

13th. SITTING OF THE 10TH. SESSION
THIRTEEN SITTING ON MONDAY,
THE 30TH. SEPTEMBER, 1996

PRESENT

Pu R.L. Valla, Deputy Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, 16
Minister and 19 members were present.

QUESTION

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

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bill to be considered:

2. Pu S.T. Ruayyapa to move that the Mizoram Village Councils (Amendment) Bill, 1996 be taken into consideration.

ALSO

to move that the Bill be passed.

3. Pu P.C. Bawitluanga to move that the Mizoram (Pension for Members of the defund Mizo District Council and of the Pawi/Lakher Regional Council (Amendment) Bill, 1996 be taken into consideration.

ALSO

to move that the Bill be passed.

4. Pu C. Vulluaia to move that the Mizoram State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Bill, 1996 be taken into consideration.

ALSO

to move that the Bill be passed.

Pu R.L. Valla (Dy. Speaker): Now, we shall call upon Pu Sawta to ask question No. 178.

Shri Lalsawta : Mr Dy. Speaker Sir, will the honourable Minister, i/c. PWD be pleased to state — to tender works under PWD, a contractor needs certain qualifications such as — to have the building constructed within five years or to have had building constructed amounting to or more than Rs. 20 lakhs. Is this partial Administration to contractors under PWD or PWD code?

Shri. Lalthanhawla (Chief Minister): Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, this is not for partial Administration but for Administration of Justice under PWD Manual.

Pu F. Malsawma : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, regarding call of Tender 5% below or 5% above is always indicate to comply with the replying contractors. Is there any intention to continue the same?

Secondly, will the government able to take steps to improve efficiency of officials whose estimate amount of contractual item had always been revised now and then?

Thirdly, is there any lower amount of Revised Estimate that its original estimate in PWD?

Shri. Lalhmingthanga : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, is it possible to apply CPWD Manual to be more liberal for the inexperienced contractors?

Shri. B. Lalthlengliana : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, let me ask only two questions. Firstly, does the Govt. of Mizoram agree with the construction of the Calcutta Mizoram Circuit House?

Secondly, it seems that no Tender is floated for this work. How can the government restricted such contract work? Is there any intention to give another contract work to the contractor, who constructed Calcutta Mizoram House?

Shri Lalthanhawla (Chief Minister): Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, regarding the restriction of qualifying contractor, CPWD Manual is always applied for a specified good work. In such case, experienced contractors, who are in good financial position and who would be able to complete the work within a specified period are always needed.

And now there is no intention to alter the rules of 5% below or 5% above. CPWD Manual is regarded to be good enough to apply for:

Shri Lalkhama : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, a supplementary question. Is there any intention to alter PWD Scheduled rate? If so, which rate would be applied for under construction?

Shri H. Thangkima : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, it is very desirable toknow the name of contractor who are qualified to construct such building. Will you please inform the Honourable Minister by oral or written?

Shri F. Lalremsiama : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, two supplementary question only:

1. (a). Does the government keep list of Class I contractors?
- (b). If so, can the department concern supply the copy to all hon ourable members?
- (c). What are the basis of its selection?
- (d). Is the quality of work good enough?

2. When general election is at hand, Department always issued a member of Departmental Work order? What is the reason for the same?

Shri Lalthanhawla (Chief Minister): Mr. Dy. Speaker, regarding Mr. Lalkhama's question, PWD work scheduled is always revised. It is now under revision. It is expected to be completed in October this year.

Secondly, construction of Calcutta Mizoram House is regarded to be good enough.

Thirdly, the authorities of department may issue allotment of departmental work order by their own discretionary power where it is necessary according to its locality.

Shri F. Lalremsiama : What percent is the discretioning power?

Shri Lalthanhawla (Chief Minister): No percentage is made in this regard but according to the demand of works.

Shri F. Lalremsiama: Mr. Speaker Sir, can you clarify the yardstick of the restricted tender?

Shri Lalthanhawla: Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, CPWD Manual para 18(4) provides that "the works is required to be executed with very great speech which all not contractors are in a position to generate". And para 18 provides the restricted

tender cannot be called off after preparation and selection of contractors on the basis of an advertisement so as to make the lists of contractors. As such, the authorities decided selection of contractor as per the provision of this rule.

Shri F. Lalremsiama : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the government be pleased to clarify the 1st. Class contractor whether he had resources like Assistant Engineer, Cement mixing machine and steering board at the time of registration is done?

Shri Lalthanhawla (Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, it is not to be neglected.

Dr. J.V. Hluna: Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, I ask starred question No. 178.

- (a). Is there any age bar regarding selection of College lecturer?
- (b). Any other qualification?
- (c). It's effective date.
- (d). Why did the Joint Director take up charge of Director after the death of Peter Lianhrima, Director of Higher and Technical Deptt.?
- (e). No question.
- (f). How many colleges shall be made deficit by government during the year 1996-'97. Thank you.

Shri Zosiama Pachuau: Mr. Speaker Sir, the answer to the above questions are —

- (a). Yes.
- (b). 55 % of marks in the Master degree examination and good marks in other examination too. Especially, for Mizo subject he/she should take Mizo as Major subject in B.A. Besides, he should have knowledge of Mizo language upto Middle School standard.
- (c). Its effective date is 20.9.1991.
- (d). The government is now examining about it.
- (f). It is not yet clarified.

Dr. J.V. Hluna: Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, will the honourable Minister, i/c. election be pleased to state —

- (a). How many names are newly enrolled under Chakma Autonomous

District Council during Lok Sabha MP Election, 1996?

- (b). What order is made for this enrolment?
- (c). Does the order includes any other District?

Shri Lalthanhawla : Mr. Speaker Sir, answer to the above questions are —

- (a). 1233 names are enrolled.
- (b). Election Commission of India, Message No. 30/MIZ/96/4250, dt. 25.3.96 and No. 30/MIZ/96/4247 of 25.3.96.
- (c). The order includes no other District.

Shri R.L. Valla (Dy. speaker): We shall now proceed to our Legislative business. We had finished our Budget discussion. As we had received the Mizoram Village Council (Amendment) Bill, 1996, we shall have a consideration and call upon the Minister in-charge to beg for consideration.

Shri S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Dy. Speaker sir, with your kind permission I beg the House to consider the Mizoram Village Council (Amendment) Bill, 1996.

Shri R.L. Valla (Dy. Speaker): Do you agree to consider the same (Member, Yes). If so, we will now discuss about it. We will call upon the concerned Minister to explain the Bill.

Shri S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Dy. Speaker, as a result of suggestion made by the honourable Member Mr. Lalrinchhana in his Resolution moved in the former Session, Village Council Affairs Committee was constituted by the Govt. The Committee consists of various members.

The Committee seriously looked into the provisions of the rules. Especially, fines that may be imposed by the Village Council are amended. The Committee observed that the Lushai Hills District Jhumming Regulation, 1954, under which Rs. 50/- fine for cultivation of land without VC Permission was too littee so the fine is increased upto Rs. 500/-.

Besides this, the member of Village Council member reduced from 4 to 3 Members per 100 houses and so on. President and Vice President dismissal on ground of corruption and lost of majority support is rested in the hands of Govt. Moreover, fines for voluntary public work is increased from

Rs.25/- to Rs. 50/-. And Treasurer post is made in the Village Council.

And regarding the salaries of the Members of Village Council, each of their salaries are increased as below:

1. President from Rs. 85 to Rs. 300
2. Vice President from Rs. 51.00 to Rs. 250.00
3. Secretary from Rs. 68.00 to Rs. 200.00
4. Members from Rs. 42.00 to Rs. 150.00
5. Village Crier from Rs. 25.00 to Rs. 125.00

But now, the provision made for the salary in the Budget does not meet the requirement. As such, the committee decided to make necessary arrangement in the times to come.

And, the recommendations made by the committee are put up before Cabinet Meeting. The Cabinet Meeting also agreed with it. I, therefore, Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, move The Village Council (Amendment) Bill, 1996 for consideration of this august House, Thank you.

Dy. Speaker : Now, we shall have a discussion. We shall call upon Mr. F. Malsawma, after that Mr. Lalbiakzuala, Thank you.

Shri F. Malsawma : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, I don't like to pass this Bill for the following reasons — Firstly, no provision is made for punishment of corruption practised among Village Council Members. I think that it would be better to make provision for punishment of corrupted VC Members as criminal case. If not, a wide loophole is opened for them. Dissolution of Village Council is not enough for punishment.

Secondly, there is no provision in the Bill for control of VC Members in regard its allotment of reserved/safety areas.

Thirdly, no system of verification for the wrongs done is provided.

Fourthly, no door is opened for them to earn revenue from their respective resources.

Fifthly, no additional power is given to them.

Sixthly, regarding salary, the salary of VC Secretary should not be more than the Members.

In short, I have no objection regarding its provision but it is not yet

completed. If we are to pass the Bill, we should make it more complete, thank you.

Shri S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, it is only little to consider. Let me speak about it shortly -

- (a). composition of members and the number of household which can have Village Council.
- (b). number of nominated seat to be provided.
- (c). regarding Cash Book, no provision is made for the Village Council.
- (d). President of Village Council is generally receiver of official and VIP's. Hence, higher amount of salary is required for him. The present salary is very little. Besides this, he also requires discreationary fund, no provision is made in this regard.
- (e). Secretary is the secretariat of a Village Council, so he may require higher amount of salary.
- (f). Crier: The village Crier has a lot of duty in the Village Council affairs. He sometimes serve as peon. So, he also needs more salary.

Anyhow, this Bill stands for the progress of the Village Councils. I therefore, support this Bill to be passed expecting that the Bill would bear fruit for the Village Councils. thank you.

Shri F. Malsawma : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Bill we are discussing is the Mizoram Village Council Amendment Bill, but what we had amended is The Lushai Hills District Council Act. So, the name of the Bill is not clear enough. As such, we should clear the name of this Bill for the first time.

And regarding its provision, which we are expecting the best and complete provision, we had only three pages. It may be regarded as a despise to Village Council. Village Council is elected by adult franchise as ourselves. We should upgrade their position. This is an idea of the honourable Minister. That's why, this Bill is not fit to be passed in this august House. It is afraid that the VC Members will be disappointed with the Members of this House, if the Bill is passed as it is.

And regarding relation with the Government, no power is provided regarding their relationship with different Departments. As such, if we were to discuss its incompleteness and its defects, even a day would not be

enough. In short, I earnestly request this august House not to pass such Bill, which has no advantage, thank you.

Shri Lal Biakzuala : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, this Bill is not a new one. It is old and an important Bill. It is about the administration of the Villages and Towns. Town now has become a city. It was said in the former term of Assembly that all of us gave ear to it. Although alteration is made, but no improvement is made. It is just in name only. That's why, this Bill is not fit for passing of the House.

Shri Zoramthanga : Mr. Dy. Speaker Sir, it is provided that whether elected or nominated, the Member shall continue in Office during the life of the VC concern, unless he is otherwise disqualified or terminated or the VC is dissolved sooner under relevant provisions of the Principal Act. How shall this would be carried on? This is very shameful. No alteration is made regarding the hunting of beast and catching of fishes in restricted area nor prohibition of Forest Reserve area.

If other State see the Bill, we shall be condemned. Even the Village Council Members will challenge the House. That's why, this Bill is not fit for passing. If you are trying to pass, our groups will not interfered in it. That's why, Mr. Dy. Speaker, I earnestly request the House not to pass this Bill.

Thank you.

Deputy Speaker : We have only two minutes more, as such, we shall take a recess and resume at 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM

Speaker : Now, we shall call upon Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga.

Shri. R. Tlanghmingthanga: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. I want to speak about the Bill shortly. The government is fortunate that the Opposition too are very interested to speak about the Bill. I'm afraid that the speeches of the Opposition Member would be regarded to be denied as it is from the Opposition bench. I know the government is unintentionally mistaking the Bill because the Amendment Bill is totally named.

That is, we have no Village Council Act, but only the Lushai Hill District Village Council Act, 1953 while the Bill we had discuss is The Mizoram Village Council (Amendment) Bill, 1996. As such, the provision made in it is unworthy to discuss now. I, therefore, request the government not to take position in it, but to withdraw the Bill and seek for better convinience for amendment of the Lushai Hills District Village Council Act, 1953, thank you.

Shri Lalkhama : Mr. Speaker Sir, let me speak about it shortly. The importance of the role play by the Village Council in democratic country as well as Mizoram could never be over-emphasized. The present Amendment Bill is against the thought of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, the late Prime Minister of India. Not only that, local self-government is given importance even outside India. To pass the Bill as it is, would be a disgrace to the Government of Mizoram. It could be regarded as a despisal to the Village Council. It has many defects. The provisions of the Bill is against the opinion of the House as well as the Village Council. That's why, I cannot agree to its passing.

And I may not digest some of its provisions. One of them is fixation of the number of Village Council. It is generally even number, but it should be odd number as the numbers are elected on political party basis.

Secondly, Nomination Seat is to be deleted in the Bill for it is a tool that the government could breach against the Village Council of the democratic government.

Thirdly, the Village Council can be terminated/dissolved sooner under circumstances of inefficiency/corruption as per the provision of Section 4. This may not be true. It is against the principle of democracy. There must be a provision for investigation regarding inefficiency of the Village Council. That's why, this Bill is to be handed over to a committee, constituted for scrutiny of the Provisions. I, therefore, request the government to do the same.

Shri Zoram sangliana (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to express my gratitude on this Bill for it is ready for passing. I do highly appreciated this Bill. This Bill is thoroughly prepared and checked by the select committee constituted by the House. As such, I think that we are to pass this Bill without any complaint. But it is not so. In this connection, what I want to say is that the Lushai Hills Village Council Bill, 1953 is amended as the Mizoram Village

Council Amendment Bill and adopted. But it has incompleteness. Now, completion made in this regard. We should not confuse with its name.

And there may be some criticism but we should not criticise it. Nothing is best but what fit the moment is best. The Rule made in this regard in 1953 is applied till date. That's why, the latest amendment made by the Committee would be fit for application. I think, even the Members of Village Council shall appreciate it. I, therefore, support the Bill to be passed, Thank you.

Speaker : The honourable concerned Minister will clarify it. We listen to the specific of the members. We have two Bills to discuss and I will call upon the Minister.

Dr. R. Lalthangliana : Mr. Speaker Sir, let me speak about it shortly. The Bill is not handed over to the Select Committee but to a committee constituted by the House for this purpose.

And I also want to say about its provisions that no points raised earlier had been included in the provisions. That's why, this Bill is not fit for passing in this august House. It is very shameful to pass this Bill. The Village Council Members shall condemn its provision if it is passed. That's why, I urge the government to think about its defects, thank you.

Shri Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, I also do not want this Bill to be passed at this time. If we trace out the history of our Village Council from the very beginning..... (Speaker)

Speaker : I want to inform you that the spirit of nominated seat of our Village Council is that people may elect ignorant personel. In such case, nominated seat is made for prevention of ill-formed Village Council. The village chief advisers and the knowhow are generally appointed for this nominated seat.

Shri Lalhmingthanga : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate your information. But in the course of time, it may be misused. Such case is commonly known since 20 years ago. To prevent such misuse, I want to suggest that the number of Village Council members be made on odd number by abolishing nominated seats in the Village Council.

And secondly, I want to delete the provision of Section 7 appeared in the third paragraph about the removal of President and Vice President of the Village Council. The reason is that the case is not clear enough for such removal. Let us make more restricted rules.

And then regarding Treasurer post, it is provide to be appointed from themselves. This is not good enough. I think it would be better to make Treasurer post to be more responsible since financial involvement is now higher than before. If the Treasurer could keep account to be auditable, it will be helpful for the VCP as well as for other members and the government for other members and the government.

I, therefore, request you not to pass this Bill but to make better provision and give it to the Select Committee for further consideration, thank you.

Shri Saikapthianga : Thank you, Mr Speaker Sir, I want this Bill to be passed at this time. For we have not much time to discuss. Secondly, although there may be some defects and require amendment, we should pass this Bill, for, the Amendment is made by the Committee for VC Affairs constituted by the House had done all kinds of its provisions not by the Select Committee. I also have to say about its provisions but let us hope necessary amendment would be made from time to time in future.

And this Bill seems to be added with a small portion of Amendment. In this regard, no one complaint about its amended rules. That's why, we should pass this Bill without any delay. It would not be good to set aside the amendment made by our representatives as well as the concerned Minister and its department, thank you.

Shri J.V. Hluna : Mr Speaker Sir, some of the honourable Members are absent at the Meeting of Village Council Affairs Committee two or three times. The Bill introduced does not seem to be the amendment made by the Committee. And we did not finalise it. I think another Bill had been introduced.

Speaker : Keep silence, please, 4:00 PM is the time for adjournment. But we may not finish our business.

Shri C. Chawngkunga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, generally speaking, I want to pass this Bill. The Village Council Administration originated since 1922. At

that time, the Chief of Tripura claimed western side of Tlawng river as his area. And in 1953, the Village Council Administrative Rules is made. Now, Amendment of those rules are now the must.

I also want to delete the provision of nominated seats. As stated, there may be some incomplete provisions. But considering its time, it would be better to pass this Bill, thank you.

Speaker: Mr. B. Lalhlengliana. After that we shall call upon its concerned Minister.

Shri B. Lalhlengliana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir, this Bill is moved for passing. But, I cannot agree to pass. The honourable minister and members discussed about its defective and incompleteness. Normally, any Bill or Resolution discussed in this august House should be passed whether it is good or vice versa. But, if we look at this Bill, no provision is made for the welfare of Village Council Members, nor for their upgradation. If we pass this Bill, this august House and the honourable members as well as the honourable Speaker's Chairmanship shall be despised by the members of the Village Council as well as the people. That's why, this Bill be handed over to the Select Committee for further examination and amendment, thank you.

Speaker: Now, let us call upon the honourable Minister.

Shri. F. Lalremsiama: Mr. Speaker Sir, kindly allow me to speak about it. For, I had not spoken about it last friday.

Speaker: You may speak about it exactly for five minutes. We have no more time for others.

Shri F. Lalremsiama: Mr. Speaker Sir, the spirit of this Bill stands for the increase of power or authority and salary for VC. But now no provision is made in this regard. Besides this, adoption of Panchayati Raj system and criminal case of the Village Council members especially in financial crisis are not being provided. That's why, let us drop down this Bill for further amendment, Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you.

Shri S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, from the speeches of the honourable members, it seems that they regarded the whole Village Council Act to be amended. But, the amendment is only some portion. Under the Village Council Administration, we have different Act like VC Act. 1953, Lushai Hills District House Site Act and Justice Act. This amendment is made from

those Acts.

And regarding the composition of the VC, odd number is used as far as possible.

And regarding the welfare of the Village Council, the Chairman of the VC Welfare is summoned at the Committee. He, himself also agreed with it and gave thanks to the Committee.

This amendment also safeguarded and upgraded the power of VC. And Nomination Seat is also discussed. But the Committee does not agree to delete the nomination seat as the honourable Speaker had said.

The salaries of the Village Council Members are also increased.

And regarding Criminal cases — the Committee agreed with the standing rules, i.e. IPC Section 21. And the power of Village Council are being provided in the different Acts. That's why, the Committee does not agree to alter those provisions. Besides this, as the VC members are doing voluntary work for the people, we cannot agree with such amendment. That's all, I can clarify about the amendment, thank you.

Dr. J.V. Hluna : Mr. Speaker, the concerned honourable Minister present the Amendment copy to the House without final decision of the VC Affairs Committee. This may be regarded as contempt of the Members.

Shri S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, that amendment is the will of the honourable member of Dr. J.V. Hluna and Shri Lalrinchhana. No alteration is made in this regard. As such, may I request the House to pass this Bill, Mr Speaker Sir?

Speaker : Please do it.

Shri S.T. Rualyapa (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, I request the House to pass the Mizoram VC Amendment Act, 1996?

Speaker : Do you agree to pass this Bill? (Member "Yes". Some members "No"). As the 'Yes' members are more than the 'No' member, the Bill was passed).

Now, we shall proceed to Business No. 3. We shall call upon Shri P.C. Bawitluanga to move the Mizoram Pension for Members of the Defunct

District Council and of the following Lakher Regional Council Amendment Bill, 1996 as it was introduced some days back.

Shri P.C. Bawitluanga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I request the House to consider the said Bill.

Speaker : I agree with it. You shall ask to pass the Bill after discussion. Now you may move about it.

Shri P.C. Bawitluanga (Minister): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Sir, with your kind permission The Defunct District Council members are only 23 members of these three widows are still alive with the increase of financial difficulties. Their pension salary could not sustain them. While M.P's, MLA's and other District Council Members pension benefits have increased.

And another thing, we have to think is that the said members contributed all their abilities towards the development of our country. Some of those members had passed away and their widows and children are still alive. Those family members are depending upon the said pension benefits. We should look into those position. And the standing rules required amendment. The Bill copy is distributed among the honourable members and I expect that they would study it, thank you.

Speaker : Anyone to speak about it?

Shri Lalhmingthanga: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sir, I also give thanks to the honourable Minister for he had moved a good Bill. I do highly appreciated and support the Bill to be passed. But I have a question regarding family member. In this copy, no provision is made for son.....

Shri P.C. Bawitluanga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, there is provision for the son.

Shri Lalhmingthanga : The copy may be different from one another. If son is provided, I have no question.

Speaker : If no provision is made for son, it is to be regarded as typing mistake. If so, the son should be provided in this Bill.

Shri Lalhmingthanga: If so, I agree with the Bill and request to be passed at once, thank you.

Speaker : Mr. F. Lalzuala.

Shri F. Lalzuala : Thank you very much Mr Speaker Sir, I firstly want to give thanks to the government for having this kind of Bill to be passed. We are fortunate enough to pass the Bill for the welfare of the honourable Members who give their live for the good of the people. I hope that this Bill will bear fruit for our country, thank you.

Shri H. Thangkima : Mr. Speaker Sir, this Bill is very important. The existing Rules being applied today is made by them. I think we could imagine their lives. Some may think in a negative form to pass this Bill. But, it may be though that they play jokes to us. To pass this Bill means that we appreciated the former honourable members. That's why, let us pass this Bill without any complaint, thank you.

Shri Zakhu Hlychho : Mr Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me chance to speak about the Bill. I also give thanks to the government for it shows favour to the former legislatures in the form of pension benefit.

What I want to say is that the provision regarding PL Regional Council Members are not clear enough. The members are only 14 members.

And secondly, Rules 4 provided that the member may receive pension even if he had other pension benefit. But if we see another Rules it cited as 'provided that a member shall not be admitted to pension'. If we show favour, let us fully show favour to them. I expected that the honourable Minister will clarify about the said provision.

Lastly, PL Regional Council is dissolved and fully absorbed as the member of District Council. Those members may or may not claim pension. No clear provision is made in this regard. I therefore, want to speak about them. I suggest that favour be shown to all former members, thank you.

Speaker : Now, let us call upon the concerned honourable Minister.

Shri P.C. Bawitluanga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, what I want to speak about is the son. It is provided in Section 3(b). - 'pension benefit may be given to the son until he attains the age of 25 years or until he start earning his livelihood

which ever is earlier'. That's why, provision is made relating to the son.

And regarding Members not entitled provided in page 4 is that - 'any other person for the same period or simulteneously under any of the Acts or Rules made by District Council of Chakma, Lai, Mara Autonomous District for the purposes of pension for such Members'. This provision relates the period of District Council under Assam.

Shri T. Hranghluta : Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to speak about the provision against the Standing Rules. The State Legislative and Parliament make Rules to entitle any other pension in his capacity as a realised member. Is not it we are copying the Rules of Parliament and State Legislative Assembly.

Shri Liansuama (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, that's right. The Rules does not permit pension benefit to two District Council Member at the same time or simulteneously. That's why, the Amendment provision is right.

Shri P.C. Bawitluanga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, the provision is that we now have Lai, Chakma and Mara District Council. The Bill implies pension for the Defunct District Council. while an M.P. or an MLA could claim pension benefit if he was a District Council Member.

A member of District Council which covers Chakma, Lai and Mara District Council cannot claim pension simulteneously or at the same period of Council. That is the Bill. I, therefore, request this august House to pass 'The Mizoram Pension for Members of the Defunct Mizo District Council and for the Pawi, Lakher Regional (Amendment) Bill, 1996. thank you.

Speaker : The Minister asks for passing the Bill. Do we agree to pass this Bill? (Member 'yes'). Now the Bill is passed. Our next business is The Mizoram Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Bill, 1996. We shall call upon Shri C. Vulluaia, Minister to ask for consideration of the Bill.

Shri C. Vulluaia (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I beg have of the House to move that 'The Mizoram Agriculture Produce Marketing Regulation Bill, 1996' be taken into consideration. Thank you.

Speaker: The Minister beg leave of the House for consideration of the Bill. Do you agree? (Member 'yes'). If we agree, we shall call him to move the Bill.

Shri C. Vulluaia : Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. This Bill is 'The Mizoram Satate Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Bill, 1996. It stands only for this year. It is a Regulation for sale of any Agricultural or farming or Horticulture or NLUP products. It is not only suggestion made by the Government of Mizoram but the central government scheme.

We have not had yet this kind of Regulations till date. That's why, the Central government enforces and encourages us to pass this Bill. This Bill is prepared in accordance with the Model Act of India. If this Bill is passed today, we may receive a large sum of money from Central Government. But if we are late, we may loss or receive a little sum of money at the 9th. Plan Resources. That's why, we have to pass this Bill as soon as possible.

As we are the land of agriculturists, we are devoting more earnestly to it. If this Bill is passed, State Agricultural Marketing Board or Committee may be setup as per the Rules provided in it. If the Board is set-up, we may draw and receive a large sum of money as per fixed by the Central Government. We are allowed to set-up 25 markets. A fund for construction of 1000 km. road between agriculture and Market is already sanctioned. We may, therefore, draw such sum of money as per the Rules provided in it.

If we can do such things, it will be benefitted by the Agriculturists, producers and consumers. But there may be some incompleteness that may be amended as necessity. That's why, let us pass this Bill today for the success of our agriculture, thank you.

Speaker : 4:00 PM is the time for adjournment. But as we see we have a Bill for discussion. Shall we continue the discussion?

Shri Saikapthianga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, let me speak about it shortly. I know that this Bill is to be passed in the House. It seems that only we and the Manipur State have no this Regulation or Bill. If we pass this Bill, it means that we have a good infrastructure in agriculture as per the explanatory notes. There may be some incompleteness and difference in opinion. But passing this Bill will bring all necessary amendment along. I, thereofre, support this Bill and request you to be pass, thank you.

Shri PC Bawitluanga (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, I look into the provisions generally and see no defective. But we have Marketing Regulation from Rev-

enue Department. Now, Agriculturists have no Market. That is our problem. If we pass this Bill, the agriculturists shall have market.

And I don't know whether auction market is provided in the Bill. If this auction market is provided, it will be better. I, therefore, support this Bill and want to pass it today, thank you.

Shri Lahmingthanga : Mr. Speaker Sir, I hope that this Bill 'The Mizoram State Agricultural Marketing Regulation Bill, 1996' would bring great progress for our agriculturists and farmers. We all are aware that proper Market Regulation is our basic need. The farmers and agriculturists are deeply aggrieved by this problem. This Bill would be immediate relief for them. It is nearly late to pass it. As a result of the absence of this Regulation, the profitabilities are in the hands of the middlemen. I am clear enough in its concept and spirit that I give full support to pass this Bill as requested by the honourable Minister, thank you.

Speaker : Let us call upon the honourable Minister to beg leave for passing the Bill.

Shri C. Vulluaia (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, if there are some incomplete provisions we shall amend it later on as required. I, therefore, request this august House to pass 'The Mizoram State Agricultural Marketing Regulation Bill, 1996'.

Speaker : The Minister requested the Bill to be passed. While, clause No. 1 has an amendment, which one is better for passing as amended form or original copy?

Shri. C. Vulluaia (Minister): Mr. Speaker Sir, I think that the original form would be more preferable and I propose to pass as the original form as it was done in all other State.

Speaker : Do you agree with the proposal? (Member 'yes'). If so, do you all agree to pass it? (Members said 'agree'). If so, the Mizoram State Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Bill, 1996 is passed.

Now, the business for today is finished. The Meeting shall be resumed at 10:30 AM tommorrow.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:24 PM.