SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MIZORAM (FOURTH SESSION)

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR SEVENTH SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, THE 19th NOVEMBER, 2014 (Time 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

QUESTIONS

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

FINANCIAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS

- 2. **Pu LALSAWTA,** Minister to submit to the Vote of the House Various Demands under his charge.
- 3. **Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA,** Minister to submit to the Vote of the House Various Demands under his charge.
- 4. **Pu B.D. CHAKMA,** Minister to submit to the Vote of the House Various Demands under his charge.

NGURTHANZUALA Secretary

. . . .

^{**} Please see Bulletin Part-II Sl. No. 61 dated 13th November, 2014 for Demands to be moved by Ministers

SPEAKER: Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

Deuteronomy 28:6

Now, we will start with Starred Question No. 91. Let us call Pu K. Sangthuama to ask.

PU K. SANGTHUAMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Thank you. Starred Question No. 91 which may be answered by the Minister of Public Works Department:

- a) Is there a proposal for resurfacing of Chhangurkawn Govt. Complex Road?
- b) Is there a proposal for resurfacing of Zonuam Govt. Complex Road?

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer is: –

- a) Yes, there is. Resurfacing of Chhangurkawn Luangmual Road has been proposed to be done during 2014-2015.
- b) There is no proposal for resurfacing of Zonuam Gov't Complex Road.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte.

PU HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Construction of Serkhan - Bagha road is on hold due to non-sanction of compensation grant by the government although the assessment already being submitted. When will it be sanctioned?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the minister concerned.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to start with Pu Sangthuama's question. ₹75 lakh has been kept for resurfacing of Chhangurkawn - High Court from the 13th Finance Commission grant. It has been a long time since black topping of Zonuam - Govt. Complex has been done. Resurfacing was done from available grant two years ago.

Construction of Bagha road is on hold due to compensation issue. In the first estimate, compensation claims were determined as ₹6.71 crore. After that, many of fake LSC's arises. After re-assessing that it become ₹13 crore which has to be given by us. Thus, we have no fund yet at the moment.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pi Vanlalawmpuii Chawngthu, to ask Starred Question No. 92.

PI VANLALAWMPUII CHAWNGTHU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Starred Question No. 92 to be answered by Hon'ble Minister for Transport Department: -

- a) Is there a bus service plying to Aizawl Silchar as previously proposed?
- b) Is there a proposal to issue more Taxi permits for Aizawl?

SPEAKER : Let us call the Minister, Pu John Rotluangliana.

Pu JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, answers the answer is: -

- a) Aizawl Silchar bus is in service at the moment. What I want to add is that we have bought 12 seater buses of AC and are in service since 24th October. It is now available for hire to anyone.
- b) There is no such proposal at the part of the Government (STA) to issue new Taxi permit for Aizawl.

SPEAKER : Supplementary Question from Pu R.L. Pianmawia.

PU R.L. PIANMAWIA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Just like Silchar, Bus service plying to Zohmun of my constituency has been on halt for a while. May the service be resumed as Christmas is approaching?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma to ask another supplementary question.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. There used to be a MST bus plying to Lunglei - Tlabung. Could this be resumed since it is a lifeline for the people in my area?

SPEAKER : Pu Chalrosanga Ralte.

PU CHALROSANGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Supplementary Questions are:

- i) Is it permissive to renew an expired Taxi permit?
- ii) Is it permissive to use sun control in vehicle now?

SPEAKER : Let the minister concerned answer such questions first.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, to answer both the question from Hon'ble members Pu R.L. Pianmawia and Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma, I am regretted to mention that we do not have enough buses at the moment and is not possible to fulfill their request as yet.

Regarding the question of the Hon'ble member Pu Chalrosanga, it is not permissive to renew an expired taxi permit at the moment so is replacement of taxi with another vehicle. If such replacement is permitted, taxi permit could not be expired. Yet, replacement can be done only under exceptional circumstances. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

SPEAKER : Pu H. Zothangliana.

PU H. ZOTHANGLIANA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. For Sangau, which is the headquarters of my constituency, may MST bus service be resumed at least for Christmas season and we do not expect for any other occasion?

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I have missed out the Hon'ble Member Pu Chalrosanga's question; Sun control screen should not cover glasses beyond permissible by law.

Many requests have been received for bus service for this coming Christmas. We face a lot of problems in this regard as we have already condemned numbers of old buses. Yet, we may try to do so in cooperation with our officers.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Regarding sun control screen, the Central Government is quite firm in its standpoint as only the Chief Minister and Home Minister of any State are entitled to use it. Also regarding taxi, we used to issue the permit without restriction and so we need to stop such practice. Hence, it is not permissive to renew an expired permit or giving out new one.

PU K. SANGTHUAMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may the concerned Minister clarify what percent of visibility is permitted on fixing sun control in motor vehicle?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the Minister.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I am not mistaken, the permissive visibility is 75%.

SPEAKER : We shall now proceed to Starred Question No. 93. Let us call upon Pu Lalruatkima to ask the question.

PU LALRUATKIMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Starred Question No. 93 which may be answered by the Hon'ble Minister for PWD: -

- a) Who is the Contractor of Sihhmui Lengpui road of NH-44?
- b) When was the construction started?
- c) What is the expected date for completion? Has it been extended?
- d) What is the sanction amount?
- e) Had it been revised? If so, what is the revised amount?
- f) What is the reason for not completing the work within the expected date?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister to give answer.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my answer to the question of Pu Lalruatkima is as follows: –

- a) The assigned contractor of Sihhmui Lengpui road of NH-44 is M/S Tantia Construction Ltd, Kolkata.
- b) It was started on 7.6.2011.
- c) According to the agreement, it was expected to be completed within 24 months from the start i.e. 1.8.2011. However, it has been extended up till 1.4.2014.
- d) The sanction amount is ₹795.85.
- e) The Sanction amount has not been revised till date, however it is in process.
- f) There are some compensation claims in which Teak plantations and electric pole need to be shifted from the construction site. The work could not be started due to soil investigation work. Since soil erosion was found near Sairang, the work could not be completed on time.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Lalruatkima, MLA.

PU LALRUATKIMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we are all aware, construction of the alternate bridge collapsed two times; first on 7.12.2005 and also on 31.9.2014 which has taken many times. What I wanted to add is that I had asked this question in the previous session and the answer from the Department is that on 20th March, 2014, time for completion of work i.e. 17th July, 2011 had been extended till 1st April, 2014. This indicates the time frame for the construction work had been changed. Thus, we need clarification for these irregularities as it will become House property.

In this connection, may I know if the work started prior to soil investigation? If soil investigation was done first, why not discovered the possibility of soil erosion beforehand? CPWD manual states that soil investigation must be done before starting any project work. Did soil investigation did not follow the guidelines? I would also like to know if the contractors were terminated or withdrawn themselves. Another question is how much had been given to the contractor for this construction till date.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon our Chief Minister.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the answer as of dates scheduled contradicts to each other, it is due to lapse at the part of the department officials. I deeply regretted for such errors.

The contractors did not withdraw themselves. ₹357.9 lakh had been given to them till date. There are often shortcomings in construction of bridge in our state, even since the last two-three ministries. We often do reconstruction due to improper foundation, etc. I am not an expert in this field regarding this ongoing construction work; it has been done under the consent of Geo-Physicist, Dr. R.K. Majumdar and Dr. S.K. Samanta from Judaipur University. It may be

difficult to do complete assessment within one or two days as investigation of the soil condition has to be done with due care as we are in red seismic zone.

Another problem is that no hard rock is found in our state for this kind of constructions. More attentions should be given for this kind of construction in the future. So, I ask our engineers and anyone responsible in this regard to be more careful in the future. But in this case, I think that our engineers are not responsible for the collapse of such bridge as some people had stolen some screws attached to the structure which seems to be the main reason for the collapse. We have to be more careful in the future.

SPEAKER : Pu K. Sangthuama.

PU K. SANGTHUAMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have visited the incident at the spot and what we noticed is that there is nothing to fasten the bridge from both sides of the bank. It seems that when the bridge take a heavy load, the force at the middle of the bridge just pulled down the bridge from both sides. Is it because our engineers have not paid enough attention when the foundation was constructed? The other bridge which was under construction too is on hold due to faulty foundation. Had it been checked at the beginning? How could such bridge be constructed without any fastening at both sides of the bank?

SPEAKER : Let Dr. K. Beichhua ask his question.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, It is truly regretted that wrong information has been given for the answer of the Hon'ble chief Minister. We need to find out who is responsible for such irregularities. It is also responsibility of the department who look after the construction. Will there be action taken in this regard? That is my first question.

Secondly, many important questions we have asked to the departments were being ignored. What action will be taken against such departments?

SPEAKER : Now let us call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister to give answer.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we often has taken steps regarding this kind of irresponsibility as it disturbs our work system a lot. We are not paying much attention towards work ethics, work culture, punctuality and discipline. This kind of lapse is the responsibility of Head of Departments and Secretaries for they are expected to check offices from time to time. However, it is not our practice to take disciplinary action at each and every subject. There are certain cases in which actions have to be taken. I cannot assure beyond that but I am really sorry about the mistake.

Order has been issued to all concerned Secretaries instructing improvement of our system such as our economic measures, transparency in the government, making people-friendly,

effective government as well as accountability to the people; I compiled each of the reply I have received. We have held a discussion based on such replies with each concerned ministers. We have done so regarding property return as well. However, it is very difficult to check all of the officials at all time.

PU K. SANGTHUAMA : May the Hon'ble House Leader be pleased to clarify construction of bridges without its fastening screw?

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not an engineer and I do not think I am the one to check such things; I don't even know about such things.

SPEAKER : Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the reasons for delaying of works, would it be possible to solve such problems before giving out in tender to the contractors? This also happens in Serkhan - Bagha road. If not, the contractor will blame the government for the delay which will in turn lead to increase in the project cost. So, I would like to ask if it is possible to solve this kind of problem before the work is started.

SPEAKER : Home Minister.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: If we keep on asking another supplementary question from the supplementary questions itself, there will be no end. It will be better if you restricted the number of question to be asked, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

SPEAKER: Thank you. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has something to say.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the issue of compensation after tender, etc., we have a good example at Tuirial Hydel Project; after all assessments for compensation has been done, only around 48 claimants are found eligible. However, many were later added from the side of the Chief Minister and others as the number of claimant rose up to around 1,100 families. The same happens here in Serkhan - Bagha Road.

SPEAKER : Now, we shall move on to Starred Question No. 94. Let us call upon Pu Lalruatkima to ask his question.

PU LALRUATKIMA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My starred question No. 94 to be answered by the Hon'ble Minister for PWD:

- a) Who is the assigned contractor for the construction of Khedacherra (Kanhmun) Damcherra Zamuang Kawrthah Tuilutkawn (KDZKT)?
- b) What is the tender amount?
- c) For how much the contractor bid the tender?

d) Does additional fund has been applied to NEC? If so, what is the reason?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the concerned Minister.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer is: -

- a) Contractor for construction of Khedacherra (Kanhmun) Damcherra Zamuang Kawrthah Tuilutkawn (KDZKT) has not been selected yet.
- b) The Tender amount is $\{1,30,77,93,607.83/-...\}$
- c) Though selection has not been made, the lower bidder offers at the rate of ₹17,43,99,59,42,095/-.
- d) Additional fund has been applied to NEC for the original tender was made according to PWD Schedule of rates. Only two parties make their bids for the tender and the lower bidder offers 33.35% higher and we found this as reasonable. Therefore, a revised estimate has been made and is now under process.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am asking the same question which I have already asked in the last session because the answer at that time did not satisfied me. The answer given on 20th March, 2014 to Starred Question No. 70, "Who are the contractors selected for the work?" states that M/S Draipal ABCI (JV), Guwahati as being selected. However, it is now stated that contractor as not being yet selected. So, I ask The Minister to clarify that point. Original estimate has been made through PWD SoR 2010; it seems that the bidder who offers 33.35% higher was selected. It means that the difference is ₹3,300 lakh. CPWD Manual, 2014, 24.2 and 24.3 clearly deals about the reasonability and competitive witness of rate. It states that 5% higher or 10% lower must not be accepted. Looking at the price escalation and the PWD SoR 2013, I ask the reason for excessive favoring to a particular contractor may be explained.

Further, if I am not mistaken, the two bidders are of the same company, it seems that they controlled us whichever way they like. Can it be explained the reason for their offering of ₹3,300 lakh higher was being accepted?

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: As already stated, Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an error made at the part of the department office.

PU LALRUATKIMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, can he assure us to clarify the issue while we all are aware of the fact? They have already told me that a contractor, whose name is also given, had been selected for the work; now it is said that the contractor is not yet selected.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, revise estimate is inevitable even at smaller work. Preparing this answer has been done by the office. I will look upon it and if there is anything wrong been done, I will take action as necessary.

PU LALRUATKIMA: Thank you, Speaker, Sir. I will give the copy of the answer given in the last session for House property.

PU T.T. ZOTHANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, if his question had been answered in the last Session, why did he repeat the same? Is this not contempt of the House?

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: There is nothing confidential in Mizoram, anyone can look into it. The Hon'ble member had asked in the past but he feels unsatisfied; so, it is his right to do so. I appreciate that he repeated the same question.

SPEAKER : We shall now call upon Dr. K. Beichhua to ask Question No. 95.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Thank you, Speaker, Sir. My question is: -

- a) What is the physical and financial achievement of construction of check dam at the sinking areas of N. Colony-II, Siaha?
- b) What is the expected date for completion?

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, to answer the questions of Hon'ble member, Dr. K. Beichhua: –

- a) Physical achievement of construction of check dam at the sinking areas of Siaha N. Colony-II is 10.82%. Financial achievement is NIL.
- b) It is expected to be completed in May, 2015. For kind information of the House, ₹380 lakh has been granted by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and assigned contractor is Pu Lalfamkima, Ramhlun North. The components of the work are RCC side drain of 1,133 running metres, resurfacing of 800 running metres of the road, masonry wall 48 running metres, retaining wall 48 running metres and construction of one slab culvert. Check dam has to be constructed at three gorges below national highway. As it is difficult to do the work during monsoon, work programme is scheduled to be started as soon as working season starts.

SPEAKER : Starred Question No. 96 to be asked by Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My Starred Question No. 96 to be answered by the Minister of Vigilance Department: –

- a) How many people among the Gazetted Officer in Mizoram have vigilance case at the moment?
- b) How many Government servants submitted property return during 2013-2014?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister to give answer.

PU LAL THAN HAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Speaker, Sir, followings are the answers: -

a) There are 25 Nos. of Mizoram Gazetted Officers who are having vigilance case at the moment.

b) As of how many Government servants submitted property return during 2013-2014, the number is 3,655. I think that he would like to know the Gazetted Officers who are having vigilance case. They are as follows: -

Sl.	Name/Designation	Case
Nos.	I I I DIO)
1.	James Lalsiamliana, DAO,	Misappropriation of Gov't. Money.
	Serchhip, Agriculture Deptt.	
2.	H. Lalthanpuia, Director,	Drawal of fraudulent Bill amounting to
	Agriculture Deptt.	₹14,34,457/
3.	Rakesh Kumar, Headmaster,	Unauthorized absence and defalcation
	Gov't. Darlawn High School.	of Gov't. money.
4.	Zohmingthanga, DEO Serchhip,	Grant permission to Samuel
	Education Deptt.	Vanlalawmpuia to undergo training
		outside Mizoram beyond his authority.
5.	Motilal Chhetri, Inspector,	Failing to submit Property return.
	Food & Civil Supplies Deptt.	
6.	P.L. Zohmingliana, DCSO,	Unauthorized selling of government
	Kolasib, Food & Civil Supplies	rice.
	Deptt.	
7.	Z.D. Zonuntluanga, Forest	Corruption charge
	Ranger, Lunglei	
8.	Dr.H. Saithanliana, Consultant,	Forgery of signature and drawal of fake
	Community Health Centre,	MR Bill.
	Thingsulthliah	
9.	Dr. Robert Zirsangzela	1
	Thangluah, Medical Officer,	₹14,75,000.
	Bungzung	
10.	H. Lalchhuanvawra, Dy.	Misappropriation of fund for grape
	Director, Horticulture Deptt.	cultivation at Hnahlan.
11.	Lalrinawmi Renthlei, HEO,	Misappropriation of fund for grape
	Horticulture Deptt.	cultivation at Hnahlan
12.	Lalbiaksangi, Dy. Secretary,	Defalcation of Gov't. money.
	GAD	
13.	H. Lianzela, EAC, Aizawl	Corruption charge and misappropriation
		of Gov't. fund, etc.
14.	Lawmkima, MCS, BDO,	Corruption charge.
	Bungtlang South	
15.	R. Lalsangluaia, BDO,	Misappropriation of ₹18,44,826/- under
	Bungtlang South	IWDP-III Project.
16.	Chuauhnuna, PWD	Defalcation of Gov't. fund

17.	C. Vanlalsawma, Suptt.	Misappropriation of Gov't. money.	
	Transport Deptt.		
18.	Lalthianghlima, AE, Minor	Misappropriation of Gov't. money.	
	Irrigation Deptt.		
19.	V.L. Thlanawma, Dy. Director,	Passing and releasing Bill beyond	
	ATI	permissible ceiling and for taking bribe	
		of ₹2,00,000.	
20.	C. Zirkhuma, EE, PHE	Irregular financial management.	
21.	Lalramzauva, AE, PWD,	Taking money from contractors,	
	Project Circle Division-III	construction of Polytechnic Building at	
		Champhai.	
22.	R. Zatawna, EE, PWD	Misappropriation of ₹67.75 lakh of	
		Gov't. money.	
23.	Vanlalduhsaka, CE, Highway,	Award an amount of 13.75% more than	
	PWD	the sanction amount to SMT Infracon.	
24.	A. Dutta, SDO, DC Aizawl	Construction of works under MPLADS	
		Rajya Sabha Fund.	
25.	Thomas Zodingliana, AIG-III.	Deployment of police personnel for his	
		private works.	

Those are the persons who are currently having Vigilance Case. The number of persons submitting property return includes all the gazetted officers in Mizoram who submitted property return to Vigilance Department. Only the gazetted officers are expected to submit property return at present. Group B and Group C are expected to submit it to their respective departments.

SPEAKER : Any supplementary question?

Er. LALRINAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know how frequent property return should be submitted.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this has to be submitted annually. We have recently called a meeting in which we discussed about the subject. Property Return is an important subject as it is an effective way to check the practice of corruption among the government servants. This has not been properly maintained in the past but we made an immense effort to make it effective. It is also expected to be maintained in each department.

SPEAKER : Er. Lalrinawma may ask Question No. 97.

Er. LALRINAWMA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My Starred question which may be answered by Hon'ble Minister for Education Department: - Could Co-operative Societies for Housing be established in Mizoram?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu Lalrinmawia Ralte.

PU LALRINMAWIA RALTE, MINISTER: Speaker, Sir, the answer is - Yes, Co-Operative Societies for Housing could be established in Mizoram.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is my Supplementary Question. Does Mizoram Housing Financing Federation Limited of State Co-operative still in function? What is the present status?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the concerned Minister.

PU LALRINMAWIA RALTE, MINISTER: Speaker, Sir, this question is of much important. 12 Primary Housing Co-operative Societies had been established in Mizoram in the past. It may be noted that a State Level Society can be applied by having at least 10 Primary Societies. Accordingly, Mizoram Housing Co-Operative Federation was established in 1988-1989in which the Government too had contributed a share of ₹7 lakh. The State Level Federation has also made an effort to avail funds for the 12 Primary Housing Co-Operative Societies from LIC and HUDCO. Even though 1 crore loan is expected from HUDCO, it was not successful. Likewise, an attempt to avail ₹50 lakh loan from LIC too was failed. As a result, the Mizoram Housing Co-Operative Federation had been inevitably banned where as registrations of more than half of the subordinate Primary Societies have also been cancelled. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Question hour is over. We shall now move to Financial Business i.e. voting on Demands. Do we agree to take the demands of three Ministers at one time? If so, I call upon the Hon'ble Minister, Pu Lalsawta to move his Demands.

PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. On the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, I move the Demand No. 4, 8, 9, and 14 for ₹80763.29 lakh only for meeting expenses during 2014-2015 in respect of the following Departments: -

Demand Nos.	Department	Amount of Budget
No.4	Law & Judicial	₹2,781.15 lakh
No.8	Taxation	₹1,233.30 lakh
No.9	Finance	₹49,718.58 lakh
No.14	Planning & Programme Implementation	₹27,030.26 lakh
	TOTAL	₹80,763.29 lakh

SPEAKER: Next, I call upon Pu P.C. Lalthanliana to move his Demands such as: No. 19, 29 and 32 in respect of Local Administration Department, Social

Welfare Department and Horticulture Department.

PU P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, I move demand No. 19, 29, and 32 for ₹33,554.73 lakh only for meeting expenses during 2014-2015 in respect of the following Departments: -

Demand Nos.	Department	Amount of Budget
No.19	Local Administration	₹7,310.05 lakh
No.29	Social Welfare	₹12,682.68 lakh
No.32	Horticulture	₹13,562.00 lakh
	TOTAL	₹33,554.73 lakh

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Next, the Hon'ble Minister, Pu B.D. Chakma to move his Demand No. 35 and No. 41 for discussion of the House.

Dr. B.D. CHAKMA, MINISTER: On the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move Demand No. 35 and 41 for meeting expenses during 2014-2015 in respect of the following Departments: -

Demand Nos.	Department		Amount of Budget
No.35	Fisheries		₹2,856.85 lakh
No.41	Sericulture		₹2,833.40 lakh
		TOTAL	₹5,690.25 lakh

Thank you.

SPEAKER: We shall now have a discussion on the demands. As our usual practices, each member will have 10 minutes for their speech. Let us call upon Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This is a demand for grant that involves funds which were spent already for we are now at the end of the year.

What I think important here is regarding the No. 50, Object Head of Account such as 'Other charges'. What are included in here? I think that the content is too wide and vague. Among the departments we are discussing, this head is not found in Sericulture Department. To keep this much of money under this head while there are many other important heads creates questions as the subject is not clear. What falls under this head, what is the exact meaning of this head is quite vague. There are also departments who do not put this head in their demand. The

total amount from the whole Demand for Grants which falls under this head which is said to be 'Other Charges' amounts to ₹523.6724 crore. It will be very pleased if the Minister explained the exact meaning of this particular head.

Coming now to Taxation Department, this department is not a big department but is very important. The taxation income of our state also greatly depends on their work. If there is shortage of employee in this department, proper assessment of taxes as well as collection of taxes from contractors or merchants may be difficult. I think that more taxes could be collected if we have more staff in the department.

Regarding collection of taxes from suppliers or merchants from other states, we need to find a way to collect taxes from suppliers who supply materials in departmental works. As stated by the Minister, it may be because that we feel unsafe to tax firms from outside the state. Such is the case in online shopping also. What I want to suggest is that even if it is online shopping or suppliers, could it be done through Mizoram firms? If it is done by firms from Mizoram, there will be a way to collect tax from them. I think it is improper not to collect tax from suppliers while we are collecting tax even from our contractors. I think that we have to consider this matter more carefully for the future. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Who will speak next? Pu K. Sangthuama.

PU K. SANGTHUAMA: Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about the point which needs explanation.

Among the Departments we are discussing now, Law & Judicial Department have ₹96.65 lakh under Office Expenses and ₹40 lakh under Domestic Expenses, totally 136.65 lakh. I think that this is too much keeping in view of our financial condition. Particularly regarding Office Expenses, the total amount under this head from the three departments is ₹2,013.14 lakh. I think that this is too much while we do not have enough funds to purchase rice. I request the concerned Minister to explain this.

Regarding Finance Department also, the Office Expenses amounting to ₹232.14 lakh and Domestic Expenses, ₹38.9 lakh totally ₹271.04 lakh. Finance Department may need more funds than other departments under this head, however to have more than ₹271 lakh in Office Expenses and Domestic Expenses may be still excessive. I hope the Minister could look into it.

In taxation Departments also, there is ₹77.25 lakh in Office expense and ₹10.10 lakh in Domestic expenses and in total ₹87.35. In general, it seems that we made our budget for Office Expenses in excess. It is inappropriate that there is a very limited fund in some head while excessive in other. More equal distribution of fund should be made.

Regarding tax, it may not be the purview of Taxation Department, we may talk about again while discussing Revenue Department, I had received a call from villages that a tax has

been collected. About ₹1000 is collected in the same place where ₹400 had been paid before. It is fine to collect tax, however it is necessary to fix and manage its increasing percentage. More than 100% hike at a single time is inappropriate. I also request the Hon'ble Minister to look upon this matter.

I would also like to suggest increase in MLA Fund. It may not be possible at the moment but if it could be increased in the next budget of 2015-2016.

The Office Expenses of Planning Department is also ₹292.25 lakh and Domestic Expense is ₹86.25 lakh and in total ₹478.50 lakh. I think this should be decreased in the future. The same is here in LAD, there is ₹35.18 lakh. Particularly in Social Welfare, there is a huge amount of 700 lakh. This requires a proper explanation. There is ₹181.22 lakh under Domestic Expenses. Supply of Materials under Social Welfare amounts to ₹2298.32 lakh is understandable, as to be kept for relief and materials. The same is here in Horticulture; it is ₹89.35 lakh and ₹23.7 lakh in Domestic. There is ₹442.2 lakh for supply materials under Fisheries, this is fine. There is not much in Sericulture Department for Office Expenses. Grant-in Aid amounts ₹1491 lakh, this is fine. It seems that LAD and Social Welfare Department is fine and Finance Department is also satisfying.

I think that Fisheries Department needs more attention. It generates much employment for our state. I request our Hon'ble Minister to pay more attention in this regard.

Sericulture is also very important. I think that we pay less attention through NLUP also in this sphere. I often think that our economy will be raised if we could give occupation to about 23,000 through Sericulture. Its marketing is good and there is no problem about its marketing. There is still a huge demand for silk in India. I Hope that our House Leader will also pay his attention towards Sericulture. Thank you, Speaker, Sir.

SPEAKER : Pu Joseph Lalhimpuia.

Pu JOSEPH LALHIMPUIA: Thank you, Speaker Sir. I would like to talk about Finance and Planning Department. 66 CSS scheme which are previously granted to the department directly are now placed under the State Plan Fund umbrella. Therefore, a new steps and approach has to be introduced. Our Ministers tried very hard to meet new system. I would like to point out only a few points in this regard.

Firstly, the Hon'ble House Leader Pu Lal Thanhawla made a proposal for construction of a big hall within my constituency; the foundation stone has already been laid in the previous term. We know that he himself and his Minister of State and Finance Minister and Planning Minister had tried very hard for this construction. ₹460 lakh for the construction of Lunglei Chanmari Hall had also been sanctioned yesterday. What I want to point out is that in order to sanction this ₹460 lakh, it has to be processed through 250 tables of officials. The process is too

long. We have to think about a shorter and easier way in this regard. I want to point out that with my gratitude.

Throughout the country, since the time of Planning Commission, any Plan which cannot be done through Normal Central Assistance is continued through Additional Central Assistance (ACA) which is formulated by the Planning Commission. BAFFACOS are also carried out through this scheme, like every other states of India. Meanwhile, regarding NLUP, we have found SPA (Special Plan Assistance) in our Plan. This has been started by Congress led UPA government throughout India. Speaker sir, I would like to point out that this Special Central Assistance has been started after our Hon'ble House Leader's effort to start NLUP with the approval of Prime Minister, UPA Chairperson and a meeting with Cabinet Secretary. This year is the fourth time that we use SPA under Plan fund. I urge that the people should know that NLUP has been carried out under this Special Plan Assistance. SPA has never been used in India before NLUP. We had now benefitted much from this SPA. Speaker sir, we the Education Department are also going to build Education Centre worth ₹8 crore at Treasury Square through this SPA.

Further, we have availed ₹896.58 crore under the new system of plan. This is mainly used for salary of government servants. The Divisibility outlay was increased a little from the previous year. Speaker sir, during the Planning Commission period, on the effort of our Chief Minister, we used to get around 50-200 crore rupees beyond the normal plan fund which has been calculate through Gadgil Mukherji formula. However, the Planning Commission had been abolished now, therefore, there is no way we could get more fund from Normal Central Assistance if we do not increase our revenue resources. Thus, we need to pay revenue through our land, our vehicles, our oil, our salaries, and our power consumption, rice consumption, etc. for ourselves, for our state and for the government.

Lastly I want to suggest our Planning Department to form screening committee as 66 CSS had come under plan fund. Placing CSS under may create problems for us, but it can also be a blessing for us. It means that we have much more fund for development work under plan fund. That is why I suggest that the Planning Department and the Finance Department may form a screening committee, which could easily screen all the proposals for work immediately and effectively. Speaker, Sir, I also think that we need to monitor the development we have made, the condition of the beneficiaries and its effect on GSDP through the departments like Sericulture, Horticulture and Fishery. Speaker sir, thank you for giving me more time.

SPEAKER : If there are no more speakers, we shall now call upon Pu Lalsawta, Hon'ble Finance Minister to wind-up the discussion and beg the House to pass his Demands in respect of Law and Judicial Department, Taxation Department, Finance Department, Planning & Programme Implementation Department, the total amount of which is ₹80,763.29 lakh.

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that Er. Rinawma has point out his desire to collect more revenue from online shopping and more taxation resources.

This has witnessed that we have many people with a great love for our state. Hon'ble member Pu K. Sangthuama had pointed out that the Office Expenses to be too high in various departments. The fact needs some clarification. The copy which our members have is the abstract copy. That amount has to be spent by the whole departments. There are various departments who are having offices at the district level as well as at the lower levels; some may even have two Directorates. Such being the case, high amount of OE is inevitable. Particularly regarding the Planning Department, we actually mean it for reserve fund. In some departments it is also meant to provide food to prisoners and patients. In fact, Taxation Department, Planning and Programme Implementation, Finance and Law department are always having insufficient fund. It is difficult to buy even a single computer set. The Office Expenses seems excessive because it includes the entire amount which has to be distributed to other districts as well.

Regarding proposal for MLA fund, what I want to said is that we need to work hard so that we could influence the people. In my personal opinion, not as the ministry, I think that if the MLA fund is increased, it may be more beneficial for our Constituencies. The development work done by the department requires various processes and there is possibility of lapse at some point. In case of MLA Fund, it is more directly executed and the people were more surveillance towards it. Although we all aware that we are not the executive, we surely are the legislature. However, we also have some social obligations, for that purpose, I think that to increase MLA fund will be highly beneficial. I hope we all are prepared to work harder for our people, with no difference between the ruling party and the opposition members.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have often talked about the NLUP and NLUP issues and I think that to repeat it is not necessary. I would like to explain the problems faced by us today as the Planning Commission has been scrubbed. Even after the commission stop functioning, the plan system remains very rigid. The SPA still the same, SCA remain the same. However, there can be no flexibility as before because the Commission itself has been scrubbed. We cannot divert any funds to other means. This is why it is true that salary of some departments were withheld. It is very difficult. We are working on how to solve this problem. Speaker sir, a full sitting of Planning Board has been scheduled to be held on 27th of this month. This issue will be an important subject. If the Planning Commission permits us to dispose the whole available fund of ₹3140 lakh, which includes all the CSS which has been placed under plan fund as our convenience, this problem will be easily settled. However, its terms for disposal remain rigid as it is; this is really a big problem for us. I hope the Hon'ble members will also understand our problems.

While there is the bright side in the Planning Commission, as pointed out by our Hon'ble member Pu Lalhimpuia, we may rather be benefitted from our new system. There comes a time in the past when we cannot use the available fund for more important subjects because it is meant for another head. It is sometimes a problem that all the funds are too rigid. Why does a full federating unit could not dispose the available fund for its own convenience? We can have our own priority, as also done in the centre. Therefore, it seems that this new system makes an attempt to amend that excessive rigidity to be more flexible for the need of the time. This may be

more appropriate for us. I also consider the screening committee, which has been suggested by Hon'ble member Pu Joseph Lalhimpuia, to be very important. It will shape the face of the Government a lot.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg this respected House to pass these Demands in respect to Law and Judicial Department, ₹2,781.15 lakh; Taxation Department, ₹1,233.30 lakh; Finance Department, ₹49,718.58lakh; Planning and Programme implementation Department, ₹27,030.26, the Total of which is ₹80,763.29 only for meeting expenses during 2014-2015. Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Finance Minister Pu Lalsawta has begged the House to pass the Demands in respect of hthe Departments under his concerned, the total amount is ₹80,763.29. Anyone who agree to pass the Demand, please say "Agree". Is there anyone who does not agree? If not, the Demand No. Demand No 4-Law and Judicial Department, ₹2,781.15; Demand No. 8-Taxation Department, ₹1,233.30; Demand No.9-Finance Department, ₹49,718.58. Demand no. 14-Planning and Programme implementation Department, ₹ 27,030.26, the total amount of which is ₹80763.29 lakh only has been pass by this House for meeting expenses during 2014-2015.

PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalthanliana, Minister may wind up the discussion and beg the House to pass his Demands.

PU P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER: Not many speakers had talk about the demands regarding my departments. However, Our Hon'ble members can at any time convey their needs and problems to our office or the Department officials.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, though there is nothing much to wind up regarding Social Welfare Department, I would like to highlight the new recent development within the departments. We all are aware of the work under ICDS, under this we have Integrated Child Protection Scheme for the protection of rights of children. The Government takes many steps for this regard, it had employed 188 new personnel and a new advertisement has also been floated. We have also established Shelter Home to help children in needs in five districts. Though we are not Education Department, we have a residential school which we called EKLAVYA. In that institution of ours at Pukpui, Lunglei, one can study Class VI - Class XII. This is a residential school for the poorer sections of children and their result is also very satisfying. The proposal for establishment of such institution at Serchhip for ₹12 crore is still under process and we hope it could be started from the new session. As such, important initiatives were going on under the active guidance of our Chief Minister.

Our Department has also established several Tribal Girls' Hostel from Tribal Welfare Ministry. It has been done through consultancy firm and two of them were now inaugurated which are at Saitual and KM Higher Secondary School both worth ₹3.60 crore generally.

Another sanction for construction at Saiha, Mamit and Lunglei has also been made and 50% of it being released.

Lawngtlai and Mamit District were included in the Indian Government's Scheme for the development of 90 under developed Districts throughout India. This has been proposed to be done through 11th Five Year Plan and ₹21.6 crore for Mamit District and ₹24.3 crore for Lawngtlai District has been proposed. From this fund, we had alredy constructed many schools, hostels and ITI building. We also have three block viz. Chawngte Block, Lawngtlai Block ang West Phaileng Block selected within this 12th Five Year Plan. The Central Government had agreed ₹4.5 crore each for the development of these three districts from which 50% had been already released. Immense effort has also been made to avail the remaining amount of fund. All these work are done properly by a Committee under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner.

There are many things which are still doubtful in this new system and new central ministry. Recently we were given ₹2.36 crore from Tribal Welfare Ministry but the reason and what it meant is not specified. There are cases likewise which are sanctioned not from our DPR. Speaker sir, we are now undertaking under the National Social Assistance Programme various schemes like old age pension, widow pension, disable pension, National Benefit Scheme, through which ₹20,000 was given to support a family when the head of the family died. We were granted ₹830.09 lakh for this NSAP during 2013-2014. For the year 2014-2015, we were granted ₹2431 lakh for NSAP. We still are not clear about how it must be disposed, however it is noteworthy that the fund under NSAP Scheme has been increased to two times the previous year. Regarding old age pension scheme, I would like to point out that it has been granted till September and we hope to distribute at least before Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding LAD, one of the most important machinery for the proper functioning of our society is to have an effective Village council. For this purpose, we tried our level best to stop the possibility of selling of votes in Village Council Elections by introducing single Ballot box. We also made the number of members in Village council to become odd number so that there could be clear ruling and opposition member. We had also proposed that the Village council election to be conducted by State Election Commission because we want that the election to be unbiased and not to be conducted under LAD. Women reservation and new five year term of Village council were also introduced.

We have also enacted "The Mizoram Animal Control and Taxation Bill" for the proper regulation of pets at villages. We hope that this may bring about changes in every village. We also think that there is a possibility that The Village Council/Local Council would avail huge amount of funds by making DPR through the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Shakshakikayan Abhiyan (RGPS). We had submitted ₹8,748.49 lakh DPR to the central government. The funding is done 90:10. It will be used for administration of Village Councils, State Election Commission, SIRD. We hope that we would succeed.

Though our available fund is not as many as the previous years, we made an immense effort to establish valuable assets for our state. As we all know, we do not have a recreational places for children, youth and even old aged. For this purpose, Hlimen Local Council has given us a huge plot of land which they called it 'Lalsavunga ral dan kawn' and also 'Lung Den Mual'. I have also personally visited twice already. We are trying to establish a park there after the name of Lalsavunga who is the founder of Aizawl City calling it as 'Lalsavunga Park.'

We also want to use the funds we get from 13th Finance Commission as effective as possible. In this regard, we are trying to install Solar Street Light at every village through ZEDA by paying only 10% from our side. We hope that we could install at most of the villages using this available fund of ₹216 lakh.

The LAD Department used to give Housing Loan every year. This has been done through LIC. But LIC has been stopped and the loan was given from ₹4 crore granted from plan fund for two years. However, this would not be possible this year. It is difficult for the government as the loan recovery is not good. We are trying to take a new step in this regard. Especially for Government servants, we tried our level best to give housing loan through HUDCO at least from next year.

Lastly, Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about Horticulture. As our Hon'ble member Pu Lalhimpuia had stated, we tried our best to dispose the available fund as effective as possible. We are currently having beneficiaries of 23,829 families. Surveys have been conducted in every BHO to check the work of our beneficiaries. In respect of the 1st and 2nd phase of NLUP, a careful survey has been done by our officials whether the trade may be Tung, Orange or areca, visiting the beneficiaries as far as possible. Though the plants were not mature yet, the survival chance as assessed were 78.84% in Serchhip District, 76,72% in Lunglei District, 66.11% in Champhai District. It is very low in Saiha District which is 10.95%, I beg my fellow MLA to pay attention towards this for its success. 74.27% in Kolasib District, 69.86% in Aizawl District, 59.16% in Lawngtlai District and 61.30% in Mamit District. The overall percentage of survival chance is 67.93%. Likewise, our Department has tried its level best to make this programme a success. We are also trying to provide assistance to our beneficiaries who want to further developed their work. We had asked our officials to prepare a detail data regarding each and every kind of crop which have been cultivated in each village so that we can prepare even for its marketing for the coming 4 or 5 years.

I often asked why we keep on importing vegetables from Silchar while we can produce at our own state? Onion, for example, can be successfully grown in our state but we still are importing in a large scale. To handle this, we have bought 3 quintals of onion seed this year. Anyone even a government servant can grow if he desire to. I would like to state that in order to increase our production, it is not sufficient to concentrate ourselves to the poorer section. We need to promote who can produce at a large scale. Likewise, I think that the government must assist such people so that our production could be increased.

It is also wrong to make Mizo product more costly than those imported from outside states. What I said to the DHO is that we must try to make our products cheaper than those imported from Silchar. If we could do so, no one will import it from Silchar after two or three years. At that time, we will be able to dominate our own trade. We tried our best to change our system gradually and making our farmers who are more than 60 % of the total population more enthusiastic to have more products.

One of the main resources of Horticulture Department is the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). From that mission, we are approved ₹52 crore from which ₹26 has been already released. Regarding the disposal of this fund what we regarded important after a departmental discussion is the Scarcity of water. Many of our failures are due to this problem. Therefore, in order to handle this problem, we tried to developed water reservoirs. However, it is difficult to transport cement and bricks at the farms, we made an attempt to promote pre-fabricated material which could be easily fitted for a water tank. We have now introduced such technologies at 30 places on experimental basis. We also think about introducing building water tanks using geo-membrane.

We are also trying to establish an excellence centre at a land donated by Haulawng and Mualthuam in the south. We proposed ₹5 creore for this year and another ₹5 crore for next year. The proposed sum or ₹5 crore has been year marked already. DPR for this purpose has been prepared by an Israeli expert consultant. Speaker sir, we have also avail funds from RKVY for Horticulture department. We have ₹1,225 lakh in Stream I of RKVY. This fund is for construction of green house and promotion of fruit production. Stream two is called National Vegetable initiative for urban cluster which is meant for meeting the need of urban areas in vegetables. This will be first started in Aizawl and Lunglei. We have kept ₹200 lakh for this purpose. Speaker, Sir, I want to state that that we are not covering Saiha and Lawngtlai District under RKVY Scheme because the District council had separately availed this RKVY fund.

We also avail fund from National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). The main purpose of this scheme is to provide sufficient water for crop plantation in a most advanced and economic measures like Drip Irrigation or using sprinklers. ₹639 lakh was approved under NMSA and ₹450 lakh was already released. Those are the main income resources of Horticulture Department. It is difficult to highlight all the initiatives taken by the government. I request our Hon'ble MLAs to recommends farmers who deserves assistance under certain schemes.

Therefore, Speaker, Sir, I beg this House to pass my demand No. 19, 29, and 32 for ₹33,554.73 lakh only for meeting expenses during 2014-2015 in respect of the following Departments: -

Demand Nos.	Department	Amount of Budget
No. 19	Local Administration	₹7,310.05 lakh
No. 29	Social Welfare	₹12,682.68 lakh
No. 32	Horticulture	₹13,562.00 lakh

TOTAL	₹33,554.73 lakh
-------	-----------------

SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister, Pu P.C. Lalthanliana has begged the House to pass his Demand No.19, 29 and 32, totally ₹80,763.29 for meeting expenses during this year.

(The Demands are voted and passed.)

PU P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

SPEAKER: We still have demand of one Minister. Shall we take it now or keep it for the afternoon? If so, let us call upon Pu B.D. Chakma to wind up our discussion.

Dr. B.D. CHAKMA, MINISTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First, I would like to clarify the working of Fisheries and Sericulture department. These two departments concern life science.

Regarding Fisheries, all the funding has been done through CSS. As we are aware, CSS functions very strictly. If we delay the UC, release of fund was delayed and if we do not achieve our target, full amount of fund could not be availed. It is all time bound and if the time lapse, there is nothing much we can do.

There are many beneficiaries who tried their best to succeed through the assistance they receive while there are others who never tried. Outside Mizoram, everyone tried their best to succeed from the first time they receive assistance from the government and many of them are also succeeded. The Central Government also expected us to show improvement every year. If we do not execute the scheme well and no improvement has been shown every year, we think that they will scrub this scheme. I request all the beneficiaries through this house to use the available assistance like supply of fish fingerlings, fish seeds, etc. properly at the exact time.

Sericulture is also a branch of Life Science; it is also funded through CSS. We avail funds from Central Silk Board and North East Textile Promotion Scheme. This has been computerized and the Silk Board Scientists monitor our work using satellite. They also recorded whether we have potential areas or not. Thus, they are much more aware which scheme would be more appropriate for our state. I beg the people to use the money at the time bound as far as possible because we need to submit UC at the exact time. If not, the fund available may be withheld.

Sericulture is a very sensitive business. During my visit to Lawngtlai last month, some beneficiaries reported that all their silkworm were death. I have a knowledge that this is because there is a use of DDT nearby. Looking after silkworm is like looking after an infant. There may die in a large scale due to immediate change of weather and pollution.

Therefore, training is very important in Fisheries and Sericulture. I request the beneficiaries to attend any training if called for while distributing the money.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg this House to pass the Demands of the departments under my concerned, such as: -

Demand Nos.	Department	Amount of Budget
No. 35	Fisheries	₹2,856.85 lakh
No. 41	Sericulture	₹2,833.40 lakh
	TOTAL	₹5,690.25 lakh

SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister, Pu B.D. Chakma has begged the House to pass his Demand of ₹5,690.25 lakh in respect of Fisheries Department and Sericulture Department.

(The Demands are voted and passed.)

It seems we did well in today's proceedings. We have finished our business before the time fixed. I hope the people would understand that this does not mean the members are inattentive towards the budget discussion; it is because of the situation we face at the moment. We have already passed three budgets during this very year. The House will be stand adjourned for the time being, we will continue our session tomorrow, at 10:30 AM.

Sitting is adjourned. 1:08 PM