

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

**FOURTEENTH SITTING ON TUESDAY, THE 26TH 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.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

2. **Lt. Col. Z.S. ZUALA** to present to the House the First Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2004-2005 relating to MAMCO, ZENICS & ZOHANDCO Ltd.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

3. **DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS**

- (i) **Pu H. ROHLUNA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.
- (ii) **Pu ZODINTLUANGA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.
- (iii) **Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

VANLALNGHENGA
Additional Secretary

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tender hearted, be courteous. 1Peter 3:8

Now, we shall begin with starred question No.191. I ask our fellow member Pu K. Liantlinga to proceed.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker, starred Question No. 191 to the hon'ble Finance Minister is: -

What is the amount of salary of the government servants which has not been paid by the government till 30th June, 2011?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Finance Minister to answer the question.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, the answer to Pu K. Liantlinga question is: -

1. In Education department under CSS, there are 1231 Nos. Hindi Teacher whose salary which has not been paid by the government till 30th June, 2011 amounting to 290,97,150/-
2. Under SCERT, DIET (CSS) and DRC (CSS), the amount of salary owed is 471,01,744/-
3. Under State Election Commissioner, Mizoram, there is outstanding arrear of 11,60,380/-

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Mr. K. Liantlinga.

Pu K.LIANTLINGA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker; the government has More than 60 lakhs of unpaid salary. If so, when will it be paid? Also, what about the 48th Pay Anomaly Associations and the progress made there so far? While many are now enjoying the Sixth Pay already, there are many people who cannot even draw their salary. When will the government be able to pay them?

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I want the minister to clarify the reason. It is learned that teachers under the SCERT has not been paid from February. Is it because of failure of the government to fulfill the State's Matching Share?

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, from the answer to MINISTER supplementary questions of Pu K. Liantlinga, it is learned that there is a plan to make

advance payment to employees under DIET and SCERT from planned funds and their 3 months salary has already been paid.

Concerning the Pay Anomaly Associations, the Committee is supposed to submit its report on July but failed due to the Budget Session. Thus, another chance is given for preparation till the month of August. In reply to the question of Pu Thangtea, the minister stated that he did not know the reason but the funds as to be received from the Central and as for Hindi Teachers, 100% as to be paid centrally and that the funds as being delayed for this reason. I do not understand.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state: -

1. Did the State Level Society Election of 2011 conducted by the Co-operation Department contradict the Mizoram Co-operative Act, 2006?
2. Is there any election under the State Level Co-operative Society being done in compliance with the Mizoram Co-operative Act?

Pu J. H. ROTHUAMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, answer to MINISTER starred question No.192: -

1. The State Level Society Election, 2011 do not contradict the Mizoram Co-operative Act 2006.
2. Any State Level Co-operative Society election is conducted in compliance with the Mizoram Co-operative Act, 2006.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there is no supplementary question, we shall invite Pu B. Lalthlengliana to ask starred question No.193.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, starred questions No. 193 to the Finance Minister is: -

Is it a fact that 4,000 lakhs rupees for construction of the Highways in Mizoram has lapsed?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let Pu H. Liansailova, Finance Minister to give the answer.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, the answer to MINISTER starred question No.193 is: - No, it is not true.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, if that is the answer, let me clarify the question myself.

During 2010-2011, the funds for maintenance of National Highway is 5493 lakhs and in the light of the answer through RTI, Rs.1,170.977 lakhs is spent and from the remaining of Rs. 4,322.023 lakhs, some were spent and the rest being surrendered to the Ministry of Road Transport & Highway of the Govt. of India. According to the Zozam Times on June 1, 2011, the government spent 601.5 lakhs on National Highway and utilization of the remaining is decided for re-tender. As, no one applied for the works being re-tendered, the funds remain unspent. Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is learned that the funds surrendered amounting to Rs.1,699 lakhs even though the minister said that no fund as being surrendered. Does it mean that the department provides wrong answer to the House? Even if the question concerns PWD, should not the Finance Minister aware of case? How come the Finance Department did not know whether the funds are surrendered or not?

My Second question is: - From the written record given by the Darlawn Sub-Division, Rs.25 crores is issued in advance to the M/S Sunshine Overseas Limited but no evidence of work is seen. What is the reason? Why did such a large sum of fund is being issued in advance?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the concerned Minister answer the questions.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I will answer the MINISTER question based on the Account Reconciliation and Account Final as there is usually a record there. The maintenance funds given by the Ministry of Highway for the National Highway in Mizoram during 2010-2011 is as under: -

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------|
| 1. Ordinary Repair | - | 13.53 crores |
| 2. Flood Damage Repair | - | 18.39 crores |
| 3. Special Repair | - | 2.01 crores |
| 4. Periodical Repair | - | 23 crores |

The total amount are as given by the House member out of which ordinary repair, flood repair and special repair funds are fully spent and because of funds delay for periodical repair, 6.01 crores only is being utilized and 16.99 crores remains. The Ministry of Highway makes a revised allocation and some portions which could be utilized are included under it. So, there is no surrender of funds actually.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, the hon'ble minister informed the House that no fund as being surrendered but the department answer is otherwise. How come a huge communication gap existed between the Finance Department and the PWD in dealing with such a large amount of funds? If controller of finance claimed that there are surrendered funds, then for what purposes are the funds used?

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, ₹16.99 crores could not be utilized during the Financial year in question but the Ministry of Highway MINISTER

makes a revised allocation which means such funds are being included under the revised allocation.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA MINISTER : The questions put through RTI are CHIEF sometimes given wrong answer by concerned departments. In other States, any officers who are responsible for giving wrong answer are disciplined by the RTI Act and sometimes, monetary fine is incurred as concerned department heads are further instructed to prevail appropriate action against such officers but this has not yet been happens in our State. I think it is important to report any defaulting officers to the RTI Commission so that appropriate actions are taken against them to reveal the truth.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you. I think the departments should be careful not to encounter such problems.

We may skip the Starred Question No.194 which belongs to Pu Lalthansanga who is absent from the House today due to the demise of his younger brother. So, I call upon Dr. R. Lalthangliana to ask Starred Question No.195.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, Starred Question No.195 are to be answered by the concerned Minister, GAD: -

1. The number of Consultant being employed under the Government of Mizoram from 2009 to till now?
2. How many Principal Advisor/Principal Secretary being employed by the government?
3. What kind of facilities is being given?
4. What is the sum the government spends in a month for that purpose?
5. What is the tenure of their service?
6. What is the amount of their salary?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us invite the hon'ble Chief Minister to answer it.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, answer to the CHIEF questions are as follows: -

1. 3 Nos. of Consultant.
2. 2 Nos. of Principal Advisor/Principal Secretary.
3. Principal Consultant for Aviation is equipped with one Steno Grade-III and two IV-Grades. Besides, facility of medical re-imburement and TA/DA. The Principal Secretaries are given 2 Nos. Household Peon, computer facilities, printer where as the Consultants are put at the same status of Commissioner.
4. The monthly sums spent for this purpose is Rs.193303/-

5. The duration varied as some are appointed for 3 years and some others for 2 years where as some are appointed on co-terminus basis.
6. Their salary also varied. Mr. P. Chakroborty, the appointed Principal Secretary and Principal Adviser get Rs. 70,583/- monthly. Mr. P.L. Nithanga, who is appointed as Ex-Officio, member Secretary to the State Planning Board, is later elevated to Principal Secretary. Mr. Lalzawma, Wing Commander (Rtd.) gets Rs.20,000/- as Principal Consultant, Mr. Lalrokima Lianhna, as Consultant, State Planning Board, gets Rs. 25,000/- monthly. Mr. Anil Kumar, Consultant, State Planning Board gets Rs. 25,000/- monthly.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Dr. R. Lalthangliana.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, Supplementary question. By giving appointment to such officers, what would be the purposes and its benefits?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon'ble Chief Minister to answer it.

Pu LAL THANHAWLA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, those appointed CHIEF officers are deployed to monitor and evaluate some projects. Sometimes, there are social audit works which needs their recommendation before necessary action which may be taken by the government. They are appointed as we need Principal Advisers for the State Planning Board, Public Finance, Power as well as Civil Aviation.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Starred Question No. 196 and Pu K. Liantlinga to ask.

Pu K.LIANTLINGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, Starred Question No. 196: - Is there an intention to amend the Mizoram Board of School Education Act?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the concerned Minister answer the question.

Pu LALSAWTA : The answer to Pu K. Liantlinga's MINISTER question is: - No.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu K. Liantlinga

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. The concerned minister answers in the negative even though it is learned that the

consultative committee is mull over amendment of the Education reforms. The CCE system was introduced at the Elementary level in 2011-2012. In this regard, SCERT is supposed to deal with setting up curriculum and Syllabus but still it is in the hands of the MBSE. As a result, the department cannot get fund provisions for stipends, book grant etc. as amendment remains undone. May concerned authority determine to provide at least tribal scholarship as the 4th Semester is almost completed?

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, as my supplementary question concern the Education Department, I think the minister can answer it. First, may the salary of Headmaster of Primary School be increased? Secondly, can the service of Cooks being deployed under SSA be extended for full day by upgrading their pay?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The concerned minister to answer it.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Deputy Speaker, as stated in the MINISTER answer to Pu K.Liantlinga, we are doing what we can with centralized Scholarship. This is a new undertaking and there are still loopholes in the Scholarship Board.

As pointed out in my answer to Pu B. Lalthlengliana's question, we are now doing what can be done for upgradation of pay for headmaster of Primary School. Concerning the upgradation of Cooks under SSA, this is not compatible with the scheme but taking into consideration of any the urgent need, an appeal is made to the Finance Department and case is under consideration.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu C. Ramhluna to ask starred Question No.197.

Pu C.RAMHLUNA : Starred Question No.197 to be answered by the Agriculture Minister: -

1. Is there new appointment of Officers and Staff under NLUP?
2. If so, how many and what post?
3. Are such appointments a permanent or contract basis?
4. Are due procedure followed?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now call concerned minister to answer.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, the answer is 'yes' MINISTER and 27 Nos. such as: -

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Project Engineer | - | 1 |
| 2. Assistant Project Engineer | - | 2 |
| 3. Computer Operator cum LDC | - | 8 |

4. Computer Operator cum Layout Artist	-	1
5. Village Level NLUP Secretary	-	6
6. Peon	-	8
7. Driver	-	1

They are temporarily appointed for 1 year with fixed pay but can be upgraded to Co-terminus status in view with their performances and they were all appointed in due procedure.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Lalduhoma.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, where did the salary come from? Is it from the NLUP Management Component?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call the concerned Minister to answer.

Pu H. LIANSAILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, the answer is, MINISTER 'Yes'. (...interruption....)

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : I want to know when and where they are appointed and how the decision was taken and what are the criteria for their posting? Is the appointment is done through Employment Exchange by advertisement?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu H. Liansailova, the minister to answer it.

Pu H. LIANSAILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I cannot give an accurate answer as I do not have the information. I think it is of barely a year ago as some were posted in the Directorate and some in the office of Deputy Commissioner to strengthen the staff. Concerning the procedure, NLUP is registered under the Society Registration Act and has autonomy. Appointment was done in compliance with the DPC of NLUP with open advertisement along with an examination and interview.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu B. Lalthlengliana to ask Starred Question No.198.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I let my question pass as the same is already asked by Pu P.P. Thawla.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If so, Pu C. Ramhluna to proceed with starred question No. 199.

Pu C.RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, Starred Question No.199: -

- a) Is there any quotation call for supply of potato seeds during 2010-2012?
- b) If so, how much and to whom it is allotted?
- c) How many and at what rate it is to be supplied?
- d) How many has already been supplied in district-wise?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The concerned Minister to answer.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, there was no MINISTER quotation call for supply of potato seeds during the 2010-2012 and therefore, I have no answer to question b, c or d.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, my supplementary question is: Obviously there is supply of potato seeds in Lawngtlai at the rate of Rs. 60/- per Kg. for which Rs.200 lakh is given from LADC. Whether the department is aware of the supply or suppliers?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the case is of the LADC, I do not think the minister is aware of it. Anyway, let us call Pu H. Liansailova if he has any answer for it.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, The LADC have on MINISTER its own, the department of Agriculture, Horticulture, Soil Conservation as well as Fisheries Department and it is not necessary to acquire approval of the State Government in dealing with such cases.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : It seems this question belongs to LADC. Now, let us call on Pu Lalduhoma and Pu P.P. Thawla.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, many are still engage in plantation of potato. If so, where did they get the seeds from? If no quotation is call, is it possible that the concerned authority allotted the supply to someone without quotation? Besides, we still cannot set up production of potato even though the demand is quite high. What step has been taken by the government for setting up of multiplication centre?

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, under NLUP, did any one chose plantation of potato for his trade? Secondly, is it possible to call quotation for supply of potato seeds for the year 2011-2012 to fulfill the growing demand?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call the concern Minister to answer it.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, to answer the MINISTER question of Pu Lalduhoma, there is no new initiative being taken up. Trials have already been made for multiplication centre but were unsuccessful. There is a small fund provisions for purchase of potato seeds under RKVY, a centrally sponsored scheme and Vegetable Initiative Scheme.

Concerning the question from Pu P.P. Thawla, our stand remain the same as to whether it is for 2010, 2011 or 2012 and plantation of potato is not included in the option of trade under NLUP.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Pu B. Lalthlenglina to ask starred question No.200.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, will the hon'ble minister for Education Department be pleased to state: -

How did the Government intend to manage with various Mission Schools?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call concerned minister to give his answer.

Pu LALSAWTA : Pu Deputy Speaker, there is a MINISTER procedure for management of Mission schools which has been followed by concerned authority.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We may skip Starred Question No. 201 to be asked by Pu Lalthansanga as he is absent today. So now, Pu C. Ramhluna to ask Starred Question No. 202.

Pu C.RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, my questions are as follows: -

a) If a Meeting Hall for NLUP Implementing Board being constructed?

b) If so, where and what amount is sanctioned for the construction?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The concerned Minister to give the answer.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, the answer is: -
a) No, it is not yet constructed.
c) The amount sanction is Rs.50 lakh.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu C. Ramhluna.

Pu C.RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker is it really necessary to construct the building and if so, what is the reason? If fund has already been received, why delay with the construction? Is there no site for the construction? What is the actual problem?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call the concerned Minister to answer it.

Pu H. LIANSILOVA : Pu Deputy Speaker, the NLUP MINISTER Implementing Board has its meeting every month where as there are other meetings as well as trainings which may be held in this meeting hall if constructed. So, the Board deems it necessary and the Apex Board too has considered it and gives its consent.

As for the site, the roof top of the Planning Board building and Soil Conservation Directorate is now being considered.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will go on to the next business as time for Question & Answer is over. Pu Lalthanasanga is unable to present today due to demise of his younger brother and Pu Lal Thanzara also was absent in the morning Session. In the afternoon, Chief Minister, House Leader, Minister S. Hiato, Parliamentary Secretary Pu H. Zothangliana and our fellow member Pu Robiaka will be absent due to important schedule at Dapchhuah village.

Now, I call upon Lt. Col. Z.S. Zuala, Chairman, Committee on Public Undertaking to present to the House, 'First Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the Year 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2004-2005 relating to MAMCO, ZENICS and ZOHANDCO Ltd.

Lt. Col. Z.S. ZUALA : Pu Deputy Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I now present to the House, 'First Report of the

Committee on Public Undertakings on the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the Year 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2004-2005 relating to MAMCO, ZENICS and ZOHANDCO Ltd.' Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the copy be distributed. Next, Financial Business. We will now discussion on Demands. We have three Demands which may be presented by concerned ministers successively. The hon'ble Minister, Pu H. Rohluna may now submit his Demand No. 17 and No.36 to the House.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker Sir, on the MINISTER recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, I move the Demand No.17 and No.36 for Rs.289, 66, 03,000/- only for meeting expenses during 2011-2012 in respect of the following Departments: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.17	Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs	Rs. 2,29,37,03,000
2	Demand No.23	Environment & Forest	Rs. 60,29,00,000
TOTAL			Rs. 2,89,66,03,000

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, let Pu Zodintluanga, the hon'ble Minister, submit his Demands such as No. 22, 26, 46 and 48 to the House.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, on the MINISTER recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, Sir, I move the Demand No.22, 26, 46 and 48 for Rs.1, 40,23,63,000/- only for meeting expenses during 2011-2012 in respect of the following Departments: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.17	Sports & Youth Services Department	Rs.35,29,47,000
2	Demand No.23	Information & Publicity	Rs.7,45,00,000
3	Demand No.46	Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation	Rs.93,69,16,000
4	Demand No.48	Information & Communication Technology	Rs.3,80,00,000
TOTAL			Rs.1,40,23,63,000

Thank you Sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call Pu P.C. Lalthanliana to submit his Demands such as No.19 and 29 to the House.

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker Sir, on the MINISTER recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, I move the Demand No.19 and 29 for Rs. 85,22,44,000/- only for meeting expenses during 2011-2012 in respect of the following Departments: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.19	Local Administration	Rs. 45,88,89,000
2	Demand No.29	Social Welfare	Rs. 39,33,55,000
TOTAL			Rs. 85,22, 44, 000

Thank you Sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Alright. Now, the 3 Ministers have submitted their Demands. We will start the discussion and 10 minutes each for the members and 15 minutes for Opposition Group Leaders is allotted. Now, let us call Pu P.P. Thawla.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I am happy to see a sufficient amount of budget funds being allotted to Food & Civil Supplies. As a member of rural constituency, I have been receiving many complaints from my constituency for shortage of supply of rice, cooking gas and oil. Concentrating on my constituent, the people of my constituency faces the bulk of the monsoon season. So, I request the concerned minister to alleviate the problems especially of those living beyond Kawlchaw River where the problem is intensified. I also request concerned minister to prevent store-keepers from doing carrying contract work which impede the regular supply of food-stuffs.

Pu Deputy Speaker, we have 6,209 crores rupees allotted to Environment & Forests Department. What I want to ask in this connection is that in October, 2007, the Tokalo Wildlife Sanctuary has been declared. Pu Deputy Speaker, how much fund is allocated to that effect and how much is spent so far? If it is spent for the exact purpose, I do appreciate it.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I also request the minister for Sports to initiate more visible undertaking for Saiha District. It is learned that Cricket field is being constructed at Sihhmui. If so, how much funds is spent and what percent of the construction is completed already? Is the selected plot a private land-holding? If so, is there any claim of compensation or the land is contributed free of cost?

Concerning Information & Publicity Department, the previous ministry distributed T.V. to all members at free of cost. May the system be resumed as it greatly benefitted by the people? Lastly, Pu Deputy Speaker, I appreciate the initiatives of the LAD Minister. Thank you.

Pu H. ZOTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I express my appreciation to the Sports & Youth Services Minister for all his initiatives. But Pu Deputy Speaker, while many people benefitted the Housing scheme for economically weaker section, Lawngtlai District is being omitted in the previous ministry. So, I request the minister to give special attention to Lawngtlai District with this scheme. I would also like to express my appreciation to the hon'ble minister LAD for his efficient and precise handling of V/C funds.

Concerning the Multi-Sectoral Development Plan Fund for Minority Concentration Districts (MSDP) under the Social Welfare Department, we have to scrap many projects initiated due to the precise direction given by it. In view of this, I want our leaders to give wider perspectives for the District under such scheme as BRGF and others.

I want to give my appreciation to the Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs minister for his positive undertakings.

Lastly, Pu Deputy Speaker, The DCF at Lawngtlai has asked for transfer of his post. I request the minister to speed up the process. Thank you.

Pu LALROBIAKA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I want to give my appreciation on the Demand No.17, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department. Concerning the Environment & Forests Department, I thank the minister for addressing our problems due to our proximity to Dampa Wildlife Sanctuary. I also thank to him for his initiatives on infrastructures and on addressing language problem and show my appreciation.

One last point on Information & Publicity Department, Pu Deputy Speaker, will it be possible to continue free distribution of Television and Radio to the members? Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Pu R. Lalrinawma.

Pu R. LALRINAWMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, in regard to Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, I think we need to strengthen the Consumer Affairs Department. All of us are consumers in one sense and we need to know our rightful claim. We have District Forum, State Commission and we need to utilize them as it is supposed. So, I urge the department to take more initiatives on awareness campaign and information on Consumers' Rights.

The Local Administration Department look after more than 800 Nos. of Village Council and its importance cannot be ignored; the department is the grass-root head on developmental programmes and I think it is imperatives that they would be given training by the department on various concerns undertaken by them. I opine it is high time that their salary is amended and increased.

Social Welfare Department deserves credit in many respects especially for concerning the weaker section in our Society. Yet, the system of allotment of old age pension needs re-examination as some receives ₹250/- while others receive only ₹200/-.

The UD & PA department, despite being a newly department, has achieved many works including the Municipal Council which truly is appreciated.

We have heard of number of achievements made by Sports department. In this connection, I would like to know whether the road to Tuirial Airfield and the Airfield itself can be improved as it has much potential for various Sport Disciplines. Thank you.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Next, Pu B. Lalthlengliana.
CHAIRMAN

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Chairman, most of the members who speak before me make positive comments on Supply Department. Regarding distribution of rice by NGO and others as stated, a member from Lawngtlai constituency, judging from his looks, is old to remember the times. During that time, we have regularly heard of cooking gas distributors announcing to the public repeatedly from their vehicle if gas is needed.

Pu H. ZOTHANGLIANA : Point of Order, Mr. Chairman. I was not that young and ignorant not to remember as I was a Selection Grade Lecturer and the President of Central YLA (Young Lai Association).

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : If so, Mr. Chairman, may be he forgot but one thing that still rings in my ear form time to time is public announcement of the distributors, 'cooking gas is available'. Concerning rice, a harsh famine which visited Mizoram in every 50 years coincides with our terms and we have done our utmost to alleviate the people like issuing rice of 3 kgs. per head. So, to compare a time of famine with normal time is implausible. As for carrying contract work, it is a fact that favoritism is still in existence in the dealing. Concerning cooking gas, my family also could not deliver it unless our turn is coming up despite control by Consumers' union and VIP quota is the only source.

Pu Deputy Speaker, the term, "either side of the river" stated in The Mizo District Council Forest Act, 1955 is interpreted by Forests Department as "both side of the river". Pu Chairman, as land deteriorates, is there a way that exchange of land is made between forests lands and hilly area so that the farmers can have an easier life?

On Social Welfare, Pu Deputy Speaker, will it be possible to increase and improve the quality of PA set and guitar etc allotted to the members for public use? One more thing I wanted to mention which concern not only Social Welfare Department but other as well, I think the stipulation that for Director of Social Welfare department, an officer has to serve 3 years as Joint Director. I opine this is impractical with concern to those who rose from the ranks and so should be amended.

On Sports Department, I must say that the seeds that my party planted during the previous term is now being enjoy by the present ministry. Yet, the minister still deserves to be applauded for continuing the previous projects. During our term, the sum of 25 crore rupees for Rajiv Gandhi Stadium was allocated but due to shifting of site to Mualpui, it cannot be completed with this amount and therefore, an additional 15 crore rupees was allocated from State Budget which fortunately coincides with implementation of the 13th Finance Commission. I really hope it is completed with this fund.

Pu Deputy Speaker, despite a sum of Rs. 10 crore and Rs.7 crore being received during the previous and this ministry respectively for construction of Mizoram State Sports Academy at Zobawk, the project has not yet been started. I wonder if the sanction is being diverted. Apart from this, Rs.11 crore out of 25 crore as DPR being submitted is received for construction of numbers of District Sport Complex. Are those utilized?

Concerning UD & PA, I think it is important for the department to be careful in dealing with work order as it could affect privilege of the members since it is of actual event.

One more thing I want to add is that houses constructed for the economically backward section of our society at Lawipu remain unfinished. So, I request the concern Minister to speed up the process. Thank you.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Let us call Pu S. Laldingliana.
CHAIRMAN

Pu S. LALDINGLIANA : Pu Chairman, I opine the hon'ble Chief Minister deserve credit for our progress in Sports. It is truly appreciated for allocation of funds to hire Coaches, Incentive Cash Award and 'Catch them Young' project which I believe will surely promote our athletes and also upgrade the status of Mizoram at world level.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I acknowledge the efforts of the hon'ble minister for FC & CAS; It is due to him that our supply condition improved despite several hurdles. Leaving that aside, nowadays, no one now harvests even one year supply of rice as we all depend on the government which distributes it on subsidized rate. I think it is high time for the political leaders and concerned officials to determine purchase of rice on economic cost.

On Demand No.46, UD & PA, it is appreciated as a project for construction of Lunglei Recreation Centre at Theiriat has already been initiated thanks to the effort of our leaders and the officials.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have the same opinion with my colleagues on the role of Information & Publicity department as a trumpet of the government yet, the official works are often hampered by lack of vehicle. May the government provide more vehicles to the department?

I also wanted to express my gratitude to LAD for providing funds for construction of public steps and culvert and to Social Welfare Department as well for construction of water tanks, building shed at the park of Hmuifang and Pukpui. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next, Pu K. Liantlinga.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Thank you for the time, Pu Deputy Speaker. On Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, may the department put more effort on control of petroleum adulteration? On the matter of shortage of rice, the Statistical Handbook stated that the department of Agriculture produces 6,6132 Metric ton of rice from 51859 hectare. If this is the case, we are not supposed to have a shortage. Hence, I opine the report of harvest in Mizoram is doubtful.

On Environment & Forest Demand, if only 0.64% of Mizoram is dense forest, I think 2800 sq.km may be shifted to highland area.

Demand No.46, despite the UD & PA has a large amount of funds; performance work programme has not been submitted. So, I think it important to do so and make clear of transfer of the subject.

Pu Deputy Speaker, there is a huge budget increase in Sport Department which is much appreciated. As we make remarkable progresses and give incentives on sports, I wish it could be made to cover Art disciplines with some portion of the budget as both lies under Human Resource Development. On the policy of 'Catch them Young', I think it necessary to take up in co-ordination with Education department.

Demand No.19 on LAD, I am thankful that the 13th Finance Commission enhanced power and capital resource to the village councils. Much as well, it is truly appreciated if we passed 'The Mizoram (Establishment and Independent Local Body) Ombudsman Bill' as the practice of corruption will certainly decline with this kind of Act in practice at the State level.

Pu Deputy Speaker, on Information & Communication, there is only Rs.380 lakhs allotted for I.T. which I think is less sufficient.

On Demand No. 29, I think it is not possible to promote the Joint Director to the post of Director by revising his service and streamlining other pertinent details. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Our morning session is over. We shall take a break now and the meeting will be resumed at 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will continue with our discussion of Demand. Seven members so far, have participated. Let us now invite Pu K.S. Thanga.

Pu K.S. THANGA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. On Demand No.17, the ability of the hon'ble minister to bring about a regular supply of cooking gas and rice without acquiring additional funds from Finance deserves much appreciation. In the case of carrying contractor, it is grateful as we now have followed a systematic procedure.

Demand No. 36, on Forest Department, I want to say that most of our fertile land are in the low lying area and within forest reserved area. If forest reserved area are shifted in the highland, the department will be able can restore the fertility and this will also stop the destruction of our water source.

On Sport & Youth Services, I want to express that with the help of many progresses we have seen under the guidance of the Minister for Sports, young people today are now being able to maintain their livelihoods through sports.

On Demand No. 26, I think we need to give more efforts to resolve the problems of the department as stated.

Demand No. 46, UD & PA, I want to inform the House that instead of searching some vacant plots of land within Aizawl, there are many in my constituency which may be utilized for Infrastructure such as field and playground. So, I want the hon'ble minister to consider the case. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next, Pu Lalrinmawia Ralte.

Pu LALRINMAWIA RALTE : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. To start with Demand No. 36, Environment & Forest, I want to make comment on community reservation. If we are going to implement it, we should think of how to make the best use of it as

to give concerned community real ownership and to co-ordinate with Forest department in every village. Then, we will be able to preserve the wildlife as tourism will also benefit the project.

Demand No. 22, Sport & Youth Services, I am thankful for the progress made under the guidance of minister of Sports department as young people are now developing their skills with various disciplines.

On Demand No.29, Social Welfare, 'The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act' which has been passed and adopted by the House is now put into effect thanks to the valuable guidance of the minister. This is expected to settle differences arising between Forest department and the people with regard to forest reserved area which occurs in many places. So, I express my gratitude to the minister.

We also discuss about implementation of the Panchayati Raj in Mizoram which I think is too early as it will be important for members of the village council to study the detail system beforehand.

I think the issue of Human Trafficking can be included under the purview of this department as we need more endeavors to address the issue as the North East Region is one of the high risk areas in the world. There are agency like the Community Health Action Network (CHAN) and Centre for Peace and Development in our State and they worked hard. I request the minister to continue his efforts and the people also need awareness on this issue. Thank you.

Pu HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE : Pu Deputy Speaker, Demand No. 17, Food, Civil Supply & Consumer Affairs Department. My party assumes the ministry with number of problem to be settled such as the consequent of landslides in the North-Cachar hills, activities of insurgency group to disturb food supply and other commodities, prescription of Supreme Court for loading of rice in the heavy vehicles. However, it is quite pleasing to learn that the hon'ble minister carried out his duty effectively. Apart from this, it is quite an achievement for the department for being able to open 13 Nos. gas agencies to resolve the problem of supply of cooking gas in our state.

In Demand No 36, it is a fact that the quantity of bamboo in the state is less sufficient in view of setting up some major projects. So, I opine it is time for us to control consumption of bamboo shoots.

In Sports & Youth Services department, I want to point out that the progress that the state has made so far as a result of "Catch Them Young Policy." Sports personalities from Mizoram have won a number of medals in the National Games. So, it is hopeful for Mizoram to win more medals in the coming National Games to be hosted by our State since a new coach from foreign country is deployed.

In Urban & Poverty Alleviation Department, I am proud to say that the efforts made by the committee on Aizawl Beautification greatly improved looks of the city.

Apart from this, it is appreciated as proposal for disposal of waste materials below the ground is existed.

In Demand No.19, LAD, it is known to us all that the village councils are the government agencies as large amount of development fund is so allotted at its disposal. Thus, it is a good idea to set up appropriate administrative system of Village Councils. It is also important to increase the amount of remuneration allotted to the members of this council.

In Demand No. 29, Social Welfare Department, I opine it is necessary to enlarge the department since it also concerns the welfare of the handicapped and old aged.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I opine the Demands of the three ministers as we have seen, are good enough as so I do support for passing. Thank you.

Pu R.L. PIANMAWIA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I, at the out set would like to speak regarding Food & Civil Supply as leaders of the former Ministry too express their appreciation to resumption of the official works in the new ministry. It is a great pleasure to hear that no one is starves to death for the sake of the efforts made by Presbyterian Church, Salvation Army and Darlawn Welfare etc.

On the other hand, retailers' bill happened to be one of the main problems which affected rural people. As usual, LOC is forwarded to concerned minister before allotment is issued. But now, LOC is issued on seniority list. In the meantime, it is important for concerned authority to enhance the department of Weight & Measure so as to alleviate the condition of rural people who are known as VIP of this ministry.

Under Demand No.36, it is sad to learn that concerned minister for Forest department is unaware of involvement of fraudulent in transferment of certain Range Officers.

Pu Deputy Speaker, on behalf of Tuivawl Constituency, I convey my thanks to Environment & Forests Department and Social welfare Department for safeguarding Mauchar forests in for distribution of cooking gas and cooking materials to the people.

I also want to mention regarding development programme of Forests Division, Darlawn that remain under CCF Planning despite the concept that any development project should not be retarded by a single hand. I also request the hon'be minister to grant financial assistance to YMA of Tuivawl constituency for construction of community.

Regarding the Demand No.22, Sports department is praiseworthy for its policy of 'Catch Them Young'. As from Tuivawl constituency, number of successful players has also been contributed to participate in the National Level. Now, it is learned that there is a plan to provide to sports' enthusiast personalities, sports materials, coach/trainer, honorarium and good playgrounds. It is favorable news to the people of Tuivawl constituency that the hon'ble minister has submitted DPR of about ₹ 498 lakhs for construction of a standard playground in Tuivawl constituency.

In Demand No.26, Information & Public Relation, I would like to mention in the House that the government rarely sanction fund to NGOs for visiting important places. It will be much appreciated if fund provision is made to that purpose.

Regarding the Demand of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation Department, I thank the hon'ble minister for priority being given for setting up of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation Department at Darlawn.

In LAD, I would like to suggest that work tender issued for work project below the estimated amount of ₹20,000/- may be stopped. Besides, I opine it is wise for the government to increase number of member of Village council for each village to get rid of the practice corruption.

In social Welfare department, it is a great pleasure to learn that approval for setting up new Anganwadi Centre is automatically ensued by financial sanction for construction of its building. Apart from this, it is much appreciated that the government increases financial assistance being given from ICDS to a family who are losing head of the family member. I further request the hon'ble minister to expedite construction of ICDS Office at Darlawn.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. As this ministry came into power, there was so much criticism relating to power supply, food supply and other essential commodities. Since the situation is improved, it is surprising to learn that not a word of appreciation is received by the government.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Regarding Power & Electricity CHARIMAN department may be mentioned when the Demand is discussed.

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Pu Chairman, consumption of imported rice is increasing each year but difficulty with the supply has not been resolved till date obviously because it is just propaganda. Hence, it is necessary to examine the system of public distribution.

Pu Chairman, if we examine the system of public distribution under the government of Tripura, no retailer is concern with the bill as the retailer received commission only after the money is deposited.

In Sports & Youth Services Department, I would like to thank the hon'ble minister for providing to the members with number of sports materials and also fund for construction of playground in chawngte, the headquarters of my constituency. Yet, I want to inform the House that Chawngte district has not been covered by 'Catch Them Young' Policy.

So, I request the hon'ble minister to determine setting up of swimming school and a cricket ground in Chakma District.

Under social welfare department, Lawngtlai and Mamit district were selected for implementation of Multi-Sectoral Department Plan, a project for minority concentrated districts. One year has passed and it still stands at the stage of implementation. Fund provision from the central might have already been received if it was implemented earlier. Pu Chairman, I also want to point out my regret that provision under IAY which has been sanctioned to 700 beneficiaires in Lawngtlai district remains unspent for the purpose. So, the case may be examined. Thank you.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Chairman, regarding Environment & Forests Department, section 2 of "The Mizoram Forests (Establishment and Regulation of Saw Mill and other Wood Based Industry) Rules, 2010" which has been passed last year prescribed the area for saw mill which is smaller than the normal size for furniture works. Besides, it is learned that no company produces saw mills of the prescribed size. So, I opine the Rules needs revision.

Pu Deputy Speaker, section 4 also provides that saw mills and furniture workshop should be set up within the Industrial estate. But there is no proposed place for saw mill or furniture workshops within the Industrial Estate. Section 4 also stated that such saw mill or workshop should be set up within 8 kms from forests boundaries. In fact, all saw mills and furniture workshops are within the prescribed areas. I opine the rules may cause problems to the people. I, therefore, request the hon'ble Minister to clarify the matter when winding up his demands.

Regarding Plantation, the guidelines of felling trees in private plantation within forests area is strictly observed in our state. But Parliament passed an act for setting up free private plantation which is now being implemented. So, i opine it is wise for our government to implement the same immediately.

Pu Speaker, the government allotted plots of land on the basis of periodical and LSC but it is surprising to learn that even the hon'ble minister concerned is not aware of whether such settlements are valid.

In Sports & Youth Services Department, our state government as well as Sports Authority of India (SAI) sanctioned incentive cash but no provision is made for the player who meets accident. So, I would like to request the hon'ble minister to determine the case and take necessary action to compensate any player who meets an accident.

In Food, Civil Supply & Consumers Affairs Department, I want to point out regarding free distribution of rice being implemented last year as financial assistance is received from the Central Government through BAFFACOS. I was one of the members of the Committee to demand relief Fund from the central government for which ₹50 crores was received. Free supply of rice was then made by means of this fund for four consecutive months.

In this connection, I would like to request the hon'ble minister to consider shifting of FCI godown at Ramrikawn and also to see the stock position at the spot. It may as well be wise for concerned authority to select the area from which locally produced rice should be procured.

As a member of various committees of the Assembly, I want to point out that among the state departments, Supply department incurred highest expenditure of the state budget and is the poorest in fund recovery.

In UD & PA Department, EWS Scheme is widely benefitted by the people. So, I request the hon'ble minister to give priority on the basis of cases which may be reported by the members. In this connection, I opine performance of self-help group is commendable and so attention may be given by the government to this concern.

Regarding USHAP Loan, 234 Nos. of beneficiary were selected but most of them encountered problem in withdrawal from the Bank. So, I opine it is important for concerned authority to verify the condition before making the selection.

Regarding Tourism, attention may be given to Tuithum project which is expected to become one of the tourist attractions.

In Social welfare, I think it is necessary to review recruitment rules of Social Welfare department as it is now lying under the control from outside. Thank you.

Pu T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. Obviously the minister for UD & PA Department received a good cooperation from his department for achieving withdrawal of ₹43,922.80 lakhs within a few days. From Housing scheme under EWS, 1500 houses and 1096 houses are under construction outside and within Aizawl city respectively, 450 houses within Champhai Township which indicates that 3046 families in Mizoram are having new houses with the help of this scheme. Indeed, we are making a remarkable achievement. Yet, i would like to mention that financial sanction to that effect is less sufficient and usually, it is not issued in time. In the meantime, I think it is important to give attention to the progress of construction of houses at Champhai.

In Food, Civil Supply & Consumer Affairs Department, It is very grateful that regular supply of rice, kerosene, gas etc. is maintained by the government as payment of carrying bill too is done on seniority which indicates a change for good. In the former ministry, government constructed 61 godowns and 263 being repaired, 36 new staff quarters being constructed and 128 being repaired. Besides, ₹4092 crore is spent from buffacos fund sponsored by the central government to relieve famine on ground of bamboo flowering. As the member stated earlier, free distribution of rice in the former ministry is done from fund received under BAFFACOS which should be remebered.

In forests department, Pu Duhoma mentioned regarding felling of trees in private plantation. I am deeply regretted to think that we have lost vast areas of land including 34 schools as a result of the step taken by the former ministry to safeguard state boundary.

From Social Welfare department, hearing aids, wheel chairs etc. and other materials are allotted from time to time. It is appreciative that the supply is greatly benefitted by disabled and persons with hearing problems.

In Sports & Youth Services department, I appreciate as number of villages surrendered their playgrounds to the government for further development as a result of the efforts made by the hon'ble Chief Minister.

In LAD, I would like to request the hon'ble minister to provide financial sanction for construction of V/C house at Champhai. Being a district headquarters, Champhai also need V/C house.

In short, I do support all the demands of the hon'ble minister. Thank you.

Pu K. LALRINTHANGA : Thank you Pu Deputy Speaker. Let me start from UD & PA. It is very pleasing to know that Aizawl is becoming a solar city as for that purpose, ₹50 lakhs is estimated out of which 13.04 lakhs has already been released.

I want to add that Urban Sanitation department introduced a model of public/private partnership. In pursuance, the department made partnership with the village councils to hire vehicles to dispose garbage. Since then, there is no bad smell of waste materials around the city.

Thirdly, I am highly appreciated as housing scheme for economically weaker sections is implemented by the government. In this connection, I want to mention that Kolasib including Rengtekawn is regarded as an urban area but Rengtekawn has not been covered by the housing scheme. So, I request the hon'ble minister to consider that Rengtekawn may also be covered by housing scheme.

In this connection, I would like to mention that housing loan issued by LAD does not cover villages whereas fund given from IAY cover only economically weaker sections. Hence, I will be very grateful if LAD provides housing loan to villages also.

In Social Welfare department, I would like to thank the government for opening a new Block at Bilkhawthlir.

In Demand No.22, Sports & Youth Services, it is truly appreciated as the Regional Training Centre with a capacity of 80 students is constructed at Saidan, Kolasib with the estimate amount of ₹492 out of which ₹2.97 lakh has already been sanctioned.

Pu Deputy Speaker, with the initiatives of the hon'ble minister, it is fortunate as two students are being selected to pursue their career in Airforce. Not only this, we will soon have a cricket stadium at Sairang and for that purpose, an amount of Rs.1,013 lakhs has also been sanctioned. Apart from these, plans for construction of mini-sport stadium at Lengpui,

Hnahthial, SAI Hostel and Zobawk are under process, thanks to the initiative of the hon'ble minister.

Under Food & Civil Supply department, large amount of sanction is being received for BAFFACOS. The sanction is utilised for purchase of rice as various NGO's, churches and political parties take charge of the distribution to concerned families. In this regard, I believe the government is able to deal with the distribution work without bothering NGO's or else.

Under Forest Department, I would like to inform the House that an illegal trade of lumberjack was captured by the police a few days back. As I instantly informed the matter to the hon'ble minister whom I think is concerned with the case, his reply was that he should not interfere in such case of illegal trade. His reply was honorable though, I am happy to learn that we have such a truthful minister. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next, Pu R. Selthuama.

Pu R. SELTHUAMA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. On Demand No.17, Food & Civil Supplies, the government of Mizoram received large amount of fund to combat famine caused by flowering of bamboos yet, we are still in short of supply of foods. As the new ministry came into power, the hon'ble minister for Supply department deals with the problem carefully and everyone is now able to receive a fair share of supply of foods. Regarding cooking gas, the supply in my constituency comes only once in a month. I request the hon'ble minister to give special attention and take necessary initiatives in this regard.

Regarding Environment & Forest, I have not seen much of bamboo in my area after the prevalence of famine. In the meantime, we must be aware of the prospect that bamboo plantation could be of an income generation for our state. So, Forest department should preserve our bamboos and also give awareness in rural areas, the significance of bamboo plantation. Considering the prospect, I opine it is suggestive that beneficiaries of NLUP may also opt bamboo plantation as a trade. Many beneficiaries of NLUP opts manufacturing Agarbati stick. So, I suggest that concerned authority should take extreme action against those who take bamboo shoots for sale in the market.

Pu Deputy Speaker, in Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, I thank the concerned minister for his initiatives for a cleaner Aizawl. It is much convenience for the public as the dumpster truck is now being deployed to collect garbage from our doorsteps.

Under BSUP, it is learned that the government constructs numbers of house for less fortunate families yet, almost three years has past and the work remain undone. It will be much appreciated if concerned authority expedited the process so that it is completed immediately. Apart from this, the same is implemented in Mamit as minor works have even been done but could not be completed entirely due to lapse of fund under UD & PA. I request the minister that construction should be resumed as soon as possible.

In my constituency Lawipu, the progress of work for construction of playground has now been stopped due to lack of funds. I kindly request concerned minister that the work may be completed immediately. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : 16 members have participated in the discussion. Who will be next?

Pu JOSEPH LALHIMPUA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. The hon'ble House leader has mentioned in the previous session that concerned minister will provide an artificial grass turf for Thuamluaia Mual of Lunglei. So, I, on behalf of the people of Lunglei district express my thanks to the hon'ble Chief Minister and concerned Minister for Sports department. The hon'ble Sports Minister, in order to achieve more progress in sports, hire a foreign coach to shape up children under 'Catch them young' project and I am positive this will bring about good results in development of sport.

In Demand No. 48, Information & Communication Technology, I request concerned minister to give us an update report of progress of our state in the field of technology. I also suggest that Education & Information Department should cooperate for achieving more advance system of learning to bring about overall development of our educational system.

Regarding UD & PA, Demand No.46, it is learned that the central government has sanctioned funds amounting to 18 crore rupees for construction of Convention Center in Lunglei District. If so, when will the project be started? Besides, it is learned that APR for the proposed scheme for construction of Shopping Centre at Lunglei has already been forwarded to the central authority. I, on behalf of the people of Lunglei express my sincere thanks to the hon'ble minister of UD & PA.

I also express my gratitude to the hon'ble Chief Minister as well as to the hon'ble minister of UD & PA for their initiatives to construct houses for less fortunate families with a capacity of 500 families. Apart from this, it is much appreciated as introduction of PPP mode remarkably upgrade the status of our city as the public concern too support the policy which enable the authority to bring about a favorable outcome.

Pu Deputy Speaker, in Demand No.19, it is learned that fund provisions which the 13th Finance Commission allocated for maintenance of the Village Councils has already been sanctioned. It is quite appreciative as now we can easily chalk out plans for development of our respective areas where as funds utilization too maintains transparency which enable us to see the progress of any undertaking. With all these, I conclude by giving my support to our Demands. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu C.Ramhluna, next.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, we have the demand of three ministers to discuss today. Let me start from the Demand No.46, UD&PA. I have

been accused of giving wrong information to the House in relation to construction of culvert in Salem Veng. Pu Deputy Speaker, as I have seen in the newspapers about myself as not being sure of the information I have given in the House, I went to the spot to verify it. Pu Deputy Speaker, I saw a bridge being constructed but not a culvert. It should have been understood if the term reads, 'construction of RCC Bridge'. Pu Deputy Speaker, please accept this photo of the bridge which is termed as 'a culvert' for the property of the House and to prove that my statement is true.

Pu Deputy Speaker, according to the Municipal Rules, Rule No.15, the Municipal Council, in co-operating with the State Election Commissioner may arrange an election; but if the state government interferes and takes such power, it is a breach of power as it is clearly indicated in Rules No.15.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : You should concentrate only on the Demands.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, we have now become more sufficient in the supply of rice. Yet, I insist on to the hon'ble minister to allot at least 3 kgs per head as 2 kgs only is less sufficient particularly for manual workers in rural areas. At the same time, allotment of ration quota of sugar may also be increased and should be distributed at least twice a month.

In Demand No.36, Environment & Forest Department, under the 13th Finance Commission, it may be difficult to make or release any financial sanction unless appropriate working plan is submitted first. Regarding teak plantation of Forest department, it is learned that most of it has already been cleared-off. Here, how many has already been disposed? I suggest the same plantation should again be taken up in this area.

Pu Deputy Speaker, those families of economically weaker sections within Champhai expresses their grievance as they are compelled to purchase woods for construction of house from a well to do businessman at a higher rate. So, I kindly request the hon'ble minister to look into this matter.

Under Sports & Youth Services, I assume it is difficult to perform track and field events on artificial grass. Is it more appropriate to use natural grass for such events whereas the cost also is obviously much cheaper than the artificial one?

Pu Deputy Speaker, coming now to Social Welfare Department, Lawngtlai is now under the supervision of DSWO Saiha even though it is difficult for concerned officials to perform their duty efficiently as the coverage is quite extensive. So, I suggest that at least one officer is posted at Lawngtlai District to deal with official matters within Lawngtlai.

Under NLUP of LAD concern, I believe Village Council is authorized to allot land. The system, in my opinion is not much appreciative to concerned beneficiaries. Hence, I suggest that after sorting out which trade each beneficiary opted, survey of land may be

taken up by Apex Board of NLUP in cooperation with concerned village council and then be allotted to the beneficiary.

Lt.Col. Z.S. ZUALA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I would like to make a few comments on the work of UD&PA as stated earlier by the hon'ble member Pu C.Ramhluna. The Local Council reacts to the statement as they have also seen the work order which indicates that a slap culvert be constructed. If the report of supervision is examined carefully, the problem may not evolve in it. By the way, Pu Deputy Speaker, I want to inform the House that no unfair intention is involved in the discussion of this matter.

In Food & Civil Supplies, Pu Deputy Speaker, it is truly appreciated that we could now deliver supply of cooking gas at our doorsteps; we no longer need to stand in queue and wait for our turn as we are now receiving the supply on regular basis. Nevertheless, we are now able to purchase supply of rice on subsidized rate which truly is a great relief especially for the poor.

Pu Deputy Speaker, we will see large amount of bamboo sold at the market. It is, therefore, important for concerned authority to give awareness to the public of the prospect of bamboo production.

Regarding conservation of Forest & Animals, I would like to inform the House that I have once met a non-tribal DC of Champhai at his office chamber and saw numbers of gun being kept inside. He told me that those guns were seized from some hunters of non-holders of license and should be returned only after the license is produced. I truly admire his courageous and how he deals with the case. I believe preservation of wild life and forest may be achieved if the same is practiced by all the officials.

In LAD and UD & PA, I am grateful that development works such as construction of steps and repair of roads are being taken up in various localities. Regarding Social Welfare, the main concern of the department starts from nourishing of pregnant women to taking care of old-aged. The officials and staff are truly praiseworthy for their services towards the underprivileged. Even so, Pu Deputy Speaker, Anganwadi centre being set up in certain places are less sufficient to maintain smooth services and so, more funds may be allotted for construction of more centres.

We have been discussed the development of Sports department as most of us appreciates the initiatives of the hon'ble minister. At the same time, I admire the hon'ble minister for his generosity to set aside a vacated land of the Revenue department for Sports stadium as the department occupied its own building now. Thank you.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, old-aged pension provided by Social Welfare department in the previous ministry amounting to Rs.100/- per month had been increased to Rs.250/- per month. Five years have passed in this ministry but no increment has yet been given to that effect. May the amount be increased?

During the former ministry, Tribal Art Centre at Tanhril and Tax-Lavia Residential School for BPL family at Lunglei were being set up thanks to the efforts of the previous leaders. I assume this institution is greatly benefitted. As for this ministry, setting up of Disabled Commission is reiterated in and outside of the House yet, it has not been inaugurated till today even though it is meant for the benefit of the physically and mentally challenged persons.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I received a fax message regarding plan for inclusion of one village within Thorang Wildlife Sanctuary. The concerned RO has already informed the villagers to evacuate the village and 10 lakh rupees each will be provided for their resettlement. But it is necessary for concerned authority to involve in their settlement as some of them are unwilling to leave their resident. Regarding Advance Research Center which situated in Bethlehem and Bio-Diversity Conservation of Rural Livelihood Improvement Project, it will be much appreciated if the detail report is given by concerned minister.

Regarding Food & Civil Supplies, we recently faced famine caused by bamboo flowering and in combat against that famine, it is much appreciated as any family with monthly income below 10 thousands are supplied with rice at free of cost. In the meantime, I opine the rate of LPG is too high particularly for the poor. It will be much appreciated if the government resolved the problem by decreasing the rate so that the common people too could avail this essential commodity.

Regarding the Demand of I & PR department, I would like to mention that most of the headlines of the local sources of news emphasizes only on our achievement in sports. In this regard, I would like to suggest that other events and achievement or plan made by the departments may also be highlighted. The Right to Information Act came into force on the 12th Oct, 2005 and as a consequence, our state too has implemented this Act which proves to be of great importance for the public concern. Since, the demand of the media is prioritized by the government, sufficient amount of budget provision of the department is allocated to the Journalist Welfare. It is learned that the government of Manipur has even implemented pension to journalists. Is it possible for the government of Mizoram to follow the same system?

I express my gratitude to the hon'ble Sports minister for continuing the projects which have been initiated by the previous ministry such as construction of Rajiv Gandhi Stadium though the location had been transferred from AR ground to Mualpui and, setting up of District Sports Complex in various districts except Serchhip. Besides, plan for setting up of Mizoram Women Hockey Training Centre at Thenzawl and Kawnpui has also been continued. In the same manner, 'Catch them Young' policy initiated by the previous ministry has also been continued with a remarkable result. At the same time, Pu Deputy Speaker, I suggest that he should further pursue the MoU existed in the previous government with the International Alliance for Youth Sports, USA. If we collaborates sports with education, our status in sports will certainly be upgraded in the coming generations. Again, Pu Speaker, considering the amount of installments given under NLUP, I propose that promotion of sports should also be included. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : 20 members have actively participated in the discussion. Now, the concern minister may wind up and move the House to pass his demands.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. I am MINISTER glad that my fellow members have actively participated in the discussion of the Demands of my departments. As a representative of the people, numbers of suggestions for the development of our people has been made. I truly appreciated the people for their patience and support regarding steps taken by the government.

Regarding points raised by Pu P.P. Thawla about LPG and supply of rice, let me inform the House that due to landslide in the area stated by him, there is a problem of transportation and thus impossible to maintain regular supply of LPG gas in Mizoram. If the weather is improved during this autumn, we may not face more problems this year. As of shipment of rice by storekeepers, I have instructed concerned officials to immediately give the report yet, none are caught red-handed. If this is still in practiced and anyone is caught red-handed, severe action will be taken. As of Carrying Bills or retailer bills, it is disbursed according to the seniority except cases which needs special consideration. There is no partiality in dealing with the case.

The question stated by the hon'ble member Pu Lalduhoma regarding selling of rice bags, I have inquired concerned inspector but he claimed that it was wrong information. Rules are strictly applied but BPL family members received 35 kgs per month and there are also exceptional cases which need to be considered. In any case, rice is not sold out in bags.

To answer the queries of Pu Ramhluna on ration supply of sugar, it should be noted that the quota fixed by the central government could not be altered here. It is issued only once a month. As of rice, the existing quota i.e. 2 kgs per head cannot be increased as yet. Our main objective is to maintain the supply evenly so that the people are not face extreme hardships.

Regarding Forest & Wild Life Sanctuary as mentioned by Pu P.P. Thawla, it is under the authority of MADC yet, we have to submit any proposal made by MADC to the Central Government as of Rs.34,22,000/-. Regarding Saw Mill Rules, it has to be considered and by an Empowered Committee on the order of Supreme Court. A draft report is forwarded to empowered committee for further scrutinization prior to sending it to the Cabinet for approval. One of the most important projects at hand is setting up of wood-based Industrial Estate as early as possible.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, if license for the said Saw-Mill being issued?

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, first we have to be MINISTER clear on where the industry will be

established which should be located within 8 kms from reserved forest as it will be issued only after it is clarified.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I think the area could be shortened if length of the road is taken into consideration. If the opening of the vertical saw mill size is 9 inches, it means that the size equals to hacksaw blades. Even manufacturing company does not make such kind as it is impossible to cut logs with that size.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, we are abiding MINISTER by the rules approved by the CEC and we cannot make amendments without their approval.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I suggest the rules should be re-examined carefully. I have a copy of Saw Mill Rules of Tripura and other states and if we have to abide by such rules, we will never be able to cut logs in Mizoram with the size of the specified saw mill.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, we have carefully MINISTER examined the case but the rules approved by CEC cannot be relaxed.

Moving on to another topic, I want to inform the House that a corridor is set for animals within Dampa Tiger Reserve area to cross over Bangladesh border fencing to and fro and I have discussed the matter with the officials and Warden of Chief Wildlife.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, what about the problem faced by Dampui Village Council?

Pu H. ROHLUNA : We are aware of the situation and efforts MINISTER made by concerned VCP to convince the villagers not to migrate to other village and that the authority will come to an end.

Dr.R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, may i submit this letter for simply re-examination since it is sent by the VCP of the concerned village?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Zodintluanga, concerned minister to clarify it.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, this project has already been started during the former ministry as Kawnpui and Dargawn too are included where as financial sanction for Dampui and Kawnpui already been issued. Yet, we are resolving a petty problem for Dargawn.

Pu K. LIANTLINGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, we have discussed about the price of ration supply of oil which is now increasing. What initiative is taken by concerned department in this regard?

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, examining our demands for rice, we are compelled to rely on foods & civil supply since our own production is barely 25 % which is less sufficient whereas distribution of rice at free of cost covers four months only. So, fund provisions under natural calamity are being utilized for purchase of rice for BPL even though it meant for financial assistance to those farmers whose cultivation being destroyed by rats.

As mentioned earlier, the central government allocated only 35 kgs of rice to BPL family and only 2 kgs per head to APL family as minor gets half the quota. Since the amount of rice allocated to BPL and AAY families is less sufficient, the state government purchases the same at the rate of Rs.22.13 per kg at economic cost and the retailers sold it at the rate of Rs.12.85 per kgs. It indicates that the government loss Rs.10 crore every month in order to meet our demand for foods. Despite such circumstances, the department is trying hard to maintain monsoon stock of rice at every centre. As of ration cards, we are aware of an inaccurate issue as enquiry is being prevailed. Obviously we may have an ideal ration card as soon as the directorate of Census completed Family Census, 2011.

Regarding Job Card being issued under NREGS, we have to prepare on the basis of the Census Record. As my party assumed the government, carrying charge of food supply is reduced to 1.5% from 2.5% with a view to minimize expenditure of the department.

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, it will be much appreciated if Concerned minister explained more clearly of the decrease of carrying charge.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, in the former ministry, concerned contractors and others compelled to increase the rate of carrying contract for their own benefits but now it is adjusted without involving personal benefits. Our godowns in various districts needs renovation as some are under construction as of Lunglei, Mamit and Aibawk.

As of FCI godown at Ramrikawn asked by Pu Lalduhoma, the FCI authority too wish to shift it to Sairang. But with the coming of railhead in Mizoram, it is decided not to shift as any depot of food supply should not be far from the rail wagon. Yet, things sometimes not go as plan so we still have problems. We are also aware of the need to have an Oil Depot but this also has to be delayed due to the ongoing project of railhead.

Pu Deputy Speaker, we also need a weighbridge in order to prevent the practice of corruption as 2 Nos. of privatized Weigh Bridge are being installed at Zuangtui and Serchhip. Here, the caretaker pocketed 75% as the remaining 25% being submitted to the government. During 2010 - 2011, an amount of Rs.19 lakhs has been sanctioned by Planning Department for installation of Weigh Bridge at Lunglei. If this budget is passed by the House, we will be able to install another in other districts such as Champhai, Lawngtlai etc.

Pu Deputy Speaker, we are also trying our best to maintain sufficiency in supply of LPG as Mualkhang bottling plant with a capacity to refill upto 5 Nos. cylinder is being upgraded to a larger capacity machinery which can refill upto 12 Nos. cylinder at the same time. Yet, we need to extend the storage capacity in the nearby area as we plan to acquire more lands as soon as possible as the General Manager of IOC committed to get it done before the 15th of August. In the meantime, Borkhola bottling plant at Silchar is upgraded to 24 carousels with electric filling but could not perform as expected due to the problem of storage capacity and uneven supply of raw materials as transportation is disrupted during rainy season especially Mualkhang road. Apart from this, quality control is maintained by the Legal Metrology as license of 2 petrol pumps are suspended and revoked.

Regarding Consumers Affairs, we now have the president of State Commission with appointment of other officials in process. Since 2009, 1036 cases have been submitted to the District Forum, and 26 cases to State Commission out of which 1210 and 28 cases respectively are disposed. Pu Deputy Speaker, we have been receiving a response from consumers better than expected and so it is suggestive that Legal Metrology Department be better equipped to function more effectively.

In the demand of Forest Department, working scheme for private teak planters and for reserve area is currently being prepared and for Kolasib and Thenzawl, it has been approved by the ministry and 12 Nos. being returned. Once the schemes are approved, we can conclude the preparation as we plan to submit at least 80% which may be approved by next January.

Pu Deputy Speaker, It is difficult and almost impossible to prohibit the sale of bamboo shoots.... (....interruption.....)

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, point of clarification. Selling of bamboo shoots is prohibited within CADC.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : We need to encourage and create MINISTER awareness as bamboo is the best source of revenue for our economy. We need to give them

a resting period to reap the maximum benefits. Due to this, we came up with a Permit System to protect as much bamboo as possible without industries that use bamboo as raw materials suffering.

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, there is a rumor going on that our bamboos are taken by workers outside Mizoram in Zonuam area. Are these workers holders of permit?

Pu H. ROHLUNA : We do give a few permits to BDA but MINISTER other than those exporting bamboos outside the state is prohibited except for Value Edition.

Assistance was given to 54 of the newly introduced Community Reserve from the 13th Finance Commission Grant. We encouraged and see a rise in people's participation in conservation of forest with the existence of a number of Village safety reserve, supply reserve and YMA reserve. These reserves are maintained by the community with assistance from Forest Department. Also, a new marking system has been introduced along the highway for the protection and preservation of trees and plants.

Construction of orchidarium at Sairang Hitech nursery is almost completed to preserve local variety of orchids as well as those imported from other states and countries. Several varieties of local medicinal plants are also maintained at Sairang Hitech nursery.

Admirable work had been done at Aizawl Zoological Park with several species reproducing which include a rare type of ape which we believe does not exist in other zoos.

So, Pu Deputy Speaker, I respectfully request that the Demand of the following departments under my concern be passed by the House, such as: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.17	Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs	Rs.229,37,3000
2	Demand No.36	Environment & Forest	Rs.60,29,00000
TOTAL			Rs.289,66,3000

(Two hundred eighty nine crores, Sixty six lakhs and Three thousand) only.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House has unanimously passed the demand of the hon'ble minister Pu H. Rohluna such as: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.17	Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs	Rs.229,37,3000
2	Demand No.36	Environment & Forest	Rs.60,29,00000
TOTAL			Rs.289,66,3000

(Two hundred eighty nine crores, Sixty six lakhs and Three thousand) only.

Pu H. ROHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you.
MINISTER

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We may call upon the hon'ble minister Pu Zodintluanga to make a statement and present his demands.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. First of MINISTER all, as mentioned before, Information & Technology Department is an important department with the prospect to generate a large number of employments. SWAN "State Wide Area Network" has been started in Aizawl with wider network planned for District Capitals and Block Headquarters. Tenders have been called for State Data Centre to provide better communication between departments from different district headquarters. Preparation of MOU is at the final stages for the construction of Software Technology Park.

Planning of CSC is at the early stage so that income, residential and other certificates can be accessed even from remote villages. 'E' district has been successfully operated in Aizawl as a pilot project and is expected to be operating in full swing in other Districts by 2012. Connectivity for internet and other technology is still the main problem for Mizoram as we are serviced by only BSNL. Tenders have been called for PGIL (for constructing Overhead Cable) paving the way for big companies to enter Mizoram thereby, providing employment for the younger generation.

In regards to Information & Public Relations Department, I would like to point out that we will sanction radios for distribution among villages. Another important point is the role played by media in instilling a more positive outlook among our society. Also, we are planning to sanction vehicles to be used by I & PR department in every district. As for advertisement bills, the department does not have any pending bills.

We have revised the Journalist Welfare Fund where in the event of a member's death, monetary compensation is given to the deceased family. It now includes dependent family and accessibility of the fund is extended and can be used to pay for treatments due to illness.

Lastly, I would like to point out that I & PR played an important role in bridging communication gap between the Government and the people.

Moving on to Sports & Youth Services, we have erected a Boxing Ring in Saiha. 11.28 crores have been sanctioned by DoNOR for the construction of Cricket Stadium. We were also visited by Mr. Sushil Halagiri, BCCI Adviser to help us in our quest for affiliation with BCCI.

Several acres of Tuirial Airfield was given to Sports & Youth Services Department during Congress Ministry but was given away to private landholders during MNF Ministry with only a small part available for the Department. We are currently dealing with this problem and have submitted a complaint to the Revenue Department. The plan is to convert the airfield into a Bike Racing Course and consultation with professionals is ongoing as we speak.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we have received 25 crores from the Twelfth Finance Commission for the construction of Rajiv Gandhi Stadium at Mualpui. Work has been started which will include athletic tract as well as parking for hundreds of vehicles. Also, a sum of rupees one thousand seven hundred fifty lakhs (1750 lakhs, point 24) was sanctioned to us by Donor Ministry on 2nd August 2010.

Plans have been made to work with Education Department to promote sports with budgets being set aside for Sports Scholarship and Mizoram Sports Games.

We are awaiting word from the NEC for the construction of stadiums in Muallungthu and Falkawn. Special budget is set aside for use in the case of accidents specific to our sportspersons.

Keeping in mind the few numbers of fields and stadium Mizoram possessed, artificial grass will be used instead of natural grass as it is more affordable with running tracks built around it.

Pu B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, what is the reason behind using artificial grass instead of natural grass?

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : We are using artificial grass for MINISTER longevity so that we can maximize the usefulness of these fields as natural grass requires constant care. This will not be possible with the amount of traffic it receives. Boys Academy is being opened at Kawnpui with plans to use Astro Turf which is being sanctioned by the Central Government.

As for the 'Catch them Young' project launched with Education Department, we have discontinued with that project at the moment as we have a problem with

the company requesting us to honor our MoU, we are yet to reply as we are confused and unaware of any commitment made by the previous ministry.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, although I do not have any knowledge of the problems created by the company, we do have the document with the signature of the company as well as the previous ministry.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA MINISTER : I personally contacted them based on the MOU to continue with the 'Game on Youth Sport' and was requested by them to honor the MOU and to pay for their services.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Another question, are there any problems in starting the construction of the playground at Hnahthial Electric Veng since the budget for this project has already been released?

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, will the intended Cricket Ground near Airport Road be officially named Suaka Cricket Ground?

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, we have heard earlier that construction of the uncompleted Saiha Indoor Stadium have started again after many failed attempts. How much is the budget for this stadium?

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, in answer to our MINISTER respected member Pu Lalduhoma, Suaka Cricket Ground is the accepted official name for the cricket stadium.

We are looking into an alternative place for the construction of a new stadium at Hnahthial due to insufficient space although the required budget has already been sanctioned by NEC. The plan is to construct a proper stadium including dressing rooms. For this, we require a space NEC will approve in order to continue receiving funds from them.

Saiha Indoor Stadium was among the District Sport Complex project in 2005 which was uncompleted. Construction was started again after 5 years and after clearing all the unpaid bills left by the previous ministry.

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, what is the estimated cost of the intended Stadium?

Pu ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER : I am unable to provide the exact amount but I can give it to you in writing later on.

Sports & Youth Services have taken a number of steps for the younger generation... (.....interruption

Pu NIRUPAM CHAKMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, point of clarification. Will they launch the 'Catch them Young' project at Lawngtlai West and Tuichawng constituency? Also, will they be able to give us at least one football ground?

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : The 'Catch them Young' project is MINISTER currently going on with a number of Sports Goods and t-shirts amounting to Rs.19, 200 being sent at Lawngtlai. Also we have already constructed two grounds at Chawngte.

Also, for NCC the Central Government have several demands including staffing of the office which has already been done.

In answer to respected member P.P. Thawla, the estimated cost for the construction of Saiha Indoor Stadium is Rs. 30,61,000.

As for the question put up by Pu H. Zothangliana about the EWS Scheme under Demand No.46, UD & PA department, I would like to point out that, regretfully Lawngtlai is not eligible for this scheme as it not officially declared as a town. However, we are launching a new scheme called RAY (Rajiv Award Yojana) under JNURM....(....interruption....)

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Deputy Speaker, who has the power to declare Lawngtlai as a town?

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : We measure in terms of census when we MINISTER mentioned. We are hoping that RAY will cover Lawngtlai. Rengtekawn is also not eligible as it is a separate constituency even though it is under Kolasib town. I would like to take up on the misuse of EWS mentioned by our respected member Pu B.Lalthlengliana as this is a serious issue. If you could provide their name and address, I assure you there will be serious consequences.

Pu B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, according to reports, it was given by a former Congress Block President, Pu Lalchungnunga to his father in law.

Pu ZODINTLUANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, legal action will be MINISTER taken if these reports were true. We maintain a strict policy regarding EWS housing with strict guidelines and filter system. These again were verified by the department and were sent to the Central government.

Ongoing projects at Lawipu and Chite are at a halt due to problems between the contractors and sub-contractors. However, negotiations are currently going with a view to continue with the project in the near future.

Lastly, Pu Deputy Speaker, I would like to stress that the department of UD & PA has taken numerous projects for the development of Mizoram. On that note Pu Deputy Speaker, I respectfully request that the Demand of the following departments under my concern be passed by the House, such as: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.22	Sport & Youth Services	Rs.35,29,47,000
2	Demand No.26	Information & Publicity	Rs.7,45,00,000
3	Demand No.46	Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation	Rs.93,69,16,000
4	Demand No.48	Information & Communication Technology	Rs.3,80,00,000
TOTAL			Rs.140,23,63,000

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House has unanimously passed the demand of the hon'ble minister, Pu Zodintluanga such as: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.22	Sport & Youth Services	Rs.35,29,47,000
2	Demand No.26	Information & Publicity	Rs.7,45,00,000
3	Demand No.46	Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation	Rs.93,69,16,000
4	Demand No.48	Information & Communication Technology	Rs.3,80,00,000
TOTAL			Rs.140,23,63,000

We may now call upon our hon'ble minister Pu P.C. Lalthanliana to make a statement and present his demands.

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA : Thank you Pu Deputy Speaker. First of MINISTER all, I would like to thank all the staff and officers at Local Administration Department and Social Welfare Department for their dedication and performance. In answer to respected member Pu R. Lalthangliana, construction of Tribal Art Centre is now completed by PWD and will be handed over to the concerned department as soon as possible. Also, Eklavya- Lunglei Pukpui School is functioning normally now.

(Chariman at the chair)

Pu LALDUHOMA : Pu Chairman, although the Tribal Art Centre is under Social Welfare

Department, I believe there is a plan to hand it over to other department. Will it be handed over to Art & Culture Department or Sports Department?

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA : Currently, it is under Social Welfare MINISTER Department but we are open to any suggestions regarding the handover of this centre to other department. On another note, the Central Government has approved and sanctioned 5.52 Crores for construction of three more buildings of Eklavya School in District Headquarters with plans to open more in the future.

Also, Central Government has sanctioned 200 rupees per person towards pension fund for senior citizens where the State Government added 50 rupees to include more senior citizens. The Ministry is planning to increase the number of senior citizens who will receive 250 rupees.

At present we have 1980 Andanwadi Centres under Social Welfare Department will plans to open more. Till date, we have received about 15 crores from Central Government for implementing Multi Sectoral Development Programme which has been started in Lawngtlai and Mamit Districts. Under this programme, we have opened schools, health sub-centres and Anganwadi centres. Also, under this programme we have started a Housing Scheme called IAY at Lawngtlai District which will be followed by Mamit District (.... interruption ...)

Pu C. RAMHLUNA : Pu Chairman, I believe some of those funds for IAY were deposited at K.Deposit. Is that still the case?

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA : Pu Chairman, some amount is at MINISTER K.Deposit. Some drawn earlier are given to their respective D.C's. Religious minority are the beneficiary for this programme. Wait list under the scheme is being prepared and final selection will follow.

In spite of various problems faced with its implementation, we could now acquire Rs 68 lakhs for Schedules Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act, which we adopted earlier. We expect to start implementation after the sitting of the State Level Committee on 2nd August.

As often stated Social Welfare is associated with the young, old aged and disable. For disable persons, the department availed loan from NHFDC and through Rural Bank who are the channelizing agency, 122 persons were given loan. In order to make our offices more accessible for them, we have received 40 lakhs from the Ministry of Social Justice.

Moving on to Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS),
(...interruption....)

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, point of clarification. Is there any way to provide fiscal assistance to disabled persons like we did for old aged persons?

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA : We have Disabled Pension Scheme, MINISTER Educated Unemployment Scheme, Eco - rehabs and Economic Assistance, to name a few. We also give Student Stipend to some. (...interupption...)

Pu P.P. THAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, what is the amount given to disabled pension?

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, we gave Rs. 250 MINISTER each under the Educated Unemployment and Disabled Pension. The amount given under Eco-rehab varies according to the chosen trade i.e. Rs.1500, Rs.2500 etc.

ICPS (Integrated Child Protection Scheme) will be implemented shortly. It aims to protect and provide help and assistance to underage children. We have another new scheme called SAPLA with the same functions as ICPS but the age range for this scheme will be children between the age range 11 -18 years.

Another new scheme I would like to mention is the Conditional Maternity Benefit Scheme called IMGSY which will be implemented at Lawngtlai District. Under this scheme, there will be a financial reward if pregnant women have regular check-ups and proper vaccination is given to their newborn babies.

The Local Administration Department is also currently revising the amount of financial reward given to VC's with plans to increase the amount. We have just passed Bill Ombudsman with the hope to promote better administration and management.

The department is aware of lack of parks in Mizoram and is currently working on the construction of parks at Hmuifang, Thenzawl and Lunglei.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I respectfully request that Demand of the following departments under my concern be passed by the House, such as: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.19	Local Administration Department	Rs. 45,88,89,000
2	Demand No.29	Social Welfare Department	Rs. 39,33,55,000
TOTAL			Rs. 85,22,44,000

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House has unanimously passed the demand of hon'ble minister P.C. Lalthanliana, such as: -

Sl. No.	Demand No.	Department	Amount
1	Demand No.19	Local Administration Department	Rs. 45,88,89,000
2	Demand No.29	Social Welfare Department	Rs. 39,33,55,000
TOTAL			Rs. 85,22,44,000

Pu P.C. LALTHANLIANA MINISTER : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Business is finished for the day. Session will start again tomorrow i.e. Wednesday, at 10:30 A.M. Sitting is adjourned.

Sitting is adjourned at 8:10 P.M.