

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE MIZORAM  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL FROM 21ST  
SEPTEMBER, 1976 TO 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1976.

7th Sitting on the 29th September, 1976 at 10:30 a.m.

Present

Shri Vaivenga Speaker in the chair, Chief Minister, five  
Ministers and twenty-four members.

Business

1. Questions.
2. Government Resolutions
  - (a) Motion for suspension of Rule  
Pu P.B.Nikhuma, Dy. Minister to move that  
the Rule 119(4) of the Rules of Procedure  
be suspended.
  - (b) Pu P.B.Nikhuma, Dy. Minister to move -
    - (i) that the resolution regarding the Order  
of the Lt. Governor (Administrator),  
Mizoram dated 27th September, 1976 on  
Chakma District Council be taken into  
consideration,
    - (ii) that the Resolution be adopted.
3. (a) Motion for suspension of Rule:  
Pu Ch.Chhunga, Chief Minister to move that  
Rule 119(4) of the Rules of Procedure  
be suspended.
  - (b) Pu Ch.Chhunga, Chief Minister to move -
    - (i) that the Resolution regarding agreement  
between Central Government and the  
M.M.F. be taken into consideration,
    - (ii) that the Resolution be adopted.

SPEAKER : (read verses from the Bible)  
Now, we shall take up Question No.131.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

\*131. PU LALKUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister  
i/c Political Department be pleased to state -  
How many Gazetted Officers were dismissed  
from service from January 1, 1976 to August 31, 1976 with  
names and designations ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, 1 (one) Shri K.H. Robuanga,  
CHIEF MINISTER S.D.O., P.W.D., Thenzawl.

SPEAKER : Question No. 132.

APPOINTMENT DEPARTMENT

\* 132.

PU R. DONTINAI : Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Appointment Department be pleased to state -

(a) Is it a fact that the D.P.C. constituted by the Government of Mizoram has not been approved by the Central Government ?

(b) If yes, since when and what is the reason ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, the D.P.C. for gazetted CHIEF MINISTER posts constituted by the Government is only for making adhoc appointments. Regular appointments/promotion are to be made through Selection Boards constituted by Government of India. The D.P.Cs for non-gazetted posts have been constituted as per instruction and approval of Government of India.

(b) The D.P.C. for gazetted posts was constituted in 1972 at the inception of U.T. Government to fill up various vacant posts under this Government. This D.P.C. has not been approved by the Government of India to make regular appointments because Government of India wanted to ensure uniformity in matter of recruitment under various U.T. Governments. For this, recruitment rules for the posts have to be referred to Government of India for their approval.

PU R. DONTINAI : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question - Have the D.P.C. of Central Government approved the recruitment of Class I and Class II services entertained by the D.P.C. constituted by the Government of Mizoram at the inception of U.T. Government ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, the D.P.C. constituted by the CHIEF MINISTER Government of Mizoram has not yet been approved by the D.P.C. of Central Government.

PU R. DONTINAI : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question - according to the statement given by our C.M., it appears that recruitments made by the Mizoram D.P.C. were merely on adhoc basis.

It is learnt that in Arunachal Pradesh, some officers appointed on adhoc basis were dropped when the D.P.C. of Central Government scrutinized their appointments. Officers who have had 5 years service also are no exception. If this is true, Mizoram Government would do well in taking an immediate step to press Central Government to approve the D.P.C. they have constituted, otherwise there might arise difficulty, since 5 years have almost past since the formation of U.T. Government and the D.P.C. alike. When will Mizoram Government take a move for the approval of D.P.C. they constituted?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, I think the D.P.C. of Central CHIEF MINISTER Government have not yet had convenience of coming to Mizoram to approve our D.P.C.

It may be true that there are cases where officers appointed on adhoc basis are dropped by the Central D.P.C. Yet, it seems that such action does not depend on the early coming or late coming of the D.P.C. Even if they come early, some officers might have still to be dropped. I think it depends largely on the officers themselves.

PU R. DOTINAIIA : Mr Speaker Sir, how many appointments are there that had yet to be approved/scrutinised by the D.P.C. of Central Government? Can the Minister kindly inform the House the members of Central D.P.C.?

PU CH. CHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, as I do not have the list of members here, I request our hon'ble CHIEF MINISTER Member to collect the information from my office.

PU R. DOTINAIIA : Mr Speaker Sir, by the 'lists' I mean the list of officers appointed on adhoc basis and the list of members of Central D.P.C.

SPEAKER : Question No. 133

\* 132

PU R. DOTINAIIA : Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c appointment Department be pleased to state -

Is it a fact that all the Gazetted officers recruited/promoted as recommended by the D.P.C. (Mizoram) could not be approved by the Government of India?

PU CH. CHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, all appointments and promotions to the gazetted posts through the D.P.C. constituted by this Government are adhoc in nature. All these adhoc appointments are to be regularised through the Selection Boards constituted by the Government of India. As no meeting of the Selection Boards has to as yet been convened it is not yet possible to know if adhoc appointments would be regularised or not.

SPEAKER : Question No. 134

#### H O M E D E P A R T M E N T

\*134

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

(a) What is the policy of the Government regarding promotion of Mizoram Police Officers?

(b) What are the reasons for getting outsiders on deputation (B.S.F., C.S.I. or Police of other States)?

(c) How many Mizo Police officers have been promoted?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir,  
CHIEF MINISTER

(a) Mizoram Police is governed by the Mizoram Police Manual in all matters including promotions.

(b) Officers have been obtained on deputation for specified periods on account of shortage of properly trained, experienced and qualified officers in Mizoram Police.

(c) The following number of Officers and men belonging to Mizoram Police have been promoted to the ranks given below:

|           |   |    |
|-----------|---|----|
| S.P.      | - | 1  |
| D.S.P.    | - | 3  |
| Inspector | - | 22 |
| S.I.      | - | 46 |
| H.C.      | - | 52 |
| Nk        | - | 9  |
| A.S.I.    | - | 79 |

PU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question -  
Are there any officers on deputation recommended to be I.I.S. for Mizoram quota?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, we have no knowledge of  
CHIEF MINISTER such thing.

PU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, but, who recommended S.P.  
Saiho who, before he became I.P.S arrayed himself with I.I.S. uniform? Was he recommended from Mizoram quota?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, if I am not mistaken, that  
CHIEF MINISTER officer hailed from the side who had been included in the Selected list.

PU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, how many non-Mizo Class I  
Officers have been obtained on deputation in Police Department? and how many of them are I.I.S. and non I.I.S.?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, I don't know actually how  
CHIEF MINISTER many of them are I.I.S. But, of the Police Officers coming on deputation, two of them are I.I.S.

PU K.S.ANGCHHUM : Mr Speaker Sir, what is the reason for the  
coming of these two I.I.S officers - to replace officers who are already here or to strengthen the present strength of officers in the Department?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, due to shortage of officers  
CHIEF MINISTER in the Department, Government have been looking for officers to come to Mizoram on Deputation.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

\* 135

PU SAKLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Political Department be pleased to stat -

(a) Is it a fact that a number of Enquiry Commissions to investigate certain cases have been constituted by the Government of Mizoram during the period from 1972 to June, 1976 ?

(b) If yes, what are these Commissions ?

PU CH. CHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir,  
CHIEF MINISTER

(a) Yes

(b) (i) A Commission of Enquiry consisting of Shri H.B.Rai, D.C., Saiha District to enquire into the affairs of the Chakma District Council was appointed vide Notification No.LAD/C-2/74/60 dated 13.2.'76.

(ii) A Commission of Enquiry consisting of Shri S.P. Aggarwal, D.C., Lunglei District to enquire into the affairs of Iawi District Council was appointed vide Notification No.LAD/C-2/74/60 dated 13.2.'76.

(iii) A three Men Commission consisting of Shri R. Ardhanary, E.E. Building as Chairman and Shri Biakzuala E.E. and Shri Lalruata, M.L.A. as members was constituted by the Government on 2.1.'75 for the purpose of re-measurement of all works executed by various constructions in Aizawl - Thenzawl road Section IV.

(iv) A one men Commission consisting of Shri B.G.Karna, P.S. as Chairman was constituted on 4.10.75 to examine and report on the working of I.H.E. Department, Government of Mizoram.

PU C. LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question -  
Has the work in Aizawl - Thenzawl road Section IV been executed as recommended by the Commission ?

PU CH. CHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, there had been some alterations made in the report due to certain difficulties in some portions of the work.  
CHIEF MINISTER

PU SAKLIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question -  
We know that the first three Commissions have submitted their reports. But, has the report of 4th Commission i.e. One-Man Enquiry Commission been received ? When was appointment given ? What are the terms and conditions and the period during which the report should be submitted ?

PU CH. CHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, the Final report has not yet been submitted.  
CHIEF MINISTER

PU C. DALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, Commissions can consist of more than 2, 3 or 5 members. When there are more than 3 or 5 members in a Commission, all the members could not always have same view point in matters they enquired into. When the dissenting member/members submit dissenting note, will he/they stand by the note they've submitted all through the course of discussions ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, Dissenting note can be CHIEF MINISTER written by any member of the Commission. But, this does not mean that Government would readily accept it. Decision will be made only after careful scrutiny of the note/notes.

PU SAPIIANA : Mr Speaker Sir, is there an Enquiry Commission constituted to inquire into the matters relating to the wastage of supply commodities particularly of rice worth Rs 7/8 lakhs in the Chhimgtuipui District ?

It had been stated th- as if there was an Inquiry Commission to inquire into the cause of sudden rise in price of G.C.I. sheets. Yet, no such Commission was included in the list of Commissions constituted since 1972. So, what has become of this Commission ? Did the Government make inquiry without constituting a Commission ?

SPEAKER : I think that is not included in your question. Disappearance of rice commodities has no connection with the question of Inquiry Commission. Now, we will take question No. 136.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

\* 136

PU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, will the honorable Minister i/c L.A.D. be pleased to state -

(a) Is the system of registration of porters in vogue in Mizoram ?

(b) If so, how many porters (Mutia) are there in Mizawl Town (Bara Bazar) ?

(c) Have any rates been fixed for carrying goods from place to place ?

(d) How many of them are residents of Mizoram and Domicile ?

PU P. B. NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, DY. MINISTER

(a) No

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a)

(c) No rate has been fixed

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (a)

PU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question - hired Although their identity and number are not known to us/porters are found in Mizawl Town. But, as there

is no fixation of porter rates, these mutia charge as much as they like even for small services they rendered. Besides this, it is not possible to identify them when necessity arises due to the absence of registration system. Even if a mutia carries away my luggage for instance, I won't be able to identify him as he has no number plate or a thing of the like by which he can be identified. Despite the disadvantage of hiring mutias, their importance is undeniable. So, will the Government take immediate action in this regard ?

1U P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, in other states, registration  
DY.MINISTER of porters is left to the care of Municipal Corporation or Town Committee. In Mizoram, we have not had such Corporation or Committee. As such there has been not been proper intention to entertain registration of porters. Who will take the responsibility of registration has also still to be considered.

1U LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, is it the intention of the Government to leave the Mutias of Mizoram to themselves without any authority taking the responsibility ? How can these mutias enter into Mizoram without any authority taking the responsibility ?

1U P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, as far as the knowledge of  
DY.MINISTER the Government is concerned, mutias who entered into Mizoram are Inner Line Pass holders. They came to Mizoram to earn a living.

1U NGURDAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, here is a great problem.  
How many Inner Line Pass holders have entered into Mizoram as a mutia ?

1U P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, as we have not had registration system, I can't give information  
DY.MINISTER in this regard.

1U NGURDAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, but, how do you know that they (the mutias) have Inner Line Pass ?

1U P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, outsiders are expected to  
DY.MINISTER have Inner Line Pass to enter into Mizoram. If these porters (mutias) do not have Inner Line Pass, they would not have entered into our land.

1U NGURDAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, there have often been cases where outsiders are arrested and driven out of Mizoram as they do not have Inner Line Pass. I think our Hon'ble Minister does not know whether or not these mutias are Inner Line Pass holders.

1U P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, Yes. If they have no Inner  
DY.MINISTER Line Pass, they would be driven out.

1U LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, is there no intention to check whether all these mutias are Inner Line Pass holders ?

FU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, as I have said, there has  
DY.MINISTER not been proposal for conducting registration  
of porters. However, outsiders who entered  
into Mizoram are Inner Line Pass holders.  
If they do not have pass, they would not have come; as far  
as registration of porters (mutias) is concerned, there has  
not been any proposal. But, if you are asking about other  
outsiders, that I can't answer in detail.

FU VANLAHERUAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, it appears that most of the  
mutias we found in Bazar belong to plain  
areas. Are they all Inner Line Pass holders ?

FU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I can't say that all of the  
DY.MINISTER mutias have Inner Line Pass. But, they are  
all expected to have.

FU NGURDAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, in his previous reply, the  
th Minister stated as if all the mutias have  
Inner Line Pass. Yet, his reply is now  
contradictory to the previous reply.

FU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, No. It is not contradictory  
DY.MINISTER to the previous reply. I have said that  
non-holders of Inner Line Pass were driven  
out.

FU NGURDAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, can you present to the  
House the document which proves that these  
mutias are all Inner Line Pass holders ?

FU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I cannot say that all the  
DY.MINISTER mutias are Inner Line Pass holders. But  
they are all expected to have. I don't know  
how I would present to the House the document which proves that  
all the mutias are Inner Line Pass holders. I only said that  
those who do not have Pass are driven out.

FU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, how will the Government know  
Inner Line Pass holders and non-holders  
without having registration or investigation ?

FU P.B.NIKHUMA; Mr Speaker Sir, as there is no particular  
DY.MINISTER registration of porters (mutias) in L.A.D.  
I can say nothing in detail. But, Inner  
Line Pass is issued by the D.C.Establishment and the issuing  
authorities are the checkers- as I have said, no decision  
has so far been reached as to which Department will take  
responsibility for the registration of mutias.

FU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question -  
How is it that the Government have not still  
made decision as to which Department will take responsibility  
for the registration of porters, for, these mutias have been  
here since the creation of U.T.? Is there any intention to  
detail a Department or authority to conduct registration of  
porters and to fix porter rate ?

FU I.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, registration of porters should precisely be done. However, which Department will take the responsibility is still a pending question. When it is settled, further action will be taken in this regard.

BY MINISTER

SPEAKER : Question No.137.

HOME DEPARTMENT

\*137

FU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Home Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether Government of Mizoram is aware that some Police Ration is issued in cash and not in kind as usual (e.g. meat, potato, onion, firewood, milk, etc) for the undue benefit of certain people?

(b) If so, is it known that this creates discontentment amongst the police?

FU CH. CHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir,  
CHIEF MINISTER (a) Yes, Police Ration is issued in cash rather than in kind in some cases due to inaccessible areas and difficulty in procuring the articles but it is not for the benefit of certain people.

(b) No.

FU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, it appears that issue of ration in cash is done even in accessible areas, particularly in ration of meat for which a cash of Rs 42.50 is issued to each individual. Besides this, some police staff receive the cash in full and some do not receive in full. Is the Government aware that some police branches received a cash of Rs 35 for meat ration while the actual rate is Rs 42.50 per month?

FU CH. CHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, Government have no knowledge of that some police personnel received a cash of Rs 35/- for meat ration. At the outbreak of disturbances in 1966, Assam Government permitted Police personnel of Mizoram to receive ration of various food stuff enjoyed by the Assam Rifles. At that time, ration could be obtained either in cash or in kind. If it is obtained in cash, the amount is Rs 54.00. But, due to devaluation of money and rising prices, most of the family who enjoy such rations preferred getting the ration in kind to receiving in cash. Even those who reside in inaccessible areas authorized their relatives living in Mizawl or Lunglai or in other accessible areas to get the ration in kind.

FU LALKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, what I have stated regarding irregularity committed by some police branches in the issue of ration was the thing of recent time. It has been only since this month that the police branch I've pointed out issued a cash of Rs 42.50 for meat ration. It is highly unjust that there should be difference in the amount of money issued for meat ration. Will the Government make inquiry if they have knowledge of such irregularity?

FU F.HRANGVELA : Mr Speaker Sir, is the Government aware that / who non-residents of Mizoram/also tendered the quotation for supply of police ration at higher rates were allotted the contract -work ? If yes, is there any intention to change the mode of allotment ?

FU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, Government have no knowledge CHIEF MINISTER of that. However, if there are irregularities as mentioned by fu Lalkunga, it will be right to make inquiry.

SPEAKER : Question hour is over for today. Now, we will call upon the Minister in-charge to clarify what fu Sangkhuma and fu Ngurdawia

has stated.

FU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, I have to clarify about MINISTER the installation of water treatment plant at Dihmunzawl. Work Order was given on 30th October 1965 and the period of 2 years was fixed for the completion of the work. But, disturbances broke out on 1st March 1966 due to which, the work could not be completed at the fixed time.

Work Order was given to the Reliable Enterprises, Calcutta. The work was divided into five groups. First group is In-take raw Water Pumping Machine and the second group is Treatment Plant. Rs 6,81,000/- was spent for these two groups. The 3rd group is raw water Pumping sets, 4 in number for which Rs 2,10,000/- was spent. The fourth group is clear Water Pumping Sets 10 in number and Handling Installation 30 % for which Rs 63,000/- was spent. The fifth group is construction of Pump houses and pump operator Quarter for which Rs 1,26,000/- was sanctioned. The total expenditure incurred for the Project amounted to Rs 10,80,000/-

One of the works which has not yet been completed is mechanical equipment keeping. However, the equipment has been brought upto Bitchar. When the Company representative arrives the equipment will be transported to Mizoram. Another incomplete work is the Upper Tank which is not yet plastered.

As the Purification plant is not yet completed, Bleaching powder and China (lime) are used for purification of water supply at Aizawl Town.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : As we know, our current session has short duration due to which many questions were bypassed without the replies. But, having extended the duration of the session by two more days, all the questions have now been taken up.

Besides the amendment of Rule 50, the following are the outline of how many questions were received.

158 Questions were received. All the unstarred questions were replied but, there were two unreplied questions in Starred list, that is according to information received Department wise. In Supply and Transport Department, there

were 10 questions all of which were replied. In Community Development Department, there were 6 questions, all of which were replied. From Co-operative Department, 6 questions, all of which were answered/replied. 12 questions from Education Department were all answered. Of the 5 questions from Appointment Department one was not replied. In I.W.D., 19 questions were received, but one was not replied. 4 questions from F.H.E. Department were all answered. From G.A.D., 3 questions were received, but only two were admitted, both of which were replied. 10 questions from Home Department and 6 questions from Revenue Department were all replied. 15 questions from Agriculture Department and 2 from L.A.D. were all replied. From Forest and Soil Conservation Department, 8 questions, all replied. 9 questions from Health and Family Planning Department were all replied. From Industry Department one question, which was replied. 4 questions from Power and Electricity Department and 3 from Labour and Employment Department were all answered. 5 questions from Political Department and 3 from Finance Department were all replied. One from Information and Public Relations Department was replied. 5 questions from Parliamentary Affairs Department and 2 from Law & Judicial Department were all answered. One question from Statistical Department is still pending. One from S.A.D. was replied.

As I have stated just now, many questions were received, and the Departments also replied many questions. In the amendment of Rule 50 it is stated that 'On the last day of the Session, the Minister concerned should inform the House the reason why un-replied questions were not replied'. But, I think it is not necessary for the Ministers concerned to do so. Questions were circulated to those for which answers were furnished. But, it is not always possible for them to furnish all the answers in detail sometimes due to limitation of time. As such, do you agree to wait for the circulation of their answers to unreplied questions?

**MR. F. HANGVELLA :** Mr Speaker Sir, will the Minister concerned kindly state the reason why my question regarding Statistical Department is still pending?

**MR. SANGKHUMA :** Mr Speaker Sir, I think there is still time for question and answer since question hour is also not yet over. Today seems to be the first opportunity for enforcing our new amendment rule. Is it so disagreeable for the Minister concerned to explain the reason for pending questions? My question regarding Finance Department also has not yet been replied. Actually it is not a hard question. However, I feel that the Minister concerned cannot furnish the answer to this question of mine. Anyway, let him state the reason.

**SPEAKER :** The Departments concerned are given the questions for them to furnish the answers. If they have not submitted their replies, the Minister might not be aware. . . . Can we accept to wait for circulation of their replies or their statement of reason for delay in replying?

PU R.DOTINIAI : Mr Speaker Sir, I too have question which has not yet been replied. It is regarding Education Department. I will understand if the Minister concerned gives explanation now since there is still time for question and answer. Even if the question hour is over, we can still extend the time for question and answer.

PU F.HRANGVELA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is quite disappointing that our questions are kept pending without our knowing the reasons while we, with utmost efforts serve the people and the country. Being public servants, we might have disappointment in the activities of some Departments. I can't really understand why my question relating to statistical Department is kept pending. I want to know the reason.

SPEAKER : Perhaps the Department concerned has not yet furnished the reply. Though the amendment states that the Minister concerned must explain the reason it is but necessary to consider the nature of the question. We should expect that statement of reasons for pending questions or unreplied questions will be circulated when the Minister concerned is able to do so. Is that not sufficient?

PU C.LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, if it is not that you are using discretionary power, let us follow the amended rule.

PU V.L.HRURIA : Mr Speaker Sir, is there anything wrong in the Ministers concerned explaining the reason for our un-replied questions if we demand it? It is not a matter of a number of questions, it is rather the importance of the questions that should be considered. I am really surprised that replies to our questions cannot be furnished till today. One question I raised regarding IWD also has not been replied. I consider this as the most important of all my questions.

SPEAKER : If you prefer it that way, let us follow the amended rule. The Minister concerned may kindly explain the reason for pending question in regard to appointment Department.

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am sorry I don't even know the question.  
CHIEF MINISTER

PU R.ZOLINIA : Mr Speaker Sir, I beg the hon'ble Minister not to mind, but I demand that the statement of reasons be given for the un-replied question in the Department stated by the hon'ble Speaker. Actually, the Ministers are expected to know at least the questions even if they cannot produce the answers.

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, the possible reason is that when the Department furnished reply to the question, we found the reply unsatisfactory and sent it back to them. So, I think there was delay in submission of the reply a second time. As such, it is not easy for us to know which question was not replied. The reason can as well be that Officers in the Department have certain difficulties in furnishing prompt replies.  
CHIEF MINISTER

(Fu Lalkunga - Mr Speaker Sir, do the Ministers come to the House without knowing how many questions in which they are in-charge of, have been replied and how many are yet to be replied?) Mr Speaker Sir, actually it is not easy to remember all the questions especially for me who has weak memory.

FU NGURDANLA : Mr Speaker Sir, our hon'ble Minister Lu Sangzuala said the right thing in this regard. Various questions raised regarding the activities of the Departments are of public interest. Mr Speaker, I request you to press the Ministers to give explanation since we, the members also are being pressed regarding questions.

FU R.THANGLIANI: Mr Speaker Sir, Lu Sangkhung said that his question regarding Finance Department has not been answered. On the contrary, you stated as if the same question was answered. So, which one is correct?

Normally, we, the Ministers are not informed of the number of questions we have to answer. We simply furnish reply to question that comes along. As far as I know, questions which came to me were all replied though I don't know the number.

FU SANGKHUMI : Mr Speaker Sir, my question was in regard to Urban Areas Rent Control Bill. I knew that it was also admitted. As stated by our hon'ble Chief Minister, it is a fact that our officers also could have difficulties in furnishing replies to all the questions. Yet, it is not right to take the plea of their difficulties for not stating the reasons in the House. What we want to know is the reasons for not replying some of our questions. Why should not the Ministers concerned state the reasons just because the Departments have difficulties.

FU R.THANGLIANI: Mr Speaker Sir, if your question was in regard to Urban Areas Rent Control Act, it is not Finance subject.

FU R.DOTINLIA : Mr Speaker Sir, I too have un-replied question in Appointment Department.

SPEAKER : The main difficulty is this that though questions are admitted and replied with the approval of the Ministers, it is not easy for them to remember each and every question. Hence, I think they would be able to give explanation for pending questions in their respective Departments, before the end of this session. At the moment, I don't think they remember which particular question was un-replied.

We should also remember that having had a amended rule to be followed the Ministers should be well-versed with the subjects of their Departments.

FU C.LALRUJA : Mr Speaker Sir, who would give explanation, the Minister in-charge of Parliamentary Affairs or Assembly Secretariat?

**SPEAKER** : Minister i/c Parliamentary affairs will give statement of reasons. However, not only the Ministers but also the Secretaries should make sure how many questions are replied and un-replied in the subject of their respective Departments.

As for pending questions - the Ministers would do well in going thro' the list of questions in their respective Departments so as to know how many were replied and how many un-replied. Will ~~the~~ it not be better to hear their statement of reason later on? (Pu F. Hrangvela - Mr Speaker Sir, is not it that by 'later on' you mean today's afternoon sitting?) That will be difficult for the Ministers. If they can give within or before the end of the Session, it is alright.

**PU V.L. HRUJIA**: Mr Speaker Sir, will it be possible for them, the Ministers, to give the answers now if we tell them our questions which we remember so well?

**SPEAKER** : There is no doubt that you are well versed with your questions. But, for the Ministers, there will be difficulty in giving explanation now, for, they might have been enquiring from their Departments which questions was replied or un-replied. Can we not wait for them? As I have said before, I think we should be grateful to the Ministers and the Departments for being able to furnish replies to many questions within a short time. I think there are only 3/4 un-replied questions.

Our next item is motion for suspension of Rule. Under the provision of Rule 119(4), the Minister has to give seven days' notice to move resolution. But, having an urgent business to attend to, the Government have motion for suspension of Rule 119(4) under the provision of Rule 305. Now, the Minister in-charge may move the motion for Suspension of Rule 119(4).

**PU F.B. NIKHUMA**, : Mr Speaker Sir, with your kind permission  
**DY. MINISTER** I, under the provision of Rule 305, beg to move this motion that 'This house do suspend sub-rule 4 of Rule 119 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly in its application to the Government resolution regarding order of the Lt. Governor (Administrator) dated 27th September, 1976 in regard to Chakma District Council in the House.

Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Do you all agree to this motion of suspension?

**PU C. LALRUATA** : Mr Speaker Sir, I want to ask one thing. The Minister-in-charge read out the motion, yet, to what extent the Rule is to be suspended is not known.

**SPEAKER** : It must be for a period when Resolution on Chakma District Council is tackled.

As the Dy. Minister had read, the motion is 'that this House do suspend sub-rule 4 (four) of Rule 119. . . . .  
Do we all agree to adopt this motion of suspension?  
(Members - agree). It is well that the motion is now accepted.

Our next item is motion for consideration of the Resolution. Now, the resolution may be moved by the Minister-in-charge.

RU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, with your permission, I beg  
DY. MINISTER to move that the resolution regarding the order of the Lt. Governor (Administrator) Mizoram dated 27th September, 1976 on Chakma District Council be taken into consideration.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Anyone who has anything to say regarding this resolution?

RU NGURDANLA : Mr Speaker Sir, on scrutiny of the report on Chakma District Council, it appears that one of the causes of confusion in that District was the activities of M.N.F. whose collection of taxes disturbs trade and normal condition of the people. But, I want to know whether Government was informed of this.

P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, Government had no knowledge  
DY. MINISTER of this before the Enquiry Commission submit its report.

RU R.DOTEMAIN : Mr Speaker Sir, in the report of the Enquiry Commission, we came across the name of a person - Biekchungnunga. What kind of person is he and have the Government taken action against him? And where does he live?

RU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I think such questions are  
DY. MINISTER to be tackled later on, as I have only begged the House to take this resolution for consideration.

RU J.TEANGUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, what we have to consider today is not a trifle thing. I think all of us have the copy of the report submitted by Enquiry Commission. Personally, I find it hard to accept the recommendations or the findings of the Commission. I feel as though there is something behind the screen. If we go through the report from first to last page, may be some members also have the same feeling as mine. In view of what the leaders had done with Government's money, I feel that this District Council does not even deserve to have Village Council of its own.

As stated by our opposition member, the name - Biekchungnunga was much popularised in the report. So, what has become of him? Not only Biekchungnunga, but the names of prominent leaders of Congress Party were also mentioned in the report. Actually, our party also might

have something to realise. Rs 24,000/ Rs 25,000/- drawn by one authority as advance T... is also too much. (R. Zoliana - Mr Speaker Sir, what party do you mean by 'our party')

I mean our party - Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee as it is named. Whatever party it is, I want the explanation as to whether Government's money had been used for the benefits of the party. The Commission does not mention anything in this regard.

It may be noted that misappropriation of money is one of the greatest mischiefs practised in Chakma District Council. I believe we will also be discussing about Fawi District Council. The Enquiry Commission recommends that this District Council be dissolved. However, as far as Chakma District Council is concerned, I think it should be dissolved though the Commission recommends only its suspension. I feel that report submitted by the Enquiry Commission is a biased report. In fact, cases detected by the Commission in this District Council are to be all taken up as Police and Criminal cases. However, I think such cases will be taken up only after the Assembly takes necessary actions in pursuance of the Commission's Report. We do not know whether the report is true or false. But, it is rumoured that even if the District Council is dissolved, the same Leaders/authorities who mis-used Government's money will again come to power if election is held.

That's all I'll say now.

PU T. HRANGVELL: Mr Speaker Sir, due to continuous pressure from the M.L.As, the Government at last constituted Enquiry Commission to inquire into the affairs of Chakma District Council. I think it was since 1973 that our members suggested the constitution of Enquiry Commission. I regret to say that our Government is partly responsible for what had taken place in Chakma District. Government was too irresolute to constitute Enquiry Commission at the time when our members first suggested almost 5 years back. During those years, large amount of money was allotted to this District both from Central and Mizoram Governments. As stated in the report, it seems that Government's money is distributed as freely as fruit is distributed. The C.D.M. alone drew more than Rs 50,000/- as advance loan. Had the Commission been constituted earlier, many of the irregularities committed and done might have been prevented.

Being the representatives of the people, what we say in the House is of great importance. I have also often reminded the Government to pay heed to what we say and suggest. Yet, I once again want to remind them that what the members say in the House should be given prior consideration, for, what we say are things collected from various corners the land and from various people whom we represent. As stated in the report, so much money had been wasted. If money is not utilised for the true purposes, we would never make progress even if we get lots of money from Central Government. I am also surprised that the person in-charge of the Commission recommends only the suspension of the District Council while there are many irregularities such as we read in the report. I can almost believe that he

too has involvement in transaction of Government's money fraudulently. However, what is done cannot be undone. Therefore, the only remedy for such irregularities is to take strong precautionary measures. I, therefore, request the Government to take immediate actions in future.

PU SANGKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, is it not that the resolution will be taken up for consideration only after it is being moved?

SPEAKER : It is like this that after the resolution is moved by the Minister, nothing more was said of it. Hence, members are allotted time for question and discussion on subject matter of the resolution. However, the mover will be given time to reply your questions.  
to

PU DOTINALLA : Mr Speaker Sir, is it a fact that the resolution has been accepted but not yet adopted.

SPEAKER : Adoption will be done only after the resolution is passed.

PU SANGKHUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, though it is a serious case, the Commission's report on Chakma District Council can be a real fun if we take the funny side of it. I would be glad to have an explanation from the Minister concerned regarding the formation of this District Council - on what basis it is formed and what are the conditions?

It is a pity that the people in the Chakma District Council have to suffer because of the misdeeds of their leaders. As stated in the report, it seems that misappropriation of money was at a large scale while there is no provision for misappropriation of even a single amount from Government's fund. Perhaps that because of the many irregularities that there is complaint in the House. However, I cannot fathom as to why the Commission wanted to defend this District Council in their misdeeds.

As stated in para 2 of the Enquiry report, it is obvious that all the facts regarding allegations made against the Chakma District Council can't be dugged out. In spite of that, the irregularities detected are still great and profound and yet the Commission recommends only its suspension. The appointment of two R.Os in one post entertained by the previous C.E.M. was a minor thing in comparison with other irregularities committed.

It will be seen from the report that the main task in the Chakma District Council is distribution of money. Of the total provision for 1972-73 budget, Rs 1,79,263.78 was simply given away for nothing. Thousands and thousands of rupees were given to Government employees and to private members as Loan and Advance T... There was also a case where Rs 30,000/- disappeared when jeep was purchased. It is obvious that none of the employees under Chakma District Council maintain log book. Of the provisions of 1975-76 budget, Rs 2,13,944/- was distributed to various persons. It seems that some of the recipients are persons belonging to our Ruling party. At page 12 of No.24 of the Enquiry Report, the donation of Rs 2000/- to Mizoram Pradesh Congress

Committee was mentioned. I won't be surprised if our Ruling Party asked for such donation, since it is how they always do. At page 13 No.46, we come across the name of Laxkima, Secretary, Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee who obtained Rs 10,000/- on loan. Unless and until it is explained, we do not know whether Rs 10,000/- is for Laxkima or for the party. Whatever it is meant for, it is most improper to use Government's money recklessly other than its own purposes. As a matter of fact, it might be necessary to ascertain whether Rs 2000/- donated to Congress Party was actually received, for, it is stated in the report that the M.N.F. threatened them to give the money to some of the recipients already mentioned. If it is a fact, certain explanations may be needed as to whether M.N.F. or Congress Party obtained more money from this District Council. If careful investigation is conducted, it won't be difficult to know which of the parties received more money. I feel that it is partly due to negligence of the Government that there is so much misappropriation of money in this District Council. Once the Council was formed, it has never been taken good care of. In view of the many corruptions and misdeeds, action proposed to be taken against the Council is too mild, which almost makes me believe that the Government dare not take stern action due to involvement of our Ruling Party. We know stern actions taken by the Government against Government employees who harbour M.N.F. and who give financial aid to underground activists. Yet, as far as Chakma District Council is concerned, Government intend to take only mild action. Why should we pardon them for their misdeeds just because they belong to the Chakma District Council? If there are rules and regulations for Mizoram, the same should be applied to the said District Council as long as it is under the jurisdiction of Mizoram Government. Being more backward than the rest of the territory, Chakma people should be given priority in case of appointments and in the distribution of funds. Nevertheless, they should be treated equally with the rest of the people as far as laws and regulations are concerned. In view of the many corruptions found there, I feel that mere suspension of the District Council is too mild a punishment. As a matter of fact, they do not deserve even to have Village Council of their own.

We know that many persons have been jailed and arrested under MISA due to certain misdeeds they committed. For instance - a person who misappropriates supply commodities worth Rs 200/Rs 300 is arrested under MISA or he is put behind the prison bar. Yet, Chakma District Council who misappropriated all the Government funds allotted to them for developments is being defended and no stern allegation is being made against them. Is there no justice in this Government? Why don't you do justice against wrong-doers?

Suspension of Chakma District Council recommended by the Enquiry Commission is a thing I cannot accept in view of what had taken place there. If they continue to have District Council of their own, the Chakma people will suffer too much. It is obvious that they are incapable of looking after themselves and they are also not in a position to do that.

What I suggest then is that the Chakma District Council be dissolved and necessary actions be taken instead of suspending it. If we go on giving District Council of their own, the sufferings of the Chakma people will be too great.

Thank you.

PU HRANGAIA : Mr Speaker Sir, if we study the report of the Enquiry Commission on Chakma District Council, we can easily understand that there are misdeeds and corruptions. However, before I give statement on subject matter of the resolution, I want to give certain explanations regarding donation given to our Ruling Party by the Chakma District Council. It seems that our opposition member, Pu Sangkhuma wanted to know whether our Ruling Party asked donation from Chakma District Council. Since my appointment as MPCC President I have no knowledge of such donation being given or being asked. However, as shown at page 13, Pu Lawmkima obtained Rs 10,000/- on loan from the Chakma District Council, the recovery receipt of which I too have been shown though the money was meant for his personal use. That is why I want to tell our opposition member that the Congress Party have no financial involvement in Chakma District Council. (Pu Sangkhuma - Mr Speaker Sir, it must have been written on the receipt the exact date on which loan obtained by Pu Lawmkima from Chakma District Council was recovered. What was the date of recovery? Was it after 15th November, 1975?) Mr Speaker Sir, I request our member to satisfy with my answer as I do not have the receipt here with me. However, if he envies Pu Lawmkima and if he want to see the receipt, I am willing to show him personally. (Pu Sangkhuma - Mr Speaker Sir, it is not a matter of envy or jealousy. What we are discussing is misappropriation of money committed by the leaders of the Chakma District Council.) Mr Speaker Sir, as I have said, I can show the receipt later on if our member wants to see it. If not, I won't show him.

On scrutiny of the resolution, we can all notice the many irregularities committed by the Chakma District Council. Despite the fact that Chakma District Council committed many irregularities, I feel that the Commission member is also not competent enough in his task. In his report, the Commission member revealed for our information, the irregularities and corruptions committed by the District Council. But, he made no suggestion or recommendation as to what action should be taken. If I am not wrong in my judgment, it seems that the Commission favours pardon if there can be proper reorganisation of the Council, though I personally observe that once the District Council is dissolved, it can hardly be reorganised after such misdeeds and corruptions.

Generally speaking, the amount of money utilised from Government's fund does not matter. What matters most is how it is spent/utilised. As Pu Sangkhuma had stated, even if it is only Rs2/1, it should be utilised justly for its true purpose rather than taking it in terms of its recovery. According to the report submitted here, it appears that more than Rupees ten lakhs was drawn in the name of C.B.M. alone. If, however, they are pardoned only because they can pay back the money, it will highly be improper. However, as it is being moved, I simply want to inform the House that I support this resolution for the suspension of Chakma District Council. That's all.

Thank you.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that there can be discussion today on the subject matter of Chakma District Council. I would first of all like to request the Minister concerned to reply to my questions later on. Who is Bikkhungnunga? Where does he come from and what he is doing? And what about Shri Kristo Mohan Chakma who drew handsome money from the District Council while he is not the member or the employee in the Council?

As stated earlier, it seems that money is distributed as freely as fruit is distributed in Chakma District Council. If we look at page 11 of the report, we will see that Rs 213970.97 was lavishly distributed to various persons by the C.E.M. We know that Government strongly dislikes corruptions or mis-appropriation of money. Hence, has any action been taken against the wrong-doers here?

At page 19, we come across the name of Shri T.L.R. Talukdar, Secretary, Executive who forged Rs 28,850.04 out of Government's fund for his personal use. I think he should be punished somehow or the other. Otherwise it won't be fair if no action is taken against him because he can pay back the money.

It may also be noted that some amount of money was twice given to the M.S.F. once as Rs 13,000/- and Rs 2000/. If they were really given, it will highly be unjust. However, before we draw a conclusion, I think we better prove that the District Council had actually given the money to the M.S.F..

It is also highly improper that Shri Kristo Chakma drew Rs 8,000/- as a prize for the effort he made for the formation of Chakma District Council in addition to drawing Rs 15,000/- on loan which he has not yet repaid. I would be glad to know what is to be done with him as we know that he cannot be suspended.

As our honorable member Pu Hrangaia had said, suspension of the Council is too mild an action. However, it is going to be an attainment of good reputation for the Government if they take firm and immediate actions soon after the Council is suspended. Otherwise it can be a shame for the Government to govern such a District Council where there are so many misdeeds and corruptions. I also once again want to remind the Minister concerned to reply to my questions.

Thank you.

FU.C. LALRUATA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am sorry that a serious matter relating to great misdeeds and corruptions had to be brought before the House for discussion. It has been sometime back since some observers waited for the time when the administration of Chakma District Council will be brought to the notice of the Government. As stated earlier, in a way, it is a shame even to read only the report.

As some of our members have said, mere suspension of the District Council is too mild an action. However, as it is not possible for the Government to take actions without standing by the rules and regulations in addition to the recommendation made by the Commission, we have no alternative except to consider matters relating to the suspension of the Council as recommended. Anyway, it is expected that Government would take necessary actions step by step against the individuals who have done wrong.

On scrutiny of the report as a whole, it may be observed that there are many things which cannot be justified. It is a surprise that the Commission does not recommend dissolution of the Council in spite of all that he had written in the report. It appears that the District Council have never maintained proper accounts of their activities or how they spent money since its formation. As reported, appointments were given to persons whom the authorities favour without waiting for the approval of Executive Committee and there was no account of how and where the fund was utilised. According to the report submitted by the Commission, it seems that more than RS 2 lakhs had been wasted by the Chakma District Council during the years 1973-74 and 1975-76. Yet what the Commission recommended is mere suspension of the Council. It is obvious from the report that the Commission expects re-organisation of the Council under proper guidance of officers sent from headquarters under whose supervision, Council executive Secretary will function.

It may also be noted that since its formation, the District Council accounts have never been audited. In this, the Commission recommended sending of Audit Party to the spot so as to ascertain how much and in what way, the individuals misappropriated Government's money.

In the report, the Commission mentioned about the involvement of M.N.F. in the affairs of the District Council not only in money matters but also in case of appointments. However, as he never mentions anything which proves that the M.N.F. had really interfered in the distribution of money or in the appointment of some individuals, the report is not convincing enough. In fact, it is almost believable that we need to constitute Anti-corruption Committee as said in jest.

Mr Speaker Sir, I would also like to explain the statement where the Congress Party is said to be involved in the Council. Though party Secretary, Pu F. Lawmkima is said to be borrowing money from Chakma District Council, the Congress Party have no knowledge of it officially. As Pu Hrangain had stated, according to his private correspondence Pu Lawmkima stated as already repaying the money he borrowed. If our opposition members want to know the exact date on which he paid back the money, I can tell you that. On 7th March, 1975 he repaid the whole amount he borrowed.

Being General Secretary, I can also assure the members that the Congress Party has never received Rs 2000/- either from Chakma District Council or from Binkchungnunga though the Commission reported as though the Congress Party received that much amount in September 1975. As far as receipt of Rs 2000/- is concerned, the Congress Party has no involvement I can assure you that.

'suspension Needless to say that the Chakma District Council deserves more than \* . . . However, I am not against passing of this resolution as it is being moved, for I believe there will be time for closer investigation of the matters related to this resolution after it is passed. As stated earlier, what had happened and what was happening in the District Council is an open secret to the public even before resolution for its suspension is moved in the House. I, therefore, request other members to accept and pass this resolution.

Thank you.

PUNJURDAWLA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that resolution for suspension of Chakma District Council is being moved today by the Minister. When I hurriedly went through the report of the Commission, I could hardly appreciate it. However, on closer scrutiny, I must admit that I rather appreciate it, for the Commission is active enough so as to investigate and report many improper things and irregularities which have been accumulated since a long time. He might also consider the <sup>man</sup> difficulties that could <sup>be</sup> involved in withdrawing Government properties from the Council if he recommends dissolution instead of suspension. I think he really intends to re-construct the properties of the Government which have once been damaged. According to his recommendation, it seems that the power of the District Council is first to be taken. From what I gathered, it seems that the executive officials who, instead of guiding the ignorant were taking advantage of their ignorance for personal benefit. Generally, educated officers are the ones who are to be blamed for the irregularities and corruptions of this District Council. In my opinion, the Commission could complete a tough job within just 9 days.

As regards actions to be taken against the individual wrong doers - Government is now launching inquiry and we believe that appropriate actions will be taken accordingly. However, it is a surprise that where there is no school, Sub-Inspector of Schools was appointed. It is evident that the ignorant masses were misguided. I can't simply say that the recommendation of the Commission is not appropriate to what had been committed by the Chakma District Council. Yet, in view of what had taken place there, it is obvious that there is no justice in the machinery of the Council.

Personally, I think Village Council has nothing to do with these irregularities detected in the Chakma District Council. It will be wrong to point out persons or organised body in the House for justification of the misdeeds of their leaders. Whatever we do or whatever we say, there must be justice in it, and whenever there is something to be considered, we should also know where we stand. In my opinion, the Enquiry Commission did the right thing in making recommendations such as he had submitted. Actually, what would take action against a person unless his guilt is proved? Are we not too advanced in saying things regarding actions to be taken against the Chakma District Council? It is obvious that Govt. will also take action according to the recommendation of the Commission. Otherwise, they won't reveal all the recommendations here in the House.

involved. In the report, the Congress Party was stated as being involved in the affairs of the Chakma District Council. However, I would like to inform the House that I bear witness to what Pu Ruata had stated in this regard. Perhaps due to their ignorance the authorities in that District Council lent out so much money on loan. Anyway, I whole heartedly support the recommendation of the Inquiry Commission. I also agree to pass this resolution.

K.SANGCHHUM : Mr Speaker Sir, in view of what had been stated by various members in regard to the report submitted by the Inquiry Commission on Chakma District Council, there is something that has to be made clear. It seems that we are still

confusing as to who granted District Council to the Chakmas. I think I should mention this that at the time Mizoram was declared U.T., the creation of separate District Council for the Chakmas was also declared. Hence it is not the Government of Mizoram who granted the Chakmas separate District Council. Since that time till the present day, Chakma District Council looks after themselves and Mizoram Government as their witness. To investigate whether there is defect in the machinery of the Council, Inquiry Commission was instituted in November, 1975, under the provision of para 14 of Sixth Schedule. What counts most herein is that the Council functions according to the provisions of Rules and Regulations under the Constitution of India. But, according to the report submitted by the Commission, it seems that the Council have done nothing against the provisions quoted above. In fact, what they did has no constitutional effects though it is evident that they have difficulty in Financial procedure. The most serious misdeed committed by the Council seems to be distribution of money on loan or as grants -in-aid to various individuals. For instance, Rs 2,29,573/- to C.E.M., Rs 26,073 to E.M. and so on and so forth. But, I wonder whether this would be sufficient cause for dissolution of the District Council. Had there been constitutional effects on what they have wrongly done, dissolution would certainly be appropriate action. But, if their misdeed is in financial procedure, I regard the recommendation of the Commission as an appropriate action. However, I must say that there is something I do not appreciate in the report. For instance - in last pages of the report, we will see explanatory notes submitted by some individuals in justification of their activities which means that some few individuals were given chance for self-explanation or justification.

On the other hand, it may be noted that Secretary Biskchungunga and R.O. J. Tumuluaia were undoubtedly responsible for misappropriation of money in Chakma District Council. However, had they been given chance for self-explanation like some individuals, it might be easier for us to form concrete idea in regard to Chakma District Council. It is not very proper to take decision on the activities of these two individuals without hearing their explanations if others were given chance for explanations. Such partiality is one of the results of injustice on the part of the Commission.

In spite of good intention of Mizoram Government towards Chakma District Council, we came to the day when the Council has to be suspended or dissolved. Though we can't put the clock back to undo what had taken place in the Council, I, but want to give the Government an advice. Have the Council submitted their difficulties to the Government since 1972? Has the Minister concerned ever paid a visit to the Council during the last 4 years? Why did he not visit them at least once to witness their conditions and administration? And what steps has the Minister taken in regard to suggestions made by the Commission? It is inevitably necessary that the Minister concerned pays a visit to this District Council. In view of their wretched condition, the Chakma District Council strongly deserves to be visited by the Minister. It will be a serious case if the Government do not give instruction as to how and where they should spend Government's money. Actually, they are

truly in need of proper guidance and instruction from the Government.

Under the provision of Sixth Schedule, para (7), sub para (4) the audit party whenever they think it is necessary, can check financial positions of the Councils. The Mizoram Government can as well send audit party to this Chakma Council. Yet, no such party was sent in the past years. Had the Audit Party checked their transaction of Government's fund in the past years, misappropriation of money might have been smaller.

If we go through the last year's publication of Mizoram Gazette, we will see that there was a proposal made for the institution of a Committee to see to the affairs of the three District Councils and to find a means to relieve them of their grievances if there be any. The Committee was formed and I am also one of members. But, not even once the Committee sat and no advice was given to them either. It is now high time for the Government to pay more heed to the welfare of these backward sections of the people. I strongly believe that Government would also earn good name if they give more attention to this District Council.

One thing I want to know is whether the Government could send at least 1/2 of the staff to the District Councils as part of grant-in-aid. Have they made any suggestion in this regard and have they taken preventive measure in the past years? If yes, stronger measure should be taken to prevent large-scale corruptions. I hope that the Government would in future, pay more heed to the affairs to the Chakma District Council.

Thank you.

FU V.L.HRUAIA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that the subject matter of Chakma District Council has been brought before the House today. I feel that the Commission's report strongly confirmed a little doubt. I have in the success of granting separate District Council to the three distinctive sections of the people - the Chakmas, the Lakhers and the Pawis.

Our hon'ble Member Fu Sangchhum had given an outline of the formation of the Chakma District Council. However, granted District Council to the Chakmas, we should consider whether we will leave them as it is while they cannot look after their own affairs. Many of our members expressed their dissatisfaction over the recommendation made by the Commission regarding Chakma District Council. Candidly speaking, I also find it hard to accept this recommendation while the misdeeds were so great. Even if resolution is passed today, the Chakma District Council will go in the same way as before. Even if new election is held, the same persons will come to power. As such, mere suspension of the Council might not be an appropriate action.

Our members have stated much about the misdeeds and corruptions practised in the Chakma District Council. So I do not intend to say about misappropriation of money. What they did in the Council was more than misappropriation of money. It seems that in addition to appointing R.O., taxes were collected, but no account book was

maintained. Was it known earlier by the Government of these corruptions before the report was submitted by the Enquiry Commission? It may also be noted that Forest Royalty from Timber, cotton, ships and sugar-cane was collected. Yet, no account book was maintained. It is obvious that the District Council is incapable of running its own administration.

As some of our members have stated, Sub-Inspector of Schools was appointed while there is not even a single school in the whole of Chikma District. I don't think an efficient Secretary also will be successful in keeping the machinery of the Council in order even if he stays 6 or 12 months. As some of our members have stated, it is not that we do not want the Chikmas to have their own District Council. We feel that if they run their own administration, the lives of the Chikma people as a whole would go down too low. As such, I want to suggest that we hold another discussion over the question of Chikma District Council to be able to form a concrete idea as to what action should be taken against the Council.

At page 18, we come across a heading 'Qualification of Officers'. In Chikma District Council, persons having only matriculate qualification or class XI were appointed as Officers. If their appointments were due to lack of qualified persons, I can at least understand it. Otherwise, it is highly improper to appoint undergraduates for officer posts against Government's order.

At page 17, the strength of staff in the Chikma District Council was mentioned which is 90. According to the recommendation of the Commission, it seems that the Council can be run by only 40 staff. It is evident that the Council runs administration according to their own sweet will. It is also likely that our Government who is to look after the District Councils failed in their task. It is a real disgrace for the Government as well as for the Council itself that such misdeeds happened.

I don't think I'll have to repeat the present condition of the Chikma District Council, for, it seems all of us know about it. However, action to be taken is too mild that I don't think it will help in mending the wretched condition of the Council. It is a fact that the Enquiry Commission did a great job in revealing the misdeeds and corruptions practised in that Council. Yet, the end, that is, the recommendation is not too appreciating. It is not that we do not appreciate his work, but it is his recommendation which we find it hard to accept. Therefore, I request the Government to re-consider action to be taken against the Chikma District Council or perhaps institute another Commission to re-investigate the District Council affairs.

Thank you.

**SPEAKER :** Our time for discussion is over. I think we have said enough as far as Chikma District Council is concerned. As we cannot finish our business in the morning sitting, the Minister concerned will be called in the afternoon sitting. We will have a break now, but sitting will be resumed at 2 P.M.

2 :00 P.M.

SPEAKER : We will continue our discussion on Chikma District Council. But before that, I request all the members to keep in mind that it is resolution in which we held discussion.

In the morning sitting, I thought we would straight away call the Minister concerned in the afternoon, but as some of the members still want to say certain things regarding our subject, the Minister concerned will be called later on. So any member can start now.

FU DOPINAIYA : Mr Speaker Sir, as we know our relation relates to Chikma District Council. As Iu Sangkhuma had stated I would like to know since when the Chikma District Council functions.

Iu Sangkhuma alleged the opposition members, as saying that the Mizoram Government granted District Council to the Chikmas. I think he mistook what was said regarding the Government who grant District Council to the Chikmas. It is a fact that creation of the District Council was processed by the Parliament. However, what we want to know is the time since the Council functions.

Our hon'ble member Iu Ngurdawla said that the Government paid attention to the Chikma District Council. Perhaps this might be true. Yet, as Iu Sangkhuma had stated, I have not seen the Minister concerned paying a visit to these areas. I, therefore, feel that the Government is also partly responsible for what had happened there in the Council. As we have seen in the report, it is obvious that the Chikma District Council is incapable of looking after its own administration which I need not repeat. I wonder why the Minister concerned also did not pay a visit before at least once.

According to the provision of Sixth Schedule, para 14 (3), regional councils and Autonomous District Councils are to have separate Minister if they are under State Government. If I am not mistaken, our three District Councils - Chikma, lawi & Lakhur are under our L.A.D. Ministry. In addition to not having separate Minister the Minister-in-charge also has not paid them any visit during the past years.

As far as the report of the Enquiry Commission is concerned, I have nothing to criticize. As a matter of fact, I rather appreciate his efficiency in completing assignment left in his hand within a short period. However, in view of all the misdeeds and corruptions practised in the Council, his recommendation - suspension is too mild an action. In other places, retailers or Government staff are arrested under MISA or sometimes totally discharged from services for slight offences. If we are to take appropriate action, I feel that Chikma District Council should be dissolved. It is a surprise that in spite

of his many findings, the Commission does not recommend dissolution of the Council. Not only that, only some individuals were given chance for self-explanation. I feel that there is something behind all these. However, I am not against passing of this resolution and I think we should pass it today on condition that appropriate and immediate actions be taken without delay.

We all know that misappropriation of money in Chakma District Council was in a large scale. In some cases, some organised bodies/parties were said to be involved while at the same time, some individuals also got involved. As it is not possible to go beyond the recommendation of the Commission it is now the duty of the Government to take legal actions against wrongdoers. After taking actions, there are still many things that have yet to be investigated. For instance, at page 15 of the report, the assessment of House Tax during the year 1975-76 was Rs 6880.70 while the actual amount collected was only Rs 900/-. This clearly shows the inefficiency of the Council.

At page 21, Government's fund drawn in forgery from the Chakma District Council was mentioned. In Mizawl District, such forgery was detected for which action was taken. Will not the Government take action also against the persons whoever they are who obtained/over drawn money fraudulently from this Chakma District Council?

The Commission also reported the involvement of the M.N.F. in misappropriation of money in Chakma District Council. However, as there is no proof of their involvement, it is hard to believe that they had actually extorted money from the Council. The Commission made suggestion for the transference of Council Headquarter from Chawngta 'L' to Chawngta 'C' which in my opinion makes no difference. What I want to know is whether in the past years the Chakma Council informed the Government the involvement of the M.N.F. in their affairs. If they have not reported to the Government the accusation of the underground elements in the Commission's report seems to be a lame excuse for hiding the misdeeds of others.

Generally speaking, I feel that the Chakmas are not yet in a position to have their own District Council due to which I think we should pass this resolution. However, Government should on the other hand, take legal actions against the wrong-doers without reservation.

Thank you.

**PU SAKELLANA** : Mr Speaker Sir, I too have something to say regarding Chakma District Council. But, before I go further, I request the Minister-in-charge to explain para 4 of Lt. Governor's notification order which is suspension of executive, financial and administrative functions/powers of the Chakma District Council. According to this order, there seems to be no provision for dissolution of executive body which can mean that the Council is allowed to have Session, will the C.E. and E.Ms remain in power and will they go on drawing salary? If I am not mistaken, I think the executive members can still function even if they are deprived of powers. For instance, it so happened once in Assam Government that Education Minister was deprived of

his portfolio with an intention to oust him from the office. However, as he did not want to be ousted, the Government also could do nothing to oust him. As such, the same case can be with the Executive body of the Chakma District Council. I, therefore, request the Minister to explain this.

Let me now come to our main subject - report on the Chakma District Council. As our opposition member had stated, at the time Mizoram attained U.T. status, the Chakma Council also came into existence. Being one of the members appointed for this District Council, I stayed/about ½ month in the Council before election was held. /for

Perhaps due to political consciousness that there has always been talk on Chakma District Council since its creation. It seems that even some of our political party leaders of the present day are fully aware of the creation of this District Council. Though we wish the Council to continue, it is but necessary for the Government to follow rules and regulations due to which the time has come to take legal actions.

The Commission had clearly revealed the manner by which Government's fund was transacted in Chakma District Council. It is also evident from the report that misappropriation of money was partly due to the absence of proper instruction from the Government. It may be noted that grants-in-aid were distributed as freely as sweets are distributed to the children. Grant-in-aid tools sanctioned from the Government were also freely distributed to the public in Nunsuri.

Similarly, administration in Chakma District Council was beyond the limit. It seems that their improvement was greater in spending money rather than in administration. It is now the common belief that to become C.E.M., one has to know only the art of spending money. No other qualification is needed. That is how it is in Chakma District Council.

The allotment of Rs 1000/- made by S.K.Chakma for 1975 festival was mentioned in the report. It is a fact that as soon as he comes back to Chawngte from Lunglai, the people rush to him for their share of money. As previously reported to the Government, the money he allotted for festival was turned into the instrument for burning Chawngte Bazar. The C.E.M. who started the fire was arrested, but was released on bail later on.

As regards to co-operation of the Government in the Chakma Council - it may be noted that none of our Government staff could remain or perform their duties due to lapse of proper discipline in general administration. I think we remember that once Chawngte O.C. was pinched by the car. There had also occurred misunderstanding between the Chakmas and the Mizoram Police during 1975 festival. Hence, it may not be fully right to call them 'loyal to the Government of Mizoram'.

Besides Water Supply and grants for developmental schemes, Chakma Council is allotted E.G.S. fund for construction of roads in these areas. Yet, I dare say that not even a single road constructed under the E.G.S. can be seen. Though the Commission mentioned places where roads were constructed under E.G.S. I can but say that not a single road can be seen. However, I do not blame the Commission

for giving reports without evidence as he was given only a short period to complete a difficult task.

What had been reported by the Commission regarding the nature of appointments in Chakma District Council was true. Wherever they go, the leaders would simply appoint persons they favoured for various posts without further ado. There is no record or legal procedure being applied.

It seems that the Commission partly blames the officers in the Council for misappropriation of money while the people, being illiterate, do not know financial procedures. However, I think we should not put all the blame on our officers, for, in autonomous District Councils, the C.E.M. is all-in-all and that the officers function under him.

I think I should as well mention something about Shri J. Tumluai since his name was repeatedly mentioned in the Commission's report. According to the report, Shri J. Tumluai was stated as influencing the M.N.L. to threaten the Chakma Council, the proof of which I don't think the Commission have. When he was at Chakma Council, J. Tumluai was Revenue Officer. Being educated and experienced person, he was placed as Secretary in the Council. If we remember, he had often reported to the Government the difficulties in Council administration. But, due to communication, the Chakma leaders made agreement with him. According to the agreement, he was to be transferred to Lunglei as special Officer on duty for a period of 5 years during which he was not to return to the Chakma Council. He was to look after Rest House and to have a clerk. He was also to function as Revenue Officer. After expiry of 5 years, he is to return to the Council as Secretary. Hence, transfer order was issued on 14th November, 1973, the copy of which I too have in my possession. I, therefore want to inform the House that/not because of racial/it was discrimination held against him by the Chakma leaders that J. Tumluai was transferred to Lunglei. In Chakma Council area there are Rieng, Chakma, Tongtongia, Pang, Baeng and Tkanglau all of which are Mizo tribe. In Primary Schools, medium of instruction is Mizo. But, due to racial discrimination in the minds of the Chakma leaders, many Mizo staff working under the Council were discharged. It appears that the Commission having only a short period to look into the matters relating to the Council affairs does not know the presence of communal feeling in Chakma District Council. It may not be wrong to say that the Council is against our State Government which Sixth Schedule forbids. Despite good intention held by the Government towards them in addition to liberal grants-in-aid allotted to them, they never stop accusing the Government of negligence to their affairs. In fact, the Chakma leaders had often submitted bad reports about Mizoram Government to the Central Government. In spite of their ill-feeling towards our State Government, the Government is still trying to uplift the life of the Chakma people. It is with an intention to re-organise the scattered administration of the Council that the Government issued notification for its suspension. In fact, I think that actions to be taken by the Government are much better than suggestions made by the Commission. In view of the detailed report, the Chakma Council does not deserve to be spared. However, as the Commission had recommended, more attention should be paid to the Chakma Council areas. Government would also do well in implementing what the Commission recommended. Lastly, as it is an act of great love for the Chakma Council, I think we should pass this resolution and I fully support it.

PU K.L.ROCHAMA : Mr speaker Sir, our hon'ble members particularly from opposition bench have stated much about things outside the resolution. Our resolution is this that the Lt.Governor intends to deprive the Chakma District Council of their powers except para 3, under the provision of Sixth Schedule, para 16, sub-para(2). Notification order had been issued. And now the Minister i.e. L.A.D. brought the resolution before the House for its approval. As we know it is not possible to go beyond the provision of Sixth Schedule in this regard. We are not to go beyond the recommendation of the Commission.

Our hon'ble member Pu Dotinaia regards failure of the Minister-in-charge to visit Chakma Council as one of the reasons for irregularities in the Council which in opinion, cannot be true. As Pu Sapliana had stated, Mizoram Government is aware of the affairs of the Council. But, in spite of their proper instruction, the Council misappropriated Government's fund at a large scale. It is not only the Ministers who care for the welfare of the Council, it is but our Lt.Governor himself who went and visited the Council. Perhaps our opposition member does not know this. We should also know that as provided under Sixth Schedule para 14, one Minister is placed in charge of our autonomous District Councils. But, due to shortage of Ministers and heavy schedule of works, the Minister i/c of the Councils is placed in charge of Local Administration Department.

It may also be noted that what had been stated by Pu Dotinaia regarding the resolution was contradictory statement. At the same time he expressed his appreciation of the resolution and the Commission's report. He said that the Chakmas are not yet in a position to have their own District Council.

Pu Sangkhuma also, besides opposing this resolution said that the Chakma District Council does not deserve having Council of their own. It is obvious from their statements that our opposition members are not with one accord in this matter. While some of them support this resolution, some of them are against it. I am truly sorry that they do not have concrete idea in the subject matter of our resolution. In fact, it is almost believable that they want to scramble the Chakma Council.

However, what we should remember is this that our Government wants to serve the people of all sections on equal terms. They want to make Socialistic pattern of society a success in this land, where there is equality of men in all walks of life. Whether they are the Chakmas or Riang, the Government care for their welfare as long as they are in Mizoram. As Pu Sapliana had stated, it is an act of Love that the Council's powers are to be suspended so as to pave a way for reconstruction of the wretched administration in the Council. I think we should immediately pass this resolution and take necessary actions as recommended by the Inquiry Commission. Lastly, I want to inform the House that I fully support the resolution brought before the House by the hon'ble Minister.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Now we will call upon the Minister -in-charge.

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr Speaker Sir, in a way I am sorry that the resolution for suspension of Chakma District Council has to be brought before the House today. It is our wish and has always been that these autonomous District Councils to whom the Government allowed favours administer their affairs successfully. It is also our wish that they have speedy progress in all the aspects of life.

However, as we have seen in the Commission's report, events turned against our wishes in Chakma Council which resulted in the institution of one Man Enquiry Commission in which the Deputy Commissioner of Mhimtipui District was the member. But, when he was posted somewhere else, the present member was appointed.

Our opposition member, Pu Sanykhuma's question regarding the formation of Chakma Council was partly answered by Pu Detinaia, our opposition leader. As he had said, it is a fact that the creation of autonomous District Councils for the Chakmas, Pawis and the Lakhars originated from the North Eastern Areas Re-organisation Act. On 1st April, 1972, declaration was made. Hence, Mizoram which had once been Autonomous District Council was given U.T. status and the regional Councils were lifted up to Autonomous District Councils. But, as Mizoram Government was detailed to take charge of the formation of the Councils administration, our Lt. Governor took up the administration of the Councils during the interim period. After U.T. Government was formed, election was held in the Councils. So from December 1972, the Councils started functioning.

If I am to explain the details of each and everything concerning the Chakma Council, there won't be time left for others. However, what had been asked by Pu Chawngkunga regarding the identities of persons mentioned in the report - Birkchungnunga was appointed Assembly Secretary by the Chakma Council. Perhaps he was not efficient that his appointment was cancelled later on. Krishto Mohan was Congress Party Organiser in the Chakma area during the time of Shri B.P. Chaliha, the then Chief Minister of Assam. He (Krishto Mohan) was once a leading figure in the Chakma area. However, after the Chakmas have separate District Council, he should not have an important post that I know of.

I believe there are facts in what our members have stated regarding the report of the Commission. It seems that our members pay more serious thought to this resolution than I did since it is not a minor thing. As I have said before, there won't be enough time for detailed explanation of each and every irregularity detected in the Council. I, therefore, would give explanation in general. Generally speaking, there seems to be no particular irregularity in Assembly procedures. It is in executive function, particularly in appointments and transaction of Government's fund that the Chakma Council committed more misdeeds. As stated by the Commission, we can see that the Council staff are without proper qualification which would certainly make things difficult in the machinery of the Council administration. However, as far as transaction of Government's fund is concerned, what Pu Sapliana said was true, that, whenever

money is sanctioned/allotted to the Council, we have grant-in-aid rules which we follow and which they are instructed to follow. If I am right, money allotted to the Chakma Council since its creation till the present day has been Rs 25 lakhs.

Some members alleged the Commission as being partial in giving opportunity for self-explanation. As provided under Grant-in-aid Rule (12), the Executive Body is responsible if there is misappropriation of money. Similarly, Executive Secretary have equal responsibility in misappropriation of money as provided under rule (13) of Grant-in-aid Rule. As such, I think all the persons concerned were to be given chance for explanation. It seems that J. Tumlusia and Bickchungnunga were the only persons who were not given chance for self-explanation. Shri Bickchungnunga had been discharged from service and Shri J. Tumlusia was, as Pu Sapliana had stated, transferred to Lunglei.

Pu Sangbhum's question as to why the Minister-in-charge did not pay a visit to the Chakma Council and whether the Government intend to send officers to the Council as part of grant-in-aid it is my responsibility that I did not visit Chakma Council. I know that I am to be blamed for not paying a visit to this area before. I have often tried to go there and sometimes made arrangements to go by Helicopter. Unfortunately the helipad was not approved for civilians. As there is no proper communication, one has to go on foot for many days. So, besides my idleness, various difficulties cropped up which prevented me from visiting the Council of which I am in charge. Informations regarding Chakma Council are mostly collected from Tlabung, that is where their District Headquarter was at Borapensuri.

As I have stated, the misdeeds of the Chakma Council were mostly found in financial procedure, and in appointment. It is not that the Government have not been giving instruction and legal advice to the Council. In fact, we have often advised them even not to give fresh appointments in addition to the present strength of staff. But as the Council have its own autonomy, it is not possible for the Government to have direct control over their actions. However, I dare say that the Government have done their best to improve and help this District Council.

Pu Sangbhum asked whether the Government intend to send officers to the Chakma Council to help running the administration. The Government, being aware of the difficulty that could arise in the administration of the Council due to lack of experienced persons, proposed to send some officers to the Council on deputation. When the matter was being processed, the Chakma Council proposed the then P.A. & A.D.C. of Tlabung for Council Secretary. But, just after finalisation of this case, they made another proposal in favour of Shri Talukdar, the then A.O., for Council Secretary. So, fresh case was again being processed. However, when they made another proposal after the appointment of Shri Talukdar was being processed, we realised that it is not possible to fully co-operate with them in regard to the appointment of the Secretary. Hence, the decision was left to them. Such being the case, I want our honourable members to understand the situation in which we were in besides not having power to have direct control over them.

It is a fact that the subject matter of Chakma District Council which we have now considered is a serious case. It seems that many of our members find it hard to accept mere suspension of the Chakma Council recommended by the Commission. It is indeed necessary to give serious thought as to what actions should actually be taken against the Council for the misdeeds they have committed. As we know, the proposed actions of the Mizoram Government are all mentioned in this resolution. It is our hope and belief that if senior officers are sent to the Council to give proper guidance to the staff who have not had much experience in the office procedures, the Council will make improvement in the administration. As you have noted in the report, we know how the Government's money was spent. We also know that no account books were maintained. I believe their books are to be audited later on. (Pu R. Dotinaia - Mr Speaker Sir, the hon'ble Minister stated that the account books of the Council will be audited later on which could mean that Government is aware of misappropriation of money committed in the Council even before report was submitted by the Commission. The Commission also reported the allotment of grant-in-aid made by the Government to the Council for the two successive years of 1972-73 and 1973-74. It seems that the Government, despite their knowledge that grant allotted to the Council for the year 1972-73 was misappropriated, made another allotment in the succeeding year i.e. 1973-74. Why did not the Government take an instant action in that year? I think the Minister-in-charge is too negligent of the Council of which he is incharge). Mr Speaker Sir, first of all, grants-in-aid were allotted to the Chakma Council reciprocally. However, to draw the grant a second time, they have to produce voucher for all the expenditures of the previous grant. These vouchers are to be countersigned by the Deputy Commissioner of their respective District. I also want to inform the House that the Government have no prior knowledge that the Council misappropriated grant-in-aid money allotted to them. As soon as we knew an Enquiry Commission was constituted, the result of which we will know.

As regards actions to be taken against the individual wrong-doers, Government is intending to have a closer look at the matters relating to misappropriation of money in Chakma Council and individuals involved are to be punished regardless of their ranks and positions. Accountant General has also been requested to send Audit Party specially to audit the account books or financial documents of Chakma District Council. The A.D.C. Tlebung has also been given order to seize all the financial documents, record books, vouchers and account books of Chakma Council. He is further instructed to submit these documents to the audit party. (R. Dotinaia - Mr Speaker Sir, have all the necessary documents been seized?) Mr Speaker Sir, I cannot as yet answer that. Officer whom we detailed to do the work of seizing could not go to the Council on Medical ground. Hence, the nearest outpost officer to the Council i.e. A.D.C., Tlebung was detailed. But, I cannot say whether he had seized the documents of the Chakma Council. There might be some delay in undertaking the task for which he is detailed due to bad communication. Though I cannot say the detailed actions to be taken against each and every individual wrong-doer, we can but believe that appropriate action will be taken

if we have proof that the accused persons have actually committed misdeeds.

As there won't be enough time for detailed explanation of things in connection with Chakma Council, I think I should now explain Government's proposed actions. The Executive members, when deprived of their functions and powers will remain M.D.C. like the rest of M.D.Cs. The Council will retain its autonomy and the Legislature will continue to function. As stated by our members, actions proposed by the Government might not be the most appropriate actions. However, what I have stated are legal actions which can likely be taken at this stage. If the House accepts this resolution, the Chakma District Council will be deprived of its executive power from 15th of next month and senior officers will be sent to function in their place. I, therefore, request the House to please accept and pass this resolution.

Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Replies to your questions in regard to the resolution have now been furnished by the Minister-in-charge. Now, we will have voting on the resolution. I think I need not read out all the clauses of the resolution as it is already shown at para No.25 of bulletin part II.

This is the question that - the Resolution shown in the order paper, para 25 of bulletin part two dated 28.9.'76, be adopted.

Those who agree to pass the resolution say 'agree' (Members - 'agree') Is there any member who disagrees? (Members kept silent). The resolution for suspension of Chakma Council has now been passed without opposition. Out next item is motion for suspension of Rule. As in the case of our previous resolution, sub-section 4 of rule 119 is the Rule moved for suspension. Now, the Chief Minister may move the motion for adoption of this motion.

**PU CH. CHEUNGA** : Mr Speaker Sir, I beg to move my motion which **CHIEF MINISTER** is that 'this House do suspend sub-rule (4) of Rule 119 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly in its application to the Government resolution regarding agreement between the representatives of the Government of India and the M.N.F. announced on the 1st July, 1976' be accepted.

**SPEAKER** : Rule for suspension moved by the Chief Minister is this that 'this House do suspend sub-rule (4) of Rule 119 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of business..... Those who agree to adopt this motion say 'agree' (members - 'agree') Is there anyone who disagrees to its passing? (Members kept silent) Since we agree to adopt this motion, we will call the Chief Minister to move the resolution in the House. However, as there was a little confusion in previous resolution, I must tell you this that, first of all the Chief Minister will move the resolution

and he can as well make statements where and when necessary. Only after this, discussion will follow. Now, the Chief Minister may kindly move the resolution.

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, I beg to move that my  
CHIEF MINISTER resolution which is: The Mizoram Legislative  
Assembly places on record its appreciation  
and happiness at the understanding arrived  
at between the Government of India and M. N. F. and sincerely  
hopes that the provisions of the agreement announced on the  
1st July 1976 will be implemented smoothly and speedily to  
strengthen peace and to create a favourable climate for fur-  
ther talks and settlement of all problems in Mizoram' be  
considered. (Speaker - You can continue). As we all know,  
Mizoram has long since been a disturbed area where everybody  
longed and yearned for peace and tranquility. I think we  
remember that if it is for the attainment of peace, Church  
leaders, party leaders and other eminent figures of  
Mizoram were ready and they also went to the most secluded  
areas to meet our M.N.F. friends. In fact, Church leaders  
who were involved in such a secret meeting were publicly  
criticised. Despite this, they made efforts and stopped at  
nothing if it is for the attainment of peace. Similarly,  
various organised bodies and political parties made joint  
efforts for causing peace within the land. Even when Pu Bawi-  
chhuaka was C.E.M., I and Pu Pahlira accompanied him to the  
then Members Hostel where secret meeting was held with the  
leaders of the M.N.F. If we remember, Resolution to work for  
the attainment of peace was passed in 1970 when Mizoram was  
an autonomous District. It is not only once that secret  
meeting was held. There were meetings in various corners of  
Mizoram. In February, 1974, Pu Malsawa Colney, one of the  
prominent leaders of the underground activists, was invited  
to come to Aizawl which he fulfilled. Though a meeting was  
held, it did not come out successful perhaps because it  
was the first meeting. As they do not want to talk to Mizoram  
Government they requested us to go to Central Government to  
inform them that the M.N.F. wanted to have a talk only with  
Central Government. As such was the case, we, on the other  
hand could do nothing except to take their words to the  
Central Government. The Prime Minister was approached. Thus,  
great efforts were made by our leaders for the attainment  
of peace. The Prime Minister, being aware of the grievances  
of the tribal people would certainly wish us to have real  
peace. And I think it is due to her effort that Peace Talk  
was held in Delhi, the result of which we all appreciate.  
I think our thanks should be extended to her for making the  
peace talk a success. I believe there is none in Mizoram  
who is not happy and glad when peace agreement was announced.  
Special services were held in every village and town and  
prayers were offered to God, thanking Him for His guidance  
all thro' the years of sufferings and tumults, and prayers  
for the attainment of real peace and lasting peace were  
offered. It is our wish that peace agreement announced on  
1st July 1976 will lead to the attainment of lasting peace.  
I also believe that our M.N.F. friends have now realized  
the sufferings and hardships of the people, which perhaps  
compelled them to come to terms with the Government.  
Needless to say how much the people have suffered for the  
last 10 years. It is now everyone's duty to pray and fight  
for peace. I sincerely hope that our M.N.F. friends also

would from now on follow the path of non-violence to get the thing for which they have fought. It is ~~ew~~ well and good that they fight for Independence, but, they should consider the price the people paid for what they were doing. It is everyone's hope and prayer that our underground friends will come forward to make the peace talk a success. I also want to request our Church leaders, political leaders and the public to make utmost efforts for the attainment of lasting peace.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Our time is over if we are to disperse at 4 o'clock. But as we have important Resolution, shall we extend the time for this sitting? (Members - we agree to extend it). We will continue our discussion on the Resolution moved by the hon'ble Chief Minister. Though it is restricted resolution, we have but permission of the Administrator to discuss it in the House. So, we shall now continue our discussion.

PU ZALAWMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that our hon'ble DY. MINISTER Chief Minister moved this resolution today. It is inevitably necessary to extend our thanks to various Parties, associations, Government and the individuals concerned for bringing peace into the land where there were sufferings, deaths, and hardships and where the people were encircled by darkness for the last 10 years. As our Chief Minister had stated, appeals were made both to the Central Government and to the underground activists, and all sorts of means were sought for the attainment of peace. When I recalled the time when we held secret talks in remote jungles risking our lives, I am happy that today a new dawn of peace pervades our land where there was a cry of suffering and death for the past 10 years. I think our Chief Minister has the credit of being one of the persons who have done much and suffered much in search of a way for peace. Central Government also watched the situation of Mizoram with sympathy and understanding. It is due to joint efforts made by everyone concerned that there can be peace talk at Delhi in which the Central Government and our underground friends arrived at an agreement. As stated in this resolution, it is the responsibility of the members, and the public to make the agreement a success for the attainment of lasting peace. Let us therefore make greater efforts to attain real lasting peace.

Thank you.

PU SANGKEUMA : Mr Speaker Sir, it is a privilege for us to have an opportunity to discuss this important resolution which has great difference from other resolutions moved in the current session. As stated by the hon'ble Speaker, it is a restricted resolution due to which one has to be cautious in what one says in this regard. In a way, I could almost feel that I am not wanted to give a speech in regard to this resolution. (Speaker - What I said was that the resolution is beyond our purview. But, having permission of the Administrator for its admission to the House, members could have free discussion on it) Mr Speaker Sir, what I mean to say was the difficulty is obtaining the copy of the resolution which I got only this

morning in the Hall. Though I have no time to prepare myself for the speech, I but still intend to say certain things in this regard.

The difficulties and hardships which confronted Mizoram since 1966 need not be repeated. I think we all know how the villages were grouped and the wretched condition of the people in grouped villages. On the top of that Security Forces who came to protect the lives of the people behaved just the opposite. Innocent persons were arrested and tortured. Similarly, there are others who suffered in the hands of both the M.N.F. and the Security Forces.

However, we are thankful that today the resolution in appreciation of peace agreement arrived at between the representatives of the M.N.F. and the Government has been brought before the House. As stated earlier, various political parties, organisations, and Church leaders made much effort for bringing about peace and tranquility. But, if we take advantage of this agreement to strengthen the position of our own party or organisation, real and lasting peace will be far from our grasp. Actually, it might not be easy for our underground friends to humble themselves to come to terms with the Government. But, regardless of themselves, they came forward to make agreement only because they don't want the people to suffer. They themselves have suffered much and will certainly be ready to suffer for their cause. However, leaving aside all that they have faced and suffered, they made agreement with the Government the provisions of which were declared on 1st July 1976. Our hon'ble Chief Minister also made declaration over the A.I.A. By this agreement, the Government is to suspend all their military operations in Mizoram while the M.N.F. are to come out of their hiding places and surrender arms and ammunition. It is obvious that everyone in Mizoram was overjoyed to hear the good tidings, for, holiday was declared specially for Thanksgiving Day and in every Church, special services were held and prayers were offered to God. Yet, despite all our celebrations, there are still many soldiers marching in the streets scaring away the people and the people are still dreading the scene of soldiers marching in the streets. If we agree to conclude peace agreement, will it still be necessary to maintain as many soldiers as before? If we want to have peace and tranquility, why do we not send away the soldiers whose sight the people still dreaded? If they are not here, the people will breathe peacefully, for, it is the sight of soldiers which once again remind them of their sufferings and anxieties in the past years. I strongly believe that if the soldiers are removed from the face of the public, there will not be strained atmosphere.

Thank you.

PU V.L.BRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that quite a different resolution has been brought before the House today. I am also glad that the Government and the M.N.F. arrived at peace agreement which we all yearned for. However, it seems that the agreement is at a delicate stage. If I am not mistaken, I think operation is at first to be suspended for 3 months, the expiry of which is not very far off. We can believe that things won't be upto our expectation within such short

period. However, we should earnestly request both the concerned parties to come to lasting agreement. We should also continue to pray for the attainment of lasting peace as we have done before.

I am truly glad that resolution concerning peace agreement arrived at between the Central Government and the M.N.F. has been brought before the House today. As stated earlier, I think we should remember that the underground activists did not come to surrender but to make peace for the people for whose freedom they gave their lives. It seems that they also realise the incapability of the people in catching up their steps in their march towards Independence. Hence, Pu Laldenga, the M.N.F. leader along with his followers agreed to have peace talk with the Government of India. As a consequence, peace agreement was signed. We owe our gratitude to the M.N.F. and to the Central Government for causing peace in a land where there was great suffering for many years. We should also extend our thanks to the Government of Mizoram and associations and everyone concerned for their efforts. However, we must remember that, the agreement, being at its delicate stage, should be watched over with care and understanding and further steps should be taken for the attainment of lasting peace. As stated earlier, removal of soldiers from the face of the public might also be one of the necessary steps that has to be taken for making the agreement a success. Remembering the darkness of the last 10 years, let us make greater efforts for the attainment of true and lasting peace.

Thank you.

PU J. TH. NGHUAMA : Mr Speaker Sir, I also have few things to say regarding our resolution. I am truly glad that our hon'ble Chief Minister, in appreciation of the peace agreement arrived at between the M.N.F. and the Central Government moved this resolution today. Had it been possible, I would have liked to transmit all that we say in the House today to Arafan Hills, to New Delhi and to the people all over Mizoram. Frankly speaking, we are no more in a position to go through another long sufferings and hardships. As such, we are truly thankful for this new agreement.

One of the provisions of the 1st July Agreement is suspension of operations for 3 months as a first step. But, in addition to our Chief Minister's resolution, it is my desire that suspension of operations be extended. In fact, I want it to be extended right now had we power to do so, as it is the people who suffered most in course of the disturbances, utmost importance should be given to their safety and welfare. We will also do well in convincing the people not to believe all that they hear, for there are persons who are ready to spread rumours and lies thus discouraging and disturbing the minds of the people.

I don't intend to say much today. For, I believe there are others who have something to say in regard to our resolution. However, I strongly believe that we all are glad to have a resolution where the opinions and feelings of the people are expressed. I, therefore, want that we pass this resolution today. This is my desire

as well as my appeal to the Central Government and the M.N.F. that suspension of operations be extended.

Thank you.

PU HIPHEI : Mr Speaker Sir, I also would like to say few  
DY.SPEAKER things in appreciation of this resolution.

We all know the condition of Mizoram since disturbances broke out in 1966. It is not only that Mizoram is not in a position to go through the same course of life we led for the last ten years, but disturbance had greatly degraded the condition of Mizoram as a whole. I think we also know the depth of misunderstanding which arises between the Government and its subjects which is much deeper than misunderstanding between different countries. While the Government of India acknowledge their protective power not to lose even an inch of their territory, some of our friends want to part from India. Hence, misunderstanding arose between the Government and the M.N.F. Previously, I thought that misunderstanding between the Central Government and the M.N.F. was deep. When I have such thought, there is one thing which stuck my mind. Let us take one family for example. When misunderstanding crops up between the parents, there is strained atmosphere in the family. No one is in a mood to talk and the children are very unhappy as there is no response from the father or mother even if they try to hold conversation with them. Similarly, there was misunderstanding between the Central Government and the M.N.F. which created strained atmosphere in Mizoram for the last ten years. But, due to great efforts made by various organisations, parties and individuals concerned that understanding was arrived at between them for which we all are glad. For, it is a happy moment for the children when the parents reconciled after long quarrel and misunderstanding which makes life miserable. This new understanding truly deserves resolution such as our hon'ble Chief Minister had moved in the House today.

When we have a sense of happiness in the wording of 'understanding arrived at between the Government of India and the M.N.F.', there is another wording- 'and sincerely hope' for which I am again thankful. Though I don't know what will be the outcome of our hope, it is but by hope and faith that we, human beings can go on living even at the darkest hour of life. It is evident that after understanding arrived at between the Government of India and the M.N.F., there is still another hope for something perhaps for better and truer understanding. As such, I really appreciate this resolution and I think we should also pass it today.

Thank you.

PU R.DOTEMIA : Mr Speaker Sir, I am glad that our hon'ble  
Chief Minister moved this resolution today.  
But, before I go further, I request the  
Minister concerned to explain certain things  
later on. Our hon'ble member Pu J.Thingbunga made appeals  
or were they suggestions? If suspension of operations is  
extended as desired, will it be included in the wording of  
this resolution? This thing I want to be explained later on.

As we all know, things which we all know have to be repeated for better understanding. It has been more than 10 years since Mizoram is encircled by various difficulties. It is everyone's wish that there be lasting tranquility in Mizoram. Yet, things cannot be as we wished them to be. Everyone of us has things to do in order to get what we all wish.

Today, a new dawn of peace has arisen in Mizoram and resolution in appreciation of this new atmosphere has also been brought before the House for which I am thankful. However, as Pu Sangkhuma had stated, the copy of the resolution was received lately due to which there was no time to go thro' it before it is being discussed.

It seems however that what we, the members wish for is the well-being of the people whom we represent. But, unless there is peace within our land, our wishes and desires will never be realised or accomplished. As stated earlier, the peace agreement is at its delicate stage and it is not known whether this will lead to the attainment of true and lasting peace. To make the peace agreement fully a success everyone of us has responsibility and the Government of India as well as the underground activists also might have to humble themselves to create an atmosphere of peace and tranquility in Mizoram. I, therefore, want that we should make greater efforts for this. With a view to make the agreement a success and lasting, I wish this resolution a success and we, the members also should take vigorous steps for the attainment of perpetual peace.

Thank you.

PU HRANGAIA : Mr Speaker Sir, first of all, I would like to thank our Lt. Governor for giving permission to give this resolution and also our Chief Minister for moving the resolution today. I am also truly thankful for this new agreement arrived at between the Government of India and the M.N.F. for it is not only the people but also the undergrounds themselves who have suffered so much. It is my wish and prayer that the Government of India as well as the M.N.F. will bravely take steps to consolidate the agreement. It is on them that attainment of perpetual peace depend.

Thank you.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA : Mr Speaker Sir, there are many things to say. But, our members have given good statements regarding our resolution. As such it is not easy to make addition to what they have stated. However, I would like to say a few things.

As I don't know the destiny of our struggle for Independence, I was losing hope right from the beginning. I have often wondered whether the Mizos will last till the end of the Light even if a victory is won. As a matter of fact, I am sometimes afraid that the Mizo race will be annihilated if we continue large-scale violent struggle. Though our efforts mean nothing, I really but gave up hope of reconciliation w/ the Central Government and the M.N.F. when the latter declared their intention to talk only to

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the Central Government for I knew that unless ~~peace~~ one of them steps down from their high position, peace talk would hardly be held at equal level. However, while I was much in despair peace agreement was signed between the Central Government and the M.N.F. It is obvious that all the things concerning the conditions of Mizoram and the new agreement will not be settled all at once. But, it is still a relief to hear the good tidings though it is at its initial stage. As stated by our members, Peace Agreement is the wonderful work of God who used the Central Government and the M.N.F. as His instruments. We, therefore, must thank God for this, and our thanks should also be extended to both the concerned parties who stepped down from their high positions to make this new agreement. As far as peace agreement is concerned, the M.N.F. and the Central Government have played their role which is not an easy one. It is now our turn to wholeheartedly accept the terms and conditions of this agreement. It is a thing of utmost importance that the people and the M.N.F. make greater efforts for the attainment of perpetual peace.

In view of the conditions in Mizoram and hard realities of life we have led in the past years, it is our hope and desire that Peace Agreement becomes a success and turns into the stepping stone to the attainment of lasting peace. As some of our members have said, the agreement is now at its delicate stage due to which every one is responsible for its further growth. As suggested, it will be a good thing if the term of the agreement is extended.

Thank you.

PU L.P. THANGZIKI : Mr Speaker Sir, I think there is none who is not pleased to hear about the new agreement arrived at between the Central Government and the M.N.F. I was so glad to hear the news when it was announced that I personally sent a message to the Prime Minister.

If we review the conditions of Mizoram and the kind of life we led for the last 10 years, we know that it is peace which Mizoram needs most for, without it wealth, fame, high position, luxury etc have no meaning or significance. I can never forget the day the Peace Agreement was announced. As stated by our members, Government holiday was declared for Thanks Giving Day. Everywhere Church services were held and prayers were offered to God thanking Him for causing peace in our land. Besides this, a resolution in appreciation of this new agreement is being moved in the House today for which I am fruely thankful. I also want to thank our Chief Minister for moving this resolution, for, only when it is being moved that I realise the importance and necessity of moving the resolution in the House. This Assembly, being the highest authoritative body in Mizoram, is partly responsible for the success of this new agreement. And, it is the responsibility of we, the members to make efforts to make this agreement a stepping stone to the attainment of lasting peace.

that we should  
Lastly, I want to offer unceasing prayers to God for His guidance in the years to come as He had guided us in the past. We should also ask Him to direct our course of life, for, He is the one Who can inspire and had inspired the minds of the leaders and authorities to do good for the people and for the country, and it is my desire that we pass this resolution today.

Thank you.

**PU CH. CHHUNGA** : Mr Speaker Sir, it seems that none of our  
**CHIEF MINISTER** members object to passing my resolution,  
 for which I am thankful. However, I want  
 to assure our opposition members that  
 the resolution I moved in the House today is not done on  
 party bias. I think they only understand it because the mover  
 is from the party who formed the Government. There is no  
 party feeling here. (Pu Sangkhuma - Mr Speaker Sir, the  
 reason why I mentioned my presumption of the resolution as  
 being framed with party bias was only because of Pu Zalawma's  
 statement. He said that after merger, there is closer co-ope-  
 ration between the people and the Government. So, if we take  
 things that way, the feelings of some persons will be hurt.  
 As such, I think we should not use such statement) (Pu Zalawma,  
 Dy. Minister - Mr Speaker Sir, let me answer that before our  
 Chief Minister answers. What I meant by that statement was that  
 the unity of people strengthens the Government) Mr Speaker  
 Sir, if that is so, there is nothing to clarify about. I am  
 glad that our opposition member Pu Sangkhuma also had clearly  
 explained his opinion.

As stated earlier, this might be true  
 that the people hate and dreaded the scene of soldiers marching  
 in the streets. However, I think we should not expect complete  
 withdrawal of soldiers from the face of the public at this  
 stage while the agreement is at its delicate stage. As a  
 matter of fact, the new agreement is only the beginning for  
 the attainment of real peace. It is an agreement to create  
 better atmosphere for further accomplishment of peace and under-  
 standing between the Government and the M.A.R. Anyway, I think  
 we all are thankful for this new dawn of peace and hope, for,  
 everywhere, there was a dry of joy when the new agreement was  
 announced. However, amidst our joy and hope for better future,  
 there are war-mongers who spread rumors and who stop at no-  
 thing if it is for their personal benefits. These kinds of  
 persons are not only the enemies of the country but also are  
 the ones who spoil the joy, hope and aspirations of the people  
 and of the country. However, if we make efforts, I strongly  
 believe that we would someday overcome fear and distrust  
 created by them. It is our hope and desire that there  
 be perpetual peace in Mizoram. It is my hope and prayer that  
 this new agreement will lead to the attainment of lasting  
 and truer peace and I, at the same time, request our members  
 to make greater efforts for this end. I would also be very  
 thankful if our members agree to pass this resolution of mine.

**SPEAKER** : I think our members have said enough on  
 this resolution and the questions also  
 have been replied and explained. Now,  
 we will take up the question for House's adoption. I think  
 I won't have to read out the resolution for, it is there  
 in Bulletin part II. The question is that the Resolution  
 listed in the order paper 27 of bulletin part II dated 28.9.76  
 be adopted. Those who agree to adopt this resolution say  
 'agree' and those who disagree say 'disagree' (Members say  
 'agree').

Our resolution has now been passed unopposed.  
 It appears that our current session is now going to  
 end.

Although the session lasted only for a short period,  
 there are but many questions. Of these, there are 3 un-replied  
 questions. Under the provision of rule 50(A) reasons for

un-replied questions have to be explained. The three un-replied questions are from Pu Dotinaia, Pu Hrangvela and from Pu Vanil-kruaia in Appointment, Statistic and P.W.D. respectively. These are the only three admitted questions the replies of which have not been furnished. Some members state as not receiving replies to their questions. But, I think these are questions which were not admitted.

**PU SANGKHUMA** : Mr Speaker Sir, I am not fully satisfied with reply to my question. My question was submitted on 2.9.76 and was admitted on 6.9.76, the admission copy of which was also sent to me. But, today it is said that my question was not admitted. It is fairly unjust to cancel admission of the question just because the answer cannot be furnished. Even if the reply cannot be furnished, the reason should be stated in the House by the Department concerned.

**SPEAKER** : Now from Appointment Department.

**PU CH. CHUNGA** : Mr Speaker Sir, I don't remember exactly the condition of Pu Sangkhuma's question. But, if I am not mistaken, I think it was referred to Central Government and while correspondence is going on, we can do nothing to furnish the reply to question which had once been referred to Central Government. That is the reason why Pu Sangkhuma's question was not replied. (Pu Sangkhuma - Mr Speaker Sir, yes, that is right. Why was I not told like that at the beginning?) Mr Speaker Sir, though I have said like that, actually we are not to say this in the House. It should be outside the House.

As regards Statistic question, as the question covers the whole of Mizoram, collection of data has not yet been completed. Rules of Procedure and Conduct of (Pu Sangkhuma - Mr Speaker Sir, will the Minister kindly read out the question?) The question is this - 'What is the actual number of Government servants in Mizoram as on 30th June, 1976?' That is the reason why we cannot furnish reply to Pu Sangkhuma's question.

As regards question relating to Education Department - due to diverse opinions, we cannot as yet finalise the exact reply.

**PU R. DOTINAIA** : Mr Speaker Sir, can I be given better explanation for my question relating to Education Deptt. ?

**PU LALSANGZUALA** : Mr Speaker Sir, to furnish reply to Pu V.I. Hruaia's question, information has to be collected from 7 Divisions. Compilation work was finished only yesterday due to which information required has not been brought before the House today. However, the reply will be furnished later on.

Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to make suggestion regarding questions. I think it is better to include questions which requires long answers with many figures as unstarred.

Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : As I have stated earlier, the current session lasted only for a short period. Yet, many questions were received and admitted the answers of which were furnished quite adequately. In our current session, we have 3 Govt. Bills, 5 Committee Reports and 9 papers laid on the table of the House. Besides these, there are two resolutions the kinds of which we have never had before. Both of them are passed unopposed.

I am truly glad that we are now coming to the end of the session with no interruption or difficulty in between. As all the members have respect for the dignity of the House, we could have a peaceful session for which I thank each of you. So, the House will now stand adjourned sine die.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

D. S. PANDE  
SECRETARY  
MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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