

**FOR SIXTH SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 24TH MARCH, 2009
(Time 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM)**

PRESENT

SPEAKER at the Chair, Chief Minister, 11 Ministers, Deputy Speaker and 24 Members were present.

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPERS

2. **Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO** to lay on the Table of the House a copy of "The Mizoram Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Rules, 2008.
3. **Pu S.HIATO** to lay on the Table of the House a copy of correction of reply to starred question No.13 asked by Pu R.Lalrinawma on 18.3.2009.
4. **Pu S. HIATO** to lay on the Table of the House a copy of correction of starred question No.22 asked by Pu K.Liantlinga on 19.3.2009.
5. **ELECTIONS TO FINANCIAL COMMITTEES** to elect members of the three Financial Committees.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS
Bill for consideration and passing**

6. **PU LAL THANHAWLA** to move that "The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretaries (Appointment, Salaries, Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2009 be taken into consideration

AND

To move that the Bill be passed.

S P E A K E R : So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

I Corinthians 10:12

We will take question. Let us invite Pu Lalthansanga to ask his Starred Question No. 41.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister for Land Revenue and Settlement Department be pleased to state :

Boundary accepted by the Mizoram Government.

S P E A K E R : The Minister may reply.

Pu J.H.ROTHUAMA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, answer to the hon'ble member's question is – boundary line mapped out by the Assam Government Notification No.2106 of 9.3.1933 (vide the Assam Gazette, March, 1933) has been later used again when we became U.T. After the signing of Peace Accord it was also followed as boundary line.

S P E A K E R : Supplementary question Pu Lalthansanga.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. The 1933 boundary line mapped out by the Assam Government was not accepted by the then Chief Minister Pu Ch. Chhhunga, he accepted the 1875 boundary. After the 1994 riot, talk had been held in the District Commissioner and Chief Secretary level and the final decision was made between the two Chief Ministers. Unfortunately it had not been followed up till today. Now we are facing a new trouble in Phaisen and other places. The Central already know we have a boundary dispute. Therefore, I want to know whether the talk can be renewed or not.

S P E A K E R : The Minister in-charge may reply.

Pu J.H.ROTHUAMA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, thank you. The 1875 boundary was mapped out by the Governor General in Council comprising the Governor General and MPs. In 1933 it was remapped by the Governor Council in Assam without consulting the Mizo people. When we became U.T. and state our leaders accepted it. In 1994 talk was held between the Assam and Mizoram Government but could not make an agreement on the place for the meeting between the two Chief Ministers and the talk was left unfinished. In 1994 MLA from different party and leader of the ruling party MNF went to Delhi to urge the Central to announce Mizoram as having boundary dispute but failed. Now we are doing our best to negotiate the Central Government to accept the 1875 boundary line for Mizoram.

S P E A K E R : Supplementary question Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble Minister's answer is too mild. We do not accept the 1933 boundary line which was mapped without consulting us. The U.T. and state government of Mizoram do not accept it. What we all accept is the 1875 boundary line. We passed a resolution in the MNF Ministry and formed a Boundary Commission. We submitted to the Central Government our resolution as we do not accept as it was made by the Assam Government without consulting us. Therefore, today can the Minister change his answer and say instead that we are going to protect our right and accept only the original boundary line of 1875?

S P E A K E R : Supplementary question Dr. R. Lalthangliana.

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, we all accept what the hon'ble member Pu Lalduhoma said. We passed a resolution demanding that the Central Govt. should form Boundary Commission to look into the matter and solve the problem as soon as possible in 9th March, 2006. Besides the NGOs like YMA, MHIP and MUP also give their consent to the resolution.

In 2007 we submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister consensually. I want to ask the House today - are we going to stand in that resolution?

As the Prime Minister could not give us an appointment during that time, the hon'ble Chief Minister made a book of memorandum and submitted it to the Prime Minister. I also want to ask whether there is any news in that regard.

S P E A K E R : Does the House Leader want to elaborate on this?

Pu LAL THANHAWLA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, regarding boundary CHIEF line we all want the same. From Pu Ch. Chhunga's period our leaders took initiative in this regard. Boundary Committee was formed during that time comprising of Rev.Zairema, Pu C.L.Ruala and Pu B.Punte. They worked hard and visited many archives within India and had a solid supporting document. In our heart, the 1875 boundary line tops the list. From that time, special care had been given so that people will not have to suffer. Therefore, we have to be careful in the demand area. If we are greedy and include where our ancestors used to go for hunting in our demarcation we may demarcate half the population of the tribes who live there for a long time and will become a thorn in our side.

Above all, we claimed our boundary line with Assam and in their mapping we do not have any representative. Because of that we cannot accept it. Therefore, we should all work and stand together and fight for what is truly ours. When the time is right we will have an all party meeting in this regard.

S P E A K E R : Now we will go to the next question. Let us call Pu K.Liantlinga to ask Starred Question No.42.

Pu K.LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon'ble Minister for Education Department be pleased to state :

- (a) Is Higher Secondary and Secondary School going to be amalgamated under one administration.
- (b) Is there a plan to make Mizoram Education Policy.

S P E A K E R : The Minister for Education Pu Lalsawta may answer.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, answer to the hon'ble
MINISTER member Pu K.Liantlinga's questions
are as follows :

(a) Right now there is no plan to amalgamate.

(b) Yes, there is plan to make Mizoram Education Policy.

S P E A K E R : Supplementary question Pu K.
Liantlinga.

Pu K.LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Separation
order has been released in 15.10.
2007 still they are using the same
staffs and building. High School and
+2 face many problems in administration, definite modality has not been made also. Is
there a plan to make amendment in this regard.

Secondly, is there a plan to open Science stream in Central
Aizawl School especially in Central Higher Secondary School at College Veng. In
this regard the then Minister already gave his commitment. What is the reason for not
implementing it. Is there a problem in DP&AR or at the Directorate level.

Thirdly, it is very pleasing that there is a plan to make
Education Policy. Our education faces many problem due to changes of Ministers and
policies in the past years. Now we are waiting in anticipation the making of 'Mizoram
Education Policy'. When will it be finished? Besides, is class VII Board Examination
going to be continued or not? Is there a plan to stop it?

S P E A K E R : The Minister may reply.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, the answer to the
MINISTER hon'ble member's supplementary
question is, definite plan has not been
made but we are making preparation in
that regard. Secondly, due to financial problem, we cannot open science stream in +2.
Regarding Education Policy, right now we are preparing to set
up Education Reforms Commission and if it goes well we can look into the matter of

quality education as well. Besides, the Commission will also take care of the examination of class VII and whether to continue or not.

S P E A K E R : I hope that there will be no plan to change the academic session system of education in this Ministry.

Dr. R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, as former Education Minister I want to say few words regarding the academic session. When we made a change in the academic session, it was done with after consultation of our NGOs and experts in the field not the other way round. Therefore, it is not proper to point out a single name in that connection.

S P E A K E R : I want him to know that we are not blaming him.

Pu LALSAWTA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we are not blaming anyone but the real fact is that there is so much work to do to clean all the mess.

Besides, our students are not guinea pig to do experiment on them. We have to study and learn other practices and then only make decision. Therefore, we cannot be in haste in this regard.

S P E A K E R : Now, we will go to Starred Question No.43. Let's invite Pu R.Lalrinawma.

Pu R.LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon'ble Minister for Horticulture Department be pleased to state –

- (a) Fund received for building Green House within Mizoram from Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in N.E. State during 2008-2009.

(b) Is all the fund fully spent.

(c) Is it going to be continued in 2009-2010, if so, criteria for selecting beneficiaries and how will it be done.

S P E A K E R : Let's invite the Minister to reply.

Pu H.LIANSILOVA : Pu Speaker, answer to the hon'ble
MINISTER member's question are as follows :

(a) During 2005-2009 financial year we received fund as follows – 2005-2006 ₹.149.50 lakh; 2006-2007 ₹.641.88 lakh; 2007-2008 ₹.120.90 lakh and in 2008-2009 ₹.121.88 lakh.

(b) We released on installment because of which 2008-2009 fund has not been used.

(c) Plan has been there for 2009-2010. Selection for beneficiary will be done carefully. Its criteria are (1) There should be a plain not grain field (2) Highway should be within reach (3) Regular flow of water (4) Should be interested in farming (5) Economically self sufficient (6) They are to live in that place permanently.

S P E A K E R : Supplementary question for Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, within 4 years we are spending about thousand lakh in building Green Houses. With preferred materials, about one lakh has to be spent to built a Green House. Can the govt., emphasize give it to those who can follow the criteria? It would be appreciative if the govt., can make a selection only from those who make their livelihood in this connection. In future can the selection be done more carefully. Can we emphasize it for starting a real business. If we can emphasize building the Green House they can manage by themselves in future.

S P E A K E R : If necessary, the Minister may reply it.

Pu H.LIANSILOVA : Pu Speaker, what the hon'ble
MINISTER member said is the Hi-Tech Green House. This has been distributed under Technology Mission and the materials are provided by the company. For non High-Tech we are still thinking about low cost structure and we thought about using our bamboo for the upper link pipe. In this, our experts and deptt., heads still try to find the solution. Besides, using this method, we are trying to guide our youth to become interested in agriculture. Under Land Use Policy we also prepare a plan so that under modern technology more Green House can be built and our youth and under privilege can earn their livelihood.

S P E A K E R : Now we will go to starred question NO. 44. Let's invite Pu C.Ramhluna to ask his question.

Pu C.RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister for Rural Development Department be pleased to state –

(a) Amount of fund already acquired by the govt., for implementation of NLUP during 2008-2009.

(b) Is the work being started using this fund.

(c) How many families can be provided during 2009-2010.

S P E A K E R : Let us invite Pu R. Lalzirliana, Minister for rural Development to reply.

Pu R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, answer to the hon'ble
MINISTER member's questions are as follows –

(a) There is no fund within 2008-2009 but for 2009-2010 financial year, about hundred crore has been put as shown in the interim budget while the Planning Commission give us a earmarked of hundred twenty crore.

(b) Work has not been started yet.

(c) Plan has not yet been finalized but about twenty thousand families are earmarked.

S P E A K E R : Supplementary question for Pu C.Ramhluna.

Pu C.RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, while it looks like more than one lakh can be given if the need arises for the success of a project according to their Election Manifesto, does the govt., change their mind in this. Secondly, why not put twelve hundred twenty crore in the budget as the Planning Commission earmarked for them instead of hundred crore ?

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. Step taken so far in the making of the criteria for selecting the beneficiaries.

Pu P.P.THAWLA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. Around ₹.210 and ₹.150 lakhs has not been used from MIP scheme, what is the governments intention in using the remaining fund ? Is it not for the 2009 financial year?

S P E A K E R : Who will answer it. Can the House Leader do it. If not, we will invite Rural Development Minister.

Pu R.LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, answer to the hon'ble MINISTER
MINISTER
Pu Ramhluna's question is we still stand at one lakh according to the scheme they choose. Secondly we only put hundred crore as it is an interim budget. When the Planning Commission finalized it we will put twelve hundred crore.

Regarding Pu B.Lalthlengliana's question we are starting to constitute the criteria for its selection. Not much difference will be there from our former policy.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, according to their campaigners they are going to select only members from Congress party. Can this be clarified.

Pu R.LALZIRLIANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, only those who can success will be selected not party wise. But preference will be given to Congress party member in the first phase.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, if that is the case, it looks like we are going to have a bias government.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, if we want to look at it like that we can do so. But this policy is not a five year plan, therefore all of us can benefit but will have to wait in line as we have to cover it step by step.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, will it be easier to cover in one phase.

Pu R.LALZIRLIANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, while it looks like it will be much easier but we have to go along as we practiced before. Can Pu P.P.Thawla repeat his question.

Pu P.P.THAWLA : Pu Speaker, is it true that the remaining fund of ₹.210 lakh for Land Development has been diverted to NLUP? Is that fund used for the ongoing scheme ?

Pu R.LALZIRLIANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I cannot furnish the answer in that regard.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we are not going to CHIEF practice nepotism in this regard. We will give to those who work hard and trustworthy and who will be successful.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question. Can preference be given to Chhintuipui district in the distribution of NLUP. I think we deserve it.

Pu C.RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, it is hard for us not to give interest in NLUP as it is the flagship scheme of the Congress party. The people expect to receive one lakh in this scheme, but it looks like their expectation is not what the govt's., intention. We have to explain the nature of this policy more clearly. It would also be appreciative if the root cause of their expectation can be clarified by the govt.

Secondly, when we constitute this Land Use Policy, do we have the National Land Use Policy in our mind? Does the govt., concentrate only on the nature of the work of the people but not the future of the country.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, from past experience we know that the work of the ruling party is worse than the opposition party. This can be seen in V/C level. Here in NLUP, if our resource person in Block and Unit level misuse the fund they are going to be bold and will not fear the consequences. Therefore, if we want this

policy to become successful would it not be wise to give priority to opposition party. Besides, if they found out from their worker who misuse the fund, will they not be afraid to take action ?

S P E A K E R : Our question hour is now over, but the Minister may reply.

Pu R.LALZIRLIANA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I regard Pu Ramhluna's question very important. Wrong interpretation can cause a lot of trouble. We are not saying fifty or forty thousand according to the scheme, what we said is that around one lakh will be given according to the scheme. If the scheme is above one lakh we will give it. It all depend on the scheme.

Secondly, we regard Forest as the most important factor. Our method of cultivation destroy our forest. By applying this policy, we hope the farmer can cultivate in a permanent land and our forest will grow again more quickly.

Regarding Pu Lalduhoma's question, maybe the other ruling party practiced it before our time. During our Ministry we never know practice of corruption in V/C level. If misused is found we will take action immediately whether they are ruling member or not. We are going to do Social Audit and ask the help of our lecturers and professors to monitor it.

S P E A K E R : Now our question hour is over. Today two of our members Brig. T. Sailo and Pu S. Laldingliana cannot attend the meeting.

We will go to laying of Paper. Let us invite the hon'ble Minister Pu Lalrinliana Sailo to lay on the Table of the House a copy of "The Mizoram Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Services) Rules, 2008".

Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and the House, I lay on the Table of the House a copy of "The Mizoram Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation and Employment and Condition of Services) Rules, 2008".

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. While distributing the copy I want to know whether they can make the copy in Mizo as it concerns our workers who do not understand English. If it can be done it would be appreciated. (Pu Lalrinliana Sailo : Pu Speaker, we will try it)

Now let us invite the hon'ble Minister Pu S.Hiato to lay on the Table of the House a correction of replies to starred question No.13 of 18.3.2009 asked by Pu R.Lalrinawma and starred question No.22 of 19.3.2009 asked by Pu K.Liantlinga.

Pu S.HIATO MINISTER : Pu Speaker , thank you. I lay on the Table of the House a correction of Pu R. Lalrinawma's starred question No. 13 of 18.3.2009 which should be read as 'pawisa' instead of 'rupee'. Secondly regarding Pu K.Liantlinga's starred question No.22 of 19.3.2009 correction has been made on 'maktaduai' and 'lakh'.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. In Assembly we have three Financial Committees namely – Public Accounts Committee, Committee on Estimates and Committee on Public Undertakings. The Parliamentary Minister Pu Lalsawta already moved motion to elect the committee members on 19.3.2009 and today is the day. We will elect the members as stated in our Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly. We received nomination from each party and as the number does not exceed what the rules stated, without election we can announce them as elected member. Therefore, the following members are declared elected for the Financial Committee as follows :

Public Accounts Committee : (1) Brig.T.Sailo (2) Pu B.Lalthlengliana (3) Pu Lalduhoma (4) Pu K.Lianzuala (5) Pu C.Ramhluna (6) Pu K.Lalrinthanga (7) Pu T.T.Zothansanga.

Committee on Estimnates : (1) Dr.R.Lalthangliana (2) Pu Nirupam Chakma (3) Pu K.Liantlinga (4) Pu R.Lalrinawma (5) Pu Lalrobiaka (6) Pu Joseph Lalhimpuia.

Committee on Public Undertakings : (1) Pu P.P.Thawlla (2) Lt.Col.Z.S.Zuala (3) Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte (4) Pu R.Selthuama (5) Pu R.L.Pianmawia.

Chairman for each Committee will be announced later by the Speaker.

Now, the Legislative business will be taken. The House Leader had introduced “The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretaries (Appointment, Salaries, Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2009.” Let us call him to beg the House to consider the bill.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER : Hon’ble Speaker, with your kind permission, I beg permission of the House to consider “The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretaries (Appointment, Salaries, Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill,2009,in the House.

SPEAKER : The hon’ble Chief Minister is allowed to move for consideration of the said bill.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER : Thank you, hon’ble Speaker. Our state never have Parliamentary Secretaries. It is a new thing for the state. But Parliament and some other states used to have Parliamentary Secretaries. It is needed to know that almost all the states have difficulties in the formation of Council of Ministers as it is fixed at twelve. The state used to have advisers instead of Parliamentary Secretaries. Hence our leaders have opinion to have Parliamentary Secretaries to give advice, support and help in dealing with files, taking oath and allegiance as it is done in other places. There are many reasons why Parliamentary Secretaries are appointed. Of which, it is to have effective government as the twelve council of ministers will not be able to carry all the works. It is also expected that such Parliamentary Secretaries will have good training for the state government in future and to make use of their skills for the state as well as the hon’ble ministers. That is why, Parliamentary Secretaries are appointed. Other states and the Central Government have law to be based. This government also want to have such law for appointing such Parliamentary Secretaries. Therefore, “The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretaries (Apointment, Service, Allowances, and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2009” is formulated and I beg the House to pass it. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The House will have discussion, time will be fixed not more than ten minutes as suggested by the hon’ble Member. Let us call upon Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, it is needed to start from the very beginning. Section 2 (m) provided that minister means 'Member of the Council of Minister, a Minister of State, Deputy Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary. It seemed that the government wants Parliamentary Secretaries equal to the rank of a minister. If so, it is more convenient to make replacement as 'Minister of State or Parliamentary Secretary or a Deputy Minister'. This will show that Parliamentary Secretaries are higher in rank than Deputy Minister.

Next to this, the appointing authority is provided in the bill but termination is not provided. Hence, it is good to make provision for termination of their appointment as and when necessary.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, this bill never exist in Mizoram before. The House Leader said about "change" many times. But the House Leader used to say "it is not necessary to have many advisers" during the former ministry. This makes me confuse to understand the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretaries.

Secondly, the hon'ble Ministers are generally educated having good experience. Why did they need such assistants and advisers? Any way, as it is a new thing, the people want to know about the rules and responsibilities of the Parliamentary Secretaries. The starred question relating to existence of basic rules for appointment of the Parliamentary Secretaries had been answered as "yes". But now, the bill for appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries is discussed only today in this House. Besides this, the hon'ble House Leader also said, "since this is a new development, the Government is not in possession of an act or rules governing the appointment condition or service and other matters of Parliamentary Secretaries" The bill seemed to be applied with effect from 29th December,2008 to deny the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretaries without any act or rule. House Leader's clarification will be highly appreciated.

As the hon'ble Member said before, there is provision for the appointment of the Minister of State and the Deputy Ministers including Parliamentary Secretaries in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly. It seemed that the appointment and service rules of Parliamentary Secretaries will be made by the House by amending the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly. It is deemed fit to provide such rules by amendment of the said rules without passing bill for Parliamentary Secretaries. Anyway, if Parliamentary Secretaries are equal to the rank of minister of state, the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business will have to be amended.

It also seemed to be necessary to provide them power as they are not only standing to assist and advise the minister, and their assistance become more fruitful. As they are also in the rank of the minister of state, it is better to take oath before the constitutional head. If they are also to be included in the Council of Ministers the proposal may violate the constitutional amendment, 15% of the total members of MLA and the quantity of Council of Ministers specifically applied in the North East who are having 40 members.

There is also a proposal to make rules for the salaries of the Council of Ministers and we may as well provide rules on the bill if rules are to be made further for the appointment, power and functions of Parliamentary Secretaries.

SPEAKER : Any member want to say? Now, let us call upon Pu Lalsawta.

Pu LALSAWTA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, Parliamentary Secretaries are being appointed as the govt. deemed necessary. There is much to speak about their works for the govt. and no time will contain it in the House.

The appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries is not a new thing in this state, Pu A Thanglura and Pu Lalmawia were appointed as Parliamentary Secretaries in the past.

Regarding the provision for termination of the Parliamentary Secretaries, it seemed that it is not necessary to provide on the bill as it is a political appointment. Accordingly, the pleasure of the hon'ble Chief Minister will be the termination as other post of political appointment.

Pu Ramhluna said, "Ministers are efficient and experienced and need not such advice and assistance". In that matter, the hon'ble Chief Minister said that the appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries is for the disposal of fund economically. That is true comparing to the appointment of five advisers and its expenditure in the former ministry. Anyhow, everyone needs advice or assistance in their work. In short the hon'ble Chief Minister in the former ministry needed such adviser, the ministers of this ministry will also need such advisers.

Regarding power and function, the authority feels that it will not be necessary as the hon'ble Chief Minister will give duties and responsibilities by notification from time to time. You will see three important things for their works if you read the bill carefully.

Oath taking is also mentioned by the hon'ble members, the authority feels good to administer oath taking for them.

There is much saying that, “they will draw the salaries of MLA even outside the House”. No Minister will mention about such thing. The authority thought that the ministry will be more economical in the expenditure of the advisers than those who were during the former ministry. Let us, therefore, pass the bill as it is good enough for the hon’ble Ministers as well as the state government. Thank you.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, the bill needs discussion as it involves a large fund for the salaries and allowances of the Parliamentary Secretaries. Not only that, each of them needed at least eleven personal staffs. It is also necessary to consider carefully as it has been provided under rule 2(n) in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

Next, the expenditure of 4/5 advisers of the previous hon’ble Chief Minister is mentioned in every session. If I am not mistaken, the hon’ble Chief Minister said that they would draw the salaries of MLA on the day of taking oath. But now it has been already forgotten. Now, it seems that they would draw the salaries and allowances of the Ministers as provided under The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Minister Act, 1999. That’s why, the expenditure of the advisers to previous Chief Minister seems to be more economical than those of the Parliamentary Secretaries. Anyway, if we expect that this bill will be good and necessary to pass for all in future, the opposition too may support it. But it is not necessary to justify in such way.

The hon’ble Minister of Law said that it is not necessary to make rules from this bill. But, it is better to make rules to complete the bill.

Regarding taking of oath, it will be more appropriate to have oath taking before the constitutional head as they are equal to the rank of ministers.

Hon’ble Speaker Sir, if the govt. has an opinion to have Parliamentary Secretaries legally and believed it better to have such Parliamentary Secretaries the bill should be passed before making appointment, that is much better for all of us.

And if the Parliament Secretaries are really useful why more members are not additionally appointed to the same post.

Pu Speaker, it appears that definition of the duties and functions of the Parliamentary Secretaries to be made by the chief Minister can be combined into one section without providing it in two sections.

In short, it is better to appoint the Parliamentary Secretaries after the bill has been passed in the House, but now it is necessary to pass a bill to legalise illegal appointment. Thank you.

Pu R.L. PIANMAWIA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it is mentioned the importance of the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretaries. They are very important to receive visitors on behalf of the ministers in case of their absence from office. That is very important for the poor people of the state. That is the main problem of the people in the former ministry. It is highly better than the practice of the former ministry. Thank you.

Pu R.LALRINAWMA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the former hon'ble Chief Minister appointed some advisers as an executive order. That is not legalized. Now, the hon'ble Chief Minister also appointed the Parliamentary Secretaries in his power. As it is a good thing to the state, the government is going to legalise it now. The hon'ble Chief Minister does not break any law in this regard.

Every bill does not require rules to supplement the bill, the rules are generally framed to complete the act to avoid the lengthy provisions. But this bill needs no such rules because it is not lengthy.

Regarding definition, the Parliamentary Secretaries are appointed to be equal in rank of the deputy ministers. They are not ministers. It is not contrary to the constitutional amendment.

Pu CHAWNGTINTHANGA : Thank you, Hon'ble Speaker. It is necessary to point out the salaries of the Parliamentary Secretaries and MLAs. The amount of the salaries and allowances of MLA is ₹.21,000 only while the amount of the salaries and allowances of the Parliamentary Secretaries is ₹. 22,500 only. The MLAs have sitting allowances of ₹.350 per day. The Parliamentary Secretaries earned more than MLA by ₹.1500 only. But in practice, the Parliamentary Secretaries hold their post by decreasing their monthly earnings. It may be regarded that MLAs earn more than the Parliamentary Secretaries.

Regarding the rules made from the act, I support the hon'ble member Pu Lalrinawma. This bill will need no rules although it is short, it is complete by itself.

Regarding assistance and advice of other ministers, it is the discretionary power of the hon'ble Chief Minister to appoint other Parliamentary Secretaries, it seemed that the House has nothing to do with it.

It is also stated that clause (3) and (6) of the bill are contrary to each other, They are not contrary to each other, they are complement to each other. Both of them are the power of the hon'ble Chief Minister to appoint and to make

alteration of the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretaries. That is why, the bill we are discussing is good. Thank you.

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Thank you Hon'ble Speaker Sir. It is necessary to clarify the salaries of advisers. They are.-

- 1) Pu Lalhuapzauva ₹.19,000 per mensem for 55 months.
- 2) Pu N.Zokunga ₹.19,000 per mensem for 55 months.
- 3) Pu Ramhluna Khiangte ₹. 19,000 Per mensem for 45 months.
- 4) Pu K.V. Tlangmawia ₹. 19,000 per mensem for 23 months.
- 5) Pu R.Khawpuithanga ₹. 29,500 per mensem for 60 months+4 peon + one LDC Co-terminus + driver + Jeepsy Hard- top and Bolero.

The total expenditure for the Advisers of the former chief Minister is about ₹.57.20 lakhs + Jeepsy Hard- top + driver + peon + LDC. Bolero is also provided to Pu R.Khawpuithanga. Comparing to the expenditure for the Parliamentary Secretaries and salaries and allowances and DA of MLAs, the difference of the expenditure for the Parliamentary Secretaries will be lesser than the expenditure for the advisers to the former chief Minister

It is good to pass this bill as the House Leader brought such a very good bill. Thank you.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the financial memorandum provides implication due to the proposed enactment of The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretaries, (Appointment, Salaries and Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2009. It would be to the extent of Rs 36 lakhs per annum. If so, each of their salary may be ₹.50,000 per mensem.

Pu LALSAWTA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, that may be true, but if they were MLA each of them will earn nearly such sum of money. The total amount of the salaries of Parliamentary Secretaries is about ₹.36 lakhs. If they were MLA, the total amount of their salaries will be about ₹.34 lakhs, the difference is very little. It is not to be neglected. It is better to accept as it is.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it does not mean no acceptance. But it is said because the salaries of the advisers in

the former ministry which is lesser had been argued quite often. An MLA will earn about ₹.24,000/-per month. The sitting allowance cannot be regarded as their salary. On the other hand, the Parliamentary Secretaries will earn about ₹.50,000/- per month as it has been provided in the financial memorandum.

Pu R.LALRINAWMA : The amount of the fund appeared in the financial memorandum is not their salary but it is only the financial implication. It is a proposed expenditure including expenditure for vehicles after the bill is passed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : That is enough. Pu Liansailova raised his hand, we will call him to speak.

Pu H.LIANSILOVA MINISTER : Thank you, hon'ble Speaker Sir. Its demerit is not mentioned technically. We are generally discussing about its termination. Truly speaking, it is the power of the hon'ble Chief Minister for the good of the government in the interest of the public. The point of our debate seemed to be outside the provision of the bill. The bill is good technically and it is for the interest of the public. It is not meant to display the power of the hon'ble Chief Minister but it is for public interest.

Regarding financial implication, fund must be used for the good of the state. The financial implication is about ₹. 36/- lakhs. Comparing to the salaries and allowances of MLA it is not that expensive. Seeing the various provisions of the bill, it is technically good in its form. That is why it is good to pass without further discussion.

Regarding fixation of the number of ministers, our leaders felt good to take step in this way. Let us therefore, pass the bill without further discussion. Thank you.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, I would like to support 'The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretary (Appointment, Salaries, Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2009 because I think the Parliamentary Secretaries deserve a better status. If it could be passed as a Bill instead of a Rule, it would be even better.

The Parliamentary Secretaries will be assisting the Ministers in matters where the Chief Minister believes they are needed. It is also imperative that

their powers and functions are decided as soon as possible. As they are equally ranked with Ministers, I think their function should be integrated in the Transaction of Business Rule as well.

In matters pertaining to salaries, let them draw the same amount as the MLA's. The appointment of non MLA's as adviser to the Chief Minister during the MNF ministry was a total disaster. Therefore, the Ministers must utilize their assistance to the fullest potential. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Dr. R. Lalthangliana.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : In a way, this is not a very easy thing to say Pu Speaker, because the appointed Parliamentary Secretaries have already taken the oath and are sitting with us today. This type of bad precedence should not be repeated. I am not saying that I do not support the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretaries, but we should be notified about every detail beforehand.

Pu Speaker, about the Bill, I have an uneasy feeling that it was not prepared with utmost care. I do not think that the appointment of the 6 Parliamentary Secretaries is a 'new development' at all.

Furthermore, is it appropriate to let the Chief Minister administer the oath-taking? The Minister level induction are normally administered by constitutional heads such as the Governor or Lt. Generals, etc. we should take care to follow the appropriate procedure to retain the honour and prestige of the House.

The additional expenditure incurred by the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretaries require further discussion as well. Since they will have separate portfolios, they will be able to avail the facilities that accompany the post of a Minister. Unlike the Advisers-to-CM, they will require an entourage when they travel around and the unstated expense is sure to be very costly.

I am not trying to criticize the creation of the post itself but I feel that its basis of creation is rather weak and ill defined. If they are 'ranked' equal to the Ministers but are actually only MLAs, will they sit in the Cabinet Committee or will they be treated as MLAs. There are several conflicting and confusing points such as this and I don't think passing the Bill before it is thoroughly examined in the House is wise either. Thank you.

SPEAKER : With that we have finished the discussion time. Will the hon'ble Chief Minister kindly wind it up and

ask the House for permission to pass the Bill?

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, MINISTER : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The Bill CHIEF has been prepared with utmost care and diligence and I am deeply grateful that it has been supported even by the opposition members.

The oath of secrecy is generally administered by the Chief Minister in other states and hence, I would like to point out to the hon'ble members that there is no breach of procedure. Any creation of post or appointment requires financial implications and the government is ready to provide the necessary funds. Residuary powers are all included in clause 10 which states that, "All other conditions of service of Parliamentary Secretary shall be governed by the Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pensions of Members of the Legislative Assembly of 1999, as amended from time to time." There are no do's and don'ts for the Ministers either, so it is unnecessary to spell out in detail the functions and powers of the Parliament Secretaries. They are appointed because their assistance at this level is needed by the government. Ministers are very often unavailable to the public directly and the Parliamentary Secretaries will play an important role of filling the gap between the two.

Finally, I would like to request the House to pass 'The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretary, (Appointment, Salaries, Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2009 unanimously, thank you.

SPEAKER : Very well, the discussion has been winded up and a request to pass the Bill has also been made to the House. We will vote on the clauses collectively instead of one by one. All those who vote for the passage of Schedule A, please say 'yes', otherwise please say 'no'. Well there is no negative vote, therefore the Schedule A has been passed by the House unanimously. This is included in the Bill.

All those who vote for the passage of Preamble Enacting Formula, Clause I Short Title and Clause II Definition, please say 'yes', otherwise please say 'no'. Very well, Preamble Enacting Formula, Clause I Short Title and Clause II Definition have been passed by the House with majority vote.

All those who vote for the passage of the body of the Bill clause 3-10, please say 'yes', otherwise please say 'no'. The body of the Bill clause 3-10 has been passed by the House with a majority vote.

‘The Mizoram Parliamentary Secretary (Appointment, Salaries, Allowances and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2009 has been passed by the House.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA, : Thank you, Pu Speaker and hon’ble
CHIEF MINISTER Members of the House.

SPEAKER : We have finished our business for
today. The sitting will be resumed
tomorrow, i.e. 25.3.2009 at 10:30
A.M.

Sitting is adjourned.

1:20 P.M.