

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR FOURTEENTH SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 2nd APRIL, 2013
(Time 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPER

2. **Pu LALSAWTA**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the Education Policy of Mizoram, 2013.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

3. **Pu LALROBIAKA**, to present to the House the First Report of the Subject Committee-III on SSA, RMSA & Mid-Day Meal Schemes relating to School Education Department.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bills for introduction, consideration and passing.

4. **Pu R. LALZIRLIANA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013"

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

5. **Pu NIHAR KANTI**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Animal Slaughter Bill, 2013"

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 : Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
2 Timothy 2:15

Now, we will come to question hour. Let us call upon Pu B. Lalthlengliana to ask Starred Question No.221.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA: Will the hon'ble Minister for Agriculture Department be please to state:

- a) Whether Agriculture Department purchased SRI-64 (paddy seeds) during 2011-2012?
- b) If so, how many quintals?
- c) Who is the supplier?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu H. Liansailova, Minister to answer it.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA, MIINISTER : Pu Speaker, answer to Starred Question No.221 are as follows: -

- a) Yes.
- b) 228.64 quintals.
- c) The Suppliers are: –
 - i) Eastern Agro-marketing Agency (Authorized dealer of National Seed Corporation), AT Road, Guwahati - 82.24 quintals.
 - ii) Department of Agriculture (Research & Education) Mizoram - 146.40 quintals.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu Lalduhoma to ask Supplementary Question.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, whether SRI seeds is sown in the hilly area?

SPEAKER : Pu B. Lalthlengliana to ask Supplementary Question.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA: Pu Speaker, what is the cost of SRI seeds per quintal?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon concerned Minister to give the answer.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA, MIINISTER: Pu Speaker, the normal rate of SRI seeds is about ₹3000/- per qtls. Secondly, I did not know whether it is sown in hilly areas.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, obviously the seed is distributed to different areas. Can we have also in Hrangturzo Constituency?

Pu H. LIANSILOVA, MIINISTER : Pu Speaker, it is handed over to DAO of concerned areas for distribution. If a particular is not included, demand may be made to concerned DAO before handed-off.

SPEAKER : Let us call Pu Joseph Lalhimpuia to ask Starred Question No.222.

Pu JOSEPH LALHIMPUIA : Will the hon'ble Minister for Trade & Commerce Department be pleased to state: –

- a) When will Border Trade of Tlabung be commissioned?
- b) What is the latest progress made by the Government?

SPEAKER : Now, let us call upon Pu Lalrinliana Sailo, Minister to give the answer.

Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the date for commission of Border Trade of Tlabung is unknown. Necessary documents have already been submitted to the Central Government and we are now waiting for the approval. Construction of the approach road as well as facilitation centre has already been done.

SPEKAER : Now, let us call upon Pu Joseph Lalhimpuia and Pu T.T. Zothansanga to ask their respective Supplementary Question.

Pu JOSEPH LALHIMPUIA : Pu Speaker, Tlabung being an informal trade route since 150 years back, I want to ask the following: -

- i) Is there any proposal to create the post of Marketing Inspector at Tlabung?
- ii) Is there any proposal for improvement of this Trade Centre?

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, my questions are as follows: -

- i) Is there any proposal to set up Food Processing Plant at Melbuk? If so, what is the estimate amount?
- ii) What is the estimate amount for Common Testing facilities & Integrated Pack House of Zokhawthar?

- iii) Will Zokhawthar Integrated Pack House & Post Harvest Storage be made successful? If so, what is the estimate amount?
- iv) Is there any proposal to set up External Terminal Complex at Champhai. If so, what is the estimate amount?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu Lalarinliana Sailo, Minister to give the answer.

Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, during the 12th Plan, the Central Government has approved the following projects under Trade & Commerce Department: –

Sl.No	Project	Amount
1	Integrated Pack House and Post Harvest storage at Zokhawthar	₹5 crore
2	Setting up of Food Processing Plant at Border Trade Township at Melbuk	₹8.90 crore
3	Construction of Export Terminal Market Complex at Khawzawl	₹500 lakh
4	Construction of Common Testing Facilities, Marketing & Integrated Pack House at Zokhawthar	₹500 lakh
5	Setting up of Border Trade at Vaphai	₹800 lakh
6	Setting up of Cold Storage at Thingsai	₹800 lakh
7	Setting up of Border Trade at Farkawn	₹800 lakh
8	Setting up of Border Trade at Sangau	₹800 lakh
9	Setting up of Cold Change-age at Zokhawthar	₹900 lakh
10	Integrated Pack House Food & Vegetables; Development of Post Harvest Technology & Common facilities for packing and Marking at South Vanlaiphai	₹800 lakh
11	Trade Facilities & Centre to Lawngtlai	₹9.02 lakh
12	Border Hatch to Bangladesh and Myanmar Border	Certain Nos.
13	Border Hatch to Marpara, Vaphai, Hnahlan and Thingsai	Certain Nos.

As known to us all, Pu Speaker, Border Trade is the purview of the central government but should be done in consultation with the state government. Accordingly, border

trade at Melbuk has also been taken up by the central government. After the decision made by the central and the government of Myanmar, the state government implemented the work. Although it is not the purview of the state government but it carries out all works.

Regarding Marketing Inspector, there is no proposal as yet except for Border Hatch which may be improved step by step. In this connection, I am regretted to state that the government is unable to create a new post despite the needs in some departments. But after carefully examined the needs of Trade & Commerce department, we have two new posts such as Marketing Inspector and Market Officer which will be filled up as soon as financial sanction is received.

Pu Speaker, I was informed that BSF have frequently pestering our workers at Tlabung as I have even instructed them many times to stop it. Let us hope the problem is stopped. Lastly, I want to inform the House that there is proposal for setting up space for free movement of 15 kms. from the boundary between India and Myanmar. Likewise, I opine it is important for the government to determine the same at the boundary of Mizoram and Bangladesh to give some spaces to the workers but I have no idea if it is the purview of the Home Minister or Chief Minister. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation permitted 25 miles of free space which is equivalent to 40 kms but this is not effective to the Chittagong Hill Track of Bangladesh border. Anyhow, it is necessary to have a free movement zone adjoining to the boundary line between India and Bangladesh.

Now, Let us call upon Pu K. Liantlinga to ask Starred Question No.223.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Will the hon'ble Minister, Cooperation Department be pleased to state: -

- a) How many members consist of the Mizoram Cooperative Development Council and who are they?
- b) Whether the Mizoram Cooperative Rules is being implemented? If so, date of approval by the Cabinet Sitting?

SPEAKER : Pu J.H. Rothuama, Minister to give the answer.

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, answer to Starred Question No.223 is: -

- a) Yes. The following are the members being appointed as per rule 13(1) of the Mizoram Cooperative Society: -

Chairman : Minister, Cooperation.
Vice-chairman : Pu S. Laldingliana, MLA.
Member Secretary : Registrar, Cooperative society, Government of Mizoram.

Members are as follows: -

1. Pu R. Lalrinmawia, MLA.
2. Pu T.T. Zothansanga, MLA.
3. Secretary, to the Gov't of Mizoram, Cooperation.
4. Commissioner/Secretary, Finance Deptt., Gov't of Mizoram.
5. Principal Adviser/Adviser, Mizoram State Planning.
6. Director of Agriculture, Horticulture, A.H. & Vety, Fisheries, Sericulture, Industries, Trade & Commerce, FCS & CA, Soil & Water Conservation Deptt.
7. Addl. Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Gov't of Mizoram.
8. Prof. Lianzela, MZU.
9. Pu Thanhawla IAS (Retired).

b) Yes. The Cabinet Meeting approved on 21.8.2012.

SPEAKER : Any Supplementary Question?

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, who is responsible for the late approval of the Cooperative Society Rules?

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, India becomes a developing country through cooperation. If this government regarded the poor as its VIP, more funds should be provided to Cooperation as it concerns the poor. So, is there any proposal to provide more funds? Secondly, what is the term of Office of the Members? If it is 5 years, will the MLA members continue their membership even if they are not elected in the coming general election? Thirdly, will the Council determine to continue with some redundant State Level Societies?

SPEAKER : Pu J.H. Rothuama, Minister to give the answer.

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, Cooperative Council is established on the 20th March, 2013. As of the term of Office of the Members, it shall be informed later. The Council has no sitting as yet since its members were appointed during this session only. Pu Speaker, the Election manifesto includes the Cooperative Development Council with a view to

upgrade Cooperative Societies. Since the Council has no fund, ₹24 crore is loaned from NABARD with ₹2.24 crore matching share of the state government.

Despite unavailability of financial assistance from the department, it is truly appreciative as some primary societies of the remote areas are selected to receive award of the national level. As soon as the state government contributes its matching share, financial assistance will be given for improvement of their respective cooperative society. Important role of Cooperative Society for the development of India is known to us all but it is not that easy to apply the same effectively in our state due to financial constraint of our government. Presently, we have more than 1400 Cooperative Societies in our state. If sufficient amount of financial assistance is provided by the department, more progresses could have been achieved. Yet, the department is giving the best effort to keep any societies from collapsing. In dealing with financial sources for the society, NABARD has to follow appropriate Rules and Regulations which caused various difficulties.

The Cooperative Development Council has a lot of duties to be performed as there are bays which needs supervision of the department. Besides, the department is in need of provision for maintenance of numbers of establishment at the State and district level, various units in rural areas as we are now eagerly waiting for the coming of funds. In the meantime, it is truly appreciated as the Cooperative Development Council has now come into being. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : Now, Pu Hmingdalilova Khiantge to ask starred Question No.224.

Pu HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE : Will the hon'ble Minister, Tourism Department be pleased to state: - When will 3 cottages within the premise of Thingdawl Highway Restaurant be commissioned?

SPEAKER : Pu S. Hiato, concerned minister to give the answer.

Pu S. HIATO, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, 3 cottages within the premise of Thingdawl Highway Restaurant will be commissioned as soon as fund is available.

SPEAKER : Pu Hmingdailova Khiantge, Dr. Ngurdingliana and Pu T.T. Zothansanga to ask Supplementary Questions.

Pu HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE : Pu Speaker, Supplementary question: -

- i) Who is the contractor?
- ii) There construction needs some repairs already even before the commission. As such, I would like to know when the construction was started?

Dr. NGURDINGLIANA : Pu Speaker, we also have 2 Nos. Tourists Lodge within Chalfilh constituency, one at Vanzau with estimate amount for the construction amounting to ₹400 crores and the other at Khanpui, which has already been completed but remain unoccupied. When will this be commissioned? If not, may the hon'ble allow us to use this empty building for public convenient as I think I know how to use?

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : (Technical issue/no sound)...

SPEAKER : Let us invite the hon'ble Minister, Pu S. Hiato to provide the answer.

Pu S. HIATO, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, the building construction is very unsatisfactory although we have done our best to modify the original plans. The project cost is ₹12,313,000/-. At the same time we do not have sufficient funds to provide furniture for the lodges. But we are hoping to inaugurate as much as possible by this financial year. Same is the case for the other members' enquiries.

SPEAKER : Let us now invite Pu P.P. Thawla to ask starred question no. 225.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Will the hon'ble Minister for General Administration Department be pleased to state – If the 20 muster roll workers and 4 IV grades appointed illegally by the Saiha DC Office were dismissed as notified?

SPEAKER : Pu H. Liansailova, hon'ble Minister may provide the answer in the stead of the Chief Minister.

Pu H. LIANSAILOVA, MINISTER : They were temporarily retained since they do not have sufficient manpower at this time.

SPEAKER : Starred question 226 is shared by Pu K. Lianzuala and Pu K. Liantlinga. Pu K. Lianzuala may ask the question.

Pu K. LIANZUALA : Will the hon'ble Minister for Finance be pleased to state –
a) How much is the government debt at this time?

- b) Can you explain why this government has an additional ₹734.66 crores debt within only 3 years?
- c) How much fund does the government have, up until 1.3.2013 in the RBI account?

SPEAKER : Let us invite Pu H. Liansailova to answer the question.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA, MINISTER : The answers are –

- a) We have not received a final figure from the Finance Department but it is estimated to be about ₹3999.77 crores.
- b) This is an accumulated debt we inherited from the previous Ministry but we are actually seeing a decrease.
- c) The government has ₹81.48 crores in the RBI account as of 1.3.2013.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, I would like to know if our fiscal management is lacking to have so much debt. How much deficit do we have in the RBI account till 31st March? What is the earmark for the state by the central under the 12th 5 year plan?

Pu LALDUHOMA : Can you clarify what the term, ‘minus loan’ mean? Can you tell me the percentage of our debt by way of GDSP?

SPEAKER : Let us give a moment to the hon’ble Minister to answer the questions.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we have released our debt management report where most of your questions are answered. I believe the minus loans occur because we repay the higher interest loans to avoid deficit and hence our fully paid loans are referred as minus.

SPEAKER : We have members unable to attend the session today, viz – Pu Nirupam Chakma, Pu Zodintluanga and Pu Lal Thanhawla due to various reasons.

Our next business is laying of papers. Let the hon’ble Minister, Pu Lalsawta lay a copy of “the Education Policy of Mizoram, 2013” in the House.

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and the approval of the House, I hereby lay, “a copy of the Education Policy of Mizoram, 2013” in the House. I also request your permission to explain the paper briefly.

SPEAKER : Very well, permission is granted.

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : From the initiation of National Policy of Education in India in 1968, several modifications have been made in the past to cope with contemporary needs. We also feel that such modifications are necessary to integrate it with our policy on education. Our main objectives are set upon universality, internalization, vocational, technical and privatization. We feel that these aspects of education should be included in our system of education. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Are you going to include all these in the new curriculum?

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : Basically, yes. Although it would not be achievable immediately, it will have a promising impact in the future.

SPEAKER : Let us invite the hon'ble member, Pu Lalrobiaka to present, 'First Report of the Subject Committee III on SSA, RMSA & Mid-Day Meal Schemes relating to School Education Department.'

Pu LALROBIAKA : Pu Speaker, I hereby present the 'First Report of the Subject Committee III on SSA, RMSA & Mid-Day Meal Schemes relating to School Education Department.' I also would like to clarify a few points in this regard.

Pu Speaker, although the school authorities are trying their best to continue the scheme smoothly, there are often gaps in fund sanctioning which is a great burden. We, therefore, urge the sanctioning authorities to take necessary actions to avoid such irregularities.

Some of the funds are not utilized to their fullest such as facilities provided by PHE like filters and latrines. The schools themselves are not advised as to its installations and the funds are therefore practically wasted.

SPEAKER : Are you talking about fridge filters?

Pu LALROBIAKA : Yes sir. You need an expert to install such filters and since there is no coordination between the departments, they are left to set it up by themselves.

We also feel that the system of computer aided learning under SSA needs to be changed as there are too many shortcomings faced by the students especially in the rural areas.

Under the SSA, funds are sanctioned for fencing school compounds without conducting surveys as to which school really needs fencing. This could lead to problems in times

of audit. We have included our observations and recommendations in this report and I hope the concerned department will take a serious look at them.

SPEAKER : Moving on to Legislative Business, Let us now invite Pu R. Lalzirliana to beg leave of the House to introduce, 'The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013' in the House.

Pu R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I request the permission of the House to introduce, 'The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013.'

SPEAKER : You may now introduce, 'The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013' in the House.

Pu R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, this is a new Bill which has been prepared since 2012...

SPEAKER : You may also move the Bill after your introduction.

Pu R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER : Fire Department is one of the most neglected departments even during the times of the British Colonization and we believe that after the implementation of this Bill, the department will have better administration and a better coordinated development.

There may be some mistakes and error here and there in the Bill but I would like to request you to accept those as patent errors even as I apologize and beg your understanding since this is a new Bill.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, can the Minister kindly repeat the correction made in clause 38?

Pu R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER : In Clause (c) under section 20, the word should be 'withdraws' instead of 'withdraw' and 'at least' instead of 'at lease.' Anyway, there are some spelling mistakes in the Bill which, as I have requested, may be accepted as patent errors, if you please.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon'ble Minister has introduced and moved the Bill now. We will start the discussion with Pu Lalduhoma, each member will have an allotted time of 5 minutes.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, there are more than a few mistakes in the Bill which spoiled the whole look of the Bill somewhat. As it is a new Bill, I have nothing much to say for now except to see how it works out after implementation. I have a few suggestions regarding the wording but apart from that, I think we should pass the Bill easily.

Pu H. ZOTHANGLIANA : The department has functioned for quite sometime now without appropriate regulation and hence I am pleased that the hon'ble Minister has the knowhow to realize the need of a new Bill. I would like to know exactly what is meant by the 'licensing authority' in the Bill. There are also some spelling mistakes not mentioned by the hon'ble Minister which I hope will be corrected in the final Bill. I am also pleased that, 'preventive measures' has now been included as regulation which would solve many of our congestion issues in the city. I extend my support of the Bill, thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu TT Zothansanga.

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, under section 1, number 3, I don't think the inclusion of 'extend to the whole of Mizoram' is necessary. I also feel that there should be a specific definition of the 'State Government of Mizoram' instead of referring to it as we like at anytime. The reference to the function of the Director should also be ascertained more clearly. Thank you.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I think it would be better if we make the corrections right now as far as possible. There are some mistakes that could not be simply overlooked although we intend to accept them as patent errors. There are far too many 'or' on page two (g), is there any way to merge that in one sentence?

We are in need of a Fire Station as well as fire extinguisher in rural areas especially small villages.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu R. Lalrinawma

Pu R. LALRINAWMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. Clause 2 has sub clause 1 which is unnecessary since it does not have sub clause 2; I believe it would be more appropriate to use a, b, c.

Under definition sub clause (e), an explanation was given on member of Fire Brigade. It should instead explain Member of Fire & Emergency Service and then include Fire Brigade.

On page 6, the word 'arrangement' contained in the phrase 'The Director can make an arrangement in a State Government Sanction' should be changed to Agreement. It was suggested by our hon'ble Minister to change Aizawl Development Authority Building Regulation 2008 to Aizawl Municipal Council Building Regulation 2012 which I do not agree. Regarding Section 20, 'e' and 'or' should be removed.

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. First of all, I would like to pledge my support to this Bill.

As mentioned by our respected member Dr. R. Lalthangliana, I would like to explain the issue prevailing at J.B. College at Lunglei. One Public Administration lecturer was transferred leaving with three other lecturers which did not indicate that they will not be transferred back and were told that it was under consideration. Since it was a long holiday weekend due to Good Friday and Easter, there was no time to issue the order which was also conveyed to them. However, they choose to continue with their decision which is very disappointing as we always gave top priority to students and their education. We expect a little bit of understanding from their side at the very least. Thank you.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, first and foremost I would like to give my support to this Bill.

In respect to the issues surrounding J.B. College at Lunglei, it is understandable given that the average class taken by a teacher is only 3.75 period per week. And since the balance of students is much higher at Aizawl then Lunglei, a decision was made to transfer one lecturer and the Principal was also consulted and have agreed to this. What has transpires is unfortunate and regrettable.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is now 1pm and time for recess. Our House Leader has suggested for the passing of this Bill before recess. Are we in agreement?

Is there anyone else before we invite our Minister? Pu Selthuama

Pu R. SELTHUAMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, with reference to ‘Appointment of Director of Fire & Emergency Services’ from page 3, Section 4, it should be made clear if the appointment is reserved for Police Services only or available to others from Ministerial Services.

The phrase “as it may deem fit” was used in page 8 whereas “as it thinks fit” was used in page 9, I believe correction is required for this. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now end our discussion time and correction will be made later on and accepted as patent error. We will now invite our hon’ble Minister to wind up and beg the House to pass this Bill.

Pu R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you for allowing the patent error without even asking. This Bill is taken from Model Fire Force Bill and as such some discrepancy is expected. Mizoram Fire Brigade was started in 1972 with the unit increasing in size and manpower and such we are now qualified as a Fire Station. Any mistakes contained in the Bill will be put up as patent error and amendments can always be made if there are any areas which we felt do not fit the people of Mizoram. Lastly I would like to ask the House to pass “The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013”. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now take a vote on pass “The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013”, those in favor say ‘Yes’ and those who are not say ‘No’. “The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013” has now been passed by the House. We will now disperse for recess and continue our session at 2 PM.

2:00 PM

SPEAKER : During the morning session an important Bill “The Mizoram Fire Services Bill, 2013” was passed by the House. We will now move on to another Bill and shall invite our hon’ble Minister Pu Nihar Kanti to ask the House to introduce his Bill “The Animal Slaughter Bill, 2013”.

Pu NIHAR KANTI, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with permission and the permission of the House I would like to introduce my Bill “The Animal Slaughter Bill, 2013”.

SPEAKER : Are we in favor? Then you may proceed with your introduction and move your Bill.

Pu NIHAR KANTI, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, thank you. With your permission and the permission of the House I introduce my Bill “The Animal Slaughter Bill, 2013”.

Pu Speaker, in today’s ever changing and faced paced world, our priority is to look after our health and lifestyle which leads to the creation of this Bill. Meat is one of our main food and 90% of the population are meat eaters. The main aim and objective of this Bill is to provide fresh and healthy meat to the public and to regulate the process. This will help in the prevention of animal borne diseases as well as perform checks and examination on animals before and after slaughtering.

This Bill contains several chapters with Chapter I containing the definition of this Bill, chapter II - Restriction on slaughter of Animal in place other than recognized slaughter houses, chapter III- Examination of Animals, chapter IV- examination on stamping of car cases, chapter VI- miscellaneous. I apologize in advance for any typing mistakes and other grammatical errors and would welcome any criticisms from our end. Lastly, I would like your support for this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER : We will start with the discussion of this Bill with five minutes allotted for each member. Who will start with the discussion? Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, I’d like to highlight just one point from page 2, chapter 2 clause III. I felt that the heading and the body does not carry the same meaning. The heading reads ‘Restriction and slaughter of animals in places other than recognized slaughter houses’, it seems like it is a law on restriction of animals instead of recognized slaughter house. However, the body of the clause talked about slaughter house which I believe is not clear. Other than that, I believe the Bill is satisfactory and I give my support for the passing of this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu C. Ramhluna

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, thank you. First of all I would like to congratulate our hon’ble Minister for creating and presenting this Bill as we are in need of this kind of Bill.

I would also like to offer a few corrections if I may. The Bill is called ‘The Animal Slaughter Bill’ even though Section-I clause (1) states that “This Act may be called the Mizoram Animal Slaughter Act, 2013’. The word ‘Mizoram’ was excluded from the actual bill and I believe it is more appropriate to include ‘Mizoram’. Also, as mentioned earlier, it seems like it is a Bill to control animals that are slaughtered outside of the slaughter house since the phrase reads ‘slaughter of animals in places other than recognized slaughter houses’.

Also, there are no definition for Veterinary practitioner under No-4, section-4.

Under offence and penalties, there is no act for the punishment of those who slaughter animals outside of the slaughter house. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu R. Lalrinawma

Pu R. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. We are discussing an important Bill and I would like to pledge my support.

There are several mistakes and errors which are understandable but this is not an issue as they are adjustable. In respect to the error mentioned by our respected members Pu Lalduhoma and Pu C. Ramhluna, I believe Clause 3 Sub-clause (i) can cover that which states 'On and from the commencement of this Act, no Animal, meant for consumption and sale in the recognized market, shall be slaughtered in any places other than the recognized slaughter houses'.

Under offence and penalties in page 4, (1) should be taken off as the Act has only section 10 and does not have sub section (1). Sub-clause (f) contains the sentence 'Is or has been functioning as an examiner and fails to take necessary steps as required in the Act'. I believe 'in this act' is more appropriate than 'in the act'.

Lastly, I believe in this Bill and give my support and hope that this Bill is implemented as it is a Bill which will benefit the people of Mizoram. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Lt. Col. Z.S. Zuala

Lt. Col. Z.S. ZUALA : Pu Speaker, I would like to highlight just one point i.e. for us to consider chapter-II page 2 more carefully. It reads 'On and from the commencement of this Act, no animal, meats for consumption and sale in the recognized market shall be slaughtered in any places other than the recognized slaughter houses'. We have to rethink if we could really implement this act and consider whether butchers will really go to the slaughter house just to slaughter animals. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu T.T. Zothansanga

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, just one point from chapter-5 which is in reference to the imprisonment of repeated offence. We should include the fine and punishment for offences and repeated offences. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Are there any one else?

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, this act only covers recognized market and animals slaughtered within slaughter house. It does not cover animals slaughtered in other places and there is no act which can punish them for this offence.

SPEAKER : Shall we continue our discussion regarding this point?

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, thank you. As mentioned before, I do believe we need to create areas or zones for this Bill to be more effective. These areas or zones can cover a limited or set place. Choosing a location for the slaughter house is an important aspect of this Bill. I'd like to mention because there is already complains about the proposed site in Lunglei. We must also make sure to enforce the pre and post examination of animals.

Since we have already come up with the act, we must be certain that it covers all areas regarding the slaughter, buying and selling of meats. It should be practical and enforceable in all places and not only in Aizawl. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us invite our Law & Judicial Minister Pu Lalsawta.

Pu LALSAWTA, MINISTER : I have no problem in passing this Bill as we are in need of one. The effective date will be notified to us by the government when it is ready.

Mizoram is at a transitional stage and I do support the intention behind this Bill which is providing certified and healthy meat to the public. However, I do believe that the public is not quite ready for this; even the government is not ready and prepared. As mentioned before it will prove to be a problem for places other than Aizawl if all the facilities are situated in Aizawl. Also, this Bill excludes the area of Autonomous District Councils. That means this Bill does not cover them and there will be no law that will stop them from transporting their uncertified and unchecked meat.

There are several complications that have to be considered and I suggest creating a Select Committee is appropriate for this Bill. In the meantime the department can raise public awareness and prepare them. Thank you.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, under chapter 2, no 4 which is in respect to Appointment of meat inspector, clause-1 states that ‘The government shall appoint meat inspector to exam all animal brought to the slaughter house for slaughter’. This means that the task used to be performed by Veterinary department i.e. examination and stamping of meats at the market will no longer be possible. We should look at ways for this Bill to cover the areas outside of the slaughter house.

Pu NIHAR KANTI, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, this is my first ever bill since serving as a Minister. I do hear the concerns and suggestions made by our members and I’d like to mention that it will be considered.

Passing this bill is merely the starting point. There is no doubt that we will come across problems in the implementation process and we have to raise awareness for this. We will also need to create rules and regulations for this bill to be a success. We can always amend the Bill to better serve our purpose.

Pu Speaker, I would like to plead the House to pass the Bill “The Mizoram Animal Slaughter Bill, 2013”. Thank you.

SPEAKER : We will now take a vote on the Bill. All those in favor may say, ‘Yes’ and those who do not, say, ‘No’. The House has unanimously passed “The Mizoram Animal Slaughter Bill, 2013”.

Pu NIHAR KANTI, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, thank you.

SPEAKER : We have concluded our business for the day. We will continue our session tomorrow 3.3.2014 at 10:30 AM.

Sitting is adjourned at 3:03 PM