

12TH SITTING OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 3RD ASSEMBLY HELD
CN 25TH MARCH, 1994

MEMBERS PRESENT

PU VAIVENGA, SPEAKER at the Chair, Chief Minister, 14
Ministers and 23 Members were present.

Q U E S T I O N

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

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BUSINESS

Speaker : Great and wonderful are they deeds,
O Lord God the Almighty !
Just and true are thy ways,
O King of the ages !

Revelation 15:3

Now Questions will be taken up.

PU F.LALZUALA : Pu Speaker, Will the Hon'ble
Minister in-charge be pleased to
answer my question which is ques-
tion No. 117.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, his question is - Is
MINISTER there an intention to set right

...360/-

survey defect in the Lunglei
Greater Water Supply Scheme ?

It may be noted that under this Water Supply Scheme, one pumping engine is presently being used for pumping water from Pialthleng River. As proposed, there should be four pumping engines - two diesel engines for stand-by and another two electrical engines. At present however, only one engine is being used. Hence, it can not yet be said that there is survey defect in the scheme.

PU F.LALZUALA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - In the case of Lunglei Water Supply Scheme, survey was done by the Contractors. Due to wrong survey of the actual height from where water is pumped, engine and engine valves which cost Rs. 24 lakhs and Rs. 4 lakhs respectively are left un-used. Would not it therefore necessary to do re-survey or to refit these machines ?

PU LALHMINHTHANGA : Pu Speaker, I think my reply
MINISTER to the question covers supplementary question raised by the Hon'ble member. As I have said at this stage we cannot as yet say that there is wrong survey as the said engines are not yet properly tested by Engineers.

PU F.LALZUALA : Pu Speaker, when are they going to complete various works attached to the scheme ? How much money had been spent so far ?

PU F.LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, why has Pialthleng river been pumped instead of pumping from Tlawng river ? It has been so long since Tlawng river is said to be pumped out to feed the people of Lunglei ?

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, should anything happens will it not be too risky to use one particular set installed, which is 900 metres in height ?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, when survey was
MINISTER conducted, Tlawng river was
not the only target. Consi-
dering scarcity of power sup-
ply, it was decided that for half of the year, water from
Pialthleng river will be pumped with the help of gravita-
tion pull, thus saving power consumption. And another half
of the year, Tlawng water will be pumped through jake well
and vertical pumping instruments which requires power supply.
This being the case, Tlawng river cannot be the only target
for source of water supply. Considering all these that the
scheme was formulated.

RU F.LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, only one question
please. Why did works on impor-
tant project were so slow ?

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, according to the
agreement, work on this project
was to be completed on 10th Dec.
1992. Had the work been com-
pleted and the project been commissioned accordingly there
would not have been such a high escalation of prices in the
contractor's bill. Why did the work on this project so slow?

PU LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble P.H.E.
Minister stated that price es-
calation was 56 %. But since
Dr Man Mchan Singh assumed the
office of Finance Minister, it was stated that there was no
'Double Digit' which means that price escalation does not
exceed 9 %. If this is the case, why can there be an esca-
lation of 56 % ?

PU F.LALZUALA : Pu Speaker, supplementary ques-
tion - Being the mover of the
question, let me raise one more
question. Budget Estimate for
Sedimentation is Rs. 21 lakhs and Rs. 15 lakhs for Jake well
respectively. With this much money, it will not be difficult
to complete the work. But, it seems that work is being in-
tentionally delayed so as to have the price escalated during
the wait. Why did the contractor of this particulars project
disgrace the Ministry ? I feel that he has no respect for
this Government if he does not complete the work within this
dry season.

FU LALHMINGTHANGA
MINISTER

: Pu Speaker, regarding 56 % price escalation - By 'Price Escalation' I did not mean material price, but it is price of man-power

which was revised last year and which came into effective from 1st April. Be it material price escalation or man-power price escalation, there is universally great price escalation.

As regards construction of Jake Well and Sedimentation Plant, Revised Estimate is under way. Hence, nothing can be said now.

Regarding failure to complete the project within specific period signed in the agreement - I think in India, no project is completed within Time Scheduled signed in the agreement.

Regarding the contractor - there is provision in the terms and conditions of contract which permits contractor to move for extent of time in completing the work. If his statement of reason is reasonable or if he has a reasonable cause for delaying the work, the Technical Officer or competent authority in-charge can accept his statement of reasons without the intervention of non-Technical administration. However, as it is our desire to have the Budget completed as early as possible, we have informed the authorities in-charge to complete the works quickly and hand over the project to the Government who would further take up maintenance works.

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA

: Pu Speaker, it is not that we are trying to reveal the wrong done by others but, what we are saying is trust, a matter of public im-

portance. The Contractor is one backlisted in other places. In the Session last year, the hon'ble Minister informed the House that the project we are talking about will be commissioned at the last part of April. He even invited us to attend the Commission Day Meeting. But, we know that this did not get materialised till date. Can the Minister at least inform the House the time when compensation would be ready.

FU LALHMINGTHANGA
MINISTER

: Pu Speaker, It is pleasing that the hon'ble members have shown great interest in matters of public importance. But, I

truelly regret for not knowing the time when the Project would be completed ?

As regards to the backlisting of the contractor decision has to be made on the merit of the case. As such, it is not a matter on which Minister can give assurance.

PU H.ZATHUAMA : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Forest Department be pleased to state -
Question No. 118.

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, his question is -
MINISTER What course of action has the Government intended to take for development of Murlen National Park ? Reply to this is that the Government is intending to take good care of the Park and New road is being under construction.

PU H.ZATHUAMA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - As the people of Murlen Village are to be shifted cut elsewhere, they are not allowed to have Jhums. But, they are not yet shifted cut till now and they could neither cultivate nor do they have other livelihood. Under such situation, what measures would the Government take ?

DR R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, how much money had been spent for development of Murlen Park and what is the expenditure for the settlement of the people living within the reserved area ?

PU ZOSIAMA PACHUAU : Pu Speaker, it is true that
MINISTER there is an intention to shift the people out of the Park area and financial assistance from Central Government is expected to come within the current Financial year. Last year, Rs. 7,48,000/- was given to us for Plan Development of the Park. But as fund required for

re-settlement of the people amount to three folds of this amount, the money we got last year is not yet utilised.

PU LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Political Department be pleased to state -
Is there an intention to give Autonomous District Council within Aizawl District to HPC as solution to their political problem ?

PU J.LALSINGZULLA : Pu Speaker, there is no such intention at the moment.

PU LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - It is learnt that the HPC is reluctant to come to an agreement without some Legislative power is given to them. If it is not under constitutional provision, no Legislative power can be granted. Is the Government intending to have an agreement without Legislative power ?

PU F.MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - During pre-election days the hon'ble House Leader said that Sinlung Hills Development Council will be a little lower status than the Village Council. I would like to know what does he mean by this.

I also want to know whether there was breach of law and order by HPC at Zochmun in recent times.

PU LALRINCHHANA : Pu Speaker, I do not know whether information I got is correct - It is learnt that in the agreement with HPC, there is going to be demarcation of Schedule area and Tribal area within our Districts. Could this mean that District Council can be set up within the demarcated area ? And, is there also an intention to have HPC demand area demarcated specifically.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - We have often talked about demand area. Which area is covered by demand area ?

If it is not possible to know the exact area, we, at least want to know the area demanded by the HFC in Aizawl-Silchar range.

PU F.LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, will various political parties be consulted if the Government is intending to give some Council to HFC ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, a dialogue between MINISTER HFC and the Government of Mizoram is presently under a sensitive stage. Hence, in the interest of the public, it may not be wise to tell all that which are going on at this juncture.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, Is 'Demand Area' a sensitive issue ? Why is it classed as "sensitive" as because there are many sub-tribes living within the 'demand area'.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister in-charge District Council Affairs be pleased to state -

- (a) On what basis fund are given to the three District Councils of Mizoram ?
- (b) Is it on the basis of favouritism ?
- (c) Has the Government control over appropriation of fund, particularly of development fund by the Councils ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA : Pu Speaker, MINISTER (a) Allotment of fund to the

District Councils is made on population basis.

(b) No council is favoured particularly, all are equally much favoured.

(c) Except sending some officers when necessity arises and having Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District countersigned utilization certificate, we try not to interfere in the Councils Affairs as they are autonomous bodies.

PU ZAKHU HLYCHHO

Pu Speaker, supplementary question - Under para 14 of the Sixth Schedule, it is stated that the Government will see

to the functioning of Lawngtlai District Administration. However, it seems that this provision is applied merely for dissolution of the council. Cannot the provision be enforced in a more positive way not only for dissolution ?

Secondly, in the District Council Fund Rule, a provision is made for District Councils to obtain counter-signature of the concerned Deputy Commissioner in matters relating to financial transactions. This practice is a thing not found in other parts of India. Is not this provision therefore an interference in the autonomous power of the councils ?

Thirdly, is the Government aware that a contract works amounting to Rs. 200/300 lakhs has been allotted without floating tender within the Councils ?

PU J.LALSANGZUALA
MINISTER

Pu Speaker, we will try to follow the Rules, if we have, even in matters relating to District Councils.

Secondly, we do not know the practices of other District Councils in other parts of India, we will try to study their practices

As regards allotment of works without floating tender - as the councils are autonomous bodies we cannot curtail such allotment even if they made such allotment PWD Rules we have do not curtail our councils.

PU F.MALSAMA

Pu Speaker, my starred question No. 121.

...367/-

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, the hon'ble member's question is - Whether there is an intention to provide water supply to the people of Kawnpui - Kolasib range by pumping water from Tuitum lui.

The reply to this is that at present there is no such intention.

PU F.MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, perhaps the Government have not given thought to it. But, I think it will be much beneficial to the people, not only to Kawnpui - Kolasib range, but also to those living in the highway if Tuitun Lui is pumped out instead of concentrating on source for Kolasib Water Supply only. Will this be possible and what is the estimated amount for Kolasib Water Supply Scheme ?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, present estimated amount for Tuitun intake water supply scheme is 299.98 lakhs. Suggestion made by the hon'ble member is most welcomed. It will be pleasing if he reminds me of the place so that investigation can be taken. According to availability of fund, we can take up necessary works.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, will it not be possible to combine the fund for Tuitun Intake Water Supply Scheme so as to have more fund for pumping water from Tlawng river which could provide sufficient water all through the year to the people of this range ?

PU F LALREMSIAMA : Pu Speaker, though this may not be within the calculation of the experts, but will it not be more lasting if gravitation pull is emphasized in suitable places instead of pumping system which needs repair so often ?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Speaker, regarding question
MINISTER raised by the hon'ble member
from Sateek, as pumping of
Flawng river and construction
of Intake water are quite a different dimension, Department
have not given thought to it. This does not however mean
that his proposal is not impossible.

Regarding the suggestion of
Pu Remsiana. It was a good suggestion with bright idea.
There is however financial implication which has to be taken
into consideration. Anyway, it is pleasing that the members
made important and valuable suggestions which may be exami-
ned when possible.

PU LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, will the Hon'ble
Minister, i/c Trade and Com-
merce Department be pleased
to state question No. 122 -

Why is Association for Mizoram Forum
(AMEF) not given the remaining Rs. 30/-
lakhs out of Rs. 55 lakhs by Mizoram
Agricultural Marketing Corporation
(MAMCC) meant for Chillies Marketing
by Association for Mizoram Economic
Forum as agreed between MAMCC and
AMEF ?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, the remaining fund
MINISTER was not given as the decision
made by Board of Directors of
Agricultural Marketing Corpora-
tion which had its sitting on 17.2.1994.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, supplementary
question - Has the Depart-
ment made authorised collector
within a specific area when
MAMCC is purchasing chillies ?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, I do not under-
MINISTER stand what the member meant
to ask.

PU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Pu Speaker, in some places
such as Aibawk in my consti-
tuency, there is a middleman
or should I say a person thro-
ugh whom chillies were purchased. In some places, growers
are made to sell their products only through such middleman.
Hence, what I want to know is whether the Department has
authorised collectors in areas where chillies are purchased.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, I am glad that the
MINISTER hon'ble member mentioned about
this. I truly regret that
there is report of such cases
in some areas. Investigation will be taken in this case and
if there is anyone who practised such misdeed, stern action
will be taken.

It is never the intention of
the Department to have middleman between the buyers and the
growers. As decided by Board of Directors, the rate of chil-
lies is Rs. 25/- per Kg. The President of AMEF is also one
of the Board of Directors.

As I have said the remaining
fund has not been released in persuance of the decision made
by the Board of Directors.

PU F.MALSAWA : Pu Speaker, as our subject is a
matter of great importance we
would like to know the detail
of things from the beginning.
It will be pleasing if the hon'ble Minister could furnish
detail information on this issue.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Speaker, as it is a matter
MINISTER of great importance, I think
I will go into a little more
detail.

First of all, Board of Directors are well-informed and efficient officers Mizoram have, hence, I think what they decided would be right for Mizoram-

Being aware of the difficulties face by our farmers and growers, the Government entrusted MAMCO to purchase chillies from the growers. But, as it was not possible for MAMCO to send staff to different areas due to shortage of staff, co-ordination was made with Co-operation Department. Hence, MAMCO in co-ordination with Co-operation Department take up purchase of chillies from the growers. As there can be cases such as the ones mentioned by the hon'ble member, we tried our best and purchasing method was planned with great care. Purchasing centres were made in different places and for growers, whose products could not be purchased at the centres, mobile purchase was done. In spite of our strenuous efforts, emergence of middlemen cannot be prevented in some areas which truly disappoints the Government and the growers. I am truly sorry that our cultivators are harassed by such things. It is never our intention to purchase the products of our cultivators through middleman. We want our cultivators to have the benefit of cultivating cash crops.

As regards non-release of the remaining fund - I think, the decision made by our efficient officers is good enough to follow.

PU LALSAWTA : Pu Speaker, being afraid of misappropriation of public fund while at the same time we want our cultivators to sell their products at reasonable rate that I raise these questions.

As stated by the hon'ble Minister it is understood that the Board of Directors is not in favour of releasing the remaining fund as they seemed to have good reason for not doing so. Under such circumstances, do MAMCO have hope to recover Rs. 26 lakhs of loan given earlier ?

PU SAIKATHINGA : Pu Speaker, there was an agreement signed before loan was given, and one of the Industries within Mizoram was mortgaged. The decision to give loan and to withhold the remaining fund was made by the Board of Directors after careful study of the situation. The agreement was made in good faith. Unless some misunderstanding between the loanee and the giver, I think we will have full recovery of the amount given out. Rs. 25 lakhs is not a meagre sum and from the revolving fund, we hope to recover the loan.

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Revenue Department be pleased to state -

Whether compensation is given to individuals whose lands are being occupied by Army during and after disturbances ?

PU P.C.BAWITLUANGA : Pu Speaker, compensation is given to some individuals and some are not given.
MINISTER

PU F.MALSAWMA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - Is there an intention to give those who have not been given ? If I am not mistaken, I think compensation was given in 1983. After this there does not seem to be any allotment of compensation.

PU H.LALRUATA : Pu Speaker, supplementary question - Regarding private lands occupied by Military Forces - In Lunglei area, private lands are being occupied by Military Forces. When the owners pressed for compensation the Revenue Department made declaration in which Fukupui area was declared as Restricted Area. This was on 13th Nov. =992. What is the reason for declaring Fukupui as restricted area and is there an intention to revoke this declaration ?

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, few supplementary question please - How far has the matter being pursued regarding Rental charges for which an amount of Rs. 18/- crore is said to be required ? During pre-election days, this subject was widely talked about.

Secondly, in 1988 Revised clarification, the approved Rental charge was Rs. 10/- per Sq.ft for Aizawl District and Rs. 8/- for Lunglei and other places. Why is the approved Rental charge differ from place to place and why do the Government have different rate for different areas ?

FU F.MALSAWMA : Fu Speaker, to be replied now. Could not the land occupied by Mountain Brigade of the Army at Bawngkawn be given back to the rightful owners - i.e. some individuals and the Government since the land is no more occupied by them ?

FU F.C.BAWETLUANGA : Fu Speaker, regarding compensation for occupied lands by Military Forces. Government is planning to give compensation further. But, no sanction has yet come again after 1980.

It is a fact that Fukpui area in Lunglei District is declared as 'restricted area'. It is not only Fukpui, but other areas in Aizawl District are also declared as restricted areas in order to safe-guard the lands from the clutches of un-rightful owners or mis-claimants. It is the intention of the Government to hand back the occupied lands to the rightful owners. This will be soon sorted out.

As for rental charges and compensation Rs. 14,95,74,981/- for 1696 families as rental charges and Rs. 1,82,93,450 for 29,272 families as compensation respectively is being demanded from Central Government.

As regards assessment of land value - I do not know exactly how it is evaluated by the Government.

Evacuation of private lands by Military Forces is taking place in different parts of Mizoram. The land occupied by Brigade Division at Bawngkawn, Aizawl is also expected to be soon handed over to Civil authority. We are waiting for total evacuation by the army.

FU LALSAWTA : Fu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Law & Judicial Department be pleased to state - Have the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1967, been followed by the Government of Mizoram in constituting permanent conciliation centre (Lok Adalat) in Mizoram and also in the conduct of such Lok Adalat ?

FU C.VULLUJIA : Fu Speaker, reply to his question is that - In constituting permanent conciliation centre in Mizoram, the provision of the Legal Service Authorities Act, 1987 have not been followed. However, the permanent Lok Adalat and conciliations of the Legal Authorities Act, 1987 is being followed.

- Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Fu Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Education Department be pleased to state -
Is there any intention to set up separate Directorate for SCERT ?
- FU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Fu Speaker, reply to question 125 is 'yes'.
- FU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Fu Speaker, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Revenue Department be pleased to state -
Has Revenue Department 'Marked area' for house-sites within Kelasib Town Area ?
- FU P.C.BAWITLUANGI MINISTER : Fu Speaker, the answer is 'yes'.
- FU L.F.THANGZIKA : Fu Speaker, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Health Department be pleased to state -
When will Lunglei Civil Hospital be reconstructed and how many bed would be installed ?
- FU C.CHAWNGKUNGA MINISTER : Fu Speaker, (a) There is an intention to reconstruct Lunglei Civil Hospital.(b) It is proposed to be 200 beded hospital.
- FU R.TLANGHMINGTHANGA : Fu Speaker, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Transport Department be pleased to state -
How many Trucks and Buses were purchased during the year 1993-94 ?
- FU H.THANGKIMA : Fu Speaker, the number of Trucks and Buses purchased was -

Bus - 8 (eight) i.e Deluxe Bus - 4
Mini Bus - 4

Truck - Nil.

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA
FU H.LALRUATA
FU L.F.THANGZIKA

Fu Speaker, our question is -
When will the construction of
Saikuti Hall, Lunglei be comple-
ted ?

FU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

Fu Speaker, for the construction
of Saikuti Hall, M/S Architect
Consultant Private Limited, Cal-
cutta is selected to do Architec-
tual Drawing, Structural Design and to make the Estimate.
The selected Firm have submitted the Model and Preliminary
Drawing which is being studied. After the planning and dra-
wing are approved, work will be started and Rs. 20 lakhs is
set aside from Rural Development Department for this.

FU LALSAWTA

Fu Speaker, my question, which
is question No. 130 -
The detail expenditure incurred
by the Government of Mizoram for
the development of Lunglei District under the High Power Com-
mittee constituted by the Government ?

FU LAL THANHAWLA
CHIEF MINISTER

Fu Speaker, a chhanna chu hei hi
a ni :-

	<u>House Rent</u>	
1.2.90 - 31.3.92	=	Rs. 63,488.00
1992 - 1993	=	Rs. 47,616.00
1993 - 1994	=	Rs. 35,712.00

TOTAL = Rs.146,816.00

2. Furnitures and Stationeries
etc. = Rs. 99,823.00

3. Wages

Wages 1992 - 1993	=	Rs. 30,660.00
Wages 1993 - 1994	=	Rs. 35,385.00

TOTAL = Rs. 66,045.00

4. Telephone/Water Supply/Energy.

1992 - 1993	=	Rs. 3,900.00
1993 - 1994	=	Rs. 3,025.00
		<hr/>
TOTAL	=	Rs. 6,925.00

5. F.O.L. 1992-1994 = Rs. 42,100.00

GRAND TOTAL = Rs. 3,61,709.00

FU B.LALTHLENGLIANA : Fu Speaker, Is there any intention to upgrade High Schools to Deficit during 1994 - 95 ?

FU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Fu Speaker, Government have no intention during the year 1994-95.

FU H.LALRUATA : Fu Speaker, (a) When did T.T.I Lunglei was upgraded to DIET ? (b) Is there new post created after the upgradation ?

FU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Fu Speaker, (a) It was upgraded to DIET since 4.2.1993. (b) No new post is being created.

FU LALSAWTA : Fu Speaker, is the Government of Mizoram satisfied that the works of the Contractors under F.W.D. are commensurate with the amount paid for the works and that works are executed by the the contractors as estimated by the Engineers for the works under F.W.D. in the period between 1989 to 1993.

FU LAL THANHAWLA CHIEF MINISTER : Fu Speaker, yes, it is commensurate with the amount paid for the works and that works are executed by the contractors as per estimate made by the Engineers for the works under FWD in the period between 1989 to 1993.

PU B.LALTHLEGLIANA : Pu Speaker, do the Government have an intention to pardon loanees on account of Mizoram Centenary ?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER : Pu Speaker, there is no such intention.

S P E A K E R : Today is set for Private Resolution. Of the 11 Resolutions 4 had been taken up. We will now proceed to next Resolution which is Resolution No. 5, Pu R.Tlanghmingthanga's Resolution. Pu R.Tlanghmingthanga, Pu Lalkhama, Pu Zoramthanga and Pu F.Lalremsiana were absent.

If they are not here, we will take up Dr.R.Lalthangliana's Resolution. His Resolution is- 'That Joint Parliamentary Committee be constituted to look into the implementation of the New Land Use Policy'.

Now, mover may be called.

Dr.R.LALTHANGLIANA : Pu Speaker, it is pleasing to be given a chance to move my Resolution.

My Resolution deals with a policy which the Government regarded as one of the best policies and which touches the lives of about 80 % of Mizoram population, particularly of those living in Rural areas. It is not that I want NLUP to be abolished or that I think it is not good for Mizoram. What I want to emphasize by this resolution is to have the policy implemented as it should be. In the process of its implementation, there had been some criticisms in the past year. It will therefore be very pleasing if the hon'ble members to participate in the discussion with wider outlook.

Much emphasis was laid on NLUP since 1984, experts and technicians from various major Departments were grouped under Rural Development Department to implement the policy. In the early part of its implementation, fund for its implementation was sliced - off from the provision of such major Departments. Some of the objectives of this policy is to wean away people from Jhuming and also to find market for the products of the people of Mizoram. Rural Development Department which once used to be a small

Department has turned into a Commissionerate because of NLUP. We might have made some achievements through NLUP, but, I think we should also consider adverse effects implemenatation of this policy brings. The hon'ble member, Pu J.V.Hluna outlined in his book, 'Zoram Dinchhuahna' some of the adverse effects we have been reaping since the introduction of NLUP. It is not possible to mention all that which we found to be the dis-advantages of having this policy introduced, but, one thing NLUP brings is implanta-tion of iddleness and expectation of easy money in the minds of the people. I think this is one of the most waful effects NLUP has in the minds of the people.

Sucess of NLUP also greatly de-pends on basic infrastructure such as power, good communi-cation which Mizoram so lacks. Various trades are offered under NLUP, but when people select trades which required a-adequate supply of power for its sucess, we could not pro-vidē adequate supply of power. As such, there are many dif-ficulties and failure loopholes in the implementation of NLUP. Considering the amount of money we have spent and the achievements we have made, it is almost desireable to revoke the while project. But, as we have gone too far to back-track, the only solution we have is to make all-out efforts to make the policy a success as far as possible for which end should we make adjustment where needed. Earnest efforts also should be made to check many irregularities found to be involved in the implementation of this program-me.

It is to see to its fair and proper implementation of the programme that I moved a Reso-lution today for, I believe that Joint Parliamentary Commit-tee will serve as an useful instrument for better implemen-tation of the scheme.

Thank you.

PU HRANGTHANGA COLNEY : Pu Chairman, we have only 55 minutes left for Morning Sitting. I think we should all try to observe 15 minutes fixation in our speeches on this Resolution.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA MINISTER : Pu Chairman, our Resolution to-day could invite wide range of discussion. What can be seen from the speeches of the mover is that there had been nctable achievements since the past few years. The notion he seemed to entertain last year was quite different from the notion he has on this policy this year, perhaps because he has now seen the achievements we have made through this policy.

I think we all have things to which we give priority as an individual or as a political party. Some of the Resolutions which I regard as important are not discussed for which I regret. Nevertheless, the subject of our discussion today is also an important subject which needs to be discussed.

Moreover, only 5 years had passed since the implementation of NLUP programme, and it is too soon to allege that the said programme resulted in utter failure. At the moment, it is wrong to predict its success or failure because certain years are required for the fulfilment of some schemes. Besides, this is entirely a new policy where experience is lacked by both the Department and the public. In spite of that, we have made tremendous achievements during the past 5 years, further, the success or failure of NLUP largely depends upon the beneficiaries, because while this policy could provide proper means of earning a living to the sincere and hard-working beneficiaries, the policy is an utter failure to the idle ones. In fact, the Rural Development Department wasted since the previous times, but no developmental funds had even been utilised for the deserving public as we do now, and by implementing this policy, we are able to utilise the state budget for their rightful purposes, i.e. for development of the economically weaker sections of society.

Moreover, it is alleged that the fund for NLUP is widely diverted for personal benefits. But this is not possible because the beneficiaries are well aware of the amount allotted to them. Today, the big question is how and where will development be initiated in our State. Owing to various problems, the economy of our State has gone down tremendously and to upgrade the poor economic conditions, the Congress Ministry is implementing new developmental programme without making any distinctions of the various political parties. However, the success or failure of such programme largely depends upon the sincerity of the beneficiaries. Therefore, it is wrong to condemn the NLUP as total failure because the key to success is hard-work, which is lacked by many beneficiaries.

Finally, as this is an on-going process, the Resolution should not be utilised as a means of exposing our faults. Instead, we should render more efforts for the success of this new scheme.

Thank you.

FU F.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA :
MINISTER

Fu Speaker, sir, at the outset, I would like to point out the fact that it is extremely disgraceful to elude the discussion of an important Resolution, concerning the Inner Line Permit, construction of National Highway etc, which are matter of public importance. Besides, by acciding such vital discus-

sion, we loose the confidence and trust of our people, who will eventually realise that such persons having no interests in the welfare of the State should not occupy the seats in this August House.

Moreover, a Resolution concerning the establishment of better Remand Home for the liquor and drug-addicts was moved and discussed earlier. Apart from the Government, private agencies and various Churches have taken up steps to help such addicts. However, honestly speaking such addicts are not really cared by anyone, but we merely pretend to do so in order to gain more votes in the Election.

Coming to the present Resolution today, I would like to highlight the importance and necessity of NLUP in our State. As this is an on-going process, the setting up of a Parliamentary Committee is not needed. Further, as the importance of NLUP is realised by all, this policy is given first priority in our economic programme. Unlike the Opposition Members, we do not betray our people nor do we make empty promises to them. Undoubtedly, with the sustained efforts of the Ministry, the NLUP will yield fruitful results. As such, there is no reason to set up Joint Parliamentary Committee as the mover himself has agreed with the implementation of this policy. In spite of its wide criticism, this new developmental programme has made many families self-sufficient by providing them proper means of earning a living.

Moreover, it is evident that the entire public are satisfied with the implementation of this programme, because the Election results shows that Members of the Ruling Party were mostly elected from areas covered by this developmental programme. So, it is useless to lash out our criticism in this House. However, I would like to suggest that in the Election of Trade, the concerned Department should give proper demonstrations and instructions to the masses.

Although it is alleged that large portion of NLUP funds had been diverted for personal benefits, the truth is that such developmental funds had reached the hands of the deserving poorer communities through this policy. Another point I would like to stress is that due to their own negligence, certain persons are deprived of the said funds. So, the grievances of such persons should not be taken seriously by the Members. Lastly, as the mover of this Resolution is well aware of the implementation of NLUP and its fruitful results, he should agree to withdraw the same as there is no point in passing the Resolution.

Thank you.

PU LALRINCHHANA

: Pu Chairman, I am grateful for having the opportunity to speak about the Resolution. Earlier we have discussed about matters

concerning Inner Line Permit, National Highway, Drug-Addiction and the Government's efforts in these fields. At the same time, after learning the various steps taken up by the Government, the Mover of this Resolution might have found it unnecessary to move the same. So, it does not mean that the Mover as well as the other Opposition Members have failed to keep up their words.

As far as the NLUF is concerned, various political parties agreed and realised that this is an useful scheme for the upliftment of the economically weaker sections of society. Besides, this policy has covered the entire areas of our State, so it is wrong to withdraw in the middle of its implementation. However, the big question is while this policy is agreed and practiced by the various political parties, why there is lack of cooperation and unity among them till today. In fact, for the success of this policy as well as for the development of our State, there should be harmonious unity and cooperation among us. Accordingly, this Resolution was prepared in order to remove such differences and disagreements among the Members. As such, I support the Resolution as it is the key to our unity and cooperation.

Further, in the previous Session, the utilisation of NLUF funds was widely discussed and certain questions were raised. Unfortunately, no clarification is yet furnished till date. It is a high time to produce a clear and definite statement, so that we will be able to exchange ideas and give recommendations for the success of this scheme. Besides, the success of any policies depend upon its implementation. Likewise for the successful implementation of NLUF, the need of the hour is to provide proper guidance and education to the people with a spirit of unity and cooperation. But unfortunately, there is lack of cooperation among the elected representatives, which necessitates the setting up of Parliamentary Committee, which will investigate and remove all the problems and corruptions involved in this scheme. So, this Resolution is the key to our unity in this policy and it is not meant to be a mud-slinging Resolution. I, therefore, support this Resolution.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Five minutes is allotted to each member.

FU LALKHAMA : Mr Speaker, I firmly believe that this is an important Resolution. Earlier, the hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare had pointed out about the wide-spread of liquor and drugs in our State, but this has no connections with the present Resolution. As far as NLUF is concerned, its implementations re-

quires thorough checking as this programme covers the entire regions of our State. In certain areas, this policy is used to attract more foreigners which should be detected immediately. At the same time, certain villages reject this scheme as they believe that the scheme could lead to famine. So, the setting up of Parliamentary Committee and a detailed study of this policy are recommended.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, we will have recess. Our meeting will resume at 2:00 P.M.

2:00 P.M.

S P E A K E R : We will begin with our Resolution. It is a matter of satisfaction that the said policy has been accepted by all the political parties. As we are discussing the problems of our State, each member is requested to furnish a serious and honest statement. At the same time, we should remember that our meeting is to be over by 4:00 P.M. Let us now call upon Pu F. Lawmkima.

PU F. LAWMKIMA : Mr Speaker, sir, thank you for allotting me time to make statement. At the outset, I would like to extend my gratitude towards all the members for creating a pleasant atmosphere in the House.

Today, we are all aware of the importance of this Resolution. Being in the MJD party, I wish to offer certain clarifications regarding our acceptance of this policy. Prior to the election, we had a serious and detailed discussion of this policy. Accordingly, in our Agreement with the Congress Party, matter concerning NLUF was given top priority, which eventually became our joint election manifesto.

Moreover, realising that jhum cultivation alone failed to meet our demands and requirements, the F.C. Ministry introduced 'Garden Colony', which provides stable means of earning a living to the hard-working beneficiaries. In course of time, the MNF Ministry popularised 'Jhum Control' and eventually, the congress Ministry came up with a new developmental programme, i.e. the NLUF. So, in the present condition, the most important thing is that instead of criticising and alleging one another, each member

should work together harmoniously by providing proper guidance and instructions to the masses, so that greater benefits and developments could be achieved through this policy. On the other hand, continuous criticism of this policy will have an adverse effects on the beneficiaries. As a matter of fact, a closer observation of this scheme reveals that it provides proper means of earning a living to the sincere and hard-working beneficiaries. Therefore, the benefits and advantages of this policy should be widely publicised by the members in their constituencies, as the progress of our economy largely depends upon the success of this scheme. Regarding this Resolution, the Mover himself has accepted this policy, but he demands investigation of the implementations, but can the same be undertaken without having to pass the Resolution.

Thank you.

FU ZORAMTHANGA

:

Mr Speaker, sir, I am grateful for having the opportunity to discuss the Resolution of our hon'ble member, Dr R.Lalthang-

liana, where the main subject of the Resolution is setting up of a Joint Parliamentary Committee to probe the misappropriation of NLUF funds.

As we all know, this policy was implemented since the year 1990, and so far, the amount of funds utilised in this scheme is as high as Rs. 10707/- lakhs. As compared with our State budget, the financial involvement is extremely high. Above all, it is learnt that on 10.12.'92, a total of Rs. 75,22,333/- was deposited in the SBI in the name of Finance Commissioner, where the annual interest alone is Rs. 8,27,456.63. Apart from that, Rs. 13 lakhs and another 6 lakhs were also deposited in the Rural Banks of Kolasib and Thingdawl respectively, and we are able to furnish all the Account number if necessary. Although, our investigation is not yet completed, the amount of diverted funds detected so far is Rs. 5,06,05,779/- with the amounted interests of Rs. 23,04,960/- . As a matter of fact, it is against the rule to deposit the Government's money in the Bank. Even in the previous Session, matters concerning such misappropriation of funds was widely discussed and questioned, but no satisfactory explanation is furnished till date. We, therefore, present our dissatisfaction in the forms of Resolution, as the need of the hour is to investigate such misuse of funds.

Another confusing matter is that in West Phaileng, the list of beneficiaries published by the Ministry does not agree with the Census - List, where the former exceeds the latter by 438 houses. So, we strongly recommend the setting up of Parliamentary Committee to probe into such controversial matters.

Further, the system of implementation of this policy is not upto the mark. For instance, the various trades in this scheme could no longer be managed by the

Department's expert, as a consequence, we turn out to be a 'Jack of all trades and Master of none'. Therefore, this policy gives birth to various problems in our State, thereby sowing the seeds of idleness in the minds of the people. As such, this Resolution should be passed without any hesitation so as to remove all the controversies involved in this policy.

Thank you.

FU F.C. FAWITLUANGA
MINISTER

Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for allotting me time to make statements on matters concerning the Resolution of our hon'ble mem-

ber Fu R. Lalthangliana.

As far as the implementation of NLUF is concerned, it is wrong to form judgements on the basis of reports, given by those having negative approach over this policy. In my Constituency, this developmental programme is highly recommended as it paves the way for the upliftment of our poor economic conditions by providing proper means of livelihood where the beneficiaries could select occupations of their choices and interests under the direction and guidance of an experts. Earlier, we have heard that in certain villages, the list of beneficiaries does not agree with the census list of the Government. However, I would like to point out that beneficiaries cannot be selected on the basis of census list published either by the Churches or the Government. Whatever the case may be, while the success of this programme largely depends upon the beneficiaries, it is the duty of the elected representatives to provide proper guidance, instructions and awareness to the beneficiaries. Today, we are aware of the benefits and advantages of this policy and we have seen the fruitful results obtained in various trades. So, in my opinion there is nothing to change or modify in its implementation. Besides, various expert personnel selected from different Departments are entrusted with the task of providing proper guidelines to the beneficiaries. The list of beneficiaries is in the hands of the concerned BDO and the funds are sanctioned in consultation with the V/C and the beneficiary himself. In spite of certain allegations and criticisms, this programme progresses smoothly till date. However, I do not deny that trade involving larger amount of money is usually selected by the beneficiaries. Whatever it is, this policy is launched to uplift the economically weaker section of society, as so far, the Ministry is successful in the implementation of this developmental programme. Earlier, the hon'ble opposition Leader has mentioned the huge amount of funds involved in this policy. But we should understand the fact that this scheme is solely for the development of our entire State and thus covered a wide area. As such, the financial involvement cannot be low. So, realising its importance, the centre as well as the state government made huge financial assessment for NLUF, which undoubtedly will bring in greater progresses

for the masses, and in course of time, besides providing regular means of livelihood, the various trades could develop into our main sources of revenue.

Thank you.

FU C.L.RUALA
MINISTER

Mr Speaker, sir, as stated earlier, unlike the previous times, both the Opposition and the Ruling Parties have taken great

interest in this policy.

Speaking of NLUF, a spot verification clearly reveals that jhum cultivation is an utter failure while greater success is achieved under NLUF. In order to make this policy a success, the first and foremost necessity is to have the beneficiaries mentally prepared for their trades. So, while we are trying to help them, it is wrong to lash out our criticisms or have a negative approach as performances. So, if we really want to achieve success, mere impressive statement is useless, but what we need is unity and united actions.

Further, I would like to suggest that instead of setting up a Joint Parliamentary Committee, a Seminar headed by an experts from outside be conducted as this will give valuable informations to the farmers. Moreover, we should not forget the fact that success could not be achieved overnight, and that a period of 5 to 6 years is required for the beneficiaries to enjoy the fruits of their labours. In any case, the success of any trades depends upon the sincerity of the beneficiaries. However, pointing out of only the negative aspect, could be a stumbling block in the implementation of this programme. From our discussion, it is evident that this policy is agreed and supported by each member. To verify the process of this scheme, a Committee headed by the hon'ble Chief Minister and Chief Secretary was set up. So, setting up of Joint Parliamentary Enquiry is not necessary. Hence, I suggest that the hon'ble member Dr R.Lalthangliana should withdraw his Resolution.

Thank you.

FU H.ZATHUAMA

Mr Speaker, sir, it is a matter of satisfaction that under your efficient directions, we are able to discuss this important

policy amicably. Besides, in spite of our misunderstanding and differences in opinion, our discussion clearly reflect that we all accept and regard this policy as a means of uplifting the economically weaker sections.

Today, I have nothing to say about the merits or demerits of NLUF as this policy is not yet introduced in my constituency. However, I would like to thank the Mover of this Resolution because the wide discussion of his Resolution has given us valuable informations regarding this developmental programme. At the same time, if this policy is

meant for the upliftment of the poorer sections, I am surprised and displeased that the same has not yet covered my constituency. Therefore, I sincerely request the hon'ble Minister of Rural Development to understand our poor conditions and implement this policy atleast in the most needed parts of my constituency. It is my sincere desire that all the statements and suggestions made in this House should be promptly materialised, so that this policy will bring immense progress and development to the economically weaker sections of society.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We have to call upon both the Mover and the hon'ble Minister.

FU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr Speaker, sir, do we have to invite the Minister on matter concerning the Private Resolution.

S P E A K E R : It is the usual procedure to summon the Minister. Now, we shall call upon the hon'ble Minister Fu Lalmingthanga.

FU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr Speaker, sir, today the Mover as well as other Members have furnished informative statements, from which we learnt that the NLUF is accepted by all the Members as a means of uplifting the poor village community.

Today, from the light of our discussion, it is clear that setting up of the said Inquiry Committee is not necessary as the High Level Committee, comprising of various technical Experts is reliable enough to investigate or improve the implementation of this policy. As pointed out by the hon'ble Member, Dr J.V.Hluna, the MJD Legislature Party is in full support of this policy. As a matter of fact, different Ministries have introduced various systems like Garden Colony by the F.C., eradication of jhum-cultivation by the MNE and now the NLUF by the Congress. But in all these system, the objective is the same, which is providing regular means of livelihood and permanent settlement to the jhuming families.

As pointed out earlier the fund allotted for Rural Development is quite high. The reason is that population increases rapidly and besides, the National policy aims at providing permanent settlement to 85 % of the

Rural population. Whatever it is, we should always remember that whenever Plan-Programme is introduced, there is likely to be certain problems in its initial stage. Likewise, even the NLUF cannot yield fruitful results within a short span of time as certain years are required for full development of some trades. Therefore, the success or failure of NLUF cannot be measured in terms of mere empty Fig-Sty etc, and nothing definite can be said at the moment. Nevertheless, I am certain that this developmental programme will be a turning point for the economically weaker sections, who will derive huge benefits from it. Above all, the purpose of this policy is to bring in economic development or upliftment and not to set up an Enquiry Committee. Since all the Members appear to have an anonymous opinion on this policy, it is wiser or better if the Member withdraw his Resolution.

Thank you.

FU F.LALZUALA

Mr Speaker, sir, at the outset, I would like to extend my gratitude for having the opportunity to speak about the Resolution of our hon'ble Member, Dr R.Lalthangliana, and at the same time, I would like to request the hon'ble concerned Minister if the Villages of Vaisam, Chithar, Thangpui, and Thangte, which are presently under the Lungsen Block could be shifted to Lunglei Block, as this is more convenient for such Villages.

Next, emphasizing on matters concerning NLUF, while this is considered as a stepping stone for the under-privileged sections, provided that the Ministry has performed its duty by sanctioning the funds and providing guidelines to the beneficiaries, the allotted funds is widely diverted from their rightful purposes by the beneficiaries themselves, which necessitates the setting up of Joint Parliamentary Enquiry for probing such misappropriation of funds. So, inspite of achieving success in some trades, failure seen in certain other areas is extremely disgraceful not only for the Ministry, but for the entire population.

In my constituency, this policy creates certain problems, because fund was not sanctioned at the right time as scheduled, and time ran out for the cultivators to start jhum-cultivation. Apart from that, the first instalment sanctioned to the beneficiaries is too meagre to begin actual work. As such, can the implementation of this policy be improved so as to achieve greater success in future? In my opinion, it is a mistake to totally abandon jhum cultivation while most of the trades are in its formative stages. So, can this programme be processed along with jhum cultivation? Finally, for the success and improvement of this policy and for guiding the people towards the right direction, setting up of the said Committee is necessary. Therefore, this Resolution should be passed unanimously by the House.

Thank you.

...387/-

PU F.LALREMSIAMA : Mr Speaker, sir, matter concerning NLUP deserves wide discussion as this is an important topic. In any economic developments, the most important point is realisation of the value of the lands, which is the main source of our existence. So, even in matters of NLUP, whether or not we accept this policy is not the question, but the main point is that the Ministry has introduced it, and it is our hope and desire to achieve the best possible effects from it.

Further, we frequently stress that the Mizos are trustworthy, unselfish and hard-working, but I am afraid that such good qualities will slip away from our society as did our traditional customs. Not only that, while we are struggling hard to gain further developments and progresses for our entire State why do we hesitate to work together under the spirit of unity and harmony. We claimed ourselves to be an honest and faithful representatives of the people, but we have made too many false statements and empty promises. Above all, open-administration is certainly lacking in this Ministry, because Mr Speaker, sir, Members sitting on your left are denied of many facts. Therefore, there is something wrong in our administrative system which requires thorough verification. As stated earlier, the mistakes committed both by the Government's Officials as well as the public should be detected by a Joint Committee. If we really want this policy to be a success, then the Resolution of our hon'ble Member Dr R.Lalthangliana should be passed unanimously.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We should not forget that our Meeting is to be over by 4:00 P.M.

PU F.MALSAWMA : Mr Speaker, sir, the amount of money sanctioned directly for Rural Development is extremely high, and so, we certainly expect tremendous achievements from it. However, as published by the Local Newspapers, out of thousand of families, only 4 or 5 appeared to be successful. As we all know, the said policy was introduced way back in 1984, and in the beginning there were certain hindrances due to lack of experience, but the process gradually improved with the passage of time. Accordingly, this Resolution has an important role to play, i.e. to detect the past mistakes and facilitate further progresses in future. Besides, from the Resolution, we hope to bring out valuable suggestions for further improvements. On the other hand, in the implementation of NLUP, there is a danger of degrading the economic conditions of the beneficiaries permanently.

For instance, the unsuccessful beneficiaries will be left empty handed if shifting jhum cultivation is totally banned in our State. Therefore, we should consider certain provisions for their welfare.

Another point I would like to stress is that due to unavailable circumstances, some beneficiaries have to shift elsewhere and such selected beneficiaries have to wait for the next turn. This creates certain problems in their economic conditions. So, we have to consider their welfare with utmost care. Moreover, many families from the Rural Areas with no proper means of livelihood have fled to the Urban Areas in search of better future. I would like to know whether such families could be covered by this policy. Finally, I would like to suggest that the Government should pay due attention towards marketing facilities because without it, real success cannot be achieved despite the success in the field of production. Therefore, we should not hesitate to work together as our joint-efforts will certainly yield for better results. As such, in my opinion, this Resolution should be passed unanimously by the House.

Thank you.

FU H. THANGKIMA
MINISTER

: Mr Speaker, sir, matter concerning the NLUF has greatly captured our attention. As stated earlier, various programmes like

Jhum Control, Garden Colony etc, had been implemented in the past. Whatever it is, the objective of these programmes is the same, i.e to provide regular means of livelihood to the economically weaker sections of society. Today, the traditional method of cultivation is discarded and is replaced by a fresh programme like NLUF, which is accepted by all. In this connection, the setting up of a Joint Parliamentary Committee was suggested in order to probe the likely misappropriation of funds. However, the setting up of the said Committee is not necessary as the reports of the various Enquiry Committee and Offices had been submitted, which were duly noted down by the Minister. So, if permitted by our Leaders as well as the Members, instead of establishing a new Committee, you should try to include yourselves in the aforesaid Enquiry Committee, where you will have the opportunity to make enquiries of furnish suggestions for improvements.

Thank you.

FU LIANSUAMA
MINISTER

: Mr Speaker, sir, today I am grateful towards the Members for their valuable suggestions and statements. Nevertheless,

the views and opinion of the hon'ble Opposition Leader is quite different from others. In spite of that, we all seem to accept and support this policy, provided that the Joint Manifesto of

the Ruling Party and the MNF Party is continuation of this development programme. As mentioned earlier, this policy was initially launched when the hon'ble Member from Aizawl 'W'- I was the Chief Secretary of our State. Although, this policy has assumed different names, the objective is the same, which is to stop shifting cultivation, to provide regular means of earning a livelihood to the Village Communities and enable them to be self-sufficient. Besides that, the NLUF also aims at preserving lands for the future generation. Further I would like to remind our hon'ble Member from Aizawl 'N'-II that preparation for a better Marketing system is underway now.

One of our hon'ble Members had stated that NLUF is not concerned with carpentry and Blacksmithy. However, by engaging in such occupation, we will be able to preserve our lands and forests. Coming to matters concerning the collection of funds from the various Department, this had been clarified by the hon'ble Finance Minister, and the last collection was done way back in 1989 just before the end of Financial Year. On 28th February, when the Budget was laid by the Union Finance Minister, top priority was given to the Departments of Social Welfare, Rural Development, Education & Human Resources, and accordingly, the financial allotment for the said Departments was fairly high. In the same way, the Government has special emphasis on NLUF, Power etc, thus sanctioning huge amount of funds. As this policy is entirely meant for the upliftment of the under-privileged sections, why do we have a negative approach over it and constantly criticise the high financial allotment ?

Our hon'ble member from Lunglei North has alleged that no formal instruction was imparted to the public. Let me remind you the fact that a motivation campaign covering the entire communities was conducted under the leadership of our Commissioner. It is also alleged that the NLUF list does not agree with that of the census. However, the two lists cannot be similar, because there are many small Villages which are not included in the Census List. Therefore, the alleged fabrication of the list of beneficiaries and misappropriation of funds are merely false presumption. I do not deny the fact that after handing over the funds to the concerned BDC, a meagre amount was found to be misused, and action had been taken against such offenders. Moreover, the Ministry has thoroughly investigated the utilisation of the NLUF's fund and there is nothing left to discover even if the Joint Parliamentary Committee is set up. Today, we should not forget that our main policy and programme is continuation of NLUF more systematically to consider and improve the problems of the beneficiaries, and to formulate new proposals for the families deprived of this fund. Presently, we are planning to set up a Committee, who will investigate whether the failure of NLUF depends upon the beneficiaries or the misused of funds, and I do believe that this Resolution too was moved for the same purposes. Another point I would like to mention is that owing to price-inflation, our programme has to be revised every now and then. As pointed out earlier, if the sanctioned fund has not yet reached the hands of certain beneficiaries, such matter will be duly verified. Matter concerning Instalment is left in the hands of the V.C., and the Trade's Leaders.

Mr Speaker, sir, today I would like to bring to the notice of the hon'ble Members that the total amount of the fund is initially released to the concerned BDO, who in turn hand over the same to the VCF and the various Trade's Leaders, after while an AER is submitted and the next Instalment is not sanctioned without the signatures of the beneficiaries. As far as the implementation of this development programme is concerned, each MLA has to work hard to provide proper instructions to the masses in order to make them realise the importance of utilising the fund for their rightful purposes. In the present condition, setting up of Joint Parliamentary Committee is not the first and foremost necessity for effective implementation of this policy, because we have the Consultative Committee, which is reliable enough for the task of investigation.

Matter concerning the interest of the fund deposited in the Bank is evidently criticised. Let me remind you the fact that after being signed by our Commissioner, such interest is submitted to the Government's Revenue under challan No. 331. Moreover, a question was raised as to why the allotted fund was deposited in the Rural Banks of Thingdawl, Kelasib and Vairengte. The reason is that instead of leaving huge amount of cash in the hands of the BDO, it is more safer and convenient to deposit the same in the said Banks. Whatever it is, I would like to remind our hon'ble Members that what we did was solely for the welfare and interest of our people. It is a great privilege that the Government permitted us to avail the Bank's facilities for the upliftment of the poorer sections. So, there should not be any ill-feelings over this matter. Besides, it was pointed out earlier that expert personnel is lacking. This is far from truth, because we do have technical experts and experienced officers in the different Departments, who are repeatedly instructed to render their valuable services for the success of this developmental programme. As such, there is no stone left unturned for the success of NLUF. Further, our joint support of this policy is highly appreciated, and undoubtedly, the percentage of success will soar higher if we sincerely cooperate one another. I do realise that there is lack of public education, but we should not forget the fact that this policy was started only in 1989, and no fruitful results could be expected within a short span of time. Through our joint efforts, this policy will not lead to famine, but it could become the economic foundation of our State. Considering all these factors, the passing of this Resolution is not necessary, because the implementation and investigation of NLUF is undertaken efficiently without the Joint Parliamentary Committee.

Thank you.

Dr R. LALTHANGLIANA

: Mr Speaker, sir, at the cut set, I would like to emphasize the differences between the Census and the beneficiary's list, for

instance, at Tuipuibari I and II, the List of Beneficiaries is larger by 140 and 396 families respectively. There is a wide variation in the figure, which needs thorough verification.

Next, in matters of Bank's facilities, it is clearly written in the Centre's Treasury Rules, Volume I, chapter 9 that no Government's Officer should deposit the allotted funds in the Bank, unless special permission is awarded by the Government. In the same Rule's book, Article No.25 further mentioned that such special permission is to be issued by the Government only for severe crisis. As far as the implementation of NLUF is concerned, I would like to remind the hon'ble Minister that as requested by the concerned MLA, the Ngopa constituency too should be covered by this developmental policy. Regarding the selection of Trades, what I had implied is that the nature of the soil and the interests of the people should be taken into account. Today, it is certain that something is wrong in the process and implementation of NLUF, as this is confirmed the hon'ble Minister of Agriculture when he pointed out the utter failure seen in Pig-rearing. Therefore, the need of the hour is to detect the causes of such failure, which eventually prompted me to move this Resolution concerning the setting up of Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). Although, my Resolution will not be passed by the House, I have no intention of withdrawing the same. It does not mean that I do not trust our Experts or experienced officers, but the objective of the proposed JPC is to enhance unity and Cooperation among us, so that this policy could be implemented more effectively and efficiently both at the same Block and Villages levels. So, Mr Speaker, sir, I honestly request this August House to pass my Resolution, concerning the setting up of JPC to probe the misappropriation of NLUF funds.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : The hon'ble member has moved his Resolution, Members who agree to pass the same will say 'Agree', those who disagree will say 'Disagree'.

As majority of the Members disagreed, the House cannot pass this Resolution. Now, our meeting is adjourned for today. Our Session will resume on 28.3.1994 at 10:30 A.M.

4:40 P.M.

The Meeting was Adjourned till 28.3.1994 (Monday).

...392/-