

SIXTH SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, THE 23RD JANUARY, 1991
AT 10:30 A.M.

PRESENT

Pu Rokamlova, Speaker at the chair, 9 Ministers and 21 Members were present.

QUESTIONS

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

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

2. PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU to present to the House the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth Reports of the Committee on Public Accounts.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

(Bills for consideration and passing)

3. Dr H.THANSANGA to move that The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of the Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1991 be taken into consideration.

Also

to move that the Bill be passed.

4. Dr H.THANSANGA to move that The Salaries and Allowances of the Leader of Opposition Bill, 1991 be taken into consideration.

Also

to move that the Bill be passed.

5. Dr H.THANSANGA to move that The Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip Bill, 1991 be taken into reconsideration.

Also

to move that the Bill be passed.

6. PU J.LALSANGZUALA to move that The Mizoram Co-Operative Societies Bill, 1991 be taken into consideration.

Also

to move that the Bill be passed.

S P E A K E R

: "A perverse man spreads strife,
and a whisperer separates close
friends.

A man of violence entices his
neighbour,
and leads him in a way that is not
good.

He who winks his eyes plans
perverse things,
he who compresses his lips brings
evil to pass.

A hoary head is a crown of
glory;
it is gained in a righteous life.

He who is slow to anger is better
than the mighty, and the who rules
his spirit than he who takes a city.

The lot is cast into the lap, but
the decision is wholly from the Lord"

Proverbs 16 : 28-33.

Now we shall have time for
Questions and Answers. Starred question No. 45 will be
asked by Pu Aichhinga.

PU AICHHINGA

: Pu Speaker, starred question
No. 45 -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Power and
Electricity Department be pleased to state -

(a) Did the Government make arrangement to re-
place Builum village of Kolasib circle which had
been displaced by Serlui 'B' Hydel Project ?

(b) If so, where ?

S P E A K E R

: The concern Minister will answer.

PU LALHUTHANGA

: Pu Speaker, for the reply to
question -

MINISTER

(a) Yes.

(b) At Bawktlang near Kolasib.

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. Does the Government intend to give C.I Sheets or other aids to them ?

PU LALHUTHANGA : Pu Speaker, the site for replacement had been proposed by Revenue
MINISTER Department and LAD. Their necessity will be considered after they are shifted.

S P E A K E R : Its clear enough. Now I shall call upon Pu J.H.Rothuama to ask starred question No. 46.

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, starred question No. 46 -

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

Amount of Bills pending in each division of Public Works Department.

S P E A K E R : As Pu Lal Thanhawla, Chief Minister is absent, the authorised Minister Pu J.Lalsangzuala will give the answer.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, amount of Bills pending
MINISTER in each division is as follows -

1.	Mamit Division	-	Rs	43,01,335.00
2.	Kawrthah Division	-	Rs	25,16,581.00
3.	Kolasib Division	-	Rs	95,96,316.00
4.	Khawzawl Division	-	Rs	1,21,46,429.00
5.	Saitual Division	-	Rs	1,58,02,151.00
6.	Serchhip Division	-	Rs	64,75,991.00
7.	Mechanical I Division	-	Rs	8,47,364.00
8.	Mechanical II	-	Rs	41,92,367.00
9.	Saiha Division	-	Rs	31,03,219.00
10.	Tlabung Division	-	Rs	82,33,894.00
11.	Lunglei Division	-	Rs	48,08,726.00
12.	Building Project	-	Rs	23,97,018.00
13.	Building	-	Rs	32,43,141.00
14.	Store	-	Rs	1,73,400.00
15.	Road	-	Rs	86,75,604.00
16.	Hmuifang Division	-	Rs	59,88,003.00

T O T A L - Rs 1,26,01,539.00

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. Do we have Manual Code separately for Public Works Department in Mizoram ? If we do not have and use Central Public Work Department Manual and Code, it is written in Central Public Work Department Manual Volume II Section 30. Payment of Contractor that any Bill for contractors should be paid within 30 days. This had been issued in agreement form 7 and 8. While there is such condition. What is the reason for such amount of Bill pending ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, Mizoram does not have its own Manual so we are using Central Manual. There are so much pendings because the timing of completion of work and preparation of estimate is not the same. In some places, works under 5th five year plan had not been completed till today. As price escalation is higher every year, it is necessary to make Revised Estimate because of this original estimate which is in the budget which can not complete the works and this caused pending of bills.

PU TAWNLUIA : Pu Speaker, the Government owes this much amount. Had all works been completed for all these ? If so, why advance bill are given for present estimates ? Does the Government owes these too ? If so, why ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, some of them are on going scheme. As we see in Budget Provision and other Public Work Department every work has separate provisions because of this it is not possible to mix up the present work and others which are not completed. Therefore, the amount owed in the past can not be paid by the present estimate which is in budget provision.

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Another supplementary question Pu Speaker. The Contractor Association is urging the Government to release those pending Bills. What is the intention of the Government in this regard ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the Government had moved our needs to the Central Government. Those Bills cannot be released now because we do not have any sanction. They will be given as soon as we have fund from Central Government.

S P E A K E R : Starred question No. 47 will be asked by Pu Rualchhina.

PU RUALCHHINA : Pu Speaker, starred question No. 47 -

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

(a) For what purpose did the Government cut salaries of Government servants and police recently ?

(b) When will they be repay ?

(c) Will the Government give arrears ?

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

PU C.L.RUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, there's no cutting of salaries just recently.

PU RUALCHHINA : Pu Speaker, there was cutting of salaries that is why I would like to know the reason. In Police Department, an order was issued to cut Rs 500/- and in some educational institutions there was an order to cut Rs 100/- I therefore, would like to know the purpose and reason.

PU C.L.RUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, as pointed out by our House Leader, we, the Mizos are not interested in saving. Even the Central Government wants to give special attention to saving, and urged various state Governments to encourage Government servants in this regard. In order to promote saving scheme, circulation had been issued many times. As the Central Government gives so much importance, the Mizoram Government is also giving importance to it. Therefore, some departments like

Police and other have started doing saving in Finance Institution and Small savings. Some had deposited in Post Office for five years. In National Saving Certificate, the term is five years and the interest rate is 12% which is compound interest. The monthly income scheme at Post Office is one of the most popular means for saving. If a person deposited Rs 10,000/- he will get Rs 100/- pm as interest. He will also get a bonus of Rs 1,000/- after 6 years. We feel it is good to have saving like this which also have some interest. We, therefore, encourage Government servants to do like this.

PU RUALCHHINA : Pu Speaker, I have got one more supplementary question to ask. While it is saving scheme why did they make an order as if it is compulsory? In the meantime I think it is better to explain to various departments. Can the government not explain the matter to the departments?

PU C.L.RUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the government had explained the matter. The information department had issued circulation with explanation. In Police Department, the circulation which can be interpreted as an order had been withdrawn immediately. Therefore, this is not compulsory and a training had been conducted.

S P E A K E R : Its clear enough. Now I shall call upon Pu Zoramthanga to ask starred question No. 48.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, starred question No. 48 is -

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

Had all the fund amounting to 10 crore rupees for Drainage Scheme at Aizawl, been spent?

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalsangzuala will reply.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, answer for starred question No. 48 is No.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker,
What is the amount of the remaining
fund ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, from the sanctioned
MINISTER fund, 7 crore 55 lakhs rupees
had been spent and the balance
is 2 crore 44 lakhs 92 thousand
rupees.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, if I am not mistaken,
we spent round about two crore
rupees in our time which had
changed the drainage system at
Aizawl. Now about seven crore rupees had been spent but
I do not notice any change. What I would like to know is
had the fund been diverted for other things or had the
fund been really used for constructing drainage system ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the fund had been
MINISTER spent as follows - In 1987-88
31 lakh 58 thousand rupees had
been spent for Aizawl town. In
1988-89, 2 crore 99 lakh and 70 thousand rupees had been
spent for Aizawl and for Lunglei 23 lakh 97 thousand rupees
had been spent. So the total for 1988-89 was 3 crore 23
lakh and 67 thousand rupees. In 1989-90, 2 crore, 44 lakh
and 84 thousand was spent for Aizawl and for Lunglei it was
30 lakh rupees and the total amount for 1989-90 was 2 crore
47 lakh and 84 thousand rupees.

In 1990-91, 1 crore 44 lakh and
99 thousand rupees had been spent and 160 lakhs rupees had
been spent for Aizawl town road.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker.
In my calculation, the round about
figure for 1989-90 and 1990-91 for
Aizawl town is 3 crore rupees.
Though it is not possible to give a list now, will it be
possible from the office to give me a list later.

PU VANLALNGENA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker.
DEPUTY SPEAKER While there are many debts in
various divisions why don't we
use the fund sanctioned for 1987
which amounted to 2 crore rupees ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, as demanded by the
MINISTER Hon'ble member Pu Zoramthanga,
a list will be given to him. In
regard to Pu Vanlalngena's question,
the 10 crore rupees was not sanctioned for one year.

PU AICHHINGA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker.
It seemed the fund was not from
PWD. LAD sanctioned it for Urban
Development. But why did the PWD
spent it as it wishes.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, in Government's rule,
MINISTER there are works which are allotted
to PWD and can be taken up only
by PWD. Because of this, big
works which involve large amount of fund are transferred
to PWD.

S P E A K E R : I think we can leave our present
topic now. The next question
starred question No. 49 will be
asked by Pu Romawia.

PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, starred question
No. 49 is -

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

(a) When will Lunglei-Thenzawl Road 27.50-52kmp
S.M.B.T(Soling, Metalling, Black topping) work
be finished ?

(b) Are stones used for this work are good
enough ? If not, what action will be taken ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, answer to starred
MINISTER question No. 49 is -

(a) Lunglei-Thenzawl Road is expected to finish
during 1991-92 Financial Year and

(b) The stones used for this work were tested
in the laboratory of Public Works Department
and found good enough for the work.

- PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. The Chief Engineer had on the spot visit and found the stones were not good. Even the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the spot and some stones were put aside while the Chief Minister visited because they were not good. I myself an MLA from this constituency saw this. My question is why some stones were put aside when the Chief Minister visited the spot for all the stones were tested in laboratory and found good ?
- PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, only the good stones are used and the bad ones are rejected.
- PU LALRAWNLIANA : Pu Speaker, the bad stones which were put aside when the Chief Minister had spot visit were re-used. Had not this been verified ?
- PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the Government did not know about this. But from the information given by the member just now, necessary actions will be taken.
- Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu speaker, another supplementary question. How long would black topping, solling and metalling take from Lunglei side ? And when shall we get test result for this particular work ?
- PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I cannot say the exact measurement as the work is still going on.
- In regard to the quality of stones, they were tested in the laboratory of PWD and found good enough.
- PU TAWNLUIA : Pu Speaker, who are the contractors for this work ?
- PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I do not know all the names of the contractors.

S P E A K E R : Now Pu Zosiama Pachuau will ask question No. 50.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, question No. 50 is -

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

Whether the Government of Mizoram has recommended for holding Assembly Bye Election in Tuipang and Aizawl South II A/C to the Election Commission.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, answer for question
MINISTER No. 50 is - Yes, the Government of Mizoram has recommended holding Assembly Bye Election in 1-Tuipang (ST) and 40 - Aizawl South II (ST) A/C to the Election Commission.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Supplementary question Pu Speaker. When did the Government make recommendation and does the Government know the effect of the recommendation ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the recommendation
MINISTER had been submitted on 22nd November. But the Election Commission referred another day and that is under consideration.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : In my question, I asked about the two constituencies. But unfortunately, our Hon'ble member from Aizawl West I passed away. What about Bye Election in this constituency ?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, what is the month for
bye election recommended by the Government ?

S P E A K E R : Can the Minister in-charge answer it ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, as the Hon'ble member
MINISTER from Aizawl West I constituency
had passed away, it is decided by
the Government to hold Bye Elec-
tion in three constituencies.

In regard to the question asked
by Hon'ble member Pu Zosiyama Pachuau, date of election
will be announced by Election Commission.

S P E A K E R : Now I shall call upon Pu Rual-
chhina to ask starred question
No. 51.

PU RUALCHHINA : Pu Speaker, starred question
No. 51 is -

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

Why did the Government terminate the work of
Luangmual Internal Road which is under construc-
tion ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the work of Luangmual
MINISTER Internal Road had been finished.
At first 11.84 lakhs rupees had
been estimated for this road. But
the area is not sufficient for truck road; therefore, it
is meant for light vehicle. The length of this road is
1 km and 500 metre in which three culverts were made. For
this, 4,34,000 rupees had been spent.

PU RUALCHHINA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker.
Though the hon'ble Minister had said
that the work had been completed but
even half of the work had not been
completed. Even for light vehicle, only few repairs had been
made. Because of all these, I asked the question. I do not
know whether the Hon'ble Minister get wrong information but
I feel it is not good to give wrong information to the House.
It can be verified now. Of course few culverts had been
made. The road itself is not readied for light vehicle,
now also it is too rough even for light vehicle. Proposal
had been made with E.E., S.E and Chief Engineers as this
road is very important. At least it will be good if half
of it is completed. Therefore, I suggest to form a group
to have spot verification.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, as suggested by the
MINISTER Hon'ble member, Department will
see the matter.

S P E A K E R : Now lets go to questior No. 52 -
Pu J.H.Rothuama will ask.

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, starred question
No 52 is -

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

Number of the following vehicles under Public
Works Department -

- (1) Bull Dozer
- (2) Road Roller
- (3) J.C.B.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalsangzuala, Minister in-
charge will answer.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the Department is
MINISTER having 19 Bulldozers, 47 Road
Rollers and 10 J.C.B.

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker.
I would like to know the number
of serviceable vehicles out of
the mentioned number. And I
would also like to know whether there is any intention to
purchase more of these vehicles.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, we have various kind
MINISTER of bulldozer. Now we have one
D-31 which is in good condition.
There are 12 D-50 out of which
7 of them are serviceable and 4 of them are being repaired
and 1 is not serviceable. We have 6 D-80 out of which 4
of them are serviceable and 2 of them are under repair.
In regard to road roller, out of 47, 32 of them are ser-
viceable and 2 of them are under repair while 13 of them
are to be condemned. We have 10 J.C.B. out of which 5
of them are serviceable 3 of them are being repaired and
2 of them are to be condemned.

In regard to the question, whether to purchase more or not, we are planning to purchase more so we are checking the condition of our fund.

S P E A K E R : Now Pu R.Romawia will ask question No. 53.

PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, starred question No 53 -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Personnel & Administrative Reforms Department be pleased to state -

(1) Does the Mizoram Government give financial assistance to those who passed IAS Preliminary Exam from Mizoram as given by other states ?

(2) If so, the amount given to each person ? and

(3) If not, the reason thereof.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, answer for starred MINISTER question No. 53 is -

(1) No

(2) Does not arise

(3) The question of providing financial assistance to those successful candidates has not been examined by the Government of Mizoram as no such proposals or claims have been received by this Government.

PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, our neighbouring states like Manipur give Rs 2,500/- and Assam Rs 5,000/- respectively. I think this will encourage our young educated men and women. Since there is a question, will the Government take steps to do this ?

PU J.LALSANCZUALA : Pu Speaker, as suggested by the MINISTER Hon'ble member, we will look into this matter.

S P E A K E R : Now I shall call upon Pu J.H.Ro-
thuama to ask starred question
No. 54.

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, starred question No 54 is -

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

- (a) Had earth cutting work for Rengtekawn - Bairabi state highway been completed ?
- (b) If not, will it be completed before opening Rail station ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, earth cutting for Rengtekawn - Bairabi State Highway is not completed. Secondly, Railway Department had not given us any information in regard to the time for opening Bairabi Rail Station. Therefore, it is not possible to say when it will be completed.

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker, The Hon'ble Minister had said that the opening date for Rail station is not known. But if I am not mistaken, I learned that the station is readied and even the train can reach it. Only the rail track is not finished. Therefore, I would like to know how long is there to be done ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the train had been tested but in some places, the track needs some repair.

Formation cutting had been done about 27½ km and soling had been done for 16½ kilometres. 13 kilometres had been metalled while 2½ km had been black topped. We are planning to finish Pangbalkawn - Bairabi during 1991. And in order to work faster, we are mechanising this work.

PU AICHHINGA : Supplementary question Pu Speaker, As we have just heard, some of the track which had been made are to be repaired. Pu Speaker, in my opinion, it will it be better to widen the old track which had been abandoned earlier instrad of repairing the present track ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member will be borne in mind.

S P E A K E R : Now we shall take up question No 55. Pu Aichhinga will ask.

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, starred question No 55 is -

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

(a) When will Kolasib to Bairabi State Highway be finished ?

(b) Is there any intention by the Government to re-open the Kolasib - Builum PWD which had remained blocked since last monsoon ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, answer for starred question No 55 is -

(a) Kolasib to Bairabi state highway is expected to finish within 1991.

(b) Yes.

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, its been two years since it was blocked. It is good if the Government intends to re-open it this year. But it seems the Government had not made Estimates and other necessary proposals for this till today. I, therefore, would like to know when will this road be re-opened ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I can not fix the date to re-open it. Anyway, the Government will look the matter.

S P E A K E R : Now Pu J.H.Rothuama will ask question No. 56.

PU J.H.ROTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, starred question No 56 is -

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

The Government sanctioned Rs 60,00,000/- for black topping of Khawzawl - East Lungdar Road. How did PWD take steps in this work ? How long had been black topped ? And how much fund had been spent for this work ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, Rs 60,00,000/- is
MINISTER sanctioned not only for black
topping. The estimated amount
include side drain and also to
construct Hume Pipe Culvert. Now Rs 24,03,4000/- had
been sanctioned for black topping and metalling upto 10km
Rs 8,75,500/- is been estimated to construct RCC bridge.
Work for metalling has been started but the work of black
topping has not been started. So a sum of Rs 6,24,000/-
had been spent in the current financial year.

PU J.H.RCTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question
The road which we are talking
about is very important specially
for eastern part of Mizoram and
it is the supply line of Lungdar village. In 1989-90, a
sum of 50 lakhs rupees had been estimated for black topping
but not even a hand-breadth had been black topped while all
the estimated amount had been spent for nothing. In 1990-
01, 60 lakhs rupees had been estimated for this road and the
estimated amount was meant for black topping upto Chawngtlai,
I myself had tried A.A.. But till today, the Government had
not taken any steps, I therefore, would like to know whether
the Government will surely finish the work of black topping
for this road ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, let me explain in
MINISTER detail. 6 crore rupees had been
sanctioned for metalling 10 km, for
black topping 5 km and construction
of 20 culverts.

A sum of Rs 40,22,300/- has been estimated for soling and
metalling of 18-26 km and 29-30 km.

A sum of Rs 309200/- had been spent
for retaining wall and to lower a road by 675 kmp. And a
sum of Rs 6,24,000/- had been spent in this year for purchase
of 20 metric ton of bitumen, construction of 2 retaining
walls, 3 labour camps and for the purchase of 3 quintal of
gelatine.

In regard to its completion, though
I cannot say when it will be completed, Pu Speaker, we are
trying to finish within this year.

PU TAWNLUIA : Pu Speaker, truly speaking, the
Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble members
and even P.A.C. had visited this
road, so we all know the condition
of this road. What I would like to know is why didn't they
use 50 lakh rupees which was in 1989-90 Budget for this road ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, as the work of this
MINISTER road is not progressing, some
fund were diverted for other works.
During last financial year
Rs 5,98,000/- had been spent for permanent works while others
were transferred for minimum needs programme.

PU TAWNLUIA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question, why had 50 lakh rupees under 1989-90 for K.E.L. Road been diverted? and why had this road been neglected?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, its not been neglected
MINISTER but as there are some other works, the funds were diverted.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Supplementary question Pu Speaker, how much amount will be diverted from 60 lakh rupees for this financial year?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, we had reviewed about
MINISTER the estimates and we do hope that the fund will not need diversion.

And Pu Speaker, I would also like to inform all the Hon'ble Members that there are many pending bills.

S P E A K E R : Pu R.Romawia will now ask question No. 57.

PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, starred question No 57 is -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Personnel & Administrative Reforms Department be pleased to state -

(1) Whether the appointment of Chairman, Members/ Secretary of the Mizoram Public Service Commission (MPSC) are made?

(2) Who will conduct the MCS (Mizoram Civil Service) Examination, 1990-1991?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, answer for starred
MINISTER question No. 57 is -

(1) No.

(2) Since the Mizoram Public Service Commission is not yet set up, the MCS Examination 1991 will be conducted by the Government of Mizoram in the DP & AR.

PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, circular had been circulated many times in regard to the formation of M.P.S.C. Even limitations of the M.P.S.C. rule had been published in Gazette many times. Rules of M.P.S.C. had been made in May 1989 but this rule had not

been enforced till today. Even in the current session, the Hon'ble Chief Minister had simply said the limitations of this rule. I, therefore, would like to know what are the difficulties for forming Mizoram Public Service Commission and also the difficulties faced for appointing its Chairman and Secretary ?

In regard to the Mizoram Civil Service Examination conducted by the Government of Mizoram, what is the intention of the Government ? If Ministers are to have quotas, shall we, the MLAs, have quotas too ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the Public Service Commission had not been constituted. When the hon'ble Governor addressed the House, he said it is being constituted. I hope it can be constituted within this year. And we are trying to form all the necessary frame works for Public Service Commission before its been constituted.

In regard to the quotas of Ministers as asked by the hon'ble member, the Government is intending to go in order of merit. Therefore, the question asked by the hon'ble member is out of question.

PU R.ROMAWIA : Pu Speaker, one more supplementary question. I heard that there is an intention to practice unfair means in the coming examination. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to promise the House that the M.C.S. Examination will be fair and it will be in order of merit.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble Minister had said that the conductors of the M.C.S. Examination are our big officers. In the meantime, as the question raised by the hon'ble member showed that they are not reliable, I think it is better not to record that portion of his speech.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, members of the Committee constituted to conduct M.C.S. examination are top officers to whom we put our trust.

PU TAWNLUIA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. While the MPSC is being constituted, why does the Government try to conduct MCS examination. And secondly, it is rumoured that a senior serving IAS officer is to be appointed as Chairman of MPSC. Is it true ?

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, another supplementary question. It appears that there are many candidates for the coming MCS examination. In the meantime, there are no works for MCS Officers in Mizoram Government and while some of the MCS Officers are hindrance for Government Officers, is it necessary to conduct MCS examination hurriedly ?

S P E A K E R : Let the concern Minister answer it ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, we have many officers
MINISTER posts to be filled up. As we do not have Public Service Commission, the Government is compelled to conduct this examination. The selection of members for MPSC is under consideration but a clear decision had not been made till today.

In regard to the question asked by the hon'ble member Pu Aichhinga, all the MSC officers are to be trained to shoulder all responsibilities in state level civil administration. As that is the case, the MCS Officers are the backbone in state administration.

PU TAWNLUIA : Pu Speaker, just one more point. Can a serving officer be appointed as Chairman of Public Service Commission ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, a serving officer can
MINISTER not be appointed as Chairman of Public Service Commission.

S P E A K E R : Now Pu Aichhinga will ask question No. 58.

PU AICHHINGA : Pu Speaker, starred question No. 58 is -

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

a) Why Village Council Election had not been held in some of the H.P.C. Demand Area ?

b) In how many villages the nominated seat for village council had not been appointed and the reason thereof ?

c) Is there any intention to amend the Electoral Roll for Village Council as a whole ?

S P E A K E R : The Minister in-charge
Fu Lalhuthanga will answer it.

PU LALHUTHANGA : Fu Speaker, question no (a) had
MINISTER already been answered. And answer
for (b) There are 53 villages in
Aizawl District and 17 villages in
Lunglei District which had not filled up the nominated seat.
The reason for this is in some villages the number of elected
members from each party are of equal number so there is none
to form the Council. And in some villages, the nominated
seat are not filled up because of the difference of recommen-
dation made by the party and an Acting President. (c) Yes.

PU AICHHINGA : Fu Speaker, supplementary ques-
tion. In regard to filling up of
nominated seat for Village Council,
it is written in the ordinance,
there will be ten members particularly for Bungkawn and Hnah-
thial village councils. This means that these two villages
will have 8 elected members and 2 nominated members each.
But now these two village councils have 11 members each which
means they appointed 3 members each for their respective
nominated seats. I therefore, would like to know the reason
for this.

Next, in West Darngawn village,
three of the elected members were MNF and one was Congress.
One of the MNF members was said to join Congress I party.
But he himself denied this. Yet a Congressman was appointed
for the nominated seat. Can this be cancelled ?

Lastly, Pangzawl village had 1 ct.
elected 3 MNF and one each from Congress I and J.D. The
MNF formed the Council and they even appointed an Acting
President. In the meantime, Congress members made recommend-
ation for the nominated seat from MNF party. So, instead
of appointing a recommended person of the Acting President,
the Congress Party's recommended person was appointed for
the nominated seat. I, therefore, would like to ask whether
this can also be cancelled ?

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Fu Speaker, supplementary ques-
tion. From the very beginning
of the preparation for the V.C.
election which was held recently,
there were some misfortunes. There were cases of ballot
box being stolen away and some cases of polling officer and
returning officer being kidnapped, all these are inter-linked.

I, therefore, would like to know the steps taken by the Government regarding all these cases.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, just one point. In the last V.C. Election, 18 years was included in the Electoral Roll but at the last moment, it was decided to exclude 18 years from the Electoral Roll and it was again included. All these resulted in extra work and hardship for the officials. I, therefore, would like to request the Ministry to **take** steps that such disorder should not be repeated while preparing Electoral Roll.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Just one question Pu Speaker, The Legal Cell Chairman and Secretary of the MNF Party Headquarter suggested to the Government to exclude 18 years of age from Electoral Roll. Can this be a reason for such disorder ?

S P E A K E R : All questions were asked and only one question is left unanswered. If the House permits, that too will be answered though the question hour is over.

PU LALHUTHANGA : Pu Speaker, it is laid down in the Rules that Government can allocate a nominated seat but it does not indicate to whom this seat is to be allocated. We are practising this procedure for a long time. But now all of us want to practice this more meaningfully while we tried to achieve cent per cent, improvement still there were some complaints in two/three villages and the Government is trying to investigate this. I would like the hon'ble members to note down this point that the Government does not intend to appoint the favoured party to form a Council. Among 438 V.C's from 300 villages, complaints have come from two or three villages only; this clearly shows the improvement we have made and I hope it would be a good thing if the people know about this.

Question was raised from yesterday as to why there are three nominated seats in Bungkawn and Hnahthial villages instead of two nominated seats. But it is clearly mentioned in the Rules which was passed yesterday about the number of nominated seats a V.C. can have. It is also mentioned the number of members a village having 900 households and above can have and the number of nominated seats to be allotted. While there are some having 4 elected members and 1 nominated seat, there are others who

have 2 nominated seats. That was the same procedure adopted by our officers in calculating the number of nominated seats to be allotted to Bungkawn and Hnahthial.

The hon'ble member from Sangau constituency had mentioned the controversy regarding the Electoral Roll that was true to some extent. Even the Assembly Session had approved the inclusion of 18 years of age and the Government has been preparing the Electoral Roll accordingly. Unfortunately, the Governor of Mizoram who is the representative of the Union Government disapproved the proposal, still preparation of Electoral Roll was initiated so that we may be ready to follow any instruction from the Union Government in regard to the inclusion of 18 years of age. This preparation of election did not hamper the routine work of the Department. The hon'ble member from Tlungvel constituency has been raising question regarding the stealing away of ballot box and paper. This is the first time for such incident. I would like to request those responsible for this matter not to do it again and even those who had instigated them not to do it again.

S P E A K E R : The question hour is over, now and there can be no other supplementary question. So I shall call upon Pu Zosiana Pachuau.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, please give chance to the Opposition Leader, Pu Zoramthanga to explain his experience regarding non-availability of vehicle for him and taxi fare he was charged at Mizoram House, Delhi.

S P E A K E R : The matter had been pointed out the other day and we decided to discuss it for some other day. So now let us discuss this matter for few minutes.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, though the incident seemed to be unimportant, I would like to explain it as it can happen to all of us. I was there for Medical treatment. As I did not have a vehicle to go to the Hospital, I asked the Residence Commissioner gave me twice but he could not arrange more than this as I had to stay a bit longer than I expected. The Assistant Liaison Officer, Pu John Paul told me that he will arrange a Taxi as they used to do since they can not provide me a vehicle. I was also told to sign after using the taxi as we used to do in using a car. After I reached Aizawl, they sent me a Bill

for that taxi fare amounting to Rs 2,000/- As I had said earlier, though it was not much, I think it will be good to have proper guidelines in regard to allotment of vehicle for the Ministers and MLAs.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA MINISTER : This incident is a very serious matter. This concerned all of us and we have to be clear about this for the Government also, it is good to have proper guidelines in regard to the privileges to be enjoyed by the MLAs. We feel bad if we are not treated as we are supposed to be treated. I would like to request various Mizoram Houses to treat us as we are supposed to be treated whether we are ruling MLAs or opposition MLAs. The bill they had charged for taxi fare is not much for Delhi as in the case of Pu Zoramthanga. In the meantime, we must know that though we are entitled such privileges, we are not supposed to use for private affairs like for shopping etc. The present matter, therefore, is not needed to be discussed now. I think it will be included in the Bill which we are going to discuss later.

S P E A K E R : Now, I shall call upon Pu Zosiana Pachuau.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, the Mizoram Government issued the following notice on 5th July, 1990.

To,

Residence Commissioner,
Government of Mizoram
Circular Road, Chanakyapuri,
New Delhi (II)
Liaison Officer,
Calcutta, Guwahati, Shillong and Silchar.

Subj : Entitlement for occupation of Mizoram House, Houses and Provision thereof.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Consultative Committee for this Department in its meeting, Dated 10.5.90 has suggested that M.L.A should be entitled to the occupation of VIP Suite, AC Room in Mizoram House while they are on duty. It has therefore, been decided that henceforth, sitting M.L.A. shall be included in Annexure - I of warrant precedence for entitlement of Mizoram House they shall be entitled to the occupation of VIP Suite/AC Room and use of Government Vehicles attached to Mizoram Houses (Speaker : You have to give that copy for House Property). Yes, Pu Speaker, I will give it gladly. The present Ministry is praiseworthy for issuing this kind of notice because no other Ministry had issued such order/notice before. In the

meantime, it is clear that to practice such order/notice is not that easy.

The incident met by the hon'ble member is regretful. We have to find out the responsible officer. Why should he still held his office after treating the representative of public like that? It is a challenge for the Ministry to take action against this officer. I do not think such incident will occur in other states.

It is well known that we, the MLAs do not often go to either Calcutta or Delhi or Gauhati. Even if we happen to go, it will be on a reasonable ground. The hon'ble member who met this incident too had gone on Medical ground. Therefore, I am asking again why this officer who badly treated the hon'ble member still hold his office?

Pu Speaker, I also would like to point out that we used to have another common incident. Whether it is in Shillong or Gauhati or any other Mizoram House, VIP rooms and next to VIP rooms are often occupied by the relative of our Ministers, even the MLAs and L.P. can not refuse their lodging. This matter should also be checked and I also would like to mention that when our Ministers are on tour, it will be unpleasant for other MLAs who accompanied you if you give more importance to other officers who accompanied you. It is important if we are placed below the officers, if we are going like this what is the use of warrant of Precedence? the Ministry should know that we, the MLAs used to face problems because of those who are not in the list of warrant of Precedence.

In regard to the present matter, I think it is good to take an action against the officer who charged a taxi fare because this concerns not only Pu Zoramthanga personally, but all the MLAs this matter is very serious what was the reason of non availability of car for a member while the Residence Commissioner used a car as much as he want? I therefore, strongly urge the Government to take action immediately.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : In our present sitting we do not have much business to do. I would like to thank. All the members for your deligence and Co-operation.

Even the conductor of the House gave enough time to the members its time now to be clear in whose hand lies the Govt. of Mizoram. If the MLAs who are the representative of the people are neglected and oppressed by anyone, that society will collapse in democracy, if the representatives of the people feel neglected, it is their responsibility to uplift their status. We will have more time for discussing the Bill which we are going to consider and we may add our privileges while discussing the Bill if we want to do so.

If we can clear this matter now it will be good particularly for the members in future I am sure all of you will be having something to say in the Bill which we are going to discuss. In regard to the taxi fare charged to Pu Zoramthanga, the real meaning is that the House is asked to pay that taxi fare, but even if the House wants to pay the fare on behalf of Pu Zoramthanga we do not have fund at present. This also is to be considered carefully. But since we are Legislators who can pass various bills as I think it is our duty to include in the next Bill we are going to discuss. If we can even include in the demand for Budget Session.

On the other hand, I would like to mention that it is our fault if we are oppressed by some officers in our way of serving the people. Therefore it is our duty to make proper guidelines in order to safeguard our dignity and status so in my opinion, it is better to give more time in the next business which also concerns about the present matter, can we agree to my decision ?

PU C.L.RUALA : Pu Speaker, your decision is very good.
MINISTER

S P E A K E R : Then I would like to request all members to be ready for next business. Now I shall call upon Pu Zosiama Pachuau to present reports of Public Accounts Committee.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, I Chariman of Public Accounts Committee as authorise present the 16th 17th and 18th Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1984-85 relating to the following Departments - Agriculture, Public Works Department and Power & Electricity Department.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu Zosiama Pachuau had presented the reports in the House. Let the copy be distributed. Now I shall call upon Dr H. Thansanga to ask permission of the House for consideration of his Bills.

Dr H.THANSANGA : Pu Speaker, before I ask the permission to consider the Bills I have one thing to ask. The Bills i am going to move are three and they are almost the same. So instead of moving one by one, I would like to move these three Bills together if the House agrees. (Members agreed to move the three Bills together and the Speaker asked the Minister to do so.)

Thank you Speaker.

Mr Speaker Sir, with your permission, I beg to move that Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of the Members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1991 and the Salaries and Allowances of the Leader of the Opposition Bill, 1991 be taken into consideration.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: The Minister had asked the permission of the House to consider two Bills. Do we agree? (Members agreed) Then I shall call upon Dr.H.Thansanga to move the Bills.

DR H.THANSANGA
MINISTER

: Pu Speaker, there are three Bills and first of all, I would like to explain as introduction. As I had said earlier the three Bills are more or less the same. Therefore, I will move them together so that it will be easier for the Members to discuss.

In the Amendment Bill, there is nothing much to amend. The main principle Act under the definition of section 2(g) there is something to be added. It is written as follows - Members means a member of the Assembly, save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, does not include.

- (1) a minister as defined in The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1987.
- (ii) the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker as defined in the Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker Act, 1987.

But includes - The Chief Minister, the Speaker the Ministers the Ministers of State, the Deputy Speaker for the purposes of pension including family pension only under Sec. 14

There is about pension in section 14 but there are some points to be added in this section. That is why an amendment is needed.

Leader of Opposition Bill is indeed separate it is for separate Act. In the meantime, Government Chief Whip Bill had been amended in last years session under section 13(a) as follows - in the Principle Act after section 13 the following sections shall be started namely 13(a) in additions to his entitlement as a member, the Government Chief Whip, if he is not a Minister, shall with effect from the date for which he may enter upon his office, subject to rule, if any (made this now) during the period he continues to be such whip and for a period of 15 days immediately thereafter, the entitlement to use all.

The above passage points out about residence maintenance vehicle, residence and defines Chief Whip. The difference between the Chief Whip Bill and the Leader of Opposition Bill is that for the Chief Whip Bill an Amendment Act had already been made. However, the Chief Whip Bill has entered separately now for amendment. What we have to amend in the Chief Whip Bill is that it will be separated from action 13 (a)

Pu Speaker, I think it will be good if you could give more time to the members to discuss these Bills and also about the case of Pu Zoramthanga which is also relevant.

As we often said, we, the Members of this House are nothing personally. But we are representing the public and the public gave us mandate in spite of our limitations. Today we are here to serve the people; in the meantime it is not easy to serve the people who voted us in power. Therefore, in order to be able to serve the people we must uplift our status. Even the people should know this. I am sure all members have some problems. In order to serve our country and the people better we have to sacrifice even our families. In this regard I think we can do better if we get good co-operation both from the public and government servants and officers. It may be good to have public education in this matter.

We have so many contributions to be made for our constituency, it is difficult for the members to adjust themselves. In such cases, let us not hesitate to tell whether the Minister or even the Government about our problems so that we can help each other. As you had said earlier Pu Speaker, we may be arguing inside the House but that is good to lead us in the path of co-operation and it encourages us to work harder for our country. Whether we are ruling member or opposition member, we must remember that God chose us to serve our country through the people. We therefore, must share our problems and in the meantime it is our duty to safeguard the interest of our country.

Keeping all these in mind, if we look at the Bill, House Rent allotted for Chief Whip is Rs. 2,500/- is too little if he is not provided with residence. Even the House Rent for Opposition Leader is Rs. 3,000/- is too little. And I also feel that their salaries is too little. But on the other hand, we are facing financial crisis these days. Therefore, though we want to increase their salaries and House Rents we can not do as we want in our present condition. In the meantime, we must remember that we can amend our Bills gradually in accordance to our financial position. Therefore, we are preparing Rs. 2,500/- and Rs. 3,000 for Chief Whip and Opposition Leader respectively if they are not provided residence. In regard to their salaries, let the salary of the Opposition Leader be deferred by Rs. 500/- to the salaries of the Minister of state and let the difference between the Chief Whip and the Opposition Leader be Rs. 250/- for the time being. As I have said Pu Speaker even the salaries of the Minister is not sufficient. Even the facilities provided to the members of this House is not enough. I am sure even the public understand this, it is clear that it is difficult to serve the country from our present status therefore, I would like to request all the members to consider these Bills carefully and pass it them.

Thank you

S P E A K E R : We shall now have discussion. At Zero hour members had pointed out the incident not by Pu Zoram-thanga which relates to our Bills and I hope that will give us a good idea for our discussion. But we have to adjust our time. We'll give 15 minutes to each member. Warning bell will ring at 12 minutes so, those who want to say on these three bills may say so.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Pu Speaker, I will be the first Speaker. If there are some confusions in taking these three Bills separately it is now taken them together which moved things easier.

What I would like to point out is that in the Chief Whip Bill it is written on page 2 clause 5, in the explanation (a) that 'Residence include on such' and in (b) 'maintenance in relation to a residence include' Like wise in the opposition Leader Bill. There is an explanation on page no 3 first line. There is also Residence and maintenance in (a) & (b) respectively. On the other day we argued about the instalment of telephone. It is written in section 5 that a Government Chief Whip shall be entitled without payment to the use and maintenance of a furnished residence throughout his term of office. How much does this word 'furnish' mean? Will telephone also be included?

In regard to the house rents of the Chief Whip and Leader of the Opposition, I feel Rs.2500/- is too little. Therefore, in my opinion, it is good to raise up the house rents of the Chief Whip and the leader of the opposition.

As we all know the present Bills are meant for common interest of the members of this House. We never have these kind of Bills before, it is therefore, good to have these Bills and I am glad that these Bills are introduced in the House. But we have to reconsider the point I have pointed out now.

Lastly Pu Dy. Speaker, as some of the members had pointed out during Zero hour, most of us had problems inspite of our status and dignities. Most of us have troubles in conveyance. (Speaker: You have just three minutes). And as pointed out by the hon'ble member from Ngopa constituency we also used to have problems in various Mizoram Houses. While there is no vehicle for us, i.e. the MLAs there are some people, who seems to be the relatives of some Government officers who can use the Government vehicles attached to Mizoram House. It is understood that if there are five or six Ministers as MLAs in the Mizoram House at one time, it may not be possible to arrange chick for each members but even in this circumstance, there can be a way to manage it. It is therefore, good to take action so that there will

be no unforvacable incident in future. I therefore, would like to urge the Government of Mizoram to safeguard the status and dignities of the MLAs.

Thank you.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Thank you Pu Deputy Speaker, for giving me time. The Bills moved by the Hon'ble Minister are good and I hope we pass them unanimously. I would like to say a few things in this regard.

It seems the Mizoram Assembly is progressing. I am glad that there is an intention to treat the Leader of Opposition and Government Chief Whip according to their position.

First, I would like to concentrate on the Leader of Opposition. It is not that we are meaning a particular person. All of us can become Leader of Opposition one day, even the present ruling member can become Leader of Opposition. As the place of the Leader of opposition is permanent, I think it is good to have a convention for his privilege. If I am not mistaken, in order of precedence, Leader of Opposition is next to Chief Minister. As that is the case, I would like to place Leader of Opposition in his exact position in all respect. On the other hand, if we say we can not do this now due to financial problems, I think it is better not to amend it now. In my opinion, Pu Deputy Speaker it is not good to break our petitions and norms, If we are to follow Parliamentary procedure, I want to do as it is therefore, in my opinion, House Rent for Opposition Leader should be Rs. 3,500/- if we are to follow Parliamentary norms. The case of the Chief Whip is more or less the same with that of Leader of opposition.

In regard to the status of Government Chief Whip, it had been mentioned that he is ranked as Minister of State. I think this is quite reasonable.

What I would like to point out is Pu Deputy Speaker about the accommodation/furnishing enjoyed by our counterpart MLAs in other states. I think we could do this in our state too. Though we may not be able to do this by now. I would like to request our Ministers to pioneer for the benefit of the MLAs for future in this regard. We all know that there is no revenue in our state for our budget and it seems we are reluctant to use our budget as we please. On the other hand, though we are reluctant all the officers and Ministers are enjoying their entitlement. Therefore, in order to work for the people even we, the MLAs should get our entitlement.

Another point I would like to say is about the transport bill of the Hon'ble member Pu Zoramthanga while he was in Delhi because I myself had experienced the same. When I went Delhi the notice which had been read out by the hon'ble member Pu Zosiana Pachuau had been already published in the Gassette. The workers in the Mizoram House knew that we are entitled to use Government vehicle attached to Mizoram House. They even asked me whether I will need a vehicle or not and I told them that I will let them know if I need it. If I am not mistaken, these were six vehicles attached to Mizoram House at that time. But none of them were available for me so the House had to hire a vehicle for me from outside while some of the officers wife used those vehicles attached to Mizoram House. In this matter it is the responsibility of the officials working in the Mizoram House to check this. As I had said earlier, I told them that I will let them know if I have to go out I learned later that a taxi was hired all day for me even if I didn't go out and I signed give or four times for the day I didn't go out. From all these, it is clear that we, the MLAs are not given any importance, that we are not getting even our entitlement. I was shocked when the hon'ble Speaker showed me the bill of taxi fare because it was too much.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Time is over now and we'll resume our discussion in the afternoon i.e. at 2:00 PM so now we will have time for rest.

Recess till 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM

S P E A K E R : Now we shall continue our discussion, the hon'ble member Pu Andrew Lalherliana had not finished his speech so I shall call upon him to continue.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Thank you Pu Speaker for allowing me to continue my speech. I was talking about how we, the MLAs are reluctant in raising our salaries and even in the enjoyment of our privileges and facilities. We do not even mind to share with other officers but while we are in such condition, it seems other officers are taking advantage and we are facing problems because of this. Even after publishing in the Gazzette about our entitlement, we can not use the attached vehicles in Mizoram House.

This shows the official in the Mizoram House are not doing their duties and also that they do not save guard our dignities. As we often said Pu Speaker, though we, the MLAs are not respectable personally but our position, that is, to represent the people is respectable. Therefore, the incident which accured particularly in Mizoram House, Delhi is vey serious and it is my opinion to take necessary action against those officials.

On the other hand, we must remember that since we are the legislature body, we can raise salaries as much as we want. If we look at the salaries of the MLAs of our neighbouring states like Bihar, the total emolument of the MLA crores 1,00,000/- and in U.P. it is much higher than this. Besides this, the MLAs can go to any post of India at the expense of the Government ~~one~~ in a year. While that is the case in other states, here in our state we are still reluctant even to raise our salaries with the level of the officers who are of the same rank with us. It will be regretful if that was the reason of ill treatment we used to get at Delhi. Truly speaking, in the Order of Preisdence, we are above Chief Secretary. Therefore, in my opinion, there is nothing wrong to raise our salaries in order to keep up our dignities. And in regard to the incident met by some of our members at Delhi, I urge the Government to take action against those officials not to be able to repeat this in future. At the same time, we should also consider about our status to keep up our dignity.

Likewise, Pu Speaker as I had said earlier, it is my opinion to place both the Chief Whip and Leader of the Opposition and allow them to enjoy their facilities as enjoyed by their level officers. As that is my opinion, Pu Speaker, I want the present Bills to reconsider and make more amendments without withdrawing them. This can be done even in the present session.

Lastly in regard to the furnished quarter alloted to MLAs I think it is a must for all members to have our own residence because this too is necessary step to keep out dignities. We, the members of this House are here to represent the people. Therefore, we must co-operate to keep up our dignity as well as to keep up the dignity of this House.

Thank you.

PU LAIRAWNLIANA : Thank you Pu Speaker, thank you for giving me time. I feel had to see that there are only few officials while we are discussing this important topic. Pu Speaker in my opinion, while we are concentrating on the Leader of Opposition and Chief Whip even the salaries of our Ministers and the Chief Minister himself is too little. While the Chief Secretary of our state is getting Rs. 8,000/- the Chief Minister of our

state is getting only Rs. 6,000/- I feel the Chief Minister should get more than the Chief Secretary. Therefore in my opinion it is good to amend the salaries of the Chief Minister with the Cabinet Members.

I am glad new that the Leader of Opposition Bill is moved in the House knowing the important of the position of the Leader of Opposition in the House. In other states and even in parliament Leader of the Opposition is placed next to Speaker. I think this can be done even in our state so that it will not be necessary to mention the facilities he will enjoy in the amendment Bill. To keep up the status and position of the Leader of Opposition is a way to keep up the dignity of the House. This way, we are pioneering for future members of this House.

In spite of our limitations and short comings, we are elected to serve the people and our counting and we are expected to visit our constituency as much as possible but as we do not have T.A. for visiting our constituency we can not visit as often as we are expected to do so. Therefore, it is good to have proper scheme in this regard. In order to serve the country as we are expected to do, it is a must to uplift the status of the members. It is clear that from our present condition, it is difficult to serve will the country. Sometimes, we the MLAs used to face problems in transportation as many of us do not have our own vehicle. It is even difficult to get vehicle from the Government even to attend important committee. Therefore to revise the position of the MLAs.

As mentioned by some of the Hon'ble members I too had experienced a problem. I went to visit my constituency and I drive my vehicle by my self. When we reached Hualngohmun one truck was in front of me and did not side properly to pass it. Then I blew my horn but the driver of that truck did not give me pass and he instigated some young to punch me, so they punched me. Like that I had experienced some problem even in my constituency. I reported the matter to the Government but no action had been taken till today. Now some of us had been provided with security guard by the Government but there are some members who do not have security guard and I would like to request the Government to provide security guard to those members who do not have such guard till today. In some places there are many problems like the H.P.C. Therefore, it is good to provide security guard to each member.

Accommodation Allowance had often been mentioned. As mentioned by the Hon'ble member just before me, we, the MLAs are reluctant to raise our salaries though we are the one to pass the budget. But now it is not best to be reluctant in up grading our status including our salaries. I, therefore, would like to request the Ministry to revise the position of the MLAs as a whole and move the amendment Bill in the next Budget Session. This will help us in our service for the country to do better.

Besides these, it is regretful that the hon'ble opposition leader had met an unwanted incident at Delhi. It was a breach of privilege of the member of this House. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government to take stern action against the responsible officials and I also would like to request the Government to assure the House that the necessary action will be taken.

Lastly, in regard to the Chief Whip Bill, I am not satisfied. Therefore, I would like to suggest to reconsider as a whole and pass it in the next session.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Before we go on may I ask the concerned Minister whether any action had been taken in favour of the hon'ble member Pu Lalrawnliana. Even if he can not answer now, I will request him to give an answer during this session itself. Now, I shall call upon Pu P.Lalbiaka.

PU P.LALBIAKA : Pu Speaker, the Bills moved by the hon'ble Minister Pu H.Than-sanga are very important. Being a Chief Whip, I used to think it is good to have proper guideline to keep up the status of the Chief Whip. Now, it seems we are going to have proper guideline as it is shown in the Bill.

Any member of this House can become Government Chief Whip whether he is from Saiha or Lawngtlai or Lunglei. Therefore, House Rent allotted for Chief Whip that is Rs 2,500/- is too little. It is said that the Chief Whip is ranked as the Minister of State, if so, the allotted House Rent should be the same with that of the Minister of State. In my opinion, if he is in the rank of the Minister of State, he too should be entitled to have IV Grade. Likewise, all of us can become Leader of the Opposition. Therefore, it is good to make proper guidance in favour of the Leader of Opposition.

Besides these, it is our duty to stabilise the position and the facilities they are supposed to enjoy for the Ministers and the MLAs. As prices of everything go up and our standard of living is becoming higher and higher, it is a must to raise the alaries of the MLAs. It is well known to all of us that we, the MLAs are facing many problems because our salaries is not sufficient. Therefore, while discussing Chief Whip Bill and Leader of the Opposition Bill, it will be a good idea to consider the status of the MLAs, in order to keep up our dignities. As that is the case, it is my opinion to reconsider the present Bills we are discussing and pass them at the end of the session.

In regard to the incident met by the hon'ble member from Sateek constituency, Pu Rawna the matter had been referred to the Government, and it will be humiliating for the MLAs if there is no intention to take action. Let's hope there is no such incident in future to any member of this House. It is a must for the Government to take action.

In regard to the allotment of vehicle to the MLAs, what i would like to point out is that the vehicles allotted to us are generally not in good condition. They are not reliable to visit our constituency specially for outside Aizawl. While the vehicles of the Ministers and the officers are repaired as soon as possible, it takes time to repair the vehicles allotted to other members. I, therefore, would like to urge the Government to consider the problems faced by other members too.

Regarding the incidents met by the hon'ble members Pu Zoramthanga, the Opposition Leader and Pu Andrew Lalherliana, the matters should be taken seriously. Even other hon'ble members had pointed out the difficulties we used to meet in various Mizoram Houses. If that is the case, it is good to verify who is the former of the Government. It can be considered if there are Ministers at Mizoram House at the time of the MLAs were there and can not provide vehicles attached to Mizoram House to the MLAs. But that was not the case when these incidents took place. Even if there is a fund to hire a taxi, the officials will use the taxi and the MLAs will use the attached vehicles. As it is often said, though the MLAs are not respectable personally, I demand even the officials to show us some respect since we are the representatives of the people. The amount charged for taxi is not much but this Secretariat does not have sufficient fund. If we are to go on like this, let us sanction more fund for the demand of the Legislative Assembly Secretariat to meet our demand in the coming Budget Session which is near at hand.

As this is the way we are going now, Pu Speaker, can you kindly tell this August House who forms the Government, the officials or the MLAs. If we do not clear this point, I am sure we will meet another problems in future.

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Thank you Pu Speaker, I suppose we
MINISTER all have to say many things in
regard to the Bill moved by an
hon'ble Minister. I therefore
would like to request the concerned Minister to explain the
Bill by highlighting the procedure followed in the neighbour-
ing states like Meghalaya etc. I believe, in this way we
could make appropriate decision.

Since the present Bill concerns with the futures of the Ministers as well as MLAs it has to be

determined carefully. Moreover, we must be familiar with our true identity as well as daily needs of the people in order to enhance development in our state.

We are fortunate having political party leaders with outstanding quality since the time of U.T. Uptil now. Moreover, all the Chief Ministers we had so far were no less inferior to the leaders of other states judging from their self sacrifice to the people and exercising power to the department this quality of all the previous political parties and Ministries as well as the present shows their reliance their respective officers.

However, I am afraid this kind of treatment would yield callousity among the officers. As we all have known, what we have called 'order of precedence' is hardly exist in the treatment of Government towards its officers. For instance, the order issued by the Government recently underlined some officers such as Governor, Chief Minister and Chief Secretary under the attendance of Liaison officers at the event of their visits. Pu Speaker, exclusion of high ranking Ministers like you from the list amazes me very much. If the list is done following the order of precedent Cabinet Minister must be placed prior to Chief Secretary. I have even persued the file which contain the list and the approval of hon'ble Chief Minister also is seen. This is the fact which shown over reliance of the Government towards the officers.

Fortunately, at that time, Pu Zalawma had taken the change and the order was reprimanded and repriated but still ordinary MLA were excluded.

Not only this, when the president of India was due to visit our state, 26 officers called a meeting to make arrangement including order of precedent of the Ministers vehicles while coming back. In that order, it is a shame that Council of Ministers were placed at No. 22.

Pu Speaker, with your power, we can check this problem together for the Welfare of every MLA I opine reorientation of this meaningless system is utmost necessary. Moreover, we must keep showing some respects to each others by mutual consultation to solve the problem of the Mizos and to presence our dignity. In this way, I believe corruption among the officers could be carped out. Corruption charge against the Minister is very popular nowadays but U dare to say that this illegal practice is more serious with that of some of the officers. This can be proved by comparing the property and household of some MLA who has been served for atleast 10 years with that of valuable assets of some class I Officers. It is a shame that corruption charge against the Minister has come more often from some officers ahnd their staffs than that of political party or opposition party.

I am here not to praise or against any party but to point out what I feel necessary for the welfare of the state and the people. Pu Speaker under your leadership we are able to eradicate the evils of corruption that pervades the whole state and besides, we can revive the dignity of every politician which is no longer in existence in our state. Some of us might have taken this factor for granted but it is to be noted that at the event of official visits from outside the state, the same old habit could no longer be concealed. Therefore, it will only mean self-humiliation for our government. Not only this it is also a disgrace to democracy. Therefore, Pu Speaker we have to consider this factor immediately.

Speaking in regard to the condition of pay and facilities received by MLA, we are not demanding more than the condition of other states since we are not self-sufficient and only depend on Central Government. However, we must have been placed at the level of the politicians of other states. For instance, most of the members had been elected from rural areas and the people also have highly depended on their respective representative in solving their problem. The people from the remote areas have come to the city hospital for their health and frequently some more unexpectedly have returned to their village with dead body. In course of time, they were badly in need of some help to provide them vehicle. On such unexpected events, it is a shame for their concern member not to be able to fulfil their urgent needs but to get one is a great problem due to prevailing insufficiency of Government vehicle. Despite of this problem, it is learned that some Ministers are still keeping a private vehicle in addition to a car provided to them which is restricted by the Government. Pu Speaker, the existing unbalanced allotment of vehicle must be checked immediately.

Speaking in relation to the allotment of vehicle I would like to express my opinion in regard to the consequence of observation of No Vehicle Day! Since the very first day of declaration of No Vehicle Day, even the Ministers have proceeded their works as usual. But it is hard to believe that some officers assert impossibility to keep up the works since that day. Even if some hardships prevent them from doing their jobs they must try to evade by any means like the Ministers. It is important to everyone to learn practical application of what the legislative body have passed so as to strengthen our nation.

In relation to repayment of loan also it is a shame that Government employees are more ignorant than that of ordinary people. In fact, in order to reestablish our Government and its system it is first necessary to enhance exclusive power to each member.

It is true that today's Ministers receive no respect from office employees because of their poor background, it is evident that the suggestion of Ministers on other M.L.A. has always been ignored due to the same fact. If the present system of our Government has been run ideally.

I dare to say that the existing problem would not be faced Pu Speaker. I am not demanding to raise the standard of each member but to enhance exclusive power so as to straighten the system of our Administration that has gone astrayed.

Consequently, it is also necessary to examine the system of House site Allotment. I have been sitting as its board member since the Ministry of P.C. many of the sites that has been given to privates had been preserved for future use during my tenwership. It may not be wrong to say that those reserved sites were given by the concerned officers in the interim of presidential Rules.

Moreover point raised by a member from Sateek is of a serious matter and the House is expected to take immidiate action against the driver who had manhandled Pu Lalrawnlina. This incident had already been reported to the people but it is surprising that Hon'ble Home Minister is not aware of this fact. If bribery is evolved in this case it is the duty of this House to take necessary action in order to uncover the truth.

Moreover, as already pointed by an hon'ble member there were no qualified member from the opposition party to be recognised as Chief Whip in the previous years. However, during the Ministry of MNF party we were being disqualified even though our party is known to be qualified for the seat. This is mainly due to the absence of appropriate Rules and Conditions of the Leader of the Opposition.

We are fortunate today that Minister of Parliamentary Affairs have prepared the rules and conditions for the Leader of the Opposition party.

Relating to facilities being availed by our MLA I opine that it will not be fair to expect beyond the practice standard of other states just because of our poor economical background. It is to be noted that there are some facilities which could not be availed by our MLA. For instance MLA in other states enjoys consession on train but it is not practiceable in our state as it is evident that no MLA of ours is willing to travel by train. It is therefore necessary to prevail prior observation of our condition.

Moreover, I have something more to say regarding the maintenance of the Assembly Hostel. It is necessary to renovate the building in such a way to provide comfortable accomodation for our fellow MLA from other states who visits Mizoram. Besides, the Assembly Hall also is in need of reconstruction. Although I am not aware of the plan laid for its construction I would like to stress its importance as appearance of the building shows the quality of our Government. I, therefore have to suggest to the Government to evolve large provision in the budget so as to have outstanding building for Assembly Secretariat.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : I first of all would like to express my gratitude to the Government for taking up various steps regarding revision of payment of Chief Whip, Leader of the Opposition and other MLA.

However, it is to be noted that with the changing of political phases, the system of Government as well as mode of distribution of powers also is changing stage by stage. Emphasising on Chief Whip, it is much suggestive to improve his position by providing facilities of Minister of State as practise by our neighbouring states. Moreover, I opine it is necessary to place leader of the opposition at the same level with his counterparts in other states.

In relation to the above matter I would like to point out the treatment I have had received in New Delhi's Mizoram House.

I went down there to get my medical check up and occupied one room. As a leader of the opposition I must say that I was the sole V.I.P. being lodged in the House at that time. During my stay it is a shame that leader of the opposition party did not get an worthy treatment from the Government. Evenmore, no vehicle were provided for me even though six were being kept. It is a disgrace of our Government if V.I.P. or Opposition leader have to be treated that way.

We have learnet from some reliable sources that in some states like U.P. and Bihar the total amount of facilities received by each MLA worths more than ten thousands rupees. On the contrary it is a shame that each MLA of ours have to pay electric bill. Water bill as well as Car bill from the main salary and in fact, it is difficult to keep the duty with a little amount being left while no alternative sources is available.

Each MLA has therefore needs adequate facilities so as to carry out his work effectively and the Government must also provide necessary equipment for the same.

Even if our Speaker is well aware of the problem with the MLA the problem is that he has no financial responsibility to provide the facilities needed. However, the Assembly can make alternative adjustment or as a supplementary demand in order to alleviate its financial problem. On the other hand, the budget committee must also count the importance of this matter most seriously.

It is, therefore necessary to make supplementary demand so as to enable alternative adjustment to keep the dignity of Chief Whip, MLA, Chief Minister or Minister of State in order.

Thank you.

FU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as the Bill moved by hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs concerns both the Ruling and Opposition party I believes everyone of us have many things to speak. And, I am very happy to have a chance to express my view towards maintenance receives by M.L.A.

As we have mentioned in the previous meeting it is a shame that we have nominated a Chief Whip but no worthy power is given to him. In this regard, we must follow the practical side and failure of the government to attain reality is the fact which I believe as the factor that brings disloyalty among some members.

In pursuance of the existing issue relating to the seat of Chief Whip, it is just necessary to familiar with his status. If he is at the rank of Cabinet Minister he should have enjoyed facilities provided to Cabinet Minister. Likewise, he must also enjoy facilities of Minister of State and his rank. It will not be fair to show concern only by giving the entitle to fix V.I.P. light in his vehicle. Speaking in relation to Chief Whip, it is necessary to put the house rent at first priority. If telephone bill is said to be included in pension and Allowance of MLA. We must know that it is different in the case of Chief Whip. If telephone is entitled by Minister and Speaker, who not by the Chief Whip ?

In regard to the leader of the Opposition also, it is first necessary to familiar with his status. In the Government headed by Mr V.P.Singh, Rajiv Gandhi was the leader of the Opposition and was placed at the rank of Cabinet Minister and the same facilities was provided to him. In the same manner, the Opposition Leader of our state government must be awarded the same facilities provided to the members of his equal rank.

Moreover, I have to add some more points in regard to Pension and Allowance of MLA Mr Speaker Sir, it is grateful to be able to provide vehicle to each MLA. Yet it will be pleasing if the government furnished the quarter occupied by every MLA as necessary.

I am being favoured with the post of Chairman, Mizofed by our leaders and if my quarter have to be furnished by federation of Mizofed all the profits will go wasted. I, therefore asked the help from the government and it is a shame that my request has been refused absolutely by FWD official. In response to their refused I expressed my motives and I atleast convinced them such kind of misconduct have to be checked immediately.

Likewise, the attendance received by each member at various Houses of Mizoram also is considerable. As mentioned by a member of Kawrthah constituency members from the opposition party has not been received properly and it may not be necessary to point out what I have

experienced Mr Speaker Sir, maintenance of mizoram house as well as Room Allotment system is badly in need of some improvements. It should be fair to attend a member on official duty and others separately and a clear definition of the maintenance of the House should also be made if possible.

Moreover, as practice in various states an MLA with his family is entitle to get free charge in bus or train in every three months, but only within his constituency. In the same way, it is necessary to provide facility to each MLA of our state. Moreover, Mr Speaker Sir, it would be pleasing if you could make some devise to enable T.A. for the MLA so as to aleviate the burden of maintaining their respective constituency.

Our colleague in Haryana Mr Mani Ram have told me that the total amount of facilities received by each MLA in the state per month is Rs 15,000/- at the least. We may not be able to follow the same way yet we can make some improvement.

Moreover, in visiting the room of many officers it seems that they are competing in decoration of their rooms. It is withnessed that some officers adorns their room with high quality of Sofa Chair, Carpet and even T.V. When I was abroad to Seoul and visited some officers I was amazed that no extra chair or bench to be seen in the office. In considering the habit of the office workers in the developing countries, it is a shame that the most poorest country have the habit of decorating their rooms. Particularly in our states, the workers in the office spend most of the office hours for discussion with friends and some women were even seen knitting in the office. It is therefore suggestive to take substancial step to step this shameful habit of the office workers.

Finally I would like to state that the existing bill particularly regarding Chief Whip, Opposition leader and rest of the members is of utmost important. I therefore have to request the government to take necessary step in order to preserve our mutual dignity. Mr Speaker Sir, with your power I believe we can revive the dignity of the politician which is no longer in existance in our state.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : There is a proposal to extend this Session. First what I want to say is that The Indian Parliamentary Association never have a meeting. As had already pointed out it is necessary to study how to behave in the Parliamentary family. There are various associations and they all have their own rules for their welfare but here we do not have such things.

It is a must that we support each other. Some of our members were badly treated but we do not know how the action have been taken. Some of our members are called as Chief Minister, Home Minister etc. It is necessary to clear their status. If we can have rest tomorrow, we shall have a Committee. Tomorrow is 24th and we shall have some questions as agreed by the B.A.C. and consideration of Bills will be continued in the afternoon and if we can not finish by tomorrow, it can be done even on Monday.

As many members had pointed out, we are to serve the country but from our present position it is difficult to serve the country. Therefore, we have to uplift our position in order to serve the country. If we co-operate, we can surely do this. We must change the attitude of the officials to us. We must clear one point, i.e. who forms the Government. If we say it is the people who forms the Government, their representatives should also be treated well. Budget Session is near at hand and let all the things we say now is for preparation for the coming Budget Session.

Dr H. THANSANGA : Since I am the mover of these
MINISTER Bills, I would like to say few things in regard to the suggestion you made. Though we are nothing, we are elected to serve the country. In order to fulfill our responsibilities, we must try our level best. Tomorrow the Mizoram Branch of the Indian Parliamentary Association is going to have a meeting in the afternoon, so Pu Speaker, let's try to finish in the morning then we can discuss our interests and the incidents met by some of our hon'ble members in that meeting. Let me take this as an opportunity to remind those who have not paid membership fees to pay. And I suggest to continue our sitting on 30th of this month.

S P E A K E R : Does the House agree ?

PU TAWNLUIA : Pu Speaker, I would like to request Leader of the House to ask all Department Heads and Senior officers to be present in the next sitting.

S P E A K E R : For tomorrow we shall follow our Business list as passed by the B.A.C. and in the afternoon, the Mizoram Branch of the Indian Parliamentary Association will have a meeting at Speaker's Bungalow.

Now I adjourn the House for today and we shall resume our meeting at 10:30 AM tomorrow.

House Adjourned at 4:00 P.M.