

11TH SITTING OF THE 10TH SESSION, 26.9.1996

PRESENT

Pu Vaivenga, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, 16 Ministers and 21 members were present.

QUESTIONS

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

DISCUSSION & VOTING ON DEMANDS

2. Pu J. Lalsangzuala, Minister to move Demands under his charge.

Speaker: *"The light of the eyes rejoices the heart" Proverb 15:30.*

Now we will take up question, let us call upon Pu Lalrinchhana to ask question 157.

Pu Lalrinchhana : Speaker Sir, will the honourable Minister, i/c. Local Administration Department be pleased to state -

- (a). is there any intention to change the method of VC election?
- (b). If so, in what way?
- (c). If not, does the government consider the existing method is good enough?

Speaker : Pu S.T. Rualyapa.

Pu S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, the answer for the above question 157 is as follows:

- (a). No.
- (b). No.
- (c). Yes.

Pu Lalrinchhana: Mr. Speaker Sir, As VC plays an important part in Democratic form of government; election of VC should be free and fair. For this reason,

I suggest the government to introduce ballot box system in the election VC.

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, yesterday we have already introduced, 'The Village Council Amendment Act, 1996'. The concerned Minister answer is not relevant to the Starred question No. 157.

Pu F. Malsawma: Mr. Speaker Sir, political discrimination has been involved in VC election, election system is unjust and inaccurate. For this reason, new system will be adopted. The government may setup joint committee in this regard.

Pu Lalhmingthanga: Mr. Speaker Sir, we know that there are complaint regarding VC election, but no action has been taken. In this regard, has the government intended to setup tribunal or such kind to deal with complaint of VC election?

Speaker : Tribunal has been setup.

Pu Lalhuthanga: Mr. Speaker Sir, in order to conduct new system of VC election, funds allocation for election needed special consideration. VC election cannot be conducted expensively as that of MLA/ MP election.

Speaker : Pu H. Thangkima.

Pu H. Thangkima: Mr. Speaker Sir, there will be no discrimination on grounds of party basis in the election and approval of VC. The government must not favour any member or members thereof. The incident of Pangzawl VC election and appointment reveals that the government favours Congress members where Congress has no majority.

Speaker : Your subject is formation of VC. We are dealing with election system.

Pu B. Lalhlengliana: Mr. Speaker sir, 'The Mizoram Village Council Amendment Bill 1996' included number of VC members according to population-wise, but not of nominated seat.

Pu S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, the government had considered matter relating to common ballot box and ballot paper. But as we have no

adequate budget we may not implement ballot box and ballot paper as desired by our member.

Regarding vote rigging and other unfair means of ballot paper, the government received no complaint regarding thereof. Again, tribunal has been set up during every election.

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have never heard tribunal being set up in every election. Composition and nature of functioning of VC election in the Amendment Bill needed clarification.

Speaker : It may be better to give notice to all members in writing tribunal system.

Pu S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, we may do as member wishes. I have already said that funds allocation for VC election is so meagre; for this reason, we may not introduce common ballot box. Nomination seat was not mentioned in the Amendment Bill 1996. Due to the main reason that we have adopted existing rules.

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, has not the government any intention to take up the Amendment Bill 1996?

Speaker : The Amendment Bill will turn into government bill and it should be taken up afterwards.

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, is there any intention to amend the said Bill.

Pu S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, as directed by VC election rule, there is no intention to amend.

Pu Lalhmingthanga: Mr. Speaker Sir, whether the amendment Bill is enacted or not, differentiation of membership entitlement in the existing act and the proposed amendment Bill will be included and amended.

Speaker: We may discuss your point later on. All members are requested to go into the point.

Pu F. Lalremsiama: Mr. Speaker Sir, I request the government to conduct

checking system on voters who have already cast their vote.

Speaker : I think the concerned Minister had given clear decision.

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, answers given by our honourable Minister is not relevant to my questions.

Pu F. Lalremsiama: Mr. Speaker Sir, the result of unjust election is well known. We will have to adopt free and fair election.

Pu Zoramthanga: Mr. Speaker Sir, does the concerned Minister really think that VC election system need no amendment.

Pu S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, we have already practised the existing method for a long time. We have not noticed of vote rigging and other unfair means in the election of VC. For this reason, amendment or adoption of new rules or any kind will not be implemented.

Regarding casting of votes, checking method has never been applied. Voters who cast their votes have private liberty and rights.

Speaker : Now, let us call upon Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga to ask question No. 158.

Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga: Mr. Speaker Sir, will the honourable Minister, i/c. Health & Family Welfare Department be please to state -

- (a). As authorised by Cabinet, is there any intention to provide extra pay to Nurses?
- (b). If so, should the nurses enjoy government holidays? If extra pay is not provided should they enjoy government holidays?
- (c). Is there any intention to continue 80 days overtime duty?
- (d). What is the reason for the delay in appointment of Nurses on contract basis?

Speaker: As the concerned Minister is absent, we will call upon authorised Minister Pu Chawngkunga.

Pu C. Chawngkunga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, the relevant answer for the above questions are as follows:

- (a). No.
- (b). No decision has been made.
- (c). No.
- (d). The government is still trying to appoint nurses on contractual basis.

Pu Lalhmingthanga: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Cabinet approved extra pay but delayed and the answer is 'no'. Why so?

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, the answers for the above questions (c) and (d) is contradictory.

Pu F. Malsawma : Mr. Speaker Sir, am I right to hear that about 160 officiating post of nurses is intended to be created? To add, I request the government to provide buses for nurses.

Pu F. Lalremsiama : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Nurse Association of Mizoram claimed two things: firstly, they claimed for government holidays; secondly, they claimed for extra pay for overtime duty. In this regard, the government is expected to solve the problems.

Pu H. Thangkima : Mr. Speaker Sir, I request the government to fill immediately two vacant post of nurse in the 2nd. Battalion MAP at Lunglei town.

Speaker : That matter will be dealt by the MAP itself. We will call upon Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga.

Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga : Mr. Speaker Sir, we know very well that demands put forward by Nurse Association. We are also certain about inadequacy of Nurses at different hospital. In this regard, Minister's answer for the above questions is also unsatisfactory. The government created many post but inadequacy of staff (nurse) is still unsolved. What policy has been put forwards by the government in order to solve this problems. Is there any policy or not at all.

Pu H. Thangkima: Mr. Speaker Sir, post sanction will be made by the Medical Department whereas expense and any other accomodation will be arranged by the MAP Department.

Speaker : What I meant to say is that Doctor's Nurses under Police Department may be taken care of by the concerned Police Department itself. We shall call upon Pu Chawngkunga.

Pu C. Chawngkunga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, I admitted statement made by our honourable member regarding inadequacy of nurses at different places. For this reason, we must have to set up Training institutes. Now we have Regional Para Medical Institute but this Institute alone cannot solve our problem.

It may be better to note that Nurse Association does not claim for pay or allowances for overtime duty. They claimed for holidays. If they enjoy leisure and holiday, they will not claim for overtime allowances. In order to solve this problem, the department also submitted demand to the State government and Finance Department.

Pu F. Lalremsiama : Mr. Speaker Sir, neither the government nor the concerned Minister to gives no effort to solve the problem, if the concerned Minister cannot solve he may step down.

Speaker : The Minister's answer is very brief and clear. Am I right to say there is intention to solve the matters mentioned.

Pu C. Chawngkunga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, I may not give assurance as I am not authorised to give so.

Dr. R. Lalthagiana : Mr. Speaker Sir, it can be solved if the Minister is really aware of it. It has been unsolved for a long time. Uptil now, this implies that the Minister neglected the department.

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, we know who is sincere and who will not this matter can be solved.

Pu F. Remsiama : Speaker Sir, large amount of money has been spent for purchasing consumer commodity, but Medical Department budget is only 30 to 50 lakhs.

Pu C. Chawngkunga: Mr. Speaker Sir, the House Leader or Finance Minister may have relevant answer in this regard.

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, our House Leader or Finance Minister alone may not be responsible for this.

Speaker : Last week I have already defined assurance definition.

Pu F. Remsiama: Mr. Speaker Sir, we expect nothing but assurance.

Pu Lalsawta : Speaker Sir, our question will be meaningless if it is answered by a Minister who dare to bear no responsibility.

Pu C. Chawngkunga (Minister): Speaker Sir, all members acknowledged that I am authorised by the concerned Minister. And I am here to speak on behalf of the concerned Minister.

Speaker : Now, we will go into next question 159. We shall call upon Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga to ask.

Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga: Mr. Speaker Sir, will the honourable Minister, i/c. Health Department be pleased to state -

- (a). How many vacant post of Community Health Officer is there in the department?
- (b). Is there any intention to provide foreign training for CHO (Community Health Officer)?
- (c). Is there any vacant post of Health Supervisor?

Speaker: Pu C. Chawngkunga.

Pu C. Chawngkunga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, the answer to:

- (a). 5 Posts.
- (b). Yes.
- (c). 23 Posts, finance clearance has not yet been received.

Speaker : Now the time is up. We will go to next business (Discussion and Voting on Demand).

Pu Saikapthianga (Minister): Mr Speaker Sir, I will give the House some information if you please. Some members mentioned that there is about Rs. 30 lakhs in RD Committee Office. In this regard, the government inquired about

the office through competent Auditor. But no such surplus or any such kind has been observed.

In fact, the RD Committee Office keep Rs. 170,25,500 in each. Out of this, the sum of Rs. 100 lakhs is allotted for NLUP. Selection of NLUP is conducted by the department itself. As large number of selected persons has been dropped, the Cash which is drawn for this purpose is deposited through challan No. 791/B of 14.9.'95, 529 B and 83/B/19/2/96.

Pu R. Tlangmingthanga : Mr. Speaker Sir, the information given by honourable Minister is highly appreciated. I suggest the department as well as the government to take action against any misuse or exploitation of money.

Speaker : We shall call upon Finance Minister to submit Demand No. 9, 10, 20, 21, 42, 44, 52 and 55.

Pu J. Lalsangzuala (Minister): Mr. Speaker, with the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission.

Sir, I move the Demand No. 9,10, 20, 21, 42, 44, 52 and 55 for Rs. 3351 lakhs only for meeting expenses during 1996 - 97, in respect of different departments namely Demand No. 9 - Art & Culture fiscal services Rs. 29 lakhs. Demand No. 10 Treasury & Accounts administration Rs. 228 lakhs and 50 thousands. Demand No. 20 department benefit Rs. 95 lakhs. Demand No 21 State Lottery Rs. 26 lakhs, Demand No. 42 Cooperation Rs. 257 lakhs and 40 thousands. Demand No. 44 North Eastern Area Rs. 1046 lakhs and 80 thousands. Demand No. 52 Census survey & Statistic Rs. 153 and 10 thousand. Demand No. 55 Loan to Government servant Rs. 600 lakhs. Totalling 3351 lakhs, thank you sir.

Speaker : As submitted by honourable Minister, do we agree to consider? If we agree, let us call upon Dr. R. Lalthangliana.

Dr. R. Lalthangliana: Mr. Speaker Sir, if we think of the whole budget allocation, budget distribution is uneven. All minister does not enjoy equal share. This should be arranged evenly.

Meanwhile, we've always met a problem regarding financial structure. We have always heard that our Bank is almost empty. Financial irregular-

ity in Bank is not new today. In this regard, I request the government to tackle this problem.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I request again the government to open more financial institution and Treasury Office at Aizawl town. Mr. Speaker sir, it is a mandatory rule that cashier or accountant or other officers will not keep money in cash. But most department in Mizoram violate this rule. For this reason, I suggest the government to take appropriate action in this regard.

Regarding withdrawal of G.P.Fund and Pension case of government servants, the government must not make any difficulties regarding withdrawal of GP Fund and pension and pension benefits.

Regarding Demand No. 55, loan to government servant should be provided without making any restraint and objection likewise, regarding NEC. The government must claim large funds. Lastly, regarding statistics and Census Survey, the government is trying to improve collection of data, thank you.

Pu B. Lalthlengliana : Mr. Speaker Sir, I request our honourable Minister to take a appropriate action regarding wrong cutting of professional tax of teachers. And so also pension benefit of teachers. Regarding HUDCO loan to government servant, I think transparent loanable system should be adopted.

Mr. Speaker Sir, fencing of Treasury Office will be dismantled, as it cause difficulties to staffs and customs. Regarding post creation, Central norms should be adopted.

Lastly, Planning Department office is outdated, new office may be constructed or it may be attached to Secretariat building annexe Eastern block.

Pu Lalzuala : Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding Cooperative Society under Cooperation Demand No. 42, I want to express the difference of sanctioned fund between Aizawl and Lunglei towns. During 1994 - 1995, sanctioned funds for Aizawl town was Rs. 32,90,000/- while Lunglei was Rs. 7,10,000/- only. During 1995 - 1996, sanctioned fund for Aizawl town was Rs. 35,00,000/- while Rs. 8,00,000.00 only was sanctioned for Lunglei town. We may see that there is a wide gap. For this reason, I request our honourable Minister to conduct sanctionment on the basis of requirement and not on population wise.

Again, I request the government to fill the vacant post of Deputy Registrar as soon as possible, and so also to open Cooperative Sub Division at

Tlabung and Hnahlan village.

Regarding Demand No. 10, I regret our honourable Minister to open two treasury office at Lunglei and one Treasury Office at Chawngte. Again, as stated earlier, problems relating to retirement benefit, GP Fund and loan to government servant may be solved soon.

Pu F. Malsawma : Mr. Speaker Sir, most importantly, I want to mention that we must not have to think highly of auditor. The way we treat auditor is highly appreciated, but as they work for us, we give what they claim. For this reason, we must not have a high opinion of those auditors.

Regarding PMRY loan, a list of task force have been rejected by banks. Matter relating therein may be worked out. Likewise, problems relating to Housing Loan at Dawrpui Branch should be taken up by the government.

Speaker Sir, computer should be introduced in Planning and Statistical Department, so that, funds and budget of government will be used effectively and more meaningfully. Not only that, programme implementation, Budget allocation etc. should be verified by student. So that reliable source of data and verification result may be more meaningful, if students; hired, may will provide fees, bus fare, cost of study etc.

Lastly, reliable and upto date census should be conducted, thank you.

Pu T. Hranghluta: Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding Demand No. 20, I request the government not to delay pension benefit, death gratuity and the like. And also to attach pension all at Account & Treasury.

Regarding Demand No. 35., loan to government servants, I request the government to provide HBA, HUDCO loan and other benefits to government servant at remote areas. Because they have always met many problems/difficulties in this regard, thank you.

Speaker : Dr. J.V. Hluna.

Dr. J.V. Hluna : Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding Demand No. 55, I request the government to increase car advance, building advance, tow wheeler advance and the like to government servant.

Regarding registration of birth and death, I request the government to conduct registration through competent person from the village itself. So

that date will be reliable. To add, Statistical Cell may be opened up at different departments.

Regarding NEC funds, I suggest the government to increase the fund through population ratio or any other means.

Speaker Sir, we know very well that the importance and usefulness of Cooperative Society at villages. For this reason, I request the government to encourage and assist existing Society at rural areas.

Regarding financial institutions, I suggest the government to open more banks (i.e. nationalised bank) in Mizoram.

Regarding pension retirement benefit, the government must take step not to delay such benefits, and also to keep Service Book properly and efficiently.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we know that fake financial institution had been opened at some places since past few months. For instance, SATNA SYNDICATE BANK had been opened since past few months. In this regard, the government must be sensitive about such fake institution and must have to take appropriate action, thank you.

Speaker : Now, we will have a break, meeting will be resumed at 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM

Speaker : Let us call upon Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga.

Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have not much to say. But one thing I want to say first is that for a person who are dealing with Treasury Office, fixation of the time of submission of demands or challans should be expanded or changed by a whole day.

Regarding, Cooperation Department, misformation, mal-adjustment and mismanagement has been involved. For this reason, the government must have to overcome all these difficulties.

Regarding loan to government servant such as registration of birth and death, development of power and so on and so forth. Government must take immediate remedial action against problems arising therein, thank you.

Speaker : Now we shall call upon Pu Remsiama.

Pu F. Lalremsiama: Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding Loans to government servants, I suggest the government to increase the amount of loan. Regarding State government lottery. The government must restraint itself from doing so.

Regarding Demand No. 20, we know that there is intention to increase the amount of pension benefit, but no such amount has been received. In this regard, I request the government to carry out its scheme.

Speaker Sir, regarding Accounts & Treasury, I request the concerned Minister to give us classification especially on Judicial & Non judicial scam.

Again, I request the government to set up Vigilance Wing in the Financial Department.

Lastly, the government must have to enquire problems relating to purchase of vehicle in the Finance Department.

Pu Zathuama : Mr. Speaker Sir, I agree with the statement made by our honourable members regarding Cooperation Department. To add, I request the government to conduct team work and coordination between Cooperation department and Cooperative Societies.

Speaker sirl, I also request the government to continue Mimbung to Manipur jeepable or truckable road and so also to construct bridge at Tuivai river.

Speaker : Pu Lalhmingthanga.

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to say first is that North Eastern Development fund should be increased for Mizoram, so that development in this respect will go in full swing.

Regarding State Lottery, the policy of no lottery, no gambling in Mizoram will be adopted. Because Mizoram is christian State. Again the government must have to forbid the practice of cash drawn by non Mizo's outside Mizoram.

Speaker : Pu Lalsawta.

Pu Lalsawta : Mr. Speaker Sir, financial control should be taken up seriously. So that financial scam and mismanagement will be controlled. Besides this, misuse of money is no news for us. The government must have taken remedial action against this.

Regarding Cooperation Department, the government must have to encourage Cooperative Society to control and stabilised public essential commodity distribution system.

Lastly, I request the government to solve problem relating to Civil pension and Army pension.

Pu H.K. Chakma : Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding Cooperation department, the government must give priority to financial institution. I, therefore, request the government to set up Apex Bank or any other kind of financial institution at Lunglei District/Chakma District and so also at Sub.Division level. So that problem relating to financial transaction, deposit, demand etc. will be solved.

Regarding loan to government servant and census survey, I request the government to provide HUDCO loan and conduct statistical census survey in towns and villages respectively.

Pu Zoramthanga : Mr. Speaker Sir, I should say, portfolio distribution system is unsatisfactory. One of major departments should be attached to Finance Department. Regarding pension, the government must have to improve method and system of pension.

Speaker sir, it is correct to say that State Lottery is the main source of State revenue, but the government must constraint itself from doing so. So that gambling and other social evils may be controlled. Speaker Sir, we know that there is adulteration of petrol and black marketing. In this regard, I request the government to control such problems.

Regarding funds for North Eastern area, special consideration nwill be given to Mizoram, thank you.

Pu H. Thangkima: Mr. Speaker Sir, I request our honourable Finance Minister to enquire problem relating to Favourite Small Investment Limited 1986.

Secondly, I request the government to continue Phairuang to Bnghmun road and so also to construct Langkaih and Tuivai bridges.

Thirdly, I request the government to introduce and encourage more effectively Sericulture and so also to allot budget for eradication of poverty in Mizoram, thank you.

Speaker : We shall call upon Finance Minister Pu J. Lalsangzuala to wind up.

Pu J. Lalsangzuala (Finance Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for allotting me time to wind up. Firstly, I may say that distribution of Minister's portfolios cannot be proportionate. Regarding Education department, Staff had been oriented. Some members mentioned that the percentage of christian in Mizoram is 100, but I am afraid that this figure may be incorrect.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the government laid great emphasis on Cooperation. Cooperative movement can be attained mainly through education. But Cooperative movement has failed because of government intervention and vested into rest. In spite of the above problems, the government is trying to encourage cooperation and steps has been taken to improve further.

Regarding ICDP (Integrated Cooperative Development Programme) Rs. 359.31 lakhs has been sanctioned for Aizawl district and Rs. 527.48 lakhs has been sanctioned for Chhimtuipui district. In this regard, funds has been allotted for remote areas and poorer section of society.

Regarding adulteration of petrol, we must have to look into matter related therein. Likewise, the government is intending to set up State hospital, larger funds has been allotted to Education, PHE etc. Not only that, the government intended to provide loans to government servant beneficially and without discrimination.

Regarding pension benefit for War Veteran and others, there is scheme to provide the said benefit more effectively.

Lastly, as Treasury cannot be set up at villages, there is no intention to open Treasury at Hnahthial, thank you.

Pu J. Lalreinsiamia : Mr. Speaker Sir, is there any intention to reduce pension benefit of Rs. 200/- at lower rate?

Pu J. Lalsangzuala : Mr. Speaker, alteration of pension maybe made if necessary. Regarding problem relating to Small Investment Limited, appropriate action has been taken. Regarding NEC fund, the fund has been allotted to Micro hydel project, fisheries etc. I, therefore, beg leave of the House to pass Demand No. 9 Art & Culture and fiscal services Rs. 29 lakhs. Demand No. 10 Treasury & Accounts Rs. 228 lakhs. Demand No. 20 Department benefit Rs. 95 lakhs. Demand No. 21 State lottery rs. 26 lakhs. Demand No. 42 Cooperation Rs. 257 lakhs. Demand No. 44 North Eastern Area Rs. 1046 lakhs. De-

mand No. 52 Census Survey & Statistics Rs. 153 lakhs. Demand No. 55 loan to government servant Rs. 600 lakhs, totalling Rs. 3351 lakhs.

Speaker : Demand No. 9, 10, 20, 21, 42, 44, 52, and 55 moved by Pu J. Lalsangzuala - totalling Rs. 3351/- lakhs. Those who agree to pass say 'yes' and those who disagree say 'no'.

I declared that the demands is passed by the House. Meeting will be resumed at 10:30 tommorrow.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.