

FIFTH SITTING OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE THIRD ASSEMBLY
ON WEDNESDAY, THE 16TH MARCH, 1994.

PRESENT

PU VAIVENGA, Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, 13
Ministers and 22 Members were present.

QUESTIONS

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

ELECTION TO FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

2. THE SPEAKER to announce names of Members in the
Public Accounts Committee; Committee on Estimates
and the Committee on Public Undertakings.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bills to be introduced and considered

3. Pu J.Lalsangzuala to beg leave of the House to
introduce -
 - (i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the
Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
 - (ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the
Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment)
Bill, 1994.
 - (iii) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension
of Members of the Legislative Assembly
(Amendment) Bill, 1994.
 - (iv) The Mizoram Survey & Record Operation Bill,

ALSO

to introduce the Bills.

4. Pu J.Lalsangzuala to move that -
 - (i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the
Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
 - (ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the
Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

(iii) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1994.

(iv) The Mizoram Survey & Record Operation Bill, 1994 be taken into consideration,

ALSO

to move that the Bill be passed.

S P E A K E R : "For All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord abides for ever".

(I Peter 1:24-25)

We will start with the question and let us call upon Pu F.Malsawma to raise the first question on behalf of Pu Zoramthanga.

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, what is the expenditures incurred for the various Hydel Projects in Mizoram ?

I request the Hon'ble Minister i/c Power & Electricity Department to furnish the answers.

PU C.L.RUALA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, the expenditures incurred for the various Hydel Projects in Mizoram are as follows :-

Tuidum River 15 KW	-	Rs. 12.45 lakhs
Lau river 15 KW	-	Rs. 5.65 "
Laili river 15 KW	-	Rs. 12.24 "
Tuipui 2X250 KW	-	Rs.242.65 "
Tuisumpui	-	Rs.249.22 "
Serlui 'B' 2X4.50 MW	-	Rs.494.99 "
Tuipang river 3000 KW	-	Rs. 43.30 "
Maicham 2000 KW	-	Rs. 56.92 "
Vavra river 50 KW	-	Rs. 17.77 "

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, can the total amount be furnished ?

PU C.L.RUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, the total
MINISTER amount is Rs. 2015.72 lakhs.

S P E A K E R : We will move on to question
No. 2.

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, (a) What is
the original Estimate for
completion of Sports Complex
at Ramhlun ? (b) What is the
expenditures incurred for this purpose ? (c) In what
manner will the Ministry pursue this task ?

I request the Hon'ble Sports
Minister to furnish the answers.

S P E A K E R : Pu F.C.Zoramsangliana.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, the answers
MINISTER are as follows :-
(a) The Sports Complex at
Ramhlun is a centrally spon-
sored scheme, where the original Plan & Estimate is
Rs. 2,74,00,000/-. Besides that, Rs, 38,74,375/- is
sanctioned by the State Government. The total sanctions
received from the CCS and the State Government is
Rs. 1,18,74,375/- .
(b) The expenditures incurred for the said Complex is
Rs. 1,18,74,375/- .
(c) 43.3% of the task had been completed.
(d) The task will be resumed as soon as we get the finan-
cial allotment.

PU F.LAWMKIMA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary
question -
(1) Who are the Contractors ?
(2) What is the amount of
money allotted to him ?
(3) What is the amount of
outstanding debts ?

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like
to raise further questions
to be answered by the Hon'ble
Minister. The expenditures
incurred for construction of Open-Stadium at Sesawng is
Rs. 55. What is the progress of this task ?

Moreover, the High Power Committee recommended the establishment of Mini Sports Complex at Lunglei. What is the progress of such recommendations ?

Dr J.V.HLUNA : Mr Speaker Sir, what is the amount of compensation sanctioned for the Public playground at Vaivakawn ? Are there any pending compensations ?

S P E A K E R : It might not be easy for the concerned Minister to provide definite answers for the supplementary questions as preparation is made on the main question. So, our chief concentration will be on the main question concerning the Sports Complex at Ramhlun. Now, we will summon our Hon'ble Minister.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, at the outset, let me answer the question concerning the Sports Complex at Ramhlun, raised by our Hon'ble Member, Pu F.Malsawma.

The expenditures incurred for purchase of land for the said Complex is Rs. 18,58,638/-. The Contractor in the task of levelling is Pu Rosangliana and Rs. 60,60,885/- is allotted to him. The expenditures incurred for construction of Retaining wall is Rs. 36,74,852/- where the Contractors and the amount of money sanctioned to them are as follows :-

Pu Rikhuma	-	Rs. 3,27,251/-
Pu J.Liankamlova	-	Rs. 1,83,455/-
Pu Ramnundanga	-	Rs. 6,25,734/-
Pu H.Vanlalauva	-	Rs. 2,51,549/-
Pu Vanlalduha	-	Rs. 7,45,413/-
Pu T.Siamtlaia	-	Rs. 1,32,949/-
Pu Damdawnga	-	Rs. 1,32,948/-
Pu Ch.Kapliana	-	Rs. 1,32,948/-
Pi Lalthangpuii	-	Rs. 5,89,797/-
Pu Zothankhuma	-	Rs. 1,00,000/-
Pu Liensawma	-	Rs. 2,62,225/-
Pu Lalkhuma	-	Rs. 1,90,583/-

Apart from that, Rs. 6,03,902/- is estimated for construction of inner Retaining wall, out of which Rs. 2,65,980/- had been utilised, where Rs. 2,80,000/- is sanctioned to the Contractors namely - Pu Zoenga, Pu Zahaia and Pu Lalnunmawia. The task of levelling is also

.....64/-

assigned to Pu R.Sangkhuma, but sanction is not yet made, and presently, sanction proposal of Rs. 19,94,608/- is being moved to the government.

Coming to the question of our Hon'ble Member from Lunglei North, the Open Stadium at Sesawng could not be completed due to certain problems of the surrounding areas, and matters concerning to continuation is being considered by the Sports Council, who has not yet made a final decision.

Regarding the Lunglei Mini Sports Complex, the Central Leaders recommended the establishment of Contact Sports Complex instead of the Mini Complex. We are very grateful as we have better chances in the Contact Sports.

Regarding the question of our Hon'ble Member from Aizawl West II, I cannot furnish the amount of compensation sanctioned for the YMA field at Vaivakawn as the figure is not here with me. Anyway, the same will be provided later. Lastly, there is no outstanding compensation.

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am grateful for the answers, and in view of our expenditures, it is extremely necessary to utilise our funds properly and carefully. Further, I would like to question whether the Ministry is capable of taking up vigorous steps in order to complete the Sports Complex at Ramhlun.

PU H.LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Minister had mentioned the proposed establishment of Contact Sports Centre at Lunglei. It will be a matter of great satisfaction if such proposal becomes a reality. However, we learnt that instead of the Contact Sports Centre, something else was suggested. Can the Hon'ble Minister give clarifications?

Moreover, there are about 20 Mini Sports Complexes at Aizawl and its surrounding areas while there are only 2 at Lunglei District. Can the Ministry set up more Mini Sports Complexes in the said District?

PU F.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as suggested by our Hon'ble Member from Aizawl North II, steps
MINISTER

are being taken up to utilise the allotted funds for fulfillment of their rightful purposes. When I had a spot verification of the Ramhlun Sports Complex along with the concerned MLA, we realised that a longer period is required for its full completion. At the same time, we also learnt that by completing the task of levelling, a standard playground could be installed in the said Complex. Hence, steps are being taken up in this direction.

Coming to the statements of our Hon'ble Member from Lunglei 'S', we do not have such large numbers of Mini Sport Complex in our State. In fact, no standard playground is available even in the capital Aizawl. In any case, as far as Sports Complex is concerned, priority is always given to the State-capital, which is followed by the District-capitals. Presently, there are only about 10 Indoor Stadiums at Aizawl, let alone the Mini Sports Complex. So, we have not yet fulfilled the demands and requirements in the field of sports.

PU F.LALRAMSIAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, what is the amount of royalty obtained by the Ministry from the consumers of cubic stones, extracted from the Ramhlun Sports Complex ?

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as far as
MINISTER extraction and selling of cubic stones from the said complex is concerned, I had instructed the D.C. to issue Prohibition Order, as this greatly endangered the safety of the playground and its surrounding areas, and actions are being taken up against the violations of such order.

PU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, in my opinion, there is shortage of funds in the field of sports as the utilisation certificate is not duly submitted by the Ministry, I would like to know whether the Hon'ble Minister intends to take up any effective actions ?

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, there is no
MINISTER irregularity of funds in the field of sports. As a matter of fact, the total amount of funds received by our State during the past 2 years is larger than that of the other 7 States in the North-East. Besides, we have given instructions to promptly furnish the utilisation certificate.

S P E A K E R : Question No. 3 - Pu Zathuama.

FU H. ZATHUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I raise my question No. 3 -

Will the Hon'ble Minister in-charge Political and Cabinet Department be pleased to state -

What is the progress of the Resolution concerning the inclusion of Paihte in the Scheduled Tribe List, which was passed unanimously by the House ?

FU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, as far as the inclusion of Paihte in the Scheduled Tribe List is concerned, since there are similar demands from other states, the centre intends to make a joint decision of this matter, which will require certain period of time. Besides, amendment of the Scheduled Tribe order is being considered at the moment, where 'Scheduled Tribe' is to be replaced by 'Mizo Tribe' which will include all the different tribes in Mizoram.

Dr R. LALTHANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, a Resolution concerning the inclusion of Mizo language in the 8th Scheduled was passed unanimously by the House at the Budget Session of 1991. What is the progress of the said Resolution ?

S P E A K E R : This question is not relevant as matter concerning the inclusion of Paihte in the Schedules Tribe List is under consideration.

FU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, let me furnish the answers if your permit me to do so. The House has taken up several steps and had surprised the centre for inclusion of Mizo language in the 8th Scheduled. The latest inclusion in the 8th Scheduled were the Nepali, Kantani and Manipuri and the Mizo language is yet left behind. But the concerned Minister informed us that our case would be considered later. The criteria for inclusion in the 8th Scheduled is not known to us. Anyway, we are rendering our best efforts in this subject, but we are not yet successful.

PU T. HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question, in the Indian Constitution Article 342, there is a provision enabling the Indian President to issue Notification for such inclusion the Indian Scheduled Caste or Tribe List. I would like to know whether our leaders had met and consulted the Hon'ble President on matters concerning the inclusion of Paihte in the Scheduled Tribe List.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, although such CHIEF MINISTER Provision is written in Articles 341 and 342, the main authority is rested in the hands of the Secretary and not the President. So, we did not consult the President as it is not necessary.

PU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to know whether the Mizo is considered as Scheduled Tribe in the Sharma Valley at Cachar District ?

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, if I am not CHIEF MINISTER mistaken, the Paihte as well as the Mizo tribe are included in the Scheduled Tribe List in the States of Manipur and Assam. So, it is quite confusing that in our State, the Paihte is excluded from the said List.

PU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is learnt that inclusion in the said List is done separately at the Assam Valley and the Cachar District. In case the Mizo Tribe is excluded from the Scheduled Tribe List in such areas, can our Ministry make demand for inclusion in the said List ? Can assurance be given by our Ministry ?

S P E A K E R : This is the affairs of other States.

PU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, can our Ministry make such demand in support of other States ?

S P E A K E R : As this is not our State's affairs, it does not concern us and it is against the Rule to interfere in the affairs of other states. Now, we shall move on to question No.4.

PU K.ROKHAW : Mr Speaker Sir, I ask my question No. 4 -

(a) Amounts of Ex-gratia grants for natural calamity received by the State Government from the Centre during the year 1993-94.

(b) Total amount granted to Chhimituipui District.

PU P.LALBIAKA : Mr Speaker Sir, the answers
MINISTER of question No. 4 are as follows -

(a) Rs. 237.50 lakhs is granted by the Centre as Ex-gratia grants for Calamity Relief fund during the year 1993-94.

(b) A total amount of Rs. 25,58,490.80 lakhs is sanctioned to Chhimituipui District during 1993-94.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question - Out of Rs. 25,58,490.80 lakhs granted for Chhimituipui District, what is the exact amount sanctioned for the landslides at Lawngtlai ? Next, is it a fact that the Housing loan sanctioned for Chhimituipui District is diverted as Relief fund for Lawngtlai ?

PU F.LALREMSIAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, we learnt that Rs. 237.50 lakhs is granted for natural calamity by the centre, I request the Hon'ble Minister in-charge to furnish information regarding its utilisation.

PU P.LALBIAKA : Mr Speaker Sir, for Natural
MINISTER Calamity fund Rs 100 lakhs is received annually. Apart from that, Rs 5 crores is allotted by the centre during the current year, and out of this allotment, Rs. 100 lakhs is sanctioned to our Department. Besides, Rs. 37 lakhs sanctioned for the year 1994-95 is

drawn in advance owing to financial shortage. So the total allotment is amounted to Rs. 237.50 lakhs.

Coming to the question of our Hon'ble Member from Saiha, certain amount of Relief fund is allotted to Lawngtlai, but I am unable to furnish the exact amount.

Finally, I am not aware of such matters concerning the transfer of Housing loan for calamity relief fund.

PU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I assume that the annual sanction for natural calamity in our State is Rs. 1 crore. Whenever natural calamities occur in any states, a sanction of Rs. 100-200 crores is made from the portion reserved by the centre for such purposes. Since the financial sanction for the year 1994-95 is drawn in advance, I would like to know whether we are made to borrow from our Budget provision of this year.

PU P.LALBIAKA
MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, the financial allotment of Rs. 37,50,000/- for the year 1994-95 is drawn in advance, we have taken both the 1st and 2nd Installment.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA
MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, let me make a brief statement. The fund for Natural Calamities is usually sanctioned by the Centre. But the Ninth Finance Commission changed this usual procedure because the Commission learnt that the various states claim and fight for the fund using the natural calamity as an excuse. So, in accordance with the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission, each state is given its annual share, where our state too receives Rs. 1 crore annually.

However, in case of our state in particular, since we have many sinking areas and frequent landslides, we are permitted to withdraw our share in advance according to necessity.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, I was personally informed by the D.C. of Saiha that the Housing Loan for Chhimituipui District is diverted elsewhere, and if not recovered, the public will greatly suffer. So, in order to help the people, can the

Hon'ble Minister give an assurance that the Housing Loan will be provided to the said District ?

PU F.LALBIAKA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am not aware
MINISTER of such matter concerning the transfer of Housing loan for some other purposes. Perhaps, this could be clarified by our Hon'ble Finance Minister.

PU F.LALREMSIAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, there is
always something wrong whenever funds are diverted from their rightful purposes. Besides, from our Natural Calamity Fund for 1994-95, Rs. 30lakhs is already utilised. So, we have nothing to look forward to in future. When Bangladesh was hit by cyclone in 1992, large amounts of Ex-gratia grants was sanctioned by the Central Government, while the funds for our State was much less than we demanded. Hence, it is wrong and unwise to withdraw the fund in advance. Further, as our Budget too is often diverted for certain other purposes, can the same be repeated when natural calamities occurs in our State ?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, as stated
MINISTER earlier, out of the annual allotment of 1 crore, 75 lakhs and 25 lakhs come from the centre and the state respectively. The Ministry of Finance permitted advance release in case of the unforeseen and severe natural calamities, where the required fund exceeds the fixed amount. Accordingly, our State Government made the advance-release with the authority of the centre, following the directives of the Ninth Finance Commission. As such collection from the various Budget Heads is unnecessary.

Regarding the statement and question of our Hon'ble Member from Saiha, no official information is received by the Ministry.

PU LALKHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, regarding the fixation of the natural calamities fund, I presume that certain states exceeded the fixed amount. For instance, Rs. 100-200 crores were granted for the earthquake and cyclone of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu respectively. From which source did they obtain such huge funds ?

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, although official information is not received by the Ministry, the statements of our Hon'ble MLA and D.C. are official enough, which should not be neglected.

PU F.LALREMSIAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, out of 500 lakhs, only 100 lakhs is released by the Ministry. Is the remaining 400 lakhs utilised for the calamity at Sihpui locality at Aizawl ?.

PU LALHMINOTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to offer certain clarifications on this matter. The Government of India categorised Natural Calamity into 3 groups, such as: (1) The National calamity, where calamity is not confined to a single state, but involved the entire nation. In such case, the expenditure is not by the Indian Government's Budget. (2) The Prime Minister's Relief Fund, which is reserved for severe calamities involving more than one State.

For instance, the sinking of Sihpui areas at Aizawl and the collapse of quarry at Hlimen are confined to small areas and cannot be taken as national calamities, whereas the cyclone at Bangladesh is an international issue. As far as the allotment of fund is concerned, I would like to remind the House that in accordance with the new directives formulated by the Centre, the fund sanctioned for the next 5 years could be drawn in advance if the annual allotment is found to be inadequate.

S P E A K E R : Question No.5, Pu Lalsawta.

PU LALSAWTA : Mr Speaker Sir, I ask my question No.5. Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Public Works Department be pleased to state -

What are the details of expenditure on National Calamities and improvements of roads at S.Hlimen since 1992 till 31st Dec.1993 out of Rupees one hundred lakhs sanctioned for restoration works of natural calamity in the heavy landslide at S.Hlimen quarry during the financial year, 1992 - 1993 ?

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, for improve-
CHIEF MINISTER ments of roads at S.Hlimen,
Rs 1 crore sanctioned by the
PWD is not utilised. But
the expenditure is met by the Maintenance Fund, where
a total expenditure of Rs 2,87,000/- is incurred.

PU LALSAWTA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplemen-
tary question, in the Budget
of 1992-93, on Demand No.51
of supplementary Demands for
grants of Government of Mizoram, the Explanatory Note
states that Rs100 lakhs is for meeting the Expenditure on
National natural calamities & improvement of Roads at
S.Hlimen. Does it meant that only Rs 2,87,000/- is
utilised for the said purpose ?

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, our Hon'ble
CHIEF MINISTER Finance Minister has given
clarifications regarding the
sanction and utilisation of
Rs 100 lakhs. Therefore, for improvements of the said
road, Rs 2,87,000/- is utilised from the Maintenance Fund.

PU LALSAWTA : Mr Speaker Sir, Rs 100 lakhs
is sanctioned just before the
end of the financial year,
under the Explanatory Memorandum on the Budget of Govern-
ment of Mizoram for the year 1993-'94, which is sanctioned
solely for S.Hlimen. If Rs 2,87,000,- is utilised from
the Maintenance fund, does it mean that the P.W.D. did
not touch a single rupee of Rs 100 lakhs ?

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, this matter
CHIEF MINISTER had been clasified.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, when will the
Agriculture Sub-division at
Darlawn be firmly established
by appointing regular staff ?

- PU SAIKAPTHIANGA
MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, the said sub-
division will be made more
stable after the Post creation
is settled.
- PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary
question; although the Agri-
culture Sub-division was set
up long ago at Darlawn, the Post-creation is not yet settled
by the Ministry in spite of our repeated request. I would
like to know whether the Ministry is unwilling or unable
to sanction the posts ?
- PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Agricul-
MINISTER ture Sub-division was esta-
blished at Darlawn during the
time when the Agriculture
and Horticulture functioned under a single Department, and
creation of new post was found unnecessary at time. However,
the bifurcation of the said Department resulted in shortage
of man-power. Hence, with the permission of the Planning
Commission, we immediately requested for post-creation and
the analysis wing was instructed to analyse and submit its
report. However, no report is yet received till date.
Presently, we demand for the post-creation.
- S P E A K E R : Question No.-7, Dr R.Lalthang-
liana.
- Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, I ask whether
construction of Mizoram Fire
Services building is completed
or not ?
- PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, the construc-
MINISTER tion of Mizoram Fire Services
Building is not yet completed
The said construction is propo-
sed to be completed during the year 1994-'95.

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, it appears that there is an intention of shifting the Fire Service station to a remote locality. This will be a great problem when emergency arises. Can the said station be located in the heart of the town ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Government
MINISTER intends to setup the Head-quarter at Hunthar locality, and Fire Tenderer will be located in 2 or 3 places at Aizawl in order to provide easy access to all.

PU LALBIAKZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, is there any intention to shift the Fire Service Building to the compound R.M.Hall. If so, when will it be shifted ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, as mentioned
MINISTER earlier, the Headquarter will be moved to Hunthar locality and Fire Tenderer will be established in different posts of Aizawl.

PU LALBIAKZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, my question is not yet answered. Is there any intention to shift the Fire Services Building to the compound of Rush Memorial Hall ?

PU F.LALREMSIAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is learnt that realising the necessity of Fire Station, the Ministry proposed to set up a Sub-station within the compound of Rush Memorial Hall. If the proposal still stands, can the same be taken up immediately ?

FU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, the Fire Station at Saiha is located at the outskirts of town.

Is there any proposals to shift the same within the town? What is the Estimated cost for construction of Fire Services Building at Hunthar? Who is the Contractor? Is there any intentions to establish a sub-station at Saiha?

FU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, Fire Tenderer will be placed near Rush Memorial Hall, in addition, one or two more will be set up.
MINISTER

Coming to the question of our Hon'ble Member Fu Zakhu Hlychho, the estimated cost of building at Hunthar is Rs 1,12,11,000/- Regarding the case of Saiha, I will conduct a spot-verification personally in the month of April.

S P E A K E R : Question No.-8 Pu H.Lalruata.

FU H.LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Peace Accord, signed by the Indian Government and the MNF reflected matters concerning Border Trade between Bangladesh and Mizoram, what is the progress of the same under this Ministry?

S P E A K E R : Minister i/c Pu Saikapthianga.

FU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, matter concerning the Border-Trade is in the hands of the Central Ministry of Commerce. Since the year 1993, all the correspondences in this field failed to include Bangladesh. However, it is learnt that the Border Trade between Bangladesh and our state is not agreed by the Government of Bangladesh, whereas border-trade with Burma is progressing steadily.
MINISTER

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over.

FU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, is the Mizoram Government consulted as per convention regarding the identification of commodities.

FU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Mizoram
MINISTER Government identified the various commodities as per instructions of the centre.

The identified commodities are; Agriculture-products, Sericulture-products, Horticulture-products, line-stock and its products, forest products, Medicine, Handloom-products cotton yarn and utensils, essential commodities, edible oil, electronic goods and plankton machinery.

S P E A K E R : The question is whether the Mizoram Government was consulted or not.

FU SAIKAPTHIANGA : The Mizoram Government was
MINISTER consulted and we duly identified all the commodities.

FU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, besides the mentioned commodities, there are other items to be procured on mutual agreement. Was our Government consulted in such matter ?

FU H.LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is most unfortunate that no progress is achieved in the Border Trade with Bangladesh. As such, no further developments could be expected for the next 5 years.

FU LAL THINHAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, as far as
CHIEF MINISTER Border Trade is concerned, for reason unknown, the Government of Bangladesh imposed Trade Embargo in the Chittagong Hill

Tracts. Perhaps, the said Government do not want to expose this particular area as the Pakistan Intelligence set up their base here, besides arms are located and the various Indian rebels undergo training in this region. Moreover, Border Trade between Bangladesh and Mizoram could be facilitated only bilaterally. So, this is beyond the authority of the Mizoram Government.

On the other hand, negotiation is going on with Myanmar, the outcome of which is awaited at the moment. Regarding Border Trade with Bangladesh, the Indian Government has not yet achieved any success.

FU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Agreement between Burma and the Indian Governments involves two subjects; (1) Political relation and (2) Trade Agreement, where the latter indicates that "The goods to be trade on the border under the supplement shall be as permitted by both government". Did our Ministry make any proposals or suggestions regarding the item of goods ?.

FU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, as mentioned
CHIEF MINISTER earlier, negotiation with Burma is progressing steadily. The Venue for the next meeting is Karle, Burma. After that, another meeting will be held in Mizoram.

As far as negotiation with Bangladesh is concerned, during the MNF Ministry, Mr Dinesh Singh had written a letter to our Hon'ble Member Fu R.Tlanghmingthanga on 11th August 1988. Let me read out the letter,

Dear Shri Thanga,

You had mentioned to me about Mizoram's Border Trade with Bangladesh and Burma. I understand that despite every effort made, it has not been possible to secure the approval of the Bangladesh Government to have border trade. As regards Burma, there may be a limited possibility. Efforts are continueing with both the Governments to facilitate border trade between Mizoram and them.

Best wishes,

Dinesh Singh.

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From this letter, it is evident that matters concerning border trade is progressing positively with Burma and negatively with Bangladesh.

FU F.LALREMSIAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, if border trade with Bangladesh is not possible, and since we are against exposing the border areas for militant group's movement, can the MAP be stationed at Tlabung in order to safeguard the border areas, where our main sources of revenue are ceased by the Bangladesh government, and where there is always an overflow of population? Is it a fact that due to the movements of Shanti Bahini or other matters, we prefer to leave the said areas unoccupied?

FU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I ask my question No. 9 -
(a) What are the reasons for irregularity of street-light?
(b) Whether street-lights are reduced? (c) Is there any problems or misunderstandings between the LAD and Power Department on matters concerning street-light?

FU S.T.RUALYAPA : Mr Speaker Sir, the answers
MINISTER are as follows -
(a) As Power supply is not the responsibility of the LAD, reasons for irregularity of street light is not known by the said department. (b) Number of street lights are reduced. (c) There is no problem between the LAD and the Power department.

FU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I raise my question No. 10 -
Is there any intention to renovate the Market centre at Bawngkawn?

FU S.T.RUALYAPA : Mr Speaker Sir, the LAD is
MINISTER not aware of such matter as Bawngkawn - Market is not in the hands of the LAD.

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I ask my question No. 11 -

- (a) Whether the Mizoram Government has formulated Rules for providing financial assistance to the families of Mizo soldiers killed in a battle ?
(b) If so, what are the detailed arrangements ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, the answer are as follows -
MINISTER

- (a) Rules were constituted.
(b) (1) For housing - scheme, the amount of grants sanctioned to the families of those killed in a battle are categorised in the following :-
(a) Officer - Rs. 15,400/-
(b) JCO - Rs. 12,460/-
(c) Others - Rs. 10,000/-
(2) Ex-gratia grants of Rs. 10,000/- is sanctioned to those killed, missing and suffered handicap in a battle.
(3) Arrangements made for the welfare of their children are : (a) Free education (b) Free hostel - charges for school's and college's boarders. (c) Free text-books and (d) Free school's uniform.
(4) To give employments to the family's members not exceeding 2, in the III Grade and IV Grade sections without having to register their names in the Employment Exchange. Besides the wife, the family's members include both the sons and daughters.

S P E A K E R : Question hour is over, now we will move on to our next item, where Members of the various Committees will be announced :

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

1. Pu K.Rokhaw
2. Pu R.L.Valla
3. Pu F.Lawmkima
4. Pu John Rotluangliana
5. Pu Lalkhama
6. Pu H.Lalruata
7. Pu T.Hranghluta

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES

1. Pu Hrangthanga Colney
2. Pu H.K.Chakma
3. Pu F.Lalzuala
4. Pu F.Malsawma
5. Dr R.Lalthangliana
6. Pu B.Lalthlengliana
7. Pu L.P.Thangzika

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

1. Pu Lalbiakzuala
2. Pu Lalhuthanga
3. Dr J.V.Hluna
4. Pu F.Lalremsiama
5. Pu Lalsawta
6. Pu Zakhu Hlychho
7. Pu H.Zathuama.

I, hereby, declared that such are elected as Members of the three different Committees.

We will move on to our next Business and we shall call upon Pu J.Lalsangzuala to beg leave of the House to introduce the various Bills.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, with your
MINISTER permission I beg leave of the
House to introduce the following Bills, (1) The Mizoram
Salaries and Allowances of the Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
(2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
(3) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
(4) The Mizoram Survey and Record Operation Bill, 1994.

Thank you Sir.

S P E A K E R : The copies of the Bills have been distributed and the Hon'ble Minister has begged leave of the House to introduce the Bills.
Since, we all agreed, we shall now invite the Hon'ble Minister to introduce the said four Bills.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, with your
MINISTER permission, I beg leave of the
House to introduce the aforesaid four Bills.

Thank you Sir.

S P E A K E R : With the permission of the House, the Hon'ble Minister has introduced the aforesaid 4 Bills. If the Members agreed, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bills will be taken up today. The 4th Bill will be further studied by the Members as it is an important Bill.

Now, we shall invite the Hon'ble Minister to beg leave of the House for consideration of the said 3 Bills.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, with your permission, I beg leave of the House for consideration of the following Bills :

- (1) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
- (2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.
- (3) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill.

I presume that the Amendment Bill is thoroughly studied by the Members, which was introduced in order to amend the defective Bill passed earlier.

Thank you.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as suggested earlier, I agree to take up the 4th Bill later, after having a thorough study. Likewise, prior to discussion, the other Bills too should be reviewed more thoroughly by the Hon'ble Minister, because previously we did not agree to fix the rate of our T.A. and D.A. on the basis of 1st class officer, and we also recommended that the rate of our T.A. and D.A. would be fixed by us.

PU LALSAWTA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to know whether the aforesaid Bills will provide benefits and privileges for the Ministers, Deputy Speaker and the Speaker.

As the first session of the Third Legislative Assembly commences, top priority is given to the Bills concerning the Salaries and Allowances of the Members, leaving aside many other important Bills

which concern the development and welfare of our state and the entire public. This is extremely disgraceful. Therefore, can such Bills be considered first instead of the aforesaid 3 Bills.

S P E A K E R : As suggested by Pu Rinchhana, will the said Bills be considered tomorrow after a thorough study ?

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, certain points are difficult to understand. For instance, the Travelling Allowances of Members residing outside the state's capital is not clearly mentioned. Can this be stated more specifically ?

S P E A K E R : Let us now decide whether to proceed with the Bills.

PU P.C.BAWITLUANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, copies of the Bills had been given to each Member, and I am certain that by now, we are all well acquainted with it. As mentioned earlier by the Hon'ble Minister, the Bills involve simple amendments like correction of the wording. Hence, it is merely a waste of time to delay the aforesaid 3 Bills. As such, I suggest that the Bills be taken up today.

Thank you.

PU LIANSUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, without amendment of the present Bills, there will be numerous problems when Members claim their TA/DA for the on-going Session. As a matter of fact, these Bills are moved solely for assisting such Members coming from the remote areas. Since the Hon'ble Minister had furnished clarifications, can the Bills be considered and passed unanimously without further delay ?

PU T. HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, the aforesaid Bill No. 1, 2 and 3 are concerned with the Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and the Members, which involves simple Amendments. Right from the previous times, Members aspire that their TA and DA should be fixed separately and not on the basis of the TA and DA of the 1st Grade officers, because it is a great problem for each Members to find out the rates of TA and DA of such officers prior to claiming their own. Hence, it is adviseable to amend the wording and I presume that a delay of one or two days will not create any difficulties. Besides, the commencement date too should be reconsidered by the Ministry.

S P E A K E R : The statements and suggestions of our Hon'ble Members are correct to a certain extent, but the House has already given its consent to introduce the said 3 Bills, our task is to proceed with the Bills, it is only a waste of time to make the amendments.

PU T. HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, if a delay of only one day could fulfil the aspirations of the House, it is not a waste of time.

S P E A K E R : Shall we proceed with the Discussion and Consideration of the Bill, or leave it for the next day ?

PU SAIKAPTMIANGA
MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, these Amendment Bills does not concern the reduction or increment of our Salaries and Allowances, but simply an Amendment Bills, so the same should be considered and passed in their original forms.

S P E A K E R : Shall we proceed or leave the discussion and consideration for the next day ?

- PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, my question is not yet answered.
- S P E A K E R : Pu Lalsawta, do you have anything more to say ?
- PU LALSAWTA : Mr Speaker Sir, you have already heard my statements. It is disgraceful to give top priority to the Bills concerning our Salaries & Allowances.
- PU LIANSUAMA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, as pointed out earlier, whether the Bills are meant for our Sittings Allowances of today, they are nothing to be ashamed of as the Bills are entirely meant for the welfare of all the Members. Hence, the same should be passed as they are.
- Dr J.V.HLUNA : Mr Speaker Sir, we do not agree that our allowances be fixed on the basis of rate admissible to First Grade Officer. So, our new Rules should delete such references.
- PU T.HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Bill No. 1, 2 and 3 could be amended simply by adding few sentences.
- PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, I suggest that clarifications should be furnished by the Mover.
- S P E A K E R : Pu J.Lalsangzuala.
- PU J.LALSANGZUALA MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, previously, the DA and TA of the Members were fixed on the basis of the rate, admissible to 1st Grade Officer of the Government of Mizoram. However, a separate fixation of rate was recommended, according to

which the Bills were moved. For instance, in Bill No. 1, the daily allowance is fixed at the rate of Rs. 175/- per day without considering the rates of 1st Grade Officers. Similarly in Bill No. 3, the rate is fixed at Rs. 150/- per day without making any references of the 1st Grade Officer.

Thank you.

PU LALIMINGTHANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, as stated by
MINISTER the Hon'ble Member from Ratu,
we do not want to take any
references from others as far
as our welfare is concerned, and being the representatives
of the people, our welfare should be considered separately
and independently. However, it is meaningless to delay
these Bills because unless amendments of amended Bills is
made, our positions remain the same even after one or two
weeks. As such, I recommend the passing of these Amend-
ment Bills.

PU T.HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, I think that
the 'Translation' and 'Substitu-
tion' in the Bills are given in
a reverse order by the Hon'ble
Minister.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, as suggested
MINISTER by the Hon'ble Member, Bill
No. 2 and 3 will proceed in
accordance with No. 1.

PU T.HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, the clarifi-
cations of our Hon'ble Minister
is not clear enough, because
there is a fixed figure in our
existing Rules, which needs to be amended.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as stated by
MINISTER the Hon'ble Member, it is
quite shameful to open our
session with matters concerning
our own welfare. Nevertheless, unless these Bills are
passed, we are likely to face audit objection, where many
of us will be deprived of our allowances. Moreover, Bills
concerning our welfare are the main subject of discussion
at every session, which clearly indicates that any forms
of Bill, should be constituted with utmost care, and hence-

forth, the Department too should be cautious than before.

Further, I would like to point out the fact that there are certain officials, who consider the elected Representatives of the people as their equal or place them in a lower status than they are, which ultimately necessitates the introduction of the present Amendment Bill. Although certain Members find it disgraceful, these Bills should be passed without any hesitation in order to enable the Members to claim their allowances without any difficulties.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Mr Speaker Sir, the portions deleted in Bill No. 3, section 3 is not clarified properly. Besides, my previous question is not yet answered.

PU LALSAWTA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to know if the Bill is to be passed in contrast with the copies distributed to the Members? If so, will the Hon'ble Minister withdraw or make the necessary amendment?

Although, the Financial Memorandum states that the Bill will not bear any extra expenditures, the date of commencement is 1991, thereby preventing the submission of the Bill, consequently, there will be large amount of arrears. This is quite confusing and I demand clarifications.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, this matter could be quite confusing if we deliberately try to misunderstand it, but a simple explanation will clear our doubts. Since the amount of allowances remain the same, there is no financial involvement in the Financial Memorandum, and this Amendment Bill is moved in order to regularise the TA and DA sanctioned earlier. Therefore, we should firmly give our opinion regarding the objection or passing of the Bill, because mere criticism is only a waste of time.

Thank you.

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, regarding the question of our Hon'ble Member Pu Zakhu Hlychho, the deletion in Bill No. 3, Section 3 is

written in the 'Statements of objects and reason' and after deletion, Members could avail allowances for Intermediate journey.

PU T.HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, our Hon'ble Minister had stated that this Amendment Bill is introduced to substitute the existing Bill. Being the Member of the Legislative Assembly and as permitted by our Rules, my TA is fixed at the rate of Rs. 150/- per day, but there is no sanction of DA. So, to remove such deprivation, this Amendment Bill was introduced, and instead of the fixed rate of Rs. 150/- per day, each Member is entitled to obtain the same amount of allowances admissible to the First Grade Officer of the Government. In that way, we could avail both TA and DA. However, the Hon'ble Law Minister has offered opposite clarification, which greatly confused our minds.

Moreover, in the date of commencement, the effective date is 1st April, 1991. This is meaningless as far as constitutional Amendment is concerned, because no Member will claim their TA and DA twice. Therefore, I suggest that the Bill be reviewed thoroughly by the Ministry and if necessary, amendment could be made in the next Session. In the meantime, we could proceed with our existing Rules.

Thank you.

PU HRANGTHANGA COLNEY : Mr Speaker Sir, as pointed out by the Hon'ble Member, the TA of Rs. 150/- per day could be claimed by a Member. Does it mean that a Member is deprived of DA, while the 1st Grade Officer could claim Rs. 150/- per day as DA ?

PU H.LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, let the discussions be discontinued so as to avoid further confusions.

PU P.C.BAWITLUANGA : Mr Speaker Sir, speaking of
MINISTER the present Amendment Bill, the same is moved in order to regularise all the previous allowances, sanctioned to the Members. If we study the Bills carefully, it is quite evident that the Bills aims at enabling the Members to enjoy the same allowances of the First Grade Officers of the Government of Mizoram. So, there is nothing to misunderstand in the Bills, and I suggest that the same be passed unanimously.

Thank you.

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PU F.LAWMKIMA : Mr Speaker Sir, there are certain things quite confusing. For instance, while a First Grade Officer could claim both TA and DA, the MLAs are deprived of DA. Therefore, Amendment is necessary.

Dr J.V.HLUNA : Mr Speaker Sir, both the TA and DA are entitled by a First Grade Officer. However, if we go according to Bill No. 3, Members could claim neither DA nor sitting Allowances.

PU LALBIKZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, the main purpose of this Amendment Bill is to determine the Allowances of the MLA independently and not on the basis of the rate applicable to First Grade Officer. However, the Members are denied of DA while the aforesaid Officers enjoy both the TA and DA. So, the main objectives of the Bill is not clear enough. In such case, each MLA will face great problems while touring around their constituencies.

Thank you.

PU T.HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, the present Bill is concerned with the welfare of the Members, Ministers, Deputy Speaker and the Speaker, where arrangement is made to fix their TA and DA on the basis of the Allowances admissible to a First Grade Officer. According to the existing Rule, the allowances of each Member is fixed at the rate of Rs. 150/- per day, while the fixed rate for the said Officers is Rs. 175/-, and to amend the differences in the rate, the aforesaid 3 Bills was introduced. Nevertheless, the improper and opposite clarifications of the Hon'ble Parliamentary Affairs Minister created confusion, resulting in a heated discussion of the matter. Whatever the case may be, any Constitutional Amendments are made effective from the date of Notification issued by the Indian Government. Likewise, there will be no criticisms or misunderstanding if this Amendment Bill is made effective from the date of Notification by the Ministry. If the House permits, I suggest that the said Bill be introduced in the next Session after it is thoroughly reviewed and amended properly by the Ministry.

Thank you.

PU P.C.ZORAMSANGLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as suggested
MINISTER by the Hon'ble Members, this
Amendment Bill should be
reviewed once again, provided
that necessary amendments be made with the help of our
Law Department and the Secretariat. However, the intro-
duction of the same should not be further delayed for
the next Session, otherwise Members will have to claim
their Allowances against the Rules. So, if approved by
the Hon'ble Minister as well as the Members, the said
Bill should be amended immediately and introduced during
the current Session.

Thank you.

PU H.LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, it will be
extremely disgraceful for the
House to pass the said Bill
without proper amendments.
As such, the Hon'ble Minister should not hesitate to
withdraw the same and move another fresh Bill.

PU C.L.RUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, today, we
MINISTER have 3 Amendment Bills, and
the one under discussion is
Bill No. 3. I would like
to know whether the different Bills are to be discussed
separately or simultaneously.

PU T.HRANGHLUTA : Mr Speaker Sir, the aforesaid
3 Bills are the same as they
are concerned with the allowan-
ces of the Deputy Speaker,
Speaker, Ministers and the Members. It is wrong to pro-
ceed in the usual manner.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Mr Speaker Sir, as the Bills
are concerned with our own
welfare, we should proceed
smoothly. As stated by our
Hon'ble Sport Minister, the Bills should be reviewed and
reconsidered by the Government before the Bills are
passed by the House.

PU LALBIAKZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is necessary to review all the 3 Bills.

S P E A K E R : Today, the Hon'ble Minister had introduced the aforesaid 3 Bills, which are being discussed at the moment.

While our next move is to pass the Bills, there is a necessity of reviewing the whole matter. As such, further discussion and consideration will be left for tomorrow. Regarding amendment of the wording, I find it wiser to consult the concerned Department.

PU LALBIAKZUALA : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to suggest that instead of cancelling the whole Bills, the same should be thoroughly reviewed thereby making the necessary amendments. In that way, the Bills will be more appropriate.

S P E A K E R : The Bills are constituted according to our own instructions. Hence they appear to be quite appropriate although certain amendments are required.

Since, we leave our Business for the next day, our meeting is adjourned for today.

12:45 P.M.

Meeting adjourned till
17.3.1994.