

**SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MIZORAM
(SEVENTH SESSION)**

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR THIRD SITTING ON THURSDAY, THE 8th OCTOBER, 2015
(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.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

2. *** Resolutions**

NGURTHANZUALA
Secretary

* Please see Bulletin Part-II No. 103, dated the 1st October, 2015 for relative precedence of Private Members' Resolutions to be moved.

SPEAKER : If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but in actions and in truth.

(I John 3:17-18)

We shall now have a question hour. In order to take more questions, we shall take only three supplementary questions today. Let us call upon Dr. K. Beichhua to ask Starred Question No. 33.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Thank you and my question to the hon. Minister for Agriculture is:—

- a) Whether there is NLUP fund being loaned to an individual or organizations since its implementation.
- b) If so, to whom it is loaned.
- c) How much it is loaned.
- d) Numbers of motor vehicles purchased under NLUP scheme.

SPEAKER : Let the Minister answer.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answers are as follows:

- a) Interest free loans were given to implementing partners of NLUP.
- b) Those are:
 - i) Hnam Chhantu
 - ii) L.Z. Bamboo Industries
 - iii) Mizoram Broom India
 - iv) Community Development Action and Reflection (CDAR)
 - v) Samuel Tea Factory
- c)

i) Hnam chhantu	-	₹230 lakh
ii) L.Z. Bamboo Industries	-	₹10 lakh
iii) Mizoram Broom India	-	₹30 lakh
iv) Community Development Action & Reflection (CDAR)	-	₹50 lakh
v) Samuel Tea Factory	-	₹57.77 lakh
Total	-	₹ 377.77 lakh
- d) 68 vehicles of different types had been bought under NLUP Scheme.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from the owner of the

question and another two members.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Pu Speaker, my supplementary questions are:

i) I have read the NLUP Manual and found no provisions to lent such money. According to which provision it was lent?

ii) What is the time period for its repayment?

ii) Had the borrower repay the sum? If not, are there any obligations? Is it available for others also? How much was spent for purchase of vehicles?

PU LALRUATKIMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. What is the interest of such loans? Is it borrowed in simple interest or compound interest?

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, who owned those mentioned firms? Are they owned by private individual or an organization?

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: There is a time bound for its repayment and was given with a mortgage. There is neither a provision that prohibits lending money from NLUP. Therefore, the loan was given with an expectation of higher success on the decision of the Board.

I am not sure about the cost of the vehicles. It was given to every district such as:

Aizawl District	-	8
Agriculture Department	-	9
Horticulture Department	-	9
AH & Vety Department	-	9
Soil & Water Conservation	-	5
Sericulture Department	-	3
Industries Department	-	4
Fisheries Department	-	4
Environment & Forest	-	1
I & PR Department	-	8
NLUP Implementing Board	-	8

It is given without an interest.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : An RTI answer said that it was given to an

individual while the answer here said that it was given to a firm. Please clarify that.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: The owner of Hnam Chhantu is Pu Ramhmangaiha; all of them have their respective firm.

SPEAKER : Starred Question No. 34.

PU LALTHANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, for clarification. These loans were given for the sole purpose of the success of NLUP. They all have a proper mortgage. If there is misuse of such loans, it will be enquired. Half of the available amount of ₹2,813 crore was meant for infrastructure development. It was also given as per the decision of NLUP Apex Board under the chairmanship of Chief Minister carefully. It is given to help them in their production as well as its marketing.

PU LALRUATKIMA : The number of vehicles bought mentioned here is not match with the number given to different departments. There are only 65 being given to the departments while the answer said 68.

SPEAKER : That could be clarified from the office. We do not have a proper record here. We shall now take Starred Question No. 34 from Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: My Question No. 34 regarding School Education Department are:

- a) Number of HSLC examination Centre in Mizoram.
- b) Number of students required to have such centre.
- c) Number of Students in Tlabung Centre.

SPEAKER : Let the Minister answer.

PU H. ROHLUNA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer is:

- a) There are 108 HSLC Nos. examinations Centre in Mizoram.
- b) Minimum requirement is 100 students and no upper limit. It is also based on the capacity of the building of such centre.
- c) 285 Nos. candidate in 2014 and 245 Nos. candidates in 2015.

SPEAKER : Supplementary Question from the owner of the

question and two other members.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: There is only one HSLC examination centre within the whole area of my constituency. The number of students is also increasing. This creates a huge accommodation problem.

We had applied for another Centre at Tipperaghat Govt. High School last year. Will that be permissible? If not, what is the reason?

SPEAKER : If there is no more supplementary question, the Minister may answer.

PU H. ROHLUNA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, there are many details to go through regarding examination centres. It involves security, communication and confidentiality. Therefore, the application for Examination Centre at Tipperaghat is not yet granted by the Board.

SPEAKER : Let us end there for now. You may pursue the matter to the office. Starred Question No. 35 from Pu Lalruatkima.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. My starred question No. 35 to hon. Agriculture Minister are:

- a) Amount of fund availed for NLUP during 2012-2015 and from which source it is availed.
- b) Amount of NLUP fund kept in bank and its interest till date.
- c) Amount of NLUP fund kept in K-Deposit.

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister concern may answer.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, my answer is:

- a) The funds received during 2012-2015 are as follows:

(i)	2012-2013	-	₹370.00 crore
(ii)	2012-2014	-	₹370.00 crore
(ii)	2014-2015	-	₹317.32 crore
	Total	-	₹1057.32 crore

The NLUP fund is availed from the Planning Commission of India.

- b) The amount which was kept in the bank was ₹1,050.91 crore; the amount of its

interest is 6.29 crore.

c) ₹437.43 crore was kept in K-Deposit.

SPEAKER : Supplementary questions.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Our Hon'ble Speaker has now stated clearly that the NLUP fund was from Plan Fund which has been a point of argument for while. Besides, he has also said that the bank interest is ₹6.29 crore while in the answer to Er. Lalrinawma's question on 8th July, the interest was stated as ₹6.47; and from another source I have received, the interest amounting to ₹6.74. How could that decrease be? I requested the Hon'ble Minister to clarify it.

Besides, we have a General Financial Rules which states that withdrawal of government money is only for immediate disbursement; if it is meant for other purposes, it is against the rules. If withdrawing the NLUP fund and keeping in the bank separately is against the General Financial Rule? Does NLUP have a separate financial rule? If not, why does the government functions against the General Financial Rule?

SPEAKER : Another Supplementary Question from Pu Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, my question is - Can the accumulated interest from NLUP fund can be used for matching shares?

SPEAKER : If there are no more questions, the Hon'ble Minister concerned may answer.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: The amount I had mentioned was of the present. It keeps changing from time to time as we also used to dispose as required.

Secondly, I would like to inform the House that all the funds coming from the Planning Commission is not a Plan Fund.

It is not possible that the interest of NLUP fund for matching shares; we created Chief Minister's Special Scheme from that. We help those who belong to the poorest of the poor sections of the society as required.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, it seems that there is no proper financial guideline for disposal of NLUP fund. Does it mean that the NLUP implementing Board may dispose the money as desired by itself?

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the Apex Board is the highest authority regarding NLUP; the money may be used as desired by the Board itself. It is used for better purposes.

SPEAKER : We shall now go to another question. Dr. K. Beichhua may ask Starred Question No. 37.

DR. K. BEICHHUA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. My question to the Hon'ble School Education Minister is:

- a) Whether DEO Saiha was transferred recently;
- b) If so, whether another DEO is appointed at his place.

However, Pu Speaker, I contacted Saiha yesterday, they told me that another DEO has been appointed. Thus, with your permission Sir, we may accept this question as already answered.

SPEAKER : We shall take that one as gratitude. We shall now call upon Pu P.C. Zoram Sangliana to ask Starred Question No. 37 which is originally submitted by Pu R.L. Pianmawia and he authorized Pu P.C. Zoram Sangliana to ask in his stead.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, my question to the Hon'ble Minister of Printing & Stationery Department Minister on behalf of Pu R.L. Pianmawia is:

Have all the departments under the State Govt. availed Stationery material from the Printing & Stationery Department?

SPEAKER : The Minister concerned may answer it.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer is: No they don't.

SPEAKER : Supplementary questions.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, my supplementary questions are: Which departments do not avail their stationery materials from Printing & Stationery Department? Can the Minister assure us to take action against those who do not comply with several Office Memorandums issued to avail the said from Printing & Stationery Department?

SPEAKER : The Minister concerned may answer.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer is:

38 Departments purchase material from the Printing & Stationery Department during 2014-2015 and the transaction amounts to ₹63,90,361/-. The departments who did not purchase from us are:

1. Art & Culture Department
2. Sinlung Hills Development Council
3. Local Administration Department
4. Deputy Commissioner, Aizawl
5. Governor
6. Motor Accident Claim Tribunal
7. Legislative Assembly
8. Excise & Narcotics
9. Taxation Department
10. Mizoram State Information Commission
11. AH & Vety Department
12. Sericulture Department
13. Tourism Department
14. L & E Department
15. Agriculture Department
16. Planning Department

During 2015-2016, 29 departments purchase from us and the value of such transactions is ₹26,54,977/-. Those who did not purchase from us during 2015-2016 are:

1. Legislative Assembly
2. Excise & Narcotics Department
3. Taxation Department
4. MPSC
5. Mizoram State Information Commission

6. AH & Vety Department
7. Fisheries Department
8. Power and Electricity Department
9. Sericulture Department
10. Tourism Department
11. UD & PA
12. Minor Irrigation Department
13. I & PR
14. Labour & Employment Department
15. Agriculture Department
16. Horticulture Department
17. Planning Department

Pu Speaker, as per the Office Memorandum of 16th September, 2014, it was proposed that the items at Luangmual Stationery Depot should be distributed to 15 departments and they were informed to take their share. The first letter was issued to these departments on 19.9.2014. As there is no significant response from some of the departments, reminders were sent on 30.1.2015, 12.5.2015, 21.7.2015 and 10.9.2015. However, some departments still do not comply with. I request, as there are many department officials present today, the departments to buy items from our department as it is for the financial benefit of the Government. I would also like to invite the Department Officials in their respective departments in this regard. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

PU T. SANGKUNGA : Pu Speaker, it was notified that disciplinary actions will be taken against those who do not buy materials from Printing & Stationery Department before. Is there any disciplinary action taken in this regard?

SPEAKER : The Minister concerned may answer.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, we do not take such disciplinary action from our side as we do not have the authority to do so.

SPEAKER : Let us now move to Starred Question No. 38. I call upon Pu Lalrinawma to ask the question.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Thank You, Pu Speaker. My question to Law &

Judicial Department Minister is –

If the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 adopted in Mizoram.

SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister may answer.

PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer is, 'No, it is not adopted.'

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, this act may be used to evict the people who do not want to leave government quarters and buildings even after they are not entitled. In order to do so without this act is very difficult. It needs to be done through civil suit which requires very long time. Besides, some departments have Estate Officers. What is the duty and work of such Estate Officers at the moment and base on which act did they perform the work if this act is not adopted?

SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister concerned may answer.

PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER: The reason that the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 not being adopted is, it is not deemed necessary. Some laws which extend to whole of India by nature were not required to be adopted. This act is also among those laws. Besides, as we go through the act, we think that is less concern with the state. We simply think that it is generally regarding the central government. We were also not approach by any department in concern with the rule. I would like to say that if any department needs help regarding this act, we the Law & Judicial Department are ready to help them as far as we could. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Next question from Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. My questions for Hon'ble Minister of Information & Public Relation are:

- a) Nos. of vehicles condemned under I & PR Department during 2013-2015;
- b) Whether such condemned Vehicles auctioned;
- c) Sum collected by the Department from it.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the Minister to answer.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answers is:

- a) Three vehicles were condemned during 2013-2015.
- b) Yes.
- c) ₹2,32,700 was collected from the auction and was deposited under Treasury Challan No. 232037 Dt. 17.12.2013.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question, if any.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, my supplementary question is – How old are such vehicles? How many kilometers did they travel?

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I could not prepare myself due to illness and I may not be able to answer some questions. However, as far as my knowledge, the vehicles are:

MZ 01-D-2830 Gypsy	-	Market Value : ₹69,000
MZ-01-C-1463	-	Market Value : ₹50,600
MZ-01-C-1464	-	Market Value : ₹59,000
MZ-01-D-2829	-	Market Value : ₹62,200
TOTAL	-	₹2,32,700

These were auctioned as per Mizoram Gazette 22.8.2001, notified in Government of Mizoram Privatization of Vehicle Scheme, 2001.

SPEAKER : The next question is also from Pu Rinawma. Let us call upon him to ask Question No. 40.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Question No. 40 for Agriculture Minister are:

- a) Nos. of Oil Palm Factories established in Mizoram till date.
- b) Amount of subsidy given to the companies establishing factories in Mizoram.
Names of such companies with the amount they received;
- c) Nos. of oil palm farmers within Mamit and Kolasib district;
- d) Total area covered by plantation of Oil Palm within Mamit and Kolasib District;
- e) Amount of FFBs expected from these two districts per day at the most.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer is:

- a) There is one Oil Palm Factory at Bukvannei.
- b) A subsidy of ₹250 lakh had been given to the owner of the factory, Godrej Agrovet Ltd.
- c) There are 5197 families of oil palm farmers in Kolasib and Mamit District at present.
- d) The area of oil palm plantation as on 2014 within Kolasib and Mamit District is 10,751 hectares and it is expanded this year.
- e) At most, around 187 Qtls. of FFBs were produced per day in Kolasib and Mamit District.

SPEAKER : Supplementary Questions.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Why was the machinery which is capable of processing only 120 metric tons per day was installed while there are other capable of producing 180 metric tons per day? We had already experienced this kind of problem at Chhingchhip. Will it be possible to install bigger machinery?

SPEAKER : Let the Minister concerned answer.

R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, from the part of the farmers, it is difficult to produce the maximum amount throughout the year. It is felt that there is no need for bigger machinery at the moment. Besides, it is proposed that another factory also to be established.

SPEAKER : We shall now go to Question No. 41. As the owner of this question is not present today, we shall call upon Pu P.C. Zoram Sangliana to ask the question on behalf of him. There will be no supplementary question as the owner is not present.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 41 raised by Pu R.L. Pianmawia to be answered by Hon'ble Minister of Soil & Water Conservation Department:

Is there any proposal for new initiative within 7th Tuivawl Constituency under Soil & Water Conservation Department?

SPEAKER : Pu Lalrinmawia Ralte, Hon'ble Minister may answer.

PU LALRINMAWIA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer to Starred question No. 41 raised by Pu R.L. Pianmawia is:

“Ruangva Micro Watershed Project Darlawn” is proposed under RKVY Project which is within 7th Tuivawl A/C during 2015-2016. A Sectoral Allocation was being awaited from State RKVY Nodal Department. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Supplementary Questions.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister if he could tell us about the current status of various initiatives in other places as well. Even if he is not prepared at this time, I will be very thankful if he could give us during this session.

SPEAKER : Let us give time to the Hon'ble Minister.

PU LALRINMAWIA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I am sorry that I am not prepared with all the papers here but I will try my best to provide within this session. Regarding the question from Hon'ble MLA from Kolasib Constituency, 22 projects were submitted for 2015-2016 under RKVY Project. In order to know the exact conditions of such projects, we need to first receive details from the Nodal Department.

According to our proposal, 5 projects for Aizawl District, 6 from Serchhip District, 2 from Champhai District, 4 from Mamit District, 3 from Lunglei District, 1 from Kolasib District and 1 from Lawngtlai District, the total of which is 22. However, an administrative approval was not obtained and thus, it seems that needs some revision. Necessary steps were been taken in this regard also. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over now.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Pu Speaker, before we move on to the next business, I need to clear up my point regarding number of vehicle being allotted to several departments. It is 65 according to my calculation but the hon. Minister

claimed this as wrong information and I am deeply concerned with that. I have gone through all the records and am sure it is only 65 that are distributed. I request the Hon'ble Minister to apologize for that as it violates my privilege.

SPEAKER : If it is against your privilege, you may refer it to Privilege Committee. Pu H. Zothangliana Khiantge, Pu R.L. Pianmawia and Pu Hmingdailova were granted leave for some other necessary programmes. Today is scheduled for a Private Member's Day as per the BAC. Five similar resolutions were received from which one was picked; let us now call upon Pu Vanlalzawma to move the resolution.

PU VANLALZAWMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The resolution which I am going to move today is "Let necessary steps be taken for the implementation of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples." We know that it is a little vague if it has to be done by the government or another. However, it is our opinion that it is for all the Mizo people as well as the government to take necessary steps in our respective sphere.

'The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples' has been adopted by the UN General Assembly. It takes a lot of efforts to be recognized as indigenous by the UN. It is only in 1999 after an immense effort that Mizo could be included in the list. The movement alone started a long way back in 1982 when the UN formed a Working Group on Indigenous People. It also declared 1993 as Indigenous year and also 1994-2004 as an 'Indigenous Decade'. As a result, this UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was later passed by the General Assembly On 13th September, 2007. It has 46 Articles which could also be benefited by Mizo as we are recognized as indigenous.

There are many colonial territories in the past. When the colonialist left such colonies, some changes were made in the previous administration. Mizoram had also been divided into different territories for the sake of administrative convenience. This has been creating problems for us now. The Central government often does not aware of our differences, our separate needs and our uniqueness. Many steps were taken which is not applicable and irrelevant for our state. In all this kind of problems we are facing today, this declaration may help us a lot as India is also accepting the declaration.

This declaration is also very important for the unification of all the Mizo tribe living in different territories. The time may come when the Mizos live under one unified nation. This declaration may serve as a good preparation to have political as well as cultural unity. Therefore, I beg this House to pass this resolution, “Let necessary steps be taken for the implementation of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” Thank you.

SPEAKER : We shall now have discussion on the resolution. Each member will be given 10 minutes. Who will be the first? Pu R. Romawia.

PU R. ROMAWIA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, First I think that we need to remember once again that we are sworn in as per the constitution of India. Besides we are still within the sovereignty of India while withholding our identity.

This resolution is concerned with UNO. It seems that there is nothing much we can do. Besides, there are various things which had already been done in regard to the welfare of the indigenous people in India. Since the time of our founding fathers, the rights of indigenous were greatly preserved. It is for this purpose that the 6th Schedule was also given. Therefore, I would like to propose amendment in the wording of the resolution as “Let the steps being taken by the union government for the implementation of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples be continued.” We were also given a separate state for our own administration. This is also a great privilege for us.

There is no end in politics; the system changes from one time to another. The end of a society or a tribe can be a success as well as elimination. It is a question whether we are really firm on our identity. It is inappropriate to talk about Mizo Nationalism and Mizo nation while we still want to enjoy tribal benefits offered by the Indian Government. We are included in the territory of India due to the provisions of Indian Independence Act. It is not our choice to stay here, nor were we given the option to decide our own future. Some parts were included in India, some in Burma and Bangladesh. This is why Pu Laldenga had insisted that, while the Peace Accord was signed, an article so that we may administer ourselves to be included in the constitution. That is given in Article 370G. The privilege and conditions we received from Indian Government is phenomenal. That is why we are present to call upon the unity of the Mizos living in different part of the world. That is why we could console the needs and suffering of Mizos living in other places as a parent today. Our status

today is not that bad and the decisions made by our former leaders were wrong.

Further, it seems that, from the incidents in the past as well as the present condition, we are not ready to be an independent nation yet. How we oppose the oppositions, how we take a defeat in election and how we treat the losers are a sign that we are not yet ready. Becoming independent nation without economic as well as moral preparedness can be a bane for society. Therefore, as we are living within India, it is great that the founding fathers like Gandhi and Nehru made provisions for the welfare of the indigenous people even before the UNO takes steps to do so. Thus, I suggested the amendment of this resolution as I have already stated. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The hon'ble Minister has taken 15 minutes. It will be better if we accommodate ourselves within 10 minutes.

PU K. SANGTHUAMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The member before me had stated many things in the past. However, the resolution today is not about the independence of Mizoram. It is just about the status and privileges which could be enjoyed by Mizoram under the UN Declaration. It is important for the betterment of the Mizos from the conditions today, not only for those who staying in Mizoram but also all of those who are living in other countries also.

Our Hon'ble Speaker has said that we Mizos are not ready yet for many things which I also fully accepted. If a society or a tribe is too small and immature, their mindset and desires are also narrow and immature. However, while we say that we are immature and young as a society, it is obvious that we developed a lot, we are also somehow far sighted. This is obvious from the fact that there is an urge for independence only after 19 years of Indian independence. It is true that the motherhood of India is great. However, she could not do everything nor provide everything. It is nothing wrong that we prepare ourselves for a better future. This resolution never tries to violate the desire of Indian Union nor urge for separatist tendencies.

It is also obvious from yesterday's business that our state has separate needs with different socio-economic conditions as well as different culture and topography; all these require special attention. It is necessary that central government may interact more with the state in order to meet the exact need of the states.

It is true to some extents that there is nothing much we can do as a state in the UNO. However, ZORO which is an organization had achieved a far reaching impact in the UN as they often participated in its meeting also. This shows that there is something which we can do in the UN also. This resolution has nothing to do with fighting for independence. Its main objective is for the unity of all the Mizos from different parts of the world. Therefore, I pleaded this august house to pass this resolution for the unity of all the Mizos living in all parts of the world. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu P.C. Zoram Sangliana.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, it is a privilege to have a discussion on the Resolution moved by our hon. MLA, Pu Vanlalawma and I support the statement of our Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that there is no end in politics. I also believe that it is necessary to utilize our thoughts on the effects when a Resolution is moved. It is also necessary to know if the Resolutions were moved for the safety of all the ethnic Mizo tribes. This Resolution also holds many advantages and we are all accepted as indigenous Tribe by the Indian Constitution and the 'Schedule Tribe in India'.

Our Parliamentary Affairs Minister has moved this Resolution with the amended form based on our rules and the other members also feel this to be important. On the other hand, I would like to propose this to end with a discussion because it may not be effective in our appeal to UNO even if it is passed. It would be appreciated if we proclaim through this Resolution that we truly want unity with all those ethnic Mizo tribe refugees here in Mizoram.

Pu Speaker, if we look into several records, the population of the Mizo tribes differs from census to census. The population as per 1921 census had reached more than 10,000 but decreased with more than 100 in 1961 census..... (**SPEAKER** : Your time is up.) One minute for the conclusion, Pu Speaker. When I think of all such cases, I disagree that the Resolution be simply passed. Pu Speaker, I support this Resolution if it is passed according to the amended form. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Lt. Col. Z.S. Zuala.

Lt. Col. Z.S. ZUALA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The "UN declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" was declared by the UNO for the specific rights of

the indigenous tribes and the “group having as such specific right based on their historical ties to particular territory and their cultural or historical distinctiveness from other population” means that the individuals/groups are the collective right of culture. They should protect our culture and we also need to protect our identity under this as well as our languages. We had achieved ‘Guinness book of world records’ in Cheraw (Bamboo dance) earlier and this shows that our culture is well protected.

The India Govt. has favored us a lot in employment; they provide us with a tribal concession at the central services and the Mizos are also given the most senior bureaucrat posts. Any officer from the North-East tribal community could also serve up to the senior officer in the Defense Ministry which further shows we are not being deprived. The Govt. of India favors and takes care of us a lot in the field of Politics since the time of Nehru family were in power.

So, I agree with the suggestion of Pu R. Romawia for amending this Resolution and I believe other members will accept the same as well. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu T. T. Zothansanga.

PU T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, it is very appreciative to have this sophisticating Resolution but I am afraid it may not reach that far as expected.

Being a part of India, our environment is in good condition. It seems that we have achieved almost every specific rights of the indigenous tribe excluding self-determination. Our leaders failed to achieve self-determination even after giving their best effort and so I was wondering if it is a great idea to have an agenda that faces towards this direction. Anyway, I believe that the main objective is to unite all the ethnic Mizo tribes.

So, since we have a common opinion, I think the suggestion made by our Parliamentary Affairs Minister is safe where as the Govt. of India concern for accomplishing the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous People”. I, therefore, suggest that we maintain this Resolution as it is. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, it is a privilege to have a discussion

on this excellent resolution with a suggestion to amend the context.

It is much appreciative to have the UN declaration which was also already declared on 13th Sept, 2007. We have freedom in our culture, a separate authority and Govt. in our state but this discussion is still needed so that more efforts may be made by the Central Govt. to resolve our complications. The Central Govt. acts on many works in our state without consulting the state Govt. So, I agree that this Resolution is very important for the freedom and rights of the Indigenous people.

There is nothing more valuable than our land being included in India. Also, it is truly pleasing that the UNO made the Indigenous People's Rights. No one will help us in improving our land unless we take the steps for ourselves and we seriously need to teach ourselves to love our own land. The one reason why our land is not doing well and why many of our projects failed is because of the tension between the people and the Govt.

The truth is that many of our youths would not have been recruited to the army if our former soldiers had not fight for our freedom. So, having a discussion on the Indigenous People Rights by the UNO in this august House could make the Central Govt. give more importance to our problems and it may as well pave a way in resolving our financial situation.

SPEAKER : Pu R. Vanlalvena.

PU R. VANLALVENA : Pu Speaker, it is fortunately that our minister has wisely suggested altering the context of the Resolution which has been moved.

We the Mizos are quite fortunate to be able live freely under the Govt. of India. It is not difficult to be a permanent indigenous member in UNO where they were just given a forum. The UNO divided the world into 7 blocks as we are included in the Asia Block. We the people of Asia Block also have 2 representatives, one from the Philippines and the other from Bangladesh Chakmas. So, it is not safe for us if those Chakmas are more influential than us in the UN. This Resolution therefore needs to be passed with immediate effect.

The condition of the Chakmas in Bangladesh is so miserable that the situation encourages them to stand in strong. The Chief of the UN permanent Secretary is of

Chakma, Chandra Roy Hendrickson. As such is the condition, I believe that our situation will more miserable if this resolution is passed.

This resolution has already been accepted by the UNO in 2007 as so by 149 countries. I, therefore, agree with the suggestion of our leaders to make a few changes as I opine to be more secure for the Mizos. Thank you.

SPEAKER : We will take a break; we will continue with the discussion at 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Before we proceed further, I would like to announce with deep sorrow the loss of our former Assembly Secretary, Pu L.C. Thanga who died of diabetes this morning at 4:45 AM. We will continue with our discussion by calling Pu Lalthanliana to have his time.

PU LALTHANLIANA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. One thing I would like to share that cross my mind is that we do not need to thank to India for it is our mother. I also believe that it is essential for the Central Govt. to provide us with foods and our financial needs. We are fortunate that the central prioritize the welfare of the minorities.

It is important for us to know the details of Rights provided to us by the UN since we are in a condition to face problems anytime; we need to unite ourselves. The Articles (1) (2) and (3) also pointed that we have the right to own our land and its resources and we need to stand together if any outsider claim our rights. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu John Siamkunga.

PU JOHN SIAMKUNGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, it is uncommon for us to have a discussion on UN Resolution here in the House. One important thing we must all know is that we can always make our rightful claim on our own land. This Resolution aims to save any tribe or community who are oppressed by others relating to Education, Economics or Freedom and that is why those who claimed themselves as indigenous tribe are recognized by the UN.

The UN gives importance to those who cannot enjoy their Rights by stating in the United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous People, 13 September, 2007 that “An important standard for the treatment of indigenous people that will undoubtedly be significant tool towards eliminating human rights violations against the planet’s 370 million indigenous people and assisting them in combating discrimination and marginalization”. That is why it is necessary for us to understand it more clearly.

There are 29 indigenous tribes in India, namely: - Adivasi, Munda from Chhota Nagpur, Kharia, Korku, Juang people, Santal, Sora people, Badaga from Tamil Nadu etc and they continuously claim their rights to the UN. When claiming these rights, it is necessary for the UN to see if they are being oppressed. We, the Mizos on the other hand, who are under the Indian Union, are not being oppressed from enjoying our rights.

We, the Mizos are written as ‘Mizoram and Naga’ and that we all claimed for having separate ethnic identity including those Khasi and Jaintia from Meghalaya, Karbi from Karbi Anglong, Irula from Tamil Nadu etc. who also fight for the same. So, we are not different from those indigenous tribes as we are one of them.

It is important for us to understand how dangerous it is to take this situation in the wrong sense and “The United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous People” explained by saying “it is not a legally binding instrument under international law” and “Indigenous historical grievances, temporary challenges, socio-economic, political and cultural aspirations is a culmination of generation’s long efforts by indigenous organizations to get international attention”. Therefore, we must know that the UNO cannot help those who are oppressed by other countries.

It is very unfortunate if our youths have a misconception that they as being compelled to recruit in the army due to impending war in the country which may break out anytime. The truth is, we do not own our rightful places in the army due to the warfare. We can never receive recruitment of 20% since we ourselves blocked our own opportunity for the same. Many of us may be recruited to the army if not for the warfare and that is our situation. Due to the warfare, we are being recruited fit or unfit for fear of the mizos may act as a spy. In fact, our missionaries left us due to the conflict. There was a conflict as villages were grouped in 1967 which eventually destroyed all our morals the effect which remain even today.

Lastly, Pu Dy. Speaker, we often claimed that Independent for Mizoram could be achieved without much effort which completely is misconception. The East Timor was colonized by the Portuguese for a very long time during the 16th Century and the Australoids and Melanesians who settled that land fought for their independence in 1975 but failed to achieve it and were colonized by Indonesia with many infrastructures. But still, no freedom was out of hand; the UN Peacekeeping Force therefore involved in the situation as they were ultimately recognized internationally in May 20, 2002 as they finally became independent.

Pu Dy. Speaker, it may be noted that their independent costs the live of more than 1 lakhs people as many died from the abuse and around 3 lakhs were sent back to West Timor by the terrorists and that further caused intensive war amongst each other. So, it much fortunate that we the indigenous tribes in India are able to claim our rights which we will continue to do so, we are eagerly waiting to live happily as one. While that is the case, it is important for us to teach ourselves the truth for wrong teaching can lead us in to trouble.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. K. Beichhua

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Pu Dy. Speaker. I thank the hon. Member, Pu Vanlalzawma for this great resolution as the future generations will then be able to look back at today's records of Mizoram Assembly House.

It is very important for us to concentrate on the important points of our today's discussion. After 25 years, this declaration was made for the indigenous people on the 13th Sept, 2007 so that they will be able to claim their rights. Having a discussion on this does not mean we will against the Indian laws or fight for independence but the objective is to expedite the UN declaration, 2007 and consider the rightful claim of the Mizo people. We also need to follow the Articles 1-46 of the UN which concern the indigenous tribes so as to the objective.

In the early days, the western parts who were colonized as a group desired to have a separate state where as people of the eastern parts that were separated wanted to be united as many have earned freedom. The UN also is still taking measures and continues to save many nations. During the World War II, the Allied Force (British & France) and the Axis clashed each other as Japan and India took aside with the Axis. The Atlantic Charter was issued in Newfoundland in August, 1941 with a purpose to

support the restoration of self-government to those nations who had lost its status as a result of the war. After achieving victory, India, Burma and Pakistan became independent but remain as the British-India etc. for being the excluded area which led us to the present situation.

If only our ancestors had made the right decisions for our future, I believe all of us including our fellow mizos from Burma, Tripura, and Bangladesh etc. would be under one Govt. **(Dy. SPEAKER:** Your time is up) Therefore, it is necessary to pass this Resolution so that our future generations may look back to our concern for the future.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I believe we still have our rightful claim to be from the UN declaration. Our House Leader has mentioned that our road is controlled from the Central and the state cannot offer much to help. So, let us push to expedite this declaration for our benefits. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : After this, we need to request the concerned minister if there is anything he would like to share. Pu Lalrinliana Sailo.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO: Pu Dy. Speaker, I agree with this Resolution but I have a feeling that the members on your left changed their opinions; I thought it would be much suitable if this resolution is moved from the members on your right.

Anyway, the mover is the former President of the Central YMA, it is also reasonable. Noone objects to this Resolution but we need to be careful in our choice of words; let us try not to flare up any heated atmosphere for our future generations.

Pu Dy. Speaker, it is known to us all that this Indigenous Right was passed by the UN on the 13th Sept, 2007 which also is supported by India. I believe all the members here also desire to unite all the Mizo ethnic tribes under one Govt. and the resolution should not even be rejected as it is moved to expedite implementation of the UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous people. However, I opine the coverage of this Resolution seems too wide and so the term may be modified. It would be great if there is a way to unite the Mizo ethnic tribes under one Govt. which will be agreeable for all.

According to the record, the Mizo Union took the initiatives to the Advisory

Committee in 1947 with the topic “Mizo integration and Solidarity” and the UMFO consequently pursued the matter to unite the Chin people and the people of Mizoram in 1950. The MNF also took part in the year 1965 and the Congress in 1972 with the consent of the late Smt. Indira Gandhi; the PC party also made a contribution in this matter. It indicates that all such initiatives related to the Indigenous rights. So, this Resolution is not harmful and so may be agreed by all party concern.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I find it necessary to give a high compliment to our House Leader for his various statements, quotations and speeches. He is among the leaders who contributed the most in an effort to unite all the Mizo ethnic tribes inside and outside Mizoram. And, I strongly believe that someday God will reunite us once again.

The mover has pointed out that it is not about raising our weapons and I agree with it as I support the resolution adopted by the Central Gov't. I would also like to make a proposal in modifying this resolution that we may give more emphasizes on the unity of the Mizo people. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Lalruatkima.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I would first of all like to extend my gratitude to the hon. member Pu Vanlalzawma, the Opposition Group Leader. We have heard many informative speeches from various members as of how to unite ourselves. The members on your right and left agreed the same unanimously despite the context or wordings which are slightly differs; but we are all aiming for the same goal. I believe that it will be recorded in the political history of Mizoram.

As known to us all, the British invasion of India occurred from 1871-1872 and we were governed under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation in 1873. The second British invasion occurred again from 1888-1890 and we were colonized with the Chin Hills. Our house Leader had also mentioned that the people who mostly suffered the British Divide & Rules Policy were the Mizo people as it torn us apart in various provinces. So, the Chin Lushai Conference was held at Fort William, Kolkata in 1892 with an objective to unite all the Mizo tribes from different provinces under one Govt. but in vain. Later, we were left under India (Assam) after the Bengal and Chin Hills achieved independence. We were then compelled to fight for independence in 1966

but we concluded our mission with the Peace Accord, 1986.

On 13th Sept, 2007 the UNO made a declaration in which the ZORO representing the mizos made an effort as well to include the Mizos in it. After scrutinizing all the terms & conditions, the UN then included ZORO among the Indigenous People Organization in 1999. This declaration determined not only the Rights but also ones tradition and culture, identity, languages, education etc.

The Resolution which contains 46 Articles for the Indigenous people was passed in 13.09.2007 and the Article 1-40 further provides the rights of an individual and the people. Article 41 & 42 shows the responsibility of the UN and Article 43-45 concern the discrimination between male and female.

We should seek the truth and freedom so that warfare is not interfered in our land; we may also be able to inform our financial problems with the help of this indigenous declaration. So, I support this Resolution for it is our mutual responsibility to expedite implementation of the “Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous People”. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next, Pu T. Sangkunga.

PU T. SANGKUNGA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I feel that now is the right time to move this Resolution as I give my support to it. Death can cause peace and love within ourselves. Today, the efforts of Pu Thangmawia, who has made the most contribution for achieving the rights of the Mizos spoke more words after his death as peace prevails the country after the death of Gandhi.

We cannot claim anything unless we have known our rights. It is unbecoming that the UNO passed our Rights but we need to fight for the implementation. So, we need to be very careful in claiming our Rights as so in our choice of words.

It is a good opportunity for us in claiming our rights and unity and I believe that this Resolution is a wakeup call for us. On the other hand, we need to be very careful on how it is proposed. It will therefore be much appreciated if we could pass this resolution in the proposed modified form moved by the hon. Minister, Pu R. Romawia. Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : To conclude our discussion, I call upon concerned minister if he has anything to say.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. Politically, “UN Declaration on the Rights of indigenous people” is a great resolution and a positive vote was given by the indigenous people from 143 countries. While Australia, Canada, New Zealand and USA opposed the declaration, India supported. The Western power had ruled the world with violence for more than a thousand years and with a view to improve the situation, UN accepted this resolution on the 13th September, 2007 after 25 years of consideration despite all criticism and opponents. This Declaration also comes with rules for protection of the indigenous people and to follow as well.

On the 24th January, 1947, ‘the Advisory Committee on the Rights of citizen, minorities and tribal and excluded areas’ was established under Sardhar Vallabhai Patel and the 5th & 6th schedule concern for the protection of the indigenous people. I feel proud that India is one of the biggest Democracy Countries with objectives to protect and develop the tribal and backward castes. With a view to protect such backward classes, “The Schedule tribe and other traditional forest dweller recognition of forest right Act, 2006” of “The Schedule Tribe and Schedule Caste (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 2006”.

I am glad that the Govt. takes initiative to put the UN Declaration on ‘the Rights of Indigenous People’ into effect and I propose that we should all agree with it. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I request the Leader of the House if he has anything to say.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I appreciate this resolution and it is also impressive to have a sense in moving it. I believe that we all want the same thing but our words only differ. From our discussion, I believe our conclusions are different. This resolution owns a big place in the hearts of our leaders and I find this amazing.

Pu R. Thangmawia was very interested in this ‘UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People’ right from the start and I believe he would be very captivated if

he could listen to our discussions.

We are surrounded by the 3 biggest religions- Buddhist in the East, Muslims in the West and Hindus in the North. So, God put us here to spread his words and I believe that he will unite us without shedding a single drop of blood. But, this is just a world with different opinions, different ways and the things that we approaches are also different.

We suffer the Divide & Rule Policy the most; many of us are in Burma, Bangladesh and in various parts of India. And, I truly believe that God will unite us all together under one Govt. We could not take for granted how the Meitei are treated in Manipur and I will interfere whether they called for me help or not. I even sent a letter to the Prime Minister regarding this.

Smt. Indira Gandhi supported the idea of our unification and so was Rajiv Gandhi; but this should not be publicized for it may affect our relationships with the neighboring states. We also tried our best when our brothers in Bangladesh, Burma etc were in distress.

I also feel amazed that our leaders did not make another resolution so that there will be no interruptions. I want you all to know that no Resolution is opposed by the House since 1984 just because it is an Opposition's Resolution and I believe our leaders had noticed that we did not oppose this Resolution. Pu Speaker, no one opposed this and many informative speeches were given and I feel obligated. So, Pu Speaker, I would like to thank Pu Vanlalzawma and support his Resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu Vanlalzawma.

PU VANLALZAWMA : It seems that we all support this Resolution and there are no different opinions. I also agree to the Amendment moved by our Parliamentary Affairs Minister for it can also be more helpful for future use. It is also astonishing that our House Leader sent a letter to the Prime Minister regarding Manipur and I admire him a lot.

Two things comes into my mind, firstly, we the Mizos takes advantage of this UN Resolution for imposing pressure on the India Govt. because the Central does

whatever it have to which sometimes are not relevant for our land and we cannot disclose most of our needs. I don't think we will be provided with Midday meal if India truly knows our condition. I am not saying it is bad but it is not what we really needed and the things that we really need are being neglected. Tenders are often released by the Central which prevents our contractors from applying the same which is not good for us. So, there are many chapters that are useful for many occasions in this UN Resolution and I believe that we can use it for imposing pressure on the central Govt.

Secondly, this Resolution can be used for unification of all the ethnic Mizo Tribes and is not about enlisting the aid of violence. Our situation could be like the German reunification in which 20 independent countries were united as one country. We are barricaded by the international and inter-state boundary which brought us with different mindsets, we can change all this if we have the true passion for it.

It is appreciating that India takes good care of us with special favors for the tribal but this is not enough. We must set our minds to do things on our own and we can be like Thai, Malaysian, Japan, Korean, China etc. I am more excited than I was before having this discussion and also I have no objection on the Amendment of our Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Thank you.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: One more point, Pu Dy. Speaker. The Kolodyne Multi Modal Transit Transport System is a project of trade relations with the South-East Asia countries which was started 20, 25 years ago. The project is not of the India Govt. initiative but supported. This cannot be achieved without central finance for it takes excavation of more than 100 kms road. The Burma side established Akyap for seaport and we hope that all the North-Eastern use this point as our gateway of trade & commerce. So, we can also spread the Gospel apart from benefitting this trade route.

SPEAKER : The Private Member Resolution is now modified and those who agree to pass may say, "Yes" and those against may say, "Nay". The House has unanimously passed the Resolution moved by our hon'ble member Pu Vanlalzawma and modified as proposed by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Pu R. Romawia. Our business for today is now over.

PU VANLALZAWMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker.

PU R. ROMAWIA, MINISTER: I feel obligated to support the resolution of Pu Vanlalzawma which has been modified. I am also grateful to the House for passing it unanimously.

SPEAKER : We will continue tomorrow at 10:30 AM

Sitting is adjourned.