

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

**LIST OF BUSINESS**

**FIFTH SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2010  
(Time 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)**

**QUESTIONS**

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

**LAYING OF PAPERS**

2. ***Pu LAL THANHAWLA***, Chief Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of “Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram Annual Report 2009-2010”
3. ***Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO***, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of “The Mizoram Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 2010”.

**OFFICIAL RESOLUTION**

4. ***Pu LALSAWTA***, Minister to move an Official Resolution in the following form :  
 “ The House expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the Central Government for approving the scheme and awarding the funds required under the Comprehensive and Intergrated Socio-Economic Development Project under the New Land Use Policy (NLUP) of Government of Mizoram to be implemented in Mizoram State for alleviation of poverty from the financial year of 2010-2011”.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

**Bills for introduction, consideration and passing**

5. ***Pu ZODINTLUANGA***, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010”.

*Also*

*To introduce the bill*

*To move that the Bill be taken into consideration*

*To move that the Bill be passed.*

6. **Pu LAL THANHAWLA**, Chief Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010”.

*Also*

*To introduce the Bill*

*To move that the Bill be taken into consideration*

*To move that the Bill be passed.*

7. **Pu J.H.ROTHUAMA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Cooperative Society (Amendment) Bill, 2010”.

*Also*

*To introduce the Bill*

*To move that the Bill be taken into consideration*

*To move that the Bill be passed.*

8. **Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Shops and Establishments Bill, 2010”.

*Also*

*To introduce the Bill*

*To move that the Bill be taken into consideration*

*To move that the Bill be passed.*

S P E A K E R

: “If it is leadership, let him govern diligently”.

Romans 12:8

“The diligent man prizes his possessions”.

Proverbs 12:27

S P E A K E R : We will begin with Question Hour. Let us invite Pu K. Liantlinga to ask Starred Question No. 81.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Will the hon'ble minister for DP&AR be pleased to state –

How many training does the Administrative Training Institute conduct in a year?

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Speaker, the number of training  
MINISTER conducted differs every year. During 2008-2009, 78 training was conducted. During 2009-2010, 82 times and in 2010-2011, 52 times so far.

S P E A K E R : Supplementary questions from Pu K. Liantlinga and Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, I would like to know in what subjects are training given at the ATI. Are the Assembly matters included?

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, will it be possible for the expert officials to give lecture on the subject at the ATI since their experience would be invaluable?

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble members' observations are well appreciated. We have appointed a guest lecturer from the Assembly Secretariat once and if necessary we will arrange other such trainings.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalthansanga to ask Starred Question No. 82.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Will the hon'ble minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs deptt. be pleased to state –

- a) How many petrol and diesel black marketers have the government apprehended?
- b) How many LPG black marketers and adulterators have the government caught?
- c) What actions have been taken upon those that have been caught?
- d) Is the government aware that there are places where adulteration of petrol and diesel are being performed?
- e) If so, what action has it taken to stop these illegal activities?

S P E A K E R : Pu Rohluna minister may provide the answer.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Speaker, the answers are –  
MINISTER

- a) Between the month of January and August, 2010 four people have been apprehended.
- b) One LPG black marketer was apprehended while 19 adulterators have been caught. The black marketer is charged with a case which is ongoing and the other 19 are punished under the standing law of the Legal Metrology.
- c) The government is not aware of such a place.
- d) The strategic points of the roads are continually kept under vigilance to prevent adulteration of the fuel.

- S P E A K E R : Supplementary questions from Pu Lalthansanga and Pu K. Liantlinga.
- Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, although the government has incarcerated 4 people, scarcity of petrol and diesel results in lots of black market sales and I feel that the department sorely need strengthening. Same is the case with LPG. Will it possible for the government to hire a private eye to report such illegal activities so that quicker actions may be taken?
- Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble minister said that the government is not aware of the existence of such a place but it is rumoured that such activities are going on openly at Vairengte. Will it be possible to investigate the matter? The Bairabi road is also extremely poor and I would like to know what plan the government has to repair the road. What is our situation in the supply of rice and sugar per day? What action has been taken about the proposed road block by the Bairabi NGOs?
- Pu R.L. PIANMAWIA : Pu Speaker, is there any intention to organize a total bandh at Bairabi? What does the government plan to do about it?
- Pu H. ROHLUNA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, although the department is giving all its efforts, it is almost impossible to stop all the black marketing since the fuel are in such high demand. We are severely understaffed and anyway, there are cellphones now and these perpetrators easily warn themselves of our surveillance and when we actually get there they have already packed up and left. Therefore, I would like the House to understand our dilemma. We have set up an enforcement squad to patrol the highways to check for such activities.

The supply of rice and sugar is very poor since 15<sup>th</sup> June due to the damaged railroad and if we had not stocked our godowns before the rains came, we would face a grave problem by now.

As our rice supply is almost depleted, we cannot afford to block the roads and hence we have requested the Home Minister and the hon'ble Chief Minister to talk sense to the people of Bairabi while the E-in-C of PWD has also gone to the location to assess their problems.

The central has introduced a new scheme called the RGGLV by which 18 mini gas agents will be appointed in rural areas, 13 of these mini agents have already been approved in the 1<sup>st</sup> stage and I request the MLAs to assist the government in their respective constituencies for the successful implementation of the scheme. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let us invite the hon'ble Chief Minister to say a few words regarding the matter.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we all know the problems we are facing due to heavy monsoon and the government is desperately trying to solve the problem in any way it can. The extent of our dilemma is highlighted by the fact that we are seriously considering air drops in the more remote areas.

We have beseeched the leaders of the village not to proceed with the protest but they have refused and I personally believe that this is a step to escalate our present hardship in the rest of the state. Furthermore, blocking the highway is an offense and the government will take prompt action if it is carried out.

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon Pu P.P. Thawla to ask Starred Question No. 83.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Will the hon'ble minister for Parliamentary Affairs deptt. be pleased to state – Why the Dy. Government Chief Whip does not have a Discretionary Fund?

Pu LALSAWTA MINISTER : It is not sanctioned under the law.

S P E A K E R : Pu P.P. Thawla.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : The Dy. Government Chief Whip is a Minister of State rank and even the Parliamentary Secretaries receive ₹75,000 quarterly as discretionary fund. Is it possible to provide his office with such a Discretionary Fund as well?

Pu LALSAWTA MINISTER : The government will see what it can do.

S P E A K E R : Let us invite Pu Lalduhoma to ask Starred Question No. 84.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Will the hon'ble minister for Finance be pleased to state –

How many projects had been shelved by the central due to our inability to match the state share from 2009 till today?

Pu LAL THANHAWLA  
CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we have no report of such project cutbacks because the state matching share was not met. There were 3 departments which submitted an explanation though.

Pu LALDUHOMA : I am a little reluctant to agree with the accuracy of those reports because there are several incidents which indicate that we are extremely hard up in matching our shares, one example of which is the RD department which lost over ₹100 lakhs under the NREGS. I request the House Leader to try and find a solution because we are losing precious money under our very nose.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA  
CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I sincerely appreciate the concern expressed by the hon'ble member. I admit that I have not studied the reports submitted by the departments but their official declaration is 'nil' which I find hard to believe myself.

It is true that if we do not match our share and use a better finance maintenance system, we will face problems very shortly. Therefore, I would like to assure the hon'ble member that we are taking necessary actions to avoid loss of funds in the future.

S P E A K E R : Pu Nirupam Chakma.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, how many projects have we missed out due to our inability to submit taxes to the central? How many projects have been approved by the central but not released because the state has not met its matching share?

I would like a copy of the shared schemes during the past 5 years and if we assess the amount of all our matching shares and integrate it in our budget, will it be possible to implement the schemes?



Pu LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, the government will  
CHIEF MINISTER release the Multi-Sectoral matching  
share shortly. If he wants it, we will  
send him a copy of the schemes to  
him. I do not know if the share could be integrated in the Plan Fund but I will  
consult the experts and I will get back to him at another time.

S P E A K E R : Pu K. Lalrinthanga may ask Starred  
Question No. 85.

Pu K. LALRINTHANGA : Will the hon'ble minister for Power &  
Electricity department be pleased to  
state –

- a) What is the estimate for Serlui B Hydel Project?
- b) How much will it take to complete the project?
- c) When will it be inaugurated?
- d) Calculating the unit expenditure, how much will it cost the people  
per unit?
- e) Will it be utilized by other departments?
- f) If so, which department?

Pu LAL THANHAWLA :  
CHIEF MINISTER

- a) The estimate for Serlui B Hydel Project is ₹191.13 crores.
- b) The completion cost is being calculated at this moment.
- c) It is expected to be inaugurated by October.
- d) The unit cost will be ₹4.33.
- e) It will also be utilized by the departments of Tourism, Fisheries  
and Agriculture.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalrinthanga to ask supplementary  
question.

Pu K. LALRINTHANGA : The unit cost would be ₹4.33, but when the loans we have availed are included, the cost comes to ₹7. Will it be possible for the people to pay for electricity when we used to pay much less per unit?

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : We already have such an experience of high cost of production resulting in a cost that is unaffordable for the people at the Bairabi Thermal Project in the past. Can you tell me in layman's term why the cost is so high?

S P E A K E R : Our time has come to an end but let us invite the Chief Minister to give a reply.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA  
CHIEF MINISTER : During the time Pranab Mukherjee was Chairman of the Planning Commission, he was very enthusiastic about the hydel project but the projection cost was too high and hence it was abandoned eventually. In any case we still do not have forest clearance since 1992, Pu Speaker.

S P E A K E R : A little like a private venture, right?

Pu LAL THANHAWLA  
CHIEF MINISTER : Very much so, Pu Speaker. Are the members satisfied with the answer?

S P E A K E R : The Question Hour has ended and let me inform you that Pu John Rotluangliana and Brig. T. Sailo are absent today.

We will now move on to Laying of Papers; let us invite the hon'ble Chief Minister Pu Lal Thanhawla to lay 'Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram Annual Report, 2009-2010' on the Table of the House.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission and of the House I now lay 'Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram Annual Report, 2009-2010' on the Table of the House.

S P E A K E R : Let us invite Pu Lalrinliana Sailo to lay 'The Mizoram Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 2010' on the Table of the House.

Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I lay on the Table of the House 'The Mizoram Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 2010'

S P E A K E R : Let the copies of both papers be distributed.

We will now take up an official resolution by the hon'ble minister Pu Lalsawta – 'The House expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the Central Government for approving the scheme and awarding the funds required under the Comprehensive and Integrated Socio Development Project under the New Land Use Policy of the Govt. of Mizoram to be implemented in Mizoram State for the alleviation of poverty from the Financial Year 2010-2011.' Let us invite the hon'ble minister to move the resolution.

Pu LALSAWTA  
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, now that the central has realized the need of the state which we as a party, has tried to promote for a long time, I feel that we should express our gratitude to the central gov't.

Our hon'ble Chief Minister and House Leader had long pondered on this matter even before we assumed power and now that we are in power, we have done everything in our capacity to make it a reality. Fortunately, the central has also recognized the condition of the state and the vital role the NLUP could play in alleviating poverty. Therefore, extending our sincere gratitude is in order.

S P E A K E R : Each member will have 5 minutes for discussion. Let us start with Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, before we really start, can the government tell us specifically why we should be thankful? How much fund has been allocated? What are the terms of the central and Planning Commission? What documents do we have?

S P E A K E R : Let us invite Pu Liansailova to throw light on that.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA  
MINISTER : Since the scheme was deliberated at the Union Cabinet level, the Planning Commission thought it is best to allocate it under non-lapseable pool fund.

They are acutely aware of its potential in that we could change our system of farming, land holding system etc. and they consider it is an inclusive development project. In fact, they realize its potential so much that

they want to implement it on a larger scale, which is more than we expected. They have allocated ₹2873 crores for 5 years of implementation.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, looking at the break ups in the PR of Planning Commission, if we exclude the convergences and beneficiaries contribution, the fund allocated for NLUP is approximately ₹1526.14 crores. The use of convergence itself is a new step and I am glad they have decided upon it.

I also wonder if we could integrate the NLUP fund in the budget because then, our budget would increase dramatically and since this scheme is highly unlikely to be completed during 5 years, our budget size will remain larger than the previous years. This is a huge scheme that will make or break our state in the eyes of the central, so I request the authorities to proceed with extreme caution.

I know how hard the government has worked on this and therefore, I am also very thankful. I support the resolution, thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalrobiaka.

Pu LALROBIAKA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am happy that our leaders have decided to move a resolution expressing our gratitude to the central. The implementation of the NLUP has changed lives as we are witnesses to the development it engenders among the poor.

The development potential as seen by the central is quite clearly predicted in the PR of the Planning Commission which states that the economic growth is expected to be 6%-16% within ten years time. This in itself is definitely a great achievement.

It is however, imperative that we do our parts as Christians and use the funds correctly as it is intended. Thank you.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Thank you Pu Speaker. I feel that since this is a flagship programme of the ruling party even before the election, they have moved the resolution of thanks quite late. If we are to thank the central government in the House, I would think that we should have better information and documents which they failed to provide the members with. That is what I have to share in the House, thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu K.S. Thanga.

Pu K.S. THANGA : Pu Speaker, I am thankful that we have now reached a new milestone in that we are now systematically starting to really make use of the CSS funds we receive unlike the past years.

The central is also keenly interested in the progress of the scheme which is evident in that they have assisted us in designing better conversions and implementation methods. They have prepared us as a model state and if it is implemented successfully, they are considering its implementation in other backward states as well. Therefore, I support the resolution wholeheartedly, thank you.

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

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, we have requested a sanctioning order since last year but it was not provided but looking at the Planning Commission website, it was included in the manifesto and policy. It seems they are initiating the implementation and for that I am grateful. Since the policy has become a government policy, I urge the authorities to take tentative steps and to tie up loose ends wherever and whenever they appear as they go along.

What I would like to request the authorities is that if we are going to have over a thousand crores, we should set aside some of it for the

collapsed department of Industry, apart from the development and infrastructure components. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu P.C. Lalthanliana.

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA : As we are one of the first  
MINISTER constituencies to receive NLUP  
implementation, I would like to say a  
few words of gratitude. I am  
awestruck by the achievement of the Chief Minister and the Government of  
Mizoram at their ability to make full preparations for such a huge project  
amounting more than ₹2000 crores in just over 2 years.

While the past ministry was unable to implement its MIP project successfully, I am deeply grateful that this ministry's proposition was not only approved by the central but consented to provide us with such a large sum of money for its implementation.

Therefore, it is our responsibility to express our deepest gratitude to the central, thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu Nirupam Chakma.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : It would seem that the oppositions are  
a bit reluctant in their expression of  
thanks. This is for the good of the  
whole state and we should be thankful  
with all our heart.

The previous Congress ministry has already implemented the NLUP scheme which failed due to many reasons and it was not implemented in the districts. This time, however, we have received sufficient funds for its implementation to encompass the whole state and this is a very memorable milestone indeed. I have faith that the implementation will succeed this time because the government has become very cautious in the implementation and has formulated several strict guidelines for the beneficiaries.

We had already agreed in the supplementary demand that expression of gratitude is in order. Therefore, I support the resolution, thank you.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, I also agree with the resolution because it is our main objective to better the state. In the meantime, I would like to request the documents and the final DPR of the scheme for study as well.

I am pleased that we are going to receive a sanction of over ₹1000 crores yet I am a little bit concerned in the conversion since most CSS have specific mandates, but I trust you will solve this without too much trouble.

Furthermore, the implementations are mostly land based and yet we have only so much land remaining for the implementation. If the land allotments are not done quickly, the implementation itself could suffer because the beneficiaries would be unable to ply their trade on time. We would also have to inform the people on the terms of the Planning Commission which demands that they are expected to provide a certain amount of returns. Thank you.

Pu T.T ZOTHANSANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. We certainly have many things to be thankful for today. The hon'ble Chief Minister has managed to convince the central to invest in such a huge scheme and I would also like to thank all the officials who worked with sweat and toil to bring this scheme to fruition. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalthansanga.



Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, we have heard words of the sanction for the implementation of the NLUP Flagship Programme which gives me great pleasure. I hope they will give us the details and documents during the demand discussions.

We are having problems in the NREGS as you are well aware and I wonder if this could also be included under the NLUP monitoring committee. Thank you.

Pu K. LALRINTHANGA : Pu Speaker, the opposition used to attack us when we promoted the NLUP during the election saying that there are no such things in the world. But now that we have assumed power, their accusations are proven wrong and the scheme has been made a reality.

There are many trades which were abandoned due to lack of funds in the past, but now that we have sufficient amount of funds to see it through, I know it will benefit many people. Therefore, I extend my support of the resolution, thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon our hon'ble Chief Minister Pu Lal Thanhawla.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. There are always skeptics in every major venture but if we heed their words, there would be no work done. The scheme is intended to uplift the conditions of the poor and yet surprisingly, those who would not be beneficiaries are the most eager and interested people which leads me to conclude that it is a good scheme. I am pleased at the convergence because we will now be able to utilize the CSS funds which are dripping through our hands.

If we wanted to, we could implement the scheme the year we assumed power but we are being cautious since we know that the success of the scheme depends on the hard work, honesty and integrity of the people. Therefore, we decided to stress on awareness and orientation trainings first.

Pu Speaker, it is indeed appropriate that an official resolution of thanks has been moved in the House and I support the resolution, thank you.

Pu LALSAWTA  
MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I am pleased that none of the members have said anything against the resolution. This clearly proves that we are all agreeable towards the development of our state.

I request the House to adopt my resolution - 'The House expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the Central Government for approving the scheme and awarding the funds required under the Comprehensive and Integrated Socio Development Project under the New Land Use Policy of the Govt. of Mizoram to be implemented in Mizoram State for the alleviation of poverty from the financial year 2010-2011.' Thank you.

S P E A K E R : The minister has winded up his resolution and requested the permission of the House for its adoption. All those in favour please say yes. Those against it say no. The House has now unanimously adopted the resolution - 'The House expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the Central Government for approving the scheme and awarding the funds required under the Comprehensive and Integrated Socio Development Project under the New Land Use Policy of the Govt. of Mizoram to be implemented in Mizoram State for the alleviation of poverty from the financial year 2010-2011.'

We will take a break and resume our sitting at 2:00Pm.

**2:00 Pm.**

We will now move on to Legislative Business: we have four Bills to consider and we will start with the hon'ble minister, Pu Zodintluanga to present 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010.'

Pu ZODINTLUANGA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission I beg leave of the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010' in the House.

S P E A K E R : The minister has requested the introduction of the Bill. You have all received the copies. Let us invite the minister to introduce the Bill.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA MINISTER : With your permission, I introduce the Bill, 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010'

S P E A K E R : You may now move the Bill.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA MINISTER : With your permission, Pu Speaker, I have made 2 points for amendment of 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010'. It was written in Sec. 26(a) of the Municipalities Act, 2007 for which a notification was released in 28th December, 2009. 'The election of the Municipal Councillors shall be held one year after a Municipal area has been allocated and a notification has been released.' Notification for demarcation of the municipal area was issued in 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2009. However, municipality is a new thing for us and we will not be able to conduct the election within a year. Hence, I have suggested that the election be conducted before one and a half year after the notification is released.

Under Section 34 the qualifications necessary for election to the office of the Councillor is being stated wherein the age limit was written a vague 'minimum age.' This could prove to be confusing in the future which is why I have suggested that it be changed to '25 years minimum'.

I request the House to pass 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010' in order to amend the above two points, thank you.

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble minister has now moved the Bill and we will begin the discussion. Let us start with Pu Chawngtinthanga.

Pu CHAWNGTINTHANGA : The hon'ble minister has moved the Bill and explained quite clearly the need for amendment of 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010' which I also agree. Therefore, I support the Bill, Pu Speaker.

Pu R. LALRINAWMA : There is not much to say in regard to the amendment since the minister has elaborated the necessity of such amendment. There are some mud-sliding among the party workers which is all the more reason for a concrete basic law and guideline. Thank you. On the short title, extend and commencement, it stated that 'it shall have the like extend as the principal act'

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, this is not a very difficult amendment. If it is for the better, we should pass it without too much hassle.

The establishment of a municipality was put up at the last session way back in 1998 as a Govt. resolution when the Congress was in power but it was not discussed as a 'no confidence' motion was moved. The Act itself was passed in 2007 and hence, it has been too long since we acted upon it. We should have a clean and fair election shortly and that is why this amendment is crucial. I support the Bill, Pu Speaker.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, this amendment is actually not open for debate. It has to be amended. In the meantime, the Constitution has stated that a candidate is eligible if he has attained 21 years of age. We are not going to elect a MLA or MP which requires a candidate to be at least 25 years of age. However, it can be amended later if we feel it is necessary. For the time being though, I think we should pass the amendment. Thank you.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, we have already prepared for election and has released press notes although we have not released a notification. Therefore, we have to amend it quickly if necessary. Furthermore, I feel we should have amended it years ago without waiting for the last moment. In fact, these kinds of Bills that require amendments should be brought up as soon as it is identified in order to avoid unnecessary problems. I support the Bill, thank you.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : I will not reiterate what my fellow members have said but there is a point I would like to bring your attention to. On the short title, extend and commencement, it stated that 'it shall have the like extend as the principal act' but the wording in this amendment is completely different although it was supposed to be the same. Moreover, the amendment was said to come into effect from the day it was published in the Mizoram Gazette but it was only published word for word and not as an amended document. Can the minister clarify this for me?

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

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, the previous government has studied at length about this and it is apparent that we have no other alternatives but to postpone the election to another half year. In the meantime, Article 243 of the Indian Constitution has stated quite clearly about the other point the minister has taken

up for amendment. I suggest caution lest we violate the Constitution and we should probably study it more if we are going to amend it. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Let us now invite the hon'ble minister to wind up the Bill and clarify the relevance of the Article 243 if he deems it necessary.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, as I have said earlier, it is high time that we have a municipality of our own. When we rose to power, we tried to establish the municipality and get it working as soon as possible. This is also agreeable with all the other local parties but when we actually tried to establish it, we found some anomalies which prevented us from conducting the election at the required time. If we went ahead with the election, there might be complaints that need to be resolved in court. To avoid exactly such problems, we have decided to amend the Bill to suit our needs.

We have followed the direction of Article 84(b) & 174(b) as the eligible age for candidacy for MLA and MP respectively whereas the previous Bill made no mention of the minimum age. The Councilors are expected to look after the city and hence we felt it safer to raise the minimum age to 25 years.

Finally, I request the House to pass 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010.'

S P E A K E R : All those in favour say 'yes'. Those who oppose it say no. Very well, the House has unanimously passed 'The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010.'

We will move on to a Bill from the hon'ble Chief Minister Pu Lal Thanhawla – 'The Mizoram Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010.' Let us invite him to ask the permission of the House to introduce the Bill.

Pu LALTHANHAWLA  
CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I request your permission and the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010.'

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble Chief Minister has asked for permission to introduce the Bill. Now, let us invite him to introduce the Bill and move it in the House.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA  
CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, with your permission I introduce, ' The Mizoram Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010.'

Dr. Manmohan Singh, at the Agriculture Summit on October 2006 stressed on the importance of having a ready money for the farmers. He further stated that since the banks could not provide the loans when they need them, they resort to money lenders at high interests which later become a burden for themselves. These private money lenders charge the interests as they like and the farmers are the ones who suffer the consequences ultimately.

The Reserve Bank of India realizes this problem and to regulate the outrageous interests being charged, it set up a study team. The study team found that private money lending could not be completely stopped in the rural areas and hence they decided to incorporate them under the law and regulate their interests. We do not have such problems in the rural areas in Mizoram yet, but this is something that we might face in the future. Therefore, it would be wise to prevent such occurrence.

In the meantime, this does not include depositors who deposit their money for the interest their capital will yield. For this type of deposit, we have the Mizoram Protection of Interest of Depositors and Financial Establishment Act, which we obviously need to revise, given the out of hand situation we faced recently with the pyramid banking.

'The Mizoram Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010' is intended to prevent money lenders from charging outrageous interests to farmers in future, it contains suggestions for

setting up of fast track courts to protect the farmers, guidelines for accredited loan providers to obtain registrations etc in the main act. I request the House to discuss it and ultimately pass it, thank you.

S P E A K E R : Each member will have 5 minutes. Let us start with Pu C. Ramhluna then Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. This is a good Bill and there are only a couple of points I would like to address. Under Section 21 – Penalty for molestation, the words are practically reiterated which I feel might be redundant. Under the Memorandum of elignated Legislation, Clause 28 of Chapter III should be under Chapter VIII instead. Otherwise, the Bill is very good and I extend my support.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, we have experienced disputes regarding loans and interests in the recent years. I would like to know how the fast track court works, are they reliable, how do they function?

Section 13 mentions the qualifications necessary for registration. We have several money lenders who do not meet these qualifications. Are we going to give them a grace period or are we going to take immediate actions upon them? Also, there are fake banks operating time and time again in Mizoram, can we include the prohibition of their operation in this Bill as well? Finally, is it necessary to pass all the rules under the Bill here in the House? Can we not simply pass the Bill and let the experts formulate the rules?



Pu R. LALRINAWMA : I would also like to support the Bill, Pu Speaker. Section 8 states that the government authorizes the registering authorities to raid the houses of the money lenders. Under the settlement of disputes, the Legal Service Authority Act of 1987 would also be applied in all the disputes. This means that we would have to refer the Legal Services Authority Act every time. In regard to the rule making also, the rule making authorities could twist the rules in accordance to their needs. I believe this is a Bill we sorely need for the state and I support it.

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

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, we have had several cases in regard to money lending at high interests in the past and hence I believe it is time we regulate and control the business legally. I will not go into the details but it will certainly ease the burden of the farmers and we should definitely pass it although there may be points for amendment in the future which I consider to be not too difficult.

On the other hand, if and when we enforce the rules, the concerned department will have to work extremely hard because if the interest rate is too downsized, the lenders would not be interested in the business any longer and the farmers themselves could face a huge problem. The government approved banks in Mizoram give very little loans if you study the statistics. Therefore, if we are going to control private money lenders, finance department should find a way to pressure the banks to give loans when they need them.

S P E A K E R : Let us now invite the mover of the Bill to wind up and request the House to pass the Bill.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, I apologise for the  
CHIEF MINISTER printing mistakes and repetitions but  
these small mistakes could be  
corrected within the framework of the  
Bill itself. We are all aware that Mizoram is being invaded by self proclaimed  
Mizos through drug, smuggling, violence, fake banks and even Godless  
spiritualism. Therefore, it is imperative that we take preventive measures as  
much as we can to protect ourselves from these deceptions. As a result we need  
to have this Bill as soon as possible so that the people may avoid the burden of  
paying off all their profits to the money lenders.

Finally, I request the House to pass the Bill, 'The Mizoram  
Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010.'

S P E A K E R : The Chief Minister has winded up  
and requested permission to pass the  
Bill. Chapter II Clause 3- Chapter  
VIII clause 30 is the body of the bill.  
All those in favour please say 'yes'. Those who are not say 'no'. The House  
has unanimously passed the said chapters. This is included in the Bill.

All those in favour of passing Clause I – short title and  
Clause II – definition, say 'yes'. If not say 'no'. The said Clause are  
unanimously passed by the House. This is included in the Bill.

Now, those who agree to the passage of 'The Mizoram  
Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010,' say  
'yes', if not say 'no'. The House has unanimously passed, 'The Mizoram  
Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010.'

Pu LAL THANHAWLA : Thank you, Pu Speaker.  
CHIEF MINISTER

S P E A K E R : Let us now invite the hon'ble  
minister Pu J.H. Rothuama to request  
the House to introduce, 'The  
Mizoram Cooperative Society  
(Amendment) Act, 2010.'

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, with your permission and  
MINISTER the approval of the House, I  
introduce, 'The Mizoram Cooperative  
Society (Amendment) Act, 2010.'  
before the House.

S P E A K E R : The House has consented to his  
introduction. Since we already have a  
copy of the Bill, you may move the  
Bill.

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, I have introduced this  
MINISTER Bill as a follow-up to our election  
manifesto which stated that we will  
establish a Cooperative Development  
Council. I assume the amendment will be incorporated in section 25 of Chapter  
3.

The Cooperative Societies of Mizoram do not have sufficient funds to even look after itself and the government can only do so much. Therefore, with the hope that they will have better administration, funding and financial organization, it is crucial that we establish a Development Council.

The central government of India set up a Vidyanath Commission to resolve the problems faced by the Cooperatives. The task force created by the Commission studied the dilemma for a year and decided that the state should provide a certain amount to buy out the bankrupt Cooperatives if we are to receive the central revival package. In accordance with the requirements, we have signed an MoU with NABARD which in turn signed another MoU with the central.

This is the very reason that I have moved this Bill in the House today. If we pass the Bill, they will immediately release the amount of ₹24 crores and after we set up a board, they will release yet another 25% to elevate the decrepit condition of the Cooperatives. Therefore, I urge the House to pass this Bill for the good of the Cooperatives, thank you.

S P E A K E R : You will have 5 minutes to discuss the Bill. Pu P.P. Thawla.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble minister did not actually recommend the amendment of the existing Bill but the addition of a couple of points to strengthen the Cooperatives which I fully appreciate.

The only thing I would like to add is the question, who would constitute the development council? If those in power appoint whomever they want from their party, it would lose its efficiency and defeat its original purpose. I suggest we include 2/3 members from the legislators as well as experts who are keenly interested in the development of the Cooperatives. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Pu Nirupam Chakma then Pu K. Liantlinga.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : I would like to say a few words in support of the Bill Pu Speaker. The intention of the Bill is obvious in the statement of objects and reasons itself. The amendment is made in concert with the findings and recommendations of the Vidyanathan Committee to provide a revival package. However, it does set several implications and prerequisites to receive the package. That is why I think we should include yardsticks for qualification for appointment to the office of the development council to ensure that the Cooperatives are in good, expert hands.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : The aim of the Vidyanathan is clear in the statement of objects and reasons and they have directed us to reform our structure, system of organization and financial administrations.

Whenever political powers are shifted, political appointments usually follows suit. Same is the case with board members and

chairman. This is one of the reasons that these Cooperatives have fallen so low. Since we are going to have a municipal election shortly, why don't we conduct the same election for the cooperative boards and chairman?

S P E A K E R : Let us call upon the owner of the Bill to wind up and request permission of the House to pass the Bill.

Pu J.H. ROTHUAMA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we have had Cooperatives for quite a long time now and while some of them are successful, some of them do not meet our expectations. In the meantime, as we do not have sufficient money to finance them they have slowly failed in their objectives. Now that we have an opportunity to rectify that, I request all the members to pass the Bill, thank you.

S P E A K E R : All those in favour of passing the body of the Bill, i.e. Clause 2&3 say 'yes'. Those who are in opposition say 'no'. The House has unanimously passed Clause 2&3. This is a part of the Bill.

Short title, preamble and enacting formula under Clause 1. All those in favour say 'yes'. The rest say 'no'.

The House has unanimously passed, 'The Mizoram Cooperative Society (Amendment) Act, 2010.'

We will have a tea break and we shall resume our discussion at 4:30 PM.

Recess at 4:00 PM.

**4:30 PM**

We will now continue with our business, let us invite the hon'ble Minister Pu Lalrinliana to ask the permission of the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Shops and Establishment Bill, 2010'

Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, with your permission and MINISTER approval of the House, I request your permission to introduce 'The Mizoram Shops and Establishment Bill, 2010.'

S P E A K E R : The minister has asked for permission and we have allowed him to introduce the Bill. Let him go ahead and move the Bill.

Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, with your permission I MINISTER introduce 'The Mizoram Shops and Establishment Bill, 2010.'

The passing of this bill invites the possibility of generating revenues in the form of collecting fees which may be used to further the development of shops and market system in Mizoram. The Bill also aims at declaring hotels, insurance companies, commission agencies, private transport agencies, restaurants etc. as commercial establishments.

I would like to point out that there are some mistakes and changes to be made but which I believe we can correct with your permission as we go since they are mostly very simple mistakes. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : You will be given 5 minutes each. Let us start with Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : It is apparent that the minister has

prepared very well for the Bill. What I do not understand is that while all other establishments are included, why are the vegetable, meat and fish shops being excluded? There are very big vegetable, meat and fish shops in the city now. Therefore, as we gradually develop our establishments, these shops will also be a huge part of our market system.

Section 18 prohibits the owners from letting off an employee without adequate reasons, which I think is a good point. The most difficult task would be the implementation. This is exactly why I think the Bill should be implemented section by section. Thank you.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Speaker, this is a good Bill to protect the rights of manual labourers and employees in the state. There are only a couple of points I would like to dwell on. In regard to clause 7, it would not be too hard to implement the rule but there could be people in the rural areas who do not want to register their shops. The punishment for these people is not clearly defined in the clause.

Secondly, unless the employers give their employees some kind of certificate, how will we identify their employment if they have issues? Thank you.

Pu CHAWNGTINTHANGA : There are many things that could be said about the Bill, but I would like to say a few words requesting the hon'ble minister to make a quick clarification. In regard to the holidays under clause 14 (a)&(b) it mentioned festival holidays. I would like to know if these festival holidays are religious or public holidays. I would also like him to clarify why Sunday is excluded as a weekday. Thank you.

Pu LALRINMAWIA RALTE : Pu Speaker, I would like to support the Bill as I believe this is something we sorely need today and which will prove to be a huge asset in the future since big companies and corporations are being established day by day in our state. I support the Bill, thank you.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, the definition of clause 12 & 13 mention the appointment of inspectors under the act. Is there an intension to strengthen the department? If the inspectors found an act of infringement, they will obviously report it to the department but if the department does not take actions, it could dampen their morale and their work could suffer. Concerning chapter 2, cancellation of registration, it stated that the registering officer may cancel the registration after giving an opportunity to the entrepreneur. Here I think it should be 'reasonable opportunity' because the registering officer could have personal reasons to want to cancel the registration and he could abuse his power. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We will now end the discussion, let us invite the hon'ble minister to wind it up and request permission of the House to pass the Bill.

Pu LALRINLIANA SAILO : Pu Speaker, as the members have said, we are trying to enlarge and strengthen the department. Meat shops are an everyday need that is why we decided not to include it. In regard to festivals, the government will decide how and which to observe. I thank all the members who participated. Pu Speaker, without further ado, I request the House to pass 'The Mizoram Shops and Establishment Bill, 2010.'



S P E A K E R : All those in favour of passing the body of the Bill – clause 3-30, say ‘yes’. Those who are against it please say ‘no’. The House has unanimously passed clause 3-30, body of the Bill. This is a part of the Bill.

Those who are in favour of passing the preamble and enacting formula, say ‘yes’. If not, say ‘no’. The House has unanimously passed the preamble and enacting formula.

All those in favour of passing ‘The Mizoram Shops and Establishment Bill, 2010’ please say ‘yes’. The rest, please say ‘no’. Very well, the House has passed ‘The Mizoram Shops and Establishment Bill, 2010’ unanimously.

We have finished our business for the day, we will resume our session at 10:30 AM tomorrow, i.e 29.9.2010.

Sitting is adjourned. 5:20 PM.