

SECOND & BUDGET SESSION

4TH SITTING ON MONDAY 20TH MARCH, 1989.

PRESENT

PU HIPHEI, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, 8 (eight) Ministers and 10 (ten) Members were present.

BUSINESS

QUESTIONS

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Bills for consideration and passing.

2. DR.H.THANSANGA, Minister in-charge Parliamentary Affairs Department etc to move -

- (a) That The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1989 be taken into consideration.

ALSO

that the Bill be passed.

- (b) That The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Ministers of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1989 be taken into consideration.

ALSO

that the Bill be passed.

SPEAKER : Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, Compassion, Kindness, Lowliness, Weakness and patience.

COLOSSIAN 3:12

Business be stared, Question No. 10 - Pu Zosiama Pachuau be pleased to state -

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, my Starred Question No.10 - Is there any intention to change the terms and conditions laid down in the notification No.B.16013/1/87-EDC of 16.1.89 concerning three Colleges of Champhai, Serchhip and Aizawl College ?

SPEAKER : Let the Minister in-charge of Education answer.

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, there is no intention to change the terms and conditions in the case of Lunglei College, terms and conditions laid down for this College is being reviewed.  
MINISTER

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, the terms and conditions is a heart rending for the employees all the Directors of School we had at present were promoted on the basis of their Seniority, all those working at Lunglei Government College for twelve years will also seek for the promotion chance. In the three provincialised Colleges, the terms and conditions 'G' stated that principal can claim the post of Director, Joint Director and Deputy Director, but their pay and rank cannot be counted from their seniority. It seems that those Government Lecturers from 1st January have no promotion chance. How the Government will deal with them is what I want to know.

SPEAKER : Let the Minister in-charge answer.

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, as I have said agreement was signed, if they were Government employees, they should have to be governed by the agreement. The signed agreement is a chance of promotion for those working in Government Colleges who have seniority and experiences is what he means to say. It will not be proper to be a principal and vice-principal and vice-principal for those who were newly appointed in the Government Services. There will be a  
MINISTER

problem for those who have had ten years experience in College, overcoming various difficulties, working as a Principal or Vice-Principal, will mean for them as lowering their ranks. Pu Speaker problems can be seen in this matter. So, it will be proper for the Government to meet them half way on sides and that will be an agreement. It is an agreement that cannot be judged from Rules and other judgement, that is what I said.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question - Is the agreement signed during the President's Rule? Is this agreement still in existence pertaining to the provincialised Colleges of Champhai, Serchhip and Aizawl? If the Government authority signed any agreement against the rule with some school and Colleges, will that agreement be more powerful than the rules which are still in existence?

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, I hope our honourable Members Question be answered. The Agreement 'C' will be regarded as a qualifying service. The Lecturers in the Provincialised Colleges from 1st January will mean more services experience for them who worked since 1975. If their service is counted those working at Lunglei Government College, it means that they have twenty four years services experience.

It is said that Lecturer and staff in the Provincialised Colleges will be given to temporary appointment but no one is given screen test for the post. Those who are given screening test by the OPC will only be given temporary appointment without issuing any date of appointment and what relax is applied by the Government.

DR. H. THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, the present agreement is in existence during the Provincialised of Lunglei College in 1976 and the present agreement is the complaint we had now. During the Provincialization of Lunglei College, Pu Darchhawna was not employed by the College, he was employed by the Government as a principal. It does not mean that he will remain a Principal as he was a Government Servant, the Government will deal with the case and if there are senior Lecturers he will be removed at Governments will, that is the different. So, there is a differences between Lunglei College and the three Colleges which the Government had Provincialised.

The agreement laid down that Principal and Vice-Principal can claim loan, Advance, Medical treatment and Pension without counting thier Seniority. But, qualifying services can be applied to some extent. The same thing is at Lunglei College where the pay remain the same temporary appointment will be on the basis of D.P.C. Screening which is not yet done but before D.P.C. appointment, temporary appointment will be done by our Government.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, Temporary appointment is to be given to them before the permanent appointment but without omitting the D.P.C. and that is what the agreement had laid down.

The a greement cannot be laid down from one person's opinion but it has to be agreed after various opinion is contributed. This happened in case of Lunglei College and in other aided Schools and we have to remain content. The agreement to some extend has given more power than the Rules which is in existence, as provincialization of Colleges was done outside the rule and that is the important and different of agreement.

SPEAKER : Pu Liansuama be pleased to state.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, if the agreement is more superior, how the Government would deal further with the deficit Colleges of Hnahthial, Seiha and Hrangbana College which are to be provincialised in future. The continuation of agreement against Government procedure would be a wrong precedence. Certains agreement prevails in the Constituencies of Phuldungsei, Phaileng, Khawrihnim, Lungdar and Kenghmun, will that agreement also be more superior than that of the existing Rules of the Government.

If this is the case let the allotment of grant-in-aid to deficit provincialised Colleges be governed by the agreement.

Errors committed during the President's Rule can be corrected and the right deeds be continued if not advantages can be taken by some one when there is no popular Government. Will it be proper to continue the agreement which is superior than that of the existing rule in the future.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question - So the three provincialised Colleges have separate agreement? Which I asked was not replied. Is it that these three Colleges do not want the terms and conditions of the Government that these Colleges were provincialised during the President's Rule. If that is not the case, is it that the College authority and Government authority signed the agreement while the Government rule is still in existence?

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, the replied is that they have separate agreement. New Schools or Colleges to be provincialised can have this agreement. If the same pattern is not followed in provincialization of Schools & Colleges, there may be slight difference in different Colleges & Schools. The agreement also provides that the service of Lecturers/Teachers will be counted when provincialized which is pleasing to vote. The Consultative Committee may look into this matter in the Department to avoid further confusion, Pu Speaker.

Let the Headmasters of provincialised High Schools qualified both in education and in seniority be appointed and also fixed the period of duration for those newly appointed. It seems that in Mizoram we appreciated the Government's job in every walks of life. In developed Countries there is much competition in company or in private business which we lack in our land as we depend on the security of the Government, this may be the reason why provincialization of Schools and Colleges is needed. There is an agreement and that agreement be remain as it is and I like all our honourable Members to understand the agreement as it will not be possible to amend the agreement.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, mentioning of consultative Committee by our honourable Members is pleasing, does it mean that the agreement would not be implemented before the constitution of consultative Committee? The agreement is a blessing for the Principal and Vice-Principal but what would be the status of those Lecturers who were in the Services of the Government from the 1st January, 1989. Who began their career on or before the joining date of those Principal or Vice-Principal, will it be a blessing for them too?

PU ZOSIANA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, important few questions to be replied. This is the third time I asked about Provincialization of Colleges. It seems that Pachhunga University College had violated our precedent. If we study clearly the terms and conditions No. 'G' of the agreement, it does not seem a blessing for Principal and Vice-Principal which mean we stand on the Cross-road. If this notification is not amended in educational issue, no new provincialised College would come in terms worse than the present agreement. It will be better if we accept qualifying service of those Principal without neglecting their long careers, but if we cannot accept the agreement made by efficient Officers during the President's Rule with great efforts, should we have the courage to amend it ?

DR. H. THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, as a whole we agreed on the majority points which is very important to us. I cannot say that this matter will be looked into or not as the consultative committee is not yet formed.

It is not too late to collect the good points from the past and present, the amendment can be done later. Our agreement seems to be the amendment of agreement signed during the President's Rule, this is not an easy task as man may come and man may go but the institution will go on. In these provincialised Colleges, there is no promotion chance for the Principal, it seems a shock to them, but they do give respect to other's opinion and an agreement become possible. So those who expected to be Principal and Vice-Principal cannot supersede those senior Lecturers and Government servants in the promotion.

SPEAKER : Starred Question No. 11 Pu Zosiana Pachuau be pleased to state.

PU ZOSIANA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 11 - Any intention to increase the pay Scale of Middle and High School Teachers Education Minister reply.

DR. H. THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, there is no intention in this state level. 'National Commission on Teachers' MINISTER made a recommendation which the Government of India accepted in which the pay scale of teachers from Primary to College will be looked into, so the Government of Mizoram will also have to look into the pay scale of the teachers in Mizoram according to this recommendation.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question - The Scale of Pay of Government employees differed from State to State, why the scale of pay of the teachers had to be deal with National Level in Mizoram where the scale of pay is higher than that of other States. Is there any recommendation in the pay of U.D.C. and Superintendent? When the Pay Commission had revised their pay from 700-900 scale to 2200-3000 scale it is the scale of pay of highest Service in the Indian Administration Service. Why had the pay of teachers in Mizoram be recommended by the National Commission ?

DR. H. THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, our Honourable Member is also once the school teacher who had great contribution and I hope that he understand MINISTER this point National Commission was appointed for the improvement of the facilities of teachers, as majority teachers were working in the Schools just to seek the better opportunity for other jobs. To prevent the teachers from seeking other opportunity, better facilities had to be introduced in educational system. If education do not have good beginning, improvement for other job cannot be acquired.

So, to improve quality in education, improvement of teacher's is necessary. For this reason National Committee was set up. If our teachers were better, our education will also be better which will mean the improvement in our society. This seem to be a State subject but the good aim and purpose made in the National Level had to be adopted in our Government.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, when we attained Union Territory in 1972, Headmasters in deficit Schools were in the Scale of Rs.350/- whereas the 2nd Class Assam Civil Service had the scale of

Pay of Rs.300/-. In the 3rd Pay Commission the Scale of Pay of those Rs.300/- was lifted to Rs.550/- and from Rs.550/- to Rs. 3000/-, but this did not happen in the case of our teachers. As this is the State subject, can not our Government lift the pay of our teachers before the Commission has to make Recommendation for teachers?

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, is there any intention to modify the scale of pay of the Teachers before we receive the National Commission Report?

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, there is an intention to modify, and re-arrangement only remain to be done this case. As our Honourable Members shared my opinion in improving the quality of the Teachers so we will try our best to modify the scale of pay of the Teachers. The Pay Anomalies Committee had made the scale, we also had received various complaints from the Teachers and I regards this case very important so, further steps will be taken and we will also have to refer it to the Pay Anomaly Committee.

This Case can be differed from one to another, those A.C.S. or the present M.C.S. Started from the scale of Rs.3000/- whereas those D.S.F. started from Rs.2200/- and we also had complaints from them. The Pay Anomalies Committee cannot implemented their recommendations fully as a new Pay Anomaly Commission has to be set up. So, it seems that our honourable members accepted my opinion regarding improvement of the conditions of the Teachers.

SPEAKER : Question No.12 Pu Zosiama Pachuau to ask -

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, Minister in-charge Law, Judicial and Parliamentary Affairs Department to reply -

When will the Government of Mizoram form Consultative Committee ?

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, the matter is under consideration of the Government.  
MINISTER



PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, Supplementary Question - News in the Parliament were informed to the Consultative Committee before it was published for the public. But in Mizoram M.L.A. used to hear news of the Session only from the Radio and Newspaper will this be continued? Secondly, how many Departments will constitute the Consultative Committee, will it be a Department wise or a Minister wise?

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, it will be a Minister wise and the Minister will be the Chairman. Minister will hold different Departments as it will not be an ordinary Committee. Regarding the period, our member must submitted their report within the fixed period.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, One of my questions was not replied, will M.L.A. be appointed only in one Consultative Committee or in more than one Consultative Committee?

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, that will depend on the agreement and on number of members. As our House is small, with few members, there is no particular rule that our member be appointed in one or more than one Consultative Committee. If it is beneficial, one member will not remain in one Consultative Committee.

SPEAKER : We have two Bills, one of the Bills will be consider. Dr.H.Thansanga Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs be pleased to move the Bill.

PU LIANSUAMA : Pu Speaker, at zero hour, let me please make few suggestions. The Bill will be the reduction of the Salaries of the Ministers. Speaker and Deputy Speaker. As Minister is also one person, it will be better to take up the Bill together and so the two Bills be considered at a time.

SPEAKER : It is a matter of reduction of Bill, one Bill passed will make easier for the next Bill to pass. As the Bill will be taken up in Clause we have to follow the rules. Now we will request Pu Thansanga to ask permission to introduce the Bill - " Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1989".

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, "The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1989" had been moved in the House few days back and I am pleased that it had been considered in this House. Pu Speaker, there is a statement of object and reasons with financial memorandum. So, I asked permission for consideration of this Bill.

SPEAKER : Permission granted. Members having anything to say regarding this Bill are allowed to discuss but not more than 10 minutes.

DR.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, I would like to mention a few points in this regard. This Bill seeks to decrease the Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker simultaneously with that of the Ministers and Members of the Legislative Assembly in order to save financial burden to the public. The prevailing poverty low income resources and other difficulties in Mizoram is to be taken into consideration. On the other hand, our Congress Party had the propaganda that these difficulties will be removed. This is also a step to remove difficulties on our part. So, I move this Bill in order to remove the grievances of the people. As we represent the people. I requested our honourable members for their support to pass this Bill.

The decrease in the Salary of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker would be Rs.500/- per month in an average and as a result, there will be an annual saving of about Rs.12,000/- which will be benefited by the people and this is what the Bill is intending to do. So, I move this Bill to be considered and passed by our honourable members.

PU P.C.BAWITLUANGA : Pu Speaker, If section 3 of the existing rule is going to be amended the amount that shall be paid to the Speaker will be Rs.2,750/- instead of being Rs.2,500/-. But the amount to be paid to Deputy Speaker is not mentioned will the Honourable Minister in-charge clarify this.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, the words of our Parliamentary Affairs Minister is contradictory. During the Question hour, he seemed to say that he is against changing the order and Notification made during the President's Rule. But after an hour it seems that what he said was not what he intended to say. Our former Government had increased the Salaries of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Ministers, to some extent, it was pleasing for the M.L.As who were elected with the sympathy of the people with few Salaries.

In this regard, criticism arises not only from other parties, but also from our party and our supporters. It was to prevent corruption among the Members that the former Government increased our Salaries. On the other hand when we compare our Salaries with the standard of Aizawl, it was nothing as our family and relatives raised their standard of living. Relatives and family of our Minister using the Government Vehicles as they wish and some unknown person, trying to use the Assembly Car could be checked if our Ministers could have their private vehicles. Ministers choosing their favourite person for their P.A. as they were his relatives and so on is a boring thing. On the other hand, I feel surprised with the Deputy Speaker as he stayed at his own house instead of staying in the Quarter, how it possible for him to extend his house considering his salaries? This mean that he would get a house rent of Rs.5,000/- a month of we consider his case I do not think it is necessary to decrease the Salaries of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Ministers. If we have to decrease our salaries, we also must have the courage to lower our standard, if that is possible I would appreciated this Bill,

The price of every commodities is increasing, I feel surprised for this Bill intending to decrease our salaries as if we were contented with our salaries. (Speaker ! Your time is almost over), If our Ministers stay in their own Quarter without expecting any money from contractors and Officers, and if they feel satisfied, Pu Speaker, let our salaries be decreased. Salaries of the MLA is not yet discussed and let this be my opinion; we have to adjust ourselves. Our Members from Lunglei and Chhimitpui staying at Quarter might have to beg the Contractor and Officers for their financial assistance indirectly. I feared that this might

give a bad name for them. If they can adjust their expenditure it is better. So, Pu Speaker, if we really love our people, and if we can promise to adjust ourselves, let our salaries be decreased as people judge us from our standard of living.

So, in what kind do we intend to decrease our Salaries and I want our Ministers to clarify. If the Ministers can make a promise not to indulge in corruptions and to adjust themselves in their expenditure and be satisfied with the size of their Salaries, using of Government Vehicles. I will attend the House for passing the Bill. But if this cannot be done, I have no courage to attend the House.

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, there is a different belief among our members what he had said about Education Minister and our discussion is a different subject. It is not proper and the matter is for later of discussion. As a whole, decreasing of the Salaries does not mean bluffing the people, it is taken into consideration while comparing with other states. As our state is very poor, increasing in the prices of commodity will have various meaning, I hope our honourable member understand the tax on petrol which has no impact on the poorer people. We, M.L.As are poor, but what we have to consider is our sacrifice to be an M.L.A. in a Constituency.

It is a wrong belief of our honourable member of Ngopa Constituency that the decreasing of Salaries generally mean prevailing corruption among our Speaker, Ministers and our Members. When we look back our Ministry formed in 1979 with six years term, the Salary of Ministers was only Rs.1,350/- and that of M.L.A. only Rs.650/-. Those Ministers with few Salaries have had big building. Is that mean corruption prevailed at that time ?

So, when we considered our Government and our State, decreasing of Salaries is a must without mentioning various points. It is also clear that we will be able to manage with our salary. So, I think it is better to pass, this Bill.

Thank you.

PU LIANSUAMA :

Pu Speaker, during the previous Government, we greatly opposed to the Bill moved for increase in the salary of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Ministers and Members. Before the 1987 election, the salary was only Rs. 650/- for M.L.A.s. 1350/- for Ministers and Rs. 1450/- for Chief Minister. We candidate ourselves not for those Salaries, but for the service of our land as in the case of the Village Council.

We also pointed out that, it was not the right principle to increase the salary of Speaker, Minister and Members before increasing the salary of the Government servants as it was also not proper the increasing of Rs. 650/- to Rs. 3500/- at one time. We M.L.As and Ministers are poor as is all known. During the Union Territory, our Government also intended to increase the Salary, but not as much as this. The jumping of Salary from Rs. 650/- to Rs. 3500/- was too much that we were afraid that this will encourage other Government's Servants to demand for higher Salary.

When we formed the Government, our Chief Minister had laid down Principle that those big quarters occupied by Senior Officers will not be snatch away for Ministers. So, Pu Speaker, it seems that our Deputy Speaker occupying his own house is envied by our honourable member from the Ngopa Constituency. The Deputy Speaker occupying his own house does not mean that there will be corruption in our Government and I want to remind our member that it is only on humanitarian ground that our Deputy Speaker occupy his house instead of occupying Bungalow.

During the P.C. Ministry the occupation of Speaker's Bungalow by the Finance Minister was against our principle. The present Bungalow occupied by our present Speaker shall not be changed until further order. Regarding the vegetables. I am sure that our Ministers can manage themselves with their salary. When the Salary was increased last year, we requested the ruling members not to indulge in other resources but within only one and half year big houses were constructed by them. I hope that our member from Ngopa Constituency may understand what method they applied. So, we greatly opposed to the increase in our salary without considering first the salary of other Government workers. So, comparing with other states and as price of commodities increased let our salary be decreased at least by Rs. 500/-.

The former Ministry had laid down rules that members who occupied rented houses would draw Rs. 6000/- per month. So, members tried to follow this rule. Personally Pu J. Thanghuama, former Speaker and Pu Chawngzuala were worth mentioning. In order to stop this practice we agreed on the repairing of ceiling of those Bungalows. It is a great opportu-

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nity that our love opposition member from Ngopa Constituency was with us and we also agreed with his point that we the members were in the category of poverty section.

Our procedure in increasing our salary was not good enough. The salaries of Mizoram M.L.A. are much higher than that of the Central Ministers so is the salary of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker. As a result we have to decrease our salaries. We still stand, on the point when we were in the opposition side, we became a ruling Party and our intention is to decrease the salaries and let that intention be proceeded on further.

Thank you.

PU P.SIAMLIANA :

PU Speaker, I want to say few words in this regard. I was one of the members who supported the Bill for increasing the salaries of members in order to reduce the corruption. But, it was taken in the opposite way as during that time the expenditure for maintenance increased day by day and standard were raised among our M.L.A. Ministers and Speaker which gradually compelled them to indulge in corruption. It seems that corruption began to increase more than before. In Departments where there is more money involvement confusion began to pour in and many members who came overground along with them had been neglected. Big buildings were constructed in the heart of Aizawl, it is not possible to predict how things will go on if they reign for about 5 years. When their term ended, some of our members began to have Cars, Swaraj and so on. On the other hand, burden felt upon the people, revenue began to decline. It is not very proper to have salaries more than that of the Central Ministers. I therefore agreed that our salaries be decreased.

These excess money will not go to any individual, but it is for the people of our own Constituency. It is also surprising that one of our members criticized the reduction of rent Rs.1000/-. As we are not the same in our way of thinking our objection depends on different reasons. It is not to wash our faces, in drawing the excess money secretly that we want to decrease our salary. That money will be only for the people of our own Constituency and as a whole for the people of Mizoram, that is what I want to point out.

Thank you.

SPEAKER :

Minister in-charge be pleased to state and clarify and ask permission to pass the Bill. Also members who have not had speech may stand up.

PU C.L.RUALA :  
MINISTER

Pu Speaker, Our Bill aims to economize our revenue. To ask for the increase in salary to the Central Government was passed by majority members at that time. It was shameful for us as our revenue was so meagre and we were not also self-sufficient comparing to other States. It was our intention to change the salary when we form the Government. When we compare our State with other self-sufficient and developed States of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, their M.L.A. had the salary of only Rs. 2,000/- per month and Rs.1,000/- in other State. We, who are in the state which has no self-sufficiently, the salary of our M.L.A. is Rs.3,500/- and that had been increased at Rs.4,500/- with attendance. It was not the right time to pass that Bill but at that time we were minority and there was nothing we could do.

When I was a Minister before, I managed with my salary of Rs.1,300/- with impoverishment, but the rapid increase from Rs.1,300/- to Rs.5750/- is a rare case. This mean that the salary of M.L.A. increased sixth time greater than before. Regarding the House rent, it was Rs.6,000/- per month and that mean they can draw Rs.1,44,000/- in a year. If the house rent of a Speaker or Deputy Speaker be reduced by Rs.1,000/- that will mean we can save Rs.24,000/- annually. The annually saving from the salary would be Rs.12,000/- and Rs.24,000/- from residential, that mean we can save a total of Rs.36,000/- annually that amount can be saved only from the Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Pu Zosiama Pachuau : Is it that Ministers and Speaker can claim Rs.5,000/- directly for their residential without making adjustment? Does that mean that we can claim Rs.5,000/- even if we occupy hostel or our own houses? That need to be clarified. In the former Ministry we had trouble in assessing the renting value of the house of Pu Saingura. That kind of assessment can be connected in this regard. I am afraid that kind of assessment would be connected. But one Ministry cannot remain, it changes sometime, so the flat rate which used to be Rs.6,000/- was reduced to Rs.5,000/-, that mean we can save Rs.1,000/- Pu Speaker, it is clear now.

House rent is not included in the financial Memorandum, it only deals with the salary. So saving money in this way is necessary and so the Opposition must only understand this. As there is huge overdraft and our revenue is declining, the policy applied at past and present will not show any example for the future. So, decreasing the salary is a must. On the other hand, are we afraid to have our salary decreased? It will be more better if we decrease it more than this. So, I regard this Bill to be passed without any objection from the Opposition.

DR. H. THANSANGA  
MINISTER

Pu Speaker, some of the major point, have been clarified, some point mentioned by our honourable members need clarification. Salary of Government Employees seem to be very high in Mizoram. I was in the first Mizoram Assembly and my salary was only Rs.1000/- as a Minister, but within 10 to 20 days Rs.1000/- seem to be nothing. Government Employees who were in the pay range of Rs.700/- at that time have now drawn Rs.2500/- Prices of commodities increased with the increase in the salary of the Government Employees. So, the M.L.A. getting Rs. 2000/- and Ministers getting Rs.3000/- to Rs.4000/- does not seem to be too much. To judge a high salary from only one point will not be proper. As we have mentioned in the Financial Memorandum our aims and objectives in reducing the salary is to save some amount from the salary of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker. We would, be able to save Rs. 1,80,000/- in 5 years only from the Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

As the people of Mizoram are poor without any revenue resources, it is a must to decrease the salary of our MLA, Ministers, Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

It is right to clarify the statement of our honourable member Pu Bawitluanga regarding the salary of Deputy Speaker. The salary of Deputy Speaker was omitted when the Bill for increasing the salary was passed. In section 3 of the Amendment the substituted - Rs.2500/- was only for the Speaker and there was nothing mentioned for the Deputy Speaker.

Section 3 of the Amendment had stated that the salary of Deputy Speaker was fixed at Rs.2000/-, this seems to be the same with the salary of the Minister of State. The salary of the Minister of State was raised to Rs.2250/- whereas the salary of the Deputy Speaker remain the same. Ordinance was promulgated by the Governor in which Deputy Speaker will get Rs.2250/-. The ordinance was to be approved in the next Assembly, but in the January Session, it was not taken into consideration which mean that the Ordinance become invalid. So the salary of Deputy Speaker had been reduced at Rs.2,000/-. But, as it was to be amended, and the Ordinance became valid, Rs.2,000/- need not be changed and it mean that it remain the same as before but, salary of Speaker Rs.2,750/- was changed. Pu Speaker this is the first point.

Ministers occupying their own houses are to get a rental charge of Rs.6,000/-. The rental charge is going to be high for those who have good houses and concrete Buildings; so we have to make assesment in this regard. If the Minister had to occupy his house, those people who rented his houses in the compound have to be expelled as it has to be



filled with Security Guards, Guard boxes and even Guard Barrack. But those who have no big building will have to suffer. So, comparing the high rental charges these days, those Ministers who have big building will have to loss huge amount which they used to collect from their rental charges. Whether the house is big or small, the flat rate had to be reduced by Rs.1,000/-. So, the rental charge was fixed at Rs.5,000/- and this seems that those having big compound will have to loss certain amount but in reality they seem to become more richer than us.

Regarding house rent, it became clear as some of our honourable members had clarified the points. There is a quarter problem in Mizoram, to give a quarter to deputationist Officers is a must for our Government. Our former Ministry had deprived of the quarter from our Officers, which compelled some deputationist Officers to occupy circuit house. So, if the quarters are occupied by the right persons, it will be respectable for our Officers and it will also be more comfortable for them, but various opinions used to involve in this regard and for this the Bill have to be clarified. As a whole, we have reduced the rental charge from Rs.6,000/- to Rs.5,000/-. Pu Speaker, it seems that there is nothing more left to discuss and so I request the House to pass the Bill in connection with the Salaried and Allowances of Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Mizoram (Amendment) Bill, 1989.

SPEAKER : Everything concerning the Bill had been clarified. Our Bill has clause 1,2,3 and 4. There is a title only in Clause 1, so, as the rule 94 has provided we will put a side this clause. Clause 2 laid down that Rs.2750/- will be Rs.2500/- in Clause 3, Rs.1500/- be Rs.1250/- and in Clause 4 Rs.6,000/- be Rs.5,000/-. As our rule had mentioned, Clause 2,3 and 4 are to be passed. As the Minister had begged to pass, let the members who agree to pass this Bill say "Yes" (Members said 'Yes'). Do there any objection? (Members kept silent) Now I announce that in clause 1, short title and commencement be included in this Bill. So, Clause 1 also be passed, members who agree say 'Yes' (Members said 'Yes') No Objection? (Members kept silent) All right this Bill is passed.

Now, we will proceed to Bill No.2 "The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Ministers of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1989" and let the Minister in-charge ask the House for permission.

DR.H.THANSANGA :  
MINISTER

Pu Speaker, I beg the House for consideration of the Bill, "The Salaries and Allowances of Chief Minister and other Ministers of Mizoram (Amendment) Bill.

SPEAKER :

Do we permit? (Members said Yes). Before discussion, let the Minister stated, anything to clarify.

DR.H.THANSANGA :  
MINISTER

Pu Speaker, this Bill also aim to decrease the salary of our Ministers as our land is poor with no resources. So, this

Bill has to be taken into consideration in order to save the public finance which is included in the statement of objects and reasons and in the financial memorandum. That means we we will be able to save Rs. 58,800/- annually from the Ministers, why we reduced the salary had been mentioned earlier.

There is nothing more to clarify in this point along with the salary of the Speaker. Three sections :- 3,4 and 5. are to be amended. Constituency Allowances which used to be Rs.600/- has been reduced to Rs.500/-. Similarly, the rental charge for residence of Speaker and Deputy Speaker which used to be Rs.6,000/- is reduce to Rs.5,000/-.

Thank you.

PU VANLALNGENA :  
DEPUTY SPEAKER

Pu Speaker, decreasing the salary is a rare case in India. It is the first time in different states that the salary of MLA is decreased. This clearly shows that the Congress (I) is really sacrificing for the people.

In the First Session of the former Ministry, the salary of M.L.A. was increased from Rs.650/- to Rs.3,300/- and that the Ministers, Speaker and Deputy Speaker was increased 5 times more than the previous amount. In the present Government the C.L.P meeting has for its first aim to decrease the salary, distributing G.C.I Sheets to the poor and collecting money for the poor without effecting the budget of the Government. This clearly shows the nature of our present Government.

In this connection, government would provide G.C.I. Sheets to 3,000 poor families which shows the good beginning of the Government. The furnishing of Ministers Bungalow shows that this Government is the Government of the people and in this case we challenge the former Ministry. In 1984 also, we vacate our throne in order to end the 20 years of blood-shed before the expiry of our term. This Government will work for the people and begin to show their faces towards the improvement of the people.

Thank you.

PU S.HITAO :  
MINISTER

Pu Speaker, thank you. As it is very difficult to be on M.L.As or a Minister, Our Chief Minister and Ministers sacrificed their post in order to have peace in the state which the other could not do. We are now to decrease our salary while every Department is busy trying to increase their salaries which makes Pay Anomaly Committee dizzy.

We, the M.L.As are to serve the people and to develop our respective constituencies and our state. Our duty as a whole is to develop our land and the people which means that we are not to hold dear only our salary. Personally, I do not mind having more money as a salary as we are from the poorest District in our State, but we have to fulfill our promise to develop the conditions of our poorer people. If corruption prevails among us, I regard such practice as spending the money of our people. So for that we have pass the salary of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker and by that we will have a saving of Rs.12,000/- annually, from the Minister we will have Rs.50,880/- saving annually and from the M.L.As it will amount to Rs.1,62,000/-.

On the other hand, if the Court do not find any proof of our being christian. We, Congress (I) will try to serve our country five years term. Within that period we would save Rs. one crore, one lakhs and sixty five thousands, from the salary only and with the house rent reduced by Rs.1,000/- monthly we would be able to provide more fund to the poor.

So, from this saving, large Bundle of G.C.I. Sheet would be distributed, and New Land Use Policy would be implemented purposefully and large number of people will be benefitted. This means that only from our salary and not from the Government revenue we will be able to help the people. We are fortunate that we occupied a large quarter hire in Aizawl. But it was learnt that huge expenditure was involved for furnishing those Bungalows in the former Ministry. But when we entered the quarter it seems to

be an entired Bungalow not even a single glass was left. That is the condition of the Quarters they left behind for us. When we occupied the Quarter, we received an order from our leader that we have to provide everything by ourselves. As we have occupied the Quarter, it will be better that the properties of the Quarters be recorded by the concerned Department so that blaming of others may be avoided. Regarding diet, we have to contenth with the soup of the roselle (Anthur) and that also of the Lakher roselle. What is more important is the way we serve the people. Whether we increase or decrease our salary, the system of asking contract will not be stopped. Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Ministers are not only to blame in this regard as many M.L.As were also involved in it who used to ask for contract to Government Officers. We try to raise our standard and we intend to be self-sufficient which makes it difficult to stop some of our old practices as some of our big Government Officers were contractors and everyone from the Unit used to expect contract from the Government. Those Ministers or MLAs who used to get involved in this contract system were noticed by the people as well as God, and so they never last long. During the election the Opposition as well as the ruling have to consider carefully the prevailing condition in our State.

Whether their salary is increased or not, the MLAs are not much affected. To cut off certain amount for the people and to help the need is a great thing we have done.

Our leader requested some of our Ministers who have their own houses to occupy their houses as many of the I.A.S. Officers serving in our Government came from outside who do not have any house to occupy. But as we have no house, we are allowed to occupy the Quarter. Saving Rs.6,000/- annually from the salary of Minister means that we invested huge amount. As we have to serve the people in reality, I request the Opposition as well as the ruling to agree and pass this Bill.

Thank you.

PU F.MANGHNUNA :

Pu Speaker, there is an ordinance regarding the salary of Deputy Speaker and why is that ordinance be not moved in the

House? Our Honourable Member from Ngopa Constituency among the high salaries people corruption would be there even at the level of those whose salary is Rs.650/- to Rs.1,350/-. So, the meaning is that the decrease of salary by about Rs.500/- would not give any burden to the Ministers or to the Members, and within a year or two that would mean a large saving for public Finance as well as for the poor people.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, thank you, as we have small revenue, we need saving and it seems that our discussion is mainly how to profit from the house rent of the Ministers. Our opinion differed from our conditions, if we really love our land, why do not some Ministers occupy even a small Quarters instead of occupying their own houses getting about Rs. 5,000/- for a rental charge. During the M.N.F. Ministry all Minister occupied a Quarter which is not happened in the present Ministry. We intend to have profits but on the other hand we loss about Rs. 1,43,200/-. If we really want to increase our revenue, let the Ministers not draw any money for rented charge even before occupying a Quarter or a Bungalow. In this way revenue will be increased. Why the Ministers were given a rental charge whereas M.L.As are not given. Is it because they open office in their residence? If there are any Minister going to get Rs. 50,000/- annually as a rental charge, we could not blame the M.N.F. Ministry, we are to praise them for no one gets any money for their rental charge.

On the other hand, (Members making noise) I had twice mentioned about the repairing of Assembly Building, Ministers Quarters and that of Speaker and Deputy Speaker. But nothing is done and the result is that there is no Quarter to occupy. When we stand for a candidate, we were not concerned with salary or even a Quarter, but now we are deeply concerned with our salary and Quarters. If we are to really serve our people let the Ministers have the courage not to draw any money for a rental charge.

As Speaker is the head of the House, it does not seem necessary to decrease his salary, its a pity that we are compelled by majority to pass the Bill regarding the salary of Chief Ministers and Speaker. So if our Ministers really love the poor, they must have the courage not to draw any money for rental charge. Instead of discussing about Rs. 58,800/- revenue for a gain, it is better to discuss Minister occupying his own house, who is anxious to increase the revenue for the poor, have to surrender all his claim for a rental charge to the Government.

SPEAKER : The time is up and if we are to continue we have to know whether the building/houses belonging to the Minister are rented by the Government. In such cases, the amount drawn could be more than that of Rs. 5,000/-. In this regard we have to consider only the Constitution.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, the house rent of a Minister or a Speaker used to be very high even in the corner most area of the town which happened in the Electric Village. It seems that we are repairing our houses as if there is not any Quarter to occupy whereas Government Officers and Businessmen were searching for someone who could rent their big empty buildings at high rate.

On the other hand, we wanted to improve our revenue condition for the sake of the people, the actual meaning is that we have to received much more than our salary. We decreased our salary by Rs.500/- and on the other hand Rs.5,000/- will be added as house rent which was not happened during the M.N.F.Ministry. So, instead of gaining Rs.58,800/- we will have a loss of Rs.3,22,000/- and or that I will be absent from passing this Bill.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, opinion can be differed from one to another and so I requested our Honourable Member to take his seat. The decreasing of the salary and of the rental charge arises only for the sake of people. The same thing happened in 1984 when we vacated our throne and now our turn has come to serve the people. It seems that our Honourable from Ngopa envied those Ministers who occupied their own houses. He will repeat on complaining again and again and I want him to clearly understand that the reduction of rental charge by about Rs.1,000/- is only for the people.

Regarding the re-construction of Assembly Hall, Ministers Quarters and all the Government Quarters, a demand will arise. Our Government will take an immediate slip and after that every Ministers and big Officers will occupy the Quarters. Its a great thing that our Ministers vacated Quarters for Officers with great loss. This Bill has been properly prepared by the Minister in-charge and Officers and so, without any further discussion, it is better to pass this Bill.

Thank you.

PU LALHUTHANGA : Pu Speaker, Our proposal for this Bill is not new to all of us. In the former Ministry house rent was fixed at Rs.6,000 but the present Ministry regard it as excessive, so it is reduced by Rs.1,000/- and it is a great thing, as we have nine Ministers, that mean Rs.1,000/- is reduced from every Ministers which will be benefitted by the

people. Regarding the salary, Rs.500/- is reduced from every members, so instead of lossing we are gaining certain amount. It is not very proper for the Opposition to go against every discussion in the House. This will only lead to dishonorary to the dignity of the House. So, reduction of rental charge from a Ministers by Rs.1,000/- and Rs.500/- decrease from the salary of each and every members will be contribution of this House to the people. As I agreed with the Bill, I requested the Bill to be passed.

PU LIANSUAMA :

Pu Speaker, it was a good idea of the former Ministry, that Pu Saingura forced himself to occupy the Circuit House Annexe and in return he received Rs.16,000/- per month for his house rent from the District Council. The same thing happened during the P.C.Ministry in which the Finance Minister gave his house to his Department for rented, but this thing will not be repeated in our Ministry. When the construction and repairing of the Quarters is completed, Ministers and big Officers will not stay in the rented houses anymore. So, in order to stop these practices and with good intention that this Bill came into existence. So, it is better for all of us to agree and pass this Bill.

SPEAKER :

Let the Minister in-charge clarify and ask for the permission to pass the Bill.

DR.H.THANSANGA :  
MINISTER

It is difficult to understand what formula that our Honourable Member Pu Zosiana Pachuau applied. As we are decreasing, there cannot be any loss in our revenue, there will be a gain for the Government. Regarding the occupation of Bungalow by M.N.F.Ministers, it is a must for them as they come from the jungle. They have no house in the Capital and so they occupied the Quarters. It seems that people do not really understand our Quarter problem. If they see the present condition of Circuit House and Guest Houses, they would understand how it cannot be used for its purposes. So, some of our Ministers also occupied the Quarter for they have no houses in the Capital. If there is any rule that we have to occupy the Quarter, no Minister will hesitates, but there is not any.

Our discussion is only for our own, no one will suffer and if anyone have to suffer we, ourselves will suffer. There is not any specific rule

that we cannot amend the existing rules. If the Bill is passed and implemented, there will be a great advantages. Pu Speaker, as I move the Salaries and Allowances of Chief Minister and other Ministers of Mizoram (Amendment) Bill, 1989. I request the members to pass this Bill.

PU F.MANGHUNA : Pu Speaker, there is an ordinance regarding the Deputy Speaker and that ordinance on the Table of the House have to be amended for approval in the House. That was not done in the Oath taking Session and so this act have to be amended, for this is the thing we cannot place a side.

SPEAKER : There is Clause 1,2,3,4 in our Bill and in Clause 1 short and Commencement is a different title. In the Clause 2 we have (a) and (c). That (a) stands for Chief Minister (b) for the Ministers and (c) for the Minister of State. In the section 4, the Clause 3 is for the Allowance. So the salary of the Chief Minister is reduced from 3250/- to 3000/- Ministers from Rs.2,550/- to Rs.2,300/- and Minister of State from 2,550/- to Rs.2,000/-. The Allowance from Rs.1,500/- to Rs.1,250/- and Rs.6,000/- in the section 5 Clause 4 will be Rs.5,000/-. Anyone who agree to pass the Clause - 2,3 and 4 say yes (Members said Yes) any objection? (Members kept silent). So, anyone who agree to pass short title and commencement of Clause 1 say Yes (Members said Yes) any objection? (No one). As we agreed together I announced that "The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Ministers of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1989" is passed.

We have finished for today, our sitting will be resumed tomorrow at 10:30 A.M.

House adjourned at 1:20 P.M.