

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR THIRD SITTING ON THURSDAY, THE 18TH DECEMBER, 2008
(Time : 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4 PM)

OBITUARY

PU R. ROMAWIA, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, Deputy Speaker,
2 Ministers and 35 Members were Present.

1. PU LAL THANHAWLA to make references on the demise of :
 - (1) *Pu Vishwanath Pratap Singh*, Former Prime Minister of India.
 - (2) *Pu Ellis Saidenga*, Former MLA of Mizoram.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

2. Member to elect Deputy Speaker.
3. **DISCUSSION** on motion of Thanks on the Address of the Governor to be concluded.

SPEAKER :

Yet I am a poor and needy; may the Lord
think of me. You are my help and my
deliverer; Oh my God, do not delay.

Psalms 40 : 17

As shown in the List of Business, we will start with Obituary reference. Unfortunately, we are having two obituary references. Before calling the hon'ble Chief Minister, I have a sad news to announce in the House that Pu H. Laltanpuia, Ex-MLA passed away last night at 10:00 PM and his dead body will be cremated today at 12:00 PM at burial ground of New Capital Complex. Since there is no time to arrange formal obituary reference in honour of the departed member, it may be observed at the earliest convenience.

I now call upon Pu Lal Thanhawla to make his speech in regard to the aforesaid obituary references.

PU LAL THANHAWIA
CHIEF MINISTER

Pu Speaker, it is unfortunate to observe obituary reference in honour of Pu Ellis Saidenga, former member of the House. Since the departed member had gone through the way of the world as many others and I am grateful for the opportunity to speak in honour of him.

Pu Ellis Saidenga died of liver cancer at Aizawl Civil Hospital on the 29th September, 2008 at 5:00 PM. He was 68. He was born to be the youngest of the six children of Pu Z.D. Chhawrbuanga and Pi Saichhingpuii Sailo on 28th April, 1940 at Christian Hospital Serkawn. He married P.B. Lalsangpuii d/o P.B. Lalzuala of Dawrpui Vengthar on 29th July, 1971 and the couple were blessed with 3 daughters and 2 sons. Unfortunately, his wife passed away in 2006.

Pu Saidenga completed the course of Primary and Middle School from Serkawn, Matric from Gov't High School Lunglei in 1961. The same year, he continued his study at St. Edmund's College Shillong and completed Diploma in Pharmacy from Assam Medical College Dibrugarh in 1964 and was the first among the Mizos to hold this degree.

In 1967, he served under the Medical Department of Arunachal Pradesh while the territory was known as NEFA. After a year, he came back to Mizoram and got his retirement in 1970 after serving only for three years. Later, he pursued his interest of publishing news paper and started as the editor-cum-publisher of Lunglei based daily news paper ZOEN in 1972. After being in the job for 36 years, he was awarded the highest honour of the Mizoram Journalist, 'A Prominent Journalist' and received the award from the Governor.

In 1971, his long visions for the future of Mizoram brought him into politics and served as the General Secretary of the southern region of the newly formed party, Mizoram Labour Party. He had even served as the Vice President of Human Rights Committee as soon as it was formed. From the period 1978 to 1980 he had held presidency of P.C. party.

In 1979, he was elected as MLA from Hnahthial Constituency and served till 1984. Serving actively in politics, he later joined Congress party in 2002 and served as a Senior Adviser of Lunglei District Congress Committee. He was then elected as the Executive Member of MPCC and held the post till his last breathe.

Pu Speaker, Pu Ellis Saidenga was a sentimental person with a keen song writer. He composed more than 30 songs to his credit. He was a B Grade recording artist with around 80 songs recorded at All India Radio. In 1988, he was awarded an Outstanding Artist Award by All India Radio.

He left the coming generations his valuable book concerning persons involved in preservation of oldies Mizo love songs which has already been

published up to 3rd Edition. He was a keen social worker and one of the founders of YMA in the southern region. He was the first Vice-President of YMA Sub-Headquarters. With a view to improve quality of the Mizo in music, he organized Lunglei Musical Club and later took active role in setting up Mizo Zaimi Inzawmkhawm (MZI) at Lunglei and had held the presidency.

Not only these, Pu Speaker, he was the co-founder of Mizoram Journalists Association (MJA) at Lunglei and served as the president a couple of time. He was appointed once as a member of Lunglei High Power Committee.

In 1992, Environment & Forest Department, Gov't of Mizoram appointed him as Wildlife warden for one term. He had also served as the president of Academy of Letters, Jt. Headquarters Lunglei for three successive years till his last breathe. He had even served as a patron member of Writers' Club Lunglei for two successive years.

As usual on Sunday, while teaching he was suddenly attacked by stomach ache with continuous vomiting. He was rushed to Serkawn hospital. Since his condition deteriorated, he was brought to Aizawl on 14.8.2008 and was attended at Grace Nursing Home but no sign of progress. With that condition, he left us for his eternal abode on the 21.9.2008 (Monday) at 5:30 PM.

His Bio-data indicates that we have lost one of the leaders who contributed his relentless efforts in various fields. Even the Congress Party benefited his valuable ideas during our short period of working together for the party. He will be remembered by the tasks he had left. I convey my deepest condolence to his bereaved children and other families. May God be with them throughout their times of sorrow.

SPEAKER : Next, Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHAWMA : As pointed out Pu Speaker, Pu Ellis Saidenga was known for his works in the field of politics, social work and as a scribe as well as a song writer. He was one of the founders of P.C. party and even held the presidency in the south. He was elected as MLA from Hnahthial Constituency and served for the people till his last breathe.

His talent as a scribe as well as a song writer already started in 1961 as he won first position in singing competition at Shillong. He later involved in setting up Musical Club at Lunglei and even served as the President of Mizo Zaimi Inzawmkhawm (MZI). In 1995, he was appointed by All India Radio as a member of Programme Advisory Board. He recorded more than 80 songs to his credit and received

an outstanding artist award from AIR. In 2003, Rimawi Khawvel honoured him with a Lifetime Achievement Award. As a founder of Zoen daily newspaper, Mizo Academy of Letters Jt. Headquarters Lunglei awarded him a certificate of honour in 1990. Besides, a joint committee of Mizo Writers Association and Art & Culture Department awarded him a certificate of honour in 2005. The same year, he was awarded a certificate of appreciation for promotion of literacy by the department of Information & Public Relation and School Education. In 2008, he had even received from the Governor a prominent Journalist Certificate which is awarded to a person above 60 years of age who work as a journalist for thirty years successively.

He was such a person who deserved the most valuable award from the Governor for making contribution in social works and in various activities of NGOs. We also listened contribution he had made as a warden in preservation of wildlife. Hence, he will be remembered for his talents and the contributions he had made. His demise is truly of a great loss for the Mizos as a whole. May God be with his beloved children as well as other family members he had left behind.

Thank you.

SPEAKER

: Before calling other members let the hon'ble Chief Minister continue with his condolence speech in regard to the departed ex-Prime Minister of India Pu Viswanath Pratap Singh.

PU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

: Pu Speaker, again it is sad to take up obituary reference in regard to the departed ex-Prime Minister Pu Viswanath Pratap Singh who had died of cancer related Chronic Ventral failure on 27th November, 2008 at 2:45 PM at New Delhi Apollo Hospital. He was 77.

Pu V.P. Singh, the son of Raju Bahadur Ram Gopal Singh was born on 25th June, 1931 at Allahabad (UP). He married Pi Sita Kumari in 25th June, 1955 and the couple were blessed with 2 sons.

Regarding his career, he completed B.A, B.Sc, LLB respectively from Allahabad and Poone University. He was a prominent social worker. In 1969, he entered into politics and joined Congress Party. Consequently, he was elected as one of the members of Uttar Pradesh Assembly. As a debut member of MP, he was elected from Uttar Pradesh in 1971. As a Union Deputy Minister, he looked after the department of Commerce from 1974 to 1976 and continued to maintain the same department after his promotion to Union Minister of State from 1976 to 1977. As he was re-elected for the 7th

Lok Sabha in 1980, the late Prime Minister Pi Indira Gandhi appointed him as the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh in order to eliminate Dacoits aka Bandits who were actively circulating in the south-west of Uttar Pradesh. Since his mission was a tough job, he failed to achieve it despite co-operation of the local people and consequently caused him to resign from the Chief Minister. In 1983 to 1987, he was again inducted as a minister to look after the departments of Commerce and Defence.

Pu V.P. Singh was known for his concern for the welfare of backward classes of the society in which he made relentless efforts in the House to implement employment reservation for such classes. He was known as one of the most successful politicians in his generation and he contributed so many accredited works in Congress Party too. But later, due to difference in opinion with the higher authority, he was dispossessed of his power as the cabinet minister that compelled him to leave the Congress Party.

In 1987, he formed a new political party and from that party he was again elected from the same constituency. The same year, Janata Dal came into being and he was elected for the president. In 1989, he was re-elected for the 9th Lok Sabha. Even though his party had 64 members only, he was sworn in to be the 10th Prime Minister of India with the support of Indian National Congress Party.

After occupying his office of the Prime Minister barely for 11 months, he was dethroned as their counterpart Congress Party withdrew their support to his government. In the next election, he was again elected for the 4th successive time. Since then, he decided not to contest in any election. Yet, he continued to fight against what he think is not right which even caused himself to end up in prison a couple of time.

As soon as he was diagnosed with cancer, he was rushed to Apollo Hospital and later to USA. As he came back, he hardly made appearance in public. As no sign of progress was seen in his condition, he was again admitted to Apollo Hospital and spent the last part of his life. On the 27th November, 2008, he left his wife and two sons.

Pu Speaker, I was acquainted with Pu V.P. Singh as he was the Prime Minister and even met him for the last time on flight as he was on his way to Mumbai for medical check up. I was proud that he still remembered me personally as he was approaching my seat to speak with me. As far as my knowledge is concern, he was a kind hearted and amiable person who made acquaintance with other as much as possible. It is unfortunate to lose such a great leader who spent his life time for the welfare of backward classes in the country. I convey my heartfelt condolence to his beloved wife and sons.

Thank you.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA

Thank you, Pu Speaker. It is unfortunate as we are compelled to observe obituary reference in honour of Pu Ellis Saidenga. The people, particularly of Lunglei district and the south are deeply affected by his loss.

We, the people of Lunglei know his concern for the welfare of this particular area before and after his term as an MLA and he was known as one of the founders of Mizoram Journalist Association. He will be remembered by the works he had left behind.

Secondly, he will be remembered by the contributions he had made in the field of literature as he had left number of his compositions for the coming generations. His untimely death is deeply regretted. I convey my deepest condolence to the family he had left behind. May God be with them throughout their trials of sorrow.

Pu Speaker, it is again unfortunate to lose one of the greatest leaders of our time, Pu V.P. Singh. As far as my knowledge is concerned, he was known for not only as a politician but also as a scribe as he had written number of poetries in Hindi as well as in English. As shown in the record, he had left us more than 10 valuable books written by him.

As pointed out earlier, Pu V.P. Singh had made many achievements as an MLA, Union Minister and even as the Prime Minister of India. I am personally proud of him as he was the most ambitious persons and a leader with principle.

In 1983 to 1987, he was inducted as a minister and looked after the department of Commerce and Defence. As pointed out by the hon'ble Chief Minister, Pu V.P. Singh was known for his concern for the welfare of backward classes in the country as he championed his policy of reservation of 27% of employment opportunity in favour of such classes. As a result of his ambitious policy towards backward classes, various disturbances had even erupted in the country while he was a cabinet minister which consequently caused him to leave Congress Party and step down from his seat.

Even so, he deserved much credits for taking remarkable steps which turned the Indian politics to a new phase. Since then, we, the community of backward classes are able to survive as a result of his ambitious policy. Even BJP, one of the strongest parties in the country were enlightened of the need to improve the status of backward classes in the country. Furthermore, Pu Kalyan Singh, a member from backward class was appointed as the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh as a consequence of the achievement of Pu V.P. Singh. Nonetheless, number of leaders namely, Laloo Prasad Yadhav, Mulayam Singh Yadhav, Nitish Kumar, Mayawati, the present Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Ram Vilas Paswan were emerging from OBC to the Indian politics as a result of wise decisions of the departed leader.

While he was the Prime Minister, he formed the National Front Party to enable coalition parties formed the central government as never happened in the history of the Indian politics. In doing so, he acquired the support of BJP and Left Party. No remarkable development might be seen during the period of his leading the country. But he will be remembered by backward classes and community as well as the people in the North-East India for what he had achieved.

His lose deeply affected the country as a whole. It is much desirable if the concerned people learn any lesson from him and the achievements he had made so far.

Thank you.

PU LALDUHAWMA

: Pu Speaker, I feel it is necessary to have a few words in honour of the departed leader, Pu V.P. Singh as he was my fellow member in the 8th Lok Sabha. He was the then Finance Minister while politics of the country was shaken by a great scandal relating to BOFORS. He courageously faced any problem to that effect and stand for what he thought as right which even cost his ministership.

We have learnt that a National Front Party was formed as a consequence of his leaving the Congress Party that instead brought him the opportunity to be the 10th Prime Minister of India. As far as my knowledge is concerned, he was a humble person who knows the best use of others ability as I was even detailed by him to Switzerland to acquire information relating to BOFORS.

What I would like to inform the House is that Scheduled Caste Order 1950 underlines that, any person who is of Scheduled Caste may avail grant to Scheduled Caste if only he is a follower of Hindu religion. But if that person is converted to Christianity, he will be deprived of his status as a Scheduled Caste immediately. In fact, it was very difficult for Christian missionaries in the mission fields to make progressive work as person who has interest in Christianity dare not to take that risk of losing their status and its binding reservation. I, therefore, published a book regarding this problem and even discussed the matter with Pu V.P. Singh. As a result, the matter was included in the manifesto of his party in the next election. He was the only leader whose concerns included the said Scheduled Caste Order 1950 which seriously isolated Christian community among other.

While he was the Prime Minister he included this issue in any speech he had made as the Prime Minister. On the contrary, it was unfortunate to learn that many people sacrificed their life in protest against the said reservation for backward classes that compelled him to step down from his power. It was much regretted as he had no time to put that matter fully achieved. Yet, he will be remembered by the Christian community for what he had done so far.

Hence, while having this programme in honour of the late Pu V.P. Singh, it is important for us to remember the needs to fight for the achievement of unfinished work left by him. I convey my heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family.

Thank you.

PU P.C. LALTHANLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to make a condolence speech in honour of the late member, Pu Ellis Saidenga on behalf of the Congress Party.

My fellow members before me had already given information regarding Pu Ellis Saidenga. Yet, I would like to add few points which may be of a good lesson to other.

Pu Ellis Saidenga entered into politics with firm determination and ideology. It is learnt from his Bio-data that he was a person who will not be threatened by a bullet or harsh activities. The last time when I met him on his way to Aizawl for medical attendance, he pulled himself together and asked me the developing political situation of Mizoram. His questions truly indicate his concern for the welfare of our state as well as the people. As I attended his burial service, I was informed by his relatives that his death wish to his family was to continue the works he had started for the welfare of the Mizo society.

Secondly, what I had experienced from his personality was that he was a person who always give importance to attending committee which concerned him. Even when inconveniency arises to attend the meeting, he would personally inform the committee at least by phone of his reason. As a person from the southern portion of Mizoram, he always keep a sense of belonging and his nature indicated his feelings for the welfare of the southern region. He was a person who made Lunglei as Lunglei and the southern region as a southern region. I must say that he was one of the most prominent citizens in Lunglei and the southern region.

Pu Speaker, I wonder if there is any other legislator who has a quality in diversity. He made himself known to the whole of Mizoram out of anything in which he had given interest. He sings and everyone noticed him and he writes and everyone read it. Today, we have lost a member with a diversified talent and his death is very unfortunate. He will be remembered for his services for the welfare of the Mizos. I convey my most sincere condolence to the family he had left behind. May God be with them throughout their trial of sorrow.

Thank you.

PU P.P. THAWLA : Pu Speaker, I also want to express my condolence to the family of the departed leader who spent his life time in serving the people.

I had visited Pu Ellis Saidenga while he was in Kolkata for medical treatment and I have treated him like my brother since long before we both entered into politics. Once, he invited me for tea and had long conversation on certain matters and there, I found in him a quality of good nature and his concerns for the welfare of Mizoram. His daily news paper 'Zoen' happened to be the most valuable newspaper in the south.

His ideology, as I remembered is that he was not giving much interest to be of the elected leader but to achieve any responsibility assigned to him. As pointed out, he was known not only as a political leader but as a spearhead in the field of journalism and music among the Mizos. The people around him were mostly impressed by his nature as traditional Mizo man.

Secondly, regarding the demise of Pu V.P. Singh, as for me he was an outstanding leader. I have read his article of his vision of India that has made much impression on me as I entered into politics in 1996. It is unfortunate for the whole nation to lose a leader with strong determination and whose vision widely benefited by the nation.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : We have speeches of condolence on the departed leader, Pu V.P. Singh, former Prime Minister of India and Pu Ellis Saidenga, ex-member of this House.

Every member could not participate in the discussion due to limit of time but shown our heartfelt condolence. We may now observe 1 minute silence in standing to honour the two departed leaders. [The House observed 1 minute silence]

The next business is election of Deputy Speaker. As in the notification in the Bulletin part-II dated 16.12.2008, Pu P.C. Zoram Sangliana nominated Pu John Rotluangliana for Deputy Speaker of the Assembly and no other name is received within the limited period given under the provision of Sub-Rule 5 of Rules 8. I, therefore, announced that Pu John Rotluangliana is elected un-contest.

The newly elected Deputy Speaker may be led to his seat by the House Leader and convenient member from the opposition.

This House now have its Deputy Speaker. Let me call upon the House Leader and one member from the opposition to make their welcome speech in honour of the newly inducted Deputy Speaker. First, Leader of the House.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, it is pleasing that the House has elected Deputy Speaker un-contested and the opposition expressed their decision of sharing the only nomination for the post of Deputy Speaker.

Regarding Pu John Rotluangliana, the newly elected Dy. Speaker, is an educated person who already had an experience as a member in this House. Hence, he is quite eligible to hold this important duty of supporting office of the Speaker. I express warm congratulation on his achievement. I am confident that he will execute his duty in maintaining sanctity of the House as a Deputy Speaker. I offer him a wholehearted support and a respectable seat here in the House. May God be his guide in every decision he has to make. I relate to him that I and my fellow members are offering our support to him.

Thank you.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I want to congratulate Pu John Rotluangliana on his being elected by the House for the Deputy Speaker. My party once considered of making our own nomination but withdrawn later considering an eligible member nominated by the Congress Party. I want to inform the House that my party give full support to his chair of the Deputy Speaker.

This House witnessed impartial judgment of the Speaker and Dy Speaker in the past. Hence, I expect the same from the newly elected Speaker and Dy. Speaker so as to keep up the dignity of the House.

Thank you.

PU LALDUHAWMA : Pu Speaker, I want to point out that Pu John Rotluangliana is a person with strong determination who believes in himself and I must say that his inner quality now brought him to this respectable position in the House.

Speaker and Dy. Speaker of the previous ministries were all members with vast experiences and impartial in making decision. It is therefore,

important for the Dy. Speaker to follow the previous leaders in order to maintain dignity of the House. I convey my wishes to him so that he may be able to carry out any responsibility assigned to him. I appeal all the members to render our support to him so that the House is guided in an ideal manner.

Thank you.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I want to express my
DEPUTY SPEAKER thanks to the Congress Legislature Party
for believing in me to perform this
important duty as the Deputy Speaker of
this august House. Again, I truly appreciate the support of the members for choosing me
unanimously. Hence, I assure the House that I will pursue my responsibilities as the
Deputy Speaker and maintain its dignity for which I appeal all the members to give their
support in dealing with any matters.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : We will now move to the next business.
As pointed out the previous day, we will
take up 'Motion of Thanks'. 5 minutes
each will be allotted to the members.

PU LALDUHAWMA : Pu Speaker, usually 10 minutes is allotted
to Group Leaders. It may be appropriate if
the same is followed.

SPEAKER : Do we agree the suggestion? I am afraid
that 10 minutes to Group Leaders may be
too long if it is fully used.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I opine it is wise to give more
chance to new members in the House
and allotment of time too is agreeable
if no member is crossing the limit.

SPEAKER : We will now start the discussion and the members may not cross the time allotted. Pu Joseph Lalhimpua, mover of the motion may make his speech first.

PU JOSEPH LALHIMPUA : Pu Speaker, I first of all want to thank God for giving me the opportunity to speak here in this august House. I also want to thank leaders of my party and the people of Lunglei East constituency without them I would never stand here.

Speech delivered by the Governor yesterday comprises points that fully deserved appreciation. Yet, it may not be possible to elaborate each and every points due to limit of time.

Firstly, it is pleasing to learn that General Election previously held was concluded under a peaceful atmosphere with free and fair means. He further indicates that the government will take strong and bold initiative to usher in clean and efficient government whereas transparency will be the trademark of the government.

Besides Pu Speaker, it is delightful to hear that the Government gives top priority to the alleviation of the poor in the villages and the urban areas for which NLUP (New Land Use Policy) will be introduced.

Much as well, it is pleasing to learn that it will be the endeavour of the Government to ensure that opportunities are provided to the youth in various professional and vocational fields for which The Youth Commission will be strengthened and its term of reference be reviewed in order to meet the aspirations of the youth.

It is also learnt that the government will see that projects started by the previous ministry will be continued if they are found technically viable and financially sound. He further indicates that the government will push for urgent improvements under Road Sector, Progress of Road Projects undertaken with World Bank loans and PMGSY (Road Projects) will be reviewed early to ensure that the projects are completed early.

Hence, Pu Speaker, speech made by the Governor yesterday includes many reasons to appreciate plans as well as achievements of the government.

Thank you.

P.U.P.P. THAWLA

Thank you Pu Speaker. First, I want to thank God for giving me an opportunity to participate here in this august House. I would also like to thank the people of Palak constituency for believing in me to represent them once again in the House. I am greeting each of the member in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I convey my heartiest congratulation to the hon'ble Speaker for achieving the most respected status of leading this august House. I have known him as a good person since we were students and have confident in him that he would not treat members of the opposition less important than ruling members no matter we are minority in number.

As soon as this government came into being, it is regretted for the three Autonomous District Councils that an order was issued to halt its functioning for the time being that indicates an oppressive behaviour towards minorities.

Pu Speaker, it is to be noted that the people in the Autonomous Council areas are economically poor, wholly depends upon meagre funds from Council specially in this time of Christmas celebration. Hence, it is hard to understand to receive the said order without any information beforehand and it is truly a kind of oppressive action towards minority. I, therefore, insist on the concerned authority to withdraw the order with immediate effect.

Another remarkable outcome of the election is that Mizo People Forum (MPF) and NGOs who are supposed to maintain free and fair election seem to have an objective to dethrone the existing ruling ministry by any means. I opine it is necessary to improve the system so that impartial approach is made in future election.

Pu Speaker, it is pleasing that we are having a new ministry but potrfolio is not being fully allotted till now supposedly due to an intention among more powerful leaders to have it all. It is wise if allotment is made and put the government into action with immediate effect.

Regarding introduction of NLUP, it is learnt from the previous experience that this policy brought moral corruption among the beneficiaries and the policy was not successful due to lack of appropriate guideline. Hence, it is necessary for the concerned authority to provide appropriate guideline and implement the system more strictly.

Regarding improvement of power supply, I opine it is important to concentrate on Kolodyne project which is supposed to be much productive instead of wasting large amount of provision for number of small projects. In this connection, I want to point out that even though large amount of fund is spent for construction of Tuipang Lui Hydel Project which has already been commissioned, it has not been benefited as expected. I, therefore, opine that points given in the Governor's speech are not all appreciative.

Thank you.

Pu Speaker, I opine speech made by the Governor comprises points that deserve much appreciation. Yet, let me express my appreciation only for few points due to limit of time.

Firstly, I opine that point which indicates 'transparency' to be the trademark for the government as the most remarkable part of the speech. It is pleasing that we are now having a government with a policy to terminate the practice of corruption so that the people get their fair share.

Secondly, it is much appreciated that the Governor indicates in his speech commitment of the government to give the people of Mizoram fair and just administration based on merits at all level of governance and decentralisation for more efficient administration for both village and urban areas will be ushered in. Much as well, it is appreciated that his statement indicates that the government gives top priority to the alleviation of the poor in the villages and the urban areas.

Last but not the least, it is highly appreciated that the government will see that the projects started by the previous ministry will be continued if they are found technically viable and financially sound and will seek ways to revive the abandoned Tuirial Hydel Project at an early date. As a whole, the future of the government can be seen from the speech made by the Governor. I want to conclude that the speech not only is appreciable but also gives sense of relief to the concerned people.

Thank you.

P. B. LALTHLENGLIANA

Pu Speaker, I want to make only few points on the Governor's speech. I watched television interviews of the newly elected members and I am happy to learn that most of them emphasized their desire to set up a good government. But I am afraid that such interviews might only be a drama played which will not come into reality. In the same way, it is desirable if speech made by the Governor too be seen in reality. Hence, I am conveying my best wishes to the government to achieve it all as expected.

By the grace of Almighty God and of the people of my constituency, I was elected as member of this House for the first time in 1993 and I was sitting at the opposition for 5 years under the same leadership of the House today. I strongly hope that he will lead the government with a new life and not like his previous leadership and members from the opposition will then give our support to him.

The Governor pointed out that previously concluded general election as being conducted with free and fair means. But in my opinion, Pu Speaker, 1989 election and the latest one were the dirtiest election considering my 5 times contest in the election. It is learnt that the present ruling party provided each of their party candidate 10 lakh rupees at 1st installment and 5 lakh rupees at 2nd installment. Hence, I

PU LALROBIAKA :

Pu Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to speak here in the august House. At the outset, let me offer my thanks to Almighty God who has given me the chance to represent the people of my constituency who laid their trust in me to represent them.

Pu Speaker, I want to say that speech made by His Excellency Governor truly deserved appreciation for highlighting achievements of the Government. It is pleasing to learn that transparent government would be a trademark of the government to ensure with the assistance of the media that public money are utilized wisely and judiciously. Policy of 'improved and enlarged NLUP' is highly appreciated as it indicates the policy of the government on alleviation of poor families. In this regard I want to emphasize that NLUP was widely benefited in the previous years and will again this time as it can be proved from the fact that production of orange fruits from my constituency Dampa during the year 2007 worths 47.38 lakh rupees and I am proud to mention that such achievements came out of NLUP.

We have further learnt from the Governor's speech that the government is planning to revive Tuirial Hydel project which had already been abandoned and this is highly appreciated. Not only this, the Governor's statement regarding Youth Commission and Education too deserves much appreciation.

Pu Speaker, I want to make few points to No. 9 of the Governor's speech that indicates policy of the government to push for urgent improvement under road sector in which I strongly hope that abandoned road in my constituency i.e. West Phaileng to Marpara road too is included in the new work scheduled.

Again, it is appreciated that the government considers maintaining Environment and Ecology of our planet as a mandatory out of concern for the welfare of wildlife. Much as well, Pu Speaker, we are pleased to learn that the Governor indicates concern of the government towards improvement of our water harvest system. The people will then anxiously waiting for favourable outcome from points raised by the Governor.

Thank you.

PU S. LALDINGLIANA :

Thank you, Pu Speaker. At the outset, I want to offer my thanks to Almighty God and the people of my constituency who give me the opportunity to sit hear in this august House.

am convinced that the last election was not conducted with free and fair means. May be effort made by NGOs and Churches might have been taken for granted, but as of MPF, it was considerably bias and need to be improved.

Secondly, the Governor ensured that his government will be known as a good governance and Chief Minister swearing that practice of corruptions at any level will be rooted out. It is good if such assurances are achieved. As pointed out by a member from Tuipang constituency, we have to consider whether this government can truly be accepted as a good government whereas it is started with ceasing powers of the existing three Autonomous District Councils. Hence, it is necessary to consider appeal made by the said member for consideration of power of the three Autonomous District Councils.

As assurance made by the hon'ble Chief Minister, I doubt that it is fulfilled as the leader himself is having a court case in connection with the practice of corruption. It is not possible for him yet to root out the practice of corruption at all levels with the said court case against him.

Regarding NLUP, it is regretting to learn that propaganda of NLUP instilled moral corruption to many voters as it could bring negative effect to the future of Mizoram. In the general election of 1989, the Congress Party won victory with the help of the said propaganda of Rs. 30,000/- to be given to each family out of which only Rs. 18,000/- was given and the rest being held unpaid. In the same manner, Congress Party won victory in the last election by spreading the same propaganda. It is, therefore, to be noted that people will take their revenge unless the assurance is fulfilled.

Pu Speaker, it is appreciated that the Governor pointed out about continuation of the project of Referral Hospital and then be upgraded to Medical Hospital. But it is hard to believe the statement because the abandoned Bairabi Hydel Project said to be achieved immediately was left unattended during their 10 years of holding the ministry. It is much desirable if the project is continued till its completion.

Thank you.

PU HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE:

Thank you Pu Speaker. I, first of all, want to express my thanks to God and the people of my constituency for giving me the opportunity to sit here in this august House.

It may not be necessary to cover all the points of the Governor's speech as various members before me had already made it. Yet, I want to make few points.

Firstly, I want to state that the Congress Party won victory as the people are now able to classify wrong from right with New Land Use Policy put forward

by the Congress Party with an intention to alleviate the poors. Our party victory, therefore, indicates that the people are confident enough in the policy of Congress Party.

Regarding good governance as pointed out by the Governor in his speech, I am confident that the government will surely be improved with introduction of transparent government with a commitment to give the people of Mizoram fair and just administration based on merits at all level of governance. Besides, I have to express my appreciation in connection with plan to revive the abandoned projects during 10 years ministry of MNF party namely Tuirial Hydel Project and Referral Hospital. Nonetheless, I want to point out that only six months passes since the ministry was formed yet there's a plan for construction of stadium, an urgent need of youths today. It indicates the government's concern for the welfare of youths.

BRIG. T. SAILO : Pu Speaker, with the essence of a new strong government, it may be wise for us all to forget deficiency of the previous ministries as we all seem to be aware of their respective weaknesses or strengths. So, I want to make only three suggestions for keeping up this new ministry specially for Leader of the House, i.e. Honesty, Truthfulness and Hard work as Mizoram is being immersed for so long in a grave situation.

Thank you.

PU CHAWNGTINTHANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I, first of all would like to thank God and the people of Chalfilh constituency without whom I would not be here in this august House.

As shown here, the Governor's speech contained points which deserves much appreciation. Hence, I do support the opinion of the mover particularly No. 9 which underlines 'my government will push for urgent improvements under road sector, progress of road projects undertaken with World Bank loans and PMGSY (Road Projects) will be reviewed early to ensure that the projects are completely early' as it also concern roads within my constituency such as road that links Aizawl and Manipur, the condition which is extremely poor. In this connection, I want to point out that the people of my constituency are delighted to see construction of Phullen – Daido road which is now in progress yet, the abandoned Tuivai bridge is blocking communication to the villages beyond. Hence, on behalf of the people of my constituency, I want to express my appreciation to the Governor's statement that abandoned projects will be revived.

Secondly, I truly appreciate the Governor's statement, 'My government shall spare no effort to maintain the hard earned peace and tranquility' as our

leader Pu Lal Thanhawla vacated his seat to MNF party for want of peace and tranquility in our state, yet it was not maintained by the successor as expected. It is, therefore, much pleasing this government concerns for retaining that hard earned peace. I, therefore, want to thank on the Governor's speech for behalf of the people of Mizoram.

Next, I want to express my regret on the allegation against our Chief Minister, Pu Lal Thanhawla as being involved in the case of corruption. In that regard, I must say that no person will be saved from that case whereas a party in power was struggling to get him involved in it. From my experiences in the judicial service at that time, I want to inform the House that charges made against Pu Lal Thanhawla was baseless and it confused the concerned officials whether to submit that charge-sheet or not. That kind of charge could be framed to any leader if insisted and was evidently made out of personal vendatta.

Last but not the least, I want to express my gratitude to the Governor's speech for giving priority to continuation of abandoned projects such as Tuirial and Tuivai Hydel project. I must say that the people, particularly of my constituency are anxiously waiting for a favourable outcome.

Thank you.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA :

Thank you Pu, Speaker. It is pleasing to see some new faces here in the House whereas absence of certain members are missed. I wish this first meeting of the House brings favourable relationship among the members.

Regarding our discussion on Governor's speech, I opine it is a waste of time for over 30 newly elected members to keep bustle with trivial matters at our first meeting of the House. As for me, I think it is difficult to make my point in favour of that speech as it does not include any point concerning agriculture policy of the government.

Secondly, I opine it is important for any party in power to remember that we represent the people for the benefit of the people themselves. The speech itself is not enough and there must be reality. What is important is implementation of the policy. It is sad for the people who have confidence in this government to experience scarcity of food grains at the outset. The government's decision to stop free supply of rice initiated during the previous ministry is untimely as Christmas is approaching. I am afraid that Health Care Scheme, the most favourable scheme for the poor too is stopped unexpectedly.

During 10 years of the MNF ministry, effort had been made to implement Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Mizoram for which I had approached Union Minister for Finance twice but our terms ended as we were expecting a positive outcome. Hence, it will be much appreciated if the matter is pursued by the new government as it is an urgent need of the government in order to achieve drive quality. It may, as well be important

for the new ministry to pursue step taken by the previous ministry regarding the most important basic for improvement of Secondary Education and High School as it had already been passed by a meeting of Education Ministers of the North-East Region under the Government of India.

Regarding NLUP, the most important factor for Congress Party for their victory in the election, I opine MPF should object to spreading that propaganda during the last election as poor voters were attracted by offer of NLUP provision. Hence, Pu Speaker, it is a must for the government to fulfill that assurance as it is the main factor for their victory.

Pu Speaker, regarding No. 7 of the Governor's speech which underlines, 'The Youth Commission will be strengthened and in term of reference reviewed in order to meet the aspirations of the youth', I want to state that the previous ministry too, had given importance to Youth Commission and it was even discussed in the House. It is pleasing that the matter had also been pointed out here in the Governor's speech. In the same way, it is appreciated that matter relating to PMGSY and World Bank project which had already been initiated in the previous ministry are being focused. As of Bairabi Hydel Project, I want to inform the House that NEEPCO faced problem due to excessive claimants of compensation from the selected site thus it could not be carried out. It is, therefore, important for the government to put more effort so that the project is achieved.

Lastly, I want to say that it is important for the new government to take every step cautiously so that the limit is not crossed in exercising power towards the government servants. It is not appropriate to pursue false which might have been committed by a particular government servant during the previous ministry. I am glad that the previous ministry brought about moderate judgment towards government servants and no misuse of power was known, thanks to the kindness of our leaders. It may, as well, be wise for the new ministry to follow that practice and comfort them that no harm will be done towards any government servant.

Thank you.

PU H. ZOTHANGLIANA :

Thank you, Pu Speaker. At the outset, I thank God for giving me the opportunity to sit here in the august House and the people of my constituency without whom I would never be here.

We all seem to appreciate with the context of the Governor's speech as it concerns the future of Mizoram. No need for me to elaborate each point as various members had made it. Yet, let me give only two or more points which I feel to be necessary as certain members alleged the government as oppressing the three Autonomous Districts.

Pu Speaker, Mara and Lai Autonomous District Councils were governed by MNF ministry during the last general election and funds of their respective district councils were illegally drawn and spent for election campaign of the ruling MNF party. Hence, the government feels the need to control misuse of funds in the two District Councils whereas Congress ministry governed-Chakma District Council too suffered the said restriction which indicates impartiality of the government. Not only this, posting and transfer of government servants under the said District Councils were a popular practice prior to the general election which further necessitated the state government to enforce restriction. It is to be noted that restriction was made so as to maintain clean administration in the Autonomous District Councils.

Secondly, I want to make an appeal to the members on your left not to ignore the factor of NLUP for alleviation of economic condition of poor families in our society. Even a humble member like me dare to stand for that policy knowing that it will surely be implemented by this government. It is a policy of the new ministry to begin the term by supporting the poors by teaching them how to make their respective farms more productive with the help of NLUP funds. Let me remind the members that the said fund is not meant to provide freely but on installment basis and, only after giving appropriate guidance to the selected beneficiaries. Again, it will be funded by the central government as the policy is proved to be satisfactory. Hence, Pu Speker, members on your left have no reason to worry with this favourable policy of the government.

Thank you.

PU K.S. THANGA :

Thank you, Pu Speaker. I, first of all want to thank God for his blessing and to the people of Aizawl South-III constituency for giving me the opportunity to sit in the House on their behalf.

Firstly, we have listened various points regarding MPF and in relation, I want to point out that general people accept that God delivers the Mizos from the grip of poverty with the help of MPF and those who oppose their activities against the will of God.

Regarding case against the hon'ble Chief Minister pointed out by certain members, I want to say that he is a leader who dare to sacrifice himself to reveal the truth as he does not strive to clear himself off the case even while he is in power. The exact situation, now, is that the appellant party dare not to approach the concerned authority to close the case but pressurized our Chief Minister himself to do so.

Regarding restriction on the three Autonomous District Councils, it is to be noted that they are beginning to suffer the negative effects of their ill-

administration and the government will exercise its power as deserved by them and partiality will be eradicated.

To get to the point, let me start with No. 5. Pu Speaker, I fully support each of the point raised by the mover. Point which I opine as most appreciative is that the government would take a strong and bold initiative to usher in clean, efficient and responsive administration, commonly referred as 'good governance' and transparent government would be the government's trademark. Besides, as shown in No. 6, it is appreciated that the government gives top priority to the alleviation of the poor in the villages and the urban areas and for this, an improved and enlarged New Land Use Policy (NLUP) would soon be launched throughout the state. We have further learnt that opportunity is opening for the youths as the Governor stated that it would be the endeavour of the government to ensure that opportunities are provided to the youth in various professional and vocational fields. Education in our state would be reformed to become affordable to the common people to reap gainful employments for all.

Last but not least, it is highly appreciated that the government will seek ways to revive the abandoned Tuirial Hydel Project at an early date and Referral Hospital at Falkawn will be taken up afresh so that it soon comes up early to be upgraded to Medical Hospital in due course as was originally planned. It is thankful that we are having an efficient Chief Minister to achieve all the points stated in the Governor's speech.

Thank you.

PU K. LALRINTHANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to make my maiden speech here in this august House. At the outset, let me thank God for his blessing and to the people of my constituency who elected me to sit here on their behalf.

A member from Chalfil constituency had already pointed out what is in my mind and it is not necessary to repeat. Yet, I want to say that unless the activities of MPF, a candidate with poor background like me will never be elected as candidates from the opponent were said to have been provided 70 to 100 lakh rupees for the election campaign. As experiences in my five times contest in the previous years, I must say that election campaign of 1989 and the last one were the toughest considering popularity of using money in the election campaign. We somehow managed to conclude the election campaign under peaceful atmosphere, thanks to the service of MPF.

No. 5 of the Governor's speech pointed out about 'good governance' whereas corruption at any level of governance would not be tolerated from day one and the point, in my opinion is of the most appreciative as we are now having a leader who will pursue the matter with immediate effect in order to bring about clean and efficient governance in Mizoram.

PU LALDUHAWMA : Point of Order, Pu Speaker. We have repeatedly pointed out this matter here in this House even though we are not supposed to raise any of sub-judicial matter. It is wise to look into conduct rules so as to keep up dignity of the House.

SPEAKER : Alright. It is wise for the members not to raise any of sub-judicial matter from now on.

PU K. LALRINTHANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. To proceed on my speech, No. 6 of the Governor's speech pointed out that an improved and enlarged New Land Use Policy would soon be done throughout the state. In this connection, let me point out that betel nut growers of Bilkhawthlir produced not less than 42 lakh rupees worth with the help of NLUP provision of the previous term and hence, the concerned growers are now very much excited on learning about NLUP once again. As for this reason, I want to express my appreciation on behalf of the people of my constituency.

Much as well, Pu Speaker, the people in my constituency are having high confidence in the policy of Tuirial Hydel Project with the hope of job opportunity in the project and regular supply of electric power for their own.

Again, at No. 9 of the same speech, it is pointed out that the government would push for urgent improvement under road sector. It will, therefore, be much appreciated if the scheme includes improvement of Serkhan-Bagha road which also needs urgent repair.

Hence, Pu Speaker, I want to say that the statement of the Governor is highly appreciative.

SPEAKER : We will now have a recess and discussion will be resumed at 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM

SPEAKER : We will now continue our discussion on 'Motion of Thanks' on the Governor's speech. Pu R.L. Pianmawia may now take the floor.

PU R.L. PIANMAWIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Let me start with my words of thanks to the people of Tuivawl constituency who believe in me to represent them and above all, to Almighty God for his blessings.

Pu Speaker, the Governor's speech is highly appreciative specially for the people of my constituency as it emphasizes NLUP for uplifting the poors. I have, further been told by the hon'ble Chief Minster that my constituency would be put in the first list for which my people are delighted to hear it.

Regarding road sector, it is learnt that the government is planning to continue construction of certain roads which had been ignored for so long in which my constituency too, included. Hence, I want to convey my thanks on behalf of the people of my constituency.

In the same way, we have also see plan for continuation of abandoned plan for installation of 5th IR Battalion at Khumlohawl, Darlawn. The Governor's speech, therefore, contains many reasons for appreciation specially for my constituency.

Thank you.

PU K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, I thank God for giving me an opportunity to speak here in this august House. Much as well, I want to convey my sincere thanks to the people of Aizawl South II constituency.

Coming to the point, let me start with No. 5 of the Governor's speech that emphasizes good governance, transparent government and decentralization, the policies which obviously bring Congress Party in power this time. Certainly, our state needs good government for which the said points are utmost necessary, yet, various problems come along the way. Hence, I opine it is necessary for the government to enforce an ideal system of law and order so as to achieve good governance.

Regarding application of RTI Act, I must say that it is hardly appropriate and so does with decentralization. It is, therefore, desirable that the new ministry, from now on, to be careful not to misuse its powers.

Regarding New Land Use Policy, the majority of the people were informed during election campaign that there will be an opportunity to get ₹ 1,00,000/- of NLUP fund just by payment of ₹2/-. When will this be achieved? It may be wise for the concerned authority to prevail uniform distribution when the time comes. In doing so, it may also be important for the government to nominate not only the favourite of a particular political party in making appointment for the members of High Power Committee.

Pu Speaker, it is regretting that matter relating to NREGS is not being pointed out in the Governor's speech may be because it is centrally sponsored scheme. Even so, it may be important for the government to determine immediate solution to the problems in rural areas relating to NREGS.

We also see here at No. 7 about youth's welfare. It is much appreciated that various points for the welfare of youths are highlighted. In this connection, statistics showed that we are having more than 40,542 registrations under Employment Department, the future of whom depends on performance of the new government. It is, therefore, necessary to introduce appropriate distribution of powers and transparency in dealing with any matters under the government.

The Governor's speech also highlighted at No. 8 plan for resumption of abandoned projects such as Hydel Projects, Referral Hospital. Here, I want to point out that there is contradiction in regard to Bairabi Hydel Project. It is learnt that there is a provision of ₹ 51,90,00,000/- and will be monitored from Prime Minister's office. Hence, it seems that there is contradiction with the work to be taken up by the central and the state government.

Regarding No. 9, improvement under road sector as stated by the Governor, I want to say that condition of roads within Aizawl and its link roads are considerably poor. I am afraid they are not included in the aforesaid plan. Hence, it is important for this new government to consider this matter as utmost necessary for the people as members from the opposition will be watching the outcome.

Lastly, let me repeat that it is important for the government to look back performances of the previous government /ministries so as to find out the necessity of implementation of a genuine good governance, transparency and decentralization of powers to rebuild Mizoram. In general, contents of the Governor's speech concern for the progress of our state which are all appreciative. The reality depends on the new ministry, its new leaders and their respective sincerity and devotion to their collective responsibility. I wish the government and concerned leaders the very best in execution of their duty.

Thank you.

PU C. RAMHLUNA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. At the outset, I want to thank God and the people of Lawngtlai West Constituency for giving me the opportunity to sit here in this august House.

Before getting to the point, let me express my view on matter relating to District Council which had been raised in the morning discussion as it concerned with my constituency. I have no knowledge personally, of the allegation against CEM, LADC as drawing District Council's fund as the area of the District Council is vast enough and it is a problem to contact each other whenever necessity arises. I have left Lawngtlai on the 14th and then came back only after 15 days and I am absolutely ignorant of what was happening in between. I earnestly request this august House to understand my ignorant of the situation. On learning the allegation, I made a contact with the said CEM. Obviously the fund drawn was of borrowing from Employment Provident Fund at an interest rate of 1%. Hence, I opine the said cash does not concern with election as it was borrowed on personal ground. The said CEM had even repaid the whole amount since there is allegation to that concern. Hence, I want to inform the House that the said amount was not borrowed at the expense of election campaign but only of an allegation. It is, therefore, regretting to learn that some action is taken against District Councils just because of that allegation.

On the other hand, Pu Speaker, an order was issued to the three District Councils not to make fresh appointment and promotion or financial transaction whereas LADC is permitted transaction of salary and administrative expenditure as if we are being favoured to other districts. Hence, the order, in a way, contradicts the existing allegation against CEM, LADC.

Since the people in my constituency generally are of poor background, I believe my fellow contestants had made the best use of their wealth and money for getting votes as one candidate from Congress Party announced publicly that the visiting Congress leaders from central, such as Pi Sonia Gandhi and Prime Minister, Pu Manmohan Singh will give us 40 lakh rupees for election campaign which will be distributed among Congress Party voters. Not only this Pu Speaker, an independent candidate had even declared beforehand that he would surely get winning votes by distributing money to some voters.

Pu Speaker, it is regretted that the Governor's speech does not highlight matter relating to agriculture sector despite its importance for our state. I must say that there is a good prospect if full concentration is given. [Speaker : Your time's up]

Thank you.

PU T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker for giving me an opportunity to speak here in the House. I also want to thank leaders of our party and the people of my constituency.

It is pleasing that the Governor's speech is being put forward for discussion. The point which I feel as the most appreciative is about the credit given to MPF for keeping the recently concluded election under peaceful atmosphere with free and fair means. I accept that the existence of MPF is the result of prayers organized in various churches on 11th June, 2006 with the thought to rebuild Mizoram. Hence, it truly deserves credits.

At No. 5 of the Governor's speech, it is pointed out that 'corruption at any level of governance will not be tolerated from day one'. Considering the existing atmosphere of our state which is being pervaded by what we called 'Chiahpuam' and Bank robbing, it is highly appreciating that the government is giving priority to that concern.

At No. 6, the Governor further stated, 'My government gives top priority to the alleviation of the poor in villages and urban areas' which indicates the government's concern for alleviation of the poor for which I am thankful.

So, Pu Speaker, I want to say that the Governor's speech contained points which concern for the welfare of the people of Mizoram. Hence, it truly deserves appreciation.

Thank you.

PU LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to speak here in the House. I also want to convey my gratitude to the people of my constituency without whom I would never be here. Above all, I thank God for giving me the chance to represent the people of my constituency.

As seen here, the Governor's speech contains 12 points that all need to show our Christianity in pursuance of the work. Point No. 2 contains preface of the speech and appreciation to the people of Mizoram whereas, at point No. 4 formation of Ministry which has not been done till date. Point No. 5 to No. 10 contained plans to be taken up by the government whereas No. 11 and No. 12 an appeal to the members and his wishes for the coming Christmas vacation.

Pu Speaker, this is not just a book, but speech of the Governor, our Constitutional head and we, the members of the opposition ought to keep it properly so that we will be able to examine whether budget is coming in tune with the statement of the Governor's speech.

If we look into points No. 5 to No. 10, the Governor stated about 'transparent government' which I think, as highly appreciative. But, examining expenditure report for the election campaign as submitted by each candidate, I find some contradictions with 12 points of the Governor's speech which is said to have been matched with our Christian culture as excessive expenditure were made by certain candidates whereas maximum amount fixed by the Election Commission is 5 lakh rupees. If corruption has to be rooted out as stated, the concerned authority should not deliberately miss out those candidates who spent more than 5 lakh rupees during the last election.

Regarding NLUP, Pi Sonia Gandhi and other Congress Party leaders publicly announced during the election campaign that it will soon be launched. It may be clarified how soon is 'soon'. It is desirable if the said special package is launched while UPA government is in power.

Coming now to point No. 9, the Governor stated that his government would push for urgent improvements under road sector, progress of road projects undertaken with World Bank loans and PMGSY (Road Projects) would be reviewed early to ensure that the projects are completed early. Hmunzawl road of my constituency as well as Tuikum bridge may please be included as assurance had already been given by Leader of the House.

Regarding Health Care Scheme as stated here, many concerned persons had already face problem while applying for the scheme as it had already been started since the previous ministry. It will, therefore, be much appreciated if this favourable scheme is taken up in accordance with the policy.

Last but not the least, I want to request the House to give to the members, particularly to 19 first-timers including me, appropriate guidelines or orientation course on conduct of the House as we are still ignorant of manner of the House to keep up the dignity of the august House.

Thank you.

PU R. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, I first of all, would like to thank God who help me to be able to sit here in this august House. Secondly, my sincere thanks to leaders of my party and the people of my constituency, without whom I would never be here.

Pu Speaker, it is pleasing that even members from the opposition spoke in support of this Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Speech. The speech may be brief for certain members, I opine the content is satisfactory and it may be accepted as the first indication of 'change'.

Coming to the point, it is highly appreciated that the Governor's speech concerns for a good governance and implementation of Right to Information Act which had not been implemented during the previous ministry accordingly.

Regarding implementation of NLUP in the previous Congress ministry, I want to inform the House that number of poor families within my constituency are now able to stand on their feet with the help of this policy. It is to be noted that major portion of milk distributed by MULCO happened to be the product from NLUP beneficiaries during the previous Congress ministry. It is also to be noted that leaders of my party always stand on their promises and I wish the people to celebrate this coming Christmas peacefully.

Pu Speaker, we have further learnt from the Governor's speech that his government will seek ways to revive certain abandoned projects at an early date. It may not be possible to highlight in the speech each and every point which is deemed to be necessary. Yet, I want to say that we will give our best effort as our manifesto indicates that improvement will be made in all respects.

In regard to Road Sector too, improvement is assured as there will be no more leaders who wasted large amount of funds just by leveling the existing roads. In the same way, it is delightful to learn that project such as Greater Aizawl Water Supply Scheme Phase-II, which the previous ministry failed to complete during their 10 years term will be given priority by this government.

Pu Speaker, I had witnessed each of the detail of fake legal case in the previous ministry but it may be better not to proceed since it is not allowed to raise matter relating to legal case. Yet, I want to point out that regarding FIR filed against the out-going Chief Minister [SPEAKER : You are not permitted to raise that case too]. This is only an FIR for which the out-going Chief Minister prohibited to make investigation against himself during his term of Chief Minister. If so, existence of PIL against him too, may not be raised.

Thank you.

PU LALDUHAWMA : Pu Speaker, this speech of the Governor may be of the shortest considering the previous speeches and it hardly contains appropriate plan except 4 or 5 points. It may be taken for granted if the new government hardly have plan to be included in the speech. Even so, my party is ready to give support to the government as long as it concern for the welfare of the people and if not, we may put strong apposition against it.

At the outset, Pu Speaker, I want to appeal to this new government that prompt answer may please be given by the concerned ministers to any question from the members which may be given in written. I had made the same appeal to Chief

Minister of the previous ministry and even to the Governor a couple of time but to no avail. Now, we are having a House Leader who is expert in protocol and the system of the government as well as Civil Service and I have a strong confidence in him to fulfill this request.

Secondly, every department is having its own consultative committee with the concerned minister as its chairman and certain MLA and senior officers as its members. But Pu Speaker, there are number of departments in the previous ministry during which the said consultative committee had never been called. I, therefore, strongly hope this government to give importance to a specific consultative committee.

In future, Pu Speaker, it may also be necessary to form an Enquiry Committee which concern for conduct of members of the opposition and ruling. For that purpose, it is the common practice to appoint member from ruling as chairman for an Enquiry Committee comprising opposition members and vice versa to win confidence of the people. For example, on matter that concerns the whole of Mizoram like Mautam famine, it is deplorable for the previous government to put ruling party a decision making body without consensus. It is, therefore, highly necessary for the new government to give importance to the interest of the common people from now on.

Not only this, Pu Speaker, it is much desirable if the new government begins to let MLA involve deeper in any project and development works within their respective constituencies thereby furnishing them sanction copy of the work by the concerned department. It is true that the concern MLA for his constituency is more realistic than other members or officials, and may, therefore, be given importance.

Regarding NLUP, we learnt that it will not be funded from the state's budget but a special package from the central. But the risk is that the existing ministry too, is in a condition to fall down from its power by the coming election in the central and the said policy too, may be laid flatly. Hence, it is necessary for the new government to pursue the matter urgently so that the provision is benefited at an early date.

The new ministry is now able to share the term, 'VIP' given to farmers by us, the UDA which is much appreciated. I assured that my party will always stand for the welfare of farmers and back up the government to that concern.

Pu Speaker, there are certain matters which are not highlighted in the Governor's speech. For example, regarding Municipal Council which is very important for improvement of our very own city, the previous government issued notification to that concern by the month of October in which only 55 community areas of Aizawl were included and the rest were excluded from the city. For example, Chhangurkawn of my constituency too, is excluded which is deeply regretted. I strongly urge this new government to take immediate step to that concern and make fresh

notification to include the said area so that provision from JNNURM is benefited by each of the community of that area in the city.

It is appreciating that assurance had already been given for implementation of Health Care Scheme in which any patient will then be able to reimburse his/her medical expenses without necessarily being admitted himself/herself in the hospital. It is desirable if immediate action is taken by the government. In the same manner, immediate action is insisted on the government as assurance had already been given for implementation of central pay scale to the government employees of Mizoram. Besides Pu Speaker, it is in a way, thankful to have a new government who would dare to ignore MoU whereas there are number of jobless youths.

Regarding NREGS, I want to say that out of 100 days barely 10 days work was allotted to certain villages under the previous government. We, therefore, strongly hope that the new government will follow appropriate guidelines of the scheme so that the concerned people get their fair shares.

Pu Speaker, I want to request the new government to give importance to Look East Policy even if the matter is not raised in the Governor's speech. In regard to continuation of certain abandoned scheme such as Tuirial Hydel Project, I opine it is hardly productive to have one in the boundary as Mizoram will get only 8 MW since it is necessary to share it with the neighbouring state. It will, therefore, be wise for the government to give priority to the projects of the rivers in the heart of the state. In relation, it is sad to experience irregularity of power supply as soon as Congress Party is in power. I am afraid that the same problem of their previous ministry is repeated.

Pu Speaker, it will also be much pleasing if sufficient supply of water is provided by the government specially during the period of Christmas and New Year. We had already listened enough about the Scheme of Aizawl Greater Water Supply Phase-II whereas no favourable outcome is yet received except the same old system of water supply delivered by truck.

Even though transparency is being termed as a trademark of this new government, I dare say effective outcome will not be there unless order which enabled the previous ministry to obtain information without RTI is withdrawn immediately. If the said order is inherited, transparency will not be achieved.

Lastly, Pu Speaker, I want to inform the House that the people will be waiting for favourable outcome of assurances made by the government for which my party is ready to lend our support when necessity arises.

Thank you.

PU R. SELTHUAMA

: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I, first of all want to thank God and the people of my constituency who put me up to sit here in the august House.

In my opinion, Pu Speaker, it is wise for the members not to look for point to contradict on the Governor's speech as there is nothing to complain about. It is praiseworthy of the Governor for taking challenge to set up transparent government so as to drive away corruption from our state.

As known to us all, the people in rural areas hardly get opportunity from the government during 10 years of MNF ministry. In fact, it is highly pleasing for the people to learn about NLUP which will be implemented by the new government. Certain members misunderstood this policy to bring negative effect to the people concerned. In this regard, it is to be noted that there were number of farmers including supporters of MNF party who made the best use of that provision of the previous term. The Governor's speech, therefore, deserves credit as it concerns alleviation of the poor.

Regarding its funding, I want to say that there is a possibility to allocate that fund from Annual Plan whereas certain people believe that it will be totally funded by the central. For that concern, central government assured to provide additional fund from the central as a special package. In regard to Arunachal Pradesh also, a sum of 180 crore rupees was allotted by the central in addition to their Annual Plan Budget of 1620 crore rupees and the total became 1800 crore rupees. Including 265 crore rupees being allotted beforehand as a special package, over all amount of their Annual Plan became 2,065 crore rupees. Hence, we are confident that there will be enough fund in such a way to cover up most of the needy families with the said provision in a short period of time. In fact, it is appreciating to learn from the Governor's speech that the government would see that projects started by the previous ministry will be continued if they are found technically viable and financially sound.

Pu Speaker, the most concern of the people today is power supply. It is, therefore, highly appreciating to learn from the Governor's speech that the abandoned Tuirial Hydel Project would be taken up at an early date and Referral Hospital at Falkawn will be taken up afresh so that it soon comes up early to be upgraded to Medical Hospital in due course as was originally planned.

Besides, Pu Speaker, we have further learnt about plan for improvement of road communication from World Bank fund inclusive of Aizawl-Thenzawl road which had long been delayed. Hence, the speech truly deserves appreciation.

In order to stop the practice of shifting cultivation and to alleviate the poor, it is further pointed out that NLUP will again be implemented much for the benefit of farmers in rural areas. This will, on the other hand, certainly bring effective role in preservation of forests. I, therefore, declare in support of the motion, the speech made by the Governor deserves much appreciation. Thank you.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA : Thank you, Pu Speaker for having the chance to speak in this august House after 10 years. I also want to thank leaders of my party and the people of my constituency for believing in me. Above all, I thank God for all his blessings before and after the election.

Coming to the motion of thanks on the Governor's speech submitted by our fellow member, I want to make few points in support of it.

Pu Speaker, keeping in mind the need to change the system of our government, my party now comes to power as an answer to prayer of the poor as well as the people of Mizoram as a whole. In regard to carrying out the task, it is not possible for the Governor to point out each and every point which the members feel the necessary. Yet, the government is bound to give priority to what had been declared in the party's manifesto.

Regarding NLUP, the people are now beginning to face the reality despite contradiction from the opposition parties during election campaign. The role of politician, in my opinion is to make possibility out of impossibility. Accordingly, my party now begins to make NLUP possible, the policy which other parties preached during election campaign to the people as impossible. In this connection, it is to be noted that this programme is meant for alleviation of the condition of the poor but not for wasting as alleged. Hence, members who are interested in safe-keeping of the Governor's speech for further examination, it may be wise to keep manifesto of my party too as it is the desire of the House. In such a way, I strongly hope for the government to give importance to the debate and convention of the House.

Pu Speaker, I want to emphasize that result of the last general election indicated that the people no longer believe in the party who conspicuously reiterated their achievements and exploratory status to certain projects. But instead, the people elected my party with a majority of 80% which seem to be the biggest margin of winning vote ever known in Mizoram. It is ridiculous that certain party mentioned their doubt on the reliability of Electronic Voting Machine outside the House. If there is any doubt, it should have been mentioned in the House so that hope of our people will be fulfilled.

With those few points, Pu Speaker, I expresses my support of this motion.

Thank you.

PU N.P. CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, after 17 years from 1987 to 2003 of sitting in this Assembly and 5 years of my absence, I am back again this time for which I thank God and the people of my constituency including the whole of CADC.

Coming to the point, let me start with the term, 'good governance', the definition which has been given here as 'clean, efficient and responsive administrative'. In order to achieve it, I opine Rules of Law is necessary. Hence, I want to make an appeal to each of the member as well as government employees and public to give importance to Rules of Law. It is to be noted that corruption and ill administration come into existence due to the absence of Rules of Law.

As known to us all, administration of the previous government lasted for 10 years in which performance of Anti-corruption department, to a certain extent was good except limitation which existed. Hence, it is highly appreciating that the Governor's speech concerns for improvement to that effect. A booklet on achievement of the government during 1998-2008 is made available at Information Department in which it is regretting to learn that the department of Anti-corruption is being missed out which indicates that the previous government was not sensitive about the existence of corruption. On the contrary, the Governor stated that corruption at any level of governance will not be tolerated from day one of government. This is highly appreciated.

Allegation in regard to LADC, I opine it is no use to make clarification as the amount and dates of withdrawn as shown here clearly indicates the truth. On 24.11.08 - ₹ 20 lakh; on 25.11.08 - ₹ 15 lakh; on 26.11.08 - ₹ 10 lakh plus ₹ 5 lakh, all drawn from Employment Provident Fund during election. This is against the rules and recovery should be made immediately.

Regarding road sector as stated in the Governor's speech, it is highly appreciating that it is the concern of this new government to make improvement. I must say that the previous ministry did not deserve to retain its power for failing to achieve Aizawl-Thenzawl-Lunglei road, one of the most important roads during their two successive terms.

Regarding NLUP, I want to convey my thanks to the Governor for the assurance to launch NLUP throughout the state. It will be pleasing if concentration of this policy is also made in Autonomous District Councils areas as in the General Election of 1998, my party lost almost all the seats in the said areas for failing to do so.

Last but not the least, what is necessary for the government is co-operation and understanding of the members as well as the people as the Governor too, stated, 'I ask all the people of Mizoram to extend their whole-hearted support to the government. Let us all try to make the best use of one and only government we have by being active supporter of its programme of uploading the attitude of confrontation and useless stride in the administration. I am confident that each and everyone of us can make Mizoram one of the best developed states in India'.

Thank you.

PU LALRINMAWIA RALTE : Pu Speaker, at the outset, I thank God for giving me chance to make my maiden speech here in this august House. I also thank the people of my constituency without whom I may not be here.

Pu Speaker, it is learnt that opinions of the members are different regarding the speech made by our Governor as certain members of the same group made their speech against the Governor's speech whereas the other made in support which indicates superiority of the Governor's speech.

Coming to the point, 'good governance and transparency' stated by the Governor is a common interest of our youths today. Since a transparent government without empowerment of local body is somewhat like an undiagnosed disease, the Governor emphasized the need of decentralization of powers. In the same manner, transparency is necessary in order to have a good governance as it is a delegation of empowerment to the rural people. The speech clearly indicates that the government will take steps for alleviation of the rural people by empowerment of elected councilors from rural and urban areas. The concerned people will then be able to get any information from their respective elected leaders. It is the duty of those councilors to keep aware of the needs of the people and take necessary steps promptly and the government, in return will maintain clean and efficient response in such a way to deliver a good governance. It is thankful that the Governor gives assurance to achieve good governance as stated so that people in rural and urban areas will then be freed from the shackle of poverty. Hence, the Governor's speech truly deserves appreciation.

Pu Speaker, some of the members from your left too, seem to approve the Governor's speech by indicating their intention to support the government when necessity arise, and it is much pleasing as it shows the value of this speech.

Pu Speaker, allegation against the Governor's speech relating to order issued to the three Autonomous District Councils as well as launching of NLUP, I opine, it only indicates importance of role played by the government in our day to day life. It is not possible to proceed even a short period of time since existence of the government, in a welfare state is to serve the people. Grievances of the people in the past 10 years due to unfulfilled promises of the government would surely be immeasurable. Hence, this new government will determine to fulfill what had been assured and the table is now turning in favour of the poor with NLUP, which will soon be launched for their benefit.

So, Pu Speaker, I am expressing my whole-hearted support to this Motion of Thanks by making those few points.

Thank you.

PU LALSAWTA :

Pu Speaker, I, first of all, thank God, leaders of my party as well as the people of my constituency for giving me the chance to stand for them to determine development of my constituency and to provide them shelter in times of needs.

I also want to make few points of my appreciation in regard to the Governor's speech. The speech, though brief, contains most of the significant points such as terms, 'decentralization' and 'responsive' clearly define the exact points. Hence, I found the speech to be good enough. Most of the points concern vision for the future of Mizoram for which it is highly appreciating that the government is no longer in the hands of desperate leaders as they will now be replaced by leaders who are with full of hope and bright visions of the future.

If we have to believe in a famous quote from Rabindranath Tagore, 'Every child comes with a message that God is not yet discouraged of man', it is necessary for us to give our thought towards the light. It is to be noted that the necessity to replace the system which is no longer applicable by new system in maintenance of a good government now compels us to follow a policy of 'Change'. But certain people opposed to it, and it can be taken for granted as it is ways of the world. I strongly believe that it is not possible to turn Mizoram into an ideal condition, but it can be compelled by using an ideal system of the government. Hence, 'system change' is deemed necessary. Even if some sort of problem evolves along the way, it may be taken for granted with the hope of a bright future.

Hence, Pu Speaker, it is a wise decision for each of the member to show our uniformity in regard to the speech of the Governor.

Thank you.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA
DY. SPEAKER :

Thank you, Pu Speaker. I may include myself among first-timers in this House as I am now coming back after a long decade. At the outset, I thank God for his guidance during that whole 10 years and, to the people of my constituency, without whom I may not be here.

Pu Speaker, the Governor's speech may be brief as stated by various members, it contains most of the important matters for improvement of the people as a whole. What is most important, in my opinion, is point which concerns setting up of good governance and a transparent government. Looking back to the previous government, it is unfortunate to learn how the out-going Chief Minister left his bungalow. It indicated that Mizoram needs a new system of government that assured clean and transparency and the Governor, therefore, emphasizes point to that concern.

Regarding NLUP, the flagship programme of the government, it is true that it is the programme which the people awaited anxiously for its launching as many have been living in helpless situation for long period of times. As pointed out by the Governor, the programme is planned by Congress Party which is meant for alleviation of those people. Certain members may criticize the programme for yielding idleness in the mind of the concerned people. Yet, I want to say that it is meant for teaching the people the importance of hard work. There are certain party with policy of making budget provision for procurement of cash crops and implementation of Crop Insurance Scheme. In this regard, it is to be noted that insurance could not be made possible unless crop is produced first. Hence, I opine it is necessary to achieve NLUP first in order to follow the policy of certain party. The Governor's speech to that concern, therefore, is highly appreciated.

Secondly, Pu Speaker, point that concern improvement of road sector is truly appreciative. In order to do so, it may be wise for the concerned authority to give priority to border roads such as Rajiv Nagar to W. Kawnpui, the condition which is extremely poor. In this connection, I want to point out that construction of road such as Mamit to Bairabi, Lengpui to Hmunpui and Serzawl to Lengte which had been taken up during the previous ministry were left unfinished. Not only this, road of Lokicherra, constituency of Pu Tawnluia, former Home Minister, which now becomes Hachhek constituency too, had not been maintained appropriately during the last 10 years. Pu Speaker, there are 28 villages within my constituency out of which four remain untouched by road communication. Hence, it is highly appreciating that the Governor included in his speech plan to that concern.

Again, Pu Speaker, it is highly appreciating that this new government concerns for supply of safe drinking water as it is much necessary specially in rural areas. Regarding Health Sub-Centre, point which had not been raised in the speech, I want to inform the House that in Rajiv Nagar (Tuipuibari-II), one of the major villages still remain without Health Sub-Centre which often compelled the concern people to go to Phaileng Hospital to get medical attendance. It will be appreciated if priority is given.

Last but not the least, it is again appreciating that the government gives priority to continuation of certain abandoned projects by the previous ministry particularly to Referral Hospital at Falkawn. In the previous Congress ministry, the hospital was planned to accommodate at least 500 beds which was later degraded as somewhat like Health Sub-Centre during MNF ministry. Thanks to the new ideas and concepts of this government, it will, now again be improved and speech made by the Governor, therefore, truly deserves appreciation. I fully support this motion.

Thank you.

SPEAKER

We still have few minutes left. I may now call upon Leader of the House to make his wind up speech.

PU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

: Thank you, Pu Speaker. From the speech made by several members, we can come to the conclusion that this House supports Motion of Thanks on the Governor's speech.

It is pleasing that the members openly shared their thoughts by giving important suggestions which the government certainly would have to take into account. Pu Speaker, it is true that we too, are not perfect leaders to lead the Government of Mizoram and therefore, cooperation of the members will always be entertained.

Pu Speaker, in order to drive away corruption, it is necessary for us to have a courage to clean up ourselves first as no one is perfect including leaders of churches, leaders of the government or a political party. We must be the ones who dare face any enquiry so as to clear suspicion of public. The government will teach lessons to its employees if they are lacking of manner or respect to higher authority and it is necessary for them to know that authority of the elected leaders are superior in democracy. Before leaving my office in the previous term, I left important documents for further action that need cooperation of Agriculture, Horticulture that concerns Science and Modern Technology on which no acknowledgment is given even though reminder was made a couple of time. I want to assure the House in that connection that the new government will take strict action to each department. If concerned official of the department is ignorant in furnishing the said acknowledgment, it indicates that he does not deserve to hold that important duty.

Pu Speaker, the Governor's speech may be brief, but the content is of utmost important matters which deserves much discussion. It may be soon to discuss programmes of the government in detail, yet, it is necessary to emphasize prevalence of corruption in our society which refrains the poors from getting their fair share. It is appreciated that the Governor made his speech to that concern and NLUP is soon to be launched as a mean to alleviate the poors. In this connection, it is to be noted that there are several means in addition to NLUP. One could attain self sufficiency in food grains with Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry or other Allied Services and the government will give attention to that too.

Certain members may believe the government as handicap due to portfolio which has not yet been fully allotted. It is to be noted that the ministry is fully formed as long as we have Chief Minister and ministers which may be re-arranged in future.

SPEAKER

: The time now is 4:00 PM. We may continue with the discussion till the end of the on-going wind up speech.

PU LAL THIANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

Regarding return of election expenditure of the members, I do not think any one seen that reports as claimed by certain members. I opine it is just an allegation as it is understood by a common sense that no member would submit expenditure report in excess to the limited amount as he will be disqualified by the Election Commission. Regarding order issued to Lai Autonomous District Council, it is done so because 59 lakh rupees was unnecessarily withdrawn by the CEM three days before the election which consequently drawn suspicion. It compels us to draw our suspicion by withdrawal of such amount of cash and by deployment of some senior officers in certain areas just three days before the election.

Pu Speaker, it is further learnt that in order to gain votes, number of posts had been created without financial sanction beforehand and hence, we were bound to lodge a complaint even as opposition party. Since a new government with the details came into existence, it is necessary to issue an order of interruption to the concerned District Council so as to stop such practices in future. However, no restriction was made for Salary Component Funds with the thought of the approaching Christmas and that the concerned employees will be able to draw their pay in time.

I wish that I had enough time to speak in regard to Hydel Project. Let me start with the allegation that irregularity of supply of power as more intensive as soon as Congress Party is in power. In that regard, it is to be noted that project that concern with 3 megawatts lies under the purview of the state government and beyond 3 megawatts, permission of central is necessary for obtaining some clearances which usually takes 5 to 10 years. Yet, requirement of power for instant use remains the problem and hence, we have put our best effort to provide by cutting down larger amount like 5 or 6 megawatts to 3 megawatts or less whereas matching share of non-conventional sources of energy is 75% and the rest 25% as the state share. In the same manner, 5 megawatts of Maicham and Tuipang Lui project too, had also been reduced to 2 megawatts.

Keeping in mind the need of a major project, approach had been made to 60 megawatts project of Tuirial, first clearance had been obtained. After a long determination, we, somehow managed to receive the provision from Oversea Economic Development Fund from the Government of Japan. After laying the foundation stone, the work was handed over to NEEPCO and 50% of the work had already been finished within 3 years. Since then, no attention was given by MNF ministry.

In regard to one of the most popular projects i.e. Bairabi Hydel Project, investigation was taken during PC ministry in which expected time for completion was determined as 8 months. Due to shortage of time for its completion, the project submitted during the next ministry formed by Congress Party was objected by central authority. Again, the same submitted by MNF ministry too could not get through for the same reason. But due to the prospects and its convenience for waterways transportation, approach was made again to the central authority during Congress

ministry. As a result, resurvey was taken up by NEEPCO and it was found that project on such large river could only be completed within 4 or 5 years. Consequently, Brahmaputra Board sent Prime Mission to take up solvent investigation on which the then opposition parties such as MNF and MPC intensively criticized this decision of the government. Even so, the same project left by the Congress Party was then continued as the said two parties formed coalition government. I was even informed by the previous Chief Minister that Detail Project Report had even been submitted and clearance had already been obtained.

Regarding road sector, it is true that construction of internal roads taken up by NBCC is very poor. Presently, the next work in line is leveling of road surface for which I had discussed the matter with them and suggested to speed up the work with an improved quality.

Regarding Health Care Scheme, Pu Speaker, the previous government obtained cooperation of ICICI Lombard, the firm which had been proved inefficient afterward. It is further learnt that the said firm is having outstanding balance of 2 to 3 lakh rupees. Approach had been made to them for immediate payment of their balance but to no avail. Pu Speaker, what is important in this regard is improvement of the system as we already made large amount on balance of credit with Reliance, the firm that replaced ICICI Lombard.

Regarding grievances of farmers concerning procurement of passion fruits amounting to more than 10 lakh rupees worth, it is somewhat a problem for the government to make that payment instantly as the previous government already put us into a grave situation. The new government determines to make immediate payment somehow from left-over fund of a failure project MIP. In the same manner, ginger growers too, are facing various problems despite assurance made by the previous government to pave the way for marketing their products.

Going back to matter relating to Hydrel project, I want to point out that for Kawlchaw project, a capacity of 480-460 megawatts, Detail Project Report had already been made and clearances will soon be obtained fully. Next thing is to determine fund for the work which may be done so after receiving clearances.

Regarding suggestion in regard to Consultative Committee, I want to assure a member from Aizawl West-I constituency that it may be considered as soon as the government settled up itself and will be formed after consultation of various members of ruling and opposition of their respective field of interest of the committees. Besides, I assure that advice will be given to those appointed chairmen as necessary.

Pu Speaker, I want to emphasize that we all must dare to face thorough investigation on ourselves so as to drive away the practice of corruption. During my previous term as Chief Minister, I was once alleged by the opposition as being involved in the scam relating to Lunglei Water Supply Phase-II on which I made a request to the concerned authority to prevail investigation on me otherwise, I may be

blamed by the people of Mizoram as well as my children and grand children for many generations to come. I further assured the House that I am ready to furnish any documents which may be needed and any expense for the journey which may be made in doing so would also be borne by me. I further assured that I am ready to leave politics once and for all if I am found guilty.

Pu Speaker, there are number of works to be done whereas most of them happened to be continuation of unfulfilled works of the previous government due to lack of appropriate execution of Rural Employment Act. In order to reform the system, I opine it is important to give orientation course to each DC as it is learnt from the previous performance that even officers and government servants were selected to avail the opportunity from NREGS. Otherwise, practice of corruption will not be eliminated. As an opposition party, we were well-informed of V/C members and other nodal agency who were involved in mismanagement of NERGS fund which will soon be stopped. In order to do so, cooperation of each members is requested.

Lastly, as pointed out by the Governor, I opine a free and fair election is achieved for which I want to convey my thanks to the concerned officials, polices and other workers in the election for rendering their sincere services. Much as well, Pu Speaker, I want to thank the people for giving their cooperation to MPF without whom free election will never be achieved.

It is highly appreciated that our discussion on Motion of Thanks on the Governor's speech is done without any unfavourable atmosphere. It is learnt from maiden speeches delivered by our new members that they are not inferior to former members and I am very proud of them as they all have shown an excellent conduct in the House. I declare my support to this Motion of Thanks.

Thank you all.

SPEAKER :

The hon'ble Chief Minister explained all important matters in detail. I may now call upon mover of this Motion to beg leave of the House to adopt his motion.

PU JOSEPH LALHIMPUIA :

Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am truly happy that 25 members including the hon'ble Chief Minister, had made their valuable speeches and further expressed their support in favour of the Motion. Hence, I ask each member to vote in favour of passing the Motion here in the House.

SPEAKER : The mover had now begged leave of the House to adopt the Motion. Members who agree to pass may say 'yes' and those who do not may say 'nay'. [Members : 'yes'].
Motion of Thanks on the Governor's speech has now been adopted.

PU JOSEPH LALHIMPUA : Pu Speaker, I want to thank our leader for the opportunity, to submit this Motion despite my being new to this House and the members who voted in favour of the Motion.

SPEAKER : You are welcome. I also owe thanks to all the members for your support in conducting this august House for the first time. I know I am not perfect to do so, but you all cover me up so well in order to achieve smooth discussion.

Now, let me give the summary of our transaction during First Session, Sixth Legislative Assembly with effect from 16th to 18th December, 2008.

As this session is scheduled for three days, discussion is taken up smoothly. During our first day of the session, the newly elected members took Oath of Affirmation and then followed by election of the Speaker for which I was elected.

On the second day, His Excellency, the Governor of Mizoram addressed the House and, Pu Joseph Lalhimpua moved Motion of Thanks on that speech and was seconded by Pu H. Zothangliana.

On the third day, Obituary reference was observed in honour of former Prime Minister of India, Shri. V.P. Singh and Pu Ellis Saidenga, Ex-MLA in which various members made their condolence speeches. 1(one) minute silence was then observed by the House in honour of the departed leaders. By the following evening, election of the Deputy Speaker was taken up as scheduled in which Pu John Rotluangliana was elected without any contest.

As recorded here, 25 members including its mover had participated in the discussion of Motion of Thanks on the Governor's speech.

With the help of God and of the House, I am being favoured to hold the post of Speaker of this august House. I earnestly appeal to each member to give their official cooperation and advice in pursuing my duty as Speaker.

a Happy New Year.

I wish every member as well as the people a Joyous Christmas and

adjourned sine-die.

The Session for this time is now finished and this House is

Sitting adjourned : 4:30 PM