

LIST OF BUSINESS

TENTH SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 10TH APRIL, 2001
(Time 10 : 30 A.M. to 1 :00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

PRESENTS

1. Pu R.Lalawia, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, 15 Ministers and 23 members were present.

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPERS

3. **LAYING OF PAPERS**, Er. K.Thangzuala to lay on the Table a copy of each of the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Annual Reports of Mizoram Food and Allied Corporation Ltd. (MIFCO) for the years 1989-1991, 1991-1992, 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995.

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS

4. **PU LALRINCHHANA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.
5. **PU RUALCHHINA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

S P E A K E R : 'And let us not grow weary in well doing , for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart'

Galatians 6 : 9

We shall now take up our Business. To start with, I call upon Pu Sanghmingthanga H.Pautu to ask starred question No. 169.

PU SANGHMINGTHANGA H.PAUTU : Mr Speaker Sir, Starred Question No.169 for favour of answer by the Minister in charge Rural Development Department.

1. Whether there is any project submitted by the MNF Ministry concerning integrated wasteland Development Programme to the Central Ministry ?
2. If so, how many project was already approved ? What is the amount of those approved projects ?

S P E A K E R : I now call upon Dr R.Lalthangliana, Minister in charge Rural Development Department to give the answer.

DR R.LALTHANGLIANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, answer to the first question submitted Rs.42,08,000/- has already been sanctioned for Aizawl District and Rs.219,60,000/- for Champhai District. Recently, the project for Kolasib District amounting to Rs.499,68,000/- has been approved, Rs.478,00,000/- for Champhai II and Rs. 495,00,000/- for Lawngtlai District.

PU C.SANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, Supplementary question please. Whether this project is maintained in District wise or Rural Development Block wise ?

PU SANGHMINGTHANGA H.PAUTU : Supplementary Question Mr Speaker Sir, Whether any steps has been taken before regard to integrated wasteland Development ? Whether there is any plan to take up fresh project besides the existing ones ? The concern Minister may explain the situation.

DR R.LALTHANGLIANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, this project is done District wise. We are fortunate that the first sanction for four projects is received on November and another three projects too has been approved all of these. All will be done through DRDA. Integrated wasteland Development Programme is sponsored by Ministry of Rural Development and it is under the programme of water shed Development project as recommended by Hamatha Rao Committee. Out of 12 projects which has been submitted, 7 were being approved within six months of submission. Guideline for this programme is that DRDA will prepare Programme Implementation Agency (PIA) in every District and the work will be maintained by the Department such as Agriculture, Horticulture, Soil in each District.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No. 171 is shared by Pu C.Sangzuala and Pu F.Lalthanzuala. One of the members may ask the question.

PU C.SANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, starred question No. 71 for favour of answer by the Minister in charge Civil Aviation.

(a) Number of seat/quota of the Government of Mizoram on Indian Airlines service from Lengpui to Calcutta.

(b) What is the criteria of allotment of seat/quota ?

(c) Whether there is an intention to determine link to Lengpui with other cities besides Calcutta.

(d) When will Direct Flight to Lengpui – Guwahati be opened ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Government of Mizoram
CHIEF MINISTER have 7 seats/quotas in the previous year and
after putting a strong pressure to increase two more
seats has been added to our quota. In regard to the question of order of priority in the
allotment of seat, from Government quota ; first priority is given to those VIP and high
ranking officials. (2) Government officers who is on official duty and medical patient,
retired Government official, student studying outside Mizoram and others.

In reply to the question of whether there is an intention to increase
number of Flight - yes, effort has been made to increase number of flight. In regard to
determination of other link besides Calcutta there is an intention to link Lengpui with
Guwahati. Moreover, the government is taking necessary steps for immediate achievement
of direct Flight from Lengpui to Guwahati.

DR R.LALZAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, Lengpui Airport seems to be
the first handling Agent. Whether the
Government determines to upgrade the status
atleast as a branch ?

PU VANLALHLANA : Mr Speaker Sir, first priority is given to VIP and it
is acceptable. But the problem is that priority is
also given to the recommendation of certain VIP
even if he is not actually on tour. Whether the government accept this practice ?

PU LALRINZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, whether the government have
any plan to install more trolleys at Lengpui
Airport ? Secondly, it is learned that there is an
intention to handover Lengpui Airport to Airport Authority of India. On what condition will
Lengpui Airport be handed over ?

S P E A K E R : Hon'ble Chief Minister to give the answer.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : The question of Pu Lalzama and Pu Nirupam
CHIEF MINISTER Chakma seems to be the same. In this regards,
it is to be noted that and the Airport of the State
Capital within the country is operated by the Airport Authority. As for our State government to
maintain its Airport separately we do not seem to be able to handle, as we do not have technical
knowledge. We are therefore compelled by the situation to put our Airport under the operation
of Indian Airlines and Airport Authority.

Regarding passenger's fee which is Rs.120/- and landing charge
amounting to Rs.7,000/- it is to be noted that the state government does not insist to on
collecting it since the demand of Airport Authority to pay operational charge has not been
fulfilled. It is operated by the state at loss of the state government as operational cost will be
more than 40 lakhs per year approximately and 3 crores rupees for maintenance of Airport every
year. Moreover, it is to be noted that Airport Authority of India is not interested in taking over
maintenance of our Airport on lease-out basis since it is to be done at a loss. As a matter of fact,
no final decision has been made yet, preliminary discussion has already existed. To speak in
brief, the government have no intention to fully hand over Lengpui Airport to the Airport
Authority of India but only on lease-out basis. Regarding installation of more trolleys for
Lengpui Airport, action will be taken as demanded by the passengers.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Chief Minister pointed out that operation cost has not been paid by the State Government for certain reasons. What I would like to know is the total amount of the operational cost.

Secondly, is it true that the rate of Flight from Calcutta to Aizawl is cheaper than that of Calcutta to Imphal ? The Hon'ble Chief Minister may explain the situation.

Thirdly, is it true that the Government recently give compensation to those areas next to Airport fencing ? If so, what is the amount ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, in regard to the question of priority in issue of Air ticket from government quota, I would like to mention that the concern officials give important to any persons recommended by certain VIP yet, they are not treated as VIP.

Next, I would like to mention that the government urges the concern authority more than a couple of time to prevail appropriate air fair to Imphal and more afford will be put for the achievement. The question is of Operational cost of flight, the amount is estimated at 75 lakhs with passenger's fee, Revenue and Landing charge happened to be 35 lakhs

PU H.LALTANPUIA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Chief Minister may also explain for what period the said operational cost is determined.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, opetation cost is determined for one year. Regarding compensation, there are certain areas for which compensation is given. It also includes some areas which has been processed during the previous Ministry.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, whether those compensate areas also includes lands owned by certain Ministers today. I have heard from reliable source that the government recently spent Rs. 48 lakhs for compensation of land of certain Ministers. Is this true ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, It is true that the lands of certain Ministers has also been included and those were already processed in the previous Ministry and the existing Ministry have no responsibility for that.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No.172 and Pu N.K. Chakma to ask.

PU N.K. CHAKMA : Mr Speaker Sir, Starred Question No. 172 for favour by the Minister for Higher & Technical Education Department.

S P E A K E R : I now call upon the Minister in charge to give the answer.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, the question of Pu N. K. Chakma of whether there is any plan to establish N.C.C. Battalion at Mizoram University which will soon be opened. The answer is as shown in answer sheet.

PU VANLALHLANA : Mr Speaker Sir, the concern Minister pointed out in his statement last year that the government planned to establish NCC Battalion at Mizoram University, but the answer we have now is much different. In this relation, I would like to ask of whether ALO (Associate Lecturer Officer) Mizoram has been given honorarium following Pay Revision 1986, as it is done for other Lecturers ? In this connection, I would like to stress the need to improve NCC in Mizoram as it has already been started as Independent Company since Union Territory Government. It is important for the Government to put the afford for the establishment of Battalion in Mizoram.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, I doubt the statement of my fellow members is reliable since I have never mentioned the matter concerning NCC Battalion in my wind up speech. But when Brig Kanwal visited Mizoram after our budget session last year we discussed the matter and I have even informed him of our financial problem to form NCC Battalion in Mizoram.

Regarding honorarium for Associate Lecturer Officer, I regret to mention that I could not give the answer by now as I have not been informed by the concern official in that regard.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is learnt that the government is likely to recruit lecturers for Central University. In this connection, I would like to ask whether the concern Minister have already formed executive council. Cabinet Council and Finance Committee. If so, may he give the name of those members ?

COL. LALCHUNGNUNGA SAILO : Mr Speaker Sir, It is regretting to learn about non-availability of fund for NCC Camp. From my experiences as Deputy Director, North East NCC Shillong I would like to mention that all the activities of NCC could not be properly maintained as sufficient fund is not available. Keeping in mind the interest of our Youth's to join NCC, it is important for the government to pay attention to the welfare of NCC in Mizoram and provide necessary fund for its maintenance.

PU VANLALHLANA : Mr Speaker sir, Supplementary question please. Whether the Government intends to take necessary steps so that NCC Battalion is established in Mizoram ?

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble concern Minister may explain step which has been taken so far for inclusion of NCC Battalion in Mizoram University

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to mention that no firm decision has yet been made in regards to installation of fund for University since it is meant for NEHU Campus, but not by the name of Central University.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, if we look into Revised Budget of Explanatory Memorandum, 7.74 crores rupees is allotted for Mizoram Central University and if this fund is to be utilized for NEHU, it is first necessary to transfer the account. My question is why did the government use the said fund for NEHU without transferring the account ?

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, I need more time to study so as to answer that question and necessary action will be taken in that regard. Regarding the question on formation of various Committees, I would like to mention that it is appropriate to form those Committees even before University is actually opened. Yet, the Committee recommended certain persons for the membership of the said Committees.

S P E A K E R : One minute please. The question seems to be irrelevant and it may not be necessary for the concern Minister to answer those irrelevant questions but should concentrate on the main question.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, to answer the question of NCC Battalion in brief the government could not afford to do so due to lack of adequate fund. It is not that importance is not given in that regard. But the government is taking every possible steps so as to achieve it.

The matter concerning Vice-Chancellor, it is now put under sub-Committee for further discussion. Lastly, regarding honorarium, I supposed I have already mentioned that we shall look into the matter.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No .173 I call upon Pu C.Thanghluna to ask the question.

PU C.THANGHLUNA : Mr Speaker Sir, here is my question for favour of answer by the Hon'ble Minister in charge Taxation Department.

- (a) The amount of tax collected by the department during 2000-2001.
- (b) Whether there is plan to maintain collection of tax from non-luxuries goods?

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalchamliana, Minister in charge may give the answer.

PU LALCHAMLIANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, there is no classification in regards to luxurious goods. Yet it is put under notified goods from which Sales Tax is collected. During the year 2000-2001, the total amount of collection is Rs.135,49,348/-

Regarding question (b) suggestion has already been processed for further verification.

PU C.THANGHLUNA : Supplementary question Mr Speaker Sir, keeping in mind the important function of Inspector of Taxes, in collecting such amount of Taxes, they deserved to upgrade their status to gazetted officer as it is done in other States. My question is whether there is a plan to upgrade the status of Inspector of Taxes to Gazetted Officer.

Secondly, it is learned that there are 4 vacant posts of Inspector of Taxes. Whether there is an intention to fill up such vacant posts ?

Thirdly, whether there is a plan to shift the office of Taxation, Aizawl North I to Chaltlang area ? What is the amount of rent of the office which is now being occupied. If the office is decided to be shifted to Chaltlang, whose building to be occupied and at what rate ?

PU SANGHMINGTHANGA H. PAUTU : Mr Speaker Sir, it is learned that the main Agent of Maruti in Mizoram i.e. Hrangbana Motor Works is facing problem as the supply has been detained from Assam which is likely due to failure of payment of Tax. Whether the problem arises due to failure of payment of tax to the Government of Mizoram or to Assam ? The concern Minister may explain the reason. Besides, what is the amount of tax imposed by the Government of Mizoram and the concern authority of Assam to Hrangbana Motor Works. What is the difference

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question please. One of the most popular manifestos of MNF Party is that sales tax will not be introduced unless appropriate rule is prepared first. My question is that, in which 7 items the Government plans to impose tax as luxurious items ?

S P E A K E R : I now call upon the concern Minister to give the answer.

PU LALCHAMLIANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, in regard to upgradation of Inspector of Taxes to Gazetted Officer, I would like to mention that the Government considers for fulfillment of their demand and the concern officials are now examining the situation.

Regarding the question of shifting Taxation office North Zone, there is suggestion but no decision has yet been made. In regard to the question of its rent and the difference with the one which has now been occupied, the building Chanmari is about Rs.80,000/- per month and of Chaltlang is Rs.83,000/- per month. The difference is round about 3,000/-

In regard to the problem faced by Hrangbana Motor Works, my answer is that the supply of vehicle has been detained by the main agent. The reason of the delay as we have learned is that the government of Mizoram have not yet followed uniform floor rate for purchase of a vehicle. And as such , only 2% is taken although it is to be 12%, according to uniform floor rate. Moreover, there is allegation against the dealer in Mizoram as selling the items in Assam without giving sales tax. Hrangbana Motor Works then filed petition against the agent and won the case.

Mr Speaker Sir, a member from Saiha constituency Pu Zaku Hlychho have not made it clear, but I think he wished to know in which items tax is taken. My answer is that from the first group such as chassis of motor vehicles, motor scooter, motor cycles excluding tractors, power tillers, earth movers and excavation, 2% is taken. From spare parts and accessories of motor vehicles, motor scooters, motor cycles, tyres and tubes including parts and accessories of Tractors, power tillers, earth movers, excavators 5% is taken. The uniform floor rate of those items in the central is 8% . Moreover, items such as refrigerators, air conditioning plants. Washing machines, geysers, air cooler including their parts and accessories, 5% is taken and the uniform floor rate of those items is 5%. Again, items such as TV, VCR, VCD, CD players, telephone including their parts and accessories 5% and the uniform floor is 12 %. From computer of all varieties, fax machine, photo copiers and their parts and accessories 4% is taken. All arms including rifles, revolvers pistol and immuniton for the same, 5% is taken where as uniform floor rate is 12%. Jewellery items such as Gold, Silver, Diamond the rate in Mizoram exceeds the uniform floor rate that is 1% only where as in Mizoram 5% is taken.

PU C.THANGHLUNA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to now the reason of the department for shifting North Zone Taxation office to Chaltlang where as the location of the present building seems to be more convenient and the rent also is more considerable. Could it be possible that the concern officers try to misuse their power for their personal benefit ?

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker sir, what is the reason for government for taking more tax on motor parts than on motor vehicles ?

PU LALCHAMLIANA MINISTER : Mr Speaker sir, in reply to the question of Pu Zaku Hlychho, Sales tax is introduced in Mizoram on 1.11.1999. A Committee of All India Chief Minister and Finance Minister then fixed effective date which is 19th November, 1999 yet in Mizoram it came into effective from the year 2000.

In regard to the newly suggested Sales Tax Act, consultative Committee comprising of taxation Department and various other members was held on 12.1.2001 and 23.1.2001 the members discussed the matter seriously and then decided to put uniform floor rate into effective. Secondly, another suggestion is made for Tripura and Mizoram to impose the said tax on building materials and cosmetics. The consultative Committee discussed the matter and then processed recommendation for favour of necessary action by a council of Ministers.

Regarding the question of whether the concern officers of Taxation department mis-use their power , I would like to mention that the idea of shifting of the office arises because of the congested location of the existing location, yet no decision has been made. The matter is now laying for consideration of the government.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over, we shall now take up next business. I now call upon Pu K.Thangzuala member to lay the paper of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Annual Report of Mizoram Foods and Allied Corporation Ltd. (MIFCO) for the year 1989-1991, 1991-1992, 1992-1993, 1993-1994 and 1994-1995 to lay on the Table of this House.

Er. K.THANGZUALA : With your permission Mr Speaker Sir, I beg
MINISTER to lay on the Table a copy of each of the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Annual Report of Mizoram Foods & Allied Corporation Ltd. (MIFCO) for the year 1989-1991, 1991-1992, 1992-1993, 1993-1994 and 1994-1995.

Thank you

S P E A K E R : The copy may be distributed to the members. We shall now move to our Third Business that is Discussion and Voting on Demand, Pu Lalrinchhana, Minister may submit the demand to this House.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, with your permission and
MINISTER following recommendation of Governor of Mizoram I now move the demand nos. 6,34,35,40 the total amounting to Rs.22,73,50,000/- for the year 2001-2002 for meeting expenses of the following departments :-
Demand No. 6, Revenue – Rs.6,31,40,000/-
Demand No.34, Social Security and Welfare (R & R) only- Rs.36,65,000/-
Demand No.35, Relief on Account of Natural Calamities Rs. 3,12,00,000/-
Demand No.40, Animal Husbandry Rs. 12,93,45,000/- the total of which Rs. 22,73,50,000/-

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : I call upon Pu Rualchhina, Minister to submit his demand to this House.

PU RUALCHHINA : On the recommendation of the Governor of
MINISTER Mizoram and with your permission Sir, I move the demand Nos. 17,39 & 41, for Rs.28,49,36,000/- only for meeting expenses during 2001-2002 in respect of the following Departments : -

Demand No.17, Printing & Stationery Rs. 4,68,16,000/-
Demand No.39, Soil & Water Conservation Department Rs. 7,10,20,000/-
Demand No.41, Forests Rs. 16,71,00,000/- only.
Total Rs. 28,49,36,000/-.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Two Ministers have submitted their demands of their concern departments. We shall now start discussion. To start with may I call upon Col Lalchungchunga.

Col. LALCHUNG NUNGA SAILO : Thank you Mr Speaker Sir, we have seen in the Budget speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister that the main subject of Forest Department will be on bamboo development. But no programme for bamboo development is seen in the budget and I am afraid the statement is baseless. Not only this Mr Speaker Sir, allotment of budget for prevention of wildlife this year is increasing. In this connection I would like to mention that no effective work is done under the programme of prevention of wildlife Mr Speaker Sir, it is surprising to learn that meats of certain wild animals are openly sold in the market of Lawngtlai. Therefore, it is doubtful that fund allotted for prevention of wildlife will be properly used.

Moreover, as we have seen in the Supreme Court Order 1998, Forests Department should maintain appropriate working plan for scientific management of Forest. Following the instruction, the department prepared and submitted its working plan to Regional Office, Shillong, but it was later sent back for further improvement. Till date, no improvement is made and no approval is received from the Central government too. I wonder how the government intends to solve this problem. It is to be noted that it is contempt of court not to obey order of the Supreme Court.

Mr Speaker Sir, the concern Minister for Forest Department answered one of my questions that the number of holder of trade-permit for timber in Mizoram and within Aizawl as 'nil' and the number of those traders without permit too as 'nil' Mr Speaker Sir, how could we believe the answer given by the concern Minister where as number of timber traders is seen within and outside Aizawl. Obviously the Minister hesitates to give the right answer as his father-in-law is also involved in this trade and all the holders of that permit are of the supporters of MNF party.

Thank you

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Thank you Mr Speaker Sir, To start my speech. I would like to mention that Demand No.6. Back in 1990, the area below PTC was given to 26th Battalion of BSF but later in 1998, the concern authority informed our government that they decided not to take the offer. The holder of this plot of Land has a great loss as his land has not been maintained for that long period. It is therefore necessary to compensate the owner of this land.

Next, I would like to mention about economic development scheme for Murlen National Park which is under demand No. 41. An enormous fund has been allotted by the Central Government for the development of this Park during the year 1999-2000. From that fund, a number of families in the areas around were allotted contract work of constructing terraces amounting to Rs. 13,000/- per family. But it is regretted to learn that the amount has not been fully paid. Only Rs.4,000/- each is given to those families and the remaining fund amounting to Rs.2,70,000/- is missing not only this Mr Speaker Sir, Rs.1,50,000/- is sanctioned for construction of water storage with a capacity of 450 litres, but it is learned that such water

storage tanky were built with a capacity of 225 litres, and the remaining fund amounting to Rs. 75,000/- is missing. Again under the scheme of Piggery Farming the Central Government sanctioned Rs.17,500/- to each beneficiary but only Rs.3,500/- is given and the total of the remaining fund is Rs. 1,42,500/- not only this, Rs.1,00,000/- is sanctioned for construction of link Road to Khawbung, Bualpui and Vapar but the actual amount received by those village is Rs.1,50,000/- and the whereabouts of the remaining fund amounting to Rs.1,50,000/- was unknown. The total amount of un-used fund comes to Rs.7,27,500/-. Mr Speaker Sir, the concern Chief Wildlife Warden even had a spot verification but the Minister obviously hesitates to take action in that regard. It is regretted that Supreme Court paved the way for freedom from poverty but few concern officials obstructed such opportunity for their personal benefit.

Mr Speaker Sir, there is another serious problem in the department of Forest. ACF Darlawn reported the missing of large amount of teak log from Forest Department plantation of Mualkhang on 15.3.2001 and submitted an F.I.R. to the Police New Vervek. The Police then prevailed investigation and their finding is the existence of chit of the concern Minister to issue teak log to the concern person. Mr Speaker Sir, it is much desirable if the concern Minister stopped such practice once and for all. I have learned from a reliable source that large amount of teak log is lying inside a small house near the concern Minister's residence. I wonder if he even had the time to maintain teak plantation as he had spent most of his time as underground in Bangladesh. It is very sad to think about the future of Mizoram if such kind of Minister have to control the machinery of our Government.

Thank you.

PU H.LALTANPUIA : Thank you Mr Speaker Sir, as already pointed out by Pu Lalrinzuala, people are grieving for want of safety for our forest and wildlife but vast areas has been destroyed by fire every year due to negligence of our Leaders who count themselves as patriotic leaders for the people. In this relation, I would like to mention that even though the government gives concentration on plantation of bamboos, vast areas has been destroyed every year by issuing permission for bamboo mahal. It could atleast be taken for granted if the concern authority favours our own Mizo bidders in regard to Tuirial/Tlawng bamboo mahal instead of non-Mizo bidder who is from Hailakandi and holder of an invalid application. Obviously, the reason of the government in selecting a non-Mizo bidder rather than our own Mizo bidder is that the later could not provide extra money to the concern officials. Not only this Mr Speaker Sir, it is learned that some closed relatives of the concern Minister has been allotted the work of bamboo mahal of Serlui by the name of non Mizo contracto, Anil Chandra Roy of Dholai, a casual labourer who could not afford to apply for the tender floated.

Mr Speaker Sir, it is sad to learn that opportunity provides by the Supreme Court for the people of North East India has not been entertained by the department of Forest, Mizoram since this will curtail the chance of the concern officials in taking advantage for their personal benefits.

Next, I would like to express my appreciation to the government for having fulfilled my request to place Referral Animal Health Centre at Vanbawng.

Last but not the least, I strongly demand the government to give permission to form Parliamentary Inquiry Committee to investigate the case of Aii Puk scandal so that financial mismanagement under this Ministry could be ripped in the bud.

Thank you.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Thank you Mr Speaker Sir. To start with it is much pleasing to learn that the department of Land Revenue & Settlement is engaging a number of youths for cadastral surveyor which has never been done before. In this relation, it is worth to mention the name of Pu C.Pahlira, a veteran politician for having rendered his valuable efforts towards the achievement of Aizawl Town Plan. His political career too were effected by this plan as majority of the people during that time did not fully understand his long term vision which now comes to materialize in this generation. Steps taken by the department of revenue towards improvement of Aizawl not only concern the members of this House but also the youths of today.

Secondly, I would also like to mention about Forest Department. Mizoram District Council Act 1955 was adopted before the attainment of Union Territory. As this act was not wholly applicable after U.T., Assam Forest Act 1967 was adopted. The Assam Forest clearly underlines provision for the penalty in connection with Mahal where as no clear definition is seen in Mizo Forest Act, 1955. In fact, Assam Forest Act was in use to resolve the problem of Mahal. However, certain people challenged this application to court then rejected the Assam Forest Act consequently. As a matter of fact, the new Act was introduced in 1977. But the problem is that Assam forest Act, 1967 was still in-use in Mizoram even though it was already rejected. It is regretted that the department functioned more than 20 years without adopting appreciate Act. If any one appeals to court the matter of moral system, the department will always be defeated without provision for penalty. It could only be saved if atleast Act of 1977 is adopted for the stand point. It is the responsibility of each of the member and we have to determine this matter seriously. Unless this pattern is changed, it will not be possible for the department to make progress. I, therefore request the concern Minister to determine for adoption of Forest Act, 1977 to save our government from this loop-hole.

Thank you.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Thank you Mr Speaker Sir. To start with I would also like to mention Forests Department under Demand No. 41 Natural wealth of any country could be divided into two resources from the underground and of above the ground and resources from forest falls under the latter category. It is regretted that our natural resources such as trees, bamboos wild animals and even fishes etc. has been devastated by none other than ourselves. Even the concern department killed wild animals instead of preserving them. The government also seems to fail the programme of Forests Plantation. It is therefore very much necessary to learn from their past experience so as to bring up favourable achievements in the future.

Mr Speaker sir, It is surprising to learn that even Adviser to Chief Minister involves in another scandal of wire-mess. As learned from reliable source, Adviser to Chief Minister has been allotted the supply work of G.I wire mesh under Forests Department. But instead of supplying the said wire mesh, he distributed Rs. 3,500/- to each concern family and pocketed the remaining amount for his personal benefit where as the actual amount to be paid to 120 families is Rs.6,000/- each. This indicates malpractice at the top level of the government which effected general section of the concern officials, the problem of which needs to be checked immediately.

Next, I would like to make few points in regard to Demand No.6 Land Revenue & Settlement Department, we all seem to know which party is responsible for impediment of development in Mizoram due to 20 years of insurgency. In the previous session, a member from Saitual Constituency asked number of Church buildings occupied by army force during insurgency and the compensation given thereto. In this relation, the government resolves the problem and compensation is given to some private lands occupied by army force during insurgency. Yet 3,000 numbers remains unpaid. In this regard, this ministry gives assurance to this House that a special Committee will be formed to tackle this problem and the order has already been issued. But it is surprising to learn that no one seems to pay importance to that Order till today and the concern file too remains un-tended. My question is whether it is possible for the government to take immediate action in regard to the file which now remains under one Under Secretary of Revenue Department which seems to be the main reason for the delay.

In regard to increase of tax on certain commodities, I would like to point out that it is likely the poorer section of the people who will suffer more because of this decision. It is therefore, important for the government to determine the effect of increase of tax in regard to the well- to do families and of the poors.

Lastly, I would like to mention that it is necessary for every concern loanee of Ginger loan to deposit their land holdings. In this regard, it is necessary for the government to be careful so that the concern loanees retains their belongings after their respective loans is cleared.

Thank you.

Dr LALZAMA : Mr Speaker sir, I first of all would like to
MINISTER emphasize on the need to give awareness to the
people of the importance of preservation of wild life
and Forests. It is very important for every one of us to study the moral of the people of Mizoram
before and after attainment of statehood in every direction.

In regard to Demand No. 39 Soil & Water concervation, though the concerned minister said that there is substancial programme, I would like to say that some achievements have been made. In fact, allotment of fund for this department is also increasing in compare to last year. Moreover, I appreciate steps taken by the department for improvement of plantation of cardamom and coffee. It is important for the concern department to take this programme seriously and also spread awareness and its importance to the public as a whole. In the same way, it is necessary to emphasize on the programme of aforestation. Awareness campaign may also be prepared in regard to preservation of our forests and wild life.

In this connection, I would like to mention that the department of Forests often spends enormous amount of fund for maintenance of 3 years plantation. In this regard I would like to suggest the department to put certain amount of fund also for preservation of Forest. It may also be necessary for the department to prepare specific guidelines to eraducute the practice of clearing of Forets for cultivation and then provides necessary materials for fencing and other to solve the problem. The most appreciative step taken by the department is bamboo development programme as it is hopeful to achieve substancial improvement in Industry with the amount of bamboos we have in our State.

Next, I would like to mention about veterinary Department which concerns domestic animals such as chicken, pig and dairy products. For this, Animal control Act has also been introduced to central import of unhealthy domesticated animals. On the otherhand, it is important for the public also to have awareness of its importance and give support to the programme laid down by the Department.

Thank you.

PU J.LALTHANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, To start my speech in regard to
demand No. 14, I would like to point out that we,
the Mizos are accustomed to self sufficiency in
cattle breedings since the time of our forefathers. Especially in piggery, most of the family
used to rear two or more pigs.

Today, as we have known, breeding of chicken is very popular among the Mizos and it is hopeful that we will attain self sufficiency in chicken and its products, yet, the concerned breeders seem to be lacking of appreciate scientific knowledge. In fact it is the duty of the Department to impart the knowledge to every concern family. It will be important for the government too, to provide more fund to that effect.

In regards to piggery also, better quality of breeds has now come into our State, thanks to the effort of veterinary department and I strongly hope we will maintain self sufficiency in this product. On the other hand, it is very much important for the government to exercise Animal Control Act as necessary so as to check entry of unhealthy animals from outside. In the same way it is necessary to take preventive measures against the pervading animal disease in the country, In determining more hygienic way of life, it may also be necessary to build slaughter house in every locality.

In this connection, it may also be important to prepare grazing ground for our cattles which seems to be the concern of veterinary department.

Regarding Demand No. 41, it is regretted to learn about the consequences of ignorance of our government to follow the order of Supreme Court concerning Forest Department. For that reason, it may be necessary to point out that large bundle of teak logs is now laying at Bairabi railhead as it could not be exported due to failure of our Government to make appropriate Forest Act. It is to be noted that it is manual labourers in our state who suffer the most.

Next, I would like to mention that there is Tiger Protection project in my constituency under the maintenance of Forest department. To that effect, various efforts has been put by the department with voluntary organization for their support, On the other hand, it is surprising to learn that Gun licence is freely issued by this Government and I am afraid it will be used for killing those protected wild animals. I therefore, suggest that the concern authority minimize issue of such licence.

Coming to the problem of bamboo protection, it will be much appreciated if the government put more efforts on this programme by controlling taking of bamboo sheets.

Regarding the programme of plantation of coffee under Soil & Water Conservation, the concern Minister answers the question that the government has no intention to give financial aid to the grower, I find this unfortunate for the concern growers. The government should atleast provide incentive to those hard work labourers otherwise the programme will never be successful.

Thank you.

PU P.B. ROSANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to start my speech with the demand No. 40, Veterinary Department. It is important for the concern department to take notice of our lack of scientific knowledge in rearing animals through there has been much improvement in production. And we still need to learn hygienic way to process those products. In fact, it is necessary for the government to build slaughter house in various localities so as to clear our surroundings.

In this connection, the state Assembly has already passed the bill of Animal movement Control Act and each member supported the bill and was passed unanimously. But if we look into this Budget, it is very difficult to learn how the government intends to push forward achieve what is intended. I therefore, request the government to put the matter for immediate practice so as to prevent entry of unhealthy animals from outside.

In regard to the demand No. 39, I must say that it is degrading for this House to get from the Minister unreliable answer to the question given. He should not say that member of permit holders for timber trade within Aizawl as nil where as numbers of the said trading is seen here and there.

As already pointed out by a member from Saitual constituency. What had happened to the development fund of Murlen National Park is very serious. It is regretted that there is again scandalous activities besides the scandal involved in Aii Puk Farm. It is disgracing for the government to get involved in scandalous activities.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : I now call upon Pu C. Thanghluna to take his time.

PU C. THANGHLUNA : I first of all would like to mention in Demand No. 40, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department.

As we are have known , meat is one of the most favourite foods among the Mizos, yet, we still have long way to go to attain self sufficiency in the products. In order to achieve self sufficiency, it may be important for the government to emphasize on financial aid to the concern farmers.

Secondly, I would like to make few points kon Demand No.6, Revenue Department. It is true that the Government of Mizoram needs to emphasize on sources of income due to our lack of other resources. But in regard to assessment of house take it may be necessary for the government to determine the conditions of well to do family and of the poor. Concrete buildings and Assam type building could not put at the same category since it will be the owners of Assam type building who suffer the burden most. If the government is hesitant to impose taxes on well to to families, no proper achievement will be made.

Thirdly, Demand No. 39 Soil & vWater Concervation Department. As we all have known, the department is one of the most important departments for the welfare of our State. In order to bring the importance of this department into reality, the government should initiate new programmes. The function of this department in Mizoram could not be compared with that of other States of plain areas due to difference in geographical features. I opine that duplication of agriculture in the system impedes. The progress of the department. In fact, it is necessary for the government to determine programme for plantation of coffees or other according to their adaptability to the soil found in Mizoram.

In regard to demand No. 41, Forests Department, I would like to mention that the concern Minister does not seem to be familiar with his nature of duty as a Minister. To prove my point, there is a question of whether our animals under preservation of Forest department are safe enough, the reply the Minister forwarded to the House was that they are well and safe. But it is surprising to learn that meats of certain animals from Ngengpui sanctuary has been sold freely in the market of Lawngtlai. How can the Minister informed this House as the animals are safe enough ?

Thank you.

PU C.SANGZUALA : Thank you, Mr Speaker Sir, To start with I would like to mention about demand No. 6, Revenue department . I strongly hope the department will acquire some progress with the Government plan to raise taxes on certain items. If we study the budget concerning Revenue Department carefully, we have found certain achievements of the Government in connection with land protection and cadastral survey which is much appreciated. It is learned that the department recently employed certain numbers of temporary surveyors on M.R. basis. In the mean time, there are numbers of trained surveyors who have not had the opportunity to get job under Revenue Department. I would like to ask the concern Minister of whether there is any plan to create post for those trained Surveyors ?

Secondly, I would like to request the concern Minister to explain the details of the progress made by state level Committee on landslide at Hlimen quarry.

Regarding Demand No. 35, it is pleasing that butget provision for Relief & Rehabilitation Department too is increasing, in this connection, I would like to ask whether the provision is made to cover up plans which has already been taken up in the previous year ?

Regarding demand no. 40, Veterinary department, I would like to express my appreciation of step taken by the government for construction of slaughter house as it would be of great achievement for the government.

Coming now to the demand of Printing & Stationery Department, it is pleasing to learn that budget allotment is increasing comparing to last year. In this connection, I would like to ask the concern Minister whether increase is made so as to meet salary of its staff which has been raised in the previous year. I would also like to ask whether there is an intention to fill up the post of Assistant Manager which has already been created ?

Demand No.39, Soil & Water Conservation – the Hon'ble Minister had given answer minimizing facts. But there is much more regarding cash crops nursery and rural area development. In facts, there is much to be thank for.

Demand No.41, Forests Department, it appears that the Hon'ble member had condemned the government as devastating the Forests and its resources. I feel that we will know who had spoiled Forests if it is enquired properly. In fact, it is not devastated only during this Ministry, but it is devastated from the former Ministry. If so, it is now required to improve the

Forests and its resources, I feel that all the Members of Opposition have idea for constructive criticism as said by the hon'ble Opposition Leader.

Shortly, I feel that it is required to adjust fund provision in each head.

Thank you.

PU L.N. TLUANGA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I would like to speak about Forests Department. I feel that Murlen VCP is shot death by his fellow hunter in the jungle while hunting deer on ground of the hon'ble Minister's advice, for he advised him to hunt deer for Christmas feast.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, we had clarified the Supreme Court Order on Forests resources in 99 – 2000 budget Session. But such discussion had no meaning in executing the order. The forests Officers and Staffs are very pleased in executing Supreme Court Order, while the government of Mizoram lost a lot of revenue. Forests Department has a vast plantation area in the State. But the boundary is not properly marked. That is why, they do not deserved to be allotted more areas for such plantation.

I feel that it is also necessary to consider the case of Principal, Chief Conservation of Forest. It seems that he does not want to remain in Mizoram although action holds the post. I feel that action should be taken. It is even learned that he is extremely well off financially.

Regarding Animal husbandry & Veterinary Department, MIFCO Corporation set up Pork and poultry processing unit at Bung Bungalow. If the State Government do not give attention to its promotion, I think, it will not away. Piggery alone is not enough, farming should also be encouraged. Many heavy industries had failed in our state like Sugar Industry at Saitual, Maize processing industry at Khawzawl, Ginger dehydration Industry at Sairang etc. I therefore earnestly request the hon'ble Minister to promote the Said pork and Poultry Processing unit.

Mr Chairman, during the previous MNF Ministry, the Government of Mizoram had proposal for construction of slaughter house at Chite. Onestaying at the locality was given loan for the said house. Hence, slaughter house and a shed was constructed. But the government abandoned its policy. The loanee lost heavily. I feel that the government should seek the way to make use of the Slaughter House and shed already constructed.

Thank you.

PU VANLALHLANA : Thank you, Hon'ble Chairman. I will start from Animal husbandry & Veterinary Department, we have just learned the abandoning of Government policy regarding Slaughter House. I feel that if one man could carry out government's policy in such a way it is not to be abandoned but to be encouraged. I feel that no party feeling should be adopted in such case.

Regarding Feed and fodder Development, Rs.8.90 lakhs is provided in the last two years but no provision is made this year. And I feel that area for setting up of Feed and Fodder Processing Industry which could produce 50 tonnes daily be made available at Ramrikawn.

Demand No. 6, Revenue Department, Government of Mizoram had done cadastral survey in different parts of Mizoram. LSC is also made for Villages. Regarding the delivery of the cadastral LS., I feel that it is too costly for the poor Villagers. It is about Rs. 230 – 390 per LSC. It appears that most of them could not make payment on ground of financial problem.

If so, is not it good to reduce such prices. I feel that it is not good to impose such heavy prices on the poor people.

And in regards to Forests Department, Plantation, Nursery is done with progress while, the natural Forest is destroyed at Aii puk. What action will be taken by the hon'ble Minister ?

Regarding Printing & Stationery, Mizoram has only The Mizoram Store Preferential Purchase Rules. A firm registered under this Rules, the Government of Mizoram should purchase their products as the rules and regulations provided for the benefit of small scale Industries whether the products are cheap or not. Under Printing & Stationery Department there is also list of official supplier registered under the Department. I feel that Printing and Stationery Department also should follow the said rules.

I would like to point out that teak logs scattered in bundle in different places should be turned into cash.

It is pleasing that grazing ground is going to be arranged for beneficiaries under NLUP. It will be beneficial especially for remote areas who select animal husbandry especially Mithun for their trade.

Thank you.

PU K.L. LIANCHIA : Thank you, hon'ble Speaker Sir. I have to point out a little in earnestness. Firstly, Printing & Stationery Department, as per the answer of unstarred question, Printing and Stationery Department has 143 Suppliers. While the contract work is given to 176 Suppliers. That means 33 Suppliers were not approved Suppliers of the government. I feel that it is a serious case, How can the government do such allotment to unapproved Firms ?

And the Cadastral Survey is done by the Revenue Department. It is well and good that proper marking is done. I feel that it is better give more attention to the land dispute area between Mizoram and Assam. In 1972, Lushai Hills District Council is given union Territory status. The then leaders of the said District Council simply adopted the pattern of Delhi Union Territory. They came back and see inter-State boundaries between Mizoram and Assam. The boundaries are simply made by the Government of Assam under the North Eastern Areas Re-organisation Act, 1971. Under this Act, about 4000 sq.Km. were included to Assam State which belongs to Mizoram. The then leader of our State were surprised and set up Boundary Commission and made complaint to the Government of India. That is the fault of the then political leaders of Mizoram. This boundary line crosses the centre of our Sub-Town Vairengte.

In 1981, Peace Accord was drafted between India and MNF. According to it, Mizoram will be lifted to full fledged State, and the State boundary will be made just as section 6 of the north Eastern Area Re-organisation Act, 1971. This Peace Accord accepted the said disputed areas and the proposed boundary thereof. This is what we dislike.

In 1994, the then coalition Ministry of Congress and MPC have constructed road at Vairengte through PWD. But as there was complaint from Assam side of the border, work has to be stopped and discussion was held between the two States at Chief Secretary level meeting and boundary line was proposed to be settled amicably. However, no discussion for settlement of boundary dispute has been held till date. I, therefore request the hon'ble Minister, Revenue to have survey of those areas. I hope that all the people will cooperate in the matter.

Thank you.

PU NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Thank you, Mr Chairman for sparing me time to speak about what I gave importance. First of all, Forests department, under Afforestation CSS and Reservation of Wildlife in page 249 of this budget book, no fund is provided for this purpose. What is the reason ?

And under page 348 Rs. 73.50 lakhs only is provided for Afforestation ? What is the reason ? And what is the reason that lots of timber logs are laying at both the residences of the hon'ble Minister and the hon'ble Chief Minister, I expected him to clarify about it when winding up his speech.

And it is said that the hon'ble Minister had thrown a dinner with meat of deer while Government encourages wildlife prevention. I came to know that the hon'ble Minister and hon'ble Chief Minister too enjoyed the dinner. It is very shameful. Let it be clarified by the hon'ble Minister.

And I had found a lot of Teak Timber at different places of Mizoram, can not it be disposed of within a year ? But we know that felling of Teak is done by the Government.

Regarding Soil & Water Conservation Department, Soil Range Office is opened at Chawngte. But no staff is given even a Chowkidar. If the Government of Mizoram could not carry out its supervision work, let it be handed over to the District Council authority.

Mr Chairman, I would like to know in what ways Rs.150 lakhs was spent by the Government of Mizoram which is sanctioned by 11th Finance Commission last year. For which natural calamities is it used ? And it will be pleasing if the hon'ble Minister gives information about strategy to be taken by the Government if there is natural calamities.

Thank you.

PU Z.H. ROPUIA : Thank you Pu Chairman. Coming to demand No. 6. Revenue Department has been taking measures for proper land settlement. The Mizoram Land Holding and Settlement Bill, 2001 has also been passed. Land dispute has been most acute problem. Now, there are still vacant and un-useful for our cultivators. Forests and other Departments also have land which are not properly tended but which could not be used by public. The hon'ble Minister may please note this that all these land be properly settled.

And I am sorry for we have no proper law for punishment of road and government land encroachers. But now, I am very pleased for the Government of Mizoram has been taking steps for this purpose. And we do not know how far the land survey groups had taken steps in the Southern part of Mizoram. I will be very grateful if the hon'ble Minister can point out about it when winding up. I also expect the hon'ble Minister to clarify about heavy tax against the poor people by means of LSC.

Coming to demand No. 40 A.H. & Vety Department. I am very grateful for Joint Director is posted at Lunglei to look after Lunglei and Chhimtuipui District. Not only that, but also the work plan for construction of office building is completed.

Besides these, I know that grazing ground at Kawikulh and Piggery farming at thingfal are proposed. In this way, A.H. & Vety Department takes steps for the progress of the State. I feel that the people also should support steps taken by the Department.

And demand No. 41 some hon'ble Members speak ill of the steps taken by the Government. If I were the Minister I dare not to carry out the work. I feel that it was spoken from earnestness. The most important thing I would like to point out is the encroachment of bamboo at Tlabung. Bamboos are carried to Bangladesh. I feel that is to be stopped as early as possible.

Regarding demand No.39, Soil & Water Conservation Department, it is run in name only before. But now, coffee and cardamom Plantation is highly encouraged and Rs.2 crores is provided for its plantation. I think that it will be the lifeline of the people. Accordingly I expect this department to have a master plan, for it, may become the true lifeline of the workers in our State. I therefore, request all the hon'ble members to support this departments plan.

Thank you.

PU F. LAL THANZUALA : Pu Chairman, What I want to point out in the budget is provision for preservation of Soil, Water and Environment. The world gives importance and priority to conservation of soil, water and atmosphere. Its importance is much more acute in the hilly areas like ours. As said before, Soil & Water Conservation Department was ran in name only. It should be regarded as the most important department as PWD and Education, I feel that it should be regarded as priority department in the future. If we are to construct road communication it should be work out with Soil and Water Conservation department and Forests Department.

And I would like to say again demand No. 41 Forests Department is a popular department having a good prospect. It seemed that money is highly invested in it. But now, it is discredited department. I feel that it is required to look after effectively.

As the hon'ble Member said just before, a large quantity of bamboo goes to Bangladesh without permission. That is why, it should be looked after by a Minister having true nationalism. What I want to point out is that a number of non-Mizo are usually selected for Mahaldars. I wonder how this could be so. I feel that it is desirable to make alteration in the selection of Mahaldars.

Coming to demand No. 40 A.H. & Vety Department. We cannot abstain from meat in our daily life. But we are not clear enough whether it is healthy. We used to read news papers and see animal diseases enormously prevailing in Europe and Assam State too. Just like that animal diseases usually prevailed in our State too from time to time. I feel that it is required to take care of our daily meat.

Pu Chairman, what I want to say next is about my questions which are- whether the Government have imposed or taken safety measures for construction of concrete buildings to prevent large scale calamity in time to earthquake, landslide, etc. I regard to say that my question was referred to Local Administration Department from Land Settlement Department stating that it was not under this purviewed. Again local Administration Department referred it back to Land Settlement Department stating that it was not either within this purviewed; the answer was eventually furnished by Land Settlement Department the reply to my question was that they have not taken or imposed any safety measures for such natural calamity. I feel that the reply furnished and the manner of my question was treated clearly revealed how unconscious we are to the possible event of such natural calamity in Mizoram. It will be pleasing if our leaders and the authorities concerned consider all these and take necessary steps.

Thank you.

PU J.LAWMZUALA : Thank you, Pu Chairman. In our demand discussion I give more importance to Policy and Programme than to the figure of demand. Hon'ble Members had said about Forestry and Wildlife. I want to point out that inspite of Supreme Court Order being carried out properly in the State, some traders had still regularly sale timber in this capital. Destruction of land by fire is much more during this ministry than it was in the previous ministry.

Regarding Wildlife protection, I wonder how will the Government protect wildlife even if a Minister could kill deer for meat. It is obvious that we failed in wildlife protection and the policy.

And I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to inform the House which kind of bamboo is to be planted under the Government.

In Land Revenue and Settlement Department, I feel that tax imposed against transfer of ownership is too high. It may be not so high in case of purchase of a plot of land. But transfer of ownership may be necessary in case of death of the owner especially between parents and their children. Because of such high rate, staffs of Revenue used to back date such ownership transference. Some may not know about it.

And no LSC can be acquired at Lunglei, the Second capital of State for a long time, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to take step for Land Revenue & Settlement Department of Lunglei to have authority to make Land Settlement Certificate (LSC) to do away with the burden of Southern people.

Mizoram was a disturbed area for more than 20 years during which many private lands were occupied and acquired by Armed Forces. When peace accord was signed, central Government agreed to pay rental charge to those whose lands were occupied. Accordingly most of them claimed the rent, some of them are successful and some are still left out. Will the hon'ble Minister and hon'ble Chief Minister be pleased to have talk to the Central Government on behalf of such rent claimants ?

And 18 successful Students of Veterinay Assistant from School of Veterinary Science and Husbandry, Lunglei are still unemployed by the Government of Mizoram from 1988 – 1999. Whether the Government of Mizoram will employ them or seek self-employment by themselves ?

Lastly, I demand to constitute Enquiry Committee to investigate Aiiuk farming Society.

Thank you.

PU LALRINZUALA : Thank you Pu Chairman, starting from demand No. 6 Revenue Department. I would like to point out that authority over land settlement be given to the officer posted at Lunglei Revenue office. During the district council authority was given to Land Revenue Officer which greatly relieves the people of their problem. LSC issuing authority was transferred to Aizawl as stated by a member of High Power Committee. Since then, it takes almost a year for one to get LSC. It is a serious case and a big problem. The people of southern area including MLAs truly desire to have an LSC issuing authority at Lunglei. I feel that the Ministry also should pay attention to solve this problem. No member of Southern constituencies may hold office of Minister or Cabinet. I feel that the Government should take action against the officer if he is wrong in view of the rules and orders. But now, the people suffered but not the officer concerned. I therefore earnestly request the hon'ble Minister to pursue the cry of the people.

Coming to demand No. 39 Soil and Water Conservation Department, I feel that the hon'ble Minister is insensitive to his portfolio. The reason why Soil and Water Conservation Department have three Directors is asked in the former session. He simply said that it was necessary. Much as I want to point out certain things I am rather afraid that they will turn into nothing. But, I have expectation in the hon'ble Chief Minister.

Now, Demand No. 41 Forests Department. The three hon'ble Members had spoken about something involving corruption producing and proving with documents. I feel that it is not to be taken lightly. It may be regarded as amounting to the cause of resignation, but it is not so... He simply laughed at the matter. I feel that it is despairing for our State, Because for Bamboo mahalder a dead man Bishwajit Das was selected instead of Pi T.Lalmuanpuui.

As stated by the member from Saitual constituency, it is a serious case to have Rs.7,27,700/- stolen away

Living close to each other in Aizawl we saw some traders selling Teak timber whereas the Minister said that no timber permit was given. It is unfortunate to have such Minister who does not hesitate to give the house wrong information. It appears that Aii Puk is also another scandalous symptom of this House. It is therefore difficult to get true information in the House. The House Leader also had said that if water is spoiled at the souce it is not expect a clear water at the bottom. That is why, we strongly demanded Enquiring Committee to be set up in this House to enquire Aii Puk scandal. We are now still demanding Enquiring Committee for the same Pu Chairman. I therefore, demand clarification for all these.

CHAIRMAN : Now it is almost 4:00 P.M. shall we continue our discussion or have a break and continue after that break ? O.K. let us have a break.

Meeting adjourned at 3: 27 PM.

4:30 P.M.

SPEAKER : Now, we will start again, the discussion, Eighteen members had spoken . Any one else ? O.K. Pu Lalhmingthanga.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the two demands we are discussing is very important . If I could not finish within ten minutes, I pray your understanding. Firstly, demand No. 6 Revenue department is a very important department. We have no other land except Mizoram. It is God given land to us. It cannot be increased as such we should not lose any part of it. The hon'ble Members had stressed the need to regain the lost part of the land in the Cachar boundary. I do request the hon'ble House Leader to take steps to fulfil desires of the hon'ble members.

And coming to demand No. 41, Forests department, it is very pleasing to discuss it together with Revenue department as it is deeply co-related. Finance Minister's speech does not clearly reveal working Programme of the Department. But, Reform Committee was set up to see to the implementation of programmes for resource mobilization. I feel that fund should be mobilised from Forest resources as much as possible. I regret to say the due to mis-interpretation of Supreme Court's Order, nothing is done towards resource mobilisation through forest products. It is the people who suffer most.

And I used to read the Reports of 11th Finance Commission, we have Rs.450 crores to be mobilised for five years. It may be regarded that Forest products will be most profitable for this purpose. But it is totally banned as featured in our budget provision. On the otherhand, we earnestly collected revenues from cadastral survey of Revenue department. As such a large number of LSCs were prepared and imposed heavy losses to the poor villagers. The normal revenue tax was also increased by about 90 %. I feel that more fund as tax should be collected from the rich and high powered people. In fact, the poor villager could not deliver about 10044 LSCs. Not only that, they worried about the taxes to be paid by them.

The hon'ble members mentioned about the Supreme Court Order regarding our forest products. It does not restrict cutting down of timber for economical uses. It has however emphasized the need to plant more than those timber cut down to prevent devastation of forest in the future. The Supreme Court Order does not prohibited economical use of timber for the people. But in our State, cutting down of timber is totally prohibited. Actually, the order is mis-used for advantage of corruption. Intention to do away corruption is absent from the highest office of Chief Minister.

In this connection, I would like to point out that Rs.6000/- as a compensation was given to some families whereas some are left out as in the case of compensation for land rental. I was requested by poor villages to point out this in the session. Hence, this Session is very important especially for poor villagers.

Regarding social security, I feel that the conditions of MNF returnees should be considered and rehabilitation programme should be initiated by pooling fund from various sources we can get.

Coming to Soil & Water Conservation Department. I once looked after the department for a few days, but no work can be done for lack of fund. I therefore, request the House to provide more funds for this department.

Lastly, I want to say that the State needed effective administrative system and transparent administration. I therefore, demand Parliamentary Enquiry Committee to investigate Aii Puk scandal which will wash away the defamation of our State. We should open a new chapter in our State.

Thank you.

PU SANGHMINGTHANGA H. PAUTU : Thank you, hon'ble Speaker Sir, Firstly, I would like to enforce directly into Revenue department. I feel that it is require to know the exact position of the land. Now cadastral survey is being conducted by the Revenue Department. I am very grateful for the earnestness of the Hon'ble Minister. Not only that, an Act is passed by the House within a few days. Besides this, three more Acts is to be passed in the House. I am, therefore grateful and praise the earnestness of the Hon'ble Minister.

When I have atrantic view of the budget provisions of different departments, I feel that office expenses is generally too high. Its percentage is too high. It is required to be careful while the heads of other exdpenditures and other charges are relatively low. Only Animal Husbandry and Veterinary is free from such provision. I do appreciated this department. I am afraid that surrendered money will be used for purchasing unneeded goods at the end of financial year as it was usually done during the former government.

And we, the Mizos are non-vegeterians. It is very pleasing to point out that A.H. & Vety Department had set up Grinding of Fodder for self sufficiency in the State. And we know that the hon'ble Members had said that food and mouth deseases of animal prevailed in Europe as well as in Haryana and Assam State. I would like to request the Vety Doctors to take care about the said deseases in order to prevent human health from such deseases. I request the hon'ble Minister too to note down the matter.

It is very pleasing to see that the budget provision becomes double in regards to Relief on Account of Natural Calamities as our State is situated at an earthquake zone.

And the hon'ble Members stated about forests department. The defunct rules of Assam is now being applicable in the State. This proves that we need Rules. If we could not have a new enactment I feel that it is needed to adopt the most relevant rules for our State.

Regarding bamboo mahal, I would like to point out that timbers have never been allotted on mahal system as said by the Department. I feel that it is good to be allotted on mahal system. Because Timbers are cut down by the Mahaldars when bamboos are cut down. Hence timber mahal will be convenient in our State. And I also feel that it is good to calculate the quantity of bamboo as cubic meter when taken by the Mahaldars.

It is unfortunate that bamboo be it its young shoots or full grown are being cut down around Vairengte village. As a rule, bamboos not less than 2 years are not allowed to be cut down. And no bamboo along the road side within 30 metres are also not allowed to be cut down.

While we expect better service from them, the department of Forests has problems regarding their service. When I met senior Forest Officer in Delhi, all the points we raised was accepted. Such being the case, I feel that the Forest officials should also comply with the rules laid down. No Virgin forest is allowed to be cut down even for plantation. but in my constituency at Chemlui, the DFO of Kolasib have all natural forest cut down. I therefore implore the officials to abide by forest rules.

It is also important to improve Soil & Water Conservation Department so that there may be better co-ordination with Forests Department. The people also should be made to respect and preserve natural forests.

Regarding Printing & Stationery Department Rs. 50 lakhs is provided for suspense Account. I feel that it is too much. I feel that if the department has well trained person, he should be appointed for the Manager as we, the State needed such know how trained person.

I feel that we should now give up our mindset while we were Union Territory. Everyone including the Officers needed to be economical in spending money as we are now under State Government not under Union Territory Government. And our service is also that of a service for God and the Country.

Hon'ble Speaker sir, the Opposition Members are worried and gave importance to Aii Puk. We also have mentioned about fencing of Kolasib Industry Department. But it is not good to point out about the pass, if I point out all the past deeds the members may not be pleased with me.

Thank you.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker sir, nineteen members spoke about my demand. Generally it is spoken by the hon'ble members hoping that prompt action will be taken. I am very pleased to carry out such encouragements.

Regarding land acquisition for BSF at Sairang road, it is acquired under Land Acquisition Act. We had informed the BSF the amount of compensation to be given by them. But they did not want to give ear to the matter. Accordingly the proposal was cancelled by Government. Anyhow, they have to pay compensation against the crops damaged on land, which was to be appealed to the Court as advised by the Government Advocate.

Regarding land slide, at Hlimen quarry, a Committee was formed headed by the Chief Secretary. After that, Welfare Committee is set up again, which takes times. I will therefore, take prompt action so that it may be finalized as soon as possible.

Due to non-availability at proper land record, a number of double LSC is found here and there, so does in agricultural land. Knowing that if we have no land law properly no plot of land will be settled, we therefore, drafted Rules like ; Land Holding & Settlement Act, Land Entrustment Act, Land Recovery Act and Land Record and Survey Act. It is now completed to be laid in the House. We may therefore, easily settle land problems when we have proper rules.

Some agricultural lands are tenced and some are not and no land revenue is given or collected in some cases. This is not the way to be. But, we are now taking steps to develop land as it is done in other States. Cadastral survey is being conducted and works on proper land settlement is carried on due to earnestness of the hon'ble Chief Minister. In order to do this survey 300 Muster Roll is employed doing land recording. We expect that land survey and recording will be completed next year as will be in Autonomous districts. But their consent will have to be obtained for this. After that allotment of land will be done.

And we are accused of increasing land revenue and charging high amount for LSC, but we did not increase it, former Government increased it. We only applied the bill passed by the former Government. The former Government drafted a bill for the increase of Zoram Tax and House Tax. This Government only set up Land Reform Committee as Advisory Body. The recommendations of this Committee will be referred to the Cabinet Meeting. If the Cabinet Meeting accepted the recommendation it will be applied in the State. And I feel that it is not convenient to impose 5% on land value if it is inherited from forefathers in case of change of name. We therefore, put up the matter for revision. Land record will be maintained and owner of the land will pay tax to the Government. The Government will impose lightest tax to the poor people. But higher tax will be imposed to land owner who has more than one plot of land. As suggested by Reform Committee, 2 bighas each will be allotted to one household for agricultural purpose and the revenue will be calculated from the land owned by them. If one has more than 30 bighas of Agricultural land, higher taxes will be imposed against them. That is the idea of Land Reform Committee, it is not yet referred to the Government. But it will be brought to the Government for approval.

Coming to A.H. & Vety Department, the Government is taking step for the State to have self-sufficiency in meat, milk and egg. As normal piggery system. Mizoram will never attain self sufficiency. But it is required to highlight that piggery is worthy for self sufficiency. We therefore, demand central help from non-lapseable fund for this purpose, we were approved by the central, as a result of the earnestness of the hon'ble Chief Minister. Accordingly proposal is made for 120 families - 60 families in Aizawl district and 60 families in Lunglei district. For this purpose Rs. 1 crores is given to us and it was disposed of. For the maintenance of such piggery, we are now under consideration zone.

And if we could have the best kind of pigs from Australia and Yorkshire, they should be imported and keep them at Selesih farm.

Regarding poultry, it is regarded to be worthy for self-sufficiency. When fodder grinding plant at Ramrikawn is completed, we hope to get fodder at cheaper rate and enough eggs and poultry to meet our requirements.

And we are now having self-sufficiency in milk production. But we need more beef in the State. For this purpose, we are having proposal to make hundred Grazing ground in 100 villages.

And slaughter house is a necessity to have healthy meat as said by the hon'ble Members. We have proposed four slaughter house at Aizawl which will be followed in each district headquarter. If we have not Slaughter house, the health of meat cannot be checked properly. But now Trade and Commerce Department and Local Administration Department supervise the matter. After we have slaughter house, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department will properly supervise and check at the slaughter house. Now, we have a project of Rs.3/4 crores demanding at the central. We also have a token provision of Rs.4,00,000/- in the budget.

And I would like to point out about Relief and Rehabilitation. The list of natural calamities of Mizoram and Central Government is different from each other. Land slide and dry paddy due to the absence of rain is not accepted by the Central as natural calamities as it is not included in the list. That is why, we are working for appropriate measures to accord the natural calamities which are occurrence in Mizoram. We feel that the Central norms have inadequacy for all State. Anyhow, silpauline is purchased from Relief and Rehabilitation fund.

PU NIRUPAM CHAKMA : We have Rs. 150 lakhs in Revise Estimates which comes as a recommendation of 11th Finance Commission. For which calamity the fund was used ? Whether it is used for purchase of Silpauline.

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER : As a result of inadequacy of rice production in the State, families under BPL are given employment on daily wage basis, hence fund is need for such purpose and for others. Not only Silpauline but tent is also purchased. We are trying to have procurement as we are situated in the earthquake zone. We have a proposal to stock tents and silpauline at each district headquarter for use in times of natural calamities such as earthquake, land slide, cyclone etc. which strikes from time to time. But as we do not want to cause un-necessarily panic among the people, we take a slow process in the work. Hence, our spending of fund is also not much publicized. Next, other things spoken by the hon'ble members are noted down. We will take follow up action as necessary. I therefore, request this august house to pass my demand No. 6 – Revenue = Rs.6,31,40,000/- demand No.34-Social security & Welfare (Relief and Rehabilitation)only Rs.36,65,000/- ; demand No. 40 Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department – Rs. 12,93,45,000/- Total = Rs.22,73,50,000/-

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, Pu Lalrinchhana had requested the House to pass his demands amounting to Rs.22,73,50,000/- totally.(the demand is voted and passed)

PU LALRINCHHANA MINISTER. : Thank you Hon'ble Speaker.

PU RUALCHHINA : Thank you, Hon'ble Speaker for
MINISTER my demand is discussed interestingly today. In the
last session, I mentioned the need to pressurize
Government to take steps towards our bamboo programme. Now bamboo development is
largely focus by this Government as said by Pu Lalchungnunga. Rs. 280 lakhs is provided in the
budget as earmark sector. One variety of bamboo seeds is purchased from Bangalore but not the
best quality. The seedlings are to be distributed in different divisions. It is hope that bamboo will
be a good source of revenue in the near future. The Bamboo processing Industry is also proposed
to be set up in the State. Protection of wild life and setting up of sanctuary are also in our
proposal. Schemes for this have also been made and efforts are on for successful
implementation.

And Pu Zirliana had pointed out about a scandal involving about
Rs.7/- lakhs. We did not detect about it. But we will examine the matter so that such corruption
will not happen again.

And it is very important to point out about the loss of Teak. Pu
Lalzarliana Vaitin asked permission to collect timber stating good reasons for asking the
permission. Hence, I informed about this to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. He then,
collected timbers by means of the letter written by me. Without handing over the letter to the
PCCF. Permission is, formally to be given after Divisional Forests Officer had done verification
and marking. I am so sorry for such mistaken permission committed by Pu Lalzarliana of Vaitin.

Regarding permission of Timber Sale, the two questions were
answered as 'nil'. Because Government did not issue any permit for sale of Timber nor did we
know about Timber Sale without Government permission.

PU K.L.LIANCHIA : Hon'ble Speaker sir, if the government
did not know true answer to the starred
question, it should be shown clearly in the answer.
I feel that it is not to be answered as 'nil' if it is not known by the Government.

S P E A K E R : Your attention, please. If points of clarification is
asked the hon'ble Minister too should give ear to
it. But no statement should be made while the
hon'ble Minister is winding up his demands. It is better to respect the dignity of each other.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, we are not talking about
corruption committed by the Minister, but of our
dislike of corruption committed by officials.
I am also not satisfied with the answer given by the Minister for such by corruption involving
large sum of money. Pu Speaker, I will present the House a document for prompt action. If we
have no cooperation against corruption we will no more point out corruption in the next session.

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : Regarding Bamboo Mahal there is some problem in the selection. The Department used to make recommendation which is submitted to us and we check whether it is genuine or not. There is some controversy regarding seal tender as sealing wax is expected to be compulsory for some. Hence some tenders are regarded invalid while some are valid. But we give permission or allotment to the highest bidder without showing favour to anyone.

PU LALRINZUALA : Regarding the use of sealing wax what is the opinion of the hon'ble Minister ?

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : As the officers used accept sealing with sealing wax as valid, we too accepted as valid tender.

PU H. LALTANPUIA : On the first opening day it was regarded invalid. It was recorded in written form. But it was regarded as valid on the second opening which was invalid in the first opening. There are seven cases of tenderers for different bamboo Mahal.

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : It is very pleasing to know such things. When we give bamboo mahal, some mahaldars use to cut down such young bamboos less than two years. We used to give instruction to check such things. But such instruction is not followed by some mahaldars. It is pleasing to get advice to adopt some Rules as soon as possible. I therefore would like to inform you we will do our best.

COL. LALCHUNGNUNGA SAILO: Will the Government of Mizoram carry out the supreme court Order as it was actually provided ?

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : It is intended to carry the Supreme Court Order as it provided from the very beginning. But as a result of financial constraint, it cannot be carried out till date.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, regarding answer to starred question no. 124, the number of Timber Sale Permit holder and the number of Timber Seller without permit. I would like to know the reaction of the hon'ble House Leader in this case ?

- S P E A K E R : Your attention please. Please point out only the subject of point of clarification.
- PU LALHMINGTHANGA : It is about Supreme Court Order which is the highest Order. Why did the hon'ble Minister give answer in such a way ? If he could not carry out the Supreme Court Order properly, he should obliquate his office in favour of one who would be able to carry out the order.
- PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : We are going to make working plan but not fulfill till date. Besides this, we are going to frame Annual felling Programme and working programme. In such a way , we do our best to solve the problem of the needy people.
- PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Pu Speaker, slaughtering of a deer by one Minister was mentioned. Point of clarification be furnished for this.
- PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : I have nothing to say about the matter. Under Soil and Water Conservation, Coffee and Cardamom are the ear-marked sector and about Rs.200/- lakhs is provided for them. We are going to cover 400 hectares for Coffee and 300 hectares for Cardamom. Rs. 15,000/- is estimated for expenses of each hectare. And we have only nine lakhs of large Cardamom for planting consequently, we could not cover a large area. And Rs.15,000/- is estimated for each family. We also have nursery at different places. We will set up labour shed camp and take steps from different angles.

And Pu J. Lalthangliana had pointed out about delay of Timber export to other State. It is true. The reason is that timber encroachers are arrested by Assam Government. As such, an Enquiry Committee is set up by the Government which takes a long time. But all the problem is solved now and the export can be done now, normally.

All of us gave importance to wildlife protection. The central Government too gives importance and our demands for its development and proposal for the development of the adjoining village too are usually accepted. But wildlife protection and issue of arms licence have not much relation. Some of them submitted their arms to the authority.

I do not know much about the practice of Agriculture Department but as I said before, Coffee and Cardamom plantation is our earmark sector.

And regarding sale deer or willboer meat at Lawngtlai, I feel that it is to be investigated for necessary action may be taken. It will be very pleasing if the hon'ble Member of Lawngtlai can do such investigation.

PU C. THANGHLUNA : I feel that our MLA should not be treated as an wildlife guard.

PU RUALCHHINA : I mean that if the hon'ble Member has one eye
MINISTER witness of such things it will be more effective if
report is given to the concerned department
immediately. Anyhow, we will try our best to do away such things. Regarding Murlen VCP,
we know nothing about it. If the incident occurred within sanctuary, that may cause breaking of
law.

Regarding Printing and Stationery, it is pointed out that preferential Purchase Rules be applied and Stationery Supplies be acquired only from approved firms. This preferential purchase rules is applied by the department. No favour can be shown to unapproved firms.

And a number of logs of Teak still left undisposed off. That is our headache everyday. We had so many times dispose them as public auction. But the bidders did not like to purchase them at the floor price. Not only that, local sale is done but still we cannot disposed them till date, for, someone plays game to get them at the lowest price.

Regarding the relationship with Revenue department, both the departments make encroachment together intentionally. In order to settle the matter, we had set up Committee and joint survey of the area. It is very difficult to settle the matter. And I would like to inform you that it is not an advantage for practicing corruption. Adoption of Assam Law or vise versa is said by Pu Sanghmingthanga, we will anyhow try to make it to be effective suggestion.

Regarding clearing of virgin forest, it may be done in good faith.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker sir, it is not meant for more
plantation. In my constituency all virgin forests in
Tawi and Chalfilh were cut down by forests
department. I know nothing about the work done by forest department. All virgin forests were
cleared by them.

PU RUALCHHINA : Pu Speaker, that is our restricted area. There are
MINISTER times when trees within plantation area are cut
down by some locals, or others which we restrict. If
report comes we used to make fresh restriction.

PU LALRINZUALA : Pu Speaker, he said that they used to cut down
trees of their own plantations.

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, by cutting such plantation I did not mean ourselves but some others.

PU LALRINZUALA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, let him clarify immediately, how did they make plantation on land leased? Whether Revenue department had marked their plantation area?

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : Pu Speaker. All proposed plantation areas are likely to be verified and marked by Revenue department. If it is cleared, it is then notified by the Government. Such notification is regarded as pass. After that, land is leased from Revenue Department.

PU LALRINZUALA : If such notification is made by the Government. Whether the notified area directly becomes Government land? Whether it requires Revenue approval?

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, notified and plantation area are automatically owned by the Government after clearing is done them.

PU NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Under budget book, no fund is provided for afforestation and wildlife preservation. What is the reason?

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : The reason is that we can get funds for them from centrally sponsored scheme.

PU NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Even a single token appeared, how can it be the same?

PU RUALCHHINA MINISTER : Anyhow, if it is the head, there may be ways and means. As I said before, we need more fund for implementation of bamboo policy, consequently fund for afforestation has to be lesser. And procedurally, joint forests management is adopted than concentration on more plantation only. Hence, it is compulsorily slightly different from normal practice.

And we have quarter at Chawngte and posted Range Officer to look after nursery. That is all now Pu **Speaker** (interruption).

Pu Speaker, I therefore, request this House to pass my Demands No. 17 Printing and Stationery Rs. 4,68,16,000/- Demand No. 39 Soil & Water Conservation Rs. 7,10,00,000/- and Demand No. 41 Forests Rs. 16,71,00,000/- totaled Rs. 28,49,36,000/-

S P E A K E R : Pu Rualchhina had begged the House to pass his demands Nos. 17, 39 and 41 Rs. 28,49,36,000/- (The demands is voted and passed) Now, we have finished our business for today. The Session will be resumed on 11.4.2000 at 10:30 A.M.

House adjourned.