

PROCEEDINGS (ENGLISH) OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE  
MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL  
FROM 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER TO 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 1976.

4TH SITTING ON 24TH SEPTEMBER, 1976. AT 10:30 A.M.

Pu Vaivenga, Speaker in the Chair, Chief Minister, Six  
Ministers and twenty four members.

BUSINESS

1. Questions.
2. Presentation of Report:  
Pu J. Thanghuama, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee to  
present the Second (Special) Report of the Committee.
3. Private Members' Resolutions  
(A list showing Private Members' Resolutions has been  
circulated vide para 18 of Bulletin Part II dated  
18.9.'76 and para 20 of Bulletin Part II dated 21.9.'76).

SPEAKER: Now, we will take question No. 78

APPOINTMENT 'A' DEPARTMENT

Term of deputation of Secretary, Law and Judicial.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble  
Minister i/c Law and Judicial Deptt.  
be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether the deputation terms of Secretary, Law and  
Judicial expired ?
- (b) Whether there is any intention to create the post of  
Deputy Secretary ?
- (c) Total No. of sanctioned posts of Under Secretary in  
Law and Judicial Deptt ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir,  
(a) Yes. On 15.9.1976.  
(b) Yes.  
(c) 2(Two).

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question-  
If the deputation term of Secretary, Law  
and Judicial expired on 15.9.76, who replaced him ?.

PU CH. CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, we are now looking for  
new Secretary but we have not yet found  
one.

.....2/-

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question- Are there no qualified persons that the two posts of Under Secretary in Law and Judicial are lying vacant whereas the Deptt. faces shortage of staff ?. Is there any intention to fill up these two posts mentioned above?.

PU CH.CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, I am sorry I did not mean to say that there are two vacant posts of Under Secretary in Law and Judicial Deptt. What I mean to say is that there are two sanctioned posts of Under Secretary in the Deptt. one of which is now lying vacant on the ground that Pu Malsawma, the then Under Secretary got promotion.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, perhaps my question was not clear enough. So, let me repeat it. If the post of Law Secretary is lying vacant, who officiates in his place?. Is it a fact that Under Secretary officiated for the Secretary at the moment or that no one officiates in his place ?.

PU CH.CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, of the two Under Secretaries, in the Deptt., one got promotion due to which one post of Under Secretary is lying vacant. As for Secretary- we are still looking for qualified persons to fill up this vacant post.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, who is officiating Secretary at present?.

PU CH.CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, there is none who officiates as Law Secretary at present.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, is it a fact that the deputation term of Law Secretary expired on 15.9.76. Did the Secretary avail himself long leave before his term expired ?.

PU CH. CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, it is a fact that he availed leave before his term expired. It was the intention of the Govt. that if we could not find qualified person as Secretary Law and Judicial at the moment, we will extend the deputation term of the present Law Secretary, by 4/5 months. But, when he availed himself long leave more than the number of days leave granted to him, we have another thought that is not to extend his term. Thus, his term is not extended.

.....3/-

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, still I am not satisfied. As Pu Ruata has said, Secretary Law was away from the office for a long time. It is understood that if he is to be away for sometime, he must hand over charge to one of his subordinates. If not, all the office works have to be stopped there and then, for, all the files have to go through the Secretary. So, if he did not hand over charge to anyone, what had become of the office files? Are they kept pending? It is a surprise that no one officiated in his place during his long absence.

PU CH.CHHUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, I think you have not asked  
CHIEF MINISTER about taking charge. The Secretary should have handed over charge to one of the officers who was not to go on leave during those days.

SPEAKER: Question No. 79

HOME DEPARTMENT:

Proposal to bring back D.S.Ps.

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

(a) Has the Government of Mizoram any intention to bring back those 6 D.S.Ps recruited to the service of Mizoram Police?

(b) If so, when ?

PU CH.CHHUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir,  
CHIEF MINISTER (a) Yes, if the hon'ble member means those 6 probationary Deputy Superintendents of Police directly recruited to the service of Mizoram Police who are now under going practical training in West Bengal.

(b) February, 1977.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, our hon'ble Chief Minister mentioned about the D.S.Ps who were sent to undergo training in W. Bengal. It is not a fact that they have completed the course of their training in W. Bengal and are now in Mt. Abu and Rajasthan to undergo probationary training ?

PU CH.CHHUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, the training they undergo is practical training and the Senior officers are instructors.  
CHIEF MINISTER

PU LALKUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, how was training given to the D.S.Ps in question before they were sent to the W. Bengal? Were they sent to W. Bengal on presumption without first learning the facts about the course of their training ?

If these D.S.Ps are sent for 6 months training, has the term expired?

And is it because there are no senior officers in the Mizoram Police Deptt. to give practical training to our D.S.Ps that they are sent elsewhere whereas there is scope for practical training within Mizoram itself?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, they have been trained for more than 6 months. In case of D.S.Ps who were despatched to Kutch Bihar and Darjeeling- training programmes for a year or less were chalked out for them. However, I think the matter should be reconsidered.

In regard to Pu Lalkunga's question- I hope no one minds my saying this that the Police Organisation in Mizoram is not yet satisfactory to conduct practical training. It is still far behind other states as far as organisation is concerned in addition to: shortage of staff particularly officers in the Deptt.

SPEAKER: Question No 80.

AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT  
Total output from W.C.R.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Agriculture Deptt. be pleased to state-  
(a) The total output from the Wet Rice Cultivation during 1975.

(b) The area in acreage and the expenditure.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir,  
(a) Report on the total output from the Wet Rice Cultivation during 1975 is not readily available.

(b) Area - 5464 acres or 2185.6 ha

PU C. LALRUATA:

Mr Speaker Sir, our hon'ble Minister stated about non-availability of report on the total output from wet rice cultivation during 1975. Does this mean that the Agriculture Deptt. never maintain statistical data for his thing?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, we do not have statistical report on the output from the wet rice cultivation in 1975 or in any other years.

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr Speaker Sir, our hon'ble Minister has replied question no 2(b) which is in regard to the expenditure incurred for wet rice cultivation. I would also like to know acre of land reclaimed district-wise.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, the total expenditure incurred for reclamation of 5464 acres is Rs 33,62,075/-.

The total area of land reclaimed district-wise is as follows-  
Aizawl District - 8241  
Lunglei District - 1265  
Chhimituipui District - 1147.

PU C. LALRUATA:

Mr Speaker Sir, is there any Information Wing or Branch in Agriculture Deptt?

We know that the Deptt. do maintain report on the total output from W.R.C during 1975. But, have they kept report on the total output from Hill and Dry Terraces and Jhum cultivations during the previous years of 1973 and 74?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, there was no such information wing in Agriculture Deptt. Even when information is collected, the Village

Council Presidents submit their reports to the Deputy Commissioner not to Agriculture Deptt.

PU C. LALRUATA:

Mr Speaker Sir, is there any Information Wing or Branch in Agriculture Deptt?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, yes, there is Information Wing in Agriculture Deptt. But, this branch/wing deals mainly with

publication of pamphlets, magazines, posters and other necessary informations in connection with cultivations.

PU C. LALRUATA:

Mr Speaker Sir, it seems that the Deptt. used to have some targets in reclamation of land. Do they also have target in

yearly output from various systems of cultivations or that they do not intend to have any products from areas they have reclaimed?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, owing to diverse systems of cultivation, it is quite difficult to have definite target as far as

Mizoram is concerned. In the previous years, it was quite meaningless to have target while various system of cultivations were adopted. However, as the people are more advanced these days even in their method of cultivation, I think we should now have some targets.

.....6/-

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, what is the reclamation rate per acre? And since when Agriculture Deptt. do not have target and they do not maintain achievement record? In previous years, I think they use to have target and achievement reports of annual, quarterly and monthly. If Information Wing does not have such informations, it means that the Govt. employed them for no work.   
 basis.

PU VANLALHRUAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, we know that the total area of land brought under Land Reclamation all over Mizoram is 5464 acres. But how many more areas have yet to be reclaimed? Is there any proper record book maintained for this?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, as I have told you earlier the total expenditure for reclamation of 5464 acres of land is Rs 33,62,075/-.

MINISTER I think the members know better how to calculate the rate of reclamation per acre from the total expenditure. It must be about Rs 66/- per acre.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, have not Govt. fixation of reclamation rate?

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, according to Govt's fixation rate, it is Rs 550/- per acre on an average. However, for the 5464 acres of area we have reclaimed, the rate must be around Rs 615/- per acre as there was some additional work like minor irrigations.

As regards Pu Dotinaia's question - I do not know since when the Agriculture Deptt. do not have target or the time when they have target. During the years 1974-75, 1975-76 they did not have.

I do not know how far it is true, but according to our record book, about 8465 acres of land were reclaimed before the 5th Five Year Plan with 52700 hectares which have yet to be reclaimed.

PU SANGCHHUM: Mr Speaker Sir, has the Govt. intention to do reclamation work more carefully in future, for, according to information received from Chhimituipui District, houses and equipments were reclaimed instead of reclaiming lands.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, Govt. is intending to do reclamation work more carefully in future.

MINISTER  
SPEAKER: Now, question No. 81.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT:

Functioning of Mizoram Board of Education.

.....7/-

- PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Education Deptt. be pleased to state-
- (a) When the Mizoram Board of Secondary Education will start functioning officially ?
- (b) Whether any appointment has been made for any officers of the same Board ?.

- PU THANSANGA: Mr Speaker Sir,  
MINISTER
- (a) The Mizoram Board of Secondary Education as such is not yet started functioning. But, efforts are being made to start functioning of the Mizoram Board of Education (for which an Act has been passed) within the current financial year.
- (b) No.

SPEAKER: Question No. 82.

SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

Post of M.V.I

- PU LALHMINGTHANGA: Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Supply and Transport Deptt. be please to state -
- (a) Whether only one post of M.V.I for the whole of Mizoram is considered adequate ?.
- (b) If not, is there any proposal to appoint more M.V.Is ?.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir,  
MINISTER

(a) No.  
(b) Propposal for creation of one addl. post of M.V.I was made to Finance Deptt. which turned down the proposal on the ground that there was no budget provision for the post. However, Finance Deptt. is being requested to provide funds in the Revised Estimate 1976-77 for this post.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question - the number of vehicles registered under Mizoram Govt. is more than 1400 and we can believe that there will be more. Yet, to give fitness to these vehicles, there is only one M.V.I. It is well understood that only one M.V.I is not enough to take charge of more than thousand vehicles. As we all know, vehicle is not permitted to ply without fitness certificate and this certificate has great importance especially in time of accidents. So, is there any intention to create more posts of M.V.I ?.

R.

R.DOTINAIA :

Mr Speaker Sir, Since when the govt. realized inadequacy of only one MVI and when was proposal made for the creation of another post of MVI ?

PU LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER:.

Mr Speaker Sir, it is a fact that Govt. is intending to create additional post of MVI, and the proposal was finalised at the beginning of the current financial year.

SPEAKER:

Question No 83

HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING DEPTT.

Construction of buildings for Primary Health Centres.

PU LALKUNGA:

Mr Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Health and Family Planning Deptt. be pleased to state:-

How many buildings for Primary Health Centres have been completed by PWD, since January 1976 ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA  
DY. MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, 1 (one)

PU VANLA LHRUAIA:-

Mr Speaker Sir, Is there any difficulty or PWD take their own sweet time that only one building has been completed?

PU PB.NIKHUMA  
DY. MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, It is not because of PWD's slowness that only one building for Primary Health Centre is completed. This building is fairly completed with staff quarter etc. The construction of Health Centre buildings for Biate, Lawngtlai & Saitual has almost been completed. Of the ten Primary Health Centres we have in Mizoram, the construction of building for NGopa, Mamit, Buarpui & Tuipang Centres has not yet been started



because of the Central Govt.'s instruction not to start construction of buildings for the ten centres all at once.

SPEAKER:- Question No 84.

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

FOREST PLANTATION AREA ALLOTTED FOR HOUSE SITE

PU SAPLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Forest Deptt. be pleased to state-

(a) Whether it is a fact that Forest Plantation area in Bethlehem Veng has been handed over to Revenue Deptt. for allotment of House site etc?

(b) If so, since when ?

(c) If not, is there any such proposal ?

(d) What is the actual expenditure incurred so far in looking after the said plantation area during the said period from 1972 to June 1976 (year wise).

PU ZALAWMA  
DY. MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir,

(a) No. The Plantation area below Armed Police Veng has not been handed over to Revenue Deptt.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There was a proposal for handing over of some portion of the area to Revenue Deptt.

(d) 1972- Nil, 1973- Rs 4,626/-, 1974- Rs 9,497/-, 1975- Rs 7,730/-  
1976 upto June- Rs 879/-

PU SAPLIANA:- Mr Speaker Sir, Supplementary question-  
Why there is proposal for handing over some portions of Plantation area which had been reserved for such purpose since the time of the erstwhile District Council to Revenue Deptt.? What kind of plantation is there in this area? Is it rubber plantation or any other plantation? How many rubber plants are there ?

PU ZALAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, Area which we intend to  
DY.MINISTER: hand over to Revenue Deptt. is lying below Armed Police Veng. We have reason for this. This plantation area is a wide stretch of land which makes proper fencing impossible due to which domesticated animals reared by the people living nearby areas destroy the young plants in addition to damage caused by human beings. Besides this, there are many persons who have no house site in Aizawl Town. These are the main reasons why there was proposal for handing over the area to Revenue Deptt. Had there been no difficulty in maintaining and protecting the whole area we would not give away even a single portion to Revenue Deptt. (Pu C. Lalruata - Mr Speaker Sir, Of the whole area, we know that some portions can be and are being protected. What our member wants to know is the number of plants planted in the protected area). It is quite difficult to know the exact number of plants planted here. I only know that there are some. (Pu C. Lalruata - Mr Speaker Sir, what is the total area which has to be given away ?) I do not know the total area of this forest plantation. The area includes all the places lying below Armed Police Veng upto the banks of Chitelui. Area which we intend to give to Revenue Deptt. is northern side of plantation area below Armed Police Veng Field, practically Dawrpui Veng area.

PU NGURDAWLA:- Mr Speaker Sir, how will the Deptt. give away some portions ?

PU ZALAWMA Mr Speaker Sir, area that cannot be  
DY.MINISTER:- protected and maintained is to be given

away Demarcation of plantation area is now being conducted.

PU NGURDAWLA:- Mr Speaker Sir, is it not that notice has to be given first to slice out reserved plantation area ?

PU SAPLIANA:- Mr Speaker Sir, how would they slice out some portions without knowing the total area that has to be sliced out ? I want the Minister to lay on the table of the House the total area of Bethlehem Veng plantation within this session.

It is obvious that there is nothing to see in this forest plantation, yet, so much money is used every year for its maintenance. If they cannot maintain even with large amount of money, why do they not give away all the areas for house sites etc ?

PU ZALAWM : Mr Speaker Sir, I request the Members to  
DY. MINISTER: understand me. I cannot answer your question because demarcation of Area has to be maintained and area that has to be sliced out is not yet finalized. However, I hope I would be able to lay what you wanted to know on the table of the House during the current session. As suggested by Pu Sapliana, in a way, it might be better to give away the total area to Revenue Deptt.

As regards PU Hgurawla's question - afforestation of areas lying below Armed Police Veng extending to Bethlehem Veng has been notified. Even if some portions are to be sliced out, it will be done at Departmental level. I think there won't be much difficulty in demarcation of plantation area and portions which have to be sliced out officially if it is done at departmental level.

SPEAKER : Question No 85

HOME DEPARTMENT

HOME DEPARTMENT

CONSTRUCTION OF POLICE BUILDINGS

PU SAPLIANA:- Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Political Deptt. be pleased to state-

(a) Is it a fact that there is a proposal for construction of buildings for Police Thana Officer's quarters and Barracks for other ranks at Lawngtlai, Chawngte, Borapansuri and Vaseitlang ?

(b) If so, what progress has been made ?

(c) If not, why not ?

PU CH.CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER:- Mr Speaker Sir,

(a) There is a proposal for construction of Inspectors' quarters and Constables' quarter at Lawngtlai, Chawngte, Borapansuri and Vaseitlang.

(b) Works yet to be started.

(c) Certain formalities like handing over the sites to PWD, preparation of plan and estimates etc are being completed, and the works are expected to start soon.

SPEAKER:- Question No 86

AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

DEPARTMENT.

PAYMENT FOR LAND RECLAMATION

PU C.LALRUATA :- Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Deptt. be pleased to state-

(a) Is it a fact that the Deptt. could not make payment to those who were given work order for land reclamation and whose works were measured during 1975-76.

(b) If so, what are the reasons ?

PU CH.SAPRAWNGA : Mr Speaker Sir,  
MINISTER :

(a) Yes

(b) The reason was that during last working season land reclamation works were taken up more than is permitted by the financial provision of the budget.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, the people of which areas were not given permit ?

PU CH.SAPRAWNGA:- Mr Speaker Sir, at the beginning of the working season, reclamation works worth Rs 8,24,683/- was being undertaken on credit in various places.

SPEAKER:- Question No 87

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

CONSTRUCTION MOTORABLE ROAD FROM LAWNGTLAI TO PARVA

PU SAPLIANA:- Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c PWD. be pleased to state-

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is a proposal for construction of a motorable road from Lawngtlai to Parva via Chandur area in Chhintuipui Dist.

(b) If so, what is the present position ?

(c) If not, why ?

(d) Is there any proposal for handing over the said road to any other agencies ?

PU LALSANGZUALA      Mr Speaker Sir,  
MINISTER :

(a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is yet to be finally approved by the Govt. of India.

(c) Does not arise

(d) Yes, there is a proposal to entrust the execution of the work to I.R.D.B.

PU SAPLIANA:              Mr Speaker Sir, will P.W.D. also take up the construction work of this road ?

PU LALSANGZUALA      Mr Speaker Sir, two agencies will not  
MINISTER;              take up the same work. One of them will be entrusted to undertake the work.

SPEAKER:--              Question No 88

SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT DEPTT.

ACTUAL COST OF G.C.I. SHEETS

PU SAPLIANA:              Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Supply and Transport Deptt. be pleased to state -

What has been the actual cost of G.C.I Sheets per bundle during the period from

period from 1972 to June 1976 (year wise) ?

PU LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER;

Mr Speaker Sir,

<u>Year</u>	<u>Rate of per bundle</u>
1972 ...	... Rs 248.51
1973 ...	... Rs Nil
1974 ...	... Rs 423.00
1975 ...	(i) Rs 678.90
1976 ...	(ii)Rs 613.11
1976 upto June	Rs 613.11

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to know the reason why the consignment rate of G.C.I. Sheets increased immensely in the year 1975 and 1976.

PU LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER;

Mr Speaker Sir, the cost of G.C.I sheets is increased year to year. Due to transit loss of some bundles, the consignment rate was increased in 1975.

SPEAKER:-

Question No 89

HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING DEPTT.

CASES OF MALARIA DETECTED

PU LALKUNGA:

Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Health and Family Planning Deptt. be pleased to state -

How many cases of Malaria have been detected since January 1976 till July 1976 ?

PU PB.NIKHUMA  
DY.MINISTER :

Mr Speaker Sir, 7020 cases

SPEAKER:..

Question No 90

TONSIL OPERATION THEATRE AT AIZAWL CIVIL HOSPITAL

PU LALKUNGA:

Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Health and Family Planning be pleased to state -

Is it a fact that Govt. will open Tonsil Operation Theatre with full equipments at the Aizawl Civil Hospital ?

PU PB.NIKHUMA  
DY.MINISTER:

Mr Speaker Sir, at present, there is no such intention.

PU LALKUNGA: -

Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to know the reason why the Govt. could not open such Theatre I have mentioned in Aizawl Civil Hospital. And why don't they have intention to open such for the people have to go to Durtlang Hospital for tonsil operation spending much money which the poorer section of the people could hardly afford ?

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr Speaker Sir, Is it a fact that Govt. purchased equipments for tonsil operation? If yes, for what purpose they purchased if they have no intention to open operation Theatre ?

PU PB.NIKHUMA  
DY.MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, In my answer, I have stated the intention of the Govt. not to open Tonsil Operation Theatre. It is because we feel that there is no necessity at present to open separate Tonsil Operation Theatre. The operation Theatre we now have in Aizawl Civil Hospital



can as well be used for tonsil operation.

As regards Pu Sapliana's question - it is a fact that the Govt. purchased equipments for tonsil operation.

I would also like to tell our members that tonsil operation can be done in Aizawl Civil Hospital even now. But, Durtlang Hospital, having better experience in tonsil operation, people who want their tonsils operated mostly go there although it can be done in Aizawl Civil Hospital.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, since when tonsil operation can be done at Aizawl Civil Hospital? Is there any specialist for such operation?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA  
DY.MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, I cannot say the exact date since Tonsil operation can be done at Aizawl Civil Hospital. Equipments were purchased last year. As we have not yet had Specialist for this kind of operation, we feel that there is no hurry in conducting Tonsil operation in this Hospital.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker Sir, how many cases of tonsil have been operated at Aizawl Civil Hospital during the current year?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA  
DY.MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, I am sorry that I do not know the number of cases of tonsil operated during the current year. As I have said before most of the people go to Durtlang Hospital for tonsil operation.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, as there is no announcement, nobody seems to know that Aizawl Civil Hospital can do tonsil operation. During evidence, we even enquired from the Deptt. whether or not they can do tonsil operation. They said that they cannot or dare not do so

as there is no specialist doctor for tonsil operation. As such do Govt. intend to send Specialist Doctor to Aizawl Civil Hospital to perform tonsil operation? Do they also intend to send persons to undergo training in tonsil surgery?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA

DY.MINISTER:

Mr Speaker Sir, Govt. have intention to send persons to undergo specialization course in ENT. As there is difficulty in getting admission at All India Medical Institute, Delhi we are now havin negotiation with Chandigarh Medical Institute.

we are now considering whether we will employ specialists offered to us.

SPEAKER:

Question hour is over. We will now proceed to our next item which is presentation of report of P.A.C. Our P.A.C. Chairman may kindly present the report now.

PU J.THANGHUAMA:

Mr Speaker Sir, I the chairman of P.A.C. having been authorized by the Committee to present the report on its behalf, present this Second Special Report on para 16 Rural Water Supply Scheme relating specially to Durtlang and Sihphir Water Supply Schemes contained in the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1973-74 which was laid on the table of the House on 7th Nov. 1975

Thank You.

SPEAKER:

Since report has been submitted, let me tell you one parliamentary practice although there is no hard and fast rule written for it. Generally, the Govt. have to inform the Committee actions they have taken on the recommendations contained in the report within three months after its submission. It has been six months since First Report of the Committee was submitted. That was during the last budget Session.

It is learnt that the Depts. concerned have also taken some actions. It seems however that they have not yet submitted their report to the Committee.

As reported, the P.A.C during on the spot verification found some irregularities in Durtlang and Sihphir Water Supply Schemes. The Minister-in-charge is not present today, I would request the Minister whom he authorised, to inform the Committee actions which have taken in regard to this Water Supply Scheme before 24th December, 1976 which means he still has 3 months to collect information.

It may be noted that P.A.C is one of the most important committees. As such it will be necessary to pay heed to their reports and recommendations. Our next item is Private Members' Resolution. As provided under rule 125, resolutions we have are all balloted. We will now take Pu Sangkhuma's resolution which is the first in the Ballot list.

( Pu Sangkhuma was absent).

If he is not present, we will take Pu Dotinaia's resolution.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that you allowed me to move my resolution in the House today. This is my resolution:  
" This Assembly is of the opinion that the Govt. of Mizoram should purchase the produces of cash crops namely Ginger, Haldi etc. at reasonable prices at different Grouping Centres to uplift the economy of Mizoram within the next financial year".

I think we all know the importance of this resolution even from its wording alone. If the Government launch large-scale purchase of cash crops at Grouping Centres where motor road penetrates, the economic condition of the people will greatly be lifted up.

In looking back to the past years while Mizoram was still under the Autonomous District Council, we might remember that there was speedy progress and almost all the important Villages were connected by Jeep road. There was also means for easy disposal of one's own products. But, since disturbances broke out in 1966, the economic condition of Mizoram has greatly sunk down.

On security reason, people cannot settle where they want to settle and they could not have jhums in fertile areas. Curfew was imposed everynow and then which greatly slackens the pace of development besides hampering the daily routine work of the people. As jhums and fields can not properly tended to, there was no good or proper harvest due to which the economic condition of the country greatly suffers. Poverty prevails everywhere, beggars and robbers which we have never had before were to be found. Our belles have to sell their bodies in order to earn a living. To sum up the conditions of Mizoram after disturbances broke out, we may say that there was no freedom of movement, speech and of living. Barring the Govt. servants and contractors, 80 % of population in Mizoram were still depending on Agriculture. Owing to the prevailing circumstances, there was failure of crops everywhere. However, after the formation of U.T in 1972, the economic condition of Mizoram became slightly better. Larger amount of money was sanctioned by Central Govt. for the development of the country which greatly encourages the people to take vigorous steps for the improvement of their economy. Plantation and cultivation of various cash crops were being encouraged. Last year, cash crops yielded by the people were purchased by the Co-operation Deptt. which stirs their mind to grow more cash crops. Actually, this was only the beginning. The people do not have to be told the kind of crops they would grow or fertile areas where they would grow crops. The main difficulty is marketing for their products. In view of the quantity of ginger seed distributed to the people, it is expected that there will be high yielding of ginger in a few years. Co-operative Deptt. alone may not be in a position to purchase all the yieldings as there are other high yielding cash crops besides ginger. As such, Govt. would do well in establishing Trade and Commerce Department to purchase and to dispose of these cash crops in wider markets. If not, they might do well in enlarging the establishment of Agriculture Department. If the people are assured that there will be good market for their products, they will have more enthusiasm for hard work. Besides opening purchase centres, we might also do well in allocating Machine Processing Units or Industries, for, the time may come when CO-operative Department could no longer purchase all the cash crops yielded by the people.

.....21/-

We have often heard and talked about E.G.S sponsored by the Central Govt. to offer employments to poorer section of the people who have no occupation to earn a living. It is a fact that many people could, for the time being, earn a living under this scheme. However, it will hardly be possible for them to depend solely on the scheme in the long run. As such, they should be encouraged to grow cash crops. We should also make them realise that in Mizoram, rice cultivation can no more be as successful as it was in the past years. Under the present circumstances, cultivation of cash crops will be more recommendable than rice cultivation if Govt. could arrange good market. Personally, I think that priority should be given to the consolidation of the economic condition of the people. Only then, other developments will take place.

As I have said before, my resolution is really important resolution as it concerns each and every person living in Mizoram. I therefore request the members to agree to pass it today.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN:  
(PU C.LALRUATA)

Well, the resolution has now been moved. Is there any member who wants to say certain things in regard to this resolution ?

PU SANGKHUMA:

Mr. Chairman, I am glad that there can be an opportunity to discuss this important resolution today. It has been since some-time back that the people want the Govt. to purchase their cash crops at reasonable price. It seems that purchase made by Co-operative Deptt. last year greatly encouraged the people to grow more cash crops for which I am thankful.

Mizoram, as we all know is fairly rich in natural vegetation. In fact, almost all varieties of crops can be grown here. It seems, however, that no one can make use of this nature's blessing to enrich Mizoram's economy, for which the people blame the Govt. while the Govt. on the other hand blames the people. As all sorts of difficulties encircled the people, everyone tries to put the blame on the other.

....22/-

Since the outbreak of disturbances, the economic condition of Mizoram has sunk very low. Our jhums could no longer yield sufficient food to meet the requirements of the people. At the same time, the people also do not have proper guidelines to improve their economic conditions. ~~While~~ our Ministers or other high ranking officers went to villages on tour, they delivered good lectures on the necessity of hard work for removal of poverty. They said that our poverty is the result of our own idleness which to some extent might be true. However, I think we should not put the blame solely on the people. Actually, they do not remain idle and we, the Mizo as a whole are not idle tribes. The fact is that we do not know where to begin or what particular crop will be grown. As such, it is not the people whom to blame, it is our leaders who fail to give proper guidance to the people in regard to agriculture. If the people are given proper instructions as to what crops they will grow, they would willingly do so. It is the responsibility of the Govt. to guide the people in the way they want them to go. Our Ministers when on tour make promises to the people and say that they would arrange employments for them. ~~So the~~ people were employed under E.G.S. as daily wage labourer. Sometimes the Ministers gave money to the people for purchase of food commodities. However, if we seriously consider what had been done by the Ministers to please the people, we may say that such easy means of earning a living led the people towards idleness. Instead of looking for permanent occupation the people who used to work as daily wage labourer are more inclined towards finding an easy means to earn a living where the work is light with Rs 10/- at the end of each day. Actually, it is the Ministers who drive them towards idleness and poverty, as they do not have definite policy for the people to follow. As the labourers do not regard the works as their own they become more and more negligent and instead of concentrating on their work, they play with each other while they yet expect to earn at least Rs 10/-. This way, they lose their dignity and lose their morals. Unless the Govt. have definite guideline for the people, our economic condition will not improve. We remember that in A.I.C.C. Meeting Food Minister said to Wheat growers that the Govt. would purchase wheat produced by them at reasonable rate. Besides having proper guidelines, the Govt. would do well in tending fertile areas where Paddy can be grown. As stated, there are many other crops that can be grown in Mizoram. Growing and tending are the roles of the people while Govt.'s role is to arrange good market for these products. Actually if the people are encouraged to grow more such crops for their occupations, it might not be necessary to often talk about E.G.S. It is the responsibility of the Govt. to arrange occupations for the people instead of driving them to depend on E.G.S. As a matter of fact, I want the Govt. to stop sanctioning fund for E.G.S. fund if they could arrange occupations for them.

Regarding markets for the produces of our cash crops - I felt that they should find a means for wider markets. They should also try to find a means for trade and commerce with our neighbouring countries like Bangladesh and Burma. Have they taken steps in this regard ?

I once again want to thank the Chairman for allowing me to deliver speech on this resolution. I hope that we will all agree to pass the resolution today.

CH. SAPRAWNGA  
MINISTER:

Mr Speaker Sir, let me say a few things before the Minister stands up.

I first of all would like to say that I am going to oppose the resolution moved by Pu Dotinaia, for, I found no good reasons to support it as there is no clear cut policy or idea in it.

In his resolution, Pu Dotinaia said that he wants the Govt. to purchase cash crops from the people at reasonable rate. Yet, he did not mention who would fix reasonable rate or the rate which he thinks reasonable or which others think reasonable. If we pass such an ill defined resolution, we will again blame the Govt. Cash crops he advertised are Ginger, Haldi etc. But, there is no market for Haldi and spices outside Mizoram. It is not that Govt. is not making effort to dispose of Haldi and Spices yielded by our people, but, no one wants to buy it. As such at what price the Govt. would purchase such cash crops from the people and what will become of them if the Govt. do not know where to dispose them of. I think Ginger is the only crop which has market at present. As far as Haldi and Spices are concerned, Govt. cannot as yet make large scale purchase as there is no market for them outside Mizoram. Hence, I cannot accept Pu Dotinaia's suggestion to purchase these cash crops from the people while we do not even know who would determine the rate.

Secondly, I found this resolution impracticable, for I have never known a Govt. or a State who readily purchase any cash crop yielded by their people.

Our opposition member said that at A.I.C.C. meeting the Food Minister promised wheat growers that the Govt. will purchase their yields. Yet, wheat, rice and any staple food are quite different from cash crops you have mentioned. These are not cash crops, They are staple food

when staple food growers have surplus yieldings Govt. used to buy them at supporting price to prevent low rate selling in local market. As such, Govt. do not ordinarily have large scale purchase of cash crops.

As for Ginger, there is and has been good market for it. However, due to transport difficulty we have some difficulty. But, our Govt. in co-operation with NAFET made efforts which makes thing easier for Ginger growers to sell their yieldings at reasonable rate. At present, Govt. purchase rate is Rs 125/- per quintal. But, as we do not know whether our Ginger can be sold at higher rate in Calcutta Market it is hardly possible to take risk in launching large scale purchase from our growers. This is one of the reasons why I cannot support this resolution.

Another reason for not supporting this resolution is that I think our member missed his main target. He said that the people would be more encouraged to grow cash crops instead of rice which I can never accept. Mizoram, as we know is a land where majority of population depends on rice cultivation. Besides this, Paddy crops can be grown better in poor soil than cash crops. In some cases, cash crops cannot be successful in areas where paddy crops are successful. As such rice cultivation should be more encouraged, the necessity of which he himself had stated. To some extent, we should also encourage cash crops cultivation. Yet, it is rice we mostly buy with the money we acquired through cash crops. As such I cannot support our member's resolution to encourage cultivation of more cash crops than rice cultivation.

Some of our members recommended the sale of Broom. It is a fact that Mizoram is fairly rich in Broom grass. I also do not deny large scale sale of broom carried on by Meghalaya state. But, I think we should consider the troubles involved in this trade. The management is not taken up by the Govt. Co-operative Society is set up through which the sale of broom is conducted. As far as Mizoram is concerned, I don't think the people will prefer gathering broom grass which can be sold mainly at the rate of 25 paise or 15 paise a bunch to working as daily wage labourer. I feel that the matter relating to this suggestion should be re-considered.

Pu Sangkhuma made an allegation that the Agri. Minister discouraged the people to grow more Ginger



by saying that the Govt. is not bound to purchase all the Ginger yielded by the people. But, what he said was not a fact, for I never said like that. And there is no time for saying such thing. It is only this year that people began to grow more Ginger taking loan from Agriculture Department. As such, his allegation against me was not a fact. I can also believe that he misunderstood what I said. As I have said before, Ginger is the most valuable crop we have at present. But, as it causes erosion, it will be necessary to grow them in terraces. One of the disadvantages of growing Ginger is that if the people pay their attention only to Ginger plantation, they would not have rice to harvest and who would give rice to them? As we know due to bad communication many villages could not have their share of Govt's rice. As such one crop plantation/cultivation would be dangerous for Mizoram. So far as Mizoram is concerned rice cultivation should be encouraged. One may be rich in cash crops but, what is the use of them if there is no rice to purchase? In view of all the things I have said, I think our mover missed his main target in the resolution. I therefore cannot support it.

CHAIRMAN (C. LALRUATA) If our members have nothing more to say regarding our resolution we will call upon the Minister Incharge.

LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr Speaker Sir, I think our Agriculture Minister had given clear explanation regarding the resolution.

However, I would like to explain the some of the things stated by our opposition members - Pu Dotinaia and Pu Sangkhuma.

Being aware of the necessity of consolidating the economic condition, the Govt. since last year made efforts in arranging market for Mizoram Ginger through Apex Marketing Society. Procurement is being done in the current year and will also be done next year. Though Pu Dotinaia said /small quantity of Ginger, Ginger / abc purchased by the Govt. is but 11715 quintals for which Co-operative Society spent Rs 14,36,814.37. If not mistaken, almost all the quantities of Ginger yielded by the people living in Aizawl - Silchar Range were purchased by the Govt. I think Pu Dotinaia made a mistake in saying that

Agriculture Department distributed 20,000 quintals of Ginger seeds on loan. Ginger seeds distributed by Agriculture Deptt. were not even half of 20,000 quintals.

According to our calculation, the current production comes between one and one and half lakh quintals. It is also a fact that Govt. was late in making procurement which has been a good lesson to us. This year, procurement will be done from the month of December. However, due to heavy rainfall in the months of May and June, there was delay in obtaining procurement and there was also heavy loss in Co-operative Society Department.

It is a fact that Ginger has wider market than other cash crops. As stated by our Agriculture Minister, Spices, Soya beans, Millet etc are too cheap in other markets and there would hardly be profit in this. If we are willing to sell at low rate, market can be arranged.

Regarding lapse of fund mentioned by Pu Dotinaia when there is lapse of fund provided in the budget, it is not surrendered to Central Treasury. It is credited to consolidated fund which is for our use. As such there is no loss to our Govt. even when there is lapse in the budgets.

One of our difficulties in the management of cash crops is fixation of rate. Being perishable goods, rate for cash crops has to be fixed every now and then according to their market value. The year before last ginger had good market in Calcutta. So, the Govt. of Mizoram in co-operation with NAFET fixed the rate at Rs 125/- per Qtl. At this rate, Ginger was purchased from the growers. But, unfortunately the rate of ginger has gone down in Calcutta markets due to increase in the production of our neighbouring states like Meghalaya and Manipur besides North Bengal.

I think Potato business in Meghalaya was also mentioned. As stated by our Agriculture Minister Meghalaya Govt. do not take up its management. Marketing of Potato is done through Co-operative Department.

As regards the allocation of Processing Plant efforts made by the Govt. in this regard have not been successful till today. What we need is Machine for drying ginger. Kerala state export large quantity of ginger dried in the sun.

But, the same method can not be applied to Mizoram having no intense heat from the Sun. However, persons from Co-operative Society Deptt. are detailed to conduct experiment.

Being aware of the difficulty faced by the growers of North eastern areas of Mizoram in finding markets for their cash crops, the Govt. opened Out-agency office at Silchar through which they can dispose of their products. Some quantity of ginger was also purchased by the Government from the growers of North-western regions. Besides this, there is a proposal for the establishment of Four (4) Godowns at Silchar, the construction of which has already been started. Arrangement is also made for hiring private houses for godowns before the construction is completed.

It is not that the Govt. is not making effort to procure wider markets for cash crops yielded by the people. But, so far as ginger is concerned, there is hardly a means for export unless it is dried. Some quantity was exported to Malaysia and Singappre for experiment. Yet, it is doubtful that there will be means for larger export as China have better quality of ginger which they export.

Of our cash crops, red-pepper can be exported and there is also a good market for it. However, we will have to consider whether Mizoram is capable of producing surplus for export. So far as ginger is concerned, there is great demand for dried ginger which we can not yet produce. Anyway, we are making efforts to find a way for drying our ginger.

I also want to inform our members that twice the Govt. of Mizoram have approached Bangladesh thro' Central Govt. for the establishment of Trade relatio. between the two countries. But, there has not been any result till today.

I think I have said enough regarding this resolution. In my opinion, it is better that the Govt. handle the management of our cash crops through Society and Agencies instead of directly handling it. So, for better management of our cash crops markets in the same manner, I request our member to withdraw his resolution.

Thank you.

.....28/-

CHAIRMAN: The Minister-in-charge had now given  
PU C. LALRUATA explanations. As provided under our rules  
we will allot five minutes (5) to the mover of this resolution as he requested.

PU R. DOTINAIIA: Mr Chairman, I think our senior members who alleged that this resolution was not clear, are the ones who are not clear for there is nothing that can not be understood in this resolution especially for them who are far better than I in understanding English. I believe their minds are in haze to grasp the true meaning and purpose of this resolution.

✓ successful It is not only Mizoram where there is economic problem. The same problem is faced all over India. But, methods adopted or used for making 20 point Economic Programme will vary from state to state. In Andhra-Pradesh for instance, rice cultivation may be encouraged to consolidate their economic condition, while in Mizoram, cash crop cultivation is encouraged. Perhaps it is true that our spices have no market outside, but I can say that spices sold in our Bazaars are not spices yielded by our people. I strongly believe that if the Industry Deptt., Co-operative Society or any agency sponsored by the Govt. purchase 50/70 quintals of local spices to be processed locally, this would to some extent meet our requirements.

Our hon'ble Minister Pu Bayrawnga alleged my resolution as being one sided and stated that I was totally discouraging rice-cultivation which I think was a great mistake on his part. I think he misunderstood what I said. How could we totally neglect cultivation of rice while it is our staple food? What I said was that in order to prepare ourselves for the coming famine, I want us to grow more cash crops so that with the money acquired through them we can buy Govt. rice on which most of us depend. It is not that I do not encourage cultivation of rice. In fact, it is my desire that Mizoram produce surplus. But, having been to some areas where dry terrace system of cultivation is being adopted, I have doubt that Mizoram will produce sufficient rice to meet the requirements of the whole population.

It is not only Mizoram, but most of the countries in the world are making a great fuss over economic programme. It seems, however that members who came to this House today to represent the people do not realize the importance of the subject matter of this resolution. I feel sorry to see that many of us are not interested in discussing our own economic programme, for only few members remain in their seats.

I do not know what will the people whom we represent think of us had they seen us today. Sometimes I had a feeling that Central Govt. knows better our conditions than our own Govt. did. As stated by the Agriculture Minister of Central Govt., if Mizoram is well-developed, it means that India is developed. I wonder why our senior members could not understand my resolution. It is a fact that Mizoram do not have separate Deptt. for Trade and Commerce, yet if necessity arises in this regard, other Deptts. like Supply, Co-operative or Agriculture can do the work. And, the Govt. being the highest authoritative body will determine prices of cash crops. We must know how to make use of our Liaison Officers whom we placed at different places/centres to look after transaction of trade and commerce. Let me re-read my resolution. "This Assembly is of the opinion that the Govt. of Mizoram should purchase the produces of cash crops namely ginger, haldi etc. at reasonable prices at different groupi-  
ng centres to uplift the economy of Mizoram within the next financial year". I think it is clear enough. I think the meaning is also clear enough without my explanation. If I mention the names of all the cash crops, my resolution will be too lengthy which is not very advisable. As the Minister concerned had stated, the Co-operative Deptt. conducted large-scale purchase of ginger for which I am thankful. I believe that if we pass this resolution, there will be greater improvement in the steps already taken by the Govt. to uplift our economy. I think Central Govt. would also appreciate our attitude towards Economic Programme when they see this resolution. It seems, however that we are not going to pass it today. I will be truly sorry if we do not pass this important resolution. Personally, I am of opinion that Mizoram will be more benefited if more cash crops are grown instead of concentrating on Dry-Terraces which cannot produce sufficient food for all the people. But, this does not mean that we will give up dry-terraces we have had in favour of cash crops. As a matter of fact, lands which have not yet been reclaimed should be brought under Reclamation Programme. In view of all that had been stated by us, I sincerely wish that our members will agree to pass this resolution of mine.

Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Do you request the members to pass your resolution despite their request to withdraw it?

PU R. DOTINAIA:

Mr Speaker Sir, Yes.

.....30/-

SPEAKER: Despite the members' request to withdraw it, the mover appeals to you all to pass his resolution which is this that "This Assembly is of the opinion that..... financial year". So, we will have voting on this resolution. Those who agree to pass say agree.

(Members kept silent).

Those who disagree to pass say disagree.

(Members - 'Disagree')

Well, the members do not agree to pass the resolution. Now it is one p.m. We will have afternoon recess but our sitting will be resumed at 2:00 P.M.

AFTERNOON SITTING 2:00 P.M.

SPEAKER: Now, we will take up resolution No. 3 the mover may move it now. If he is not present, has he authorised any member? If he has not, we will proceed to resolution no. 4. If the mover does not have authorized member to move his resolution, we will take up resolution no. 5.

(Mover absent).

Now, resolution No. 6.

(Mover absent without authorising anyone to move his resolution).

We will proceed to resolution No. 7, Pu Dotinaia's resolution.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, I thank you for allowing me to move my resolution today.

My resolution is this: 'This Assembly is of the opinion that the proposed Jeep Road from Aizawl to Bagha Bazar starting from Zomabawk and passing through Durtlang, Selésih, Sihphir, Lunedai, Serkhan, Kukpui, N.Hlimen, Saipur etc. should be taken up within the next financial year by P.W.D and made into a Truckable Road.

The construction work of Aizawl to Bagha Bazar Road is being started upto Selésih and survey had also been done by P.W.D. The construction work as a whole does not seem to be a difficult task.

It may be noted that Aizawl-Bagha range has great importance because of the fact that the people of this range are cultivators who produce variety of cash crops.

As there is no means for transportation of their crops to Silchar markets by road, they have to depend on water transport which takes longer time than land transport besides the risks and difficulties involved due to floods and scarcity of water. If there is proper transport facilities on land, the people of this range will be more developed and modernised. In fact, the residents of Aizawl town who purchase large quantity of Agriculture products from Silchar will be able to depend on crops yielded by the people of this range. Under present circumstances, there is no proper facility for the people to export their surplus yieldings.

Besides economical reason, Aizawl - Bagha Bazar Range has importance. The alignment is better than the present road and is also shorter in distance. And there are many important grouping centres situated on this range. It is due to lack of proper communications that developmental activities cannot reach this area.

Newadays, new road connections: Tipairuk R Road is being constructed from Kolasib via Saipun, Bukpui and Hliren where variety of crops are grown in abundance. there is proper facility for transportation of their crops to wider markets, the conditions of poorer section of the people in those grouping centres will also improve. In view of the importance of this proposed road, I request our members to agree to pass my resolution

Thank You.

Pu C. LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, without further thought, Pu Dotinnia's resolution appears to be reasonable. And I think the Govt. also wish for speedy progress in the construction of this road. But, it might not be the best thing to pass each and every good thing mentioned in the House. We should know that there are many roads in various parts of Mizoram which are equally important to this Aizawl - Bagha Road. For instance - Kawkulh to Khawdungsei Road which was constructed under E.G.S. the maintenance of which had been taken over by P.W.D. Yet they cannot make it into truckable road till today. Besides this, there are many jeep roads that cannot yet be made into truckable road. If we pass this resolution, it means that the said road has to be made into truckable road within the next financial year which in my opinion is a joke which we cannot bear. As such, I think there is no necessity in passing this resolution now altho' I am not opposing the construction of this road into truckable road.

PU CH.SAPRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, let me say few things in opposing this resolution. I agree to what Pu Ruata had said in this

regard. I feel that we should not commit ourselves to do a thing which we know we cannot do. I also cannot agree to handing the construction work to P.W.D as they have so much work to do on hand besides shortage of engineers to supervise the work. It is not only that, if we hand over the construction work to P.W.D, it will not be possible to utilize fund/money we have under E.G.S. I feel that instead of starting the construction of truckable road, it is better to repair and maintain the old road and make it pliable. It is obvious that if we pass this resolution, the said road will remain untouched by P.W.D for sometime while we also cannot utilize E.G.S fund. As such, I do not agree to passing of this resolution.

PU C.LALRUATA:

Mr Speaker Sir, there is one point of order to mention. By whose permission and under what provision we take up

two resolutions belonging to the same member. It is the second time today that we take up Pu Dotinaia's resolution. Under the provision of rule 119 (3), more than one resolution belonging to one member cannot be taken up.

SPEAKER:

Every Friday of the Session is a day for transaction of private business. Resolutions are all balloted and

they are taken up according to the Ballot list. What comes first in the list are taken up in succession. It is a fact that a member cannot have more than five (5) resolutions in one session. But, if one member's resolutions come in succession in the ballot list, more than one of his/her resolution can be taken up in a day.

PU C.LALRUATA:

Mr Speaker Sir, I know that there is rule under which a member could have upto 5 resolutions in a session. It

is also a fact that Pu Dotinaia has four (4) resolutions. But, under which clause of the rule the number of resolutions to be transacted in a day is written ?.

SPEAKER:

As I have said, we give prior importance to ballot list. With the permission of the Speaker, resolutions are

transacted in the order of the ballot list.

PU R.ZOLIANA:

Mr Speaker Sir, what we want to know is the Rule which provides such transaction.



SPEAKER: Discussion on resolution in order of ballot list was done under the Rules. If there is no other member who wishes to say in regard to this resolution, we will call upon the mover.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, I will make a speech after the Minister-in-charge is called upon.

SPEAKER: Well, the Minister-in-charge may make a speech now. If he is not present, we will call upon Pu Lalsangzuala when he authorized.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, Govt. is aware of the importance of road mentioned by Pu Dotinaia in his resolution. But, having pre-planned programme, P.W.D have other works which have to be taken up during the 5 Year Plan. The said road is not included in their schedule of works. As the mover had stated, the construction work from Aizawl-Serkhan is taken up by B.R.T.I. As also stated by our Agriculture and Planning Minister, P.W.D might not be in a position to undertake additional work besides heavy schedule of works they have already on hand. Under the present circumstances, passing of this resolution may not have practical meaning. As such, I request the Mover to withdraw it.

Thank you.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that you allotted me time to make a short speech.

I would have wished the Minister concerned to be present today. I think he is also interested in the construction of this road into truckable road, for, when I have personal contact with him, there seemed to be no objection from him. It is a fact that P.W.D have problems due to shortage of technical staff in the Deptt. and this has been one of the reasons for opposing my resolution. However, if I am not mistaken, it seems that the P.W.D had already done estimate for the construction of the said road from Zero (0) to ten K.M (Kilometres).

(Pu Ch. Saprawnga, Minister- Mr Speaker Sir, what we oppose was the construction of Serkhan to Saipum sector, but I have no knowledge of other portions).

That is the most important sector. Being Agriculture Minister, I thought Pu Rawnga will support me as he knows that this sector produces variety of cash crops. Personally, I thought that we would all be in accord with each other even if we belong to different Parties, if what we want to do is for the betterment of the country and the people.

I do not think there is much difficulty in executing works, the estimate of which had been prepared. If we know that we cannot take up the work, why did we spend so much money for survey? Even when it was constructed under E.G.S, the road is not pliable by vehicles.

(Pu Ch. Saprawnga - Mr Speaker Sir, some sectors are pliable but, about other sections I know nothing).

That is how it is in a confused Government. Pu Ruata said that it is not necessary to mention in the House works that should be done if we know we cannot as yet do it. Yet, I feel that if the works that should be done are not mentioned in the House, there would hardly be speedy execution. As a matter of fact, it seems that the Government give more priority to the things said in the House than those which are not mentioned. It is also obvious that the construction of the said road into truckable road will not be completed within a year. It will take at least 3 years to complete. However, if the Govt. do not start the work from the next financial year, we will have to wait for long to make the road into truckable road. I did not say that the work should be completed during the next financial year. I only request the Govt. to start the work from the next financial year.

(Pu C. Lalruata: Mr Speaker Sir, according to this resolution it seems that the P.W.D will have to complete the construction of the road into truckable road within the next financial year).

Let me say what I wanted to say. May be you do not believe it, but since the formation of U.T, the people of this area i.e north eastern areas have not had much development. And as stated earlier, these areas remain untouched by the activities of the Govt. In view of all the money spent for developments and construction of new roads many of which are still not pliable till date, I feel that we should pass this resolution.

To some extent, it might be true that the E.G.S fund will lapse if P.W.D takes over the construction of roads. However, we should know that though E.G.S fund cannot be utilized, P.W.D fund would on the other hand be utilized by the people. At the time when Lungdar was devastated by fire,

our hon'ble C.M arranged employment for the people. I.W.D road was given to them on Lump Sum contract basis which was a great help to the people much more than E.G.S. The same procedure should be applied to those areas where the said road goes through. In a way, I am surprised that the Minister whom I expect to know the conditions of the people in my constituency does not support me.

(Pu C.Lalruata: Mr Speaker Sir, let me raise one question. What are the places/villages where the mover wants this road to go through; otherwise how will we know whether to pass his resolution?).

PU CH. CHRUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, I also have few things to say regarding Pu Dotinaia's resolution.  
CHIEF MINISTER

What had been said by Pu Lalsangzuala was true that despite the many things to do, it is but impossible to do them all at one time. It may be noted that country or Govt. which have functioned/existed for more than 200/300 years also have things to do and things which they cannot yet do. Similarly, Mizoram have still a long way to go for further developments. If we are to do all the good things today, we will be lost. Our activities should be in accordance with the tempo of development in our country. In case of Aizawl-Bagha Road, some of us may not recognize the areas surrounding this range as important where the mover consistently urges their importance. I also request the mover to understand me. Though there may be plan/estimate for the construction of the said road into truckable road, we are but incapable of doing it, if Central Govt. do not sanction money for the expenditure. Because of financial difficulty, we can not support people fully even in Agriculture for which we are sorry. If we had the ability and financial powers, we would have liked to construct more than 2/3 roads at a time. I therefore request the mover not to misunderstand our difficulties.

Q Pu R. Dotinaia:- Mr Speaker Sir, the road I mentioned is not a brand new road. P.W.D have already started the work in some sectors. They have in fact already spent more than one lakh rupees for this).

If it is the road between Zemabawk and Selesih sectors, I know that it is under construction. But, some contractors left the work saying that the rate is too low. Anyway, it is being constructed by P.W.D. It seems, however that Bukpui Road is in a different range. Bukpui road started from Sarkhan which is not yet pliable by trucks or heavy vehicles.

In view of the difficulties involved, it appears that we are not yet in a position to start the construction of this road into truckable road even by the next financial year. Unless there is budget provision for it, we will not be in a position to start the work though we wish for its speedy construction. I feel that we should not overlook some facts about the difficulty in making this road into truckable road during the next financial year.

PU CH. SAHRAWNGA:  
MINISTER

Mr Speaker Sir, I am truly glad that Iu Lotinaia paid much attention to my constituency though I do not know in what way he cares. I hope that he will not accuse me as being negligent to this area. It is because of our sympathy for the people of this area that we do not want to pass this resolution.

Govt. is aware of the activities of the F.W.D. When they have fewer schedule of works, they will take up the construction of the said road. But, if we hand over the work now to F.W.D, there will be greater problems. Besides this, we should consider the people who have to depend on E.G.S fund to earn a living. As stated earlier, if the work is hand<sup>ed</sup> over to F.W.D now, our E.G.S fund under which many persons found employments to earn a living will have no value. Besides this, it will be easier for the F.W.D to maintain or to start the work if some portions are already done under E.G.S. Personally, I do not even agree to rushing at things without further thought.

It may also be noted that despite its importance, Aizawl-Bagha Road is not included in the current Plan Scheme. Even if this resolution is passed today, the construction work can not be started within the 5th Five Year Plan as there is no provision for it. As such, there is no meaning in passing this resolution at present.

PU HERANGAIA:

Mr Speaker Sir, as we know, the mover of this resolution is our opposition leader. It seems, however that other opposition members boycott the resolution as none of them are present. I think we should not trouble ourselves over this. It is obvious that his co-members also do not support his resolution.

Our Agriculture Minister stated his gratitude towards the mover of this resolution for being mindful of the conditions of his constituency. We know that Iu Lotinaia's constituency consists of Vanlaiphai, Sailulak,

Khuangthing etc which are all situated in far east of Mizoram. I am quite perplexed as to why Pu Dotinaia paid much attention to Pu Rawnga's constituency. If we pass this resolution, it will look as though Pu Dotinaia cares more for other constituencies rather than his own. So, I think we better end up here so far as passing of the resolution is concerned.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, according to the statement given by our Agriculture Minister it seems that I have often visited his constituency. But, only once did I visit this constituency since I became an M.L.A. Nevertheless, being the place where I once settled/lived, this part of area often draws my attention. I am truly sorry that the construction of this important road is not included in the 5th Five Year Plan.

Pu Hrangiaia alleged that Pu Dotinaia neglects his own constituency. But, I want you to know that it is not only me but also the Govt. is aware of the conditions of my constituency which is area beyond Tuichang river. In fact, developmental works are being launched in various walks of life. Roads and Bridges are being constructed in various sectors. It is also my opinion that being the representatives of the people of Mizoram, our interest should not confine only to our own constituency.

As regards withdrawing of my resolution- I understand that there is no point in passing my resolution now as it had not been included in the 5th Plan. I therefore agree to withdraw my resolution on the condition that the Govt. give assurance to include the construction scheme in the 6th Plan.

PU CH. CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER Mr Speaker Sir, the purpose of the resolution may be achieved if our opposition members go on fighting for its success. However, due to uncertainty of our future, I wonder whether there will be any use in giving you assurance now while no one can predict that I will be in the same position even after 2/3 years.

SPEAKER: It seems that Pu Dotinaia's resolution, though appreciable, has to be dropped as the road scheme is not included in the 5th Plan. Can Pu Dotinaia withdraw it now?

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, if there are no other means to pass this resolution of mine I withdraw it.

SPEAKER: Well, the mover wants to withdraw his resolution. Do you all agree to withdraw it?  
(Members - 'agree').

Now, we will proceed to our next resolution which is Resolution No. 8, Pu Vanlalhruaia's resolution. If he is not present, has he authorized any member? If he has not we will take up Resolution No. 9, Pu Dotinaia's resolution.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, that is what I said. Our next resolution is also Pu Dotinaia's resolution which means that 4 resolutions belonging to the same member are being discussed in one sitting. If it is done with the permission of the Speaker, that is that. But, don't you think that this permission is too liberal?

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr Speaker Sir, it is not that we will pass all his resolutions but if we do not pass any of his 4 resolutions, the mover might feel bad. As such, will it not be better to discuss one resolution of one member in one sitting?

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr Speaker Sir, there is nothing to confuse here. If the Speaker exercises discretionary power, we will discuss the resolution whose-ever the member may be. I do not think it is fair to argue Speaker's power. If there are other resolutions besides this, they will also be discussed.

SPEAKER: Since there is no other resolution admitted and balloted I think we better take up all of Pu Dotinaia's resolutions today.

PU B.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, Pu Saitlawma said that if none of his resolutions are being passed, Pu Dotinaia will feel bad and angry. But, it is not a matter of feeling bad or angry. I am not ashamed to move a resolution which has importance for the welfare of the people. I believe some of my resolutions can be dropped out if Speaker does not permit taking up all of them.

SPEAKER: Now, we will take up resolution no. 9.

PU R.DOTINATA:

Mr Speaker Sir, I thank you for allowing me to move my resolution no. 9 today.

My resolution is this that " This Assembly is of the opinion that Trade and Commerce Deptt. should be created within the next financial year!"

Being aware of the effects Trade and Commerce have on the economic life of the people, this resolution was brought before the House in the previous session. But, as there was no time to move it, I brought it up again in this session. But, if you do not like it, you will not pass it. Nevertheless, this would not stop me from stating the fact about the importance of this resolution.

It appears that some measures had been taken in regard to Trade and Commerce under the guidance of our Supply Minister who also holds the portfolio of Trade and Commerce. But, as there is no separate deptt. for Trade and Commerce, the people cannot as yet enjoy the benefits. If we could have Trade and Commerce Deptt. the people will surely enjoy its benefits and there will also be many advantages. One of the advantages will be creation of more employment for educated but jobless persons. I think some of our M.L.As from the ruling party will also become Minister to hold the portfolio of Trade and Commerce.

Besides this, trading and marketing for our cash crops and industrial products will be controlled and transacted by Trade and Commerce Deptt. which will be a great help to the people. This will also encourage the people to grow more cash crops. It seems that outsiders who come to Mizoram to trade are not taxed as there is no separate Deptt. to deal with such things. I do not mean that the Minister i/c Trade and Commerce is not efficient, but, it is obvious that he does not give full attention to trade and commerce. There is no full time Secretary for trade and commerce either. However, if we have separate Deptt. for Trade and Commerce, everything would be easier for traders, agriculturists, Industrialists and business men. I also believe that some of our cash crops like Ginger can be sold in wider markets if there is separate Deptt. to handle its management.

Nowadays, India has good relationship

with Russia. Trade agreement between the two countries was also signed. So, if we have Trade and Commerce Deptt. who can say that we will not enjoy the advantages of this agreement. There might be some ways to procure foreign market for our ginger through Central Govt. Perhaps we know that Chief Minister of Meghalaya is also now abroad looking for markets for their products. As such, every state and every country is making headway towards Trade and Commerce. In Mizoram, we cannot as yet launch large scale purchase or disposal of crops and goods due to the absence of any agency through which large-scale trade and commerce can be transacted. As we have no agency or well-established private firms to take up large-scale trade and commerce, we have many difficulties. If Trade and Commerce Deptt. is established in Mizoram, there will be closer relationship with Central Commerce Ministry. As it is included in the State List, it might not be too difficult to set up the Deptt. if the Govt. also takes enthusiastic step. I strongly believe that the activities of this Deptt. when we have will consolidate our economy. I therefore, request the members to accept this resolution of mine.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to ask the mover one question. Is there any State which has full-fledged Trade and Commerce Deptt. ? As far as my knowledge is concerned, there is no state in India which has separate Deptt. solely for Trade and Commerce.

PU R. POTINALLA: Mr Speaker Sir, some states have separate Trade and Commerce Deptt. while there are states whose Industry Ministry takes up the management of trade and commerce.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker Sir, the mover of this resolution wants establishment of a full-fledged Deptt. for trade and commerce. But, can the mover name the specific state which has separate Deptt. solely for trade and commerce ?

PU R. POTINALLA: Mr Speaker Sir, I do not know any particular state which has such Deptt. I only made suggestion for the establishment of such Deptt. for Mizoram.



NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker Sir, If we cannot point out any particular state which has separate Deptt. for trade and commerce, what had been suggested by Pu Dotinaia might not be advisable for Mizoram either. I think the matter relating to this should be reconsidered. In fact, I request the mover to withdraw his resolution in order to maintain the dignity of the House.

SPEAKER: Now, we will call upon the Minister.

PU LAISANGZUALA  
MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, the Govt. have deeply considered about the establishment of Trade and Commerce Deptt. in Mizoram and they have also approached Central Govt. in this regard. In fact, the matter is under consideration due to which this resolution might have no significance even if it is passed here today. I therefore request our Hon'ble Members, Pu Dotinaia to withdraw his resolution keeping in mind steps being taken by the Govt. in this regard.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr Speaker Sir, I don't think it is fair to drop the resolution just because other States have not established separate Deptt. solely for trade and commerce. If Pu Ngurdawla wants to know the particular State which had full-fledged Trade and Commerce Deptt. I also want to know the Govt. who have not any deptt. to deal with trade and commerce.

Being aware of the importance of trade and commerce to consolidate economy, other States are making great efforts in this regard. If we only wait for other States to set an example or if we are to do only what other States are doing how would we make headway in trade and commerce? Our hon'ble Minister stated that efforts were being made by the Govt. in regard to trade and commerce. I would be glad if he informs us of the progress they have made in what they are doing.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker Sir, it is not because there is no State to set an example but we will have to make sure the jurisdiction of such Deptt. if we have one. I am of opinion that State should

not have total control over trade and commerce if Central Govt. is also taking its management. If I am not mistaken, other States also do not have separate Deptt. for Trade and Commerce. As such, I feel there is no meaning in passing this resolution now.

FU BOPINAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, it seems that the Minister also regards the resolution as of great importance. He even stated about efforts made by the Govt. in this regard. But, as stated by Fu Sangkhuma, I request the Minister to tell us as to what steps they have taken and in what ways they have approached Central Govt.

FU LALSANGZUALA MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, at present we have not yet been able to convince Central Govt. to create separate Deptt. for Trade and Commerce in Mizoram.

FU C. LAIRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, we are short of quorum now. Can we carry on our business?

SPEAKER: Now I shall ring the quorum bell during which the members should enter the Hall to form a quorum.

(Quorum bell was rung)

As we are still short of a quorum, we shall adjourn the House for today. Our sitting will be resumed on Monday at 10:30 A.M. and we will follow our programme.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

D.C. VAHNE  
Secretary  
Mizoram Legislative Assembly