

- (i) to introduce that the Bill be taken into consideration.
- (ii) to move that the Bill be taken into consideration.
- (iii) to move that the Bill be passed.

7. General Discussion on the Budget for 1997-98 to commence (to be concluded)

SPEAKER : " A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich"

Proverb 10 : 4

We shall take up question.
Question No.121 by Dr. J.V. Hluna.

DR. J. V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, before going on to my question, I would like to mention that my question which was already admitted by the Assembly Secretariat is not shown today. But, the other question which was also submitted by me is shown instead.

SPEAKER : You may ask today's question as shown in the list of Business.

DR. J. V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, I ask starred question No. 121. Will the Hon'ble Minister incharge for Home be pleased to state -

(a) It seems that the test exam on the 23-25 of Sept. 1996 for Asst. Jailer and Jail Warders were conducted mainly to obtain Annual increment and confirmation. I would like to ask whether this kind of exam have been conducted before ?

(b) Whether there are adequate staff quarters in the Central Jail. If yes, why does the Government vacate Rest House Staff quarters for

the utilisation of New Life Home Organisation ? Whether the Government employed New Life Home Organisation for central Jail. If yes, on what condition ?

(c) Whether the construction of Lawngtlai Sub-Jail is completed.

(d) What is the expenditure incurred for the construction of Lawngtlai Sub-Jail ? How many persons could be accommodated in this Sub-Jail ?

SPEAKER : As Pu Zoram Sangliana has been away to New Delhi, he has authorised the Finance Minister to reply the questions under his department.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, as shown in the Jail Manual No. 84, the Sub-ordinate officers of Jail are expected to acquire high knowledge of Jail Manual. The Government often face certain difficulties as the officers do not acquire enough knowledge of their Manual. So, the exam mentioned by the member was conducted in order to impart Jail Manual to the staff. This exam has nothing to do with their increment and confirmation.

(b) As there is shortage of quarters for Jail staff, Rest House has been vacated for the accommodation of New life Home Organisation. The New life Home Organisation has been employed to provide spiritual education to the inmates. They are not given salary and were on probation from 17th july 1996 to December, 1996.

(c) The construction of Lawngtlai sub-Jail has not yet been started as the site for the building is not decided yet.

PU LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, a supplementary question please. In relation to the question of Pu T. Hranghluta on December, 1995, the Minister in-charge

has given his assurance regarding the construction of Lawngtlai Sub-Jail. The Committee on Assurance has even recorded this assurance made by the Minister. However, the Minister just stated that the site for Lawngtlai Sub-Jail has not yet been selected. The Minister should fulfil his assurance. In this regard, I ask the Minister if the Government could make provision to fulfil his assurance during 1997-1998.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, last year, Board of Jail visitors was set up. According to the Jail Manual, the Board members should visit the Jail once in every two weeks. Why do the members of the Board fail to visit the Jail ?

Secondly, after Prohibition Act is enforced, the convicts have been increasing and the Jail building is rather congested to accomodate all the convicts. How does the government react to this ?

Thirdly, we are now facing the dry season and there will surely be water problem at the Jail. To suffice the need of the Jail inmates and workers, does the government take necessary preparation ?

PU LALKHAMA : Pu Speaker, I have come across one news paper which mentions that the person who shot a policeman at Chawnpui was convicted and sent to Kolasib Jail. Does the government consider Kolasib safe enough to keep a person like him ?

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, it is very disgraceful to see that the Ministers fail to carry out their assurances given at their House.

The Jail building at Sazaikawn in Lunglei has become very congested and the site of the Jail is not even fit enough to accomodate all the inmates. This matter has also been brought to the notice of High Power Committee. Does the government make any provisions for

this in the next financial year ?

DR. J.V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, regarding the first question, order was issued by the Department that examination for Jail Warder and Asst. Jailer would be conducted in order to get annual increment. But the Minister, in his replies denied this. In this case, I would like to ask the Minister whether he can assure us that test exam in order to get increment would never be conducted in future.

I would further like to ask if the service rendered by the New Life Home Organisation is advantageous.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, in regard to the question by Pu Lalsawta, I have stated that the matter was under consideration. Accordingly, tender was even floated by the government but cannot make final decision in the selection of the site. This has delayed the construction work. In any case, priority will be given to the completion of Saiha Jail during the 9th Five Year Plan.

Pu F.Malsawma has mentioned about the Board of Jail Visitors: We have existing Rules laid out for the Board of Visitors. I will look into this matter and take steps as required.

It was true that the number of persons convicted have increased due to the enforcement of Prohibition Act. While the Jail is estimated to accommodate 250 persons, there are 641 persons in the Central Jail. The government has realised the accommodation problem and to remove this, 3 buildings was constructed. But, this does not meet our requirements. At present, provision has been made for the construction of 2 Assam type buildings on emergency basis which is expected to be completed before the end of May.

Regarding the problem of water supply for Central Jail, the government will take necessary steps.

I have even visited the site of Kolasib Jail and it is not very desirable. However, steps are being taken to meet the requirements in the 21st century.

In the case of Lunglei Jail more suitable place are being sought.

Regarding the service of New Life Organisation, the government concludes that it is not very beneficial and thus their service was temporarily terminated.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, the Minister seems to advocate for the conduct of test exam for annual increment and confirmation. Government employees are entitled to get their annual increment whether they have gone through test exam or not. Why does this department practise this ?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, I have given my replies
MINISTER to subject mentioned by Pu Remsiana.

SPEAKER : Assurance already given are to be fulfilled.

The Assurance Committee should take every possible steps for the implementation of the assurance given by the Ministers.

Question no. 122 by Pu Lalsawta.

PULALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, I ask starred question no. 122
Will the Hon'ble Minister in charge Cooperation Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether there is misappropriation of fund in the department of Cooperation during 1995-96, 1996-97 ?

(b) If yes, when and what is the amount ?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, during 1994-95, 95-96, there are missing fund in Cooperation Department. In 1994 an amount of Rs. 26,50,000 was found missing. In 1995-96 an amount of Rs. 6,49,600 was reported missing. An amount of the missing Rs. 20,00,000/- was from the grant in -aid for Mizoram State Cooperative Union and the remaining Rs. 50,000/- was from the fund to be given to Apex Bank as a financial assistance. The missing fund of Rs. 6,49,600/- was for Kanhmun Fish Farmer's Cooperative Society.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, a supplementary question please. Does the government take action against the person who was responsible for the misappropriation of fund for Kanhmun Fish Farmer's Society ?

PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, our Rules provide that chairman of the MIZOFED should be elected. In spite of this, chairman for MIZOFED has been nominated. When will the government follow the Rules in regard to the election of MIZOFED chairman ?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister, in his reply did not mention the person responsible. How far the government has taken action in this case ?

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, last year, an amount of Rs. 2000/- per family was given as a loan by Cooperation department through the Cooperative Society. This loan was given for the cultivation of tapioca. However, the government deduct the amount and supply tapioca seeds to the loanees and the loans taken was not utilized for the right purpose. It was stated by the Minister that the government will recompensate these loans. Will the government repay the interest as well ?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the person responsible
MINISTER for the missing of Rs.
6,49,600/- is Pu Saikapthianga of
Chaltlang. A police case was registered and is still under Police investi-
gation. Another person responsible for the missing of fund is Pi
Lalengmawii who was working as an Assistant in R.C.S. Office. This
case was also registered in the Police. She was taken into police custody
on 24.10.94 and then to Central Jail on 1.11.94 and was released on bail
on 8.11.94. Pi Lalengmawii is under suspension since 24.10.94. This
case has been taken up not only by the Police but also by the Anti-
corruption and Crime Section.

The case of Topiaca loans given to some families is under
the consideration of the Government. However, I cannot say what the
outcome would be.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, a supplementary question
please. The case of mis-appropriation of
government fund has become very common nowadays. Can the government set
up Special investigation unit to probe such matters ?

PU J. LALSANGZUAL : Pu Speaker, the suggestion made
MINISTER by the member would be taken into
consideration so as to speed up these
kind of cases.

SPEAKER : Question No. 123 by Pu B. Lalthlengliana.

PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I ask starred question
No. 123

Will the Hon'ble Minister incharge Finance department be pleased
to state -

What is the significance of State Bank of India for Mizoram ?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, being a State Bank, this
MINISTER Bank has functioned as an agent of Reserve Bank of India. For Mizoram, State Bank has been functioning as government banker.

All the government transactions are done through the State Bank and various loans, facilities are given out from it.

PU B. LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, the benefi-
ciaries for centrally sponsored scheme like TMR Y are supposed to receive their grants from the State Bank. but, the latter refused to finance them for some time. What is the reason for this ?

For the staff of State Bank, there is provision for housing loan, the staff do not enjoy this. It would be appreciated if the Minister can clarify these points.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, can the government take steps to prolong the duration for the deposit of challan at the State Bank ?

SPEAKER : As the State Bank is not under the authority of Mizoram government the Minister may have some questions for which he cannot give replies.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, Customer's service has become the number one priority in every Bank.

SPEAKER : What you have said is true. But, some questions are beyond the authority of the Minister.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, most of the rupee note circulated within Mizoram are very old. In this case, I would like to ask the Minister if the government has made a negotiation with the reserve Bank of India to replace these old rupee notes.

PU J. V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, it has come to my knowledge that the office of State Bank of India will be shifted to Solomon's Cave. For more public convenience, overbridge has also been under construction. But, the construction work is being delayed. What is the reason for this ?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, as loan repayment in MINISTER Mizoram is unsatisfactory, State Bank has taken precautionary measures.

In regard to Housing loan for the staff of State Bank, Housing loan facilities are provided for them.

In regard to the question raised by Pu Remsiamia, there is nothing much the government can do . In any case, I will look into the matter.

In the case of replacement of old rupee notes, the Reserve Bank of India has given permission to replace the old notes.

I cannot give the answer to the shifting of R.B.I office as it is not under my department.

DR. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, I ask starred question No. 124.

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Law and Judicial Department be pleased to state -

Does the government take any steps to attain full-fledged High Court ?

PU C. VULLUAIA : Pu Speaker, the government does not MINISTER take a particular step taken in order

to have full-fledged High Court.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, there are certain cases where the magistrates used to release persons arrested for possessing liquor. One havildar was seized for possessing one litre of Rakzu, but the magistrates has released him on bail. The same magistrate had seized 9 bottles of Whisky in the possession of Driver Chandra Mohan Singh on 23.3.97, but was released on bail the same day. It seems that some magistrate have also released persons arrested for possessing liquor but were released without bail. How can the magistrate release them without bail ?

PU LALKHAMA : Pu Speaker, regarding judiciary, the civil Procedure Court is suppose to be enforced in spirit only. But, it is more difficult to enforce in spirit that in practical. So, I suggest for the enforcement of Civil Procedure Court in practical.

R. TLANGHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, after the introduction of Prohibition Act, there are still some Ministers who indulge in drinking liquor. In this case, I would like to ask whether actions can be taken against those Ministers.

DR. J.V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, in the replies to my unstarred question, the Minister stated that only the Sub-ordinate District Council Court is entitled to issue Heirship Certificate. But, one First Class Magistrate of the DC's office had also issued Heirship Certificate. Can the Minister clarify this ?

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, one more supplementary question please. I would like to ask whether the government is satisfied with the functions of the High Court Bench of Aizawl.

PU C. VULLUAIA : Pu Speaker, inspite of the efforts
MINISTER made by the government of
Mizoram, no fruitful results could be seen so far in regard to High
Court Bench in Aizawl.

It is also not satisfactory with the function of the High Court.
Sitting cannot be held regularly due to the irregularity of the Judges.
This problem has already been put up to the Chief Justice.

Regarding the Magistrate who used to release persons arrested
in bail, let me state that magistrates possessed high legal position and
the way in which they enforce law and order cannot be questioned
here. if anyone is unsatisfied with a particular magistrate he can make
an appeal.

Regarding the question raised by Pu R. Tlanghmingthanga whether
action could be taken against the Ministers who violated prohibition
Act. In this case, I cannot give the answer as no such report had
reached the Law Minister.

Sub-ordinate District Council Court is entitled to issue Heirship
Certificate. However, due to lack of legal awarness, ther are some cases
like the ones that are mentioned by the member.

DR. J.V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, the Minister did not
answer my question. So, let me ask
again. Sub-ordinate District Council Court had issued Heirship Cer-
tificate to o ne person. Another person had also obtained Heirship
Certificate from 1st Class Magistrate from the DC's office for the same
cause. In this case, I ask whether the government can cancel the one
issued by the DC's office as only the Sub-ordinate District Council
Cout is entitled for this.

PU Zoramthanga : Pu Speaker, the minister has admit-
ted that there are not creditable ef-
forts and achievements made so far in regard to High Court Bench. I
find this very disgraceful. If the minister is worthless as such, can the
hon'ble house leader place this responsibility to other minister ?

PU TLANGHIMNGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, I think it would be the best if the minister can withdraw his statement that the case of the Magistrate is not questionable in this House as it can be a bad precedents.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, I have mentioned that the magistrates have failed in law and order in the enforcement of Prohibition Act. we expect the Minister to assure us that the matter would be checked and investigated. It is unsatisfactory from our side to hear from the minister that these matter cannot be discussed in the House.

PU R. TLANGHMINGTHANGA: Pu Speaker, the government is carrying on with the enforcement of Prohibition Act with the assistance of various voluntary organisations. For the successful implementation of this Prohibition Act, the government should tak equal action to all persons who violated the law.

PU LALTHANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, we have adopted
CHIEF MINISTER Prohibition Act which includes the punishment. The Police and Magistrates are expected to follow this act to carry out law and order. Whenever a complaint is submitted to the Chief Minister, action is taken accordingly.

Having the cooperation of the public and members of the opposition we should not hesitate to tak eaction against all persons regardless of their status for the success of this Act.

In regard to High Court Bench, various steps have been taken. Our problems are being put up to the authority, a permanent judge has also been demanded.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, how did the gov-

Whether Government take action against the Law Minister's vehicle that violated traffic rules recently ?

PU LALTHANHAWLA : Pu Speaker, as this is recent
CHIEF MINISTER happening, I cannot give
answear to that.

SPEAKER : As question hour is over, let
us call upon Pu H. Thangkima
to use zero hour.

PU H. THANGKIMA : Pu Speaker, as we know, we
are going to face election in
the near future, I would like to point out some unlikely cases that prevailed
in Lunglei District. It would be appreciated if the government could
stop these bad practice. The construction of road between Kawlchaw
and Zero Point was completed with an amount of Rs. 2500/- And for
jungle clearance Rs. 5000/- each was given to 6-persons. But, these
persons did not do any jungle clearance, they just got the money with-
out doing any clearing.

A similar case was there at Sihtlang in which the Executive Member
had drawn a huge amount of fund and gave Rs. 10,000/- each to three(3)
persons for the construction of water -shed. but, not a single water
shed was made by these persons but got the money anyway. Even work
order was not issued for this matter. I have point out these two cases
amongst several cases just for example.

Within Lai Distric Council, there are several cases of Malprac-
tices of power to be found. If the government let it goes on, it would
go from bad to worse. The appointment of Primary School teachers
should also be thoroughly checked. There is also a case where three
persons were appointed for the vacant post of one teacher even when
there is no budget provision for this.

I have not mentioned these points just to blame the government,
but with the hope of reforming these malpractices of powers.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, many times mention has been made and we all have known that some ministers are corrupted morally and materially. It is also heard that one department is very busy in writing off the expenditure incurred for the purchase of cordless phone worth Rs. 6,000/- for one Minister. I have concluded that there is not even a single minister who is blameless and clean of corruption.

SPEAKER : Now, let us call upon the Finance Minister to beg leave of the House to lay his Supplementary Demands.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, the copy of the Supplementary Demand has already been distributed to the members on the 18th March 1997 I will now made the conclusion. With the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission Sir, I move that an additional amount of Rs. 2,19,63,52,000/= only be granted to the excess expenses in 1996, 1997 in respect of the services as shown in Supplementary Demand for grant 1990/96-97, the details of which are as follows -

DETAILS OF THE DEMANDS

Demand No.	Purposes		Amount
1.	Legislative Assembly	Revenue	11,00,000
2.	Governor	Revenue	10,000
3.	Council of Ministers	Revenue	4,00,000
4.	Administration of Justice	Revenue	43,03,000
5.	Election	Revenue	62,47,000
6.	Revenue	Revenue	1,23,65,000

7.	State Excise	Revenue	95,00,000
8.	Sale Tax	Revenue	16,00,000
9.	Treasury & Account Admn.	Revenue	25,00,000
10.	Secretariat	Revenue	3,25,15,000
11.	District Administration	Revenue	1,18,20,000
12.	Police	Revenue	6,52,78,000
13.	Jails	Revenue	1,33,00,000
14.	Civil Supplies	Revenue	2,24,00,000
15.	Printing & Stationery	Revenue	52,80,000
16.	Other Administrative Services	Revenue	93,12,000
17.	Local Administration Department	Revenue	21,95,000
18.	Retirement Benefit	Revenue	4,21,00,000
19.	State Lotteries	Revenue	9,00,000
20.	School Education	Revenue	23,52,29,000
21.	Higher & Tech. Education	Revenue	2,92,58,000
22.	Sports & Youth Services	Revenue	1,89,40,000
23.	Art & Culture	Revenue	33,09,000
24.	Medical	Revenue	15,76,81,000
25.	Water Supply & Sanitation	Revenue	14,75,53,000
		Capital	2,50,00,000
26.	Housing	Revenue	47,00,000
		Capital	1,75,00,000
27.	Urban Development	Revenue	1,04,36,000
		Capital	46,00,000
28.	Information & Publicity	Revenue	24,70,000
29.	District Council	Revenue	8,05,91,000
30.	Labour & Employment	Revenue	19,14,000
31.	Social Welfare	Revenue	4,69,42,000
32.	Social Security & Welfare	Revenue	12,20,000
33.	Agriculture	Revenue	7,52,61,000
		Capital	3,54,19,000
34.	Horticulture	Revenue	2,86,62,000
		Capital	94,70,000
35.	Fisheries	Revenue	34,43,000
		Capital	17,00,000
36.	Soil & Water Conservation	Revenue	57,00,000
37.	Animal Husbandry	Revenue	3,78,28,000

38.	Forest	Revenue	8,24,40,000
		Capital	13,00,000
39.	Co-operation	Revenue	81,70,000
		Capital	42,06,000
40.	Rural Development	Revenue	5,58,65,000
		Capital	40,00,000
41.	North Eastern Areas	Revenue	19,49,000
		Capital	2,06,93,000
42.	Other Special Areas programme	Revenue	3,01,96,000
43.	Electricity	Revenue	10,73,38,000
		Capital	24,61,64,000
44.	Industries	Revenue	1,54,46,000
45.	Sericulture	Revenue	43,12,000
46.	Civil Aviation	Revenue	7,00,000
47.	Road & Water Transport	Revenue	1,79,51,000
		Capital	28,49,000
48.	Tourism	Revenue	1,52,99,000
		Capital	10,00,000
49.	Census, Survey & Statistics	Revenue	24,01,000
50.	Other Genl. Economic Services	Revenue	1,18,03,000
51.	Public Works	Revenue	10,61,11,000
		Capital	19,71,08,000

GRAND TOTAL **2,19,63,52,000**

I request this August house to consider and pass the Supplementary Demands.

SPEAKER : . . . Anyone who would like to speak ?

PU LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, I have always given a speech whenever supplementary demand is discussed because I would like the government to be more cautious in spending the budget.

On page 84 of Agriculture Department we have seen on the Explanatory note that an amount of Rs. 1,00,000/- is sanctioned to

write off misappropriation of the budget. If this is true, it will be disgraceful for the government.

On page 26 we have seen that Rs. 28,84,000/- has been sanctioned for the construction of Police Station at Bawngkawn. In this regard, it has come to my knowledge that the Department is planning to purchase a site near State Guest House. Here, I would like to suggest that the site of the Police Station should be located on a two-way traffic and should also be within the area of Bawngkawn.

It is a matter of satisfaction that there is no supplementary demands for the relief and rehabilitation of victims of Natural Calamity. During 1996-97 Mizoram does not suffer serious natural calamity which is very pleasing. Thank you.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, at the outset I would like to emphasize on matter concerning the provision for vehicle pending bill. If we look into the supplementary demand we have seen a large amount of sanction has been made for the clearance of vehicle pending bill. To state one example amongst many others, on demand no 16 an additional provision of Rs. 65,64,000/- has been made just for payment of outstanding repair charges for heavy vehicles. Not only this, we have seen additional provision made for maintenance of vehicle from every department. As this can lead to misappropriation of the budget, my suggestion is to check this matter more thoroughly.

Tremendous amount of fund has also been provided for the expenditure of casual employees. I think this is an avoidable expenditure.

On demand No. 40, that is the department of Animal Husbandry, we have seen that an additional provision of Rs. 10 lakhs is to be required for purchase of more rabbits. I think Rs. 10 lakhs is rather too much for just the purchase of rabbits.

I would also like to emphasize on demand No. 53. here also, an additional provision of Rs. 1 crore is for sanction of MAMCO. Though large amount of fund has been sanctioned each year for MAMCO, there is no outstanding achievement made by it. I think it has been a

waste of the budget.

On economic services, the government has to give tremendous amount for loan servicing. If this servicing has been carrying on, the loan interest could be our main financial burden. So, my suggestion in this case is not to go any further in loan servicing. These are the points which i like to mention. Thank you.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, on page 124, in the department of Road and Water Transport, an additional provision of Rs. 22.45 lakhs is required for payment of publication chares of pamphlet. How can the department requires such a large amount just for the publication of pamphlet. Not only this, Supply department has a remaining deficit of Rs. 82 lakhs. I think Supply department is going towards bankruptcy.

The second point I would like to emphasize is in regard to the department of Sericulture. Any contract work in the department has never been tendered. Whwther it is repairing work or construction work the department should have tendered. I have pointed out these two department for the notice of the Minister. Thank you.

DR. J.V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, on the outset let me point out matter concerning the department of Civil Aviation. On Demand No. 49 we have seen that, an additional provision of Rs. 7 lakhs is required for the purchase of Aviation Oil. I think Vayadoot Company sponsor Donier Aircraft which has sponsored aviation oil as well. Why do this government has to spent Rs. 7 lakhs for aviation oil.

On page 104 in the explanatory note, it is also read that an amount of Rs. 56.35 lakhs is required for the financial assistance of MIZOFED and Apex Bank and Cooperative Society. This point also made clarification.

One point which also needs clarification is in regard to Labour and Employment. In the demand, we have seen that Rs.10 lakhs is required for the construction of Directorate Building. Does this mean

that the existing building requires repair or maintenance ?

On demand No. 18 which is found on page 34, an amount of Rs. 11.16 lakhs has been provisioned for the refurnishing of State Guest House and on another page we also find that Rs. 28.60 lakhs is provisioned for the refurnishing of State Guest House. I think this point should be clarified.

On page 28, Rs. 40 lakhs is sanction for the purchase of Medicine for central Jail. But, when we visit Central Jail we were informed of the short supply of Medicine. Here there seems to be misuse of government fund. This should also be checked and examined.

On demand No. 8, that is election. an amount of Rs. 27.98 lakhs has been sanctioned to meet the additional expenditure of Lai District Council during MP election. How can Lai District Council alone spent such a large amount while the other District Council do not have such demands ?

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA

: Pu Speaker, at the out set

I would like to request the Finance Minister to clarify demand No. 16 that an additional of Rs. 680 lakhs is required for the maintenance of urban and water supply scheme in various places of which lion's share of the provision is meant for maintenance of Aizawl and Lunglei Greater Water Supply. Regarding Lunglei Water Supply Scheme, an enquiry Commission was even constituted to investigate whether there is misuse of the fund allotted for this scheme. At the same time another additional provision is being made by the government. So, it would be appreciated if the minister could clarify this.

On the 12th of March, Pu Lalsawta had asked whether PHE Department had Rest House or rented House to accomodate officers in Delhi. The Minister's reply to this question was negative. But I can assure you that PHE department has rented a Rest House for the officers in Delhi and if necessary I can produce the House number and location as well. It is wrong for the Minister to provide wrong information to the House.

Another point I would like to emphasize is matter concerning Transport department. As already mentioned in this House, the whereabouts of two government vehicles ZRX 150 and ZRX 213 cannot be traced out. For the purchase of these vehicles Rs. 6 lakhs is involved. This is a serious matter but the authority seems to be neglecting this. The government also seems to be in favour of the officers responsible for this case as the latter is conferred with a promotion. It is my suggestion to the government that misappropriation of the budget should be checked.

In regard to Civil Supply department, it would be appreciated if allotment made in the supplementary Demand could be utilised for the rightful purpose.

Lastly, mention may be made of the work charge employees and Muster Roll employees. The government has rather neglected the work charge establishment that the facilities has not even been mentioned in the Supplementary demands. I have mentioned this just to give light to the government so that work charge and MR Employees could be benefitted.

PU R. FLANGHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, I shall start with the department of Electricity. Rs. 1908 lakhs is sanctioned for augmentation of Luangmual Power house and the re-construction of Power transmission line of Mini-hydel project. The explanatory note is too vogue for us to follow. The minister should have provided more appropriate explanation. Why does the Power transmission line needs reconstruction ? The reason should also be provided.

For the department of Transport, an additional provision of Rs. 14 lakhs is required for procurement of diesel and petrol lubricant, and we also find that another Rs. 14 lakhs is also required for P.O.L. Why does an additional sanction is required for the procurement of petrol and diesel ?

On every demands of various departments, large amount of additional fund is allotted for the implementation of centrally Sponsored

scheme. I have understand that under the centrally sponsored scheme the Central government has provided all the funds which could mean an additional budget for the State. This point may also be explained.

I am very dissapointed that no additional demand is made for the purchase of agricultural products through MAMCO. The government encourages the agriculturists to cultivate various agricutual products like ginger, but, the government do not make allotment for the procurement of their products which discourages the people. The government should pay more attention to the problem faced by the agriculturists.

The department of Civil Supply has demanded for an additional fund of Rs.14 lakhs for pending of repair bill. The Department has more than ten trucks and so the maintenance Bill is so high. Here I suggest that half of the vehicles owned by the Department may be auctioned or disposed off, so that the maintenance bill may decreased and save large amount of fund.

SPEAKER : Let us now call upon the Finance Minister to explain the unclear points.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, I would like to say a few points of importance.

SPEAKER : The Demands will later be examined by the Subject Committee. The Finance Minister has presented the Demands to the House and we shall take vote on Account.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : I would like to ask the Minister to clarify the case of the drawing of Rs. 68 lakhs without L.O.C. and administrative function.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, I will try to explain all the points highlighted by the members.
MINISTER

Whenever there is a case of missing fund, that cannot be recovered, the only choice we have is to write off the missing fund. In this particular case highlighted by Pu Lalsawta the one responsible for it is dead, therefore the only solution left is to write off.

In the case of Bawngkawn Police station, tender was floated to which several persons have applied for it. The selection was left to the Purchase Board Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.

I am not denying the fact that expenditure for the repair of vehicle is high. In order to reduce the expenditure on repair of vehicles the Finance department has laid out a new rule that prior approval of Finance Department should be taken for the sanction of vehicle expenditure.

The case of the Casual employees are being reviewed by the Government.

In the case of MAMCO, an additional sanction of Rs. 100/- lakhs was made purely for procurement and marketing.

One member has mentioned that Sericulture department never floated tender. In this case the department is going according to the tradition adopted by the government.

Regarding the purchase of aviation fuel, we have merely done our share of servicing.

One member has pointed out the case of the assistance given by the government to Co-op Societies. If you read the demand sheet more thoroughly you can see that sanction is made for Co-operative Societies but not MIZOFED or APEX BANK.

The problem faced by Central Jail and its inmates be considered.

One member has suggested reduction of the number of Transport trucks so as to reduce maintenance cost. But, these trucks are provided by Central Government under centrally Sponsored Scheme.

In the explanatory note, it has shown that additional allotment was made for collection of materials and other things. I think this is clear enough. Additional demand has been made only in the case of District Councils that are short of election budget.

Under PHE, additional amount of Rs. 168 lakhs is made as the water supply system in Aizawl and Lunglei Districts require repair and maintenance.

Regarding the rented House, it may be suggested that the Minister concerned should look into it. The case of the transport department vehicles No. ZRX 213 and ZRX 150 should also be handed over to the Minister incharge.

Pu R.Lalthangliana has mentioned shortage of supply of Atta and Maida for Lunglei District. This may also be considered by the Chief Minister.

An additional budget has been demanded for Transport department as the transport bus plying between various towns and villages are not profit-oriented but for the interest of the general public.

MAMCO has been set up merely for agriculture. At present, 84 farming cooperative societies has already been set up for the progress of the farmers. These are the points which can be highlighted for now.

Therefore, Pu Speaker, I request this august House to pass the supplementary demands to meet the expenditure for the current year. Thank you.

SPEAKER : We shall take vote on account now. Those members who agree to pass may say 'Agree' (Members Agree) Anyone who disagree ?

Well, the Supplementary demands is passed unanimously. We shall have recess now and the meeting will be resumed at 2:00PM

2:00 P.M.

SPEAKER : Our next business is Vote on Account. Let us call upon the Finance Minister.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Thank you. Pu Speaker, as I have stated on the Budget speech, I shall move the Vote on Account for the next four months.

On the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission Sir, I move the Vote on Account in respect of the demand No.1 to 10 and 12 to 55 amounting to Rs. 2,42,93,60,000/- only for meeting expenses for the months of April May and June, July 1997 as per details below -

1. Legislative Assembly	Revenue	11,00,000
2. Governor	Revenue	10,000
3. Council of Ministers	Revenue	4,00,000
4. Administrative of Justice	Revenue	43,03,000
5. Election	Revenue	62,47,000
6. Revenue	Revenue	1,23,65,000
7. State Excise	Revenue	95,00,000
8. Sales Tax	Revenue	16,00,000
9. Treasury & Accounts	Revenue	25,00,000
10. Secretariat	Revenue	3,25,15,000
11. Distric Administration	Revenue	1,18,20,000
12. Police	Revenue	6,52,78,000
13. Jails	Revenue	1,33,00,000
14. Civil Supplies	Revenue	2,24,00,000
	Capital	2,93,00,000
15. Printing & Stationery	Revenue	52,80,000
16. Other Administrative Service	Revenue	93,12,000
17. L.A.D.	Revenue	21,95,000

18.	Retirement Benefits	Revenue	4,21,00,000
19.	State Lotteries	Revenue	9,00,000
20.	School Education	Revenue	23,52,29,000
21.	Higher & Technical Education	Revenue	2,92,58,000
		Capital	10,00,000
22.	Sports & Youth Services	Revenue	1,89,40,000
23.	Art & Culture	Revenue	33,09,000
24.	Medical	Revenue	15,76,81,000
25.	Water Supply & Sanitation	Revenue	14,75,53,000
		Capital	2,50,00,000
26.	Housing	Revenue	47,00,000
		Capital	1,75,00,000
27.	Urban Development	Revenue	1,04,36,000
		Capital	46,00,000
28.	Information & Public Relation	Revenue	24,70,000
29.	Distric Council	Revenue	8,05,91,000
30.	Labour & Employment	Revenue	19,14,000
31.	Social Welfare	Revenue	4,69,42,000
32.	Social Security & Welfare	Revenue	12,20,000
33.	Agriculture	Revenue	7,52,61,000
		Capital	3,54,19,000
34.	Horticulture	Revenue	2,86,62,000
		Capital	94,70,000
35.	Fisheries	Revenue	32,43,000
		Capital	17,00,000
36.	Soil & Water Conservation	Revenue	57,00,000
37.	Animal Husbandry	Revenue	3,78,28,000
		Capital	10,00,000
38.	Forest	Revenue	8,24,40,000
		Capital	13,00,000
39.	Co-operation	Revenue	81,70,000
		Capital	42,06,000
40.	Rural Development	Revenue	5,58,65,000
		Capital	40,00,000

41.	North Eastern Area	Revenue	19,49,000
		Capital	2,06,93,000
42.	Other Special Areas Programme	Revenue	3,01,96,000
43.	Electricity	Revenue	10,73,38,000
		Capital	24,61,64,000
44.	Industries	Revenue	1,54,46,000
45.	Sericulture	Revenue	43,12,000
46.	Civil Aviation	Revenue	7,00,000
47.	Road & Water Transport	Revenue	1,79,51,000
		Capital	28,49,000
48.	Tourism	Revenue	1,52,99,000
		Capital	10,00,000
49.	Census, Survey & Statistics	Revenue	24,01,000
50.	Other Genl. Economics Services	Revenue	1,18,03,000
51.	Public Works Department	Revenue	10,61,11,000
		Capital	19,71,08,000
		Grand Total	2,19,63,52,000

I request this August House to pass this vote on account.
Thank you.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Pu Speaker, shall we have a general discussion after the Vote on account ?

PU J. LALASANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, after the vote on account we shall have a discussion on the General budget.
MINISTER

DR. J. V. HLUNA : Pu Speaker, we should have a discussion on the Vote on Account.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, today only 10 members from the ruling are present. Whenever there is a sitting, the minister should be present in the House.

SPEAKER : The member is right by stating that. The members from the Treasury Bench should be present when discussing the Budget.

The Finance Minister has presented Vote on Account demand. If the members have any questions relating to the demands you may say so.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, are you going to give time for general discussion ?

SPEAKER : Instead of having a general discussion, the opposition leader and the Finance Minister will be asked to have a speech. The demands will later be considered by the Subject Committee.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, can you allot five minutes each to the members for making a speech ?

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, as mentioned in my MINISTER budget speech we shall have a budget session in July. The Demands I have presented today is just to meet the

expense for 4 months only.

So, Mr. Speaker, sir, I request this House to pass the same. The rest would be considered by the Subject Committee.

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, it is against our tradition to pass the demands before having a general discussion.

SPEAKER : What we have to pass today is the vote on account, the budget demands for the months of April, May, June and July only.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, in a vote on account, we usually have a short discussion before passing it. However, in this case, the Demand is to be reconsidered by the Subject Committee so, we cannot have a full discussion on the subject.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, what is wrong in having a discussion now ?

PU F. LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, I think it is the best to have a discussion now.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Pu Speaker, let us omit no 7 of our list of Business and take only the first 6. then we can carry on.

SPEAKER : We shall take Vote on the 55 Demands presented by the Finance Minister. The members who agree to pass may say 'Agree' (Members Agree). Anyone who disagree ?

The vote on account is unanimously passed by the House. we shall have recess for 20 minutes as there is heavy rain.

20 minutes after

SPEAKER : I shall now call upon the Finance Minister to introduce Appropriation Bill 1 and 2 to the House.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Thank you, Pu Speaker, I beg leave of the House to introduce Mizoram Appropriation Bill No 1 and 2,1997.

SPEAKER : As the Members agreed to introduce the Bill, he may do so.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, I beg leave of this August House to consider the Mizoram Appropriation Bill 1997 No 1 and 2. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The Members who agree to pass may say 'Agree' Anyone who does not agree may say 'Not Agree'. Mizoram Appropriation Bill 1 and 2 1997 is just passed by the House.

PULALSAWTA

: Pu Speaker, at the outset, mention may be made of the deteriorating condition of our economy in Mizoram. The Government has introduced the system of financing the people for their upliftment especially in the field of agriculture, sericulture, industries and others. But, the system adopted by the Government is not very helpful and even harmful for the people. It just gives financial assistance to the people but fail to impart people guidelines to utilise the financial assistance provided to them. The programmes introduced like NLUP and EAS has rather spoiled the working spirit of the people.

The imbalancing of the budget between the expenditure and the income also needs special consideration.

Another important point I would like to highlight is that most office establishment are very busy to spent up the previous allocation of fund before the end of the financial year. This has led to corruption and certain amount of the fund had gone to somebody's purse. In this way, the share of the people's money has been gone to personal pocket.

The government has taken up several projects and held inauguration. However, the maintenance of the projects have been neglected when preparing the budget. It is important to foresee that when executing big projects the maintenance should also be considered and provision should also be made for maintenance of those projects.

To conclude my speech, I would like to state that the financial administration of Mizoram is satisfactory and becomes one of the best among the Indian states. It is a pleasing matter to be amongst the best state in financial management. Thank you.

SPEAKER

: Dr. R. Lalthangliana.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA

: Pu Speaker, in the speech of the Finance Minister, we have seen that the first part are mainly ex-

pression of gratitude to the central ministry for giving high priority to solve the long standing economic and other problems of our state. At the same time, it is very disappointing to note that the year 1997-98 is expected to open with a deficit of Rs. 76.79 crore as mentioned by the Finance Minister. If the budget is not utilised in an appropriate manner, it can cause misery and financial bankruptcy to the state as a whole.

I would also like to emphasize the case of the Muster Roll employees and work charge employees. Their facilities should also be enhanced. In this regard I would like to remind the authority to make note of the problems faced by the M.R. and Work Charge employees.

On Transport Department, the problems faced by the staff should be taken into priority. It seems that the government is planning to terminate their honorarium. I would like to request that this matter be looked into.

Another important point I would like to highlight is matter concerning Supply department. The supply of flour and other wheat grains never reached Lunglei District and Chhimituipui District. I know that large quantities of flour and wheat grains have been allotted for the said districts but never reached the destination. I would be very grateful if the Minister could note this and take necessary action.

The people of Lunglei are noticing that the government has stated to verify Kawmzawl Airfield. The wish of the people is not only verifying the spot but the materialisation of this project.

I would also like to stress the problem of power supply faced by the people of Lunglei and its surrounding areas. Shortage of power has become a permanent problem for the people. I have often taken up this matter to the authority but no fruitful result could be seen till date.

The construction of PWD road between Hnahthial and Thingsai has been withdrawn after spending 101 lakhs. After such a large amount for the project it is wrong to withdraw. So, I suggest for the continuation of this construction.

The Drainage Scheme for Lunglei Town has often been

mentioned and minuted in the High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of the Finance Minister. The same decided to allot Rs. 100 lakhs for drainage scheme in this meeting. However, when the budget was prepared, only Rs. 4 lakhs was allotted for the same. The people of Lunglei did not find satisfaction in the government but desperation. I have highlighted this point so that the government could take priority in this regard.

I have often raised in the House about the inadequacy of LPG in Lunglei Town. There is only one Gas dealer in Lunglei which can give only 2800 connection while there are more than 9000 families. So I urge the government to install another LPG agency for Lunglei Town.

Lastly, I would like to emphasize matter concerning PHE. As stated by Pu Lalsawta, the government neglects the maintenance of big projects. The same also happens in the water supply system in Lunglei. Due to the failure of maintenance work, many people are facing shortage of water. In this regard, I request PHE Minister to take prior action to solve this problem.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Pu Speaker, we all admit the fact that there is shortage of Power supply for the whole of Mizoram. The only interim solution for the problem seems to be to acquire diesel generator that can produce 5 or 10 mega watts. If maintained properly, diesel generator can last for ten to twenty years. So, my suggestion is to target the diesel generator.

Coming to Social Welfare Department a 300 bedded full fledged De-addiction centre is being set up near Bualpui. The building is still under construction. However, 300-bedded centre is rather small to accommodate all those who needs special care. Not only this, many parents are looking forward to the completion of the building. Therefore, I would like to suggest that an Assam type building be set up on an emergency basis so as to accommodate the youths who need emergency care.

For the mobilisation of our resources, the cultivation of passion fruit is very much worth while. Unlike ginger and squash, the market of passion fruit is good. The other Indian states are not yet familiar with its cultivation and Mizoram alone can feed them with Passion fruit. The most important is to advertise it. Mizoram can earn handsome returns from the sale of passion fruits. So, the government is requested to adopt the policy of encouraging the people to cultivate passion fruit by supplying necessary facilities. If there is no problem with the marketing system the cultivators will be zealous.

PU J. LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, it is a matter of
MINISTER satisfaction to note that the
atmosphere of this session
becomes light and all the criticism coming from the members are also
constructive criticism.

In my budget speech, I have extended my gratitude to the central Ministry especially to the Prime Minister for demonstrating his commitment to the new approach to our problems. He deserves to earn a gratitude and so I have made a mention in my budget speech.

The government accord high priority for the promotion of agricultural marketting. When the on-going construction of Lengpui airport is completed our agriculture and horticulture products could be exported easily to other parts of India.

I am very pleased to note that the members have contributed several constructive suggestions. However, the absence of infrastructure like power and communication cause hazards for implementing all your suggestions.

Coming to the subject of G.P. Fund, whenever the government impounds D.A. and I.R. it always does after consulting the Mizoram Government Employees Association worker. I would also like to express my gratitude to this association for giving their support.

It is a pleasing matter to hear from Pu Lalsawta that Mizoram has been the best financial administration among the states of India.

At the same time, I have no hesitation in admitting our failure in restraining the growth of Non- Plan expenditure - especially on establishment.

Regarding PHE Officers' Rest House at New Delhi, let me inform you that the Guest House is rented by the Staff Welfare Association and not by the Government.

I have admitted that the budget is unrealistic as stated by Pu Hminga. Our budget provision is only tentative because there could be unforeseen circumstances and these unforeseen liabilities heighten our closing balance for the next year.

As we all know, the largest amount of our income has come from the central. When the central revenue is high we get higher income and vice versa. For this reason, we have made a humble beginning in the direction of mobilising additional resources.

I also admitted that the Government spent large amount of fund in NLUP and SDS. These programmes are taken up to provide permanent source of income to the common people.

I am aware of the condition of the Muster Roll employees and the government will review their cases.

The spot verification of Kawmzawl airfield was not conducted not because of the forthcoming election. I had even visited the place twice. But, this project cannot be continued as we are awaiting sanction from the Planning Commission.

The Drainage problem of Lunglei mentioned by Dr. Lalthangliana will be specially considered in the next financial year.

I would also like to inform you that those who are officially accepted as world war veteran will be given their dues from 1.9.95.

Regarding Border Trade Regulation we cannot take rapid steps in building the infrastructure due to lapse of fund from the central government, out of the expected 15 crores from the central we have received only 8 crores. We are expecting another 7 crores this year.

I agree with the member Pu Zoramthanga that small power

projects are not benefitted much. However, bigger projects take time and we had to take up smaller power projects.

I am also aware of the case of De-addiction centre and the government will take utmost effort for this purpose.

Regarding passion fruit, there is provision for the purchase of processing machine and it is expected to be commissioned on May.

PU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

: Pu Speaker, first of all, let me express my gratitude to all the members for contributing sev-

eral constructive suggestions and criticism. I hope your suggestions and constructive criticism would enlighten our mind.

The first important point I would like to highlight is Kawmzawl airfield. This project has been reconsidered as we are getting encouragement from NEC. The Airport Authority of India has also given us their support. The Government also has taken up efforts to renew helicopter service and is having a deal with NESCO. For their cause, the Central Home Ministry can subsidise 75 percent.

It is a pleasing matter that we are beginning to be aware of Wildlife preservation. The government is also taking up for the preservation of wildlife. I invite the members of this House to cooperate the government in this matter.

I would like to assure you that the government has not neglected the procurement of ginger and is also aware of the problems faced by the agriculturists. The government will consider this case as required.

Coming to Hydel Projects, smaller projects are easy to maintain and the central government also encourage us to take up smaller projects. The State government is also making a beginning in this direction. Diesel generator has been severely discouraged by the central government as the maintenance cost is very expensive. But, the government is trying to convince the Home Ministry for diesel generator as this can ease our problem temporarily.

To a large extent, the present financial crisis is nothing, but culmination of our standard of living beyond our means for quite long is the crisis. The only solution to the present crisis is disciplining the expenditure - growth and not making liabilities. I would also like to invite various House Committees to give their cooperation. Yoday, on behalf of the members from the Treasury Bench, I give my special gratitude to all the members. I also seek the cooperation and support of the members for the future. Thank you.

PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Spaeker, in order to have better cooperation, the development department should inform the Subject Committee of their work schedule.

SPEAKER : It is important to note the point mentioned by Pu Malsawma.

We shall have a budget session again on July and it is important for all the Assembly Officers and the Chairman of various Committees to be prepared for the next session.

I would like to advise the Ruling to take steps in Legislation.

I will not highlight reports on the session. However, the Bulletin will be distributed to the members later on.

The House is adjourned Sine Die.

The House adjourned at 5 :25 P.m.