

**SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MIZORAM
(TWELFTH SESSION)**

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR ONE DAY SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 11th DECEMBER, 2012
(Time 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

OBITUARY

1. **Pu LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER** to make obituary references on the demise of the following dignitaries :-
 - 1) Pu I.K. Gujral, former Prime Minister of India.
 - 2) Pu Chawngtinthanga, Parliamentary Secretary
 - 3) Pu Vanlalhrauaia, former Member of Legislative Assembly.

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPERS

3. **Pu LAL THANHAWLA**, Chief Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of "Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur & Mizoram Annual Report 2011-2012".
4. **Pu S. HIATO**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of "Mizoram Khadi and Village Industries Board 26th Annual Report 2010-2011".
5. **Pu LALSAWTA**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of "The Audited Statements of Accounts for the year 1998-99 to 2011-2012".
6. **Pu H. ROHLUNA**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of "The Mizoram State Biological Diversity Rules, 2010".

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

7. **Pu R. ROMAWIA**, Hon'ble Speaker to present to the House the Twelfth Report of the Business Advisory Committee for the current session.
8. **Pu LALDUHOMA** to present to the House the Report of the Assembly Enquiry Committee to enquire into the alleged lapse of SSA uniform grant for the year 2010-2011 and allegation of fabricated document circulated by Dr. R. Lalthangliana, MLA.
9. **Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA** to present to the House the Second Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on the actions taken by the Government against the recommendations contained in the Committee's First Report.
10. **Pu K. LIANZUALA** to present to the House the Fifth Report of Subject Committee-IV relating to the Central Jail, Aizawl.
11. **Pu LALTHANSANGA** to present to the House the Fourth Report on Government Assurances.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bills for introduction, consideration and passing.

12. **Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA** to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012".

ALSO
to introduce the Bill
to move that the Bill be taken into consideration
AND
to move that the Bill be passed.

NGURTHANZUALA
Secretary

SPEAKER : “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away”.
(Revelation 21:4)

Today we will give obituary reference on late Prime Minister Pu I.K.Gujral, Sitting MLA Pu Chawngtinthanga and Ex-MLA, Pu Vanlalhruaia. Let us now call hon’ble House Leader, Pu Lal Thanhawla.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, today it is unfortunate to give obituary reference to three of our distinguish leaders. I will start with Pu Inder Kumar Gujral, Ex-Prime Minister of India.

Pu Inder Kumar Gujral died on the 30th November, 2012 at 3:27 PM. in Medanta Hospital, Gurgaon, Haryana. He was 92 years old.

Pu Inder Kumar Gujral was the son of Pu Avtar Narain Gujral and Pi Pushpa. He was born on the 4th December, 1919 at Jhelum, Pakistan. Pu Inder Kumar Gujral in the year 1945, 26th May, they had two sons. Pi Sheila Gujral passes away on the 4th July, 2011.

Pu Inder Gujral graduated and completed his master degree in commerce from Forman Christian College, Lahore, Pakistan. He was raised by a family of freedom fighters. He engaged himself in freedom movement from the age of 11 years. In 1931, he was arrested for organizing a Young Children Movement at his birthplace of Jhelum and was beaten sorely. He was also arrested in 1942 as one of the leading instigators of the ‘Quit India Movement’.

In the year 1959 – 1964, he held the post of Vice-President, New Delhi Municipal Council. He was elected as Rajya Sabha member for two terms in between 1964-1976. He held the post of Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs & Communication, Information and Broadcasting & Communications, Works, Housing, Urban Development & Planning department. In the year 1992, he was re-elected from Bihar state for the third term. In between 1993-1996, he was chairman committee on commerce and textiles. And in the year 1996, he was Leader of the House, Rajya Sabha and later on in the same year he was appointed to Union Cabinet Minister for External Affairs and Water Resources.

Pu Inder Kumar Gujral became the 12th Prime Minister of India on 21st April, 1997. He held the post till March 1998. Pu Speaker, Pu Inder Kumar Gujral was re-elected to 12th Lok Sabha election from Jalandhar Punjab. He was chairman on Committee for External Affairs and its sub-committees also, member of consultative committee and External Affairs members.

Pu Inder Kumar Gujral plays active role in culture and social field as well. He was President of Nasi Niketan Trust and A.N. Gujral Memorial School, Jalandhar (Punjab); President of Indo-Pak Friendship Society; Founder President of Delhi Art Theatre; Vice President of Lok Kalyun Samiti; President of Rotary club of Delhi and co-Chairman of the Asian Rotary conference, 1961. He has written two books which were published, such as “A foreign policy of India (English)” and “Mazameme-Gujral” (in two parts).

Pu Indira Gujral was admitted to Medanta Hospital on 12th November, 2012 due to skin problem. On 27th November, 2012, he fell unconscious and succumb to his illness on the 30th November, 2012 at 3:27 P.M.

I personally know Pu Inder Kumar Gujral. He was warm and affectionate person. Pu Speaker, he visited Mizoram and inaugurated the Railway Out Agency.

As a result of a memorandum submitted by the Council of Ministers, he fulfilled several demands and Referral Hospital is one of them as he was also involved in the materialization of Mizoram University. We have lost such a distinguished leader; we pray that God be with his family.

Pu Speaker we have lost a sitting member, Pu Chawngtinthanga. He passes away on the 16th September at 8:40 A.M. at Apollo Hospital, Kolkata.

Pu Chawngtinthanga, the elected son of Pu Tawnliana (L) and Pi V.L. Hliri was born on the 1st March, 1943 at Phuaibuang. He got married to Pi Zohlimi D/o Upa J.H. Lalchhunga(L). They have one son and two daughters.

Pu Chawngtinthanga completed Primary and Middle school from Phuaibuang and continued Matric and class-XII at Aizawl High School. He graduated from Sielmat Christian College, Manipur in 1969 and in fact, held 8th position under Guwahati University. In 1973, he completed B.T. from Post-graduate Training College, Jorhat. He completed LLB while servicing as government employee under Mizoram government.

Pu Chawngtinthanga was the founder of Tualbung M.C. School. He later worked as teacher in Don Bosco Jr. High School, Churachanpur, Manipur and Sielmat Christian High School. He held the post of Headmaster at Phuaibuang high school from 1969 – 1983. He joined Addl. Sub-District Magistrate at Aizawl in 1983. He was promoted to Judicial Officer Grade-I in 1989 and was posted at Lunglei Sub-District Council Court. In the year 1997, he was transferred to Saiha as ADM (J). Later on, in 1999, he was promoted to Deputy Secretary, Law & Judicial. In the year 2006, he was transferred as ADM (J) Aizawl. And, in 2008, 1st October, he retired on ground of voluntary pension.

Pu Chawngtinthanga, after his retirement, joint national congress party and was elected as MLA from Chalfilh constituency. He held the post of Parliamentary Secretary i.e. Education and Law & Judicial departments, till his death.

Pu Chawngtinthanga was a man of strong will-power, faithful and efficient. He died on the 16th September, 2012 at 4:40 AM.

The funeral took place at YMA Hall, Aizawl Electric Veng on the 18th September, 2012.

Pu Speaker, I did not know Pu Chawngtinthanga personally during his tenure as government employee. However, after he joined congress party and won election, we began to know one another and he became one of my close friends. He was a man of dignity, wisdom and faithful. As a magistrate, he helped under privileged people and also as member of the House. We all know his contribution and performance. Pu Speaker, he was a man of wisdom and knowledge. In respect of legal matters he was our resource person. Today, watching his empty seat is agonizing. May the lord be with his family.

Pu Speaker, Pu Vanlalhruaia, Ex-MLA died of cancer on 9th August, 2012 at 3:35 PM. He was 75 years. He was the son of Pu Zakhuma and Pi Buangi of Reiek. On the 24th January, 1963 he married Pi Khiangkungi D/o Pu Kapbunga (L). They have two sons and four daughters.

And Pu Speaker, our fellow member, Parliamentary Secretary, Pu Chawngtinthanga passed away at 8:40 AM on September 16 due to lung cancer at Kolkata Apollo Hospital. He was 69 years old.

Pu Chawngtinthanga was the eldest of Pu Tawnliana (L) and Pi V.L. Hliri's eleven children. He was born on the 1st March, 1943, in Phuaibuang. He married Pi Zohlimi d/o Elder H.J. Lalchhunga (L) on the 3rd July, 1966 in Phuaibuang and they had one son and two daughters.

He attended primary through middle school in Phuaibuang and finished class 10 to 12 in Mizo High School, Aizawl. He received his bachelor's degree with distinction from Sielmat Christian College, Manipur. He also held the 8th position in Guwahati University. He completed BT at the post graduate training college, Jorhat in 1973 and held a government job after which he completed his LLB.

Pu Chawngtinthanga was one of the founders of Tualbung M.E. School. He went on to teach in Don Bosco Junior high School, Churachanpur, Manipur and Sielmat Christian High School. He was also headmaster in Phuaibuang High School from 1969-1983. He worked as a magistrate (Addl. Sub-District Magistrate, Aizawl) in 1983 and was promoted to Judicial Officer Grade-I in 1989 and was posted at the sub-District Council Court, Lunglei. He worked as ADM (J) in Saiha in 1997 and was promoted to Deputy Secretary (Law & Judicial) and posted in Aizawl. He retired with voluntary pension in October, 2008.

After retiring from government work, Pu Chawngtinthanga entered into politics and joined the Indian National Congress party. He was elected as MLA from Chalfilh Constituency by a Congress ticket in 2008. He then became Parliamentary Secretary, and took the charge for Education department and Law & Judicial.

Pu Chawngtinthanga was hardworking, perseverant and honest. He gave his all in all the jobs he held as a means of serving

God. He was God-fearing and was an active participant in the church ministry. He was an adult Sunday school teacher and also a preacher.

He was quite a healthy man. In 1998 he was diagnosed with diabetes but he had no specific complaint. He caught a severe cold in August, 2012 after coming back from Freshers' social programme of Serchhip College. He had a biopsy taken for prostate gland on 24th August, 2012. He then had rashes on his skin for which biopsy was taken on 3rd September, 2012. He became weaker after this and was taken to the Apollo Hospital, Kolkata, on 8th September, 2012. It was discovered that he was suffering from Leukemia (Acute Myeloid) and was then inflicted with diarrhea and soon became very weak. He was moved to the ICU on 11th September, 2012. After the doctors and nurses gave their best to treat him, he passed away on 16th September, 2012 at 4:40 in the morning. His body was brought to Aizawl, Mizoram on 12th September, 2012 and the funeral was held the next day at YMA Hall, Aizawl Electric Veng, with full honors from the state government.

Pu Speaker, I did not know Pu Chawnginthanga personally while he served as a government employee, but I met him just before he was welcomed to our party. He was elected at the 2008 elections and became Parliamentary Secretary. We became good friends after he joined our party. I know for a fact that he was a passionate about his work. His house and property prove what an honest man he was and how he kept himself away from corruption. He was also our legal advisor. It is truly tragic that we have lost such a man. It saddens me to see his empty seat today. We heard great and beautiful things about him at his funeral and I pray that God be with the bereaved family.

And thirdly, Pu Speaker, Pu Vanlalhraia, our ex-MLA, pass away due to cancer on August 9th, 2012 at 3:35 PM. He was 75 years old.

Pu Vanlalhraia was the eldest of Pu Zakhuma and Pi Buangi's eight children. He was born in Reiek on 21st February, 1937. He married Pi Khiangkungi D/o Kapbuanga (L) on January 24th, 1963 and they had two sons and four daughters.

Due to his father's work as teacher, they moved from Reiek to Chaltlang, Aizawl. He attended Dawrpui M.E. School and high school in Imphal, Manipur. He received his bachelor degree from UCC Barapani, Meghalaya in 1963.

Though there was a government job available, he chose to start his own business opening a store supplying machines in Dawrpui, Aizawl. It was the first of its kind to be opened in Aizawl. It included rice threshers, machines for cutting wood, flour-mills etc. It paved the way for the development of the people of Mizoram in providing jobs.

He joined the MNF in 1963. He was an executive committee member and the first volunteer commander. He later became the MNF vice army chief and was ranked general. He and his team were arrested on December 19th, 1966 in Phulpui on their way to China. He was imprisoned for 5 years and released in 1970. He continued with politics after his release and was elected MLA from Khawhai constituency at the 1978 elections with a People's conference party ticket. He was elected MLA again in 1988 in Bilkhawthlir constituency with an MNF ticket. He also held the post of Chairman at the Mizoram APEX bank and at the All India level received best performance award for 3 years which included best loan recovery award. He spent his later years as political adviser for ZNP. He declared that because many young people had lost their lives because of the cultural movement, he could never leave the cause.

Pu Vanlalhruaia was teacher at the Presbyterian Church adult Sunday school. He spent much of his time in the community as well and even held the post of Chaltlang branch YMA President in 1971.

He had to undergo a by-pass surgery at the GNRC Guwahati on 2nd October, 2004 because of his heart problem. He continued to have health issues and was admitted three times in NEIGRIMS, Shillong. He was admitted in Aizawl civil hospital on 23rd May, 2012, due to cold and fever. As he showed no improvement, he was referred to AMRI hospital, Kolkata on 30th June, 2012. It was discovered that he had heart and lung cancer and it had spread in many parts of his body. In spite of receiving the best treatments, he passed away on 9th August, 2012 at 3:35 PM.

As I have mentioned, Pu Speaker, though Pu Hruaia was a businessman, he actively participated in politics because of his patriotism. He made a name for himself in Aizawl. His parents and my parents were close and he and I were good friends. It is sad that we have to mourn such a great at this moment. I pray the Lord bless and console the bereaved family.

It is tragic that we have lost three great men, two of whom we've sat with in this House. It is also comforting on the other hand that we could hold this obituary for such wonderful people. I pray that the bereaved families be blessed and consoled by God. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I am sure each of us have something to say. But let's remember that time is being deducted from question hour; but I also hope to hear each group leader speak. Now I call Dr. R. Lalthangliana, who will be followed by Pu Lalthansanga and Pu Lalduhoma.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I feel that even though he did not hold office for a long time, our Prime Minister left remarkable works behind. I'd like to mention a few. Firstly, I find it commendable that he is known as 'freedom fighter'. There were others vying for the post but unexpectedly he floated above the rest. Deve Gowda had just completed his term as well.

Though he wasn't in the Indian Foreign Service, he served as Ambassador. During those days, 'Gujaral Doctrine' was quite popular. It paved the way for bringing about good relations with the neighbouring countries. He was a diplomat and quite persuasive which was a huge advantage for the progress of our country. He was also one of the highly educated Prime Ministers we ever had, and he made a great head start towards development in the field of education.

It is truly sad that we have to bid goodbye to our former house member Pu Vanlalhruaia today. He was a nationalist and patriot. He was even a general leading a team working underground. He also taught us many valuable lessons. He was a team player, a good leader and was always there to support those that needed help, emotionally and financially. I remember one incident that took place on the way to Silchar. Many houses had been burnt during the insurgency and he was working underground. Even so, he visited everyone, offering comfort to those who had lost their homes. He was hard-working and that brought blessings to him and everyone around him.

We also bade goodbye to our very close friend, Pu Chawngtinthanga last September. He was an extraordinary man. As he spent most of his years in Lunglei, the people of Lunglei count him as one of their own. He was always there to help the needy and those that

needed legal help. He was also fluent in the English language in spite of the fact that he did not pursue higher studies. Different kinds of people sit in this House, some of us sit amongst the opposition and some among the ruling; even then, he treated us equally and never insulted anyone. I think, Pu Speaker, that all of us should try to have the quality he possessed. He contributed a lot in the House without saying much or standing too often. Whatever he said, however little, were spoken loud and clear and brought meaningful results. It is sad and commendable at the same time to have this obituary for our members Pu Chawngtinthanga and Pu Vanlalhrauaia and our former Prime Minister Pu I.K. Gujral. I pray the bereaved families receive the love and comfort of God. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalthansanga.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I have been thinking about the obituary a lot today. As a first time MLA, I have attended such events a lot. We heard about Pu I.K. Gujral a few moments ago and we have seen that Prime Ministers from the left party have made considerable contributions in uplifting us tribals and the rural areas. He was indeed a great personality. He contributed immensely to Mizoram too, speaking of his dreams and visions for the state, especially the Mizoram University, in his speech at Vanapa Hall in 1997. He proved his status as a freedom fighter and a true patriot.

The Mizoram University came into being in 1996, and about ₹5 crores was sanctioned which was to be utilized for water connection. But unfortunately, we haven't had any water connection till date. I am sad that a man who contributed towards uplifting the Mizos has passed away and we have to hear of his life and achievements today.

When Pu I.K. Gujral came to Mizoram, he introduced us to railway recruitment, railway ticket booking and recruitment of railway police. So for Mizoram, persons from the left party have proved to be of eminent importance.

Pu Vanlalhrauaia was an MLA from our party and had a good underground background. He was a good organizer as well and played a major role in bringing up the PC party too. He wasn't very rich but gave everything he had to the party and land. He was very giving, which is something lacking in most of us today.

We would take morning walks together. In one of our walks, he talked about how he took care of the plot of land he owned at Lengpui Airport and how it was tended after he was no longer to be taught how to value what we do and have. Such things have to be taught to them besides focusing on their education. I request his family to remember this and uphold what he has left behind. He was one of the co-founders of Chaltlang high school, working with the likes of the late Pu Clement Lalrema. He initiated the Chaltlang sports and contributed a lot to the Chaltlang community.

As I look towards the vacant seat of Mr. Chawngtinthanga, it is with fondest memories that I remember the way he would humorously compare our receding hairlines. I learnt a lot from him. I visited him once in his office and we talked about his future plans for the Education department. He told me the order of things in appointments, teacher transfers, postings and placements of officers and he even mentioned some areas which he wants' quite pleased with but had to comply. It was quite eye-opening for me. He was a passionate worker in his department and spent a lot of time thinking of the development of the state. I admire that he gave his all and retired without having much. We really have many lessons to learn from him. I offer my deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, Pu I.K. Gujral was one of the few leaders we had of the freedom fighters and that is worth a mention. Besides being a politician, he was a born diplomat which is why he made a lot of contributions towards foreign relationship.

Pu Chawnga was a jovial man. I did not spend much time with him but I know that he had a good sense of humor. It is tragic that we have to mourn our sitting MLA. Pu Speaker, Pu Chawnga had an important role in matters of Bills and his absence will certainly be felt in our next bill session. He could explain matters well. He was a man of the law: he knew the law and was an expert in it. I also commend the community leaders of Electric Veng for having held his funeral at the community hall and I'm sure such practices will be followed in the future. I also offer my condolence to the bereaved family.

Pu Speaker, Pu Hruaia was a great leader and founder of our party. He was also one of the first Panel of Chairman. I also had the honor to serve under his leadership.

He was also one of the signatories during the freedom struggle. He was an Ex-officio and executive member in our party as he was a signatory. It is a huge loss that the high command member is no more. He was a pioneer of what we now call 'value added'. He was the first person to ever open a shop selling machines and paved the way for employment for many people. He was also a clear nationalist. He even encouraged me to uphold nationalism so that we can establish ourselves as the Mizo tribe. He was uncorrupted and loathed corruption. He was also a good-looking man and had a good physique which is not common amongst us Mizos. I offer my deepest condolence to his wife, Pi Khiangkungi and their children and grandchildren. Thank you.

SPEAKER : We shall now spend a moment of silence to show our respect for the three valuable men. Let us all stand for one minute in silence.

Let us take our seats. We shall now take time for questions. I call Pu C. Ramhluna.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. This Starred Question No.1 is for the hon'ble Social Welfare Department Minister: -

- a) When was the post for the Commissioner for persons with disabilities created?
- b) Was the post approved by the council of Ministers? If so, when was it approved?
- c) Has an R/R been made to fill up the post?
- d) Was an advertisement put out before the post was filled up?

SPEAKER : I call Pu P.C. Lalthanliana to answer the questions.

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the answers are :-

- a) The post for Commissioner of persons with disabilities was created on 05.09.2012.
- b) The council of Ministers approved the post on 20.12.2012 and the approval was conveyed on 22.12.2010.

- c) An R/R has not been made to fill up the post.
- d) An advertisement was not put out before the post was filled up.

SPEAKER : Further questions, Pu C. Ramhluna.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, the question is this. The council of Ministers had approved it on 20.12.2012 and the post was created after one year, eight months and 16 days on 5.9.2012. Why did they wait so long? There doesn't seem to be financial problems as the proposal was made. Besides, the post was filled up on 31.20.2012. So, I wonder if the post was created for a particular person. Another point is that the disabled persons themselves had spoken up a lot about their disapproval in the media. Despite this, the post was filled up. Is it that more importance is given to one officer rather than the disabled? The government should look into it again.

SPEAKER : I call the honorable minister to answer.

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the answer to our respectable member's question is that yes, as had been demanded by the 1995 PWD Act, each state is supposed to have the Commissioner office. This was given a lot of importance when the government was formed. A post was created and in 2011.... (SPEAKER : Our time is up, but let's allow him to finish) ... our department could not attain finance in the Annual budget allocation. Finance and planning could not help us as well so couldn't do anything. Honestly, Pu Speaker, we created this post this time without much because we felt it was high time to create it. The post was not kept for a particular person but as the post had already been created, it needed to be filled up. The PWD Acts chapter 12 section 60 'A' states that the state government with notification can appoint a Commissioner. Section 60 clause 2 also stated that the post should be filled up by a person having experience in working with the disabled. So when the time came, an experienced person, a retired Secretary was appointed. So there shouldn't be any suspicious questions arising out of it. It does follow the PWD Acts too, doesn't it? It is true that there has been a lot of complaints and disapproval which may have arisen due to ambition and desiring much more. However, no one is perfect, Pu Speaker, even I myself have shortcomings. This office is very beneficial for the disabled in Mizoram as it will have to look into matters such as their problems, whether the department is working properly and tending to their needs. We have just made the appointment, Pu Speaker,

so let us give them a chance. If the Commissioner is found lacking in any way, then the government is open to discussion. Nevertheless, it is with high hopes that the office has been created and filled, not with the intention to depend on one person alone, but working with the government. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I am aware that all of us have something to say about the three men for whom we're having this obituary today. But I have to follow the rules and move on to business.

Now, we shall have a time for Laying of Papers. I call upon honorable Chief Minister, Pu Lal Thanhawla to lay down the "Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram Annual Report 2011-2012".

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and the approval of this respectable House, I lay the "Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram Annual Report 2011-2012".

SPEAKER : Let the copies be handed out.

Now, I call hon'ble Minister, Pu S. Hiato to lay on the table of the House, the "Mizoram Khadi and Village Industries Board 26th Annual Report, 2010-2011".

Pu S.HIATO, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and approval of this House, I lay the "Mizoram Khadi and Village Industries Board 26th Annual Report 2010-2011" on the table of the House.

SPEAKER : Let the copies be handed out.

Now, I call Pu Lalsawta, honorable Minister, to lay "The Audited statements of Accounts for the year 1998-99 to 2011-2012".

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and approval of this House, I lay "The Audited statements of Accounts for the year 1998-99 to 2011-2012 in respect of Mizoram State Legal Services Authority".

SPEAKER : Let the copies be distributed. In my sheet, I have it as ‘Audited statements of Accounts for the year’ only but Legal services have not been mentioned. Now, I call hon’ble Minister, Pu H. Rohluna to lay “The Mizoram State Biological Diversity Rules, 2010” on the House Table.

Pu H. ROHLUNA, MINISTER : With your permission, Pu Speaker and approval of the House, I lay down “The Mizoram State Biological Diversity Rules, 2010”.

SPEAKER : Let the copies be distributed. That concludes the laying of papers. The papers look very attractive; however, for we, older people, the fonts are a little small. I suggest that the fonts be made bigger next time.

Let us move on with business. We have several reports to make, so let me be the first to give it. We have called this session in December, though we still have January and February. At the India Presiding officers meeting, we were told that the smaller states should have at least 60 days of sitting and the bigger states should have at least 100 days. But for us, we can’t even have it for 30 days. It could be because we do not have much government business. We have used one day as had been resolved at the BAC of December 3. Now, let the copies of the BAC report be handed out.

We shall now have report presentations. I call Pu Lalduhoma, Chairman of the Assembly Enquiry Committee to present their report.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I need to clarify a few things first. As we knew, we have three groups in the House. Two members each from the two opposition groups were appointed as members of the Enquiry committee and we have one member from the ruling group. Whenever we call a meeting, we make sure that the five members are available to attend; otherwise, the meeting gets postponed. We have had ten sittings. This report has been signed not only by the Chairman but by all the members to show that we made this report unanimously.

There have been speculations in the media with questions like who would leave and who wouldn’t. Pu Speaker, I would like to

point out that members can be dismissed only through the Disqualified Act, 2006. Others do not have the authority. However, a member can quit due to moral obligation. Therefore, I point out that only the Speaker, under the Law, can dismiss a member.

We have collected several documents. We were given three extra months to complete it as there had been changes in membership. We also had personal hearing from officials and two honorable MLAs.

Many assume that free uniforms had been distributed for a long time in India. It was only introduced in 2010-2011 financial year by the government of India. As it was a new thing, only ten states could distribute school uniforms to their school children. We were one of those who couldn't do this.

There are many reasons why Mizoram could not distribute the uniforms. We received the PAB minute on 15.2.2011 which was just a month before the end of the financial year. The free uniform has to be included in the child entitlement under the Rights of Education Rules and the Gazette was notified on March 28, 2011. The central government guidelines were also released late, i.e. on June 8, 2011. The sanctions were received after the financial year on April 2, 2011. We submitted the number of children with projection method and estimated ₹74 lakhs. As the DISE (District Information & School Education sheet) could not release the exact figures, the uniforms couldn't be distributed. In the next financial year, the DISE released the exact figures, which is 1,58,670 school children and the budget estimate was for ₹634.71 lakhs. The uniforms could then be handed out.

Pu Speaker, we were asked to clarify if there was a lapse in our terms of reference. The SSA money is managed with a separate manual. They have two funds – one is recurring grant which comes every year and the balance money is known as “outlay safe”; the other is non-recurring which is utilized for things like construction of buildings and the remainder, if any, is known as “spill over”. The terms are different and not to be mixed. The manual clearly states that the outlay safe and spill over, if any, do not have to be submitted to the state or central government and can be used as opening balance in the new financial year. It is similar to how we maintain church accounts. Therefore, the SSA money cannot be lapsed. The remainder from the uniform budget came to ₹2,232 lakhs.

The next year's budget then increases without any reason mentioned in the sanctioning order or any other documents. Therefore, we cannot really say if there would be any problem in the next year's budget.

However, though there is no lapse officially or financially, the beneficiaries did not receive anything. The SSA failed in fulfilling their duty.

We also had to make an enquiry on Annexure-II, which was submitted as house property at our session, whether there was a fabrication or not. We could not find such documents among the official documents. Our respectable member Dr. R. Lalthangliana told me that it was he who had compiled it, which give it reason to be termed 'fabricated', but not in its literal sense. He did compile it and made the heading, format and column himself to make it easier for the masses to understand, but the facts and figures are precisely from the official document. Therefore, it cannot be called a fabricated document in the true sense of the word.

We, the members, cannot go according to our own opinion or what our party tells us. We have to reveal what is. I had presented it to you, Pu Speaker, so with your permission and the approval of the esteemed House, I lay down the "Assembly Enquiry Committee Report". Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let the copy be handed out. I don't think there is anything further to clarify.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I just want to convey my gratitude. You have appointed the right man. It is as if King Solomon has been reborn.

Pu P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I think they have explained quite well. However, I suggest that such kind of fabricated document not be seen inside the House or outside the House, as we are always under scrutiny by the public. I also suggest that such documents that need so much clarifications not be made anymore even if the one accused quits or not. I want to say this as a senior member.

SPEAKER : I think it is clear now. However, I would like to say that we have formed this Enquiry committee, so the people inside the House and outside should control themselves and the Press and media should also be quiet while enquiry is being made. I have witnessed from the chair that there are those who like to point their finger at the speaker without having the least respect for this chair. This truly saddens me. I plead with the people to please realize the value of this chair and respect it.

Once the report reaches the Speaker, it no longer remains confidential. So it is viable that the public and the media can have a say. And now that it has been in the House, it is permitted.

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I'd like to say a few words on the topic of fabrication. I feel it wrong that accusations have been made based on compiled details with important details omitted. For example, if I give.....

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, we have already looked into the matter and made the report, so please forbid them from trying to cover it up.

Pu P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA, MINISTER : We are not trying to cover up.

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : It's not covering up; I am trying to clarify a few points. For example, I may give the correct details like name, father's name, examination board, but if I change the result in a certificate, it wouldn't be right. Likewise, there was nothing amiss in the document pertaining to money and information, but it was denied that lapse existed in Mizoram and India. That confuses me. He also claimed to have compiled it. Our respected member has a Ph.D and is a great scholar, but I believe he misunderstood the meaning of compiling. I would like an explanation.

SPEAKER : The clarification requested should be understood as he is a Minister and not a member. However, the respect belongs to him. Now, let us lay another paper.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, I have a question. There are 36 unanswered questions from the Unstarred Questions. I didn't put it up

before as we had a tight schedule. I'd like to know when we would get the answers, as it is quite disrespectful for the House.

SPEAKER : As time has moved on, I suggest that those questions be put up in the next session. (Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, the departments must be instructed to answer the questions) The session is not long and I am aware there are several questions. I'm also aware that the Ministers give great importance in answering them. However, we all have limits and capacities. If you wish to know the answers, you may ask them again. It is difficult as our session is just for a day. We have called a one-month session, so I request the honorable members to put up the questions then. The sooner you submit the questions, the sooner can I despatch them to the different departments.

Pu LALDUHOMA : What you say is true, Pu Speaker. However, the un-answered questions are piling up. (SPEAKER : We will see) That is not right. We are given a time period and we all submitted the questions on time. I feel that as some of them are unwilling to answer, they claim that they have no time. (SPEAKER: We will look into the matter by sending reminders through fax from the Assembly Secretariat).

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, since this session takes one day only, it is obvious that there are answers for the questions which the departments have not submitted due to limit of time. Yet, there are number of question for which answer were given as there are some which were not given. I supposed, for this reason, certain members expressed their dissatisfaction as some questions have not been answered. So, I request each of the members to understand the situation.

SPEAKER : All right. The matter will be pursued from this secretariat as necessary.

Now, we will take up Presentation of Reports. Let us call upon Pu Nirupam Chakma to present to the House, "The Actions taken by the Government against the recommendation Contained in the Committees first Report."

Pu N.P. CHAKMA : With your permission and of the House, Pu Speaker, I present to the House, the Second Report of the Committee

on Public Undertakings, “The Actions taken by the government against the Recommendation Contained in the Committees first Report”. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let the copy be distributed to the members. Now, let us call upon Pu K. Lianzuala, Chairman, Subject Committee-1V, to present to the House, “Fifth Report on Subject Committee- 1V, relating to Central Jail, Aizawl”

Pu K. LIANZUALA : Pu Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I present on the table of the House, “the Fifth Report on the Subject Committee-1V, relating to Central Jail, Aizawl.” Thank you.

SPEAKER : Now, the copy should be laid on the Table of the House. Now, let us call upon Pu Lalthansanga, Chairman of Government Assurance Committee, to present on the Table of the House, “The Report of Government Assurance of Committee-1V.”

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I present on the Table of the House, “The Report of Government Assurance Committee-1V.”

Pu Speaker let me explain in few points regarding this report.

SPEAKER : Before that, let the copy be laid on the Table of the House as it concerned all ministers.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, regarding “Question not answer,” I want to point out that the Assurance Committee should take action within three months to any assurance made by the minister. In the same manner, answer to any question asked by the members should be furnished to concerned department soon after the session is concluded.

To continue with my report, Pu Speaker, it is the Implementation report of the concerned Department on the assurance given by a minister in the House during the 4th, 5th and 6th session of the 6th Mizoram Legislative Assembly. The Report contains three chapters. The first chapter contains the implementations which were satisfactorily accepted by the Committee. The second chapter contains decision made by the Committee not to pursue. The third chapter contains further

recommendation made by the Committee. The concluding portion of the report is the desire of the Committee. That sir, the Committee did not agree with the assurance which remains unimplemented for a long time and the Committee expected the government to submit implementation report to the House as early as possible. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Regarding the question raised by the members, this Assembly Secretariat has few points to explain to the House. Answer of any question is received up to 5:00 PM. The Secretariat multiplied the copy which is completed at 9:00 PM. The Assembly Secretariat expected the departments to give priority to answer any question of the Assembly so that it is submitted in due time. If it is received in time, the process could be completed without problem.

Now, we will come to the Legislative Business. Let us call upon Pu J.H. Rothuama, Minister to beg permission of the House to introduce the Bill, "The Mizoram Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012."

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I beg permission of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012".

SPEAKER : The hon'ble Minister has introduced the Bill. If permitted, let him introduce and move ahead. He may further apply permission of the House to pass it.

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the Mizoram Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012 is emanated from the Central Government. The Central Government considered this as important for the whole of India. Both Houses of Parliament considered and passed it as requested by the Ministry of Agriculture. The effective date of application is fixed at January 15, 2012. But as All India, the effective date of application is fixed at February 15, 2013. The Bill is very important. It is done not as the request of state Government but the central government proposed it. The main purpose of this bill concerns office of the Cooperative Societies. It was one year term but now is changed to two years term. In the opinion of the Central Government and the Central Cooperative Society, cooperation is important for the safety of the world. So, this year has even being declared as 'International Cooperative Year' to promote Cooperative societies as it is also observed

in the country. It concern economic development relating to construction of buildings and trades throughout the world. Pu Jawaharlal Nehru is known as the Father of Cooperative Societies in India. He worked hard for the development of Cooperative Societies. It is believed that Cooperation is the best means to alleviate poverty. Knowing that, the Central Government concentrates on production of milks by Cooperative Societies. There are number of point to mention regarding the benefit of cooperative Societies. In fact, the Central Government encourages the system in all the states of India.

The constitution of India amended provision of cooperative societies which should be applied throughout the country. Hence, it is necessary for us also to make amendment.

I opine it is not necessary to lay the copy on the table of the House as it is provided to each member. The bill is prepared on urgent case as it takes times for vetting of the bill by law department. This will then give rise to a permanent post of Secretary and Registrar for Cooperation Department. Now, the bill is readied for introduction after intensive pressure. The amendment portions will be pointed out for the original act, 2006 is not found as the bill is amended.

The following sections are proposed for amendment, such as: –

Amendment No.1 : Section 2 of the Principal Act : Sub-section 7(a) is added to sub-section (7) as “authorized person” means a person referred to as such in section 107(2) 17 of this Act”.

Additional provision is made in sub-section 8 of section 2 as ‘ “Board” means the board of directors or the governing body of a cooperative society, by whatever name called, to which the direction and control of the management of the affairs of a society in entrusted to’.

A new section 17(a) is required to be added in 17 as ‘ “Cooperative Society” means a society registered or deemed to be registered under any law relating to cooperative societies for the time being in force’.

Section 51 is to be inserted after Section 51 as ‘ “state level cooperative society” means a “cooperative society” which means a cooperative society having its area of operation extending to the whole of Mizoram and which has as its members only the registered cooperative societies.

Amendment No. 2: A new clause (t) shall be added after clause(s) of section 31 of the Principal Act as follows, namely:-

“(t) To have an access to the books, information and accounts of the cooperative society kept in regular transaction of its business with such member.

Amendment No. 3: Clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 46 of the Principal Act, there shall be a substitution of election of chairman, vice chairman and directors of the board of management of committee in the state level cooperative societies, secondary and primary cooperative.

Amendment No. 4: Sub-section (a) of section 48 of the Principal Act shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“There shall be a board of directors or management committee for every cooperative (thereinafter referred to as board of management committee) consisting of such number of persons specified in the bye-laws which number, in any case, shall not exceed twenty one”.

After sub-section 2, a new sub-section 2(a) shall be added after sub-section (2) as follows, namely: -

“2(a) the board may appoint a person having experience in the field relating to

the objects and activities undertaken by the cooperative societies, as co-opted member of the board of such societies. Provided that number of such co-opted members, shall not exceed two in addition to twenty one directors specified under section 48(1).

Provided further that such co-opted members shall not have the right to vote in any election of the cooperative society in their capacity as such member or to be eligible to be elected as offence bearers of the board:

The government may nominate functional directors of a cooperative society who shall also be the members of the board and such members who shall be excluded for the purpose of counting the total number of directors specified under section 48(1).

Amendment No. 5: Section 49 of the Principal Act shall be substituted as follows, namely: -

“Notwithstanding anything contain under this Act, rule or bye-laws of the concerned cooperative, two seats in the committee of management shall be reserved for women if the cooperative society has women members.

This substitution is the proposal of the central for women are to be given more powers.

Amendment No. 6: Sub-section (1) of section 53 of the Principal Act shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“The term of the office of the board of management committee of the primary cooperative societies shall be five years from the date of election and the term of

office bearers shall be coterminous with the term of the board”.

(It seemed that this is the most important amendment portion and it is the reason why amendment is made. It should be applied in the whole of India)

Amendment No. 7: The first and second proviso of sub-section (3) shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“Provided that no member shall hold office for more than 10 years in succession, or having already held office for ten years, whether in succession or not, be re-elected within a shorter interval than five years from the date on which he ceased to be member of such council of body”.

Provided further that if, election cannot be held for any reason, the gap period so occasioned shall not be counted to form part of the interval period of five years. Not with standing this amendment, the tenure of the existing management committee elected and constituted under the pre-amended act shall remained unchanged and election under the amended act shall be held for such management committees before the expiry of their normal tenure for which they were elected. The members who have not completed ten years but whose re-election for another term is likely to exceed ten years provided under the amended act shall also, not be eligible for re-election before five years cooling off period”.

- Amendment No. 8: Amendment Section 55: In Section 55 of the Principal Act,
- (1) Sub-section (1) shall be substituted as follows, namely:-
- “The Superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to a cooperative society shall vest in the registrar of cooperative societies. The election shall be conducted by the registrar in accordance with the procedure prescribed in The Mizoram Cooperative Societies Rules, 2012”.
- (2) Clause (a) of sub-section (2) shall be substituted as follows namely:-
- “Conducted before the expiry of the term of the committee so as to ensure that the newly elected members of the committee assume office immediately on the expiry of the office of members of the outgoing management committee”.
- (3) Sub-section (4) and (5) shall stand deleted.
- Sub-section (6) of Section 55 shall be substituted as follows, namely:-
- “Where there exist casual vacancy on the board and there exist a quorum, the board may fill a casual vacancy on the board by nomination out of the same class of members in respect of which the casual vacancy has arisen, if the term of the office of the board is less than half of its original term”.

Amendment No. 9: Amendment of Section 64: In Section 64 of the Principal Act,

(1) Sub-section (1) shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“The registrar for the reasons, basis or grounds specified under sub-section (2) shall have the power to supersede or remove the duly elected management committee from office before the expiry of its full tenure and in its place appoint one or more officers to be called as administrator to manage the affairs of the cooperative for a period not exceeding six months as may be specified in the order”.

(2) Sub-section(2) shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“The board of management committee may be superseded or kept under suspension in case: –

- (i) Of its persistent default; or
- (ii) Of negligence in the performance of its duties, or
- (iii) The board has committed any act prejudicial to the interests of the cooperative society of its members; or
- (iv) There is stalemate in the constitution or functions of the board; or
- (v) The authority or body as provided by the legislature of a state, by law, under Clause(2) of article 243ZK, has failed to conduct elections in accordance with the provisions of this Act;

- (vi) Has omitted or failed to comply with any direction or order issued to it by registrar or government in general or public interest.

Provided that the board of any such cooperative society shall not be superseded or kept under suspension where there is no government shareholding or loan or financial assistance or any guarantee of the government;

Provided further that in case of a cooperative society carrying on the business of banking, the provisions of the banking regulation act, 1949 shall also apply:

Provided also that in case of a cooperative society, other than a multi-state cooperative society, carrying on the business of banking the provisions of this clause shall have the effect as if for the words "six months", the words "one year" had been substituted".

Amendment No. 10: Amendment of Section 85: In Section 85 of the Principal Act,

- (1) The following shall be added in continuation of sub-section (1), namely:

"The accounts of every cooperative society shall be audited within six months of the close of the financial year to which such accounts relate".

- (2) After sub-section (2), a new sub-section (2) (a) and (2) (b) shall be added as follows, namely:-

"2 (a) the registrar of cooperative societies shall lay down the minimum

qualifications and experience of auditors and auditing firms that shall be eligible for auditing accounts of the co-operative societies.

“2 (b) every Cooperative Society shall cause to be audited by an auditor or auditing firms appointed by the general body of the cooperative society.

Provided that such Auditors or Auditing Firms shall be appointed for a panel approved by the Registrar of cooperative society”.

Amendment No. 11: Amendment of Section 88 - No. 11 :
Amendment of Section 88-In section 88 of the Principal Act, the words “sixty days” shall be substituted by the words “six months” and section 88 will read as follows:-

“Every cooperative, within six months of the closure of the corresponding financial year, shall file the following information or returns pertaining to the cooperative with the registrar”.

Amendment No. 12: Amendment of Section 89 – In the principal Act, after clause (g) of sub-section (2) of the Section 89, a new clause (h) shall be added as follows, namely:-

“(h) The audit report of the accounts of an apex cooperative society, as may be defined by the State Act, shall be laid before the state legislature in the manner, as may be provided by the state legislature, by law”.

Amendment No. 13: Amendment of Section 107 – In Section 107 of the Principal Act, clause (17) of Sub-section (2) shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“Willful failure of any officer or custodian to handover custody of books, accounts, documents, records, cash, security and other property belonging to a cooperative society of which he is an officer or custodian, to an authorized person”.

As the cooperative society is given importance by the central government, I would like to request the hon’ble members to discuss the bill and make necessary corrections to the bill introduced today.

SPEAKER : The hon’ble Minister moved “The Mizoram Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012.” We will have discussion. Each member will have time not exceeding five minutes. Let us call upon Pu C. Ramhluna.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The amendments of section 31 and 46 are all clauses. One of them is (t) & section 46. It appears that clauses are generally started with small letter. Isn’t better to insert small letter for the beginning these sentences? Next, sub-section 2 (a) of section 48 the state government may appoint not more than two members. But sub-section 2 (a) of section 48 provided that “the board may appoint a person...” I feel that it is more appropriate to exclude “a” from this sub-section.

Last proviso of section 48 stated that the government may nominate functional directors of cooperative society who shall also be made the members of the board. Here, the number of members of the board is not fixed. Is it more appropriate to fix the number of the members of the board that can be appointed by the government?

It seemed that amendment of section 53 and section 83 are linking together. Section 53 provided federal cooperative within bracket central or secondary cooperative. It appears that federal cooperative includes central and secondary cooperative. But in section 83, office of

the terms of federal cooperative, central and secondary are different from one another. It seemed that the provisions require revision.

Next, clause 2 (a) of section 55 also begins with capital letter 'C' which shall be changed with small letter of 'c'.

Generally, it is good. But I point out the said sections for further review. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The time now is 1:00 PM. We will take a break and discussion will be resumed at 2:00 PM.

2: 00 P.M.

SPEAKER : Now, let us call upon Pu P.P. Thawla.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. It is much appreciative as the hon'ble Minister has introduced the Cooperative Society Amendment Bill, 2012.

In India, cooperative society is used to encourage poor section of the society. Thus, it plays an important role in uplifting the poor. If any political party assume power in the state government, it is wise to prioritize the cooperative society as it concern condition of the poor.

Reviewing the 97th Amendment of the Constitution of India, the amendment Bill, 2012 has functioned as an autonomous body without any control of the government. It is very pleasing to learn that the state government too, obliges to follow the same. Yet, there is criticism that government is not giving enough attention to the cooperative society. So, I would like to an appeal to the government to give attention on promotion of the cooperative societies.

The provisions of this amendment, in general, are quite good. As stated by Amendment of Section 48 that "Government may nominate functioning Directors of Co-Operative Society who shall also be the members of Board", there is no fixation of how many Functional Director should be appointed. I am afraid that the government made the said appointment excessively which may cause problem to Board Members. It should clearly be mentioned whether one or two Director.

Again, Section 64 (1)-(6) provided that “has omitted or failed to comply with any direction or other issue to it by the registrar or government in general or public interest”. It will be more appropriate if no encroachment is made to the functioning of the Autonomous body which is the main concern of Central government also.

In short, it is truly appreciative as this amendment bill indicates the state government’s concern for improvement of Co-operative Society. I, therefore opine that this bill deserves support of the members. I do appreciate step taken by concerned minister for this concern. Thank you.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, it is obvious this amendment bill is laid on the table of the House not because of concern of the government or the minister to improve Co-operative Society, but it is a mandatory to do so. It is, therefore, a waste of time to get into the details of the bill as it is not a matter to make a change or improve the term here in the House. Regarding the statement of objects and reason which implies that the Bill is introduced on ground of the 97th Constitutional Amendment, it is actually of the 243rd Constitutional Amendment. So, it is necessary to explain it in detail and then be passed without further ado. Apart from this, the substitute for 49 (6) underlines that “Notwithstanding anything contained under this Act, rules or by-laws of concerned Cooperative, two seats in the committee of management shall be reserved for women if the Co-operative Society has women members”. Supposed we already have 2 women members and in that case, I opine it is not necessary to reserve 2 more seats to women. So, it may be more appropriate if the wording is changed as “If the Co-operative Society has no women members”.

Pu Speaker, I opine we have nothing much to say whether this amendment bill is good or not since we are bound to pass it as it is. Yet, it may be necessary to make some explanations. Thank you.

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, if any Amendment Bill is introduced in the House, I opine it is good to have the original bill which should be amended so that we may be able to classify which portion is to be amended.

Pu Speaker, I opine it is necessary to delete section 49, “if the cooperative Society has Para 2 of section 53 women members” but provide “the members who have not completed ten years but whose re-

election for another term is likely to exceed ten year provided under the amended Act shall also not eligible for re-election before five years cooling off period.” Here, sub-section 4 and 5 of section 55 is shown as deleted. What is the reason? It will be very pleasing if it is explained by the Minister. Thank you, Sir.

Pu R. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, to clear up our confusion, the meaning of the term in section 49, “If the cooperative society has women members,” it appears that if the society has women members, two seats should be reserved for the members of Board of Directors. If the society has no women member, reservation of seats for women is not necessary. Again, the 97th Constitutional Amendment is alteration of article 243. The Bill is formulated on the basis of the 97th Constitutional Amendment.

SPEAKER : Article 243 of the Constitution runs up to Z (g) where as the 97th Constitutional Amendment contains runs up to Z (h).

Pu LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, I am not concerned minister to answer the question but my understanding concerns the question of Pu C. Ramhluna regarding clause 2(a) of section 48, ‘the Board may appoint a person having experience in the field of banking.’ Here, some members opine as two persons may be appointed. ‘Person’ implies expert in banking, financial management, etc. but not the quantity. It indicates that not less than two persons can be appointed. If necessary, only one member may also be appointed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Now, let us call upon the hon’ble Minister to wind up the discussion.

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, it is not necessary to have many Functional Directors as the government needs to appoint one or two members among 21 members of Board of Directors. The Bill is not introduced only on ground of the will of the state government but it is mandated by the Central Government to the state government. The Bill is amended for protection of the Cooperative Societies against misleading of the state government as well as the Central Government. After amendment of the Rules of Cooperative Societies and the Constitution of India, the central Government fixes date February 15, 2012 for adoption of the cooperative Societies

(Amendment) Bill, 2011. The Bill is introduced by me for it concerned my Department. All members are thanked for their constructive discussion and support of the said Bill. There may be left out of reaction yet, those will be reviewed and necessary correction will be made later. Pu Speaker, I therefore beg the House to pass “The Mizoram Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2012.” Thank you.

SPEAKER : The Bill is quite new to us. It seems that it is not yet printed by the Publishing Company also. So, it may be difficult to understand by the members.

After discussion, the hon’ble Minister begged the House to pass the Bill. Now, the Bill will be voted.

(The Bill is voted and passed).

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA, MINISTER : Thank you, Pu Speaker. A printed copy of the Constitution of India is kept by Pu Lalsawta, concerned Minister. It may be presented to the House, shortly.

SPEAKER : Now, Business of the House is finished. Business of the House is followed properly, thanks to the effort of all members. No more session will be held again this year. I, therefore, wish you all the hon’ble members of the House, a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year too.

Sitting is adjourned *sine die* at 2:30 PM.