

PROCEEDING OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE THIRD MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FROM THE 14TH MARCH TO THE 3RD APRIL, 1995.

1st Sitting on Tuesday, the 14th March, 1995.

P R E S E N T

PU VAIVENGA, SPEAKER at the Chair, Chief Minister and twenty three Members were present.

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

His Excellency, the Governor, Mr P R Kyndiah to Address the House.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

The Speaker to make references on the demise of -

- (1) Shri Giani Zail Singh, Ex-President of India
- (2) Pu P. Siamliana, Ex-MLA of Mizoram.

M O T I O N

Pu Lal Biakzuala to move Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address in the following form -

" That the Member of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the Assembly on the 14th March, 1995 ".

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

The House to elect Deputy Speaker.

S P E A K E R : Let the copy of the Governor's Address be distributed. Today, we have 3 items in our Business List, such as, Obituary reference, Motion of Thanks and Election of Deputy Speaker.

We shall open our Session with the Obituary references of Pu Giani Zail Singh and Pu P. Siam-

liana. Pu Giani Zail Singh was born on 5th May, 1916 at Swadan, Farikat District, Punjab. He and his wife Pi Pradhan Khaun had one son and three daughters. In the year 1938, he was arrested because of his strong opposition against the autocratic rule of Punjab. He was the builder of Farikat State's Congress and between the year 1948 - 1952, he was a Minister under the Ministry. In the years 1956 - 62, he was a Member of the Rajya Sabha. For 6 years, i.e. between 1966 - 72, he was the President of the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee and from 1972 - 77, he was the Chief Minister of Punjab. Ultimately, on 25th July, 1982, he was elected as the President of India. On the fateful day of November, 26th, 1994, Pu Zail Singh met a Car accident and suffered serious injuries. He was rushed to PGI Nehru Hospital, but succumbed to his injuries on 25th December, 1994. His wife, son and daughters were by his side when he breathed his last. He was 78 years.

Pu P.Siamliana was the elected MLA of Mizoram and had been the Minister of State for some years. He was the son of Pu Hrangkhuma and Pi Thanthuami and was born on 9th November, 1949 at Zobawk, Lunglei. He and his wife Pi Rohlupui had one son and two daughters. During his College's and University's days, Pu Siamliana had been an active Member of Student Union. From the year 1972 - '74, he was the President of All India Student Federation, Shillong. In 1974, he was the General Secretary of Mizo Cultural Club at Shillong and from 1975 - '77, he was the President of MZF, Shillong Branch. Apart from that, in 1976, he was also the Joint Secretary of All Joint Student Association, Shillong. He obtained a Master Degree in Political Science from NEHU. For a long period of time, he was the Secretary of Thalfavang Kut and an Executive Member of NERSU.

Pu P.Siamliana was imprisoned twice because of his active participation in the Peace Talk between the Indian Government, Political Party and the Students. He went Under-ground, but was arrested on 23rd March, 1982 and was subsequently imprisoned in Silcher Jail for more than a year. Mr P.Siamliana was the first President of Mizo Peace Forum (MPF). He ran for the 1984 election with the MPF ticket, but unfortunately lost the election. He also witnessed the signing of Peace Agreement between the MNF and the Central Government. In course of time, the MNF Party and the MPF emerged as a single political party, where Mr P.Siamliana was the first General Secretary of MNF Divisional Headquarter, Lunglei. He was also a Member of the National Council. At the first Mizoram State MLA Election, on 16.2.1987, he was elected from Tawipui constituency. He was re-elected in the next election from the same constituency, and for the years 1989 - '93, he was a Minister of State. The cruel hands of death snatched his precious life away from us on 6th December, 1994 at Greenwood Hospital, Aizawl. His body was laid to rest at the Cemetery of his native Village Zobawk.

Now, time is opened for Members wishing to make references on the demise of our departed two leaders.

PU LAL THANHAWLA : Mr Speaker, sir, it is most un-
CHIEF MINISTER fortunate that today we have to
make references on the untimely
demise of Pu Zail Singh and Pu P.Siamliana.

My first meeting with Pu Zail Singh was at the time when he was a Home Minister. Although he was not highly educated, he was a respectable religious leader. He was humble and at the same time a great person. The State of Punjab achieved tremendous progress during his term as a Chief Minister. Moreover, he played a key role in the task of ushering in peace and harmony to our State.

Pu Zail Singh paid special attention towards us, as he was fully aware that we are the minorities, coming from remote and backward areas. Among the Central Leaders, he was the most sociable, obliging and amicable person. When he became President, he visited Mizoram and was unable to return as scheduled due to heavy rain. But he showed no sign of irritation and we were completely at ease with him. Besides, he had a good reputation while he was a President. After his retirement, he reside next to Mizoram House in Delhi, and he was ready to help us and always received us with opened arms. His death is a great loss for us as well as for the whole nation.

Mr Speaker, sir, as stated earlier, while he was a student, Pu P.Siamliana was an aspiring leader even outside our State. Besides that, he took an active part and was the main leader in the Student's Movement in Aizawl. If it was for a good cause, he did not hesitate to criticize the Government or faced imprisonment. He was humble, ready to obey commands and an efficient Minister. It was a pleasure to work with him. His untimely demise due to ill-health is most unfortunate and a great loss for the entire people of Mizoram.

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Mr Speaker, sir, it is extremely
sad that today we have to make
references on the demise of our
departed 2 Leaders. As we have already heard, Pu Zail Singh was not a man of high educational qualification. But he was a great statesman and possessed outstanding personality. As such, he deserved to be the President of India in the midst of great scholars and highly educated persons. Besides, Leaders of the Nation, Politicians, as well as our youths could learn many things from him.

Furthermore, his sincere efforts in the task of bringing in Peace and Harmony to our State is highly appreciated. Even after his retirement, he was always prepared and readily available to help us. His untimely demise left us in a state of shock and anguish.

Next, it is a great misfortune to lose Pu P.Siamliana at such a young age, who had been a Member of this August House for two consecutive terms. Be-

sides being a Student's leader, Pu P.Siamliana took an active part in the task of ushering in Peace to our State, preserving our culture and interests and reconstructing our society, thereby making valuable contributions towards the Government. During his term as a Minister, we were in the Opposition. Nevertheless, he did not exhibit any sign of indifference or distinction towards us. In fact, his bravery, dedication for the people and all his other talents will be a good example for the future generations. The passing away of these two great leaders is a tremendous loss for us.

Thank you.

PU F.LALZUALA : Mr Speaker, sir, it is most unfortunate that today, we have to make references on the untimely demise of Pu P.Siamliana, who was a man of undoubted courage. He was elected twice from Tawipui constituency. Presently, I am a Member from the said constituency and it is a great pleasure and privilege to follow his footsteps. Today, I would like to thank the Ministry for fulfilling the wishes of the departed leader's father as well as his native communities that his body should be buried in his native Village.

During our College days, we had been classmates and I shared close friendship with him. He was courteous and an amiable person, who sacrificed his life for the good of our people and our State.

Thank you

Dr J.V.HLUNA : Mr Speaker, sir, on behalf of our group, I am indebted to make reference on the unfortunate demise of Pu Giani Zail Singh and Pu P.Siamliana.

As often stated, it is really marvellous that Pu Zail Singh was able to move from a Mud-House to the Rasthrapati Bhavan. Besides being a great statesman, he was also an outstanding leader in the Sikh Religion and was thus awarded the Honourable title "Giani". Although, Pu Zail Singh was only a matriculate, he was very fluent in Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi. When his father expired, he left only 22 hectares land, to be shared by his three sons from there, Pu Zail Singh struggled hard to achieve great height and power. He was the Minister of Agriculture when Pu Pratap Singh Karan, popularly known as the founder of Punjab was the Chief Minister. In the year 1931, he was only 16 years old but faced imprisonment owing to his active involvement in the Freedom Movement of India.

On July, 1982, when Pu Zail Singh was the President of India, the Golden Temple at Amritsar was

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seized by the Operation Blue Star. This greatly disheartened him, besides he was severely criticised and condemned by his own people and the Religious leaders, who strongly demanded his resignation. Nevertheless, to keep up the integrity of the nation, he remained firm and continued to exercise his responsibility for the harmonious unity of our Motherland, and ultimately, he offered prayers in the Golden Temple.

On the fateful day, November 29th his car was hit by a Truck, driver named Parsim Lal, and later succumbed to his injuries. Pu Zail Singh always had strong determination to donate his eyes, but the unfortunate accident destroyed his wish. He was a kind-hearted and religious person and when he visited Aizawl, he even attended the services at Chandmari's Church, He also laid the foundation stone of NEHU Headquarters at Shillong. His untimely demise is a great loss for the entire nation.

I had personally known Pu P.Siamliana for a long time as we shared the same Hostel during our College days at Shillong. He was humble, understanding and a considerate person. In the early eighties, he actively participated in the Students' Movement in Mizoram so as to preserve the interest and welfare of our people. He deserved praise and admiration for his active involvement in safeguarding the rights of our people. His untimely demise is most unfortunate and Mizoram has lost an eminent and dedicated leader.

Dr R. LALTHANGLIANA

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Mr Speaker, sir, today, I would like to make reference on the sad demise of Pu P.Siamliana, who had been a close friend of mine since the year 1976. In the year 1979, Pu P.Siamliana was the President of 'Mizo Zirlai Pawl' (MZP) at Shillong, while I was the President of 'All Mizo Students Federation' (AMSF), which had its Joint Headquarter at Shillong. However, the existence of two separate student's bodies created certain problems. So, at the suggestion and initiation of Pu P.Siamliana, both the MZP and AMSF were amalgamated into a single body known as Mizo Students' Union (MSU), which actively functions till today, and this is purely the fruit of his dedication and hard work.

Further, during the year 1979, the N.E. Region was faced with communal trouble and certain other problems, where several steps were taken up by the All Assam Students' Union. Being the leaders of the MSU, Pu P.Siamliana and myself felt the need to strengthen the unity of the 7 States in the North-East in respect of culture, economic development and politics. So, towards the end of 1979, we summoned a meeting of the Student's leaders of the said 7 States at Assam House in Shillong, where a new Student's Union, named the N.E. Region Students Union was established and I was the senior Vice-President for 3 years. The initiative actions and active involvement of Pu P.Siamliana greatly deserved praise and appreciation. Besides,

he was well-known in the States of Assam, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh.

As already stated, Pu P. Siemliana was humble, hard-working, unselfish, trustworthy and extremely generous. So, his untimely and sad demise has left us in a state of shock, anguish and despair.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Now, we shall all stand in silence in order to mourn and show our respect to the departed leaders.
(Members stood in silence). Be seated.

Now, we shall call upon Pu Lal Biazuala to move his Motion of Thanks on the Hon'ble Governor's Address.

FU LAL BIAZUALA : Hon'ble Speaker, sir, I beg to move Motion of Thanks - " That the Member of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the Assembly on the 14th March, 1995 "

Thank you sir.

S P E A K E R : Your Motion will be discussed tomorrow. We shall proceed with the next programme which is Election of Deputy Speaker. Nomination could be submitted till 3:00 P.M., yesterday, and so far, only one nomination paper had been received, which was the nomination of Pu R.L.Valla by Pu T.Hranghluta, and this was seconded by Pu John Rotluangliana. In the absence of any other nominations, Pu R.L.Valla is declared elected unopposed for the post of Deputy Speaker. Now, let the newly elected Dy.Speaker be seated in his Chair.

Finally, I would like to remind each Department that answers for all the questions should be furnished immediately by all the concerned officers. Our Session is now over for today, and it will resume tomorrow at 10:30 A.M.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

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