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1st Sitting on 21st September, 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 three Members.

B U S I N E S S

1. Questions.
2. Announcement by the Speaker regarding Panel of Chairmen.
3. Business Advisory Committee Report.
4. Rules Committee Report:
Pu Vaivenga, Speaker and Chairman, Rules Committee to present Third Report of the Rules Committee.
5. Introduction of Government Bills:
Pu Lalsangzuala, Minister-in-charge of the Law and Judicial Department -
 - (a) to beg leave to introduce.
"The Mizoram General Clauses Bill, 1976".
 - (b) if leave granted, to introduce the Bill.

SPEAKER: "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and his law he meditates day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that brings forth its fruit in its season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatever he does shall be blessed."

Rule 31 of the Rules of Procedure provides that the business of the Assembly shall be transacted in the official language or languages of the territory or in Hindi or in English. Actually we don't have a recognised official language of Union Territory.

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So, if any Member who cannot express himself or herself adequately in English or Hindi, I hereby permit him or her to speak in his or her mother tongue.

Now question No. 1.

ORAL ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Allotment of seats in Mizoram House at Delhi.

*1: PU SANGKHUMA: Will the hon'ble Minister i/c G. A. D. be pleased to state -

Whether the Government of Mizoram have framed rules or orders regulating allotment of seats in Mizoram House, New Delhi ?

PU CH. CHUUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, Yes.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, what are the provisions of the Rules, who are entitled to stay there and how long at one stretch? Is it correct that all kinds of people are allowed to stay there as long as they like ?

PU CH. CHUUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, Officers or Non-officers, there is no entitlement to stay there. Anyone who wants to lodge there has to get a permit from the G. A. D. here, but in emergent cases the Liaison Officer, Delhi also can give permission ?

PU R. ZOLIAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon'ble Chief Minister stated that Rules have been framed for occupation of Mizoram House at Delhi. From what date the Rules became effective ?

PU CH. CHUUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, the Standing Order was issued on May 6, 1976 and a circular on August 31, 1976.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Rules be laid on the Table of the House? What is the use of the Rules if there is no mention for whom the occupation is meant for? Can anyone occupy a room there with permission of the G. A. D. ? I think what we are now speaking of is the Mizoram House at Defence Colony, Delhi we have another House at Curzon Road. Is it correct that the Govt. is considering to have another Mizoram House in New Delhi ? If so, will the Govt. be able to maintain all the three Houses properly ? Is there any proposal to post additional staff ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, as I stated rules are not
 CHIEF MINISTER. yet framed but Standing Orders and Circu-
 lars were issued. As stated by Pu C. Lal-
 ruata, Mizoram House was allotted to us by the Government
 of India for Mizoram House in Teen Murti Lane. It was not
 yet repaired and renovated.

No one is allowed to stay in the Mizoram
 House as long as one likes, the maximum limit allowed is
 for 15 days.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It is known that some
 students and trainees stay in the Mizoram
 House for a long time causing inconve-
 niences to Officers who visit Delhi in connection with
 official business. Are the Govt. aware of this ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Yes, but it is on a few
 CHIEF MINISTER. occasions. Steps are taken to control
 such things.

SPEAKER: Question No. 2

HOME DEPARTMENT

Detailment of Home Guard personnel.

*2: PU R. DOTINAIA: Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of Home
 Department be pleased to state -

(a) Are the Home Guard personnel detailed on duty with Rifles
 to guard the V.I.Ps ?

(b) If so, how many sections have been detailed to each
 duty post ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) Yes.
 CHIEF MINISTER. (b) One Section each.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, if so, how many contingents
 are there in one section ? When CRP men
 were detailed, one section was detailed
 for each duty post. How many CRP men are there in one
 section ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, in one section of Home
 CHIEF MINISTER. Guard there is one Section leader, one
 Assistant section leader and eight Home
 Guards personnel. I do not know the exact number of personnel
 of CRP posted in one duty post at that time.

.....4/-

PU R. DOTINAIYA: Mr. Speaker Sir, as far as I know there are 12 persons in one CRP section. Their pay and other facilities are much higher than those of Home Guard. Sentry is changed at an interval of two hours. Home Guardsmen are poorly looked after but sentry is changed at an interval of 4 hours. Whether the Government are aware of this ?

The Home Guard personnel are paid through Muster Roll; they are not borne on establishment. If they are detailed on duty with arms, will the Govt. give compensation in case they meet with mishaps ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, the number of persons detailed in a duty post or included in one section is to be done according to reserves we have. I hope the Members will understand even if we place 8 persons in one section of the Home Guard. When there are 12 persons in one section of CRPF and Home Guards are very much different. Home Guards are persons trained for the reserve. Their primary duty is to give training to others as and when necessary. Their services are utilised only because we are short of regular police personnel.

We must take for granted that the Govt. will take full responsibility and give due compensation in case they meet with mishaps when they are on duty.

PU R. DOTINAIYA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Chief Minister stated that the Govt. will take full responsibility and give compensation when the Home Guardsmen are incapacitated when they are on duty. Will the Govt. give pension to their families in case they die while on duty? They are paid on Muster Roll; they are not regular Government servants. Have any rules been framed for giving such pensionary benefit ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, they are not permanent govt. servants, as such pension will not be admissible to them.

SPEAKER: Now, we come to Question No. 3. It is Pu Hrangvela's question. He is absent. If he does not authorise any one to ask in his behalf, we shall take up Question No. 4.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Periodic patta as security for loans.

4: PU R. DOTINAIYA: Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Revenue Department be pleased to state -

Whether the lands allotted for agricultural purposes by the Revenue Department under periodic patta can be mortgaged for obtaining government loans ?

....5/-

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Lands under periodic
MINISTER. patta cannot be mortgaged for purpose
of applying govt. loans because the
patta are for only specified periods and the govt. cannot
accept it.

PU R. DOTINAI: Mr. Speaker Sir, What is the use of
periodic patta? Why passes for gardens
etc. not usual as ordinary pass? We
have to pay Rs. 15/- for periodic patta pass while its value
is not more than ordinary pass. Generally agricultural lands
concern the poorer section of the people- the villagers. So,
the govt. must consider carefully the issue of passes for
agricultural purposes. It is desirable that ordinary passes
may be issued instead of periodic patta passes. If agricultural
lands cannot be settled so that the lands may be mortgaged
for loans, they must be held by ordinary passes. Will the
govt. consider this?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the periodic patta,
MINISTER. according to Agricultural Land Rules,
1971, does not confer ownership to the
holder of the Pass. As to the rate, the intention of the
Govt. is that the land holders will pay more interest to
utilise the lands if the rate of tax is high. The Govt.
do not consider mere raising of the rates but to arouse
interest of the Pass Holders to utilise the land. If the
rate is too low the land holders may easily pay the rent
but take no interest to utilise the land. They can hold their
lands as long as they pay the rent even if they do not utilise
them. Under the new system lands will be allotted under
periodic patta for a period of 5 to 10 years. If the lands
are not developed or utilised within that period the patta
will stand withdrawn.

There is a proposal for making agricul-
tural lands permanent. When the proposal is implemented they
will be mortgagable. There are practical difficulties to
issue L.S.C. on agricultural lands. All the lands are to be
surveyed and measured at site even in the far-flung areas.
So periodic patta passes are issued for agricultural lands.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, is it a fact that the
Govt. is thinking to make holding of
agricultural lands permanent so that
the lands can be mortgaged for loans, but cannot implement
it due to practical difficulties such as shortage of staff?
Do the Govt. propose to create more technical staff to cope
with the enormous work?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the land tenure system
MINISTER. and the loan are different from each
other. Land is land and loan is loan
and the authorities may demand any securities, lands or other-
wise for the loans granted by them. What the Govt. considers
is that agricultural loans may be given by the Bank.

.....6/-

PU C. LAIRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Had the Gardens and other agriculture lands in rural areas been classified in terms of value ?
If they are already classified and their value determined why are they accepted as mortgage securities ?

PU B. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I consider the reply to my supplementary question was not clear. To mortgage lands against loans, it is necessary to hold them under Land Settlement Certificate. The Minister states that it is too great a burden to do settlement works of agricultural lands in rural areas. Is that due to shortage of staff ? Why not increase the staff ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the value of lands in rural areas has been notified. The value of the lands along the motor roads is higher than that in inaccessible areas. The reply to Pu Dotinaia's question is this- Shortage of the technical staff is one of the reasons for non-settlement of lands in rural areas. We do not say that increase of the staff under the Directorate of Settlement will adequately cover the whole country. Conferring of powers relating to land and revenue to the Deputy Commissioners and S.D.Os. as done in other States is under consideration for solving the problems.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, Industrial or Agricultural loans are given according to the value of the material mortgaged. Will the Bank loan be issued according to the value of the material mortgaged ? For example- if the value of my land is Rs 20,000/- does it mean that I can take a bank loan of Rs. 20,000/- against the security of the said land ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Banks have their own Rules. We do not know the details of the provisions of their Rules. Bank loans will be granted according to the provisions of the Bank Rules. In granting Govt. loans, the Departments generally sanction loans upto 75% of the value of the security mortgaged with the Government.

SPEAKER: Question No. 5.

Collection of Professional Tax.

*5: PU SAPLIANA: Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of Revenue Department be pleased to state-

- (a) Is it a fact that Professional Tax has been collected by the Govt. in Aizawl and Lunglei Districts ?
- (b) If so, what are the total amounts collected so far during the year 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75 ?

....7/-

PU R. THANGLIANA:
MINISTER

Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) Yes.

(b) Year	Lunglei Dist.	Aizawl Dist.	Total.
1972-73	Rs. 8174.00	Rs. 21360.00	Rs. 29534.00
1973-74	Rs. 13644.00	Rs. 16174.00	Rs. 30118.00
1974-75	Rs. 10946.00	Rs. 82480.00	Rs. 93426.00
1975-76	Rs. 17984.00	Rs. 181092.00	Rs. 199076.00
Total-			Rs. 352154.00

PU LALKUNGA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Professional Tax does not seem to have been collected in Chhimituipui District ? Why is this ?

PU R. THANGLIANA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Act on the strength of which we collect Professional Tax is the Act of the erstwhile Mizo Dist. Council. It was not enforceable in the area of the then Pawi-Lakher Autonomous Region which now forms the Chhimituipui District. So, the Act covers the present districts of Aizawl and Lunglei only. Moreover, in Chhimituipui District the District Councils collect the Professional Taxes for their Councils, and we are not to interfere in their affairs.

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, the amount of Professional Tax collected during 1972-76 is fairly large. I would like to know the number of govt. servants and non-govt. servants who paid the tax. I also want to know if the account is maintained and whether it is deposited in the Treasury or not.

It is stated that this professional tax is collected from businessmen who started business only from this year retrospectively from 1972. Do the govt. know of this ? Some people who paid the tax last year are assessed again this year resulting in double payment of the tax. For this reason I want to know how the account is maintained.

The Hon'ble Minister states that the Act in force at present is that of the then Mizo District Council and does not cover Chhimituipui District. Since the then Pawi-Lakher Regional Council was not empowered to exact such law, the Act of the Mizo District Council was in force within that area. How can Chhimituipui be excluded now ? The three District Councils in Chhimituipui District were initially Regional Councils. Before they were upgraded to the status of District Councils they could not exact Professional Tax Laws. Such taxation was not within their purview. Who is the authority to collect the tax in the Chhimituipui District for the interim period before the upgradation of Regional Council if the Govt. cannot collect the tax in that District as stated by the Minister ? If the Government of Mizoram do not okay the

Act passed by the District Councils for collection of Professional tax and notified in the Official Gazette, the District Councils cannot collect Professional tax. But some District Councils collected without proper authority while other District Councils stated that they cannot collect the tax as their Act is not yet published in the Official Gazette of the Govt. of Mizoram. Why not the Govt. take action to publish in the Gazette ?

PU VANLALHRUAILA: Mr. Speaker Sir, it may not be difficult to assess the annual income of those who earned fixed income like government servants for the purpose of professional tax collection. But how is the income of businessmen and trader assessed ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, let me reply ^{to} Pu Hruai's question first. Assessment from Government servants is made from their pay and as such there is no difficulty. Assessment of tax from Contractors are also made from their income as revealed by the bills drawn by them. But it is difficult to make correct assessment from businessmen. They are assessed according to the judgement of our tax inspectors which is generally done on the basis of merchandised goods they keep in their Shops. Though collection on this basis cannot be precise we do not find better ways than this. If we are to base on their declarations, it is known that there are many false declarations.

Pu Sapliana wants clarification as to who will collect Professional tax in Chhimtuipui District for the period between the formation of the Mizoram U.T. in January, 1972 and the upgradation of the Regional Councils to the status of District Councils in April, 1972. As requested by the District Councils, we gave them permission to collect for that short period. I wonder if this was not notified.

I am not able to give the exact number of govt. servants and non-govt. servants from whom professional taxes are collected as I do not look into such details because it is not asked in the question.

PU C. LAIRUMTA: Mr. Speaker Sir, we are told of the amount of the tax collected. Is there any assessee who does not yet pay the tax ? Is there any arrear yet to be realised ?

PU VANLALHRUAILA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is the tax collected from outsiders who work within our state or who supply materials and stationeries through quotation on the basis of bills drawn by them ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Professional Tax is collected from persons who do professions, trades and callings within Mizoram. It is not collected from persons who are outside Mizoram.

Regarding arrear, there are some arrears still to be realised. I expect that arrear will become much less for the year 1975-76 as we are more strict in assessment and collection.

I believe that there may be some mistakes in assessment and collection. The list of professional tax payers is very lengthy containing many names. So some may be assessed twice for a particular year even after they have already paid it as pointed out by Pu Sapliana. Even if there are such cases, the assesses can produce the receipts showing that they had already paid it.

Regarding arrear, I cannot mention the names of individuals who do not yet pay the tax. Many of us including the hon. Members of this House may also have to pay the arrears of the tax.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr.Speaker Sir, the position of M.L.As in regard to Payment of Professional Tax was once mentioned during one of the previous sessions. It was stated that Membership of the Legislature is not a profession. I think it is unnecessary and take it as insulting to mention the non-payment of the tax by the M.L.As.

I also want to raise a supplementary Question. Collection of the tax in Chhintuipui District, as asked by Pu Sapliana, is a very important question. The Minister stated that the District Councils requested that the tax for the period from January 1972 to the date of upgradation of the Regional Councils to District Councils in April 1972, may be collected by the Council for their own funds and accordingly they were allowed to collect. The Act of the then Mizo District Council concerning Professional Tax covers the whole of the then Mizo District including the area of the then Regional Councils. So, legally it is the Govt. of Mizoram that took over all the powers, assets and liabilities of the then Mizo District Council, that can collect the tax for the relevant period in Chhintuipui District. According to the Act, other agencies or bodies can be allowed to collect the tax for its own Fund. Under what provision were the District Councils allowed to collect the tax for their own funds ?

According to the Act the District Council (now the Govt. of Mizoram) can authorise officers to collect the tax on its behalf. Can the Minister produce that authority letter issued by the Government ?

PU LALH LINGTHANGA: Mr.Speaker Sir, under the 20 Point Economic Programme the taxable amount of income has been raised so that lower income group may be exempted from the tax. Do the Govt. of Mizoram propose to raise the taxable limit ? If so, what is the figure proposed ?

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the present three District Councils passed Acts for collection of Professional tax as they are empowered by the 6th Schedule to the Constitution. The Acts are not yet published in the Gazette as they are not yet approved by the Government. I want to know the reasons why these Acts are not notified in the Gazette. I also want to know how the record is maintained. Some businessmen who started business only from last year are assessed to pay the tax from 1972. How is this? Is not the record maintained properly? How can there be double assessment for the same year? How the amount collected are credited into the Government's account? Is it not more convenient to ask the tax payers to deposit the tax into the Govt. account in the bank or in the Treasury by themselves than to collect the tax in cash?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Pu Lalruata mentioned about Members not paying the Professional tax as insulting. I do not think it is insulting.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I raised a question in the House during a Session some time in 1974 as to whether M.L.As. are to pay professional tax or not. The then Minister i/c Revenue clarified that M.L.As are not to pay the tax.

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, this is a controversial thing, it is true. Although membership of the Assembly is not a profession, the professional tax, according to the Act, is to be assessed "From all sources of income" of a person. Our Law Department are of the opinion that the M.L.As are to pay the tax. We also enquired whether M.L.As are exempted from payment of the tax. In the neighbouring States like Assam the M.L.As also pay the tax. So our conclusion is that our Members are also to pay the tax.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Did the Govt. give us notice to pay the tax? How can we be blamed for not paying the tax if we are not given notice to pay?

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, only now it is clarified that we are to pay!

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, If Demand Notice is not yet given to the hon. Members, it will be necessary to prepare it.

As regards Pu Sapliana's point, if there are double assessment for the same year, it will be unintentional, and it must be corrected.

As the tax is collected in cash, it is deposited into the Treasury. Receipts are also given to the tax payers. If there are instances of the taxes collected not being deposited into the Treasury, the fact may please be made known to the Govt. which will be welcome.

I do not know if the Acts of the Dist. Councils for collection of Professional Tax were not approved and not notified in the Gazette. What I know is that the District Councils requested us to allow them to collect the tax in their respective areas for their own funds. If my memory fails me not, we allowed them to collect. That is the position.

Regarding the raising of the taxable income, there is a proposal to raise the taxable limit. But this is, at present, at the proposal stage. I feel it inappropriate to disclose the proposal.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Professional tax is collected on the income of a person "from all sources of income". Government servants are assessed on the basis of their pay and allowances. It is correct because it is income. Contractors are assessed on the basis of their own money for works and their profits form only part of their bills. So, it is unjust to assess them on the basis of their bills.

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, there are no other better ways but to calculate the income of the contractors from their bills, if we are not going to rely on what a person himself declares to be his annual income. Their own declarations are unreliable to some extent. If we assess them at a rough guess, it is equally unjust as assessing them on the basis of their bills.

SPEAKER: Question No. 6.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

Dropping of Schemes drawn by Block Development Committee.

*6: PU LALKUNGA: Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of Community Development be pleased to state -

Whether it is a fact that scheme chalked out by the Block Development Committees within the fund allotted to them have been dropped by the Directorate of Community Development ?

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PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Yes, there are instances when the schemes are changed due to defects in the Schemes. Some Block Development Committees draw schemes beyond the limit of funds allotted to them. Such unworkable schemes are amended in the headquarters.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, while allotting funds to the Development Blocks, the Govt. give the guide lines for which the funds are to be utilised. The Block Development Committees are the Committees framed by the Government in which M.L.A.s are also included as members of the Committees. We draw up schemes within the funds allotted by the Govt. for a Block and according to the guide lines given by the Government, But the Ministers, while touring the interior areas used to divert the funds of one Block to another Block. They also sanctioned grants in contradiction to the schemes drawn by Block Development Committees. I want to know the amount spent for other purpose than those schemes approved by the Block Development Committees. I want to know also whether the Directorate of C.D. dropped the schemes approved by the Block or not. Will the Government revive such schemes which could not be implemented due to diversion of funds or dropping of the schemes, if such cases are made known to the Government ?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the figures of cases of diversion of funds and dropping of schemes approved by the B.D.C. are not known to me personally. If the Govt. is apprised of such cases, it will be considered.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, It is said that the schemes are dropped because they are defective or unworkable. If so, did the Govt. give them detailed instruction so that the schemes are prepared correctly ? Secondly, the B.D.C. are framed by the Govt. If the Govt. do not attend to their recommendations, what is the use of having the Committees ?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Block Development Committees are given only guidelines for drawing the annual schemes of the Blocks concerned but the details are left to them. The detailed schemes made by some B.D.Cs are not good, for example- the scheme made by the B.D.C. of Sangau Block includes purchase of Tape-Recorder, Camera Box and running Trophy exceeding greatly the funds allotted to the Block. Purchase of the above materials is considered not necessary and not acceptable. In some Blocks, the Committees recommend construction of Badminton Courts. In our opinion, in the far flung areas Football or Hockey is more important than Badminton. Such unnecessary items have to be replaced by more important and urgent needs of the people. (Pu C. Lalruata: Then, what is the use of having B.D.Cs ? Is it not more convenient if the Directorate prepares the schemes of the Blocks ?).

Mr. Speaker, from headquarters, it is difficult to know the special needs of each Block. The B.D.C. knows better the needs of the area of the Block. It is more convenient to draw final conclusion on their suggestions. But we must remember that all the B.D.Cs can draw schemes efficiently. The schemes prepared by the B.D.Cs have to be scrutinised at the headquarters and it is necessary that the schemes of some B.D.Cs are dropped or replaced. Here, at the State Level we have Planning Committee. All the proposals of the State Planning Committee are never accepted by the Planning Commission in toto.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, Whether the B.D.Cs are appointed by the Govt. or the proposal made by the Block level officers for membership of the Committee are approved by the Government.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, they are appointed by the Government.
MINISTER.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is there any material like electric guitar, microphone set etc granted to individual artist ?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, such materials are not given out of the fund of Development Department. Some times they are given out from the fund of Social Education Department. They are not included in the scheme of C.D. Department.
MINISTER.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, if they are given to individual artists from C.D. Fund, does it mean that they are given out in contravention of the rules ?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not say that it is against the rules to give such materials to individual artists from C.D. Blocks. I only say that they are not included in the schemes. If necessary the funds can be adjusted to meet the special needs of some areas.
MINISTER.

SPEAKER: Question No. 7.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Village Council in Thlawhbawk.

*7: PU VANLALHNUAIA: Will the hon'ble Minister i/c of Local Administration Department be pleased to state -

(a) Is it a fact that the Govt. propose to give Village Councils to some Thlawhbawk ?

(b) If so, what are the names of the Thlawhbawk ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) Yes.
DY. MINISTER. (b) It will not be appropriate to disclose the list which are under consideration. One case has been finalised i.e. Kelkang which will be given Village Councils and the election is to be held soon ?

PU VANLALIRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, even if the Minister cannot disclose the names of places are proposed to have Village Councils, can he tell us the number ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, 70 cases are being considered.
DY. MINISTER.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

SPEAKER: Question hour is over. As provided for under Rule 10 of our Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I appoint Pu C. Lalruata, Pu R. Dotinaia, Pu L.P. Thangzika and Pu Vanlalhruaia to be the Panel of Chairmen.

PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Our next item is announcement of the report of the Business Advisory Committee (He reads out the Report). I hope all the members received the copy of the Calendar for the Session. Now, I shall call upon the Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs to move that the Report be adopted.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that the Report of the B.A.C. be adopted.
MINISTER.

SPEAKER: Can we approve it. (Members: Yes). Now the B.A.C. report is adopted.

Our next item is Rules Committee Report. (He reads the introduction.) I will read the provision of Rule 248(1) of our R.P.C. & B (He reads it). Under Rule 248(1) the recommendation of the Rules Committee shall be laid on the Table of the House and within a period of 7 (seven) days beginning from today any member may give notice of any amendment to the recommendation of the Committee. If notice of any amendment is received within this period the procedure laid down in Rule 248(1) will be followed. If no notice of amendment is received within this period the recommendation of the Committee shall be deemed to have been approved by the House and the amendment to Rule 201 shall come into force as laid down in sub-rule (3) and (4) of Rule 248.

Our next item is introduction of Government Bill. Now let the Minister i/c beg leave to introduce the Mizoram General Clauses Bill, 1976.

(19)

INTRODUCTION OF THE MIZORAM GENERAL CLAUSES BILL, 1976:

PU LALSANGZUALA:
MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg leave to
introduce the Mizoram General Clauses
Bill, 1976. Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Minister begs leave to introduce
the Bill. Can you grant leave.
(Members: Yes.) Now, the Secretary
will read the title of the Bill. (Secretary reads the title
of the Bill). Let the Minister introduce the Bill.

PU LALSANGZUALA:
MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, With your permission
I beg to introduce the Mizoram
General Clauses Bill, 1976.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Bill is introduced. But in
accordance with the provisions of
our rules, it should not be considered
today itself. Consideration will be put off till tomorrow.

tomorrow.

The House is adjourned till 10:30 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 A.M.

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