be notified today or tomorrow.

And the Scheme is to be adopted in all Indian States from April this year. But it is not yet practised since the Legislators, News Editors and BDO's are required to be trained in regards to its key and activity. And all the employees are mostly temporarily employed. They will be regularised in accordance with the quantity of work and availability of fund.

S P E A K E R : Two minutes left for question hour. We will call upon Mr. Nirupam Chakma to ask Starred Question No. 5.

PU NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state - What is the amount received as donation for Kargil Relief Fund ?

S P E A K E R : We will call upon Pu Aichhinga, Minister to answer the question.

PU AICHHINGA  
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is not within the purview of the Relief and Rehabilitation Department, it is with a Committee constituted under General Administrative Department. But as the Question arise, we collected Rs. 36,06,428/-.

PU Z.H. ROPUIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, we were earnest enough in the beginning. What is the exact amount of contribution from an MLA ?

PU NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, a Supplementary question - Whether the Government of Mizoram has contributed any amount for the relief measure of Kargil victims ?

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have a figure from unstarred question supplied from General Administrative Department. But the figure is different from one another. What

is the reason? And I proposed to contribute each of our one month salary for the same and issued a circular. Can you read out the circular in this House?

**S P E A K E R** : We will call upon the concerned Minister to supply the answer. But personal question would not be answered in this House.

**PU AICHHINGA  
MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, as I said before I cannot give answer as it is not within the purview of my Department. I think it is not required to answer the contribution of the Hon'ble Members as it is under your direction.

While our record is also from General Administrative Department as I had said, the amount is only Rs. 36,06,428/-.

**S P E A K E R** : Question hour has now ended. We will now take up the next business. In this Session, we have only one report of the Mizoram Sales Tax Amendment Bill, 1999 as reported by the Secretary, Business Advisory Committee. That's why, this Session will include November 29 and 30 only. During these two days Government bill will be considered.

Therefore, the Business Advisory Committee had decided Fourth Session programme as under :-

Government Business, introduction and consideration of Bill will be done on 29th and 30th November (Monday and Tuesday). I hope the Hon'ble Members will note that as it was notified under Bulletin Part II Sl. No. 52 dated 22nd November, 1999.

I beg the House to adopt this programme. Do you agree? If you do so, we will proceed to another business. Now, we shall call upon Mr. Lalthmingthanga, Dy. Chief Minister to lay the Audit Report and Annual Account of the Mizoram Khadi and Village Industries Board for the year 1997 - 1998 on the table of the House.

**PU LALTHMINGTHANGA :  
DY. CHIEF MINISTER** : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, I lay "The Mizoram Khadi and Village Industries Board Audit Report and Annual Accounts for the year 1997 - 1998" on the table of this august House.

**S P E A K E R** : The copy may be distributed while, I want to inform the members that the Phullen and Khawbung R.D. Block become a fullfledged R.D. Block.

Now, we shall call upon Pu J. Lalthangliana, Minister to lay on the table of the House the copy of the Mizoram Publication Board Rules, 1999.

**PU J. LALTHANGLIANA :** Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Mizoram Publication Board Rules, 1999 Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, let us call upon Col. Lalchungnunga, Minister to lay on the Table of the House, the Mizoram Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities Protection of Rights and full participation) Rules, 1999.

COL. LALCHUNGNUNGA:  
MINISTER Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I beg to lay a copy each of The Mizoram Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and full participation) Rules, 1999 on the Table of this august House. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : As I said before, I beg your pardon as it was done in the same box. Now, we shall call upon Pu H. Rammawi, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee to present the First, Second, Third and Fourth Reports of Public Accounts Committee to the House.

P U H. R A M M A W I : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I present the First, Second, Third and Fourth Reports of Public Accounts Committee of the Fourth Mizoram Legislative Assembly in this august House. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : A copy each of the Reports be distributed to the Members.

Now, we have an official Resolution, we will call upon Pu Tawnluia to move the Resolution.

P U T A W N L U I A : Mr. Speaker Sir, this Government has an important Resolution to pass in this august House. The Resolution is - "This House strongly oppose the policy of some political parties to divide Mizoram by demanding Union Territory (UT). This policy will never be agreed by this House and it will carry on necessary efforts against such policy".

This resolution is laid on the table of the House for discussion and adoption. The Congress (I) Leaders of three Autonomous District Council in Chhimituipui District had a meeting on 2nd November. The meeting resolved that they were unsatisfied with the treatment meted out to the Chhimituipui District by Government of Mizoram. Not only that, but also resolve a Union Territory for the three Autonomous District Councils. Let me read out the text "That's why, we agreed to resolve Union Territory retaining this three Autonomous District Councils".

The meeting constituted Sub - Committee to submit Memorandum to the Government demanding Union Territory. Mr. Speaker Sir, one of our Sitting Members of Opposition Party and the Sitting M.P. took part at the Meeting. The Members of U.T. Demand Sub - Committee are to be consisted of one of our Sitting Members. Mr. Speaker Sir, we cannot agreed to devide the soil of Mizoram where the Mizos are inhabiting. That's why, I put on the table of the House this Official Resolution and I request the House to pass it immediately. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Immediately, we shall discuss the matter. We will take ten minutes each for better convenience.

- PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr. Speaker Sir, let's fix 25 minutes each as we have no other business. I think each Member will have a lot to say.
- SPEAKER : Generally, we cannot fix 25 minutes for a Member. That's why, ten minutes is fixed. But I will give you 15 minutes for Leader of Opposition Group.
- PU C. THANGHLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, please fix at least 20 minutes each as we have no other business, not only that the case is serious.
- SPEAKER : Any Member may speak about the Resolution for 10 minutes. But the Leader of Opposition will have 15 minutes time.
- PU K.T. ROKHAW : Mr. Speaker Sir, 10 minutes is too short. Kindly allow 15 minutes for a Member, while, Leader of the Opposition will have 20 minutes.
- PU K. VANLALAUVA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am very happy for we have to discuss this official Resolution. I am very thankful when I see no discrimination inside this august House. I had never think that this kind of Resolution would be brought into the House for discussion.

The Government of Mizoram looked after the Autonomous District Councils with sincere care. In fact, they had moved food supply better than those of the areas in the eastern side of Mizoram. In the past, the three Autonomous District Councils had never thought about such proposal. It seemed that they were influenced by some political Leaders of Mizoram. As a result of this proposal, the Committee had passed such resolution on November 2 which surprised all organisations in the State.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not understand as to why the Members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly become the conveners of such policy and take active part for such thing. We, the members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly should strongly oppose such policy and pass this resolution. Regarding this policy, MNF and MPC issued Notification indicating that they are not interfering with such policy. The Congress (I) party also issued Notification to take action against the members who had involved with such policy. But for the betterment of the party system, they issued Press Release to solve problem within the party.

Anyhow, Mr. Speaker Sir, it is not a time to claim such higher political status. If it is a time, all political party will get involved with such policy. But now, two big political parties washed their hands off such policy. That's why, this august House should pass this Official Resolution to show that the House do strongly oppose such policy. Thank you.

- SPEAKER : Pu H. Laltanpuia.
- PU H. LALTANPUIA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir, for sparing me time to speak about the Resolution. It is the most strange



thing that the North Eastern Reorganisation Act is passed in 1972 and we were separated from Assam at the same year. When we had Union Territory, three Autonomous District Councils of Chakma Autonomous District Council had one MLA Constituency, Mara Autonomous District Council had two MLA Constituencies, so did Lai Autonomous District Council whereas the bigger two Districts of Lunglei and Aizawl had 35 MLA Constituencies. During that period Mizo Union merged with the Congress who were our leaders. The world wondered the administrative system of our Union Territory.

Now, as we know, they were demanding a Union Territory for the three Autonomous Districts. The reason is that they were unsatisfied with the Government of Mizoram.

If we were to speak our dissatisfaction, I have a lot of things to say. In my constituency of Suangpuilawn only a meagre development fund is sanctioned, while large amount of development fund is sanctioned for the three districts from different angles. I cannot accept their demand if it is dissatisfaction against the Government of Mizoram. But if it is that they do not want to mix with Lunglei and Aizawl District, may be that is acceptable. That's why, the demand is not acceptable.

Mr. Speaker Sir, as we know before, it appears that the demand for U.T. came into existence from a single political party, for the demand sub-committee is headed by the sitting MLAs of a party in this House and the three Presidents of Congress (I) party in the three Autonomous Districts. That's why, it is not the voice of the people. If the Congress (I) party try to separate Mizoram on the ground of lost of power in the State, it will be very harmful for them. This august House should condemn this kind of separatist policy within the State.

And Mr. Speaker Sir, as we had seen in the local newspapers, MPCC President Lal Thanhawla said that he would take action against the member or members of Congress (I) party who are involved in such policy. I want to ask this august House whether he had taken action against them. If action is not taken, suspicion arises in the minds of others who are not involved. Thank you.

PU C. THANGHLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, this Resolution is a strange one. It is discussed while we do not expect. It is to be discussed on this day, but it seems that we are not allowed to discuss all of its pros and cons. The allotted time revealed this. The demand for U.T. a few days back is not allowed. Before, MDF, LPP and BJP had demanded and it was agreed by the former Government of MNF Party. Does the Government of Mizoram know about this? Why had not this Government brought up any Resolution. Does the Government of Assam Legislative Assembly passed this kind of Resolution when Mizoram demand for a fullfleged State? Now, the demand for U.T. is strongly opposed by MNF Ministry. But before, U.T. demanding parties are the colleagues of MNF Ministry. Regarding this, a Minister of MNF Ministry said that they would not object if there is a demand for U.T. Why did this Government strongly object the demand they also had made once before?

Just a few days back, there was an opening ceremony of MNF 1st Parliament Session and a Memorial Stone was laid and inauguration was held on November 5. This programme was made for remembrance of Independent movement. Here it is said that this Independent movement may not be stopped. It is accorded in the speech of a Minister at Saiha. Peace Accord was signed by the MNF Party and the Central Government. If so, we should keep the agreement faithfully.

I think we should know that this agreement also includes Union Territory. Anyhow, we did not know there was any restriction for applying U.T. No constitution provides such except Independent State. U.T. demanding parties have a

view to seek help from Central Government. Even an article written by Pu Lalthara revealed that the three Autonomous District Councils would be dissolved in the near future. Even Chief Minister of Mizoram had said, "Dissolution of Chakma District Council will be given priority by this Government," on December 3, 1998. Not only that, YMA General Conference passed a Resolution to request Government of Mizoram to dissolve Chakma District Council. The resolution taken back the minds of the people of Lai and Mara District Councils.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Constitution of India provides that only the peoples of the three Autonomous District Councils are tribals. Another area is not legally declared as tribal area. In fact, Chhimtuipui Area had 20%, Lunglei District 30% and Aizawl District had 50% of Plan fund. But now, Chhimtuipui Area has 5-7% only. That increases dissatisfaction against Government of Mizoram and a demand for Union Territory had sprang up. Thank you.

PU H. VANLALAUVA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I feel that it is unfortunate to lay this Official Resolution on the table of this House for discussion for the people of Mizoram. This demand is not submitted by the people of the three districts but only by a single political party of Congress (i) in that area. This shows that the innermost part of Indian National Congress(i) policy is against the people of Mizoram. That's why, I would like to say that we should do our best to attain the highest degree of political status in our State in regards to peace and harmony with an ideal integration.

I feel that it is very unfortunate for me as I was regarded to accept this policy of division of Mizoram. Not only that I am very shameful and feel degraded to say such words.

(I think that Pu Thanghluna had meant myself.) I visited Saiha on October 25. The Leaders of MNF Party met me at night. Other political leaders met me on the next day. I had not discussed about the demand for Union Territory. Not only that, I am sure that no leader attending the meeting at Lawnglai mentioned about the demand for Union Territory.

If we want to know the truth, my visitors' names and addresses are kept, we may ask them. Let us speak the truth in the House. We had no discussion on the policy and programme. Not only that but also I did not ask them to cooperate with us. But I only asked them to know their ideas and their determination. That's why, if the Congress (I) party wants to defame MNF Party, let them speak out the truth. If they want to have a Union Territory let them speak frankly about the matter. Let us not take in false allegations in this House. I, therefore, ask all the Hon'ble Members to pass this official Resolution. Thank you.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, you've just mentioned that, the proceedings of this House shall be dealt with no partiality. However, the official resolution of MNF & MPC is only an instrument for political confusion.

From way back 1997, political parties and social organisation has made a very strong opinion on this regard. There were political parties who were demanding for a Union Territory. It is not a new issue. I, therefore, do not see the need for the resolution. The ruling party was once among the political parties demanding for U.T. Infact, the ruling party had once led our youth to fight for Independent Mizoram.

S P E A K E R : In this August House members should speak only facts. Members should uphold the peace Accord, and

not speak against it. (Speaker - Please don't disturb while he is speaking, I have given him warning, to speak only facts.)

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the day the Hon'ble Chief Minister took oath, he spoke of dissolving the Chakma District Council. But till date, the Council has not been dissolved.

PU TAWNLUIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the word 'surrender' should be expunged.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, recently, a memorial stone was laid for Sialsir parliament. For that function, Government vehicle was used and also fund was collected from different departments Mr. Speaker Sir, it was totally misuse of power.

SPEAKER : Point of clarification. Are you sure that the Chief Minister vowed to dissolve the Chakma District Council on the day of his oath taking?

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, It is true that the Chief Minister vowed to dissolve the Chakma District Council, at the press conference. Soon after his oath taking.

SPEAKER : Now make your conclusion. You have taken 13 minutes.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, today you should object to all those demanding for Union Territory. The ruling party's alliance, like MDF, Lai people party and Chakma Jatya Parishad are also demanding for Union Territory. Therefore Mr. Speaker Sir, this resolution needs amendment, without amendment, I cannot except this resolution.

PU Z.H. ROPUIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is very unfortunate to say that there are some members who are taking steps for the division of our States. It is the duty of the Hon'ble Members of this House to guide and make laws for the State. But it is very unfortunate that some of the Hon'ble Members have taken drastic steps in demanding U.T. I feel that the people of Mizoram should know their names, they are, Pu Zakhu, Pu Nirupam, Pu Hiphei, Pu K.T. Rokhaw and Pu C. Thanghluna.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we are the representatives of the people of this State. Our duty is to guide our people, the people do not want our State to be divided. Therefore we should all join hands in this resolution. We should all object to those who are demanding for Union Territory.

SPEAKER : Meeting adjourned. Sitting will be resumed at 2:00 P.M.

Meeting adjourned.

### AFTERNOON

SPEAKER : We will now continue our business.

PU LALTHAN KUNGA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all Mr. Speaker Sir, it is unfortunate to say that sitting hon'ble members of this House have taken a drastic step for the division of Mizoram. During Congress Ministry, it has happened once, and the people of Mizoram re-acted very strongly against it. It is unfortunate to say that, this time, it is coming from the Leaders of Congress Party. The people of the party are against it that is for sure. The people of this State do not want any division in the State. In fact, different tribes are making an effort to come together. Therefore, Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee should take party disciplinary action against, its sitting MLA who are taking steps for the division of our State.

Mr. Speaker Sir, this official resolution made by the Home Department is an important chapter for Mizoram political history. It is very important because this may awake the different ethnic groups of our state in this regard. It is a very serious issue. I want to proclaim that the people of Mizoram will object and fight against the division of its State till the end. I request the hon'ble opposition group leader, to speak out if it is the policy of the Congress party. If it is not, then they should immediately withdraw it, because it concerns the unity of the State. Thank you.

PU LALCHAMLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. During Congress Ministry it was unfortunate, that Pu Lal Thanhawla did not pass such resolution. Today we are fortunate that we have MNF & MPC in the ministry, who are the true leaders of the State. Therefore, we are able to discuss this resolution in this August House.

The people of this State are against the division of the State. Therefore, be it the MDF or Congress or whoever it is, the division of Mizoram is totally objected by the people. I, therefore, support this resolution.

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. I feel that the ruling MNF Party agree with us in our demand for U.T. because, the MNF Party had signed an agreement with the MDF to work together from 1996-2000. The MDF had demanded for U.T. and had submitted a memorandum to the Indian Prime Minister at the time of signing an agreement. I, therefore, feel that the ruling MNF agrees with our demand, since they are working with the MDF inspite of knowing their demand. The ruling party works with LPP (Lai People Party) and also Chakma Jantya Parishad, who are all, taking active part in the demand for U.T. I, therefore, feel that this resolution, is just a mask to hide their wrong doing from the people of Mizoram. Therefore, Mr. Speaker Sir, we are not going to withdraw our demand. When the peace accord was signed in the year 1986, in the agreement, it was mentioned that minor tribes, would be safe-guarded and looked after. In spite of that, our Chief Minister as soon as he took an oath had announced that the Chakma District Council would be dissolved. Therefore, Lai, Mara and Chakma are serious with our demand.

Mr. Speaker Sir, for Pawi/Lakher/Chakma region, there was quota for

non-gazetted and gazetted appointment and so also in MPS and Technical training. But now since we attained statehood, all these quotas had vanished. There was an order of MAP vide letter No.MAP.32/72/52 dt. Aizawl the 24th January, 1973 which stated the quota of allotment.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we don't have even a single specialist doctor in the Chhimituipui District, people are neglected tremendously. The Mara people have Solakia dance, but the Mizos had changed it into Sarlamkai. This has hurted the sentiments of the youth tremendously.

Lushai District Council was born in the year 1952 and Pawi/Lakher region council was born in 1953. There is only one year difference. If we were looked after, accordingly then there is no need for our demanding an U.T. However, I regret to say that, Mr. Speaker Sir, today, we have to take this step. Thank you.

PU J. LALTHANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is very sad to say that, we have such a resolution to discuss. Our neighbouring States like, Nagaland and Meghalaya, are mixed tribe. They speak different languages. Yet we don't hear of some section demanding U.T. Mr. Speaker Sir, we should object to anyone who tries to divide Mizoram. The people of Mizoram will never allow anyone to divide its land, we should all stand united against any division.

Mr. Speaker Sir, God had given us this land, therefore, it is the duty of the people of this state to safeguard the land. The opposition group leader should declare that it is the policy of the Congress. If he is unable to declare, then, they should withdraw whatever step they have taken.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. I am glad to say that the Home Minister, introduced this valuable resolution, for safeguarding the state from division. It is unfortunate to say that the Congress MLA had to take this drastic step. We must know that we are the representatives of the people, we are to act according to the demand of the people and not against the will of the people. In this regard, the people of this State are totally against the division of the State. We are hurting the sentiments of the people or should we say it is the policy of the Congress party ?

Though the MNF Ministry is often said to ignore the development of Chhimituipui District, let me clarify that even a High Power Committee was constituted during the previous MNF Ministry. Unfortunately, after the fall of the Ministry, the Committee was neglected by the Congress Ministry which came into power.

The responsible persons who demanded for a separate UT for Chhimituipui District are said to be persons from the Congress Party. This gives me the notion that the responsible persons have done a terrible thing for the Congress party. Let us assume that the Union Territory is granted the party that suffer the most will be the Congress itself. So, these people are not aware of the consequences of what they have done.

Some of the members of this House have often said that the MNF Ministry made no remarkable achievements for Mizoram. However, Mr. Speaker, the policies and its implementation along with the various development brought by this Ministry is innumerable. The MNF party has still adopted this policy that an individual may die but the nation lives on. Many of our martyrs have given their valuable times and blood so that the Mizo race may live on. Therefore, the idea of seperating this small state will always be opposed. Thank you.

PU L.N. TLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the policy of Greater Mizoram was used to be adopted by the Mizo Union, which was the first political party in Mizoram. This policy is still favourable for the Mizos today. As stated by my fellow members, being a small state in area, the Government is busy trying to find ways to extend the area of Mizoram. Therefore, the idea of seperating the existing area of Mizoram is out of the question.

From each corner of Mizoram there have been grievances and allegations that the government has neglected developments. This may be because no part of the state has had enough of funds and no rehabilitation has been provided by the Government. If the idea of seperating the Mizoram has arose because of our grievances. We, the Mizos will be the ones to suffer.

I would also like to request the respected journalists not to publish articles that can instigate the people to have an idea of seperation.

Today, I am so surprised to witness the names of some of the prominent politicians in the Demanding Committee of the Union Territory. Some of them are the sitting MPs and MLAs. I feel that these people should not be involved in this kind. At the same time, we should not ignore the fact that the Mizo people have the same sentiments regarding the dissolution of Chakma District Council. Today, I am very glad that the Hon'ble Home Minister has moved this resolution at the right time. Thank you.

Dr. LALZAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me time to speak. The demand for Union Territory for the Chakmas, Lai and Maras are initiated by the presidents of the Congress party of the three districts, some MLAs and MPs. Yet, all the blame would be thrown on the MNF.

As we can see, this Government formed by the MNF party is determined to work for the progress and development of Mizoram and has been taking steps at various levels to this end. During the ten year rule of the Congress Ministry, no single word had ever been heard against the demand of Union Territory from the Chakmas, Lai and Mara people. For this reason, the Congress party is advocating the seperation of Mizoram which is no doubt. Today, I am very pleased that the Hon'ble Home Minister has moved this official resolution and thus should be passed without hesitation.

Emphasing on the Chakmas, their population has been increasing in each census. Most of them have illegally entered Mizoram through the border. The people of Mizoram are beginning to be aware of the possible menace. So, even the YMA had passed a resolution to dissolve the District Council. Therefore, the Mizo people, as a whole, should automatically oppose the demand of UT by the Chakmas. It will also be appreciated if the Congress members who are involved in this matter could withdraw their names. As the issue is a serious one it needs thorough consideration before taking a step towards this end. I would further like to inform my colleagues from the Congress party that the Mizo people are strongly opposed to the seperation of Mizoram into smaller sections. In spite of the MNF party's cooperation with the other parties in the District Council, the question of seperation is beyond the subject. The main purpose is cooperation and not of seperation.

The leader of the opposition has laid emphasis on the importance of deeds rather than just talking. I, too agree with this view. At the same time, the opposition members should have realised what they have done in regard to the demand of UT for district councils. They should have withdrawn themselves from this matter.

Responding to their allegation against the MNF for working and

coordinating with the persons responsible for initiating the demand of UT from Mizoram, let me counter allege the opposition members that they are the ones who have formed an alliance with them so as to slice out a part of Mizoram. Therefore, I would like to repeat that this government is against the demand of Union Territory and it will reject any such demand in future. We should pass this resolution without discussion any further.

**PU NIRUPAM CHAKMA :** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The official resolution moved by the Hon'ble Minister is bias because it does not mention those who are intending to demand UT; or the political parties who had already demanded UT, along with those who had submitted memorandum to the Government of India. He did not even mention about those having the policy of UT in Chhimtuipui District. I am surprised why the resolution does not mention about those people who have been championing the cause of UT in Chhimtuipui District. At the same time, I would like to express my genuine concern about this resolution and from the circumstances from where we have come to this stage. It is known to every people in Mizoram. The Congress party never supported any movement towards the division of Mizoram. I am also one of the Congress members for the last twelve years in this Assembly. There was one occasion when we had discussed and debated over this issue including the abolition of Chkma District Council. I still remember the topic. It was the recommendation of the Rajya Sabha Committee on Petition which came out recommending separate administrative unit for the Chakmas. The Congress Government had never agreed to that recommendation. Not only the Government, but every political party seemed to oppose the recommendation. Surprisingly, the persons who have submitted that petition and the recommendation happened to be the MNF which has now united with the MDS and with the Chakma District Council. Is it the policy of the MNF party or the present Government to support those people we had talked about like the MDF who has the policy of UT at Chhimtuipui District Mr. Speaker Sir, one should not play bias political games for the sake of strengthening their party. What is the purpose of making alliance with the Lai People's Party in the election if the MNF do not support the policy of UT in Chhimtuipui District. The MNF party should not have supported that political party if it really opposed the policy of a separate UT for the District Council.

If we are genuinely concerned for the integration of Mizoram we should not allow and acknowledge the existence of the attitude and the move to abolish Chakma Autonomous District. The Chakma Council was created out of the Pawi Lakher Regional Council. Initially, the creation of Chakma autonomous district Council was supported by the Mizo District Council and the Pawi Lakher Regional Council.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to get your permission to quote that Demagiri, now known as Tlabung in Lunglei District was originally part of Chittagong Hill Tract and not of the then Lushai Hills which is now Mizoram. The provincial gazette of Vol. V, page 413 has notified that under Charles Elliot, an order was passed in 1892 to declare that for administrative purpose Demagiri should be considered part and portion of Lushai Hills. The boundaries were revised on the east including Demagiri with its population of 1500 was transferred to Lushai Hills for administrative convenience only. As Chittagong is the land of Chakma, some Chakmas were also transferred to Lushai Hills. This is a fact. If you find it difficult to find evidence, I can provide it to the House.

Mr. Speaker, the Constitution of India provided the minorities that their rights and privileges should be preserved and protected along with their social and economic advancement. But, when there is a move for the abolition of Chakma District Council you can imagine what we feel. Thank you.

PU RUALCHHINA : Mr. Speaker Sir, today I am surprised to learn that  
MINISTER certain political parties are making moves for the  
seperation of Mizoram by demanding UT. I also find  
it very regretful that the issue requires discussion in the House. At the same time, it is  
high time to discuss the matter in the House, otherwise, it may be too late for Mizoram.  
As I have understood, some members from the opposition have charged the MNF party  
of advocating the policy of UT by supporting the MDF and LPP parties in the District  
Councils. Here, let me clarify that the Mara Democratic Front and Lai People's party  
are our election alliances. It is not a matter of the policy of UT. The MNF party does  
not form an alliance with these political parties to demand UT. It is they that make  
mistakes in this regard. For the representatives of the people, they should have  
restrained themselves from movements that can disturb the integrity of Mizoram.  
Therefore, I would like to invite those members to realise their mistakes and abort their  
policies on the demand of UT.

As stated by the Hon'ble Member from Chawngte, the agreement  
signed between the MNF and the Central Government includes the preservation of the  
rights and privileges of the minorities which is the truth. But, the District Council was  
not designed to demand Union Territory either.

Mr. Speaker Sir, today, I would like to remind the opposition members  
particularly the ones who supported the policy of UT for the District Council that they  
are taking the wrong path. This government formed by the MNF Ministry has deep  
concern for the welfare of the District Council. Accordingly, they could have supported  
this resolution.

Special mention may be made in the case of the member from Saitual  
Constituency. He was the least expected to support the demand of UT. I feel regretful  
in this matter. I would like to ask every member to support this resolution for safety  
of our country. It may not be a good idea to take serious account of dividing Mizoram  
while the government have been adopting the policy of Greater Mizoram and reunification  
of all the descendents of Mizo under the same administration. If we really dream of  
having a great nation let us all take the path of greater Mizoram. Hence, I invite this  
House to pass this resolution unanimously. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu C. Sangzuala.

PU C. SANGZUALA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The resolution moved by the  
Hon'ble Home Minister today is very important for  
future Mizoram. It is regretful that the policy of  
dividing the area of Mizoram into smaller sections has been born among us. Today's  
resolution has reflected the condemnation of this policy adopted by certain political  
parties. Whenever, there is such demand, we should rather oppose to it. We should pass  
an official resolution that this House would never advocate the policy of dividing  
Mizoram. Today's resolution does not differentiate between the ruling and the opposition  
members as it involves all the Mizo as a whole. Being the representatives of the people  
of our respective constituencies, every speech each member made is for our people  
respectively. Therefore, it is inevitable to choose our speech and language in a correct  
manner.

As already mentioned by the Minister, the MDF and LPP are our  
election alliances. The MNF party does not cooperate with these parties in the matters  
concerning the demand of UT. Looking into the previous ministry, no big issue had  
ever been raised to urge the ruling party to move an official resolution. This ministry  
has foreseen the consequence of this issue and thus moved this resolution today so as  
to protect Mizoram for the future.



Emphasizing on the case of the minorities, this government formed by the MNF - MPC Ministry has just began its initial term and there is no chance to work for their welfare or vice versa. The minorities may be neglected in the previous ministry. Equal treatment is intended to be given to all during this ministry. I have full confidence in this government that minority's interest would be regarded as priority.

Taking into the account of the policy of the YMA regarding the District Councils, it may be interpreted that this organisation has strongly opposed to the division of Mizoram into smaller areas. Mizoram is the mother earth for the Mizos, our vision is to form greater Mizoram. In spite of all our efforts to attain the status of greater Mizoram, it is shameful that there are some people who are struggling to slice out the existing area.

In conclusion, though my colleague have debated over this resolution, I have confidence that they would compromise with us. The wording of the resolution itself has reflected only an opposition to the demand of UT within Mizoram. There is no partiality in our stand regarding separation of Mizoram. So, Mr. Speaker Sir, I request the members of this House to pass this resolution. Thank you.

PU AICHHINGA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a matter of regret that  
MINISTER this resolution requires to be moved and discussed in the House today. While we have the policy of reunification of all the descendents of the Mizo, the idea of demanding union territory has been born in the minds of some MLAs and even MPs. If they wish to involve in this matter, they should have left their responsibility as the representatives of the people. They do not deserve to sit in the House. We call ourselves politicians who are supposed to work for the people. A politician who represents his people is not supposed to destroy the unity of the Country or State he is representing. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, these MLAs and MPs need to examine themselves otherwise, they do not deserve to sit in the House. Furthermore, by demanding UT from Mizoram, they have denounced their Mizo identity. If so, how will they name their new UT if they are separated from Mizoram.

No ministry is satisfactory in the eyes of the opposition members. In such cases, everyone is free to state their complaints and grievances. But, matters in connection with the separation of Mizoram should never be uttered in the House.

Today, I anticipated that they admit their mistakes and that they have done all this just for the sake of politics. I would further like to request them to reconsider their action and support this resolution. Thank you.

PU ZAKHU HLUCHHO : Mr. Speaker, thank you for allotting me time. The  
resolution moved by the Hon'ble Home Minister has given me disappointment. It is very unfortunate for the people living in the District Council areas. On the contrary, it gives me a good chance to relate the exact condition of ourselves.

Firstly, let me assert that the proposal for the demand of UT from the Mizoram government is not the policy of the Congress party. Being members of the Legislative Assembly, the four members from Chhimtuipui District were present at the meeting.

If we look back into the history of the Mizos, all the descendents of the Mizo migrated from Burma. Those who were known as the Lushais had settled in the North while Pawi and Lakher inhabited the southern area. The Chakmas, Bawm and

Tlanglau tribes had made their settlement in the area what we call the Chakma areas now. Land dispute were never heard of between them. Some English and Welsh Christian missionaries had also visited the north and south Mizoram separately. As different languages were used by the Lushais and the Lakhers, the terms 'Lushai' or 'Lakher' had to be added to the names of persons to be enrolled into the Indian army prior to the Indian Independence.

Mr. Speaker Sir, at the time India got independence our chief had asked for District Council but most chiefs of Pawi and Lakher opted Burma Lusei Hills District Council which could not be formed in 1952 so we were given Autonomous Regional Council in 1953.

When Mizo District Council was upgraded to UT in 1972, leaders of Pawi Lakher Regional Council went to Delhi asking the Centre to give them UT. Since they enjoy equal status with Mizo District Council but the Centre promised to give District Council and that was how the three District Councils were formed. When the Government of India and MNF signed peace accord in 1986 knowing that Mizoram will obtain statehood automatically, leaders of Pawi, Lakher and Chakma were about to ask for UT but as they think this will hamper peace process, they did not ask for it. It is regretting that before 1972 we used to have equal status but our status had been changed since 1972, now we are under Government of Mizoram. However, we are very grateful to have District Council, we shall never allow to abolish it, we would rather sacrifice ourselves to retain it.

Knowing our sentiment, Congress ministry used to protect us even when a resolution to abolish District Council is moved in this House. Not only that, our development fund and administrative authority had been increased by the Congress Ministry and we are very grateful, and we never had the intention to separate Mizoram or be separated. Unfortunately, the MNF & MPC Ministry is worrying about these small District Councils and propose to abolish them. The Hon'ble Chief Minister said on the day of oath taking that abolition of Chakma District Council will be his first task, and this really hurts the sentiment of Chhimituipui District because if he abolished Chakma District Council he will also do the same to the other two Districts. The people of Chhimituipui District feel that they are not safe in this ministry. Do these small districts hinder the development of Mizoram? Why do you intend to snatch away what we had valued. Even the YMA proposed to abolish District Councils knowing the intention of our Chief Minister. Because of all these, the people of these Districts feel that they are not safe in this ministry and decided to be in the hands of Central Government. However, I would like to mention that we do not want to hurt the sentiment of the people of Mizoram. I rather request you to accept our decision as it is done to safeguard the rights of the people of these areas.

Mr. Speaker Sir, if we carefully look at the resolution, it is confusing which they dislike - asking UT or those who intend to demand UT. I can show this House that this is the letter to demand UT by MDF submitted to the Prime Minister in 1996 and this is by LPP. When Pi Talukdar was inducted to MNF, did she withdraw her name from the list who demanded UT and the MNF National Executive Committee agreed to unite with MDF in the MDC election. These clearly shows that they do not object to they demanding for UT.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to stress as to why we are not recognised as Mizo. If you go on like this, you will not win our hearts. So if you really want the integrity of Mizos you should withdraw this resolution. If not we are not going to participate while taking votes. Thank you.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, on August 26th 1998, Central YMA  
MINISTER (Young Mizo Association) and YLA (Young Lai Association) and MTP had a joint meeting at Lawngtlai

Circuit House and agreed to protect the two District Councils except Chakma District Council. After this meeting, there is no more harassment. I feel it is inappropriate for our Hon'ble Members to identify themselves as foreigners in regard to the resolution passed by YMA at Champhai Conference. As our opposition members are from the same party, their stand should be the same. At present, it seems they are not clear in their stand. To say that they are not moving back from their stand is the voice of those who want to divide Mizoram. I would like to mention that it is the District Congress Committee who asked for UT without taking the consent of the people. At the same time, it is fortunate that have time to discuss this resolution and I feel we must pass this resolution.

**PU LALHMINGTHANGA :** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. The Hon'ble Home Minister had moved his resolution just in time. As we all know, Mizoram is the smallest state in India and we are facing problems as various funds from Central Government and various commissions are generalised with other big states. While that is our case, it is inappropriate to ask for UT in the name of the three District Councils to divide Mizoram. As pointed out by the Hon'ble Education Minister, it was done by the District Congress Committee. Hence it is important to pass this resolution as there has been a move to divide Mizoram.

Though our Mara and Lai brother feel they are treated separately, the MNF and MPC never treated them separately. The grievances pointed out by the four opposition members are also a matter of politics only. The argument of Opposition Group Leader was not applicable to this issue in this House as it does not mean that MNF & MPC coalition government harass them. We all know about our financial problem which we inherited from the last Government. Yet, Mizoram Government never divert even a single paise from their funds. As that is the case, it is inappropriate for them to say that they were compelled to ask for UT I would like to say that whatever said by an MLA is not the opinion of the public. Therefore, their argument in this House is baseless.

Regarding Chakma District Council, as pointed out by the Hon'ble Member from Chawngte Constituency, copies of their letter demanding UT to Committee on Petition, Rajya Sabha in 1994, 1995 & 1996 were given to me as I was Chairman of the Committee on Petition in the State in which they alleged that they were harassed by the people of Mizoram. They also gave false information about us to Human Rights Commission saying that Mizos are harassing them and try to oppress them even in religious matter that they need separate administrative unit. When the Committee on Petition, Rajya Sabha clearly thought about this, they found that it was baseless and their recommendation was not presented to the Parliament. Therefore, the excuses made by our opposition members from the South are baseless. Even Central YMA does not have any responsibilities in this regard. Since, the whole population are falsely incriminated in the Rajya Sabha and Human Rights Committee, Central YMA have to clarify themselves. As our resolution is the interest of the people of Mizoram including the citizens within the three Autonomous District Councils it is very important and I do support it. So I urge this House to pass it unanimously. Thank you.

**S P E A K E R** : Now I shall call upon the Hon'ble House Leader to wind up, after that I shall call upon the Hon'ble Minister, mover of the resolution.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA** : Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. Today's resolution is very important and serious. It is not to be clarified by making excuses. My speech on the Dissolution of Chakma District Council was interpreted the other way  
**CHIEF MINISTER**

round and I was alleged to be having dissolution as my first task as a Chief Minister. A non Mizo journalist asked me at my press conference about my stand in this regard. My answer was and my stand on this still remains the same on this day. The way Chakma District Council was established was not appropriate and we had informed Central Government. To establish Autonomous District Council for the majority of foreigners was not demanded by Chakmas and other political parties like PC or Congress. We do not accept it as it was in contrast to the MNF movement. We informed Central Government that if we have peace it is no longer necessary to have separate Chakma Council. Even Home Secretary of Central Government confirmed and acknowledged the policy. However, he said that there is a constitutional system. The journalist then asked me as to what step I intend to take further and in reply, I said that in spite of constitutional system, amendments could be made and some re-writing could be done to revoke the council. That is why, some political parties falsely interpreted my speech. The people of Mizoram as a whole do not accept how Chakma District Council was formed. At the same time, we accept Lai and Mara Autonomous District Councils as they are backward classes among the Mizo Society. But we cannot accept to give Autonomous District Council for majority of foreigners. And we do accept that its dissolution can be fought by constitutional means.

It is not correct to say that Hill Tract is the homeland of the Chakmas. The Hill Tract in Southern side was under Raja during British period even after it became East Pakistan. The homeland of the Chakmas is Rangamati area. In the adjoining area of Mizoram, there were few Chakmas at Horina area. Their homeland is Rangamati at Faja Pakistan bordering to Bangladesh.

Secondly, we are alleged that we accept the demand of UT because we have election alliance with MDF. It is not that we accept their policy when we have election alliance. Our stand is still the same we will never allow to divide Mizoram by giving UT to some areas.

Since this ministry is not even one year and there is no time for grievances. We are starting various developmental works. While we make restrictions for various Departments, as a Finance Minister, I always release fund for these districts. They have additional District Council fund besides the main development fund covered by Mizoram Budget. Even other Districts will want to have such additional funds.

It is also said that the other two District Councils will also be dissolved automatically because Chakma District Council is written first. But that is not the case. It is written in alphabetical order only and it is inappropriate to say such things in the House. During the former MNF Ministry of 1½ years, one underground group had been formed but no one supported it. As a result they surrendered and we knew everything from them. It seems that we cannot bear to be in the opposition party. Now MNF & MPC formed the Ministry which is not even a year old and it is regretting that some of our hon'ble members and MP constitute a sub-committee to demand UT. I would like to urge the people of Mizoram to note this carefully.

I would like to say that this policy matter is very big. It does not matter if we do not agree with each other, but the policy to divide Mizoram by demanding UT is the worst policy. As this subject is very serious and sensitive I will definitely take action if there were such members in my party since I am the president of MNF Party.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, as of now Pi Talukdar joins MNF, and does not withdraw her name in the list of those who demanded UT, are you going to take action against her?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, if a person joins a political party  
CHIEF MINISTER : from another party, it means that he/she accepts the  
policies of that party, that is the system of all political  
parties. Our present subject is policy matter, it is the  
most important subject for Mizoram. To divide Mizoram by asking/demanding UT is a  
serious matter and this House will never accept such thing and I urge the House to pass  
their resolution as moved by the hon'ble Home Minister. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now I shall call upon Pu Tawnluia, Home Minister.

PU TAWNLUIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am glad that hon'ble members  
MINISTER : participated diligently in the discussion of this impor-  
tant official resolution. However, I feel it is degrada-  
tion of the dignity of this House that some of our  
hon'ble members left the House. Our House Leader and Deputy Leader had pointed out  
everything and the Law Minister also clarified necessary points. So, I shall point out  
only important points.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I feel sad that some of our hon'ble members are  
taking initiative step to demand UT. The hon'ble member from Tuipang Constituency  
said they are not retreating in their stand. The people of Mizoram will never allow to  
slice off part of Mizoram by giving UT to the three District Councils. The demand of  
united Lai, Mara and Chakma District Congress Committee is not acceptable and it is  
important for the people of Mizoram to go against such attitude by all means.

I would like to point out that the hon'ble member Pu Zakhu Hlychho  
is the convener in the UT Demand Sub Committee and hon'ble members Pu Nirupam  
Chakma, Pu C. Thanghluna and Pu K.T. Rokhaw and even our sitting Rajya Sabha  
member Pu Hiphei are members in the Sub Committee. It is, therefore, important for  
the people of Mizoram to know who and whose party are demanding UT to divide  
Mizoram. I, therefore, would like to request this House to pass this resolution.  
Thank you.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, can you accept the amendment of the  
official resolution as I prepared? otherwise I cannot  
pass this resolution.

S P E A K E R : I have told you in the last session that you follow  
according to our Rules. Now also you did not  
follow the to rules.

The resolution moved by the Home Minister is very important and  
those who agree to pass say 'agree', and those who do not say 'not agree'. (Members  
agreed). Now the Resolution is passed unanimously. (Pu Tawnluia, Minister : Thank  
you, Mr. Speaker Sir)

S P E A K E R : According to our business chalked out by BAC other  
Government Business & Bill will be done on 29th &  
30th. But there is no other Bill and Government  
Business, so it is the decision of the House whether the House should be adjourned or  
not as there is no more business to be taken up.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it will be good to adjourn if there is  
CHIEF MINISTER no more business to be taken.

S P E A K E R : House is adjourned 'sine die'.

Meeting adjourned at 5 : 15 P.M.

'Sine die'.

H.L. CHUNGA  
Secretary.

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