

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 10TH & BUDGET SESSION OF THE MIZORAM
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL FROM THE
15TH MARCH, 1976 TO 30TH MARCH, 1976.

7th Sitting on 24th March, 1976 at 10:30 A.M.:

P R E S E N T

Pu Vaivenga, B.A., Speaker in the Chair. Chief Minister,
six Ministers and twenty four Members.

B U S I N E S S

1. Questions.

2. Presentation of Report:

Pu K.L.Rochama, Chairman, Committee on
Subordinate Legislation to present the Second
Report of the Committee.

3. Voting on Demand for Grants for 1976-77:

(a) Pu Lalsangzuala, Minister to move Demands
for Grants in respect: of the Department
under his charge.

(b) Consideration and Voting of the Demands.

(c) Pu P.B.Nikhuma, Dy. Minister, to move
Demands for Grants in respect: of the
Departments under his charge.

(d) Consideration and Voting of the Demands.

SPEAKER: (Read out from Bible).

We will now take up Question No. 37.

The Member who gave the question is absent.

Has he authorised any one? If there is none, we shall
move on to Question No. 38. Has he authorised a Member?
None. All right, let me take Question No. 39.

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Achievement in Dhaleswari Catchment Project.

*39:PU LALKUNGA:Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of Agriculture Deptt. be pleased to state -

- (a) What is the achievement of works under W.E.C. in Dhaleswari Catchment Project ?
- (b) What amount had been sanctioned and spent during 1974-75 and 1975-76 ?
- (c) Where are the works located ?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:Mr. Speaker Sir, (a)- The jhum control work of Dhaleswari Catchment has been taken up on Pilot Project basis at Saikhawthlir, Kawnpui and Zobawk in the later part of 1974-75. The achievement in respect of each unit of the said projects is as follows :-

SAIKHAWTHLIR:

1. 1974-75 :- 100 families were selected and 200 hectares of jungle clearance was done.
2. 1975-76 :- (i) The 200 hectares jungle clearance in 1974-75 have been developed at the rate of 74 ha. for W.E.C., 3 ha. for D.T.C. and 108 ha. for Plantation.
(ii) Besides jungle clearance is being done on 200 ha. of land.

KAWNPUI:

1. 1974-75: (i) 193 families were selected and 390 ha. jungle clearance was done of which 47 ha. were developed under WRC, 3 ha. under DTC and 150 ha. under Plantation.
(ii) 40 ha. were brought under Teak Plantation.
2. 1975-76:- (i) 47 families were selected and 50 ha. jungle cleared.
(ii) Besides 42 ha. are being developed under WRC, 31 ha. under DTC and 60 ha. under Plantation.

(iii) Nursery for raising rubber seedlings of 2.78 lakhs has been taken up.

ZOBAWK:

1. 1974-75: (i) 95 families were selected and 43 hectares jungle cleared.
(ii) 43 hectares developed for Wet Rice Cultivation.
2. 1975-76: (i) 205 families were selected and 230 hectares jungle cleared.
(ii) 30 hectares for DTC and 20 hectares under contour trenching for Plantation.

Linked road in 1974-75: - Besides above, linked road was constructed for a distance of 13.5 Kms. in respect of Kawnpui and Saikhawthlir projects in the year 1974-75.

Linked road in 1975-76: Additionally, linked road of 34 Kms. has been constructed in respect of Kawnpui and Saikhawthlir projects.

Irrigation potentially developed in 1974-75:

Work is going on to cover 45 hectares under Irrigation in respect of Kawnpui and Saikhawthlir projects.

(b) Amount sanctioned and spent during 1974-75 and 1975-76 are :-

<u>Sanctioned</u>	<u>Spent</u>
(i) 1974-75: 13,01,000/-	7,78,498/-
(ii) 1975-76: 16,78,000/-	11,50,275/- (upto 29.2.76) (Rs 16.78 lakhs will be spent upto 31.3.76).

(c) The works are located at :-

- 1) Kawnpui (Aizawl District).
- 2) Zobawk (Lunglei District).
- 3) Saikhawthlir (Aizawl District).

NB: The Dhaleswari Catchment area Scheme was operated by the Soil Conservation Department during 1974-75. The reason for not spending the whole allotment is reported due to late receipt of sanction from the N.E.C.

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As for expenditure*1975-76, it is expected that the whole amount would be spent during the remaining period of the year.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is Teirei included under the Dhaleswari Catchment Project Fund? I would like to know whether it is a fact that the course of Teirei river has been selected under the N.E.C. Scheme? I would also like to know the reasons why Zobawk is selected after Kawnpui, leaving behind those areas like Sairang etc.

What are the schemes of the Agriculture Department as the assistance of various kinds given or to be given to those selected families?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Not only Teirei is included under the Dhaleswari Catchment Project, but also Tut is included.

Regarding another question, it is not the case of controlling the flooded water of Bramaputra river but Tlawng for which the catchment is being made. Besides controlling the Bramaputra flooded waters, the scheme is chalked out to make afforestation of those areas for Jhum control and cultivation purposes. We want to extend the scheme in a larger scale over Tut and Teirei areas in near future.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, The hon'ble Minister might have misunderstood the point. According to our source, it has been stated that this scheme is chalked out to control the flooded waters of Bramaputra. Anyhow, Mr. Speaker Sir, that need not be discussed. I would rather like to know the main reason why Zobawk is selected after Kawnpui, leaving behind all other places. Is it a fact that the Government do not know any importance?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It could be asked why Zobawk was selected after Kawnpui and Saikhawthlir and so on. The selection of such places was not done by us, but by the N.E.C. which could not be objected from our side. Certain officials from the N.E.C. surveyed different areas by Helicopter and selected those places.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Are we sitting here just to wait and obey whatsoever the outcome is? Can we ourselves make any suggestion etc.? I would also like to know the reason why Kawnpui is selected for such schemes.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It does not mean that we could not say anything or that we could make no suggestion. Saikhawthlir, Zobawk and Kawnpui are selected and we do not see any dissatisfaction. Anyway, all the schemes cannot be done at one time and they will be taken up step by step and gradually.

Regarding Tlawng catchment, it was and is our desire to have more forest and if there is any other way out for this scheme, it would be more preferable.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, What I would like to know is whether there is any Board that would select certain families for this scheme. Secondly, can those people live or stay in such places till the time when betel nuts are grown up? As can be seen, the Govt. is looking after certain families freely, giving money for the last two years. Is there any other place under surveillance or earmarked for selection.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, There is no consideration for selecting other places now under this scheme. There is also no consideration to select other families too. As regards selection of such families, it has to be done very carefully, and when selecting those families in the three centres, the Village Councils concerned, the F.M.C. and some Officers in the three centres are also involved.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is it a fact that certain well-to-do persons from Mizawl town are selected rather than allotting lands to the local people in the Saikhawthlir area and Teirei in particular.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Some persons have to be allowed to show the successful way of cultivation and for this reason, we have allotted certain persons to plant betel nuts and grow them up in those centres. There may be difficulties for the villagers to grow such plants successfully since it involves various difficulties. For such reasons, we have to select certain persons capable of doing such works and we will select such persons to do this task.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Our hon'ble Minister said that there is a proposal for afforestation. But on the other hand he stated that the scheme is so made for jungle clearance ! Which one is going to be taken as correct?

Besides, I would like to know the real purpose of the scheme. The hon'ble Minister said that the scheme is not under the flood control scheme of Bramaputra, enquiry from the Department I was informed that it was for the flood control of Bramaputra.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, This scheme has not been chalked out just for the control of Bramaputra river and also there is no necessity of controlling Bramaputra river by the Govt. of India from the middle of Tlawng river.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, such scheme like this one has been made even outside India to control the rivers flowing into Bramaputra. Since this is a fact, can the hon'ble Minister admit that it is meant for the control of Bramaputra river ?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, There is no need of admitting such opinion. The main purpose of this scheme is to give those people living in this area a settled and permanent cultivation. There is no necessity of discussing whether the scheme is meant for controlling the Bramaputra or Tlawng river etc. We therefore have to make afforestation. In the meantime jungle has to be cleared for the purpose of settled cultivation, land reclamation or terracing where possible.

SPEAKER: Question No. 40.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Visit of C.D. Blocks of Sangau, Tuipang and Chawngte by Deputy Commissioner or Sub-Divisional Officer.

*40: PU K. SANGCHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of C.D. and Agriculture Departments be pleased to state-

- (a) Have the C.D. Blocks of Sangau, Tuipang and Chawngte been visited by D.C. or S.D.O., Chhimituipui District?
- (b) If so, how many times and when ?
- (c) If not, the reason therefor.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) Only D.C., Saiha
MINISTER. visited Tuipang Block.

(b) Only once in May, 1975.

(c) Due to occupation with works added by death of Officers at the Headquarters and difficulty of town in Monsoon season.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, If there were difficulties on the part of the D.C. or S.D.O. to visit those three C.D. Blocks, I would like to know how many times the Director or other high ranking officials of the Department visited these Blocks? The inadequacy of the Officers to visit those C.D. Blocks may be regarded as a lame excuse. Jeep can reach Sangau Centre. Anyway, do the Govt. have any knowledge that the D.C. and S.D.O. never visit those places after Mizoram became U.T.?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It can be seen from
MINISTER. the question itself that these Block Centres are not visited by Officers. However it may once again be mentioned that it is due to the difficulties of communication and also for various reasons. These places will be visited by Officers, etc. in future and they will also be expected to visit those places.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, ^{does} the Minister i/c have any intention of visiting those places?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I feel like visiting
MINISTER. them very much.

SPEAKER: Question No. 41.

POWER & ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

Taking over of Establishment of Electricity.

*41: PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of Power & Electricity Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the whole establishment of Electricity in Mizoram has been taken over from A.S.E.B. by the Government of Mizoram?
- (b) If so, since when?
- (c) What are the assets and liabilities transferred to the Govt. of Mizoram?

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) Yes.
MINISTER. (b) 21.3.1975 (c) All the properties
existing in Mizoram including stores
is taken as assets and 1% of composite A.S.E.B. liabilities as our liability.

SPEAKER: Question No. 42.

Purchase of Electrical Equipments/Materials

*42: PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker, Will the hon'ble
Minister i/c of Power & Electricity
Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that a huge sum of money has
been spent for purchase of equipments/materials
for electrification in Mizoram?

(b) If so, what are the equipments/materials purchased
so far?

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) An amount of
MINISTER. approximately Rs. 53.00 lakhs has
been spent for various electrification
schemes during 1974-75.

(b) Generating sets, distribution
lines materials, Tools and Plants, etc.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I did not ask
supplementary on Question No. 41
and I think that some supplementary
questions can be asked on Question No. 41 and 42 as
the two are closely connected with each other.

Our hon'ble Minister said that large
amounts have been spent for the generating sets and
electrification schemes. I would like to know the exact
amount spent for such schemes. Besides, I would like to
know where those materials are stored. Are the generating
sets included among those materials for the electrifi-
cation? Regarding the supplies of electrical materials,
etc., it has been learnt that the order for supply was
issued in favour of one Contractor rather than giving
supply order to a contractor from Shillong whose rate
was lower. Three generating sets were then purchased which
are all useless and this is said to be the main reason
that causes failure of electrical supply within Aizawl
town. Is that a fact? Besides, the difference in the
rates between those two contractors is that the lower rate
was Rs. 9,69,700/- while the supplier's rate was
Rs. 7,60,000/-. In this connection I would like to know
how the supplier was selected?

In another tender whose number is No. 6/75-76 of 22nd January, 1976 it is said that five generating sets (225 Kw.) are to be procured. Various contractors then responded and the lowest rate was offered by "M/S Southern Power". But rather than giving order to that lowest tenderer, the order had been issued in favour of "Escort" Company whose rate seems to be higher. While submitting court fee stamp for Rs 15/-, the Escort Company is said to have submitted only Rs 7.50 and the remaining Rs 7.50 was submitted when the tender was opened. Is it a fact that the authorities have accepted such kind of deposit and also about the issue of supply order to the higher rate Contractor? I would like to know the reason why the higher rate was accepted. In this connection, is it a fact that the tender, amounting to Rs. 29,10,000.00 had been called without passing through the Purchase Board and even the contractor had been selected? If it is so, I would also like to know whether the Department concerned could utilise large amount of money like this without the authority of Purchase Board. After all, I would like to know on what basis the contractor(s) mentioned are selected by our Government?

PU H. THANSANGA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding the amount of money spent, it comes to Rs. 53,00,000/- for the year 1974-75.

About the materials we have collected which was asked by our hon'ble Member, large numbers of the materials are at Aizawl and some of them have reached the places where they will be used. In the case of Generating set, it is included as I have said earlier.

Regarding the question of giving work order to the Contractor at higher rate, the position is like this. The quotation we have called for supply of the generating sets was of an urgent nature and the matters could also be discussed at office because when our Chief Minister and Planning Minister went to Delhi, they said that the Central leaders are going to send experts to see and have an examination about our scheme. But after sending letters and even officials for a number of times, the said experts could not arrive. Therefore since we were in a hurry to carry on this scheme, the higher quotation had been called as such. In this connection, the work was not carried out at the officer level. When we tried to go through the Purchase Board, all the Members were not available at that time except one the Chief Secretary. When we examined the tenderers' documents, we found out that the lower bidder did not complete the formalities and therefore he could not be entertained. Besides, the quality of the machine he quoted did not even match our desire. Our mechanic also pointed out that the Kiloskar machine will not suit the other kind of machines made by the other companies.

Regarding the security deposits, the contractors were instructed carefully to submit their deposits. Besides those, there could be many other things and the hon'ble Members may ask me in office if they desire to learn more.

We have to be very careful in selecting contractors. We have to see what kind of machine they will provide and if the items are not familiar to us, taking of risk will not be done. Therefore I would like to inform the Members that great care has been taken as far as possible so that we can avoid mistakes that can arise easily in such technical field.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would first of all like to know whether there was any sitting of Purchase Board before buying the said machines. (Speaker: That question has been replied and the Minister said that due to the absence of other Board Members, the matter has been decided with the Chief Secretary, who is one of the Members).

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the contractor under the name of "Escort" company is the same person in whose name large amount of money was drawn before and which resulted in failure of rural electrification. Is he the same person ?

I would like to know whether the contractor who supplied that Generating set was the same person who could not produce the Brand-New Certificate from the Manufacturer ?

PU H. THANSANGA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, since I have no knowledge about the person or Contractor which the hon'ble Member mentioned, I cannot reply that question. Regarding the Rural electrification Scheme during 1974-75, the Govt. is blamed for its failure. But in this regard the supplier concerned also is to blame to some extent. However, the condition is not only that much. The Electrical Department had been under State Electricity Board at that time till the 21st March, 1975. Various difficulties could therefore arise because of such matters and it will be a long story to tell. During 1974-75 those hurdles and inconveniences were met since the A.S.E.B. could not be contacted easily. The Govt. is now very careful and the suppliers or contractor are also expected to carry out their works satisfactorily. (Pu Lalkunga: Mr. Speaker Sir, may this House be informed whether all those machines are the product of Kirloskar?) Mr. Speaker Sir, most of the machines are that of Kirloskar brand because if we utilise and mix with other kind of machines, we may face hardship.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, how many machines (generating sets) are there in Mizoram that cannot be utilised and how many are in a running condition ?

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, If we are going to accept such persons who did not give in their actual names since blacklisted, I am afraid we shall face various difficulties in times to come. We must therefore reject such manners. Can modification be made to such order ?

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Govt. has no knowledge till now about the changing of names by the Contractors selected so far and the Govt. has nothing so far to worry about that. Regarding the materials, we will have to be very careful and the checking also must be done at the time of receiving such materials.

Let me say now about the conditions of those machines we have procured so far. There are three machines (generating sets) at Kolasib, one of which is in running condition while the remaining two are not functioning due to some defects. At Aizawl we have altogether six, out of which three machines are out of order and the remaining three are functioning. There are two machines at Serchhip, one is functioning and the other one is not in a running condition. We have two machines at Hnahthial of which only one is working. There are three generators at Lunglei out of which two of them are in a running condition while the remaining one is not working. There are also three machines at Lawngtlai out of which only one is functioning.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Large amount of money has been involved in this case. Instead of following principles which are already laid down, we used to speak well about our way of executing works which can be treated as "corruption." It is quite unjust and improper to go on like this and we have to follow our standing principles.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It is the desire of the House that the Ministers execute works, etc. properly and truly rather than just praising and speaking well of their mode of executing works.

SPEAKER: Question No. 43.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Constitution of one-man Commission to enquire into the work of P.H.E.

*43: PU LALHLIRA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of P.W.D. be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that a one-man Commission was constituted to enquire into the works at Champhai and Durtlang done by the P.H.E. Department ?

(b) If so, when was the commission constituted ?

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir,
MINISTER. (a) Yes.
(b) The Commission was constituted on 4.10.1975.

PU LALHLIRA: Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all I would like to know the concerned person if one-man Commission is constituted. Besides, I would like to know whether the public witness, if any were called for this purpose and if there were any public witness, the number of persons called. Finally, I would like to know how many times the so-called one-man commission visited Champhai and Durtlang water schemes.

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the one-man commission
MINISTER. is the Principal Engineer himself. Regarding the calling of public witness and the number of persons or witnesses, information cannot be furnished now since the enquiry is not yet completed. Regarding the number of times the said commission visited these two water schemes, report is not yet submitted.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the said Commission cover only Champhai and Durtlang schemes?
It could be seen that the Commission is constituted due to the failure of P.H.E. Department in the whole Territory and from the assurance given by the Minister-in-charge. We the Members are aware of the failure of this Department and as such, is this Commission going to see the whole work of P.H.E. ?

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Durtlang and Champhai
MINISTER. were mentioned because one of the Members has pointed out these two before. This Commission is to look into the works executed by the P.H.E. at other places too.

Regarding witnesses, one person from Champhai said that he can give evidence in writing and that person may be the only witness.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, whenever any Enquiry Commission is constituted, there used to be terms and conditions governing it. In the case of this one-man Commission, I would like to know when it was constituted and is there any expiry date for its functioning.

PU C. CHAWNGYUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, If this one-man Commission is going to function effectively, will it be possible to notify in the local papers for information of the general public that the commission is constituted to verify the works done by the P.H.E. for this reason, any person may give evidence to the authorities concerned and so on ?

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, This Commission is constituted because 100% of the Members urged the Government to do so and the demand is rather "high power Enquiry Commission". But it is constituted as "One-man Commission". So far as I could see, only one report is submitted till date. Besides, the public were eager to give evidence or information, but now they hesitated to do so due to the improper procedure of the Commission. I would like to ask whether the Commission can be forced to look into the whole matter relating to the works of PHE Department in Mizoram, and it is demanded that all the places where this Department executed works be visited by the Commission.

Besides, Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to suggest that this Commission be cancelled and the "high power" Enquiry Commission be constituted anew, where all its Members be the MLAs. It is obvious that the Principal Engineer may not like to take action, effectively * his subordinate staff even if he finds them to be responsible.

PU H. THANSANGAK
MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, There is a notification in the Gazette about the formation of this Commission. It is possible that all the evidence or information from the public might have not been received. Regarding its terms of reference, it was to be completed within two months and now it is extended for the commission could not complete it and also the clarification is sought from the Government that causes its delay.

PU LALELIRA: Mr. Speaker Sir, The public are in great need of water in places like Champhai and Durtlang. There are many water sources in such places, but due to the damage of water reservoir, the public made some sort of well or stream. However, this Commission was not willing to visit such places and therefore I am urging the Commission to have a spot verification and to report the matters so that necessary measures can be taken immediately.

Regarding the notification about the creation of this Commission, the copy has been sent to the S.D.O's Office ~~the staff~~ there did not pay any attention to the matter and it was not even displayed at public notice boards. When there were only two days or so left, I have found that notification somehow and have translated into Mizo and displayed it at the public notice boards. I am therefore suggesting that the notification be distributed widely so that the public can give evidence and information.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, The hon'ble Minister said that this One-man Commission is formed on the 14th October last and if its duration is going to be for a period of two months, it means that it has already expired. I would like to suggest here that the so-called 'One-man Commission' be cancelled and in its place a new Commission capable of finding out all the misdeeds be constituted anew.

PU CH. CHAWNGKUNGA:
MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the Members have said is true and agreeable. But the Enquiry Commission has already been created which has not yet submitted its findings. It seems that constituting a new commission will be unject before the standing commission completed its task. Our officers are expected to fulfil their duties honestly and it will be quite unfair to presume that the person or authority detailed to enquire into the matters will not like to punish and take action against his subordinate staff. Anyway, One-man Commission can be constituted as it used to be done in other place too. It may be repeated that forming another Commission will be unreasonable while there is already one.

SPEAKER: Question No. 45.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Pu Hrangvela authorised me to ask his question No. 45 in his behalf.

SPEAKER: Yes, you may ask question No. 45.

Payment of compensation by P.W.D.

*45: PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you for giving me permission.

Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of P.W.D. be pleased to state-

(a) Whether it is a fact that compensation are not yet paid by P.W.D. for damages of houses, gardens etc. caused by them along Silchar-Aizawl Road, Aizawl-Lunglei Road and Aizawl-Thonzawl Road ?

(b) If yes, is there any proposal to make payments in near future ?

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) For Silchar-Aizawl Road and Aizawl-Lunglei Road: Does not arise, since these roads are within B.R.T.F.

For Aizawl-Thonzawl Road; The Compensation cases are being processed. Rs. 1,87,753/- have already been paid as compensation.

(b) Yes, payment may be made shortly in the remaining cases.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, there are some persons who did not receive compensation at our Chief Minister's Thingdawl Constituency. There are some families in this area where P.W.D. had caused damages to their gardens, residences etc. who did not receive compensation uptil now. Will there be consideration for these 6 or 7 families?

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, we are taking up the question by way of "Road" and not by "buildings" etc.

SPEAKER: Question hour is over. Besides these Starred Questions, there are Unstarred Questions from No. 5 to No. 8 that are distributed to all the Members.

Our next item is Presentation of Report. Let the Chairman of the Subordinate Legislation Committee present the Second Report of the Committee.

PU K.L. ROCHAMI: Mr. Speaker Sir, With your kind permission, I present to the House the Second Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.
Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Report has been presented. Our next item will be 'Voting on Demands for Grants'. Today we are going to take the Demands of Pu Lalsangzuala and Pu P.B.Nikhuma. As we used to say before, I would like to point out once again that for our conveniences, let all the speakers try to be brief so that most of us can have time to say what we like to on these Demands. Now, let the Minister i/c Supply move his Demands. As our Rule demands, the Demands we are going to take up received the recommendation of the Administrator.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker Sir, On the recommendation of the Administrator of Mizoram and
MINISTER. with your kind permission, I move

Demand Nos. 1,3,4,5,11,13,18,31,34,39,48 and 51 for Rupees eight crores, thirty seven lakhs and seventeen thousand only to meet the expenditure during 1976-77 in respect of the following Departments :-

- Demand No. 1 - Parliament/state/U.T.Legislature for Rs. 10,22,000/-,
- Demand No. 3 - Council of Ministers for Rs. 4,98,000/-
- Demand No. 4 - Administration of Justice for Rs. 7,00,000/-,
- Demand No. 5 - Election for Rs. 8,73,000/-,
- Demand No. 11 - Taxes on Vehicles for Rs. 1,40,000/-,
- Demand No. 13 - Secretarial General Services for Rs. 64,99,000/-,
Secretariat, Social and Community Services and Secretarial Economic Services for Rs. 3,46,000/- under Revenue Head and Rs. 6,74,000/- under Revenue Head.
- Demand No. 18 - Supplies and Disposals for Rs. 33,00,000/-,
- Demand No. 31 - Social & Security Welfare for Rs. 20,60,000/-; under Revenue Head, Rs. 2,60,000/- under Loan Head,
- Demand No. 34 - Co-operation for Rs. 19,93,986/- under Revenue Head, Rs. 2,00,000/- under Capital Head, Rs. 5,00,000/- under Loan Head.
- Demand No. 39 - Food & Nutrition for Rs. 46,25,000/- under Revenue Head and Rs. 5,05,80,000/- under Capital Head.

Demand No. 48 - Road & Water Transport for
Rs. 62,29,000/- under Revenue Head
and Rs. 7,00,000/- under Capital
Head.

Demand No. 51 - Loan to Government Servants for
Rs. 25,17,000/-.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Minister has read out the Demands under his charge and the Members may say on those Demands now.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, As compared with last year's budget, our new budget estimate for 1975-76 on Supply is better and more satisfactory. However, I deem it necessary to make some suggestions on various Departments.

I would first of all like to say regarding the staff of State Transport Office at Lunglei. The staff there have no financial power that resulted in much difficulties for the public. So as to enable the staff at Lunglei to execute various works smoothly and effectively the Government has to frame certain rules for the delegation of powers. Whenever there are some defects in buses that are plying between Lunglei-Lawngtlai, Lunglei-Aizawl or Lunglei-Tabung, the staff there have no power to pass important orders. It is the public that are suffering as a result of this.

Secondly, I would like to say about the Motor Vehicle Inspector (M.V.I.). We are now having only one M.V.I. for the whole of Mizoram who looks after all these vehicles. As the number of vehicles increases everyday, we are in great need of another M.V.I. so that the works can be done efficiently and effectively. Besides, can the M.V.I. be allotted vehicle so that he can attend to important duties here and there more effectively?

Thirdly, I would like to point out about the carriage of rice. As we all know, there are various difficulties in carrying rice here and there. The Sangau Constituency in particular is in great difficulty. There are some persons who sold certain quantity of rice while some persons have carried rice by head-load etc. to their villages. When the Govt. investigated the matter, it has been found out that 75 persons are charged for disposing of rice illegally.

The case has been sent to the Magistrate by the Department to take lawful action against the defaulters and the Magistrate then issued warrant of arrest. Fortunately the Minister i/c of Supply visited this area and the public leaders requested him to give time to those concerned so that they may be able to recover most of the missing rice, if not the whole quantity. The Minister gave them three months time for repayment. The case is in three different ways. The first way can be put in such a way that certain persons did sell certain quantity of rice. The second way of the case has occurred due to the poverty of general public. The people carried the rice by head-load and since they are innocent persons and did not know the usual formalities, they just submitted to the office alongwith challan and received their wages. After some time, those innocent persons were charged that they did not complete the challan or they did not submit the exact quantity of rice they have carried and so on. In this matter, I am asking the Govt. to look into the matter and see the exact position.

In another case, there are some persons who admitted that they have taken certain quantity because of their impoverishment. Can the Govt. have special consideration for such persons ?

Lastly, I would like to request the Govt. to give us power to employ labour where transport cannot be procured.

Thank you.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would first of all like to speak on Demand No. 1 regarding construction of M.L.A. Hostel and also the pay and allowances of the Members. As we are all aware, the M.L.A. Hostel is not constructed till date. I have no knowledge about the procedure, but what I have known is that the proposal has been made and consideration for the execution of works had taken place. I am really disappointed that even when there is a budget proposal for the expenditure, no work has been done till now. There used to be various important officials and public figures coming from outside and those people used to lodge even at our insufficient hostel. When the officials from Central Power and Water Commission came here, they did not like to stay there due to the far-off bathroom. When we talk about Circuit House, we are having only a hired house which may be said to be quite disgraceful. But fortunately our Chief Minister has inaugurated the new Circuit House quite recently. The M.L.A. Hostel is not meant only for the M.LAs. Important officials and public figures visiting Mizoram also can stay there. I am afraid that even this year the scheme may end up as it used to be since four years back. I am therefore urging the Govt. to execute the works.

Regarding the salary and allowances of the M.L.A., it is rather shameful to say about it every now and then. Our total pay at present is even less than that of the L.D.As. It has been already discussed in the Parliamentary Party that the pay be raised from Rs. 450/- to 550/- and it was decided that the Bill be initiated. Even after a lapse of six months, the matter could not be settled. There is not much to be amended in this case and the only thing to be modified is to write an allowance of Rs. 200/- in the place of Rs 100/- I think our leaders did not pay enough attention to the matter. I am therefore reminding our leaders to keep in mind and do the needful without taking more time.

In Demand No. 51, there is the Motor Car advances for the Govt. employees. If I'm not wrong, various officers have already purchased vehicles under such scheme. Any officer other than field officers is not entitled to utilise Govt. vehicles as he wished. It used to be said a number of times that various officers are using Govt. vehicles every now and then on their own will and the matter used to be published in the local papers as well. If they are in receipt of motor car advance, let them use such vehicles of their own as they wished and they are not to be blamed. Various Officers are always to be seen using Govt. vehicle for carrying their house-hold materials and they also used to be seen near liquor shop or bar even at late nights around Bara Bazar etc. I therefore think it necessary to do away with such misuse of Govt. vehicles from now on. I used to hear criticism and complaints from the public and such kind of practice is quite unfair and unjust. In the meantime, this kind of exercising power is shameful. We are now in a state of Emergency and we must try to take advantage of this condition in a disciplinary way. In the other parts of the country, this situation is said to be very fruitful in various ways. But in the administration of our Territory, it could be seen that this Emergency does not bring good results as it did in the other States. In this connection, it may be mentioned that misuse by Govt. servant is plenty. The Officers and the clerks are seldom to be seen at their respective places or posts that bring much difficulty to the general public.

Regarding Co-operation, it can be seen that the Co-operative Department has done valuable works in Mizoram. For our development, it will take four or five years to make success in the growing of ginger. But in this regard it may be noted that if the Soil Conservation Department does not take necessary steps or if the terrace cultivation is not practised on larger scale, there may be soil erosion in a short time. The Apex Marketing Co-operative Society is responsible for the procurement of ginger, but they are not having enough fund as it appears. I therefore think it necessary to allot this Society with more fund from the Budget.

At Hnahthial area, 750 quintals of ginger seeds have been planted and at Chhiahtlang also, 750 quintals have been planted. I am aware that due to lack of fund, procurement of ginger could not be done. I therefore would like to request our leaders to arrange more money for the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society so that larger revenue can be carried for the Government.

In case of Motor vehicles tax, as the other Member said before me, important matters could not be attended to due to lack of enforcement staff. If I'm not wrong, I think we are now having only one Enforcement Inspector for the whole of Mizawl District who is not provided even with motor vehicle. As a result of this, the person concerned could not do his important duties like checking vehicles and maintaining laws. Therefore it is quite important to increase the enforcement staff. But in our Budget, there is no proposal to increase the staff for various Deptts. For the collection of motor tax properly, it is quite necessary to raise the number of the staff.

Thank you.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all I would like to speak on the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society that is said by the other Member just before me. What he said about their difficulties is true. The authorities have placed one old Jeep at the disposal of this Society. Due to lack of vehicles and insufficiency of fund, there are many hurdles in connection with the procurement of ginger. We used to discuss that ginger plays an important part in the development of our Territory. Regarding the officers working in this Society, they are very interested in this field and the development can be made if only their requirements, as pointed out earlier, can be met. If sufficient amount of money can be allotted as that of the Agriculture Department, the Co-operative Society Department will no doubt make a big achievement. A conference was also held recently to discuss ways and means to make bigger profit on ginger. Quite a number of villagers who have interest in this field have come down here and a good training was imparted to them at that time for this purpose. It is therefore felt necessary for the Government to give full attention. While the Govt. of Mizoram is giving Grant-in-aid to the Societies, the Central Government also can give various loans because it has concern over the growth of this Department. Besides all this, the main difficulty in the way of progress of the said Department is that we have no Apex Bank till now. The Government is opening United Commercial Bank shortly, but what is most important is whether the Banks concerned can give loans, etc. to the Department.

Our hon'ble Minister i/c of the Co-operation Department has made it known that the "Super Market" is going to be inaugurated within a short time and the Jr. Inspectors will also be posted at different villages, having a specific area under each of them so that the procurement of ginger can be taken up more effectively. To do that, there is no sufficient money and for this reason necessary steps have to be taken immediately. Various Societies are in need of plots of land and contract works. In this regards we used to say very often that it is desirable and necessary to give attention and priority to the needy Societies. I am requesting the Government to give attention to such matters. Our dynamic and great Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi has announced the 20-Points Economic Programme so as to make India a Socialist Country. We have to understand clearly that the success of this Programme, depends upon the role played by the Co-operative Society. For the abolition of poverty, the Co-operative Societies have to be formed so that the capitalists can be checked. Various States are very successful in this field and the policy of "Garibi Hatao" can be attained successfully through this means.

Let me now say about the Supply Deptt. As we all know, this Department has made achievement last year and the effects of the Emergency could be seen on this side. Various officials who misused their powers and who used to divert the flow of Supply incorrectly are being punished suitably.

In order to make this Emergency, a success like to suggest that the authorities must not hesitate to take necessary actions against the Govt. servants who are in the habit of practising malpractices.

I would also like to point out about the Transport once again. As we all see, the traffic in our town is quite dangerous and it is always grateful to reach our homes safely. When we walk on the street, we could not know whether it is to "keep to the left" or to "keep to the right", and the vehicles are increasing day by day. Recently, one man coming from Ihunpui village met with an accident at Tuikual due to anomaly of vehicular traffic. I should say that the Government killed that person indirectly. The victim was taken for post-mortem and we went to the Police Station to request the O/C not to have post-mortem. Even after waiting for three hours, that O/C could not return to the Police Station and the Govt. could make out that the Emergency has no impact in this regard. It is quite dangerous for the general public even to walk on our streets. It is quite therefore necessary to make rules and regulations for the control of vehicular traffic for public safety. If we do not take necessary steps immediately, we may lose more lives. Our Ministers also must not Hesitate to take up such steps because it is for our own good and safety.

In the case of controlling traffic, we have some specialists among our Police personnel who have even diploma. For example like Mr. Lalsonguala who had training at Bombay and obtained diploma, but transferred to Saiha now. I am pointing out this person for an example and to say further that if he can be posted here at Aizawl his training could be*in traffic control for all of us. Our roads have to be widened immediately so that there can be a better safety for the public. If there is any intention, Mr. Speaker Sir, we can do such things and necessary steps can be taken.

Regarding the utilization of motor vehicles belonging to the Govt., there have been many complaints from the public, etc. These vehicles are provided to the staff concerned only for going to the office and back. But it is said and could be seen very often that these vehicles have been utilised for carrying fire-woods or carrying any other house-hold necessities. Such practices are quite unfair. Now the price of petrol has gone up and the consumption of P.O.L. by Govt. vehicles has increased considerably due to such practice. I am therefore drawing the attention of the Govt. to take necessary steps so that the misuse of the Govt. vehicles can be checked and the unnecessary wastage of P.O.L. can be decreased from now on. It may be suggested further that to avoid rushing of works towards the closing of financial year, all the necessary matters in various Departments must be taken up from the beginning of the year efficiently.

Regarding the office hours, it could be seen at the beginning of Emergency that the Officers and staff were keeping time regularly, starting at 10 A.M. and leaving at 4:30 P.M. But now-a-days, it can be seen that the employees have become dull and have neglected the timing. We, the Mizo people are disciplined lot as a whole depending upon our leaders. If the authorities are strict upon us, we can be very useful. But if we are not guided strictly, then we can become very dull and disorderly. In this connection, we must know that we should be grateful to any person who is strictly guiding us.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I am now going to conclude my speech and I want that the different points that I have mentioned be given attention by our leaders. If there is any mistake or misunderstanding, I am tendering my apology.

Thank you.

PU F. HRANGVELA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would first of all like to say something on Demand No. 11- Taxes on Vehicles. The Demand appears to mean the motor taxes, but what I would rather like to say is about the purchase of motor vehicles. It is indeed gratifying that since Mizoram became Union Territory, there is more money and the general public became more settled and they have purchased more vehicles. But in this connection, it has to be pointed out that precautionary measures have to be taken because our shares or quotas may be captured by some other States. The price of motor vehicles is less here than the price in other States and that is why the people from other States used to try hard to procure our quotas. The Govt. must therefore take necessary steps to prevent this matter before it is too late. There are some non-tribals who have more than 10 vehicles, all of them plying inside Mizoram. It is clear that the non-tribals from other States may receive all our shares and enlarge their businesses within our own Territory. It is felt necessary for the Govt. to be very careful in such matters.

Since we have a new administration, large numbers of buses have been procured by the Govt., but it can be seen that only few of them are service-able. The Govt. has to pay attention to the management of those buses, etc. When the buses are in service for only a year, they are always placed for repair. If we do not take necessary steps in the case of managing those buses, cars, etc., I am afraid that the Central Govt. may not sanction money for the purchase of vehicles in times to come. Besides, there is always difficulty with the tyres of our buses. Those tyres are always punctured that causes difficulties now and then. It is felt quite necessary to have pumping machine for the tyres of the buses, etc. Large numbers of passengers are facing inconveniences every now and then while travelling by buses from one place to another in the midways due to the punctured tyres.

Some Members have said about the misuse of Govt. vehicles before me and I too would like to say about that once again. Motor vehicles marked with "ZRG" are to be seen very often near Cinema Halls, etc. etc. I went to Zembhawk Cinema Hall two or three times and whenever I went there, quite a number of Govt. vehicles were to be seen there that surprised me very much. Such matters are to be considered carefully and seriously. If we do not make rules and regulations strictly for the utilisation of Govt. vehicles, it is the general public that will suffer. We, therefore have to maintain the Departmental vehicles with care and properly as they should be.

What I would like to remind the Govt. is to look carefully at the motor workshop Bills. Our Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi has announced the 20 Point Economic Programme for the welfare of the people as a whole and to check the rising of prices in various fields.

The public might make a mistake if they thought that they did not suffer when the prices of Motor spare parts etc. went up. We must know that everyone of us is suffering indirectly. For instance, when the gear of a vehicle is repaired, they charge us round about Rs 50/- while at Aizawl, the same repair will cost us about Rs 150/-. If we do not look into such matters, the Govt. money will be wasted to a large extent for the repairs of Govt. vehicles. Sometime back my vehicle met with an accident with one Govt. vehicle. In this case the officer who used that Govt. vehicle requested me that if the cost of repair will be charged to the Govt., he will be disgraced and hence we made an agreement that I will pay the workshop bill. When the bill reached me soon after, it comes to Rs 375/- and I immediately went to that officer, telling him that it will be difficult for me to pay that much and he was also quite surprised. We thought that the charges would be only about Rs 100/- or so. It may be pointed out here once again that the workshop owners are taking an advantage in different ways and it is felt quite necessary to take necessary steps to check such practice. I deem it necessary to fix the repair charges so that large amount of money can be saved by the Govt. We therefore have to lay down certain rules to control such practice as soon as possible.

The Govt. used to allot handsome amount of money for carrying of Supply, i.e. rice. Even the remote parts of our Territory can be supplied. What I would like to say in this regard is that when the work order for carrying supply to the interior parts are issued, non-tribal contractors used to be offered much more than sons of the soil. The Motor Owners Association, formed by the local motor owners, etc. are getting work order occasionally, but this is not much profitable. It is important to give such work orders to the reasonable persons at least rather than issuing them to the non-tribal contractors so that we can uplift or promote ourselves. It is very undesirable to give large amount of money to the outsiders who do not love us wholeheartedly. If the Govt. do not take necessary steps for our safe-guard and promotion, I am afraid that the time will come when our own businessmen, contractors, etc etc. will disappear and all the important places and key points occupied by outsiders. Our neighbouring State, Cachar belongs to the Cachari people and all the important places are occupied by non-Cacharis while the sons of the soil are settling at interior villages. Similar case may happen in our own State and no one of us can say that it will not happen. We must therefore favour ourselves in the case of giving contract works, etc etc. and the Govt. should give priority to the sons of the soil.

We have "Food & Nutrition" under Demand No. 39 and large amount of money has been involved in this Demand. I think serious consideration has to be given in this regard. The Govt. supplies baby food, nuts etc for this programme. In the supply of those food-stuff and other materials also, I would like to say once again

that the supply works have never been got by the able Mizo Contractors. It always went to the non-Mizo contractors. Our Ministry has to look into such matters and see that the sons of the soil benefited from them. Whenever the quotations were called, the local suppliers seldom had the knowledge about it and the work order always goes to the outside firms. This kind of practice has to be stopped without further delay so that the sons of the soil can be * from now on rather than giving more and more money to the outsiders.

Thank you.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all, I would like to draw the attention of the Govt. in regards to the maintenance of our Civil Secretariat.

As we all see, our Secretariat Buildings are not properly maintained. They are very dirty and the corridors are quite detestable. There must also be flowers around the building and proper maintenance inside and outside. Those buildings housed our leaders and top officials. There are many people from all walks of life coming days in and days out to see the authorities and there should be proper maintenance and beautification. It is quite disgraceful to see those buildings.

Regarding the pool vehicles, there is none which is in good condition and as the other Members said before me, the good ones are used by the officers as their own. The cars used by the Ministers are also very dirty and the Drivers too are untidy. It is shameful to keep the vehicles and the Drivers in such a manner and I would like to ask each one of our Ministers to look after his Departments and have proper maintenance of vehicles, etc. Besides, it is said that the staff of S.A.D. are very self-conceited and there are various difficulties to talk to them. It is therefore necessary for the Govt. to take necessary steps immediately and do the needful.

The Department of Weights and Measures has to be pointed out. It has been found that there are some undesirable practices at various Fair Price Shops in case of measurement. There must be surprise checking in measuring fowls, one Kilogram will practically come to round about 750 grams only. The sellers used to cheat in measuring those fowls quite often which is very undesirable. There is also a knowledge about the selling of rice illegally by some Fair Price Shop Dealers and the Govt. has to enquire into such matters.

We have Family Maintenance Allowance under Demand No. 13. An amount of Rs. 1,20,000/- is being distributed and the Govt. has sanctioned Rs. 4,00,000/- and I hope that this amount can cover all those persons who are listed to be deserving ones. I am really grateful for this kind act of our Government.

Regarding "Property Loss", an amount of only Rs. 3,00,000/- has been allotted. In this matter it is notified that ex-gratia grant can be applied for and there are many applications from different places/villages who lost properties due to disturbances. Since there is no allotment to be seen for the general public in this regard, I wonder what the Govt. is going to do for those people who are not in Government service. I am asking the Government to take necessary steps and do the needful for those lay-men who suffered much more than the Govt. employees. Their condition is worse than that of the Govt. servant.

I would also like to know why our State Transport Buses are not properly maintained? It is very shameful to see our buses plying at different routes in such a dirty condition! Is there any cleaner to look after those buses? There should be. The Buses should be properly maintained and cleaned whenever they reach the station and before leaving the Station as well. I am urging the authorities to look into the matter and take necessary actions without further delay.

Lastly, I would like to say about the registration of Co-operative Societies. The villagers used to face various difficulties in the case of registration. For the development of the community, the Co-operative Society plays an important role and the Govt. is therefore requested to have consideration so that the registration of various Societies can be done easily by the villagers.

Thank you.

PU KHAWINKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, In Demand No. 39, it appears that a sum of almost Rs. 20 lakhs has been spent in a year for "Porters" only. If we look at the movements of the Civil Supply, most of the supply movements have been carried out by us; but now the F.C.I. (Food Corporation of India) is carrying some quantity. It also appears that various Retailers are carrying the supply from Aizawl or Lunglei to their respective centres. I therefore find no necessity to employ/keep those 500 porters or so till now. Some days back one of the hon'ble Members pointed out that even the Third Grade Employees are keeping porters with them at Saiha. A proposal was made by the Finance Department some time back to decrease the number of porters.

If all of them cannot be terminated at a time, I think there will be no difficulty to discharge about half of them so that large amount of money can be saved. Certain amount of money is required for the construction of M.L.A. Hostel and if at least Rs. 10,00,000/- can be saved, we can construct a big and fine Hostel. It is also a mere wastage of money to allot various 4th Grade Staff to the Officers who are not entitled to keep those staff with them.

Regarding the utilization of Govt. vehicles, I have said even before that there should be a strict rule governing the ways of the utilization of vehicles. The Govt. vehicles are not provided to certain officers for their own house-hold necessities like shopping, going to Churches etc etc. Such practices are seldom to be seen at other States. The Secretaries in other States are rather using their own vehicles. Third and Fourth Grade employees, who are lower in the standard of living than we are also attending officers' duties by bus. Most of the time they go to office walking from homes and back. I feel it necessary to look into this matter and the Govt. should take necessary steps immediately. If we use the Govt. vehicles as per rules certain amount of money can be saved.

On Demand No. 5, it appears that the Dy. Electoral Officer is having Superintendent, U.D.As, L.D.As., etc. while the three Election Officers are keeping only a handful of staff. It is very undesirable for the Govt. to give more staff to the subordinate officers while the senior officers are having less. I am therefore urging the Govt. to look into this matter and take necessary steps as soon as possible.

Thank you.

PU K.L.ROHAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, On Demand No. 1, we have certain amount for the construction of M.L.A. Hostel. In every State and Union Territory where there is Parliamentary form of Government there are certain facilities and privileges for the Members. The Members are given priority so as to enable them to serve the public effectively. They can enjoy T.A. and D.A. But the worst and most neglected Hostel in India is our M.L.A. Hostel. We had an amount of Rs. 2,90,000/- in last year's Revised Estimate and Rs. 1,70,000/- for this year. The new construction will take a long duration, and so if there can be some amount to be sanctioned for its repair works, it will be quite convenient for the Members and others. It seems that the curtains used in the Hostel are those used even during the time of District Council and the other materials are also quite old. While the Directorates, District Offices, A.O's Office at various Group Centres and the S.D.Os' Offices can change carpets,

curtains, etc. from time to time, there is no such proper furnishing in the M.L.A. Hostel that should be properly furnished. Can priority be given from now on? Is there any way for its renovation, etc.? The furnitures we have there is very old, heavy and dirty. As the hon'ble Member, Pu Ruata said before, it is rather shameful for ourselves when various important officials and public figures come and lodge there. Attention should be given to the M.L.A. Hostel.

Regarding the Assembly Committees, we have various Committees like Public Accounts Committee, Estimates Committee, etc. etc. like other States. But since we do not have a separate officer to look after those different Committees, the works of the Committees could not function properly. The post of the Committee Officer is said to be advertised since some time back. It is therefore necessary to fill up this vacant post as soon as possible so that the works of various Committees can be done effectively and properly.

Regarding Election under Demand No.5, I would like to remind our leaders to keep in mind that we may have M.P./M.L.A. election next February or March. But if we look at the situation and the condition of our villages, it is evident that we may face difficulties regarding the electoral rolls etc. Large number of villagers are now living at "Thlawhbaik" and it will not be possible to call them to come all the way back to the Group Centres where election is held. If such is the case, it will be necessary to open new polling stations at the interior places. Therefore emergent revision of the electoral rolls will have to be made anew. If not, we will face various difficulties.

I agree with the hon'ble Member, Pu Lalkunga regarding what he said about the administration and supervision of the Secretariat services under Demand No. 13. What I would like to point out in this connection is about the Service Rules. During our course of tour to various States in 1972, number of State Ministers and senior officials used to warn us to be careful in the case of ad-hoc appointment. They advised us to make as little ad-hoc appointment as possible, so as to avoid difficulties in future. If we do not make those appointment, whether high post or low, with great care, there will be many complaints from the incumbents or others, regarding inter-se seniority, etc. Therefore, such Service Rules should be framed carefully and immediately.

Under Demand No. 13, there is also Law Department under which all of us are protected/safeguarded. We used to point out quite often about this Department regarding trading by non-tribals, etc. etc. in this House. Even the case of the "M.L.A. Salaries and allowances Amendment Bill" has been submitted only recently after a long time.

Such delays and various other matters arise for we do not have Draftsman. Though we may have Secretary, Under Secretary, etc., they may not be expected to draft various cases unless there is a Draftsman. If we do not have Draftsman, the Law Department cannot function effectively and smoothly. We used to point out quite often that there should be a Dy. Secretary in the Law Department but it seems that the post may not be filled up even this year. The Govt. must therefore take necessary action immediately so that the Law Department will be able to work effectively.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: We shall now have recess and we will re-assemble at 2 p.m.

2:00 P.M.

SPEAKER: We shall now call upon the Minister i/c. We have another Demands to be taken up this afternoon.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Let me try to explain the points raised by our hon'ble Members.

First of all, various Members like to know about the management of State Transport. This State Transport is undertaken by the Govt. In the year 1974, the Supply & Transport Consultative Committee made a proposal for changing of the State Transport into a Corporation, which was approved by our Govt. But the formal approval of the Central Government is awaited. Our buses and other vehicles are purchased from the Plan Budget; but due to the economic ban, the posts cannot be created * expenditure is to be met from Non-Plan Budget. But we now have authority to create certain posts like Driver, Mechanic, Conductor and other Staff and it is expected to meet the growing demands soon. Besides the State Transport purchased J5 and J6 models and they are found to be unfit and undesirable to ply on our roads.

Pu Sangchhum and Pu Hrangvela have pointed out about the M.V. Branch and also the M.V.I. In such cases, the Govt. has consideration for its re-organisation and the result can be expected shortly.

Pu Sangchhum has pointed out about the case of 75 persons utilised for carrying supply by head load. The case is with the D.C. of Lunglei and he is still examining it. Besides, the Supply Department may use casual labourers for carrying civil supply when necessary.

Regarding the construction of M.L.A. Hostel, Pu Lalruata and Pu Rochama raised same points. The Plan and Estimates have been prepared for the construction of Hostel at Children's Park, but due to some difficulty we asked the Engineers to modify the Plan and Estimates will then be submitted to House Committee for scrutiny. We have an amount of Rs 5,00,000/- for this purpose and the existing one also will be maintained accordingly.

The hon'ble Member, Pu Lalruata pointed out about the Salary Bill of the M.L.As. The matter is now with the Central authorities and as I have said before, there is no difficulty with regard to the Budget Provision. The amount of money required can be included in the Revised Estimate by Supplementary Demand.

Various members like Pu Khawtinkhuma, Pu Lalruata, Pu Ngurdawla and Pu Hrangvela raised complaints regarding the misuse of Govt. vehicles. The Govt. also has knowledge about it. The Staff Car Rules are now being re-examined by the Govt. and effective measures for its control can be prepared soon.

Pu Lalruata mentioned about the difficulties faced by the M.V.I. and the Govt. is now considering about the case. Anyway, one Jeep is provided to the M.V. Branch.

The hon'ble Member, Pu Ngurdawla said about the Co-operative Department and Pu Lalruata said about the difficulties in connection with money. In fact, we are not having much difficulty regarding money. For the procurement of ginger, an amount of Rs 7,00,000/- has been spent and another amount of Rs 16 lakhs has been allotted to the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society for procurement of ginger. Certain amount of money is received back from Calcutta out of sales proceeds of ginger and I hope that we will not face difficulty. For the implementation of our Prime Minister's 20 Point Economic Programme, the Govt. is taking steps in this field. Besides these, the post of Registrar has been created and the Asst. Registrar will be posted in each District and Senior Inspector will be posted in each District. In each of the C.D. Blocks, Jr. Inspector will be posted and recently 8 (eight) Jr. Inspectors are appointed. Necessary steps will be taken for the improvement of wholesale Co-operative Society and the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society so that the general public can benefit from them. The wholesale Co-operative Society will deal with the manufactured goods and they are allotted an amount of Rs. 11,20,000/- recently while the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society will deal mostly with foodstuff and also with agricultural products. It has also been decided to take up selling of P.O.L.

They have been taken up at Lunglei and Serchhip by the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society and at Aizawl too some days back. The public used to face various difficulties due to the insufficiency of the P.O.L. and that is the main reason for taking up the distributorship by the Co-operative Society. The Govt. is now having consideration to open the P.O.L. depots at Lawngtlai, Champhai and Khawzawl and it is proposed to issue 14,000 litres of K.Oil per month at Lawngtlai Centre and the rate will be same as that at Lunglei. The rates for Khawzawl and Champhai will be like that of Aizawl when everything is settled.

Regarding the wholesale and Marketing Societies, the Govt. has a proposal to open consumer stores at various District and Sub-divisional Headquarters for serving the public more effectively. We have opened such stores at Aizawl, Lunglei, Lawngtlai and Saiha and a similar one is now being opened at Kolasib. We are expecting to open another one at Champhai shortly. It will also be opened at Tlabung in due course, but due to the difficulties of communication, it will cause some delay in opening it at Mamit. To check the increasing market prices, it has been decided to open "Super Bazar" Aizawl and for this purpose, our Govt. is allotting an amount of Rs. 7,00,000/- while the Central Government has agreed to help us to the tune of Rs. 2,10,000/-. Till now we used to receive H.T. wristwatch at the rate of 20 watches per month. We are now expecting to receive 40 watches per month from now on. Besides, we used to receive 20 bales of check quality clothes, but we now expect to receive 40 bales per month. from the month of April. The Govt. also had a consideration for distributing controlled papers and we are now placing an order for about 400 quintals which will be about 8 trucks load.

The Government had knowledge about the difficulties regarding vehicles and there is now a proposal to purchase Jeep using diesel oil which was pointed out by the hon'ble Member Pu Ngurdawla. Pu Ngurdawla again said about the Co-operative Bank and it can be seen from the Token Provision Budget that an amount of Rs 1,00,000 has been inserted. But we now have Banks at Aizawl and Lunglei and the United Commercial Bank is also going to open its branch at Aizawl sooner or later; besides the State Bank of India is going to open its branches at Saiha, Tlabung, Champhai and Kolasib in due course. Therefore it has to be considered carefully about the opening of Apex Bank. The Central Govt. is also having consideration re: opening of Rural Bank in Mizoram, and in this connection the Reserve Bank of India sent its Senior Officer to do the survey work and he would report his findings accordingly to the higher authorities. Regarding the procurement of land for the Co-operative Department, a private house and a site have been purchased at Zarkawt and some plot of land will be purchased for the wholesale Co-operative and Apex Marketing Co-operative Societies when suitable places are found.

The hon'ble Member, Pu Ngurdawla has pointed out about the Traffic Rules. The Public Works Department is now going to widen town roads shortly; besides, to avoid big vehicles, the Govt. is going to have godown for rice and the P.W.D. godown at the suburb. When such godowns can be completed, one petrol point will be installed at the suburb of Mizawl. It is expected that after these are completed, the traffic can be less. Mr. Speaker Sir, what Pu Ngurdawla said about the motor accident some time back leading to the death of one lad from Imunpui for which he puts the responsibility upon the Govt. is an objectionable matter. I therefore request him to withdraw that statement for which I will be grateful.

The hon'ble Member, Pu Hrangvela said about the purchase of vehicles. Formerly most of our vehicles were purchased from Silchar where we paid Assam Excise Tax. Besides we had to purchase at the black market rate occasionally. We then approached the Central Govt. to allot quota for our Govt. (Mizoram) where the vehicles will be purchased from Agartala. There will be no Excise Tax and Sales Tax excepting the Central Tax. Regarding the number of vehicles we have here, there were 971 vehicles at the beginning of the U.T. and the number has gone up to 2087 on the 21st Jan., of this year which may be regarded as a great achievement.

Pu Hrangvela also pointed out about the Motor Workshop. Our Govt. made a proposal for setting up of grand workshop which will be able to do all the necessary repairing works of different vehicles. The said proposal is now with the Central Ministry of Transport for formal approval. As regards giving priority to the Tribal contractors, for carrying of supply there is already a regulation which is 10% for carrying contract and 12% for others.

The hon'ble Member, Pu Lalkunga made certain points regarding the untidiness of the Secretariat complex, using of Secretariat pool vehicles, the maintenance of Ministers' Cars and various difficulties faced by the general public while consulting the Secretariat staff. The Govt. will look into such matters carefully. The Department concerned also will look into the complaints regarding undesirable practices committed by the Fair Price Shop Dealers and the use of false weight in weighing fowls in the market. If any person is caught committing mal-practices, he will be dealt with strictly in accordance with standing rules.

Some Members have stated about the distribution of Family Maintenance Allowance. There is nothing to worry in this matter since this allowance will be given to all the deserving persons. If the fund is short, it can be met from the Revised Estimates of 1976-77

Regarding the registration of the Co-operative Societies pointed out by the hon'ble Member, Pu Lalkunga, the registration cannot be done easily for it has to be done according to procedure. That is why we used to meet with certain difficulties.

The hon'ble senior Member, Pu Khaw-tinkhuma raised a point about the number of 'Porters'. The requirement of porters is decreasing step by step and the number of porters has been cut down in terms of posts. There is also now a proposal to cut the number of posts of porters systematically.

Regarding the Election staff, our organisation is such that in the District level, the Election staff are attached to the Deputy Commissioner's Office. If the situation demands, its re-organisation will not be a difficult one. Besides, what Pu Rochama said about the polling stations at various interior centres is beyond our control. The Central Election Commission is arranging everything as they think fit.

Pu Rochama also made such points like the Service Rules for S.A.D. etc. The Rules are now being framed and the Service Rules of other States are also requested for examination, etc. The said Rules will not cause any undesirable thing that can frustrate the inter-se seniority of the staff.

Regarding some points raised by the hon'ble Member, Pu Rochama on the Law Department, particularly about the salaries and allowances of the M.L.As., the delay is mainly due to its complication since it is a financial matter. Though the matter may be passed here at the C.L.P. meeting, it has to be sent to the Central authorities for formal approval. Then it will have to be approved by the Cabinet after which the Draft Bill will be prepared that will also go again to the Cabinet for approval. Since such is the case, the matter has to be delayed to some extent. Regarding Drafting Officer, one officer is sent to have training in this regard. In the case of the appointment of the Dy. Secretary, it is being processed and the matter is under consideration. Besides, all the drafting are not to be done by the Law Department.

The hon'ble Member, Pu Lalkhingthanga pointed out yesterday about the distribution of K.Oil. The Government is now having consideration about the distribution of K.Oil. Regarding the dealership of Cement which is also said by Pu Lalkhingthanga, there are now 5 (five) Cement dealers in Mizoram who received Cement from 3 (three) Factories and 60,000 bags are allotted for every three month, and that could not be utilised wholly. There is not much difficulty in the procurement of Cement.

About the transport subsidy, our Government had requested for transport subsidy to the Central authorities which has been granted. It has been decided to subsidize transport from Silchar to Aizawl, Lunglei and Saiha. Since there is no difficulty now in the case of Cement, we gave permission to the dealers to dispose of freely, but we fixed the rate. As such, flour can be purchased freely from the appointed dealers and the price is controlled by the Supply Department. It is now possible to purchase such items freely without having difficulties as before. Salt also can be purchased.

The hon'ble Member, Pu Khawtinkhuma raised a point re: the difficulty faced by the general public regarding fire-wood. Our Govt. made a request to the Indian Oil Company to introduce cooking gas (Indane Gas) as a result of which a dealer has been appointed. I hope the supply can be carried out smoothly.

Our Member, Pu Sapliana and Pu Khawtinkhuma said about railways. The matter can also be seen from the speech of our Lt. Governor. The distance between Lala Bazar and Sairang is about 95 Kms. to 100 Kms. out of which more than 60% (about 60 Km) have been surveyed.

The hon'ble Member, Pu S.P. Dewan raised some points regarding the extension of "Registration Act" to Mizoram. The matter had been discussed in 1977 too and even the draft is made. But when we approached the Central Law Ministry, it is found out to be quite complicated one. Since our Land Law, Revenue Law, Transfer of Property Act, Indian Registration Act and also the Procedure Code have to be compared and considered, the said Act cannot be enforced in Mizoram.

The hon'ble Members, Pu Lalruata and Pu Ngurdawla worried about the discipline in the Office. As I have said before, the office discipline is improving and the Government also is having consideration to take necessary steps.

Thank you.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, let me raise only two points for clarification. We all know that the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society purchases Ginger from different Centres. May I know at what rate the Society mentioned is selling per quintal ?

Secondly, the Director of Supply and Transport is keeping a car and a Jeep. In this connection, is it a fact that his subordinate officers could not use the said vehicles for official duties, etc.?

PU LALSANGZUALA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the gingers collected by the Apex Marketing Co-operative Society are disposed of with the co-operation of N.A.F.E.D in which it is decided that the profit or loss will be shared on 50-50 basis between these two. We did the transportation upto Silchar where we packed them and N.A.F.E.D. is looking after beyond that.

Regarding the Car and a Jeep belonging to the Directorate of Supply & Transport, these vehicles are meant for official duties and they are supposed to be kept at office.

SPEAKER:

Well, our honourable Minister has just explained various points raised by the hon'ble Members.

The question is - "That the Demand Nos. 1,3,4,5,11,13,18,31,34,39,48,51 for Rs. 8,37,17,000/- only to meet the expenses during the year 1976-77 in respect of the Departments and for the amount as shown in column 2,3,4 of para 13 of Bulletin Part II, dated 23rd March, 1976 be passed

Now, let the Members who agree to pass may say 'Yes' (Members said 'yes'). Is there any objection? (Members kept silent). The Demands are passed.

We shall now call upon the Deputy Minister i/c of Health and Local Administration to move his demands.

PU P.B.NIKHUMA:
DY.MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I move the Demand Nos. 22,25,27 and 28 for Rs.2,30,34,000/- only to meet the expenses during the year 1976-77 in respect of the following Departments- Demand No. 22: Other Administrative Services for Rs. 62,67,000/-; Demand No. 25: Medical for Rs.1,16,76,000/-, Family Planning for Rs. 9,31,000/-; Demand No. 27: Housing - Rs. 1,20,000/- Under Revenue Expenditure and Rs. 2,50,000/- under Capital; Demand No. 28- Urban Development for Rs. 5,00,000/-.

Thank you.

SPEAKER:

The Deputy Minister has moved his Demands and the discussion will now follow. Let the Members say now on those Departments.

PU K. SANGCHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, When the Health Department was considered at Parliamentary meeting some time back, the Dy. Minister said there that if Department has any difficulty in the case of 'leprosy', the Govt. will sanction a separate fund which is quite appreciated. But when I look at this Department in our State, the cases are quite different. The Health Department in our State has neither Director nor Jt. Director. Besides, the vacant posts of 17 Doctors could not be filled up. If we look at the dispensaries at various villages, medicines are not available. When the matter is reported to the authorities concerned, their reply used to be non-receipt of and non-availability of different medicines. Since the inception of U.T., about 24 Doctors are employed among which 2 of them are Specialists, namely Dr. Tlangkunga and Dr. Zokhawmana. This seems that the whole population of Mizoram is depending upon the said two Specialists. But fortunately the climate of Mizoram is not very unhealthy as a result of which we are not facing much difficulties. It is clearly understood that the 24 Doctors we are having now are quite insufficient. Therefore I am requesting the Govt. to look into the matter and take necessary action. Besides, various posts of U.D.A. are lying vacant and these posts may be filled up easily from local candidates.

Let me make a suggestion for appointing doctors from other States. Firstly, our State is declared as a disturbed area and secondly it is a remote and tribal area. For these two reasons let the special provision be demanded from Central Government. Besides, the pay and allowances may be increased so as to encourage the medical staff concerned. For these and other reasons, special treatment be demanded from the Central authorities so that we can make improvement in various matters.

Though there may be some persons among the medical staff who are working sincerely, most of the staff are neglecting their duties, which gives bad reputation to the Medical Department. When an appointment order or posting order has been issued to staff, they used to disobey when posted at interior places, etc. There are even some persons who used to receive their salaries without joining or working at the appointed places for six or sometimes seven months. When such things happened, there used to be some persons suffering from different diseases which even caused death. The Government therefore must take such cases seriously.

Let me now repeat about the disposal of medicines. It could be seen that certain quantities of medicines were despatched from Aizawl, but were seldom received in full at the villages or Centres. The staff working in the Medical Department are becoming quite corrupt and since the staff are corrupt, how could the Govt. receive the report of actual position? It is impossible. If the Enquiry

Commission is formed comprising the staff from the Department concerned, it will be difficult to find out the facts. I therefore request the Govt. to ceaselessly enquire into the matter.

I would also like to say about the Pharmacist. Since there could be no sufficiency in the supply of drugs/medicines, it is necessary to appoint some more Pharmacists who sell drugs; but let there be certain Officer to look after them (the Pharmacists) and to see whether the public in the villages, etc. are benefiting from them. Therefore let the authorities issue more drug licences to the able persons. Besides, I would further like to suggest that it will be of great help for the general public if some sort of training can be given to those drug licence holders at the District Headquarters, etc. by Civil Surgeons or other medical practitioners.

Lastly, I would like to say that whenever we have vacant posts, let them be filled up in the beginning of the financial year, i.e. in the month of April, etc. Regarding the Budget money, let that be utilised whenever necessary so as to avoid a big rush when the closing of the fiscal year is fast approaching.

Thank you.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would first of all like to say about the Local Administration. Since we have no specific Rules in this Department, we used to face a number of difficulties. For example, the case arises regarding the allotment of certain plots of land for cultivation at Rawpuichhip and some Thlawhbawk by the Village Councils concerned. When those plots are prepared for cultivation, an order has been issued that the previous order is cancelled/that causes various hurdles and difficulties to the public. There must also be specific Rules for the Local Administration Department. Besides, it is time now for the L.A.D. to give attention to the villages of western Mizoram in the case of road improvement since attention had already been given on the eastern side.

Regarding the Medical Department, it may be suggested that a clinic be set up as soon as possible for curing the venereal diseases. Though we have one clinic at the Civil Hospital, it is quite in-sufficient. Therefore we have to set up similar Clinics since the V.D. is an infectious disease. Besides, it is clearly known that different medicines/drugs sent to interior places seldom reach their destinations in full. A Committee which is formed to look after the administration of Health Department in which the Chief Secretary

and others are included does not function actively and effectively. Nowadays, medical practitioners who are popularly called "bare-footed Doctors" are quite encouraging. These so-called bare-footed Doctors are expected to be able to go anywhere including remote parts even on foot. It is therefore quite desirable to introduce such kind of doctors for Mizoram.

Let me come to the point of L.A.D. once again. It has been clearly known that various cases remain unattended properly and the Govt. may kindly see to such matters. At different Village Councils, there are many nominated Members who used to cause troubles to their colleagues, etc. and such Members also may be examined. Recently, Village Council Presidents' Conference was held in which they voiced strong condemnation and criticism of the Government. If there is going to be another such kind of Conference in the future, the said leaders (V/C) must be guided with good discipline and even their agendas, if any, should also be selected carefully. I even blame the authorities concerned because of such loose conference. What I would like to suggest is that whenever there is going to be similar conference in the time to come, let the authorities make a pre-arrangement properly.

Besides, I think the L.A.D. has certain scheme like "Rural Housing Improvement". In this regard I would like to point out that if some villages are going to be selected for improvement and beautification, great care should be taken. When certain villages are found to be fit for beautification and improvement from various points, it must be selected at once, ignoring other villages.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: It is quite desirable if the hon'ble Member Pu Ngurdawla can withdraw his statement in which he charged the Government as responsible for the death of one person. (Pu Ngurdawla: Mr. Speaker Sir, I can surely withdraw, but I am not charging the Government).

Thank you.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Let me first of all say about the L.A.D. under Demand No. 22. The staffing pattern of this Department can be criticised in various aspects. As it can be seen, there is a Circle Officer resulting in a wide gap. The Director is now even under suspension and to officiate his post, there is no high ranking subordinate officer within the Department concerned. It may therefore be suggested to create the post of Deputy Director, etc.

Besides, it is necessary to appoint other person rather than utilising the present officer who takes charge of the Director. This officer does not know our Mizo mentality and customary laws, etc. As a result of these, he used to face troubles in the administration of Village Councils.

The L.A.D. has certain number of Sweepers, etc. for sanitation duty, etc. The Revenue Department also seems to be having similar ones and when the clearing or sweeping work is carried out, there are sweepers from L.A.D. and Revenue Department working at the same place which is found to be improper. I am therefore suggesting to classify such workers/employees. We used to say quite often that for sanitation duties, etc., a number of vehicles are required by this Department. Sometimes it is said that some vehicles are going to be borrowed from Transport Department, but there remains the same number for such duties. Besides, Revenue Department is expected to carry out its order which states that the shops/stalls are not meant for living accommodations. It is complained that those people living in stalls are making the streets dirty and untidy. But this order does not bring any good result. Can the L.A.D. interfere in this matter? I think the Revenue Department fails.

Under Demand No. 22, we have a budget provision for the assistance of Pawi, Lakhur and Chakma District Councils. For Chakma District Council, there is an allotment for Rs 5,88,000/- But if we look at this District Council in particular, it seems that they could hardly run the administration. As S.P. Dewan, our fellow Member said some days back that the said District Council is in need of Civil Service personnel and also Mizo Teachers. That deserves consideration. There are many people who can neither speak nor understand Mizo language in that area, but the area lies within Mizoram. I am therefore suggesting to post some Civil Service Officers in that area so that the administration can run in a better banner and this large amount of money is utilised effectively.

Regarding the Medical Department under Demand No. 25, I used to say very often about the Hospital administration and I would like to say once again. We are now having dedicated staff and better trained personnel. But among the many staff, there are still some persons (Medical Staff) who used to speak discourteously and arrogantly which is quite bad for the ailing people. There are even some doctors who used to show discourtesy. The patients are in need of psychological treatment and the medical staff should behave mildly and kindly for this purpose. Besides, the authorities should have deep consideration regarding the distribution of medicines at the dispensaries, etc. The general public are seldom provided with those medicines when they required and asked for at the Hospital or Dispensaries.

I would also like to suggest another thing. Since the Outdoor Patients' Registers are not properly maintained at the Dispensaries, etc., the Medical Officer-in-charge can freely handle such medicines. Therefore such registers be kept and maintained properly for the good of the public and the Government itself. I am asking the authorities to manage systematically and to find out formula to solve such hurdles.

We are having a number of Dispensaries in Mizoram, but at those Dispensaries there used to be one or two Nurses only without a Doctor. Besides, those Nurses also used to leave their Stations (Dispensaries) without giving prior information or obtaining per mission as the other Members said before me. There are even some Dispensaries without any medical staff. I would therefore like to suggest that the Dispensaries be re-organized. Rather than having many Dispensaries without proper administration, it may be better to have small numbers of dispensaries with Doctors and better equipments.

As the hon'ble Member, Pu Ngurdawla said before me, we now have budget allotment of about Rs. 44,000/- for V.D. under Plan and Non-Plan. If we are going to make conclusion why this kind of disease spreads in Mizoram, it can be said that there are different kinds of people in Mizoram, coming from other States and since our mode of living or our society is so free and liberal this kind of disease is spreading as a result of physical contact. To prevent further spreading of the V.D., it may be suggested that the authorities make living accomodation for prostitutes or any other girl who would like to sell her body. If there can be such kind of permanent place, the disease may be checked to some extent.

Regarding "Rural Housing Scheme", an amount of Rs. 6,00,000/- has been sanctioned for the coming year which is quite gratifying. When we travel around the villages and grouping centres, it can be seen that we are making improvement. For the coming year also, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister-in-charge to have careful consideration so that the sanctioned amount can best be utilised for the villagers.

Thank you.

PU F. HRANGVELA: Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all, I would like to say about the three District Councils for which an amount of about Rs. 20,00,000/- has been sanctioned under Demand No. 22. We used to say quite often that those three District Councils are not to be ignored regarding their utilization of money and we should have knowledge about it. If I'm not wrong, it has also been decided to form One-man Commission and to verify those areas. But till now, no Commission has been sent there.

If they are not watched carefully, large amount of Govt. money sanctioned for those Councils will not be properly utilised and instead it will go to the pockets of few persons as used to be reported verbally. Let our leaders keep in mind this important suggestion.

Under Demand No. 28, we have an amount of Rs. 5,00,000/- for 'Urban Development'. But I would like to point out in this connection that the sanctioned amount of Rs. 5,00,000/- is quite insufficient. It is well known that our major towns - Aizawl, Lunglei, Champhai and Kolasib are greatly in need of beautification, modification, etc. So many people are flocking in Aizawl and as a result of this, Aizawl has to be modified and enlarged from time to time. The public wants to keep the city clean and tidy and there are many sign-boards to be seen from one place to another. But if the Govt. does not help and co-operate with those public, the sign-boards will bring no result at all. I would also like to request our leaders to allot more money for the maintenance of urban areas. It is understood that a hilly town like Aizawl will not be too difficult to keep clean and tidy. When we walk around our towns, we used to see quite often that various dirty things are coming out of tea-stalls, etc. and the persons working at tea-stalls also are throwing their used-up water ~~at~~ public roads that resulted in an undesirable smell. As the hon'ble Members said before me, there are various people settling or living at tea stalls that are not meant for habitation. The responsibility lies upon the Govt. In this matter, the L.A.D. can be expected to play an important part.

Under Demand No. 27, an amount of more than Rs. 2 lakhs has been sanctioned for housing loan under low income group and middle income group. In this connection, it may be pointed out that there must be careful consideration while using such loan. Those loan money^s are to be repaid in due course and if the loanees cannot repay during an appointed period, their house sites or even the building itself will have to be seized by the Govt. since a bond is signed in such a manner. Let the Housing Loan Board also have consideration whether the loanee will be able to recover the loan money. If not, I am afraid that we may face difficulties in the future. The loanees themselves too must have deep consideration that the loan money will have to be repaid and they must utilise as it is meant for. Therefore it may be suggested that the loan be issued more carefully from now on.

Medical Department can be seen under Demand No. 25. I would like to say few points on this Department. As the other Members said before me, different kinds of medicines used to be sent from Aizawl to interior places by parcel, etc. Since the contents could not be seen when received and after receiving Invoice, it appears that, for example, 1,000 tablets are to be there, but when the parcel is opened, it has been found that only half of it was there. It may be suggested that the matter be

enquired into by the authorities. Besides, we have a Director who is also non-technical person in this Department and there is no subordinate officers. We must therefore try to appoint qualified officers for such posts in the Directorate. We also have Asst. Nursing Superintendents who are qualified persons in the field. When such Asst. Nursing Superintendents are about to be promoted to the posts of Nursing Superintendent, the Finance Department blocks the case. If we make such blockade or hurdles, our Govt. will suffer in the future. We must therefore co-operate with each other for the good of all.

Thank you.

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all I would like to say something about Home Guard that appears under

Demand No. 22. It can be seen that the Mizoram Home Guard personnel are utilised like Police Force. Recently those Home Guard personnel were given training at Aizawl and it seems that they are treated like other Armed Forces personnel. But if we look at the pay and other facilities they are enjoying, it is quite insufficient. Their pay totals only Rs. 210/- per month. For those persons who are looking after a family, this amount is quite insufficient and it is certain that they will always face undesirable difficulties regarding the maintenance of their households. I would therefore like to urge the authorities to look into this matter and take all possible steps as soon as possible for the welfare of those Home Guard personnel.

There are provisions for Housing, Rural* Urban Housing etc, etc. under Demand No. 27 and 28. I do not have much to say on these Demands, but what I would like to say is this. Our Minister made a statement in this House that the money allotted to be utilised under Rural Housing Scheme, ^{was} instead spent for urban areas. As such, the money allotted for Urban Housing Scheme will be utilised for rural areas in future. I would therefore like to know whether they are really utilised as the Minister said. Besides, in the minor head under the Housing Scheme, it is written - "under Middle Income Group for construction of houses to be rented out to Govt. servants in Dists. and sub-divisional Headquarters". In this matter, I would like to know the procedure and the formalities, I am requesting the Minister concerned to explain the matters.

Regarding the Medical Department, it may be pointed out that we are not having sufficient medical staff and some of our youths are at present studying with the assistance from the Government. But the way we manage the Dispensaries and Primary Health Centres is not satisfactory. We used to raise this point quite often that at those Dispensaries and Primary Health Centres, there is not even a single Doctor and

at some Centres, there is no A.N.M. too where the Chowkidar seem to be running the Dispensaries, etc. When there were some persons to be given an injection, in some Dispensaries or P.H.C. the Chowkidar used to perform such duties. The Government has to look into such matter carefully since the public are suffering* various troubles. Besides, I would like to raise another point regarding the construction of Primary Health Centres/Dispensaries building. I am therefore urging the authorities to construct at least two or three buildings for such purposes.

Under Demand No. 22, we have the District Councils. From the statement of the Finance Department, it has been clearly written or described about the assistance, given by the Government and the Councils' activities. Under the Development Scheme, we have "Beautification of Lawngtlai", "Urban Development Scheme of Lakher District Council", "Agriculture Farm of Chakma District Council", etc. During 1973-74, we had provisions for construction of 3 Children Parks, construction of four Playgrounds, construction of 17 markets, improvement of 3 drains, special water supply, Road Communication, etc etc. But what about their (Dist. Council) activities? During the past years, the Pawi District Council framed three Rules and the Lakher District Council six Rules while there was no activity of Chakma District Council to be seen. There are also various complaints about the activities of the Pawi District Council and Chakma District Council for which purpose an Enquiry Commission has been formed. But during the whole year through, the said Commission had no reports, etc. about its examination results. I am therefore requesting the Minister concerned to explain the matters of such delays and the difficulties those Enquiry Commission were facing. Why is it that our Govt. could have utilised its Officers? The Officers and also any other employees are expected to follow the instructions of the Govt. whatsoever. There was a Budget provision during 1975-76 for an amount of Rs. 19,30,000/-, besides large amount had been allotted. Still the Pawi District Council is unable to give wages to its employees. Why did not the Govt. pay attention to their day to day activities and their over-all administration? The authorities concerned are supposed to see the matters relating to such cases. If it is within their purview, let those District Councils be given more power. We do not mind that the teaching staff of the Schools could not even receive their pay for a long period. The public are having unaccountable difficulties. The Govt. has to see whether the public are having problems now and then.

Regarding the Village Councils in those areas, there is not even one Village Council to function. The people should enjoy the value of democracy and for this purpose there must also be elected Village Councils. The Govt. has to examine various cases in those District Councils and to find out the actual position and the mode of administration prevailing in those areas.

Thank you.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all I would like to say about the Medical Department. This Department has made various improvements during some years past. But I would like to point out some difficulties in the management of this Department. The authorities of the Department might find it difficult to control these hundreds of Nurses and other medical staff at different villages. Besides, when we were going on tour or on duties especially, it was found quite often that the vehicles belonging to this Department are not properly maintained. It can be judged from this point of view too and the Committee is studying the administration of this Department and it is expected that the report will be submitted. The doctors are given non-practising allowance, and I think that those doctors may be engaged with different persons though. However, it may be pointed out that various doctors are seldom to be seen on duty at Hospital since they used to spend too much time at their residences. It may also be pointed out that the patients who were personally checked up by the doctors at their residences are getting seats at Hospital easier than other patients who came directly to the Hospital. The case may be looked into carefully. The question may also be raised regarding different medicines that used to be out of stock at the Hospital for the poor patients, but the same could be available from the doctors' residences. Regarding the appointment of Nurses too, the authorities must be careful. Most of the Nurses are recruited from Aizawl itself and when they (Nurses) refused to be posted at the interior places, the authorities are unable to force them further. I would like to suggest in this connection that the appointment be made specifically in future. The Departmental staff have to be under control of the authorities.

In the case of Malaria Department, it may be better to recruit the Surveillance Workers from the villages where the same workers have to be posted. This is necessary because most of the workers seldom perform their duties satisfactorily since their places of duty used to be far from their home village, etc. The Malaria disease is now becoming more and more common among the public. Any-how the staffing pattern itself for the Medical Department is not yet completed and it is desirable to have such as soon as possible.

In the Department of Local Administration, I would like to say that various works used to be left behind incomplete. For example, two steps are constructed at Vaivakawn area; but the same are left incomplete and the bills were drawn by the contractors concerned. When the matter was enquired into, they said that there was not enough fund. If it is so, other allotment of fund may be arranged by the authorities. In a case like this, it may be suggested that the matters may be looked into carefully. I would also like to support what the hon'ble Member, Pu Ngurdawla said before me regarding order issued for cultivation permits.

As he said, permits were issued for cultivation purposes, and when the concerned persons were about to prepare certain plots of land for cultivation, another order was issued which stated that the permission issued earlier has been cancelled. The people have then become quite distressed and bewildered. In this regard, the case of Marpara may be mentioned. The public of Marpara are grouped and they have to find out suitable areas for cultivation every year. The problem of Marpara people may be considered without delay and I request the Govt. to do so.

Lastly, I would like to say about the Chakma District Council. I would like to urge the authorities concerned to take necessary actions immediately. According to the reports available from the District Congress Secretary that the Chief Executive Member and Executive Members having more wives out of money sanctioned for the District Council. That may be the main reason why the staff are not receiving their wages properly. The C.E.M. is said to have four wives already and is now going steady with another girl. To become the C.E.M., one requires only a single vote and the said C.E.M. bribed one person to vote in his favour for which he promised him to build a house with a storey which he did. These are some of the activities of the Council leaders. The Govt. therefore must look into the matters seriously and take actions wherever necessary.

Thank you.

PU SAITLAWMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, We used to say too much, but the real execution of works are seldom to be seen.

Nowadays large number of posters are to be seen here and there, e.g. -"Work more talkless". I would therefore like to say in a shortest form and first of all, let me raise some points regarding the 'Village Council Act'. When compared with our mode of living these days, this Act does not suit us. This Act was framed around 1955-56 or so and the salaries for Village Council Members, President, etc. are to be seen. Nowadays, the President of the Village Council can receive a salary amounting to Rs. 50/-. Besides, Rs. 3/- fixed for cash payment in lieu of invoice in communal work on Hnatlang day may be said to be quite inadequate even for the villagers nowadays. I thought that an amendment or new Rules would be made. It is our judgement that the L.A. Department has no specific rules and could not maintain as it should be. The employees of the L.A.D. Offices are to be seen idly every now and then, doing no work. They are expected to teach the ways and means for village administration to the villagers. Besides, I do not think it would be a good idea to have V/C Presidents' Conference since it does not bring about a good result. The Govt. spends large amount of money for such purpose and I therefore think that it will be better not to hold such conference again in future.

.....46/-

I would also like to say some matters relating to the District Councils. Though the other Members have already said about the Pawi Dist. Council, I would like to raise some points again. The 'One-Man Commission' formed for enquiring important matters regarding the activities of the said Council have served notification and that many persons submitted reports/complaints, etc. But this Commission did not do any work. What is the reason? Besides, we have listened for a number of times that there are unaccountable irregularities in the administration of Chakma District Council. An Enquiry Commission was also formed for this Council long time back and there is no report of the Commission. As we all know, the Congress Party is having strong majority at the Centre and other parts of the country including Mizoram. There is not much to worry about the Opposition parties to overthrow us. But we must remember that the whole people are looking at our efficiency in the administration. If we go on like this, the responsibilities will be upon ourselves and we may bring our own debacle. I would therefore like to ask our leaders to keep up efficiency and discipline. If we look at the activities of other States, they are executing all the works smoothly under the influence of Emergency. It is time now to think how the over-all administration is being run and we should have careful consideration.

I would also like to say some points about the L.A. Department. Since the post of Director is filled up, there are more and more difficulties. Let me point out the case of Zobawk Village Council, as an example. When the Village Council election was completed there, the new V/C President appointed a new Secretary since the incumbent Secretary was away at Thlawhbawk. Recently the wages for the V/C officials have been issued and the new Secretary also immediately went to receive his wage. But an order was received in which it was stated that the Directorate does not accept the appointment of the new Secretary and he was instructed to refund the money he had received. Since this man is poor and his living condition is low, I told him not to refund just now and also told him that I am going to Mizawl and will enquire into the matter. There are many difficulties and problems in the L.A. Department. As a Rule, it is laid down that the V/C President concerned will make recommendation for such appointment and the Government will give final approval or decision. Even after six months have passed since the said V/C election, such formalities could not be completed which shows the unsatisfactory management of the Department. It may be said that the Director of the L.A.D. is not fit for this post. If this Director is still holding his post for further period, the village administration will become worse and get hampered.

Another point I would like to raise is that the services of Sweepers are utilised improperly.

The Circle Officer, Asst. Circle Officer, Sanitary Inspector and even Circle Assistant are utilising them for fencing, etc etc. The authorities must look into such malpractices.

Regarding the Health Department, it is gratifying that the Govt. is giving assistance now and then to the Christian Hospitals. The management of such hospitals is also satisfactory since the workers are devoting themselves to their respective duties. Besides, our Civil Hospitals are making considerable improvement which is also quite satisfactory. However, the pay scales of the Asst. Surgeon I and Dental Surgeon are equal which disappoints the M.B.B.S degree-holders. Since the duration of the studies of M.B.B.S. and B.D.S. are quite different, I would like to remind the Govt. to have reconsideration once again.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: We shall now call upon the Minister concerned since we have no much time left.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to raise just one point. Our Health Department is concentrating against small pox to some extent which appears to be useless. I would therefore like to ask whether it * be possible * will to have major operation against Malaria disease ?

SPEAKER: Let the Minister concerned now give the replies.

PU P.B. NIKHUMA:
DEPUTY MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Demand No. 22, 25, 27 and 28 and I do hope that the hon'ble Members will not mind if I take a long time.

The hon'ble Member, Pu K. Sangchhum talked about the unsatisfactory administration of our Health Department. The matter used to be taken up during the general discussion, etc. I would first of all like to clarify about the non-filling of vacancies like U.D.A., L.D.A., etc. As you all know, the Govt. of India has imposed a ban on the creation of posts at different levels. However, our financial position has been improved recently after which various posts are created like the said posts of U.D.A., L.D.A., Staff Nurse, etc. Since the gap is quite short from the creation of posts till date, we could not find enough time to complete all the formalities. With the expectation that concurrence will be received, an interview for the post of Staff Nurse has been conducted in advance. Therefore, I like the House to note that there is no time to fill up all those newly created posts just now.

For

Regarding the filling up of posts like Doctors, Specialists, etc. we are now having 17 posts of Doctors and some Specialist posts to be filled up.*The filling up of such posts, an advertisement used to be issued even at the All India level, but to no effect till now. We also approached the authorities of the Army Eastern Command and requested them to depute some of their retired or serving Specialists, but due to unforeseeable circumstances we could not be successful. When the first recruitment was made, 17 Doctors were given appointments out of about 60 applicants. But mainly due to undesirable disturbances, most of the Doctors coming from outside decided to vacate their jobs here. Later on, 10 Doctors were appointed. Since the disturbance is prevailing in our Territory, I think our problem with regard to the Health Department will be difficult to solve for quite some time. It is therefore necessary to send our own students for training in this field. We are now having almost 60 students studying M.B.B.S. at different Medical Colleges outside. Out of these students, four of them are now working as House Surgeon. We have offered stipend to those students who are studying at their own expenses as well which most of them accepted. I have a high expectation that our problem in this regard will be solved to some extent when those students completed their studies.

Regarding the posting of Medical staff at the interior places and the distribution of medicines, we have said the matters before. It could not be due to the lack of discipline or control among the medical staff. It has been proposed time and again to close down certain number of Dispensaries and maintain fewer Dispensaries so that they can be run more properly. But when such proposal is taken up for consideration/approval, there used to be strong pressure from the public and even from our hon'ble Members. (Pu C.Lalruata: Mr.Spesker Sir, If the Govt. has had a concrete policy, we would not raise such pressure. At present it appears that those Dispensaries are opened whenever and wherever there is pressure).

Mr.Speaker Sir, our hon'ble Member, Pu Lalruata made a mistake. There is already a policy from the Govt. of India. All over Mizoram, we are having 10 (ten) Primary Health Centres and about three to five sub-Centres can be opened. Due to the disturbance, necessary matters cannot be taken up - such as implementing Primary Health Centres, etc. at the grouped Villages and so on. There had been a clear cut policy regarding the construction of building for such Centres. For such implementation, the meeting of Civil Surgeons made a proposal which is approved by the Govt. However, before practical implementation could be done, those Dispensaries are managed so as to meet the immediate requirements. We have heard from some Members that the Staff Nurses are not provided at various Centres which is true to a large extent. For example, when the Staff Nurse or A.N.M. posted at Farkawn was absent, it does not mean that she was hiding away at some other places. Due to lack

of medical staff for those sub-centres. The situation sometimes compelled us to have even the Chowkidar to look after certain sub-centres. When we had a consideration for creating new posts, there was a ban. But now we have about 40 new Nurses and I hope that our problems can be solved to some extent. Whenever a medical staff was out of her station, it generally means that she would be on duty at the other sub-centres.

However, it seems that the Plan of Health Department in Mizoram appears to be not too ambitious. But when we look at the national level from the 5th Five-Year Plan's target, our ratio is high enough. I would like to inform the hon'ble Members that according to the national level during the 5th Five Year Plan, it is decided to allot one bed for every 1,000 people. But since our Territory is regarded as difficult area, one bed is meant for every 430 persons. At present our position is that for every 800 persons there is a bed. It is gratifying that the Health Department is now making progress with regard to the building construction. The P.W.D. has done great work in this field that we could hardly meet their expenditure liability. It may be mentioned in this connection that the P.W.D. has completed constructing 50 bedded hospital at Champhai, Zembawk T.B. Hospital, the up-gradation to a 30 bedded at Serchhip, Biato Primary Health Centre, Hnahthial Primary Health Centre, 10 bedded Dispensary at S.Vanlaiphai, etc. all within a short period. I do hope that we can achieve our programme on building construction. Besides, we had a careful consideration about despatch of medicines in the interior places, etc. Our Officers have nearly completed the scheme for sending those medicines systematically.

In the case of posting and transfer of the medical staff, especially Staff Nurse, A.N.M., etc. it has been suggested that those staff be posted at one place and they should remain there for only 2 years or so, then transferred to another place. In places which can be reached easily, let them remain for three years and so on. We are therefore having consideration to do posting and transfer systematically.

What I would also like to say in the Health Department is about the case of V.D. Various Members said about this disease and the necessity to take measures for its control. We are now having a doctor specialising in this line. If you look at the Budget papers carefully, you will find that under Demand No.26, there is a provision for Communicable Diseases Control Programme which means actually for the control of V.D. We are also now having District T.B. Officer, Dist. Leprosy Officer, etc. The Members are also giving importance to the control of drugs and now we propose to have a separate establishment for Drug Control. I hope that a separate establishment will be formed for the control of T.B., Leprosy, etc. We are also now having consideration to send a Doctor and a Nurse to undergo training in this field. Anyway, I regret to point out that the public

and even our hon'ble Members are not satisfied with the Health Department and I also admitted that this Department is not sufficient enough to meet our requirements as a whole. Our main difficulty is that one has to study at least for 5 years to complete the M.B.B.S. Course while the Nurse-trainees are taking 3½ years to 4 years to complete their course. Anyhow, we may expect this Department to make a speedy improvement.

What Pu Lalkunga said about the unsatisfactory maintenance of the Health Department's vehicles could be true to a great extent, I also used to notice those vehicles and I find that they are not clean enough and not properly maintained. But in this connection, it may be said that all vehicles belonging to this Department including those that are used by the Director, etc. are utilised for transporting medicines to the villages during dry season. Those vehicles allotted to the S.D.M.C. of Champhai and Serchhip Doctors used to be utilised for this purpose. I therefore think that our Departments vehicles will surely become worse. As I have said before, the Advisory Committee is quite essential for the proper maintenance of our activities, the Rule of which is already placed on the Table of the House last year. This Advisory Committee is vested with power to make a report, to carry out surprise visit and checking, etc. I do hope that if each of the Members implement the same in every constituency, the public will surely benefit out of it. Besides, some of the Members raised a point that no medicine of good quality reaches the interior Centres or Villages except A.P.C. and so on. If you look at the medicines carefully, you can see that the drugs/medicines are not to be disposed of except on the advice of the physician. Since we have no competent Doctors at the interior places, those dangerous medicines are not advisable to be sent to such places. It will be a better idea for such reason that simple medicines may only be expected to be sent to the interior in time to come. Let the Members also note that in future, such simple medicines as said earlier will have to be sent in the interior where the Doctors are not posted.

In the case of Urban Development, I would like to make a clarification. It has been written that Rs. 5,00,000/- is sanctioned for Loan out of which Rs. 2,50,000/- is meant for Housing Loan. There is, on the other hand, a specific condition for sanctioning that amount of Rs. 5,00,000/-. Since our employees posted at the District Headquarters or Sub-Divisional Headquarters have no residential houses or quarters, this kind of loan is to be sanctioned to those persons who are willing to construct buildings for such purposes.

I think there will be no harm to say about our autonomous District Councils to-day. The activities of the Lakhur District Council may be considered to be general as the other District Councils. The Pawi and Chakma District Councils are not functioning as they are expected to be and it may be due to the political implications prevailing among them. It has been greatly criticised about the way they are handling the money. From their side there used to be a strong pressure upon us to sanction more money and they said that the money they used to receive from us is quite inadequate. Anyhow the Govt. had the knowledge that the administration and the Pawi and Chakma District Councils are quite unsatisfactory. As the hon'ble Members said before about the formation of a Commission to enquire into various complaints, One-Man Enquiry Commission has been formed. To enquire into the activities of the Pawi Dist. Council, the Dy. Commissioner of Aizawl is entrusted and he is at the same time reminded to go into the financial affairs more carefully. But the Dy. Commissioner pointed out that he would be in need of others' help who is expert in financial and accounts matters. When the Finance Department was approached for this case, they said that they cannot spare their staff and such cases are under process. Our Dy. Commissioner had to leave for foreign country to undergo training. For this, the necessary enquiry could not be completed till now. (Pu Sapliana:- Mr. Speaker Sir, what is the length of a gap between his (the D.C.) going abroad for training and that of the Enquiry Commission?)

Mr. Speaker Sir, I cannot reply to that question, but what I can say is that after the said D.C. left for abroad, the D.C. of Lunglei was given the task. It has also to be mentioned in this connection that the D.C. of Lunglei went on leave just before the appointment letter for this commission could reach him. The period allotted to the Commission for submission of its reports or findings is 45 days and since the prescribed period does not expire, we have to wait for some more time regarding the Commission's reports. That is all that can be said regarding the Pawi District Council just now.

The One-man Commission has been formed also for the Chakma District Council. When I went to Lunglei recently, I enquired about the progress and I hope that the report can be submitted soon. Our Members used to mention about sending Civil service personnel on deputation there to give guidance wherever necessary. The matter has been considered since 1973 and the authorities of the Chakma District Council used to send their suggestions. But when we processed such matters, the said Council has new leaders and the new C.E.M. would reject the proposals already made. Since the Council authorities did not suggest specifically, the matter could not be completed. Soon after the Govt. had knowledge about the way Chakma District Council leaders are managing Govt. money.

A commission has been formed to enquire into those irregularities and the Enquiry Commission is given a wide term of reference for its activities. When the report is submitted, there can be other means to sanction for further references.

Various Members are of opinion that the present Rules are not sufficient for L.A.D. But when we look into such case seriously, it could be found out that the insufficiency is mainly due to the grouping of villages. Some days back, the hon'ble Member, Pu H.K. Chakma urged the authorities to make a clear demarcation about the Village Council boundaries. Nursery and other villages do not have such boundaries and such matters be looked into, the Member further said. What the hon'ble Member has said is true and we are having different difficulties in this regard. But what the hon'ble Member, Pu Ngurdawla said about difficulties faced by the public in case of Jhuming is not correct. There is no problem from the side of the L.A.D., but the difficulty arises due to difference in ideas and opinions between the village people and the people settling at Thlawhbawk. Those people settling at Thlawhbawk claimed that the areas for jhuming are allotted in consultation with the Village Council authorities. But according to our standing rules, the Thlawhbawk leaders have no power of allotting such plots of land for cultivation. The hon'ble Member, Pu Saitlawma raised a point about the Secretary of Zobawk Village Council. There are some pending cases and the cases of those who resigned have been cleared. The pending cases are those whom the Presidents of certain Village Councils like to get rid of and in whose places, another persons are to be appointed. But such cases cannot be solved unless there is reasonable ground for their removal. In the case of the Secretary of Zobawk Village Council whom Pu Saitlawma mentioned, it is a genuine case. The said Secretary belongs to Bualte Village and living at Bualte. The President made a recommendation for the appointment of Secretary and when we were trying to carry out this appointment, he made another recommendation. I have recently come across this President during the Conference here. He could not still make a specific recommendation and this is the main reason for not carrying out this particular appointment,

Besides, it has been learnt that certain Presidents tried to remove the incumbent Secretaries and appoint their favourite ones in their places without having specific reasons and proper ground. The matter is under consideration and some of them are expected to be decided within this week. Anyhow, since we have a new status in the administration, our present rules for the Village Council have to be discussed thoroughly and my opinion is that the villages be re-organised wherever necessary. According to our present way of administration at the village level from the side of the general administration, we are posting A.Os and B.D.Os to look after the village management while having the Village Council at the same time. If their relationship becomes undesirable, there can be various difficulties. We therefore have to think and consider carefully in which direction we shall take steps. The Village Councils' Conference which was held recently had been called for taking the opinion of the hon'ble Members. Unfortunately, our Members, namely -

Pu Ngurdawla and Pu Saitlawma did not attend the conference. The subjects to be discussed in that conference had been selected specifically, prepared by various officers from L.A.D., G.A.D. and other Departments. That conference was not like a political conference. When I noticed that two or three persons were trying to get advantage, we have made known that the matters relating to political parties could not be raised here. According to my observation, I think it is quite encouraging to hold such conference from time to time.

Regarding our present rules, it is quite ~~time~~ now to reconsider and prepare re-organisation of Village Councils. The rules will have to suit our mode of administration. It is quite difficult to run the Village Council administration satisfactorily. The main difficulties arise due to our disturbance and as a result of our disturbance, numbers of villages are grouped together at one Centre. When the Village Council administration is being carried out in those centres, there used to be different kinds of opinions among the village leaders who came from different villages. There could, therefore be various difficulties in the administration of Village Councils.

There is some criticism against the Director of L.A.D. which can be true to a large extent. Since we are still adopting our Mizo customary laws etc. in this Department, it can be understood that there will be certain difficulties for non-Mizos to execute the works smoothly. We are now seeking for a suitable person to be the next Director and I hope that the case can be settled shortly.

Anyhow, Mr. Speaker Sir, the time is **s h o r t** and there can be no more time to say more on this Demand. We did not mean that this Demand is sufficient and will satisfy the general public, but since it is the limit of our ability and at the same time necessary for the public as a whole, I am requesting the hon'ble Members to pass this Demand.

Thank you.

PU K.L.ROCHAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to raise just two points for clarification. There is some confusion regarding the number of M.B.B.S. students we are having. The Lt. Governor stated the number to be 60 while the Finance Minister said to be about 50. That point may please be specifically explained.

Secondly, it is said that we are following the directives of the Govt. of India regarding the Primary Health Centres, Dispensaries and sub-centres. In the National Minimum Need Programme, it also appears to be the directive of the Govt. of India on According to this latter directive, it has been stated that there will be a Primary Health Centre at each Community Development Block Centre. In this connection, I would like to ask the matters taken up with the Govt. of India by this reference.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Our Govt. is challenging small pox and it even offers a reward of Rs. 1,000/- to the persons who can give small pox suppliers' names to the Govt. Can Malaria disease be challenged as well ?

PU P. B. NIKHUMA:
DY. MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, Regarding the Malaria disease, it is not challenged not only in Mizoram, but also in other States. But in the case of small pox, the World Health Organisation claims to have reached the "zero points". During last year, an investigation had been carried three times to prove that this disease has vanished. Though the World Health Organisation has claimed to reach the "Zero Point" in curing the small pox, they did not yet make declaration. However, the Malaria disease is increasing in the Middle-East and in India considerably. We therefore do not challenge it.

Regarding the Minimum Need Programme which Pu Rochama has pointed out, the Primary Health Centres are under this Programme. In the money matter, one sector is under the Head of "Hospital and Dispensary". The other one is the 'control of communicable diseases' which is under the "Control Programme". According to the practice at All-India level, one Primary Health Centre is meant for each Block (C.D. Block). When the proposal was made for having one P.H. Centre at each C.D. Block, it was turned down and they (the Central Govt.) proposed nine Centres. But we urged for ten centres at least stating that there can be one centre for every two C.D. Blocks. They soon agreed to this second proposal and they added one more Centre. After that, we are having 10 (ten) Primary Health Centres. Besides, when we're making a proposal for having sub-centres, the case used to be considered on the basis of population. If it is so, it would be impossible in our case. We are meeting our requirements under the Minimum Needs Programme and also the "Control and Prevention of Communicable Diseases".

The number of I.B.B.S. students we have, according to last year's figure, was 47 and we are sending about 14 students this year that comes to altogether round about 60. The difference in the number of students between the speeches of Lt. Governor and the Finance Minister occurs because I did not make corrections before. The actual number is now 60 (sixty) approximately.

SPEAKER: The figure can be different from those who received State stipend and Central stipend.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, From the explanation of the Minister-in-charge, we have heard that various medicines which are said to be never reaching the interior villages are due to the non-availability of doctors. He said those medicines are to be prescribed by doctors and since we have no doctors in those villages, various medicines are not despatched. In this case, I would like to know the names of those medicines. Such medicines like Penicillin, strepto-penicillin and Procain-ponicillin are the common medicines that never reach the interior places.

Do these medicines require the prescription of doctors ?

From the speech delivered by the Lt. Governor, it has been learnt that the Primary Health Centre is under construction at Bukpui. I would like to know where Bukpui is. As the Minister said, the Central Govt. allowed us to have one more Primary Health Centre and is it that this new Centre is going to be located at Bukpui ?

In the case of V.D., it seems that the Minister-in-charge in his reply appears to have said that the Members do not know how to look at the Budget papers. We do know how to look at our Budget papers, but we might not have enough time to study thoroughly. In the Demand which we are discussing now, the V.D. Clinic is not to be found anywhere, but as the Minister said it could be seen from Demand No. 26, but it is written as P.H.E. I would like to point out that.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon'ble Minister did not give clarification which I sought before. Let me repeat my point. The Minister said that provision for Urban Housing Scheme had been diverted to Town Area and in 1975-76 the provision for Town Area will be utilised for Urban Area. I would like to know how it has been utilised.

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Regarding the point raised by Pu Lalruata, I would like to withdraw my speech in that regard if I made a mistake. Our Demand is included in Demand No. 26 and they are mixing as such. The "Control and Prevention of Communicable Diseases" also in under the Budget provision of Public Health Engineering Department. I did not mean that the hon'ble Members do not know how to look at the Budget papers.

About the Rural Housing Scheme that Pu Sapliana asked, I did not mention specifically about the time when we shall divert money from here and there. The hon'ble Member might make a mistake. As I have said, the main position is that during the 5th Five-Year Plan, certain amount of money has been sanctioned and at the end of the Plan period, that money will be managed proportionally as it is given. In this matter, the money sanctioned for Urban Development Scheme may be diverted to Rural Housing Scheme; but I did not mention when it will be diverted specifically. As you all know we are having Rs. 5/- lakhs for Urban Development which comes to only Rs. 3.20 lakhs for R*... works. Therefore, our target for the Plan period, i.e. Rs. 1.3 crores will be maintained in the same balance continuously till the end of the Five-Year Plan period. Anyhow, the Planning Commission allows us about the 10 lakhs diversion we have made.

Regarding what Pu Lalruata said about Housing programme; we purchased C.I. Sheets at a total cost of Rs. 8 lakhs. The Board will make consideration and finalisation about how those C.I. Sheets will be distributed or to whom they will be distributed, etc. It can be expected that more will be purchased in the coming years.

(Pu Sapliana: Mr. Speaker Sir, It is said that the money utilised for Housing loan is from the L.A.D. If it is so, can there be any difficulty ?)

All the money given for the purpose of Housing Loan is not only from the L.A.D., though about Rs. 2 lakhs may be from the L.A.D. Therefore the Demand we have made for Housing Loan is about Rs. 25 lakhs out of which only about Rs. 5 lakhs will be from the Local Administration Department.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Can the hon'ble Minister answer my questions ? The questions are about the Bukpui Primary Health Centre and about the medicines that require the prescription of the Physician.

PU P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, The Primary Health Centre that we are having at Bukpui is 10 bedded which is same as other Health Centres regarding its staff position, etc. Primary Health Centres are at N. Vanlalaphai, Chawngte, etc. and we are going to have altogether 10 Primary Health Centres.

Bukpui is situated at the north-eastern side of Kolasib and it can be reached through Nisapui, Luangmuat or Lungno.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I could not still understand the point. Are those 10 bedded Dispensaries called Primary Health Centre or the Lt. Governor made a mistake in his speech ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, If I am not wrong, it is a 10 bedded Dispensary at Bukpui.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is there any difference between Primary Health Centre and 10 bedded Dispensary ? If there is not any difference, their names also will not be called differently.

PU P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, There will be some difference. Primary Health Centres are under the "Minimum Need Programme" while the 10-bedded Dispensaries are under the "Hospital and Dispensary". Therefore the management of the two may be different, but their beginning will have to be same.

Regarding various medicines despatched to the interior villages, I may not be in a position to explain the matter thoroughly because it is difficult for lay-men to explain such medicines. If you look at the cover of each medicine, the instruction will be written on its wrapper that such medicines are to be consumed on the advice of the physician, etc etc. Those kind of medicines will not be distributed without careful consideration.

PU NGURDAWLA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, We used to say quite often that the medical staff and Pharmacists are always absent from their stations time and again and the administration of the Medical Department is very loose. For example, a Pharmacist posted at Reiek is seldom to be seen at his station and when the Education Minister visited Reiek, the public informed the matter to him. But till now no action is taken against the said Pharmacist. It could be clearly seen that the administration of the Medical Department is quite unsatisfactory and loose.

PU P.B. NIKHUMA:
DY. MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, All the Government employees, whether they are from Medical Department or Agriculture Department etc. are supposed to be where they are posted; if they are going to leave their stations, prior permission should be obtained from competent authorities. If such permission is not obtained, it will be regarded as unauthorised leave. (Pu Ngurdawla: Mr. Speaker Sir, There are many irregularities or maladministration to be said from the Medical Department and I have pointed out Pharmacist posted at Reiek as a mere example).

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Pharmacist posted at Reiek has a long story to be said. Firstly, the public had some complaints about the Pharmacist we posted at Reiek and as such, that Pharmacist was transferred and the other Pharmacist was posted in the vacant post. Later on the public said that they prefer the former to the latter and things were going in such a manner and even order could not be issued as desired. However, I would like to add some points in this connection that the Members and even the public used to point out about the unauthorised leave of Medical Staff. The main position is that when a Nurse or even Pharmacist was absent from his/her station, he/she might have been sent to other station due to lack of staff. When such transfer occurs among the staff, the public might not know the exact position about what was happening among the medical staff. What I would like to tell the hon'ble Members is that we are not going to post our staff Nurses in future where there is neither Hospital nor indoor facilities. We have posted those Nurses and Pharmacists in the Villages on contract basis. For example- When a Pharmacist posted at Thingdawl is transferred to some other place, it does not mean that the concerned Pharmacist is not functioning as he is supposed to be. It rather means that whenever the Pharmacist is not available, Nurse who is stationed there will also function as Pharmacist in a manner of contract basis. Mainly due to lack of experienced persons, we are making such ad-hoc arrangement so as to help the needy people.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It has been learnt that at some Primary Health Centres, the Health Department forms certain Board consisting of A.O. & Village Council to have report on Dispensaries. It is further learnt that by making mutual agreement between the members of the said Board and Medical Staff, there are some centres (Dispensaries etc.) where the medical staff are opening Dispensaries etc. only for three days in a week. Will the Minister-in-charge therefore be pleased to give instruction to those medical staff to stop such practice if we give him (the Minister) information ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA:
DY. MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, Generally, the A.O. is Chairman in the Advisory Board and the Pharmacist is Secretary while the Village Council Members and other public figures are Members. If such Board Members etc. could give permission to close Dispensaries about three days in a week, there can be various difficulties. However, those Board Members are not authorised persons to take action against Pharmacist in case of administration.

PU LAIRINLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Though the Health Department is an important Department, it could clearly be seen that its administration is extremely poor and unsatisfactory. For example, the Primary School teachers are obediently serving at their stations while the medical staff are rarely to be seen. Necessary steps have to be taken for the improvement of this Department.

We always pointed out that allotting different Departments to one official is not desirable, therefore, we have to appoint a full-fledged Director immediately. Frankly speaking, it is quite undesirable to have non-technical person to head this kind of Department. I would therefore like to urge the Minister-in-charge to appoint technical and experienced person to head the Health Department as soon as possible.

PU NGURDAMLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Regarding the Pharmacist posted at Reiek against whom the public raised many complaints, the Govt. has to look into important matters and that actions, wherever necessary should be taken. I have pointed out about the Reiek case just as an example- and there can be many such cases to be mentioned in the Western region. I think it is necessary for the Minister-in-charge to take this case as a problem of Mizoram.

SPEAKER:

Various Members raised different points and the Minister-in-charge also replied* those points and explained the matters. We shall now take vote on this Demand : the question is - "That the Demand Nos. 22, 25, 27, and 28 for Rs. 2,30,64,000/- only to meet the expenses during the year 1976-77 in respect of the Departments* for the amount as shown in column 2, 3 of para 13 of Bulletin Part II dated 23rd March, 1976 be passed". *and

Now, let the Members who agree to pass say 'yes', (the Members said "Yes"). Is there any objection? (Members kept silent).

Well, the Demand is passed.

Tomorrow we shall take Demand No. 14 and the sitting will be started at 10:30 A.M.

We shall now adjourn the House.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

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