

SPEAKER : "One we cannot serve God and wealth together".

I personally like to say a few words regarding the questions. I would like to request the members to stress more on the question. In this way we can have time for more important questions. According to our rules we can ask three supplementary questions. Once again I like to request the members of the House to give more time for the questions.

Now, I shall invite Pu B. Lalthlengliana to ask question no. 41.

PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Hon'ble Speaker, starred question No. 41 - will the Hon Minister i/c PWD be pleased to state:—

What was the target of the PWD regarding:—

- (a) Roads.
- (b) Black-top.
- (c) Bridges.

SPEAKER : In the absence of the person in charge, the Chief Minister, Pu J. Lalsangzuala is authorised to answers the following questions.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Hon'ble Speaker, the answers—
Minister

- (a) Our target was 122 kms. We have completed 120,300 kms
- (b) Our target on Black-top was 168,300 kms, we have completed 165 kms.
- (c) Our target for the Bridges was two and we have so far completed one Bridge.

PU B. LALTHLENGLIAN : Hon'ble Speaker, an additional question—We look at the other states like Arunachal Pradesh, their PWD's achievement is quite enormous comparing ours. There is also not much of a difference between the funds allotted to both the department. What is the main reason that we are lacking behind when compared to the other state? Can anything be done to boast our achievements?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Hon'ble Speaker, regarding Road, Minister only 19.700 kms from our target was not completed and the Black-topping of 3.630 kms, was not completed.

Regarding Arunachal Pradesh there is no way that we can compared because we differ in all aspects. It is due to the existence of vast unreachable areas that the Arunachal Pradesh Government is giving its priority to the making of roads.

SPEAKER : Pu J.V. Hluna please ask your question no. 42.

D.R. J.V. HLUNA : Hon'ble Speaker, Question No. 42.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Hon'ble Speaker, regarding the Minister cubic stone, Pu K.M. Biaksailova is the contractor.

DR. J.V. HLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, on what basis do you give royalty?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, our main royalty Minister is given to the Forest Department. Right now, I cannot say how much royalty is given but I will gladly pass the information to our respected member.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, How is the Government going to utilise the Auditorium? It would be in the interest of the public that at least two floor be allotted for motor parking. What are the governments intentions?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding the Auditorium, it was planned in 1981—1984 that the areas be given to the Police Department, so that the Aizawl Hospital which is in need of much space would be extended towards the present Aizawl Police State. The Aizawl Hospital needs more space for room, laboratory etc. Sir, could the government change its plan and carry on with the 1981—1984 plan.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I regret that the other members do not agree with the plan which we are doing for the welfare of the people.

Minister

According to our plan, the depth of the Auditorium from the road level would be 2 metre which would make it possible for parking 70 light motor vehicles.

Regarding Pu Lalhmingthanga's request, our government does not agree with the 1981—1984 plan. We are planning to set up a new State Hospital and the present Aizawl Hospital would be a District Hospital.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, our budget for the Auditorium is Rs. 6,22,85,091/- which we plan to complete in five years.

Minister

SPEAKER : I shall call upon Pu F. Malsawma.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Question No. 43.

PU LIANSUAMA :
Minister

Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding Greater Lunglei Water Supply Scheme, due to the delay in the payment of bills to the contractor the interest now amounts to Rs. 83,51,320/. I believe the answer is relevant to question no. (c). Mr. Speaker Sir, I like to add a few more words to present the present situation clearly.

The Greater Lunglei Water Supply Scheme was started back in 1976—1977. The scheme, due to situations like the increase in the Lunglei population, has been revised little by little. Then the Finance Department, approved in 17.3.1989, that the water be supplied from Tlawng River through Ramzotlang then to Lunglei. The tender was called in 27.3.1989. The Work Advisory Board together with the Chief Engineer, Power, PWD & PHE asked for more technical work to be carried. With the advice of the work Advisory Board/Committee the Contractor Subhas Project and Market Ltd. was selected to do the work. The agreement signed between the Government of Mizoram and the contractor includes Price Variation clauses like—the government is duty to pay the interest in the increase in the price of various commodities like cements, engines, etc. It is due to this reason that the contractor claimed the interest capital.

The Government of Mizoram has taken advice from various departments like Finance, Law and PHE. The contractor has also agreed to decrease his claim. It is due to this that the government is spending more than its estimates.

PU F. MALSAWMA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, additional question. Various English newspapers have written about Subhas Project & Marketing Ltd. and its various mis-conducts in business specially in the North East. I believe their reputation has come to everyone's knowledge. My first question is, out of 83 lakhs to be paid, has there been any payment made?

Secondly, I believe negotiations are going on to decrease the interest. What I want to know is whether the contractor is changing the government during the period of negotiation?

Thirdly, about the payment of interest at the bank rate within 12 days—Was the clause included in the beginning when the contract was sign or it has been added at later stage? Has there been a contract before with an agreement like this? When is the government paying the bill? We have had enough trouble regarding this schemes and it is at our best interest that the government solve the matter

PU LALSAWTA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it appears to me that there is great defect in the contract agreement. Much importance is given to the 'time factor'. The scheme which was to be completed within 3 years was finally completed in 6 years. So for a period of 3 years the scheme could not be utilised, by the public. Does the government know this defective agreement or they are still honouring it with the knowledge?

Secondly, in the previous session it was announced that the interest claimed was Rs. 1,27,67,100/- but now we have been informed that it is Rs. 83,50,000/-. Could you please tell us which is the correct amount?

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, to elaborate on Pu Sawta's question—In the agreement signed between the Government of Mizoram and the contractor, was there any penalty served to the contractor for not completing the project within the period of three years? And why is the government responsible for the price escalation when the project was completed in six years.

DR. R. LAITHANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the project was to be commissioned on the 10th of October 1992 but was done in

1995. I wholly agreed with the opinion expressed by other members. Regarding the payment for the project why are there so many defects?

The people of Lunglei are drinking one of the most expensive water. According to the original estimates of Rs. 14,20,00,000/- and the revised estimate of Rs. 22,40,00,000/-, a bucket of water in Lunglei cost Rs. 200/- would it be possible for the government to have better and cheaper project in future?

Thirdly, what are the terms and conditions for the repairing of the various machines? Up to what period is the contractor liable for repairing?

PU LIANSUAMA : Minister : Mr. Speaker Sir, I will start my answers from Pu F. Malsawma's question: The amount we have paid to the contractor from the interest claimed is Rs. 3 lakhs. After negotiation, the contractor agreed to lower his interest claimed from Rs. 83 lakhs to Rs. 22,24,600/- lakhs. The contractor, to start his project, was paid 10% of the total amount which was around Rs. 1,24,00,000/-.

Regarding the period of completion of the project, the Government of Mizoram was in many way responsible for the delay. The main reason was that the PWD was to construct a truck road from Tlawng River to Ramzotlang. The construction took nearly two years to complete. It is due to this that the project took nearly five years. The contractor was not liable to pay the compensation as it was mainly the government's fault. Regarding the interest for the interest claimed (Rs 22 lakhs) I believe the interest would increase if there is a delay in the payment. It is due to this that I sincerely request every member of the House to vote for my Bill. This will put an end to the many troubles relating to the scheme.

Dr. Lalthangliana's assessment of Rs. 200/- a bucket of water in Lunglei is simply unreliable. The scheme is not to provide

water for five years but to provide water to generations and generations of the Lunglei population. One thing we should know about the project is that there are various expenditures like Zonal tank, Supply tank etc which are not included in the contract. Therefore the Bills is distributed between, Subhas Project and the various departmental concerned.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we should take this project as an example and not to commit more mistakes in the future. I sincerely request the Speaker and the House to be on my side and to solve this problem one and for all.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I agree with Pu Liansuama, but I would further request him to clarify the agreement of interest according to the Bank Account. In this way, we can give our full co-operation.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the clause about the interest reads, "Timely payment shall constitute to be the essence of the contract and all payment shall be released within 12 days on presentation of our bills incase of any disputes in the bills for any items adhoc payment to the cent of 90% of the claimed amount shall be released within the above period. Any Bank interest due to delay in payment beyond 15 days will be in your account". This clause came along with the tender.

PU LALSAWTA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I respect the questions and answers given by the member of the House. In the last session, the original estimate was Rs. 14,27,22,000/- but now we were informed that the estimate is Rs. 12,44,00,000/-. In the last session we were also informed that Rs. 22,13,00,000/- was the revised estimate beside these Rs. 12,70,71,000/- was the interest claimed by the contractor.

Today, the Minister informed us that Rs. 83,50,000/- is the interest claimed which after negotiation was brought down to Rs. 22,74,000/-. There is a wide contradiction of the estimate he has given. Could Minister please provide the House with a correct figure? This is an important issue as it is a huge missuse of public fund.

DR. R. LAITHANGLIANA : What I want the concern Minister to clarify is whether the pipe line in the revised estimates is upto Lunglei Chandmari or upto Romzotlang? And, could the minister explain to the House the Original Tax Agreement? Mr. Speaker Sir, those are my questions.

SPEAKER : What I want to ask the members of the House, is do we all agree to the request made by the concern Minister to form a Parliamentary Committee to look in to the matter and solve the problem once and for all.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think I have many more to clarify regarding some of the questions.
Minister

PU ZORAMTHANGA : What I don't understand is the sudden interest of the Government to form a committee to look into the matter. We had asked before but nothing was done. Why now?

What I want the Minister to clarify is whether the other contractors included the clause regarding the payment of Bill within 12 days, failing which interest was to be paid at the Bank rate.

SPEAKER : I think we still want the interest rate to be clarified.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding the presentation of the two different figures, it is our right to move a privilege motion in the House as the Minister is misleading the House. If the motion is moved, the Minister should take actions against the concern officers. What I want to ask is how do the House wants to go about it?

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, first I will clarify about the figures. As provided vide letter. Dt. 17.3.1989, Finance Department U.O. No. 3040/88, the capital sanctioned for the Greater Lunglei Water Supply Scheme is Rs. 14,27,22,000/-. Administrative approval was given by the Department and it was also agreed that Rs. 50 lakhs would be released the same day according to the availability of the fund.

The contract was divided into two, the first was for the work from Flawng to Ramzotlang, and the second for the work after that. So, in this was another capital of Rs. 12,44,39,213/- issued. The addition of the two amount is nearly Rs. 22 crores. This, I believe is our main misunderstanding.

Regarding the work Advisory Board, they did a thorough reasreach on various companies on their technical and financial fitness. In this way, out of the total seven, three of the company namely, Subhash Project and Marketing Ltd. Western Indian Industries Ltd. and Mother and Flat Chung were shortlisted. The company history for the past 15 years were also looked into and in this way our present contractor was selected. The agreement also included that the roads construction was to be undertaken. It is due to the delay from our side that there was an idle time, —a period of no movement in the work?.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the reason for our many problems is our lack of understanding on the process of the contract. I am also

not in a position to give answers to all your questions. It is due to this reason that I request the House to form a Parliamentary Committee to look into the matter and also to have a transparency in solving our problem.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : To form a Parliamentary Inquiry Committee is a good move on behalf of the Government, but right now, it would be in the best interest of the House if the Minister prepares another paper answering all our question and present it in the House within this session. This way we will not be wasting our time.

SPEAKER : I believe it is early to form a committee.

PU LALSAWTA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I believe the Minister is still not clear with my question. My question is, what is the original estimates and also the revised estimate? What are the amount issued to them and also the additional amount issued at later stages?

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am confuse myself regarding some of the figures (Speaker could you please answer Pu Sawta's question).
Minister

(i) The figures I have are still the same as before. I will look into it again.

SPEAKER : Order, order, please, everyone be seated. I understand the opposition's demand that to this day no clear figures have been given, this is the reason that in order to have the correct answer I am requesting the House to form a Parliamentary Committee, what is the House opinion?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I believe it is in the best interest of the House to form a Committee.
Minister

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : To form a committee is a good idea move but like what Pu Remsiana have suggested, let the Government submit a write-up on the issue. We will read the write-up and discuss about it during this session itself.

SPEAKER : The question hour is over. But, we should find a conclusion to this issue.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : I agree with our House Leader. Even if we have a write-up, the member would still be confused. Our best solution is to form a Parliamentary Committee.
Minister

SPEAKER : There seems to be a conflict of ideas from both the government and the opposition. Is the opposition saying that they would find their answers in the write-up?

PU C.L RUALA : To find a lasting solution the House should form a committee.
Minister

SPEAKER : We will set up a Parliamentary Committee on the Lunglei Water Supply. The member for the committee would be discussed later. (Pu Lalsawta—we should give a name to the committee).

Regarding what Pu Sawma said about the Privilege Motion, many of our officials have not answered the questions submitted by the various members including myself. Please take notice from

now, to give importance to the questions submitted by the members and to inform them on the various possibility.

Now, we shall go on to zero hour. Pu Thangkima, please.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the other day we
Minister had a meeting with the official members of the federation on which we discussed some of the issues raised by Pu Sawta. What I still don't understand is that on every discussion we have the issue about the numbers of the Government Motor Vehicle. It was the decision of the committee on the distribution of the motor vehicle among the various departments. So, why blame on the Ministry when it is entirely the decision of the committee. And also, regarding the JCM, It was the Federation's decision on which the cabinet only has to give its approval.

Why blame the Government alone, when it is not entirely its fault. Lets all work together with a positive attitude.

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I was one of the
Minister representatives of the government in the absence of the Chief Minister during our meeting with the Federation, we were never informed on some of the important decisions taken by the Federation. In spite of this, the government is still committed to the Federation.

SPEAKER : Pu Sawma has also requested to speak but since we have enough time for only two questions, Pu Sawma's request will be kept for tomorrow.

I shall call upon Pu P.C. Zoramsangliana to lay on the table a copy of the Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition Rules, 1996.

PUP.C. ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission I lay The Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition Rules, 1996.
Minister

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Please, distribute the booklet, Pu Lalkhama has a Motion for Election of Public Account Committee.

PU LALKHAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission I moved the following motion in regard to the Election of Committee on Public Account. The motion reads—that the members of the House to proceed to elect in the manner required by Sub-Rule (c) of Rule 2 of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly to several members of the Committee on Public Accounts Mizoram Legislative Assembly for the period of 30 months.

Thank you

SPEAKER : We shall proceed with the programme. Fourth, Pu F. Malsawma to move the motion for election of committee on estimates.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission I moved the following motion in regard to Election of Committee on Estimates—that the members of this House to proceed to elect in the manner required by Sub-Rule 1 of Rule 202.

With Rule 252, of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly to serve as members of the Committee on Estimates, Mizoram Legislative Assembly for a period of 30 months.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalbjakzuala to move a motion for election to committee on Public Undertaking.

PU LALBIAKZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission I moved the following motion in regards to Election of Committee on Public Undertaking that the members of this House proceed to elect in the manner required by Sub-Rule 1 of Rule 202 read with Rule 253 (A) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly to serve as members of the Committee on Public Undertaking, Mizoram Legislative Assembly for a period of 30 months.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : For the member of the three Financial Committees each group will have a representative. As it is our customary practice we will not have an election for the members. The members will be selected by each of the group. I will inform you later on the number of the members and the names should be announced within this session.

PU LALBIAKZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I like to request each party to be careful in our selections of the members for each committee.

SPEAKER : We will go on to No. 6, Pu Bawihluanga to introduce. The Mizoram Pension for Members of De-funct Mizo District Council and of the Pawi, Lakher Regional Council Amendment Bill, 1996.

PU P.C. BAWIHTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I request the House to give me permission to introduce, the Mizoram Pension

of Business for members of defunct Mizo District Council and of the Pawi, Lakher Regional Council Amendment Bill, 1996.

SPEAKER : The House agrees to Pu P.C. Bawihluanga's request.

PU P.C. BAWIHTLUANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission I introduce, The Miz ram Pension for members of defunct Mizo District Council and of the Pawi, Lakher Regional Council Amendment Bill, 1996. The addition to section, '3' (f) states that from 1st January 1996 the pension which was Rs. 800/- would increase to Rs. 1000/-

SPEAKER : We will discuss the Bill along with the Government Business.

Now, we shall start our discussion on the Budget. The discussion period will be for two days. Today's General discussion will be upto 4:00 P.M.

PU R. LALTHANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, we have lots of absentees in the session. I think it is in the best interest of the House that the official from the various Departments be present during our discussion. Our minister should initiate as our discussion are very important.

SPEAKER : Please, the Minister take note of the request and ask your official to be present in the House.

I will allot 15 minutes each for the discussion. Pu F. Malsawma, please.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. Last year, our budget was Rs. 645 crores and this year it is Rs. 733/- crores, excluding Rs. 281/- crores for the plan outlay. Taking, Mizoram

1991 census of 7 lakhs people, our government can spend around Rs. 10,000/- for each person in the state. But inspite of this, there is still an acute poverty among the people. There are many people who cannot afford to buy medicines etc. It is our government's duty to check this matter and do away with poverty.

We should give prior importance to our planning and also our decision makings. In our various decisions and the reports given to us, we mainly talk about how many building was constructed, how many aids were given out etc. but we never talk about how much we produce from our Agriculture. It is time that the government give importance to our self-sufficiency. In order to survive we have to be self-sufficient enough to meet our own demands.

Coming to the spending of public money. It is time that the government use the public money for the welfare of the party. If a new government comes to power the same system will continue. It is time that actions be taken to stop the practice of spending the public money for one own's gain. It is also time for the government to cope with the technological revolution. We should computerise our various Departments specially our Planning Department. It is time that with a touch of a button one will have an access to all the informations accurately. The government should also have a record of the percentage of the various departments, this will also help us in keeping with the All-India Norms. Mr. Speaker Sir, it is time that transperancy exists in our functioning.

Mr. Speaker Sir, last but not the least is what we should do about some of the Externally Aided Project. Due to the shortage of foriegn funds, many of the project could not be started, would it be possible for the government to take up some of this projects specially the Greater Aizawl Water W/S/S Phase II.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalhmingthanga, please.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you.

During our April/March Session the concerned Minister said that our Estimate deficit would be around R. 36.74 crores. Just four months later, the estimate deficit has risen to Rs. 53.32 crores.

I had the privillage to present the 1994 Budget in the House. If I am not mistaken, our Defecit in 1991-1992 was around Rs. 31 crores. The then Union Finance Minister Dr. Man Mohan Singh in order to put us into Green State made available for us a special loan of Rs. 31 crores, which was to be recovered within three years. The loans was made available in order to re-check and properly manage our Finance. In spite of this, our Deficit has risen year by year. Our present Deficit is Rs. 53.32 crores. This clearly shows our mis-management in fund.

Our Finance Minister announced in our March Session, about a Surplus Budget in page 16 para 13. It reads, The Public Account also reveals surplus of Rs. 1.40 crores with the overall surplus reveal of Rs. 4.47 crores. In spite of our surplus we still make restrictions to the Government Servant on the withdrawal of their GPF, House building loans and even their Interim Relief.

The responsibility of the proper planning and management of funds lies in the government. If we don't take actions now, our state will be declared bankrupt and the Reserve Bank of India will stop our account. And the present situation is our warning bell.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Our meeting will be adjourned at 1:00 P.M. We will have break for one hour and we will resume our meeting at 2:00 P.M.

SPEAKER : Pu Sawta, please,

PU LALSAWTA : Mr. Speaker Sir, our constitution clearly states the various sources for our Finance. In the Union List I, the union can levy taxes on various sources like industry, Excise Duty etc. And in List II the other sources are advertisement, Liquor, Opium etc. which is totally against our Christian State. Looking at the various sources from both the List I & II, it's difficult for the state to levy taxes. But what I am against in the supply worth lakhs and lakhs of rupees given to the Non-tribal. I have asked this question in the House, whether they pay their taxes. Still now, we have not been given any answeres. The State is entitled to collect 15% as the income tax from these suppliers.

The Indian Constitution Article. 293, writes about the borrowing of money. According to the Article it is the responsibility of a State to fix its limitations. The State should clearly know its limitation on its various borrowings. Not only this, the State should also have a uniform Procedure for purchase. Purchasing not to our likings but according to our needs is what we should do.

Thank you.

PU LALKHAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, In my opinion we should take up project which would serve best for our State.

The most important among all our problem is the huge existence of "educated unemployed". The Government has invested large amount on Education, but is unable to provide them with job. We should create job not only in the Government Service sector but in various fields such as industry, poultry, farming—agriculture etc. In this way will not only create jobs but we will also become self-sufficient.

Regarding Power and Electricity it is better in my opinion to create small hydel project than to wait 5 to 10 years for a bigger project. If our demand cannot be met during the dry season we can stress on Diesel Generator to provide us power during our shortage.

Sir, these are some of the main general topics which I like to raise in our Budget Planning.

Thank you.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : I like to begin my speech by thanking the Central Government for providing us the necessary requirements to our state.
Minister

The most important issue one must take into account while planning our Budget is to plan not according to our like but according to our culture. Russia which was one of the World Super Powers is in pieces due to the following of the Karl Max theory, which was in theory but not in practical practicable.

In Communist China, its a different story. The Cultural Revolution which developed China in accordance with its culture is a success story. In Mizoram, we are interested in short term investment. The Government should take up project where the duration between investment and profit is short term. We should also encourage our Border trade, and exploit it to the fullest extent. We should also make use of the abundance supply of bamboos in our state. But inspite of our various plans and programmes the only thing that can make it possible is the existence of power/electricity. Looking at our land structure, our natural resources our state should stress more on land base product like Agriculture, Horticulture etc.

Thank you.

PU B. LALTHLEGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, what Pu C. Chawngkunga said earlier is right in many ways and now that he has taken over the Agriculture Department, I personally have great hope in him.

Looking at our natural resources I'm sure that both Bangladesh and Burma have great interest in doing business with our State. And now that the concern Minister have spoken about it the government should take steps to promote trade between the two sides.

Our various Departments like Horticulture and Trade and Commerce have taken various steps but they have not yet achieved what is needed to be achieved. They have always lack in marketing their product and any deal they undertake has always been a lost making deal. With our present situation the gap between the rich and the poor will become under and soon we will reach a stage when nothing could be done.

"Budget Dificit" is the word which has always been a major topic in every session. Unless and until we have a well planned objectives nothing will be achieved. We should have well ned financial dealing and there should also exist transperancy in our dealings. It is not that we are criticising the Government just because we are the Opposition. It is because as an elected member it is our duty to look into the problems of the people and help them in finding the best solution. Let us be square and fair in our dealing.

Thank you

SPEAKER : Pu Biakzuala, please.

PU LALBIAKZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I like to thank the Ministry for the increase in our plan-outlay. I hope that it is put into best use.

My first and foremost concern is the provision of drinking water to both the urban and rural areas. The Prime Minister had a meeting with the Chief Ministers and one of the most important issues out of the Seven Basic Minimum Service was the 100% Services. Provision of State Drinking Water in Rural and Urban Areas.

Secondly, the Government should take all the possible steps for the provision of Primary Health Service to both the Rural and Urban areas. People in the villages face many difficulties in receiving the necessary medical helps.

Thirdly, the government should take greater responsibilities in selecting the teachers for Primary Education. Most of the teachers specially working in the villages quit their job. It is due to this reason that greater care be taken in the selections of the teachers. It would be of great help if the teacher is selected from the village itself.

Regarding our borrowing Sir, in my opinion we are not borrowing too much. We should utilise this opportunity and borrow from the different areas, but only with the assurance that those borrowed would be utilised in the best possible ways, for the development of the state.

Thank you.

PU F. LALZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

Sir, since our days from the District Council to the Union Territory and finally to State-hood we have made numerable progress. But one thing which did not exist before but in plenty in later years in corruption, too many easy money has made us race against each other to gain more of it.

Our state comparing to other states like Nagaland, Assam has made many progress in spite of our poor infrastructure. Since our state-hood 10 years back, we are very advanced. In spite of our lack in infrastructure to build a Hydel Project we still manage to provide electricity to many village. Our PHE Department has also done a great work in the supply water to each and every corner of the states.

Our Education Department inspite of its shortage in Fund has done a great work in building up literacy in the state. One of their main drawbacks is the lack of teachers and funds. If we could provide more funds to the Department we drive up our literacy rate to 100%.

Regarding our Police Force, we have 3rd Battalion and IRP. We should distribute this 3rd Battalion in every District so that we can have better and well maintained law and order in the state.

Thank you.

Dr. J.V. HLUNA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I like to thank the Planning Commission for increasing our Annual Budget by 23%. The present Government should also be given credit for it.

Out of our total Budget last year, 37% was for salary, wages and Office Expenditure, 20% for Supply, Material Supply and Motor Vehicle and 26% for Development Works. In my personal opinion we should allot more on the Basic Infrastructure. We cannot expect development unless and until the basic infrastructure are developed.

We should be more careful in our spendings and buying. It is a common practice by the Government that it gives away its land to various individuals and institutions but still keeps on buying land. Why give away its land when it buys more?

The Government till today have been bias against people not from the Congress party. In our various selections and distribution like the PMRY, Task Force, IAY, JRY, IRDP, SHASHU, Housing loan etc, only the persons from the Congress Party are selected. If we talk about growth and development it is time we do away with our ill-practices.

And one of the Government main/problems is, it makes many promises. Promises which it can't keep. The Government encourages farmers in the rural areas to produce more and more of things like Pineapple, Tung, Ginger, Tea and Passion fruits but when they do, we are unable to buy it from these poor farmers. The Government should be clear in its demand and supply.

Another important issue is our borrowings. At present the Government owes Rs. 296/- crores. If we divide this among the whole Mizo population each Mizo owes Rs. 4323/- each. Unless and untill we utilise this loan for better purpose, it will be a big burden for Mizoram.

Thank you.

PU. F. LALREMSIAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Budget, is the Government's annual estimate plan of revenue and expenditure. The Government is to bring out its policy out-line.

The Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi aimed to establish India as a welfare state. Even though the Budget is only of revenue and expenditure it has a great importance in social change and social transformation process. This is why the Government should bring out their main trust and also their main priority.

The amount of capital allotted for the Seven Basic Minimum Services is not much. Out of those Seven Basic Minimum Service the Mizoram Government has choosen three Basic Services, namely, State Drinking Water, Health and Family Welfare beyond

2000, and Education. And these three basic services are also on the priority list of the State Planning Board. But inspite of those basic services, we have made many other demands like a Central University, Mizo Governor etc which are still not met.

In our annual budget, cutting all the necessary expenditure we still have a surplus of Rs. 54/- crores. The Government should use this surplus for the Social Transformation Process.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : The BAC made the programme, meeting all the request from various sides. I thought the whole House was for it.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have no complain against the BAC, it was just a formal request.

SPEAKER : The meeting will be adjourned, our next meeting tomorrow will be at 10 : 30 A.M.