

SECOND SITTING ON FRIDAY 16TH MARCH, 1990 AT 10:30 A.M.

PRESENT

PU HIPHEI, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, 11 Ministers and 26 Members were present.

BUSINESS
QUESTIONS

1. Questions entered in separate list to be asked and oral answer given.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

2. SPEAKER to report to the House, The Time Table settled by the Business Advisory Committee for the current Session.
3. PU H.RAMMAWI, to present to the House the first report of the rules Committee.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BUSINESS
RESOLUTION

4. PU J.THANGHUAMA, to move the following motion. "This Assembly strongly desires/recommends that the Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road be converted into a Nation Highway by the Central Government".

S P E A K E R : "Therefore you shall keep his statutes and his commandments, which I command you this day, that it may go well with you, and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which the Lord your God gives you for ever".

Deuteronomy 4:40

We shall take up Question No-I
I shall call upon Pu J.Thanghuama to ask.

PU J.THANGHUAMA : Pu Speaker, starred question No.1.is -
Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Local Administration Department be pleased to state -

- (a) If the Government has any proposal to have a Municipal Board for Aizawl since the population has already crossed one lakhs?
- (b) If Government has any proposal to convert Aizawl Town into Aizawl city ?

PU ZALAWMA : Pu Speaker, for
MINISTER

(a) There has been no proposal as such at this stage and for.

(b) as above.

PU J. THANGHUAMA : Pu Speaker, the population of Kohima is only half of Aizawl Population but they have got Municipal Board. In other states they called their states Capital City. But in Mizoram, it is only a town and we called our buses-Town Bus but its time now to call a City and Buses City Bus. Generally in the population crosses lakhs. There use to be a Municipal Board and if it is above crore. They use to have a corporation.

To call our State Capital Aizawl as a town shows to others that we are under developed. Therefore, what I would like to know is that even if there is no proposal, is there any intention to make such proposal ?

S P E A K E R : It's been said that there is no such proposal.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, let me say few things
CHIEF MINISTER as this matter is important. We all know that htis very important but we are waiting for Panchayati Raj Bill which goes together with Nagarpalighat Bill. From this Bill we can know Local bodies in Urban Areas.

S P E A K E R Now Pu Zosiama for question No. 2,

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, starred quetion No.2 is

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Health & Family Welfare Department be pleased to state -

The reasons for non-availability for life saving Medicines in the Aizawl Civil Hospital.

PU S.HIATO : Pu Speaker, most of the life Saving Medicines are available at Civil Hospital, Aizawl.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, our Civil Hospital has become sickman's home because there is no Medicines, even the Medicines prescribed by the Doctors are not available in the Hospital and the patients has to buy from other shops. For Example, there is no Soline Dextrose and Tetanus Toxide in the Hospital. I would like to know why these Medicines are not available in Aizawl Civil Hospital.

PU J.THANGHUAMA : Pu Speaker, I would like to ask some more in connection with the question asked by the Hon'ble Member. Among the patients admitted in the Hospital, some patients can re-imburse their expenditure as there are from Government Servants in their family members. But most of them are from Villages and as there is no Government Servants in their family members, they can not re-imburse their expenditure while most of the Medicines are to be bought from outside. In the budget estimates had been made to suffice the needs for one year considering the evarage number of patiente and we have passed that in the Assembly. But I want to know where had the allotted fund gone ?

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA : Supplementary question, Pu Speaker, Some days back, I took one injured person to Civil Hospital in which he was supposed to be given Tetanus Toxide but we could not find either in the Civil Hospital or Durtlang Hospital. We could not find even in Aizawl town, we serched all the Medical stores. But at last owner of 'Elite Medical store' Dr.Tluangtea gave us one ample which he kent for himself. But after sometimes we came to know that there are about 10 thousand Tetanus Toxide in the Medical store. I would like to know if this is correct ?

PU S.HIATO : Pu Speaker, the reasons for non-availability of Medicines are many. First reason is when we called tender, many manufactures are from outsides Aizawl so they can not supply the Medicines are require in our prescribed time Secondly, during this time, the price of various Medicines had gone up and the State Purchase Board has to sit to consider the price and this needs some time.

Besides these, only 15 percent of the budget is allotted for purchase of Medicines, As you had pointed out, we can not give Medicines to all patients in free because population had increased and the number of patients are number of new equipments to be purchased and new

type of Medicines. Here, I would like to inform the House that Mizoram State is doing its best to give Medicines free of cost, other State can not give free Medicines,

In regard to Dextrose which had been pointed out by Pu Zosiama Pachuau, it is supposed to be there always, but as I had mentioned earlier, some has to buy because it is not possible to give all the patients. Since Tetanus Toxide expires very soon. The Civil Hospital has never kept much as there is no proper storage but it is generally kept at the Medical Store, and sometimes it happened that they used to forget to ask from the Medical Store. As in the case of the Hon'ble Member Dr. Lalthangliana.

Regarding re-imburement, we feel had that many Villagers have to purchase from other Medical Store, but efforts had been made by the State Purchase Board to overcome this problems and its been decided to utilise our fund to help the patients as much as possible.

PU J. THANGHUAMA : Pu Speaker, Blood Bank had been opened sometime back. Is it possible to donate and store blood in the blood Bank now ?

S P E A K E R : Let Pu Zosiama also ask his question now.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, is it true that Health Department had purchased many fire Extinguisher for Rs. 700/- per piece and that the Department can not purchase medicines while 400 lakhs rupees has been sanctioned in the budget under plan ? Even if it is 15 percent in the plan we have 60 lakhs rupees to buy medicines.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Pu Speaker, do the Doctors who prescribe medicines and the state purchase board consult each other for selecting type of medicines to be purchase ?

PU S. HIATO : Pu Speaker, in regard to blood bank, there is no one to donate blood and we have no blood to store in the Blood Bank.

Regarding the availability of normal saline and life saving Drugs. There are many kinds of life saving Drugs. As I had already mentioned supply of medicines used to be short.

And in regard to allocation of fund, though 60 lakh rupees had been allotted, the whole amount is not spent for the purchase of Medicines alone, there are other materials to be purchased.

Regarding purchase of Medicines, the specialists and the Purchase Board used to sit together to select types of Medicines to be purchased and Medicines are purchased accordingly. And purchase of Medicines, does not have any connection with the purchase of Fire Extinguisher.

S P E A K E R : We shall proceed to question No.3.
I shall call upon Pu Aichhinga.

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, starred question No.3 is -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Trade & Commerce Department be pleased to state -

- (a) What is the actual status of Trade & Commerce Department ? Does it work according to the Mizoram Allocation of Business Rules 1987 ?
- (b) What step had been taken by the Government in regard to Border Trade ?

PU P.SIAMLIANA : Pu Speaker, for _
MINISTER

- (a) Trade & Commerce Department had commenced only from 1987. No fund had been allotted in the budget provision for this Department other than the salaries and TA/DA of the Office Staff and Office Establishment. Therefore, nothing can be done at present according to the Mizoram Allocation of Business Rules, 1987. Meanwhile some of the proposed steps are already taken up by various Departments and steps are being taken to transfer there into Trade & Commerce Department, Cabinet Decision is being waited for this. During 8th Five Year Plan, its been decided to take steps as fast as possible.
- (b) The Government had a talk with the Governments of Bangladesh and Burma. The Bangladesh Government refused to have Border Trade but we can not proceed with the Government of Burma because of internal trouble in Burma. Anyway, its been decided to continue the steps which had already been taken.

PU AICHHINGA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker, what are the steps taken by Trade & Commerce Department to have inter-trade through this Department ?

Had any one been appointed in this Department against Recruitment Rules ?

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

PU P. SIAMLLANA
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, there is no appointment which is against Recruitment Rules.

Steps had been taken to sell our crops and other things but we cannot say now that we will be having inter trade with our neighbouring States.

S P E A K E R : Now I shall call upon Pu Lalrinchhana to ask question No.4.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Pu Speaker, question No.4 is -

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

When will an all weather Bridge be constructed over Tuivai Between Phullen & Phuaibuang.

PU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, construction of Bridge over Tuivai between Phullen & Phuaibuang is expected to complete in a few months. Even the Government had sanctioned Rs. 9,23,200/- for this.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. I feel it is very important to improve roads in Suangpuilawn and Ratu constituencies even because of the H.P.C. I would like to ask what steps had been taken to improve roads in these constituencies ?

PU VANLALINGENA
DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Speaker, Supplementary question. Tuivai Bridge is very important because it is the only communication. Last year, lakhs of rupees had been spent for air dropping in these areas because the bridge was damaged by flood. It also weakens enforcement of law and order in this areas. Like that this bridge is very important for this area. I had submitted suggestion to Chief Minister 13.8.89 regarding this bridge and the Hon'ble Chief Minister also gives priority to it. So he wrote an order for immediate

execution of work and process it immediately but it is regretful that no work had been started. I am afraid that we'll have to do air dropping in rainy season. Now, we have three months before rainy season starts and I want to ask whether we can finish reconstruction of this bridge within this three months? I would like to request the Department to give importance to it.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question
CHIEF MINISTER asked by the Hon'ble Member from Ratu constituency is very important as there is no other communication.

This road is important to suppress H.P.C. Operation that's why we concentrate on this area but we can not do things fastly as we planned. But there are some progress somparing to the previous works. As the Hon'ble Member from Suangpui-lawn constituency, who is also our Deputy Speaker gives much importance to it, I had ordered even E.E. and other Officers concern to camp at the site; so they have started the work with Bulldozers and the progress is a bit faster. Regarding the Bridge itself, we are very careful now because in the past they used to make estimate from the table and only after three or five months they revised the estimate that time. The estimate amount increased to hundred percent, so the Government used to spent lots of fund. But now I had told them to go to the place and study soil formation and make estimate after t these. Because of these they can not do fast but now everything had been certified and even the Government had sanctioned Rs. 9,23,000/- for it and steps are being taken to finish before monsoch, likewise, as this bridge is very important for these areas, we have tried our best and even the concern Secretary used to visit at the spot but as the structure of work is difficult we can not do a quickly but we are trying to finish before monsoon.

PU TLANGHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, the Hon'ble Chief Minister had ordered the Officers and E.E. to camp at the side. And what I want to know is. Do they really camp at the site as ordered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, they really made camp
CHIEF MINISTER at the site. The Secretary also visited the spot many times with the MLA of this Constituency as if they are the Officer in charge. Because of their hard works, the progress is much faster but because of rain, working season was short and even though they camp at the spot, they would not work fast if water volume is high; because of all these it is not easy to work fast.

S P E A E K E R : We shall, now take up question No.5 Pu P.C. Zoramsangliana to ask.

PU P.C.ZORANSANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, question No. 5 -

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

Does the Government know that one Government servant who is in Education Department had casted his vote twice in 1989 M.P. election ? If so, what actions had been taken ?

PU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : The Government does not know such thing. Since there is no information had been taken. But as the Hon'ble member had reported the matter, enquiry is being taken.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Supplementary question. Pu Speaker, I know the parent's name of the double voter and the number of ballot paper and electoral roll. He double casted his vote in the same Village. He was transferred. Though he is Government employee, he neglects his duty and the matter had been reported to the Department but it seems the Department is favouring him because no action had been taken till today and I am asking the reason for this.

PU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I'll give the findings of the enquiry is still being done and it is not easy to enquiry because election matters are too secret. Therefore, I would like to request the Hon'ble member to understand that this will take time as permission has to be taken from Election Commission.

It seems that H.Rokunga S/o Chalchana 53 polling station No. 32/1, House No.220 in the Electoral Roll, Sl. No.631 had double casted his vote.

There is also Rokunga S/o Chalbans 48 in the Electoral Roll, Polling Station No. 32/3, House No. 172, Sl. No.617. These two names can not be one person's name because father's names and ages are not the same and Electoral Roll Nos and Booth Nos. are also different. So there are some confusions. Even presiding Officer can not stop them if their names are in the Electoral Roll. But steps have been taken to be more careful and more times will be required for this case to clear because the matter had been referred to the Election Commission.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. What action had been taken by the Government to the responsible persons for loosing 50 Ballot paper in M.P. Election.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, there are many case in Mizoram as the case pointed out by the Hon'ble Member Pu P.C. Zoramsanglian. Whether they are Government servant or not, to double cast vote is a sin. Many names are doubled in an Electoral Roll, some names in the electoral roll of one Village and those names are again in the electoral roll of another Village. So they casted their votes in one Village and then casted again in another Village. Even the presiding Officer cannot stop them. Therefore it is very important to be careful while preparing electoral Roll. So it is good to be careful while preparing Electoral Roll to have free and fair election.

PU P.C. ZORAMSANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, double casting of votes had been practice since the appearance of a particula ex-serviceman in Mizoram politics. The actual spirit of my question is that such person may find out what they had done wrong.

I clearly know the person who double casted his vote because he is in my constituency. I had pointed out this matter in this August House. Pu Speaker, because I want to the Government to be careful in future.

PU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, what had been pointed be the Hon'ble Member Pu H. Rammawi is very important. It is good to have free and fair election for all the Mizos. To have free and fair election, all political parties should do things fairly. The question asked by the Hon'ble member Pu Zoramthanga is not relevant but if he insists, I'll answer him in paper.

S P E A K E R : Now we shall take up question No.6, I shall call upon Pu Aichhinga to ask.

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, question No.6 -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Trade & Commerce Department be pleased to state -

- (a) How many regulated market had been declared by the Mizoram Government ?
- (b) Does the Mizoram Government intend to have Trade Centre ? If yes where ?
- (c) What are the steps to be taken by the Government in regard to Trading by Non-Tribal Act ?

PU P.SIAMLIANA : Pu Speaker for
MINISTER

- (a) As Regulated Market is under the Revenue and Local Administration Department, the Department of Trade & Commerce does not know anything about it
- (b) Steps had been taken to make Trade Centre. But as there is no Budget Provision, nothing can be done and even the site had not been selected.
- (c) Trading by Non-Tribal Act had expired in 1977. In order to renew this, Draft Amendment Bill 1989 had been drafted for which Cabinet decision is being waited.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, Supplementary question.
For question (c) The Minister said that steps had been taken but it is possible to be more specific in the steps which had been taken ?

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, let me answer this.
CHIEF MINISTER This matter had been considered as soon as we get the power. Though it will not safeguard us as it is, it was dreadful to amend it. So we agreed to amend the relevant portions and it was sent to the Central Government for follow up. So it was studied by the experts and some amendments had been made. The Cabinet had accepted the amendments and it will be forwarded to the Central. Meanwhile, Ministry had been changed in the Central and we hesitate to forward it. But we decided to forward to the Central as we accepted. I would like to request the co-operation of all the Hon'ble Members in this regard as it is the interest of our nation.

PU R.TLANGHMINGTHANGA: Pu Speaker, in regard to the answer given by the Hon'ble Minister for question (a) in allocation of business, regulated market is meant to be under Trade & Commerce, but it was pointed out that it is still in Revenue Department. Is there any intention to transfer it as it should be ?

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question.
What is the exact number of non-Tribal Traders in Mizoram ? How many licence had been renewed which were issued under Mizoram State Article Licence and Control Order 1987

S P E A K E R : It will be good if the Minister in-charge can answer the last two questions.

PU P.SIAMLIANA : Pu Speaker, I did not prepare to
MINISTER answer such questions. By talking
about trading by non-Tribal, it is
necessary to clarify the term trade,
for example, we cannot specify what trade has been done by
Dr. Bose. Therefore, it is difficult to point out the actual
figures, regarding the point raised by the Hon'ble Member,
Pu Tlanga, we have not clarified it. I think the Hon'ble
Minister in-charge Revenue and Local Administration Depart-
ment can answer it.

PU LALDENGA : Supplementary question. Pu Speaker,
The Hon'ble Minister said he does
not know what trade Bose is doing.
It seems he does not know definition of trade, Therefore,
Pu Speaker, I am not satisfied with the answer he gave.

PU J.THANGHUAMA : Pu Speaker, just one point in re-
gard to supplementary question.
There is direction the Minister should
come fully prepare to answer supplementary question. There-
fore, the Minister should expect supplementary questions and
it is wrong to say that he can not answer or he does not know.
We must master our portfolios. Pu P.Siamliana : You Alpha
and Omega).

S P E A K E R : Let the Minister in-charge Local
Administration Department answer it.

PU ZALAWMA : Pu Speaker, as permitted by consti-
MINISTER tution of India, para 2 of 6 Sche-
dule, Trading Regulation had been
made in 1953, and now 54 market re-
gulation had been declared so far. Regulation in Mizoram
is in the hand of Revenue Department and they have 9 ope-
rational areas. From which collection of Revenue amounts
nearly Rs.5,00,000 Maintenance and Marketing are in the hands
of Revenue Department. From Aizawl New Market alone, Rs.8,
00,000/- Revenue had been collected. So, altogether, we have
collected nearly Rs.13,00,000/- from these operational areas
which had been declared as Regulated Market. But this does
not include the Autonomous District Council like Chhimtuipui
District.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, question No.7.

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Education & Human
Resources Department be pleased to state -

(a) Reasons why the Government has not revised the
pays and allowances of

- (1) The Headmasters of Middle and High Schools.
- (2) The Teachers of Middle and High Schools.

- (b) Whether steps have been taken by the Government to non-Government Teachers for their retirement benefits.

Dr.H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker,

- (a) Pay and allowances of the above two categories of Teachers have been revised.
- (b) Steps are being taken by the Government for non-Government Teachers for their retirement benefits. The relevant rules are being issued.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. Since pay and allowances of the Teachers have been revised, when will the revised amount be given? Regarding retirement benefits, in the previous Congress Ministry, the then Hon'ble Education Minister had assured in the House to give Tribal Benefit Scheme. And the new Minister had said last year that Educational Law will be made and they will be given other benefits better than Tribal benefit Scheme. And now I would like to request him to tell us what promise he is going to give.

Dr. H. THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, the state Pay Anomaly MINISTER Committee looked into the recommendation of the Commission and then raised the pay and allowances of Teachers, so now they are taking as its been raised, therefore, it is wrong to say that they taken as revised. After this revision the teachers demanded again to raise their pay, though the Government accepted their demand in principle, its not been passed had been reflected to the Finance Commission but we have not received any comment from the Commission.

Even retirement benefit scheme had been referred to the Finance Commission and we are waiting for its order. Therefore, Pu Speaker, they are enjoying all the benefits which the state Government can offer. But we are waiting order from Finance Commission for supplementary demands.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, the Headmaster of High and Middle Schools and Teachers of High and Middle Schools do not consider that they are taking revised pay. So they are still waiting, the Revised Pay according to the Ministry and the Teachers may be different. For example, Basic pay of High School Headmaster is Rs. 2,000/- while their former level had taken Rs. 2,200/- as their basic pay now. Even the basic pay of Middle School Headmaster used to be Rs. 550/- and Subordinate Civil Service Officers whose basic pay used to be Rs. 550/- had been raised to Rs. 2,000/- now, while the basic pay for Middle School Headmaster had been raised to Rs. 1640/-. I do not know whether this had been considered as revised. I wonder how the Headmasters and Teachers will take the announcement of the Minister.

Even while the religious priests are having retirement benefits, these School Teachers do not have retirement benefits. They simply retire. We have asked about this many times and we are still hoping to get it. When will they get these benefits ?

PU TAWNLUIA : Starred Question No. 8

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

(a) What is the opinion of the Government regarding Private High School and Primary School established at Khawzawl by the public in 1990 ?

Is there any intention to give permission and recognition ?

(b) Does the Government intend to give more teachers to various Primary Schools at Khawzawl?

Dr. H. THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, (a) Permission and recognition will be given after considering their needs.

(b) Rationalisation of Primary School Teachers is being done. After this, Primary School Teachers will be allotted equally in various Primary Schools.

PU LALRAWNLIANA : Pu Speaker, starred question No. 9

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

(a) Where are the Bulldozers purchased for Agriculture Department being deployed ?

(b) For what purpose are they being deployed ?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, the Bulldozers purchased for Agriculture purpose are presently deployed at the following location :-

Sl.No.	Model	Dozer Sl.No	Present location
1	2	3	4
1.	D-31A-17	035	Darlak Watershed Management Project
2.	D-31A-17	027	Lengpui
3.	D-31A-17	039	Khawhnai
4.	- do -	040	Saiphai
5.	- do -	038	Chemphai
6.	- do -	033	North Serzawl.

1	2	3	4
7.	D-13A-17	031	Tuirini
8.	- do -	042	Thingfal under E.E., M.I. Lunglei Div.
9.	- do -	023	Tiau Valley, Champhai under E.E., M.I. Aizawl Division.
10.	- do -	043	Lumtui Serchhip
11.	- do -	044	Thenzawl
12.	- do -	047	Darkhuang Project
13.	- do -	029	Sesawng Home Guard Training Centre.
14.	- do -	037	Hnahthial
15.	D-50A-15	7397	Chemphai, Bilkhawthlir
16.	- do -	7495	O.N.G.C., Bilkhawthlir

(b) Presently, the Bulldozers are deployed for the purpose mentioned below against each Bulldozer.

Sl. No.	Dozer No.	Presently engaged for
1.	053	Agriculture Land Developmental Works at Darlak.
2.	027	Construction of Fish Pond etc. at Lengpui on hire.
3.	039	Agriculture Land Development Works at Khawhnai.
4.	040	Construction of Agriculture Link Road at Saiphai.
5.	038	Construction of Playground at Champhai on hire.
6.	033	Construction of Agriculture Link Road at N. Serzawl.
7.	031	Construction of Agriculture Link road at Tuirini.
8.	042	Under E.E., Minor Irrigation, Lunglei Div.
9.	023	Under E.E., Minor Irrigation, Aizawl Div.
10.	043	Under Major Repair.
11.	044	Thenzawl
12.	047	Agricultural land developmental works at Darkhuang.
13.	029	Site levelling of Mizoram Home Guard Training Centre at Sesawng on hire.
14.	037	Agriculture Link Road Construction at Hnahthial.
15.	7397	Minor Irrigation Project Works at Chemphai, Bilkhawthlir.
16.	7495	At O.N.G.C. Site, It is being overhauled.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, starred question No.10
Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge
Public Works Department be pleased to state -

Whether construction of Hnahthial
to Thingsai via Tarpho road is being continued for truck-
able road ?

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, this will be conti-
CHIEF MINISTER nued.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, starred question No.
11.

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-
charge Education and Human Resources Department be pleased
to state -

For what purpose did the Govern-
ment divert 100 lakhs rupees from Education Department ?

Dr. H. THANSANGA : The Government does not know
MINISTER about the diversion of 100 lakhs
rupees.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, starred question No.
12.

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-
charge Education and Human Resources Department be pleased
to state -

(a) Whether the Government still adheres to the policy
✓ of introducing 10+2 system of School Education ?

(b) Whether the Government still adheres to the policy
✓ of restructuring ten years School of Education ?

Dr. H. THANSANGA : (a) Yes.
MINISTER (b) Yes.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker starred question No.13

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-
charge Health & Family Welfare Department be pleased to
state -

Did the Government take an enqui-
ry for the death of Pu Rolala at Aizawl Civil Hospital
due to non-availability of Tetanus Toxide in the Hospital?

PU S. HIATO : Pu Speaker, enquiry is being
MINISTER taken.

S P E A K E R : Now I shall give B.A.C. report. Please listen carefully while I read out the provisional programme prepared by B.A.C. Yesterday, i.e. 15th March, was Governor's Address and a Motion of Thanks had been moved. Today, 16th March is meant for Private Member's Business and we shall also take up Resolution. Tomorrow and day after tomorrow will be holidays as they are Saturday and Sunday. On Monday, i.e. 19th March, we shall take up Questions, Presentation of Supplementary demands for 1989-90. Annual Budget for 1990-91 and Introduction of Bills. On Tuesday 20th March we shall have questions and discussion on Governor's Address. On 21st March (Wednesday) there will be questions, consideration and passing of Bills and Government Business. On Thursday, 22nd March, there will be questions, voting on supplementary demands for grants for 1989-90, General Discussion on Budget for 1990-91. The 24th and 25th March, will be Holidays because they are Saturday and Sunday. On 26th March, Monday, we shall take up Government Business, Questions and Discussion and Voting on Demand for Grants for 1990-91. On 27th March, Tuesday, we shall have questions, and Discussion and Voting on Demand for Grants for 1990-91. On 28th March, Wednesday, there will be questions and Voting on Demands for Grants for 1990-91. Then on 29th March, Thursday, there will be questions and Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants for 1990-91. And on Friday, 30th March, we shall have Private Member's Business questions and Motion and Resolution if any.

This provisional programme prepared by B.A.C. is to be approved by the House. Is there any one to say something in the Scheduled programme.

PU J. THANGHUAMA : Pu Speaker, there will be a meeting on the 31st March to consider about Scheduled Tribes at Delhi for which the Union Labour Minister invited us. I think many of us intend to go. But we will not be able to finish the Budget Session. So can we go and even if we can, is there any arrangement from the Government ?

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, I propose to pass the programme chalked out by B.A.C.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, what had been pointed out by the Hon'ble Member Pū J. Thanghuama is very important.

It seems that all Scheduled Tribe M.Ps and M.L.As are invited for this. In my opinion, it is good to attend the meeting. Since it is the interest of all of us, I think it is good for all the parties to consult each other. If we intend to attend. So, if we are going to attend the meeting, the time table announced by the Hon'ble Speaker should be changed. Or shall we choose from each party to attend the meeting without disturbing proceedings of the House. These two points should be considered by the member. According to me as I had said, it is good to attend the meeting; even if we go. We must have common approach and it will be good to consult each other for this.

What I would like to say regarding the whole programme is that there is no obituary reference which we used to have in other Sessions. In between the present and last Session, a number of celebrated persons even in the National level had passed away and the House is supposed to pay tribute to these departed souls. Therefore, I think it is good to include obituary reference in the time table.

S P E A K E R : We have to bear in mind that the budget is to be passed before 31st March and 19th March is the nearest day to present Budget; so it is difficult to shorten our time. Let me call upon Parliamentary Affairs Minister to say about these things.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, let me say few things in this regard. According to me, we must give top priority to our legislative body. Now also we are having Budget Session which is very important for our state. If we have time, we'll go to Delhi to attend the meeting but I do not think it will be good to cancel our time table because of other things. So, let us first pass the proposal.

Dr. H. THANSANGA
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I also got the invitation for the meeting. I do not know whether all of us are invited but I just referred the matter to the Labour Minister. I also feel it will be good to send at least a representative. In the meantime, I agree with the Hon'ble Member, Pu H. Rammawi, we should not neglect our duties here but we are thinking whether there is a way to have at least some members attend the meeting. Therefore, instead of discussing here, let the B.A.C. re-consider the matter bearing in mind about the obituary.

S P E A K E R : The time table I had read out is not in detail. Therefore, if there is any obituary reference to be included, we can do so as there is no hard and fast rule to do in the first day of the Session. Since we give importance to the meeting to be held at Delhi, will it be good to detail members both from ruling and an opposition parties to attend the meeting ?

Dr. H. THANSANGA
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, your suggestion is not good enough because in the Budget Session we have general discussion for various demands in which all members are participating, but of those members who are detailed to attend the meeting will not have the chance to participate in the budget discussion. Therefore, I feel it is best to give top priority to our own business.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, let us go as suggested by the Hon'ble Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Let the B.A.C. reconsider the matter and let us give priority to our Session. If we have time, we'll all go to attend the meeting in Delhi.

PU P.C.BAWITLUANGA : Pu Speaker, as the invitation was individual, I do not think it is necessary to discuss this matter here while we are having important sitting. The meeting at Delhi is only for one day and we will not have chance to speak if MPs all over India are invited. Therefore, I think it is good to follow the programme scheduled by the B.A.C. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : The Conference will be held on 31st March and those who wants to go may go on 29th March. According to our Rules, sitting can not be continued after 4 P.M. without taking House's permission. So, as already suggested, do we all agree to select 2/3 members to attend the meeting? (Members agreed). So, I declare that the programme scheduled by B.A.C. is accepted unanimously.

Now I shall call upon Pu H.Rammawi to submit the report of Rules Committee.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, I am not submitting, but with your permission I present first report of Rules Committee in the August House.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed to the Members (It was distributed). Now we shall take up Private Member's Resolution. As permitted by Resolution Rules, we have one resolution to be discussed today and the mover is Pu J. Thanghuama. Let me read out the resolution :

"This Assembly strongly desires/recommends that the Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road be converted into a National Highway by the Central Government".

PU J.THANGHUAMA : Pu Speaker, thank you for admitting my resolution and giving me time to move it.

This Resolution is very important but before I concentrate on the resolution, I would like to point out that I never call myself Alpha and Omega and I do not like how the Hon'ble Minister had mentioned it. Therefore, Pu Speaker, I kindly explain that for me, it is in the tape. While our Ministry was troubled by some defeated Members, I pointed out that only the Speaker can take

actions to the defected Members and I did not say I was Alpha and Omega. So please explain this for me from the tape. (Speaker : I will look even the Rules). And it is not nice for the Hon'ble Minister to use such words, in the House.

Today, our resolution is very important and even other Members from South are also giving importance to it. The same resolution had been moved in 1984. But we did not discuss the Resolution.

The MNF Ministry had made a proposal to convert this road into National Highway but the Ministry was dissolved before the proposal was fulfilled.

After new Ministry had been formed, the Hon'ble Member Pu P. Lalbiaka submitted a resolution on 17th March, 1989 that the Mizoram Government should take immediate steps to convert Aizawl-Thenzawl-Lunglei road into a National Highway. But it's been said that on the request by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and also with the permission of the House, the Resolution was withdrawn.

I suppose that all Members from Aizawl-Lunglei road and from Chhaintuipui District and even the Hon'ble Chief Minister should give importance to this road. Since District Council, there are many VIPs like C.E.M., E.M., M.D.C. and M.L.As from the South and proposals had been made many times but no efforts had been taken till today.

In some days back, one of our E.Es who was in the Mechanical, had been promoted to S.E. His name is Pu Lalrinawma. He caped in a precipice near Sialsuk and used to start his work at 5 A.M. Because of his hard work, this road which had been tried since long time back had been readied for truckable road within one month. I was also invited for the innaugural function. Lunglei to the Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road is much shorter than the Aizawl-Serchhip-Lunglei road. During P.C. Ministry, proposal made for construction of Silchar-Aizawl-Serchhip-Lunglei into National Highway and I enquired about this. I was answered by the then P.W.D. and Finance Minister Pu Lalhmngthanga that his was the great plan and ever committed by P.C. Ministry, and that the approval was given by Road Congress from Central. We already had BRTF road in Aizawl-Serchhip-Lunglei road which cannot be cancelled. So Aizawl-Serchhip-Lunglei road had been done twice. I was told that P.W.D. had spent Rs. 18 lakhs for 1 KM of road and BRTF used to spend 8 lakhs rupees per kilometre.

Mizoram has one National Highway No. 54. In may places, there are good roads but most part of the roads in Mizoram are not black topped. If we look at Nagaland which is not much bigger than Mizoram, there are 3 National Highways for which no state fund had been used. Funds for constructing these National Highways are provided by Central Government. Assam also has 5 National Highways while there is hardly one in Mizoram even that only half of it had been done. I think all of us will prefer if Aizawl-Lunglei is constructed through Sateek instead of going through Serchhip.

I would also like to point out that while some of our Officers in various Departments are efficient, many of them are taking their works very lightly. This is true even in P.W.D. Every year, budget estimate for P.W.D. used to be lakhs of rupees but the achievements of this Department used to be insignificant. I heard that there is a proposal to make this road into a state Highway, but at the same time, I am afraid that this take ages. Just recently road of Sateek had been black topped but the work was too bad and I am sure it will not last long. If this road is not properly maintained, developmental work for Southern part will always be slow. I therefore, would like to request the present Government to give more consideration to this road. I think it is good to contact Central road Congress for this. If the road is not good even the vehicles used to suffer and the cost of everything goes up. These days the work of Border Road is in progress. I think we'll surely success if we co-operate each other. Now the BRTF is taking up Khawbung and Vanlaiohai road. So the road which we are concerntrating will also be a lofe line for the West and South West. But if there is no road, these areas will be blocked for ever. The works of P.W.D. are very insignificant and till today. There is no proper road constructed by P.W.D. there are only E.G.S. road. We, the people are the suferer. Therefore, Pu Speaker, let us give importance to this road without considering party politics. Though this Assembly does not have power to convert this road into National Highway. I think there will be some ways if the Assembly pass unanimously and request the Central Government to take up this matter. Even the Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission seems to be very interested in it. We will refer the matter to the road Congress and BRTF. The development of state lies in the hands of the Minister. So let the Ministers think for the development of our state. Southern part of Mizoram is very much in need of good roads. Therefore, I would like to request all members of this August House to support this resolution leaving aside party politics though its success lies in the hands of the Central Government. Let me read out my resolution once again and if anyone wants to change the wordings, it does not matter but my main point is that I want to have road. The resolution is -

"This Assembly strongly desires/recommends that the Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road be converted into a National Highway by the Central Government".

So, Pu Speaker, I would like to request the August House to pass this resolution.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: Is there anyone to say something in this regard?

PU LALHUTHANGA : Pu Speaker, as mentioned by the mover of the resolution, Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road is very important. Resolution for this had been moved many times, in this House. Even in 1978 Pu Lalthanzauva had submitted a resolution to take up this road by BRTF. In 1984, the same resolution had been moved by the present mover. And in 1987, Pu F.Lalramliana had mentioned the same matter. As when the present Ministry was formed, Pu P.Lalbiaka had pointed out the importance of this road and now resolution is being moved. It seems this road is very important. But one thing is clear that our opinion used to alter while we are in the ruling or opposition benches. And we must know that even while we are in the ruling, our proposals and suggestions are often dropped. When Pu F.Lalramliana moved that "Let this road be taken up by the BRTF in MNF Ministry" the then House Leader said to hand over to BRTF will mean that they do not have confidence in the State Government.

When the Congress formed a Ministry in 1984, knowing the importance of this road, proposal to mechanise this road had been made with large sum of funds. After a short time, another Ministry was formed which had taken up the work of black topping for Ngaizel road, but the work was too bad. I myself saw while they were doing the work of black topping and I am sure that it will not last long. Last year, anew Ministry was formed this Ministry had opined that the P.W.D. can take up the construction of this road. Even the Vice Chairman of Planning Board had praised the work of P.W.D. If I am not mistaken, the Government is proposing 300 lakhs rupees for construction of this road and suggestion dah been submitted to the Central to prepare it as the standard of National Highway. As this matter is under consideration, I think it is good not to consider the matter as neglected. On the other hand, we can give advise to the Department and Minister in-charge regarding their works. I, therefore, think that it is not necessary to move the resolution in the House because the Government is taking steps for constructing this road. So, it will be pleasing if the mover could withdraw his resolution.

Thank you.

PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, I would like to support the resolution. We all know, how poor our state is. To some extent, it is true that if state Government's Department take up the construction of road, there will be some profits for the contractors even if the BRTF takes up the construction of road, fund is to be sanctioned from State Budget. But the resolution does not mean fund allocation from State Budget, it means that this road should be converted into National Highway, but it does not mean that we do not trust our P.W.D.

One of the Hon'ble Member had pointed out that this road had been constructed in the standard of National Highway. But Transport Department complained that the road is too small for Bus service. I do not think this can be specified as National Highway. If we go on like this, it is not possible to have this road as National treasure. There are many improvements to be done as the standard of National Highway. I think it will be good if at least one E.E. is posted to look after this work instead of simply making estimate from the table.

So, in my opinion there is no harm in passing the resolution to convert this road into National Highway, while other state can have five or six National Highways. There will be link road for some Villages and even P.W.D. will construct truckable road for other Village. Like this, the harvested vegetables can be brought to the market safely. So, being this the most significant road in our country, it is good to do our best to convert this road into National Highway. 300 lakh rupees which was sanctioned for improvement of the road can be diverted for constructing other truckable road. I am very happy when I think about the profits we are going to get. So, it is very important to convert this road into National Highway, it is important thing to be done first as it is not to be done from our Budget. Therefore, I would like to request the Hon'ble Members of the House to pass this resolution without considering party politics.

Thank you.

PU K.VANLALAUVA : Pu Speaker, the resolution submitted by the Hon'ble Member from Aizawl West I constituency is very important. As the development of our state is under consideration, it is not possible to go constituency wise. While fund allocation for each Department is limited, we are trying to take advantage from Central Government. The works done by the M.N.F. Ministry had been referred very often but after receiving suggestions and advices from various Officers, the Ministry come to know how do to things. And at that time it was thought that even P.W.D. could take up the work. But things were not going as expected and many problems had cropped up. P.W.D. is going to make revised estimate in the budget very soon and I am sure the estimate the amount will be high; on the other hand even if fund allocation is high, it can never be sufficient. The reason is that various steps had been taken for development. Therefore it is a good idea to convert this important road into National Highway. So that we can spend our Budget for our own purpose. It is clear that we'll soon want to convert even Aizawl-Champhai and Champhai-Khawbung roads into National Highway. Therefore, even while the Central Government is willing to help us, let us take the opportunity. As there is no proper road, people in these areas are still backwards. So if there is good road, the Living standard of people will be improved. Therefore, we can say that the people of Mizoram are demanding National Highway. It does not mean that we do not trust our P.W.D. but the Department has many works to do. As mentioned by the Hon'ble Members this road cannot be improved only by repairing. So, I would like to request this House to know the importance if this road and pass the resolution unanimously.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : There is only few minutes left and it will not be enough for one member. So we shall have time for rest and re-aemblem at 2 P.M.

Recess till 2:00 P.M.

2:00P.M.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall call upon Pu P.C.Zoram-sangliana.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you for giving me time to speak about the resolution moved by the Hon'ble Member from Aizawl West I constituency. In every Ministry we used to say about this Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Lunglei Road. Almost bench but Pu Deputy Speaker, last year, the resolution was moved by the ruling bench in Budget Session. This shows that the present Ministry is giving importance to this road. Some Members like Pu Zautea, Pu F.Lalramliana, Pu P.Lalbiaka and the present mover had moved the same resolution. If we look at carefully, we can clearly see the works done by the present Ministry. As already pointed out by some Members, people who live in Southern part of Mizoram slightly backward than those who live in Northern part of Mizoram. And this shows the importance of this resolution.

From the speech of the House Leader and from the reason of the withdrawal of the resolution, we can know that the Government is taking steps and 230 lakh rupees had been sanctioned last year for this purpose.

Considering the past, Pu F.Lalramliana moved a resolution in this House on 23rd March, 1987 that 'This Assembly is of the opinion that construction of Aizawl-Thenzawl-Lunglei road be handed over to the BRTF immediately for better improvement'. Till today, as moved by the mover of the resolution and as pointed out by many members, it is clear that we want to have better improvement for this road. But the then Hon'ble House Leader and who is the Opposition Leader at present objected the resolution many grounds. Remembering those who points and as the Government is still taking various steps for this road. I would like to request the mover of this resolution to withdraw his resolution.

Thank you.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you for giving me time to participate in the discussion of this resolution. Aizawl-Thenzawl-Lunglei road had been considered in every Ministry since District Council and various measures had been taken by each Ministry for the improvement of this road.

Some measures were praise worthy while some measures were not good enough. But we cannot blame each other for what had been done. What I would like to pointed out is that we cannot economize our fund if this road is converted into National Highway, whoseever take up the work. If it is converted into National Highway, the Central Government will have to take up the maitenance. So, the sanctioned fund which amounted more than 200 lakh rupees to improve this road can be diverted for other project.

I am also sure that some of the measures taken by the Government through P.W.D. will not be effective as expected. For example, Sialsuk had been made as Division Headquarter by running Office with one E.E. to supervise. But the Divisional headquarter had been shifted to Aibawk. If thing goes like this, it is clear that the progress of work cannot go fast.

So, as it will be more easy to request the Central Government to take up this road, I think it is good to pass this resolution by this House.

Thank you.

PU VAIVENGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I would like to say few things in regard to this resolution. Aizawl-Thenzawl road has been very important link road of Lunglei since British period. I used to think that while the BTRF constructed Lunglei road via Thenzawl but things had already been done as it is now. As mentioned by some of the Memebrs, the Thenzawl road has always been pointed out in every Ministry but every time it's been raise, the Ministry used to object it. So now also the matter should be considered carefully. If the BRTF can start the work of construction of road immediately, I think no Ministry will object to hand over the work to them. But as the BRTF has many works to do, it is clear that they will not be able to start the work immediately and also that they will not take up the construction of Thenzawl road. The other reason is that one of the main purpose of National Highway is inter-state convinient and as this is the case, it is meaningless to pass in the House that Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road be converted into National Highway.

In this connection, I also would like to point out some of the measures taken by the Ministry, the matter had been considred while preparing plan outlay. Now also preparation for 8th Five year Plan is still going on but final decision had not been made. Likewise steps are being taken even in regard to planning. As we all know, our state is poor and we are depending on the fund alloted by Central Government. So as our condition is like this, I do not think the Central Government is willing to give us National Highway specially for Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road.

PU LIANSUAMA
MINISTER

: Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you for giving me time to speak. As mentioned by the Hon'ble Member from Tlungvel constituency, Pu Deputy

Speaker, the same case had been considered in last year's budget session but the form it entered in the House was slightly different. As the matter had been considered as important, 200 lakh rupees had been sanctioned for P.W.D. for the current year. Regarding transfer of Division Headquarter which was pointed out by the Hon'ble Member from Champhai constituency, the matter as I remembered is like this, If there is Division Headquarter at Aibawk, the S.E. can supervise all the works done in the Western site. But as time passed on, as most of the works done in the west were success discuss, the Division Headquarter had been transferred to Sialsuk. Because of this, construction of Aibawk-Darlung-Sabual-Burapui road and Rawpuichhip-Kanghmun-Buarpui road which had been started were neglected. But it is pleasing that due to the steps taken by the new Ministry, P.W.D. is taking up the work of maintenance of this road with great zeal through the sanctioned fund for this is very insignificant.

Our contribution of funds for the development of our state and even the budget we are going to pass is very insignificant. The Central Government is providing even the salaries of the Ministers of our state. As our condition is like this, we are facing many problems but we are lucky that the new Ministry had accepted as original proposal.

As mentioned by the Hon'ble Member from Kawnpui constituency, proposal had been made by P.W.D. in 1983-84 for construction of Rawpuichhip-Kanghmun-Buarpui road, the estimated amount was 19 crore rupees and the expenditure was meant to be met from Central Road Fund. But there was no fund in the Central road fund, so the estimated amount was entered in Mizoram State Plan. We are expecting to get more provisions next year. As that is the case, even if it is possible to convert this road into National Highway, the questions is - from where we shall get the fund? As we all know, parliament is also having Budget Session, and I do not think it is possible to include the required amount for construction of National Highway in the Budget even if we want to do so. Therefore, it is better not to pass this resolution as it is not practicable.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER

: Now I shall call upon Chief Minister to wind up the discussion.

PU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

: Pu Deputy Speaker, I am glad that all of us give top priority to this Aizawl-Thenzawl-Lunglei road. From our discussion it is clear that we

want to have good road but there is slight difference how we want to take up the work the work. We have to bear in mind that there is no such different opinion in the House.

It should also be borne in mind that there is no distinction between ruling party and an opposition party members. Therefore, even in regard to the present resolution, we have to consider it carefully. If we pass the Aizawl-Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road to be converted into National Highway by the Central Government, one thing we have to bear in mind is that will the Central Government accept it. There are many things to be done in the present construction of Vairengte-Tuipang National Highway. Their progress is very slow. So while the Central Government is still having this work, I do not believe they will be able to take up another work.

There will not be an agency other than BRTF for executive agency. But I am sure even the BRTF will not be able to do the work in their present condition. They cannot do the maintenance of Seling to Tuipamukh Road and Tlabung-Borapansury-Chawngte road and others as they cannot get fund from Central Government and they told us that they are intending to hand over to the state Government. Therefore, as their condition is like this, I think it will be useless to pass this resolution because it is clear that they will not be able to take up the work. Even when the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi visited our state, he could not promise National Highway but he could only say that improvement will be made. Even if the Committee called by the Minister of state from Home Affairs, the matter had been considered carefully, and as the Prime Minister had promised, we agreed to do the improvement work. So we were told to submit estimates and plan for this to examine. So the estimate had been made by P.W.D. experts for 2992.41 lakh rupees. The estimated copy was sent to Ministry of Surface Transport on 5th July, 1989 and the same copies were sent to Planning Commission, surface Transport Ministry and Home Ministry but we have not received any information till today. Therefore, it is clear that they have problems even for improvement work not mentioning National Highway. So, there is no point to be in a hurry to pass the resolution.

I think it is good to point out the steps taken by the Government in brief, I myself had assured the House to give top most priority considering the importance given by the Members. So, 230 lakh rupees had been sanctioned for 1989-1990 and the necessary works had been started with immediate effect. The area of activity for each Division had been clearly made. Formation cutting, construction of culverts and other permanent works and soiling and metalling for Aizawl-Sialsuk had been completed. From Aizawl to 45 kms had been black topped. And in Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Vanva, formation cutting and construction of culvert with other permanent works had also been completed. In Lunglei side, formation cutting, drainage and other permanent works had been completed, soiling, metalling and black topping had been done upto 40 kms from Lunglei.

I also told the E.E. and his staff to camp at the site as they are the field staff. Even the S.E. was told to have spot visit at least once in a month. As top priority was given, even C.E., Additional C.E. and Secretary had visited in the spot. Besides these, even the Board Chairman had visited twice. Since our Officers had

such spot visit, we are satisfied with the works of state P.W.D. till today, but there are many improvements to be done. Even if this road is to be declared as National Highway, it has to be made as all wider road. Therefore, it is the opinion of the experts in the Department to make it as all wider road first. So we are going now according to this. Some Members had mentioned other states, it is good to compete with other states in a positive way. If we compare our National Highway with that of other States National Highway, the length of our National Highway is more than that of others. The length of our National Highway is more than 580-kms. Therefore, as pointed out by the Hon'ble Member from Tlungvel constituency, the most important purpose of National Highway is inter state convenient, and in this connection, I think it is important to press the Central Government to take up Seling-Tipaimukh road as National Highway because this road is a link road with Agartala.

Anyway, the specification of the width of state Highway and National Highway is same. In single lane, the width of formation cutting is 24 feet (7.20mts). and the surface the black topping is 12 feet (3.70mts). In intermediate lane, width for formation cutting is 24 feet, and the surface to be black topped is 16 feet. For double lane, width for formation cutting is 30 feet and to be black topped is 24 feet. So even if this road is declared as State Highway, its width will not be changed. Anyway, we all want this road as all weathered truckable road.

As I had pointed out earlier, our main difference is in choosing the agent to take up the work I am glad that all of us wanted to work for the benefit of the people. But because of some points I had mentioned, I would like to request the Hon'ble Member to withdraw his resolution for the time being.

Thank you Pu Deputy Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now I shall call upon mover of the resolution Pu J.Thanghuama.

PU J.THANGHUAMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I do not have much to say in the speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister who is also our House Leader. But I am glad to know that he had given top most priority for this road as well as for the well being of the people in this area and also the measures taken by the Government. Yet I think it is good to clarify some of the points pointed out by some of the Hon'ble Members.

I had given importance to this road since I was a member of M.D.C. Sometimes we used to be in a ruling party and sometimes in an opposition party, I had moved a resolution in 1984 to convert this road into National Highway, its still in the record. Pu F.Lalramliana proposed to amend the resolution, so an amendment was made. Like that, I had taken various steps. Even when we formed the Ministry,

was not fully agreed with the then House Leader but I had to obey the decision of the party. So, we tested the work of the PWD but we were not satisfied with the work of the PWD and I think even the House Leader had changed his opinion.

Last year, the Hon'ble Member Pu P. Lalbiaka moved a resolution, but it was for State Highway. The present resolution is for National Highway but we can consider it as same to some extent. But for State Highway, funds should be sanctioned by the State Government while the Central Government has to sanction for National Highway. This is the main difference. The Hon'ble Member from Phuldungsei constituency had pointed out that 200 crore rupees had been sanctioned even the Hon'ble Member from Tlungvel constituency and Hon'ble Vice-Chairman Planning Board had pointed out that there are sufficient funds. But what matters is not the quantity but it is the quality.

It was pointed out by some Members that even if we pass the resolution for National Highway, there is no more time to include in the Budget for this year. We all know that it is quite right but at the same time, we must know that Budget Session will be held even next year. So it is a good idea to give hint to the Central Government.

If this road is meant to improve, even if Samlukhai road is black topped, it is too dangerous for Bus because the grade is too bad. Truly speaking, I am really discouraged by PWD. Therefore, though we do not know whether we will be successful or not, I think it is good to request the Central Government. So, I request even the ruling Member to vote for this resolution.

Thank you.

PU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

: Pu Deputy Speaker, I would like say few things regarding Transfer of Sialsuk Sub-Division to Aibawk so

that there will be no confusion. Sialsuk Sub-Division was intended to transfer for public interest. Aibawk is selected for compact area and it is more easy from Aibawk to supervise the works of P.W.D.

Regarding the present resolution, it is very important because we all want to have good road. But as we had already said, let us first try to do by ourselves through P.W.D. and if we can try another way.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER

: More than ten Members had participated in the discussion of the resolution moved by Pu J.Thanghuama. The resolution which reads

as follows - "This Assembly strongly desires/recommends that the Aizawl -Sialsuk-Thenzawl-Haulawng-Lunglei road be converted into National Highway by the Central Government".

Will be put to the vote of the House. So, those who agree may say so. And is there anyone who do not agree? Well the resolution moved by Pu J.Thanghuama has fallen through.

We have finished today's programme now. Our Sitting will be resumed at 10:30 on Monday.

House adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

...31/-