

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

**LIST OF BUSINESS**

**NINTH SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 19<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2011  
( Time 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM )**

**QUESTIONS**

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

**LAYING OF PAPERS**

2. **Pu H.ROHLUNA**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a statement correcting the reply given on the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2011 to unstarred question No.10 ballot No.13 asked by Pu Nirupam Chakma regarding Ration Card leh Buhfai chungchang.

**FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2011-2012.**

3. General Discussion on the Budget for the year 2011-2012 to resume (to be concluded).

NGURTHANZUALA  
Secretary

S P E A K E R : Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap

a harvest if we do not give up.  
Galatians 6:9

We will take up questions and answers. I invite  
Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte to ask starred question No.91.

Pu HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble minister for  
Education be pleased to state - Whether  
the Education Department have an intention to suffice the inadequacy of  
Primary and Middle School teachers in rural villages?

S P E A K E R : Let us invite the hon'ble concerned MINISTER  
minister to reply.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, answer to the hon'ble  
member's question is: – Yes, we have.

S P E A K E R : Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte,  
Pu Lalthansanga and Pu P.P.Thawla to  
ask supplementary questions.

Pu HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE : Pu Speaker, thank you. In rural areas,  
many schools are in need of sufficient  
teachers. In my constituency, only Lungdai, Kawnpui and Serkhan  
have sufficient teachers while some schools only possess one teacher as some are without  
Head Teacher. Where enrollment of 100-150 students, only one or two teacher are there. It effect  
the education system in rural as the students are who suffered most. Therefore, I want to ask the  
hon'ble minister when the government can relieve us of our problem by giving Headmaster and  
Teachers for Middle and Primary School in rural areas.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. It seems that  
there is a complaint from every corner  
regarding lack of teacher. In my constituency Lungkawlh, we have  
no regular teacher for the school of about 130 students. May a regular teacher or headmaster be  
provided before 1<sup>st</sup> August?

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Speaker, my supplementary  
questions are as follows:

- (1) Is transfer of teacher from rural area to urban area the reason why we face  
inadequacy in teacher?
- (2) Can this be solved by appointing teacher from the local or the nearby  
villages?
- (4) Can this be practiced in recruitment of teacher under any scheme?
- (3) Is Transfer & Posting Rules made by the previous Ministry still effective?  
If not, what is the reason?

- (5) What is the ratio of teacher : student in Primary, Middle and High School?  
 (6) May the government follow National Norms in this regard? If, not, why?

S P E A K E R : We all have problems in this regard especially from rural areas. So, we may not take another question. Now, I invite the hon'ble minister to reply.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, I would like to make MINISTER clarification in this regard. In some places, we have a school where there is no teacher and in some places there is only one. We are trying to solve this problem by giving them two teachers where there is none. We also appoint another teacher where there is only one teacher. Right now, we cannot cover them all but we are trying our best. After the amalgamation of Class VIII in Middle School, we faced many problems as most of the teachers are under-graduate. Therefore, I want the hon'ble members to know that the government is aware of the problems but nothing much can be done right now. It is a well-known fact that Aizawl city has the largest number of teachers yet, we have to know that many of them are posted in Aizawl due to ill-health and some are of the local people. However, we are trying our best to rationalize and equip them to their best interest.

Besides, I think we got the wrong impression on pupil, teacher ratio. If I am not wrong, the Central norm is that the student of a school should not be more than 30 in each class in order to have effective teaching. We should know that this cannot be followed in practical. In reply to the question of Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte, we are doing our best for rationalization and make requisition for more teachers. Regarding Headmaster, we have been facing many problems in this regard as many of them declined the offer. We have to know that the post of Headmaster is usually occupied by the senior-most without any other benefits. As such, many of them are reluctant to leave their home and reside in rural villages.

Regarding Lungkawlh, we know their problem but our manpower and fund is not enough to cover all our problems. So, I request the Sub-Headquarters of MSU to be patient in their demand. As already stated, we are trying to do rationalization during the month of August. In the meantime, some people from the south rejected teacher appointed for the school of their villages with a demand to post others from the local or the nearby village instead and the case will soon be determined.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Speaker, may the name of such villages be informed to the House?

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, we will do, if necessary.  
 MINISTER

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, we should not entirely blame the concerned villages as we also faced that problem in my constituency as instead of the newly

posted pregnant woman, concerned village preferred to hire another to be paid from donation as I have even made recommendation to that effect. I opine the government bears responsibility for that.

Pu LALSAWTA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, as most of the constituencies faces this kind of problem, we are trying to resolve it through rationalization along with transfer and posting and we will also try to be careful in its selection. We have to remove separatism from our mind and try to accept what come to us. If not, this will cause many problems in the future.

S P E A K E R : Now, Pu B. Lalthlengliana to ask his starred question No.92.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister for Education department be pleased to state – What is the reason behind shortage of class room and teacher after the amalgamation of class VII to Middle School.

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble minister to reply.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, answer to hon'ble member MINISTER Pu B.Lalthlengliana's question is – Out of 270 posts approved by the Cabinet, 140 posts of Class VII teacher was ready for recruitment. Besides, 287 teachers were moved from SSA; 287 Classrooms was build and 349 were under construction.

S P E A K E R : We will take supplementary question from Pu B.Lalthlengliana and will be followed by Pu K. Liantlinga and then Dr. R. Lalthangliana.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, my questions are –

- (1) What is the reason for recruitment of only 140 teachers while the Cabinet approved recruitment of 270 teachers?
- (2) Does the government think that this will suffice our needs or the DP&AR against it?
- (3) Why not recruit as approved by the cabinet when we are facing an immense inadequacy of teacher in rural areas.
- (4) With 287 posts converted from SSA, how many schools are yet to be covered and how many school building are going to be constructed?
- (5) Is Khawbung Middle School being under construction or not?

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. My first question is – If the government use PPP mode, how many teachers it will be affected? What will be their condition? My second question is – The hon'ble minister gave his assurance in the last Budget

Session that ME School under my constituency will be renovated but it has not been fulfilled till date. According to the Parliamentary Practice, assurance once given in the House by the Minister should be accomplished within 3 months and if not finished, application for extension should be made. But in this case, neither of them is followed and so I request the concerned officials to give important to what was said in the House. May the concerned officials explain the exact condition and progress?

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I want to ask why we proceed to amalgamation of Class VIII to Middle School without making constructive plan before hand. What is the teaching performance in the current year? How can we achieve quality education without giving a proper teaching method if the government still not provides sufficient trained teacher? What about Mid-day meal? Is the system introduced in every school or not? If not, what kind of action will be taken? Lastly, what is the result of written test examination and interview of Primary School teachers conducted last year?

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble minister Pu Lalsawta to reply.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, answers to hon'ble members MINISTER questions are as follows: - Firstly, out of 270 posts approved by the cabinet, 140 Nos. were for Middle Schools and the rest for High School and Higher Secondary School. Secondly, the amalgamation of Class VIII to Middle School was done as demanded by "The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Act, 2009". Thirdly, regarding construction of Khawbung Middle School, I think it is included but I opine the question of its contractor is not relevant. Thirdly, regarding PPP mode (Public Private Partnership), we have to know that the 'Public' here refer to the government and 'private' refer to the company, individual or local body and its equivalent. The government cannot support PPP mode due to shortage of fund as already stated by me two or three days ago.

Pu K.LIANTLINGA : Pu Speaker, what I want to know is whether the government can Put Mission School under different category as it has a deficit status.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, we have to know that it MINISTER cannot be Put as a special category because of its present status. But, some deficit schools are taken over by the government as some Adhoc are Put under Deficit and many schools are aided with lump sum fund. This practice cost us ₹2,000 lakh every year and become a burden for the department.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, I think the answer is not clear enough. What we want to know is whether there is an intention to follow Draft Rules prepared by the Consultative Committee in which the three categories such as Deficit School, Adhoc and

Lump sum should be Put under one rule. Many schools and teachers want to know reaction of the government to this case.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, right now we are operating MINISTER outside the law so as to meet the demand of Mission School. Therefore, we are trying to make rules in order to meet this demand. However, before we complete drafting the rules, we have been facing many protests and even the elders of certain churches shared to us their opinion in this regard. But we have to make some sort of amendment in the rules in order to administer Mission schools and other categories with appropriate system. Regarding the question of Pu Liantlinga, I do not know we have any reminder relating to giving of assurances.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, as Chairman of Assurance Committee, I think it is my duty to inform the House that there are 35 follow up assurances in this regard. I also want to state that the concerned departments did not respond to some assurances which impede the progress of work. So, it may be wise for all the ministers to give instruction to their respective departments so that any assurance is pursued accordingly.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, as far as my knowledge is MINISTER concern, we have not yet received any letter from Assurance Committee. However, it is my duty to give assurance in respect of continuation of construction of Republic School which is under construction from fund collected from various sources. To get back to teachers, we are trying our best to allot school teacher to those who have not one. Regarding mid-day meal, we can provide only to government school right now. Regarding recruitment of Primary Teachers, it has now been on hold as per request of Finance and DP & AR to wait for the report of the Study Team.

S P E A K E R : Next, Pu T.T. Zothansanga to ask Starred Question No.93.

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon'ble minister for School Education Department be pleased to state – No. of teachers and others recruited under SSA/RMSA during 2009 - 2011.

S P E A K E R : Pu Lalsawta, hon'ble Minister to reply.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, the answer is – Under SSA, MINISTER 1974 Nos. of teachers and others were recruited during this period. Under RMSA, 429 Nos. of teachers and others were recruited for the same purposes totally 2403 Nos.

S P E A K E R : Now, supplementary question from Pu T.T. Zothansanga and Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu T.T.ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, my first question is: - What is the expected time for completion of construction of High School Building at Champhai? Secondly, whether advertisement was issued for conducting the examination and personal interview for recruitments of teacher under this department?

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, before asking my question, I want to inform the House that Chawlhmun High School can spare one Hindi teacher if the need arises. My question is: – Is there a way to implement RMSA where needed while there are many Lump sum aided Schools in which their teachers cannot even draw their salary for a long time?

S P E A K E R : Now, concerned minister to reply the ongoing questions.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, I want the hon'ble members to know that there are two types of work relating to School Building such as construction of new building and the other renovating old building. We cannot Push the contractor to expedite the construction as the main factor is the delay of provision of 2<sup>nd</sup> installment which concerned central authority. It may be taken for granted even if it is completed sooner or later. Whatsoever, problem does not involve in construction of the other 32 schools during 2011-2012. Even if the progress of work is slow or fast, it does not create any problem in Education Department. Another problem, on the other hand, is using of some school buildings by the local people for a Public meeting while it is in half-complete as window glasses were broken as some useful materials were lost. Hence, I opine it should be completed for the sole purpose as soon as possible.

Pu Speaker, it is to be noted that RMSA and SSA have different framework and with this, we have an Executive Committee with the Chief Secretary as its chairman. We urge the government to uphold the motto, 'Let justice flow like a river' in carrying out our duties and functions. However, it is not easy to revive the system as it is our habitual practice since fifty or sixty years back. We resolved to Put up advertisement for interview and exam as far as possible but loophole still existed in the course of our sincerity. We are deeply sorry for the state of being verified and revised.

Moreover, we did not follow the procedure laid down by the previous government and we did our level best to satisfy and benefit the people. Pu Speaker, we are grateful to the hon'ble member Pu Lalduhoma for the question he raised about the Hindi teacher and I think it is the time to discuss about the issues on Hindi teachers in questions & answers hour. The previous government recruited 500 Nos. Hindi teachers and 687 Nos. at waiting list to be recruited before the general election. Unfortunately, Sanction was not issued for 500 Nos. Hindi teachers and hence could not be continued. Following the sanction for 687 Nos., it was clearly stated in the scheme that one sanction order was Put up for Upper Primary, Middle School, High School and Higher Secondary, but only Primary Teachers were recruited in our

state and as a result, they could not entertain us. We have now recruited the said teachers for Middle and High School. Questions arise why the 500 are not recruited and our answers are that we did not reject them, we recruited some of those qualified who have applied for the post of Middle School. We must also discuss regarding Adhoc teacher and RMSA teacher in this august House. Adhoc teacher are recruited through proper channel where increments and pay scale are based on rules. Meanwhile, RMSA has also been introduced but due to insufficient financial provision, there is an opinion to set up such schools only in the areas where urgently needed. If we could negotiate with them, they may offer their recruitment channel to ease the problems. But, an association was formed amongst and rejected the negotiation.

Pu Speaker, it is a difficult task to achieve negotiation with them as we cannot create even the posts of peon or teacher from fund which may be sanctioned by the government. We are not only inviting trouble as we have experienced in this House. It seems that we do not have such skills.

S P E A K E R : Let the questions and answers be enough. You can wind up now.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, I answered as it was asked. MINISTER They have not understood how we are trying to solve the case. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Question and answer hour is over. Today, two of the members Pu J.H. Rothuama, Minister has gone to Delhi to attend a Committee, and Pu Joseph Lalhimpuia is being invited to inaugurate a second HDFC Bank. Being the High Power Chairman of Lunglei District, he shall inaugurate the bank today. We are also grateful to see that the hon'ble member Pu S. Laldingliana is among us. We shall now invite hon'ble minister, Pu H. Rohluna to lay the paper for the Unstarred Question No.10, ballot No.13 questioned by Pu Nirupam Chakma on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 on the issue of Ration Card and Rice.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Speaker, I lay on the table of the MINISTER House, the correction of Unstarred Question No.10 of July 15<sup>th</sup> 2011 questioned by respected member Pu Nirupam Chakma.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy be distributed. We will continue with General Discussions on the Budget. Twelve members have finished yesterday with a long span of time. I rang the first bell after 13 minutes and the second bell in the 15<sup>th</sup> minutes. We ought to remember that we are having General Discussions yet shall discuss on important matters or reports of our constituencies in Demand hour. We must consider the bird eye view of the budget and as to whether does it stress on development and progress of poverty, developments on education, did sports activities widen and develop the scope of our youths, did we gradually progress since last year, do we need to progress in this field or area, do we need to revise and



increase the budget in this area on any matter shall be discussed in this general discussion. We shall now invite Pu Lal Thanzara, being the first to raise his hand.

Pu LAL THANZARA : Pu Speaker, I would like to support the budget presented by the hon'ble Finance Minister and I hope that the House agrees too. Our budget was spoken of by various members yesterday and I think today there is nothing much to discuss on the budget. I shall not stress on the fact and figures, but only a few.

According to the Economic Survey Report 2010-2011, the economic growth rate of Mizoram is expected to be 9.57 % which is higher than Indian economic growth rate i.e. 8.56%, a great achievement, more than we expected. But, we need to put more labour on Industries and Agriculture Sector which is very clear. Therefore, our flagships programme NLUP clearly proved to be useful. The budget also technically indicates that the government is trying its level best to improve the economic status of Mizoram, whether in expenditure or profit at all levels from the budget.

Moreover, we are expecting ₹79.15 crores from the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission for department relief. We are grateful with this offer and yet to receive the offer, our state is expected to decrease the fiscal deficit to 3% of GSDP within 2014 and 2015. However, referring the budget speech para 37, we are already at the rate of 2.4% in 2011-12 which is a great progress. Beyond this Pu Speaker, as you have said, this budget would cover all rural communities where the entire primary sectors and would raise the living standard of people in rural areas. We shall stress on NLUP and top priority would be given for this. Rs.234.84 crore is spent to that effect and it is praiseworthy that the same amount could be invested with 45,139 families supported by NLUP where primary sectors are progressing which indicates the benefit of NLUP.

In addition, we have a budget for the primary sectors as well as those employed in the Public sector an amount of Rs.1447.42 Crore. From this sanction, it is clear that the government is taking up steps to raise the condition of those living in rural areas with NLUP without any effect on the Public sector's plan. Therefore, the budget invested for NLUP is 6.18 times the pays of government servants. There are rumors that fund from various departments is diverted for NLUP. However, what I have to say is that no one can be jealous of the rural people as they were provided with 60%. Whatever the source of the fund be, if we really care and love the people, we have to accept it.

Then, Congress Party during election campaign promised that youths will be encouraged in every field of sports with a clear-cut budget for Rajiv Gandhi Stadium. It is my pleasure to convey that we have sum of ₹1 Crore for furnishing Pu Thuamluaia's Playground with artificial grass. We are also grateful as we have artificial grass-turf fields at Assam Rifle Campus which is not common in India thanks to the efforts of the hon'ble Chief Minister and Sports Minister. Thus, our sportspersons could now develop their respective talents as we have a bright future in sports. Today, a couple of our youths are engaged in one of the best football clubs in India by earning Rs.4 crore a year which indicates the future of the enthusiast youths in Mizoram.

Today, there is a great challenge amongst the players especially for those who are still financed by parents from all corners of Mizoram for there is a proposal to develop any enthusiast player. MFA is also inviting the current champion football club of Meghalaya Lajong to participate in the Independence Day's Football match in Mizoram. But from Manipur, Assam Regimental Centre and well known Shillong Football clubs like Arhim etc. informed their grievances for they were left out for the invitation. This shows that footballers from other states are attracted to play in our home ground. We could not invite many teams due to lack of funds as Lajong football club is the only among the 14 league clubs in India from North East where most of the players are Mizos. The manager proudly told the Telegraph that they were going to Mizoram to play Independence Day's Football invitation match. Hence, we are turning a new leaf in football in nationwide which will bring forth good tiding to those who are interests in sports. Apart from this, Indian Junior Team who are now in China which includes Malsawmfela and his brother Lalnunmawia of Ramhlun South in the team. There is also a chance for the youths in southern region to upgrade their talents with the help of a playground in Lunglei like an well-known football player from Saiha, Beikhokhai. Therefore, it is noteworthy of our development in sports as a result of effort made by the hon'ble Chief Minister as well as Sports Minister.

Long back when Rajiv Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi came to Mizoram, our youths demanded to provide us a world-class stadium in Mizoram with a promise that they will give them world-class players in return. And today, our government is constructing a world-class stadium as major works are now completed. In addition, as AR Ground is furnished with artificial grass-turf as many youths are inclined to pursue their interests in sports. Pu Speaker, furnishing of spectators gallery was done during the previous ministry just before the general election obviously to attract voters among the youths. If that was possible, they should have developed other areas where foundation stones were laid officially. Thus, it is truly appreciated that the hon'ble Chief Minister and Sports Minister for having laid the artificial grass-turf at AR Ground. At the same time, I express my appreciation to the hon'ble Finance minister for preparing a clear budget for sports. I hope that the members on your left would also agree as they would surely find this as a good budget. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

S P E A K E R : I call upon Pu R. Lalrinawma, and will be followed by Pu S. Laldingliana and Pu Lalthansanga.

Pu R. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I praise the Regular Budget 2011-2012 being proposed by our Finance Minister as no members criticizes but only positively comments. Those members on the left also commented basing on the needs. I also want to share some points of gratitude. It is noteworthy that the 6<sup>th</sup> Pay commission has been implemented by our hon'ble Finance Minister in the previous year following desire of the government servants.

Since there is hardly any prospect for large scale industries or factories in Mizoram due to lack of adequate raw materials, machineries and scarcity of labour comparing

with other places, government servants are considered as large scale industries of our state. If we set up big industries by importing all the factors from other states, the market price would be very high to compete with other states. It is a matter of gratefulness that the 6<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission is passed by the government which was eagerly awaited by the government employees extending up to the pension salaries where as pay of the government servants is received on regular basis which is highly appreciated. It is noteworthy that the rise in revenue surplus amounting to 16.63. It will be good if we publicize that Rs.3716.32 crore was received as surplus while the actual was Rs.3253.87 crore. This shows that the government is functioning at it level best.

I also found in the Finance Minister's Speech (para 21) that the channel for administrative approval and expenditure sanction is relaxes which is truly appreciable. Pu Speaker, from this approval, we can see that there is change in the government so as to evade many problems concerning this subject. I hope that the speech bears a fruitful result in the coming administration especially for the primary sectors like agriculture and those engaged in the industrial sectors. Departments dealing with seeds etc. would serve the people within a short duration if they receive sanction in time.

And, today it is appreciated that we are able to make great improvement as black topping of roads needs negotiation with seasonal changes if financial approval is simplified and utilized wisely.

Pu Speaker, I also agree with the introduction of raising tax as the government needs tax for development of the welfare of the people. Great news is the amendment of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2006 and its aftermath. NLUP, being the continuing flagship programme, it is appreciated as top priority is given and as a result, budget has been invested for the benefit of the people under poverty line as also stressed by the Leader of Opposition. Today, our Budget is invested for the poor and therefore important for us also to work hand in hand to alleviate the underprivileged in our society.

Pu Speaker, yesterday's newspapers indicates that Mizoram is going to host the North-East Games. If so, budget allotment to Sports department seems to be less sufficient and therefore should be added so that various fields such as Mitlamual at Zemabawk are improved for that event. It is appreciated as widening of the said field is done to some extents by the Village Council from NREGS funds. In the same manner, Tuirial Airfield is another favorable place for the event of North-East games and so the approach road should be improved immediately. This convenient ground is now being discarded but used only for bike racing. If improved, it could be utilized for some sorts of activities. Moreover, field of Sihphir Vengthar constructed by the Sports Council is another favorable place for the said event as it is not far from the city. If improved, I strongly believe that the problem of traffic may be relieved to some extents as any event of some levels could be hosted there but not in congested playground in the heart of the city.

Above all, Pu Speaker, what is important is appropriate utilization of the budget. Pu Speaker, it seems that departments emphasize more on the administrative cost rather than the departmental works while taking up development project. As I've said before, government servants are employed at a high rate of salary, so they must be able to do

administrative work in the absence of extra financial funds. Work programme and performance budget was not shown before but now it a must in any budget proposal. Let me focus on one of the Public Works Department statement on Construction of Pillar at Zuangtui, which is very important. An issue is raised due to negligence of department boundaries at the campus of Zuangtui Public Works Department. The local people reside there with the permission of LAD but, later PWD realizes it is their compound. Thus, boundary of any compound of the government should be known. As for the government is for the people, I opine the government should not create any difficulty for the people.

Lastly, there is no critical assessment on the budget, everything is smooth, and I am very pleased to state and appreciate with my support on the budget. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : I will now invite Pu S. Laldingliana.

Pu S. LALDINGLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. As far as my knowledge concern, I appreciate the budget and positive comments made by the members. In spite of all the provisions and welfare schemes, there are duties for the Public, government servants as well as the primary sectors. Firstly, I am very pleased to state that in spite of our financial shortcomings, our government is raising the salary of its workers with confidence somehow.

Not only this, the economy growth rate is affected by the increasing wages as the Employees on contract basis and Muster Roll workers are receiving the minimum wages rate. Moreover, I am very pleased to state that that it is a blessing for those involved in primary, secondary and tertiary occupations.

Pu Speaker, secondly, this budget signifies the governments concern for those engaged in the primary sectors. I am pleased to state that the hon'ble Chief Minister for approving increase of the Annual Plan to 1700 crore and raising up to ₹234 crore for our flagship programme NLUP to uplift those in poverty.

Pu Speaker, being a member elected from rural area, I want to make a few points of the advantages NLUP programme. While campaigning, we used to determine ways and means of the source of NLUP funds. We came across many desperate families who could not afford to deliver their weekly ration of rice, bread earners of some families used to covers 5-6 kilometers deep in the wood in search of cane shoots (hruizik) and spent two/three nights there to earn their livelihood. Reflecting on the Indian farmers, suicidal issues often prevail due to financial problems and we are fortunate to evade such problems due to the provisions of NLUP where about 60% of our population is benefitted.

Pu Speaker, concerning the budget for Lunglei High Power Committee, Rs.1 crore is allotted this year as the people of Lunglei district are quite happy with the provision. Pu Joseph Lalhimpua, Chairman of the committee who is absent today for a reason will surely have many things to say in this regard.

In Pursuance of our party's propaganda for the election campaign, the government laid down new policies on sports & youths services. As a result, Pu Speaker, we now have Rajiv Gandhi stadium under construction with 5 crore rupees, thanks to the effort of our leaders. Pu Speaker, I attended the All India Sports Conference last year on behalf of the hon'ble minister of Sports and it was a quite a pleasure to tell to other members about development of Mizoram in sports. Pu Speaker, not only Rajiv Gandhi Sports Stadium at Mualpui, we also have Zobawk Sports Academy in Lunglei District which is under construction and the Regional Training Centre in Kolasib. At Pitarte-tlang of Champhai, construction of Multipurpose Indoor Stadium is completed and is now ready for inauguration.

In regard to Revenue department, step taken by concerned authority in setting up outlets for payment of taxes is much appreciative as it resolves the problem for concerned people.

In regard to Food Supply, it is to be noted that the government incurred a great loss every year for supplying rice to the people on subsidized rate since our own production of rice is barely sufficient even for two months. We are also very poor in resource mobilization as increase rate of our plan fund is low. If we do not have means to counter the problem, increase of our plan fund will be meaningless. So, I opine it is time to review the MLTP Act in order to make more revenue for our State. Since are now in a modern state, the welfare of the people is in the hand of the government. Yet, what we have to do in return is to strengthen the government by giving our share of tax to the government on a regular basis.

We can see from this budget how the government takes it step in order to improve our financial management. As instructed by the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, steps has been taken to improve the State income from stamp duty, taxes and other sources which result in increase of our revenue by 49 crore rupees during 2011 - 2012. Last year alone, the revenue surplus estimated to Rs.341.63 is achieved and 16.62 crore rupees remains even after utilizing it as necessary. This year, we are expecting to achieve 322.3 crore rupees despite economic condition of our state which is considerably poor.

Lastly, I want to point out that this budget covers all the people in Mizoram. It is truly appreciative for the government servants as well as for the farmers as it will give rise an opportunity to alleviate the poor. In addition, it will also bring improvement of the condition of the people as a whole. Apart from this, it is to be noted that the government servants and the people have our own share of duty to perform in this budget. So, I give my support to this budget so that it will be executed wisely and only for development of our State. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, we will call upon Pu K.S.Thanga and then Pu Lalthansanga.

Pu K.S.THANGA : Pu Speaker, We know that this is a Budget Session where the matters concerning the government are discussed. Here, we are not only discussing the revenue and expenditure of the State finance, but also how to improve

and execute the funds. I, therefore, I opine that the members as well as the officials should give priority of attending the session regularly.

Pu Speaker, first I would like to express my heartfelt thank to the former Finance Minister who is our Chief Minister now, for his hard work in financial management. It is truly appreciated as we witnesses Treasury functioning normally and without delay of any bill. All works are done within the office hour which is a new development we have experienced in the closing of financial year.

Now, we are going to have an opening balance of Rs.8,099 lakh in this budget while the surplus is Rs.15,024 lakh which indicates our closing balance decreases yet, we still have a deficit of Rs.30.75 crore but this is minimal compare to the previous years. These improvements are all the result of rules of fiscal responsibility and budget management being followed by the government. Again, as a result, we are able to receive favor from the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission which is expected to give rise to our revenue surplus of ₹322 crore. The State debt also decreases every year and if we could maintain the same capacity, increase rate of GSDP will soon exceeded the increase rate of Fiscal Deficit. For all these reasons, our Finance Minister and the officials truly deserve credit.

As my fellow members have stated, this Annual Budget is the budget for the people. In the past about Rs.20 crore was Put aside for the people but this Ministry on its first budget preparation, is able to Put Rs.100 crore. It is truly appreciated as 45,000 families benefitted this budget provision. Today, we are able to see the reality which we have been dreaming in the past. It is regretted as our political counterpart condemns NLUP despite its positive outcome in the alleviation of the economic condition of number of families. I would also like to emphasize that this programme is drafted under the guidance of a renowned Economist, our Prime Minister and Planning Vice Chairman Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia as 70% of the people benefitted NLUP. So, it is wrong to speak against NLUP.

Pu Speaker, last but not the least, regarding promotion of sports, in recent years was taken up without appropriate programme or development. But now, we are able to improve skills of many talented youths by following more meaningful development programmes. It indicates that our budget is being utilized under the efficient financial management of this ministry. I, therefore, give my support to this budget to express my appreciation. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, I call upon Pu Lalthansanga to take his chance to speak.

Pu LALTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. First, I thank God for giving me an opportunity to participate in the General discussion of this Budget. I want to start with the news that MLA fund which is still ₹ 25 lakhs. Besides, we are going to receive an additional Central Assistant and AIDP. So, I want the minister to explain the exact meaning of our budget later in his wound up speech. While fund allotted as non-plan is ₹9,25, 00,000, plan fund is ₹1,70,00,000 only. What is the reason and whether the grant-in-aid from the Central government and devolutions of Central Tax and Duties are included? It would

be appreciated if budget training be held for the members so that we may understand each of the detail.

On the other hand, Pu Speaker, I found this budget quite depressing as the amount allocated to Agriculture is decreased. It is known to us all that about 60 - 70 % of the people in Mizoram depend on agriculture while only few depend on Industry. Is there an intention to improve allocation of fund for agriculture? As the hon'ble minister for Finance is also serving as a minister of agriculture, he will surely know that the department failed to meet its earmark. It is regretted that no fund is made available to improve cultivation and agriculture link road in 2010-2011 as for his year also only ₹ 432.38 lakh is allotted where as the earmark is ₹ 4700 lakh. This indicates that the government neglected agriculture.

If we look into the flagship programme, 20 crore rupees has been allotted, 9 crore rupees to NREGS and 1 crore to RKVY for matching share. If that is the case, is there a way to divert some fund for the benefit of poor families as I requested the minister to determine the problem face by the people in my constituency? Here, we see that ₹2,34,00,00,000 is set aside for NLUP. So, I want to know the details programme as to how it will be execute as I have asked in the unstarred question. Our current execution of NLUP in my opinion is not appropriate as no improvement is seen despite having a new Finance Minister. There is still heavy expenditure in food grains and electricity while NLUP take the upper hand. In addition, we have a resource mobilization as we revise tax repeatedly. If we are going to implement resource mobilization we need to set up Income Tax Office in Mizoram. If we can have this, our tax return will increase as many contractors from outside will have to submit 2% from their bill.

On Sports, the previous ministry constructed Rajiv Gandhi Stadium with 25 crore from central fund but today, plan fund is used for the construction. What is the reason? Whether the central government could no longer provided funds for the construction? If so, is there a way to negotiate with the central to continue allocation of fund for the construction?

It is truly appreciated as we have a surplus in Revenue. Besides, due to the effort given by concerned officials, our debt decreases as there are many other things to be thankful where as we could not meet our expectation in certain areas. Over all, I opine this budget is not much different with that of the previous one. Pu Speaker, I thank you for giving me an extra time. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We will recess now and the meeting will be resumed at 2:00 PM.

### **2:00 PM**

S P E A K E R : Five members have participated in the discussion this morning. Now, we will invite Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte and Pu Lalrobiaka and Pu R. Selthuama will follow.

Pu HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE : Firstly, Pu Speaker, I thank God for the opportunity to discuss this budget. I am pleased to say that our budget this year is satisfactory. It indicates that the Finance Minister determines ways and means despite our limited resources. I, therefore, called this budget 'bold and a progressive budget' or 'a budget for the poor'.

Besides, Pu Speaker, priority being given to Industry department indicates determination to set up profit earning sources from the Public sector unit. Since the Annual Plan increases to ₹1700 crore, we are expected to achieve self-sufficiency. Here, Sales Tax, VAT and Professional Tax is increases as charges on water, petroleum, license fee and vehicle tax are yet to be reviewed which has not been revised since 1997. In addition, Forest royalty and casual labour registration will also be added and revenue stamp will be collect soon. Even though Income Tax is exempted in Mizoram, it is a must outside. So, it is important for us to know that increase of the said income taxes give rise to increase of our budget.

In the meantime, we the members are expecting to receive a sufficient amount of MLA as it is the only source from which we could lend an urgent help to some people in our respective constituency. Regarding Lunglei High Power Committee, I must say that they were favored with blessing because of an efficient leadership of Pu Lal Thanhawla, the hon'ble Chief Minister as fund allotment for the said council this year increases from ₹6 crore to ₹7 crore. So, I express my heartfelt congratulation to the Chairman and the people of Lunglei. Besides, we have fund provisions for LIC, NABARD and NCDC from which housing loan will be distribute to the people. For this alone, ₹71.71 crore is being allotted. Thus, I want to thank the Finance Minister for fund provisions for setting up Home for the homeless.

On Law & Order, Pu Speaker, it is appreciated as we are able to live under a peaceful situation thanks to the effort of the hon'ble minister for Home, Pu R. Lalzirliana. In this connection, it is to be noted that some incidents such as kidnapping officials of ABCI is not caused by us yet prompt action was taken by the Police which freed the captives in time without any ransom. Another threatening incident at Bairabi too was taken care of by the Police smoothly which further indicates efficiency of the hon'ble Home Minister.

On Sports, we are fortunate to have a strong and well-visionsed Minister and Chief Minister who knows the aspiration of our youths. Now, we have Astro-turf at Lammual and step has also been taken to do the same for Thuamluaia field in Lunglei. Presently, we have ongoing construction work of National Training Centre at Kolasib with well-established Football Academy. Apart from this, Boys Hockey Academy at Kanpur has been planned to improve with astro-turf and the same for Hockey Academy at Thenzawl within this year. So, Pu Speaker, I express my thanks as I support this budget for pass. Thank you.

Pu LALROBIAKA : Pu Speaker, I am very thankful that today we are able to discuss on budget which I think surpasses all the previous budgets we



had so far. After going through this budget, I am happy to see increase of our GSDP by 9.57 crore which is expected to stabilize our economy to a certain extents. However, it is sad to witness decrease in Agriculture sector. Therefore, we have to work much harder in order to stabilize the sector that holds the livelihood of poor people. This Ministry, keeping in mind interest of the poor reflected the budget with increase of minimum wages of various categories of employees such as Muster Roll etc. Besides, we also see improvement of Labour Welfare Rules laid down for the daily laborers and The Mizoram Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board which was constituted in 2009 to safeguard the interest of the under-privileged.

Above all, I am happy to learn that NLUP is benefitted by people. It is truly appreciated as ₹234 crore is set aside for NLUP. With the help of this fund provision, it is expected that the people will be able meet their needs through the trade they have selected. Many of them are incapable of stabilizing their economic condition as they have been suffers long enough the curse of poverty. Hopefully, they may be able to improve their economic status with this opportunity. Apart from this, we have another thing to celebrate which is the policy of setting up youths' career. With the coming of various sports infrastructures in the ministry of our hon'ble Chief Minister, we now have numbers of playground upgraded with artificial turf and yet, more fields to be upgraded. If we look into the budget, there are plans for development of various departments as of Taxation Department in which budget plan for collection of tax and non-tax is seen. Overall, I opine this budget is good enough for each of us and so I give my support to pass it.

S P E A K E R : Now, let us invite Pu R. Selthuama.

Pu R. SELTHUAMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. First, I would like to congratulate our Finance Minister for being able to present a good budget.

This budget is prepared following the criteria laid down in the Mizoram Fiscal Responsibility & Budget management Act, 2006 and as per suggestion of the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission. I am also thankful as our revenue surplus is increasing. In this regard, it will be appreciated if concerned officials put more efforts so that the Budget Session is called on time. Fortunately, our Finance Minister wisely instructed concerned officials and as a result, utmost effort has been made to ensure quality utilization of Public fund by way of simplifying the procedure of obtaining administrative approval and expenditure sanction. Therefore, I request all Head of the departments to maintain meaningful utilization of funds and take measures to complete any plan within their respective departments.

I also want to convey my thanks to concerned minister for allocating MLA fund of ₹25 lakh to each member. It would be more appreciated if the same is increased as the members are deeply concerns for development works within our respective constituency. It is much appreciated as Astro-turf ground is laid at A.R. Ground and Thuamluaia Field at Lunglei thanks to the efficiency of the hon'ble Chief Minister to fulfill the need of youths.

On NLUP, the flagship of this Ministry covers throughout Mizoram without discrimination which political party ones supported. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase covers 45,139 families and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase will cover 45,000 families and the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase will cover 120,000 families. This

clearly indicates that the fund will be benefitted not only by supporters of Congress Party but also by others. This year, ₹234 crore is allotted to NLUP and with this amount, we are expected to be able to manage payment of the remaining installment particularly to trades under the Industry Sector. Many of the selected beneficiaries may complain late receive of fund provision. In this regard, it should be noted that concerned authority have problems to be sorted out first before giving out the money since number of beneficiary selected under industrial sector increases from 3200 families to 10819 families which result in shortage of fund. Yet, we are hoping to cover all the beneficiaries under industrial sector with provisions for the next phase. In this connection, I opine it is time to increase professional tax as well as the rate of water supply. Cost of commodities and goods changes with the changing of time and therefore important for concerned authorities to determine the case. Pu Speaker, I support passing of the budget presented by the hon'ble Finance Minister with the hope to build a better state. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We will now invite Dr. R.Lalthangliana. Let us all try to keep our time which is scheduled to be closed at 4:00 PM.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, according to the handbook of the Economic & Statistics, the provisional figure of the population of Mizoram as on the 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009 is 10,98,827 with 4,14,705 families. Out of the total population, 621,417 have mobile phone subscription which means that there are at least two mobile phones in every household. This is very sad from our economic situation.

First, I would like to appreciate the hon'ble Finance Minister for his bold initiative as he has made a comment on our financial condition as immensely deteriorating. It is truly appreciative as he himself would make all efforts to improve the situation.

This year in March, we have a Budget Session on Vote on Account. The last MNF ministry in 2008-2009 had a plan fund amounting to 1,000 crore rupees where as the present ministry in its first year has 1250 crore rupees with an increasing rate of 25%. In 2010-2011, we have achieved 1500 crore rupees with rate of increase is 20%. Now, we have 1,700 crore rupees with increase rate 13.33% only which is quite small in compare to the previous years. I am afraid that funds which may be received by the next financial year is not utilized purposely as time scheduled for the coming general election falls on the usual time of our budget session and the progress of works will obviously suffer the effect.

As shown in the Demand for Grants, fund provisions of more than 20 departments have decreases in compare to last year. It is regretted as such departments immensely suffer implementation of NLUP which further results in delaying payment of the salary of government servants. In the meantime, we have to find a way to reduce the price of essential commodities such as cooking gas, petrol and other goods for the common people are suffering the same problem. We should try to figure out how to deal with NLUP so that each beneficiary obtained permanent income source in the future.

Regarding Youth Commission, we need to re-examine the system as many criticized it. In respect to work schedule and work performance, it appears that we cannot expect much from the 20 departments as stated as it is difficult for such departments to produce work schedule and work performance without having enough fund to utilize. If we look in to the budget statement, allotment to PHE department is less than the previous year and so is Public Works Department. Besides, budget allotment to the three District Councils fund also decreases at ₹735.22 than last year. Likewise, Forest Department, Computer Technology, Industry and Sericulture etc. too are decreases immensely. If this is the case, how can we expect good performance of works?

Coming now to Grant-in-aids coming from the central government for maintenance of road under the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, 28 States are listed for the period of 2011-2015 in which Mizoram ranked the second lowest with the amount ₹89.19 while Assam ranked the highest. It is learned that some sorts of misunderstanding existed between the Public Works Department and State Finance Department but we have to set aside this and try our best to utilize what we have received. Many of our roads need improvement and there is a guideline from the Finance Commission to execute such works. So, let us try to follow the guideline and hand over the fund to the concerned department immediately.

Pu Speaker, Pu Nirupam Chakma and I have a similar question in unstarred question regarding the strength and expenditure of government servants. As I compare my copy of the answers with that of Pu Nirupam, it is totally different as the total expenditure for 58035 employees under plan and non-plan, according to Pu Nirupam's copy amounting to Rs.1,22,001.16 lakh where as my copy is for 62377 employees including regular and non-regular. Here, the difference is 13388.24 lakh as number of employees too is not same. It will be appreciated if correct copy is furnished in the House. Besides, only Aizawl North and South Division of PWD have furnished my Unstarred Question regarding fund sanction under PWD to all Road Divisions for the past 3 years. It is sad that we have not much to expect from this budget despite the efforts of our hon'ble Finance Minister. We, the people only have to take measure to contribute tax loyally to the government.

Lastly, regarding land acquisition for NIT, I think it is necessary to let the people know the truth as JAC Lengpui made a statement which is differ from answer received in the House. Above all, I do not criticize our budget wholly but hope that it will be executed according to the guidelines. Thank you.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Under your guidance Pu Speaker, we have a regular Budget Session thrice and next year will be the fourth as the last one will fall on time scheduled for the general election.

In the past, our budget was usually prepared on free reign and so we were bound to suffer a lot. Now, we have passed the Mizoram Fiscal Responsibility & Budget Management Act, 2006 and Fiscal Consolidation with appropriate guidelines that the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission prepares for us. Accordingly, we now have a meaningful budget. The glimpse of our GSDP for the year 2008-2009 is clear enough from the economic Survey, 2011

where as our budget for the following years is only of a quick and advance estimate. Since the quality of our budget is determined from our GSDP, it is necessary to maintain our GSDP accurately. While this is the case, our per capita income of each individual is ₹ 5021 per year that indicates we are way behind in the national level where as the estimate growth of our GSDP this year happened to be 9.57% which is higher than our performance in the national level. Hence, it is doubtful that the entire figures of our calculation is maintained accurately and so is difficult to determine our exact condition. Besides, the rate of our Fiscal Deficit this year is supposed to be 6.4% but here it comes down to 2.4%. It means that the decrease estimate which is 3% has already been achieved.

Apart from this, I would like to say a few words on inflation. I find it surprising as no one seem to give a thought regarding this matter. Last December, the rate went up to 25.80% against 7.83% of the last financial year obviously due to increase of salary of government servants as the consequence is immensely suffered by the people. Hopefully, this budget may bring opportunity for their survival. If we look into our sectoral contribution, 60% of the total population is engaged in agricultural sector while our product is only 18% but nothing is reflected to uphold the condition. Instead, we see that our Revenue expenditure is quite low. It seems that we are going to pass another revised estimate by the coming session when nothing much could be done for us. Last but not the least, I request the hon'ble minister to make clarification on simplification of Administrative Approval and Expenditure Sanction.

Today, I am happy to learn that the government is fulfilling its policy by allocation of fund provisions for the farmers. In this regard, it is also important for the government to ensure that a good prospect of marketing for the product which may be made by concerned farmers is arranged. If not, their products will be wasted as in the previous years.

On Public Works Department, it is learned that the Engineer-in-Chief, in a Press Conference stated that fund provision allotted to PWD amounting to Rs.32 crore is being diverted as only 4 crore is received and hence appropriate work could not be maintained with that small remaining budget. So, it will not be good if the budget we have to pass now is again diverted for other purpose. It is not a matter of the amount of budget which may be allotted but more important is its implementation. It is learned that PHE deposited certain amount of fund for road cutting and repairing whenever water pipe is laid for new connection but it has not been utilized for that purpose which often result in poor quality of road. As we visited Singapore and Bangkok during the ministry of MNF party to implement the India Look East Policy, it is obvious that no production could be improved without good communication. It is regretted as the project of Hruitezawl could not be started as yet due to compensation and other related problems. It is, therefore, necessary for us to hurry with such schemes in order to achieve the policy.

There are numbers of problems which has not been solved during the previous and of this ministry. The main reason, as the statement made by the hon'ble minister in the local newspaper stating that some officers have openly practices corruption by grasping money under their jurisdiction to meet their ends while travelling on official duty. It is a shame that the whereabouts of ₹150 lakh for construction of Nursing College during the MNF Ministry remain unknown as of a cheque of ₹25 lakh for Tele-medicine under NRHM. Besides, how is the alleged misappropriation of ₹73 lakh for NLUP beneficiaries which the present government

claims as of the remains of MIP and as being drawn and distributed among the party workers for their personal benefit?

If we look into the latest CAG report, ZIDCO invested ₹2.6 crore in some financial institutions without prior approval from its BOD and the Government of Mizoram which violates the RBI rules as well as the Article of Association under ZIDCO rules. Besides, out of the total number of ration card i.e. 3,16,884 Nos. being issued by the government, the total number of families happened to be 2,14,705. It indicates that there are about 1,02,179 Nos. of false ration cards in Mizoram. Pu Speaker, where is the change that we have been talks about? We have even learned that SOSA have filed PIL at High Court to investigate works done under PMGSY during the MNF Ministry in which the present ministry filed Special Leave Petition at the Supreme Court which brought stay order for the investigation. If this is the way we are trying to stop the practice of corruption, justice will never flow like river but will accumulate like rainwater. It is also propagated that fund for construction of one floor of Civil Hospital disappeared as many other cases such as supply of old Mobile Unit, Suangpuilawn kidnapping, alleged murder case of Rev. Chanchinmawia which has not been solved till today. How can we assure the people to prevail peace where as number of criminal cases remain unsolved? Not only the aforementioned cases, Pu Speaker, there is a reason of concerned authority for immediately calling back the officials who were detailed to submit 53 Nos. of DPR. If we have to pass this budget, we have to be careful in its execution. That is all I have to say. Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, we will invite the minister to wind-up and also to react to any question as deemed necessary.

Pu H. LIANSAILOVA : Pu Speaker, thank you. As I present the MINISTER budget which contains 13 documents relating to the budget, it can be called it a 'change' that we often talks about. I want to point out that all have been prepared under the guidance of the hon'ble Chief Minister and the officials concerned who all are working hard to produce this budget and all credits should go to them.

As known to us all, our poor financial position remains the main topic in every session. However, if we examine this budget, there is a positive approach. We are, somehow able to maintain the Revenue surplus which in turn enables us to achieve more Capital Expenditure yet; we have to work harder and harder to keep this status. I am very thankful that our budget is drawn in parallel with the guidelines as per expectation of the Finance Commission. Besides, if we measure our debt from the percentage of our GSDP, we can see that the improvement is quite slow yet we are somehow able follow our Fiscal Correction Path (FCP).

Pu Speaker, there are many things to be discussed here in our budget but I may not dwell on that due to limit of time. Yet, I should try to react to each and every points made by the members as time permitted. Even if there are points which has not been reacted, we will try to give make it during the discussion of demands. What I have presented today is the Performance Report but not the main Budget. It does not include all the departments but only of

the departments having work programme as about 42 departments submitted their reports. As this is the first time we introduce this system, it may not satisfy our desire but we hope to improve our works in future. Some members have expressed their concern on the progression of funds in the Annual Plan. Knowing the needs, the hon'ble Chief Minister proposed means by which work scheduled/work programme of any departments are finalized in consensus with the Planning Department so that each administrative department can move the file directly to the Finance department as we are also revising the Delegation of Financial Power Rules.

In response to the point raised by Pu B. Lalhlengliana, the ₹1500 lakh of fund for construction of Rajiv Gandhi Stadium is sanctioned by the 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission but not by the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission as yet. Seeing the needs of our youths, fund provision has been made from the Plan Fund keeping in mind of importance of building assets for the government. With respect to the Revenue related document registration, we are using the Indian Registration Act which will be benefitted by those who implemented. It is a valid document, which will stand up in any court as it is a source of revenue for the State. As Pu Ramhluna mentioned regarding the Consolidated Sinking Fund (CSF), this is used as a pooled fund so that the government could pay its debts. Others funds like Reserve Fund and the Mizoram Ceiling Guarantee Bill are in the hands of the Reserve Bank and is accumulating interests which in the long run can be used by the government for paying debts and for in time of financial crisis.

In response to the point raised by Pu H. Zothangliana, the funds in the Salary head cannot be re-appropriated except on Office Expenditure (OE) and if residual fund is there, it may be utilized as deemed necessity. However, it is not possible for our state to appeal alteration only because of the need for amendment of the constitution. We need to find ways to generate our income by any means. So, we feel the need for amendment of the constitution to this concern as government employees too has given their support.

Another issue is construction of the National Highways for which the Ministry of Transport has sanctioned the funds as contractors for the work has already been selected. So, the progress and completion of the work lies in their hands. On the other hand, Public Works Department held responsibility for slow progress of the work. We have to know that the problems we are facing now has started since ten years back and it is difficult to resolve it in a short period of time. Regarding our finances, each and every department prepares demands which are submitted and are included in the Budget of the State. This time, our budget amounting to ₹1,440 crores and in case there is any doubt, I suggest it may be proved from the Budget book. Pu Speaker, with that, I may conclude my speech. I request all the hon'ble members to reflect on what we have discussed as I appeal to pass this budget in the House.

SPEAKER : Next, I am calling Pu Lal Thanhawla, the hon'ble Chief Minister to have his speech.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA MINISTER : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I thank the CHIEF hon'ble minister and others who are responsible for compilation of the budget with detailed description. From the statement, we could clearly see our fiscal position and I am also

very grateful that our Finance Department could present the Mizoram Fiscal Responsibility & Budget Management Act, 2006 and the 13<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission in Fiscal consolidation just as it is supposed to be and that revenue surplus could be uphold as our deficit decreases on the contrary.

Pu Speaker, regarding construction of National Highways, the former ministry took over the project from BRTF. During the transition period, funds were not released for maintenance for a long period. I opine it will be much better if the project were remains in the hands of the BRTF as there are pervading rumors of involvement corruption in the process. Though we want to root out the practice of corruption thoroughly, investigation process took longer than expected and we cannot execute the procedure ideally as our Home Minister also is looking into this matter for a more effective method.

Regarding NIT, the Board of Directors has inspected different areas and after considering options available, Thenzawl was chosen. I also want to thank my fellow members for understanding and supporting increase of the Professional Tax.

Regarding NLUP, there may be drawbacks and other negative consequences but the success of the project lies in the tenacity of the beneficiaries and it is the duty of each member to encourage them for the success of their trade. With that, I will conclude my speech and all the members seem to consent with our Budget Speech by our Finance Minister, thank you, Pu Speaker.

S P E A K E R : We have come to the end of our discussion. We must try to remember the important points highlighted in the wind up speech of the House Leader. We will continue our session tomorrow, i.e. 20.7.2011(Wednesday) at 10:30 AM.

Sitting is adjourned at 4:38 P.M