

SPEAKER: You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but upon a lampstand. And it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father who is in Heaven.

(Matt. 5:14-16)

According to rule 31 of Rules of Procedure the business in this House should be transacted in the official language or languages of the Union Territory or in Hindi or in English. But as we do not yet have our official language, any member who cannot use Hindi or English may use his or her mothertongue, as provided in Govt. of Union Territories Act, 1963, section 34, clause 2.

We shall take up questions. Those who have questions may ask. Question No. 1.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

Dissolution of Tawipui Village Council.

*1: PU SATTILAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Local Administration Department be pleased to state -

The reason for the dissolution of Tawipui Village Council with effect from 1.12.1976?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the question is that what is the reason for dissolution of Tawipui Village Council with effect from 1.12.76.
DY. MINISTER.

Tawipui Village, due to unsuitable location is to be shifted to two separated villages namely, Mualkawi and Minpuikawn. The Village Council was dissolved for the implementation of that scheme for it was impossible to have one Village Council for two villages.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to know the necessity of dissolving Village Council just because they are going to be shifted to two places.

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, practically the people have already lived in Minpuikawn and Mualkawi. In order to give them new Village Councils, the existing Village Council was dissolved.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, there is only one Village Council Member at Minpuikawn while Mualkawi has more V/C Members. Does not the Govt. know how to make arrangements without dissolving the Village Council ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Tawipui Village is not only to be made into two Villages, but also to be given new Village Councils. The number of seats in Village Council is to be in proportion to the number of houses. So that one Member at Minpuikawn and more number at Mualkawi are in proportion to the no. of the houses in either of the two Villages. That is why it was dissolved.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, There is one thing to be clarified. The hon'ble Minister has said about Mualkawi and Minpuikawn. But the Deputy Commissioner, Lunglei calls Tawipui North and Tawipui South. I want to know who is responsible for giving the names of villages, the Government or the Deputy Commissioner. Has the Deputy Commissioner power to change the names of Villages without the knowledge of the Government ?

Mr. Speaker, has the Government any intention to give the reasons for dissolving this Village Council as it was provided in section 25, sub-section (3) of Village Councils Act ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the name of a Village may be called both by the Deputy Commissioner or the local people if the Government approved it. Regarding this Tawipui Village, the Government has no other record than Mualkawi and Minpuikawn.

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If we find it necessary to discuss in the House it will be discussed.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, may I read the existing Act section 25, sub-section (3)
(Speaker: -Is it necessary, It is the existing Act and is it not clear enough ?) According to this Act, it must be discussed.

They were called Tawipui North and Tawipui South in the last election and I want to let the House know that this was disliked by the inhabitants.

SPEAKER: We shall take question No. 2. Let the member ask.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Proposal for creation/sanction for the posts of D.S.E.O. and D.S.W.O.

*2: PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Finance Department be pleased to state-

Whether it is a fact that Finance Department is not willing to approve proposals for creation/sanction for the post of District Social Education Officer and District Social Welfare Officer for the District of Lunglei and Chhimituipui respectively, despite Budget provisions for the same ?

PU R. THANGLIAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, two posts of D.S.E.O for MINISTER. Lunglei District and Chhimituipui Dist. had been created in November last year. But the proposal for the post of District Social Welfare Officer did not come from the department.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, The two posts of D.S.E.O. for Lunglei District and Chhimituipui District had been created but the posts have not yet been filled up though State Social Education Officer and District Social Education Officer had been serving in Aizawl since a long time back. Why this is so ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I cannot answer that. But
MINISTER. Finance Department gave concurrence for
the two posts of D.S.E.O. for Lunglei
and Chhimituipui Districts last year in the month of November.
The post was created by the Department but I do not know
whether they had filled up or not. As I have said Finance
Department did not receive any proposal for the post of
D.S.E.O. from the Department.

PU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the file was sent to
MINISTER. Lt. Governor for the creation of the
post of D.S.E.O. But the Lt. Governor
wanted to know whether if such a District level Officer is
appointed while Social Education Officers were attached
in Block levels, whether there may be duplication of works
in the District. We sent the case to the C.D. Department.
I do not know the exact position but it delays the creation
of the post.

SPEAKER: Now we shall follow List of Business.
We shall take up Government Business.

OBITUARY REFERENCES.

Our President Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed
died on 11th Feb., 1977 and Shri Lalhingthanga, M.L.A. died
on February 14, 1977. We shall have remembrance of the two
important men. The Chief Minister may please give references.

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Shri F.A. Ahmed was born on
CHIEF MINISTER. May 13, 1905. He was educated in Delhi
and Cambridge Universities. He served as a
Lawyer in Inner Temple London in 1928. He started working
as an advocate in Punjab High Court in 1936 and continued
the same in Assam High Court. He became a member of Indian
National Congress in 1931. He was elected M.L.A. in Assam in
1935. He was a Minister of Finance and Revenue from 1937 to
45. From 1946 to 1952, he was the Advocate General of Assam.
He was a member of Rajya Sabha from 1954-57. In 1955 he went
to Russia leading the Indian Lawyers. In 1957 he was one of
the delegates of India to United Nations. In 1957-62 and
1962-66, he was M.L.A. of Assam and was a Minister for Finance.
As Union Minister, he was a Minister for Irrigation and Power
from January-November, 1966. From November 1966 to March, 1967

he was incharge of Education. From March 1967 to February, 1969 he was incharge of Department of Industrial Development and Company Affairs. From February 1969 to July 1970 he was Minister for Industrial Development, Internal Trade and Company Affairs. From July 1970 to August, 1974 he was Food and Agriculture Minister. He was the 5th President of India from August, 1974. He passed away on February 11, 1977.

Fu Ahmed was a sympathizer of the position and difficulties of Mizoram. His death is a great loss for Mizos.

SPEAKER: Regarding Fu Lalhmingthanga, we have a special practice. If he is a Member of our own Legislature, the Speaker, instead of the Leader of the House will make obituary reference. So, I'm making the reference for Fu Lalhmingthanga.

As we all know, Fu Lalhmingthanga was one of our best friends. He was born in 1918. He was educated in Shillong and Scottish Church College, Calcutta. He was once the Chairman of Board of Directors of Lushai Trading Company. He was the Vice-President of North Eastern India Petroleum Dealers Association. He was also the Founder President of Aizawl Merchants Association. He was once elected President of the Village Council. He was also nominated in the Nominated seat of the District Council and in 1972 was again nominated in the nominated seat of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

Besides, he was a Church elder in Dawrpui Presbyterian Church. He established the Fachhunga College, the most important College, in memory of his deceased father. His death is a loss not only to this Assembly but also to the whole Mizoram.

Anyone who has something to say about the two personalities may say.

FU CH.SAPRAWNGA: Mr.Speaker Sir, they are important persons. **MINISTER.** Fu F.A.Ahmed came to Mizoram when he was an important person in Assam. We are proud of him being the President of India. His death is a great loss to us all.

We all know Fu Lalhmingthanga, who occupied an important place in our Society. He was among the first traders of Mizoram. He was very careful and honest in trade

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practices. May God rest his soul in peace. I think other merchants and traders have something to learn from him. And above all, he was a God fearing man. We are proud that he occupied a high position in trade and Church. His sudden death shocked us. His father was also a member of District Council. Even in times of political crisis we were influenced by his gentle character. Fu Lalhmingthanga was also a man of intelligence and was always useful. That is why he was nominated to the Legislative Assembly and he proved useful. We cannot fully express our feelings in words. I think we are very grateful for the services he had rendered to Mizo Society as well as in the Machinery of the Government.

FU H. THANSANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to add something about Fu Lalhmingthanga. Besides his services and usefulness in the field of education, we miss him also in sports. He used to take a leading part among the young boys. In order to be able to do this, he never hesitated to give money and never neglected his duty. Besides, his position and way of life in family influences the youth. We may not be aware of this fact, but it is very helpful.

Besides, we always went to him in times of need and depended on him. He never hesitated to give help either to the government or to different societies. This enabled us to do what we could not do without his assistance. There are people who use their wealth, wisdom, righteousness for the welfare of the Society and public, and those who do not. In regard to this, Fu Lalhmingthanga had a very wide outlook. Besides, whenever business and economics was discussed in the house, he always contributed some more detailed information. As a member of the first Mizoram Legislative Assembly, he passed away first. I think we all feel sorry for losing him.

SPEAKER: Let us stand up for 2 minutes to observe silence as a mark of our respect to two persons of whom we have heard.
(Members stood up in silence for two minutes.)

The following are appointed as Panel of Chairmen during this Session :-

- 1) Fu Lalrinliana
- 2) Fu Sapliana
- 3) Fu S.F. Dewan
- 4) Fu Sangkhuma.

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Now we shall take up Report of Business Advisory Committee, Mizoram. I'll read it out - I, Chairman of the Business Advisory Committee called a meeting of the Committee on Monday, the 7th March, 1977 to chalk out the Provisional Calendar for the meeting of the Thirteenth and Budget Session commencing on the 22nd March, 1977. The Committee recommend that the duration of the Current Session should be of eleven (11) days. The Lt. Governor had addressed Assembly on the 1st day of the meeting. On the second day of the sitting, today 23rd March, 1977, the Annual Budget for 1977-78 and Supplementary Budget for 1976-77 of the Government of Mizoram will be presented to the House. This will be followed by the discussion on the Address of the Lt. Governor. Two days, i.e. the 25th and 28th March, 1977 are allotted for general discussion on the Budget. Other two days, i.e. 29th and 30th March, 1977 are allotted for voting on various Demands for 1977-78. The supplementary Demand for 1976-77 will be discussed and voted tomorrow i.e. 24th March, 1977. Although the Rules of Procedure provide that every Friday during the Session may be allotted for Private Member's Business, yet due to necessity to complete voting on Demands for 1977-78 before the end of March, the Committee allotted Friday i.e. 25th March, 1977 for general discussion on Budget 1977-78. We will have Private Member's Business on Friday the 1st April, 1977. The Provisional Calendar as recommended by the B.A.C. has already been circulated to Members through the Bulletin Part II Serial No. 14 dated 7.3.1977. I hope all Members received the copy. Now, I shall call upon the Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs to move that the recommendation of the B.A.C. be adopted.

FU LAISANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker Sir, With your permission I
MINISTER. beg to move that the Report of the B.A.C.
be adopted.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: Do we agree as recommended by the
B.A.C. ? We all agree.

Next will be presentation of Budget. I shall call upon Finance Minister to present it.

PU R. THANGLIANA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to present the Budget Speech introducing the budget for 1977-78.

[Budget Speech printed separately]

SPEAKER:

Now we shall take up Discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the Address of the Lt. Governor (Administrator).

move it.

Let the mover of the Motion please

PU LALKUNGA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, With your permission I am moving the Motion of Thanks on the Address of the Lt. Governor. Let me read it out. "We, the Members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session beg to offer our humble thanks to the Lt. Governor for the excellent speech which he has been pleased to deliver to the House on the 22nd March, 1977." I am moving it for discussion.

SPEAKER:

The Hon'ble Member Pu Lalkunga has moved his motion. Do we agree to discuss it at once? We all agree and we will

discuss it now.

PU F. HRANGVELA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, I have one very important thing to say on the Speech of the Lt. Governor.

Firstly, We all want to make plans for better and durable way of cultivation. As we all know we are having a very bad practice in our cultivation i.e. shifting cultivation. Every year we shift our jhums that makes our country unfertile. We cannot produce enough rice and crops to meet our requirement. Although we know the badness of this kind of cultivation, we do not know how to make it better. But now, better way has appeared in the speech of the Lt. Governor which the Government had planned for cultivators and this makes me happy. The Government is having a great scheme for Dry terrace. It is pleasing that there are schemes to make dry terraces—about 1000 hectares a year. It is the only way to make us self-supporting.

I am interested in cultivation. I think the Government should take proper steps for the improvement of cultivation. I visited my constituency with Pu Tlangbaia who had been sent by the Government to undergo training. The villagers also were interested and they listened to us when we said about Dry terrace and Land Reclamation. It is very shameful to depend upon the surplus of other States.

Secondly, ginger is said at page 3, para 5. Ginger is the only cash crop we can produce here since some four or five years back. It is said that ginger can be grown better in Mizoram than in other parts of India. The vehicles which always went to the plains empty now go full loaded with ginger. This shows that the Government is successful. The people may say something of their difficulties, but I am very pleased to see the success of the Government. And the Government should make arrangement for sale of ginger. It is a good thing that the Govt. is trying to see ways and means of using the products of Mizoram to solve financial problems to some extent.

We see at page 8 para 16 that the Government is going to give Truck Loan to 50 people. This pleased me very much because most of us are unable to manage family living without the help of the Government.

The Government is taking steps for the development of Agriculture. We can see that in page 4. Several students are sent for undergoing training and for higher degrees like M.Sc., B.Sc. and Ph.D in Agriculture. This pleases me much because this shows that the Govt. is much concerned about the way of our becoming self-supporting in Agriculture.

Above all, the Government of India is making Five Year Plans. Here in our territory also, we have targets for Hospitals, Medical Department, Road and Communication, etc. As we all know, our Government will fulfil these targets. I am very happy to see the success of the Government.

Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Let us call upon Pu Lalkunga, the mover to say something about his motion.

PU LALKUNGA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, With your permission I have an opportunity to say about the Address of the Lt. Governor. We can see many important things from the speech of the Lt. Governor and this pleases us. Among them, Ginger, as we have heard, was brought by the Government in large quantity. But the price is cheap and the transportation charge is high. The people faced this problem. It is desirable that the Govt. may look into the matter in future.

The other product of Mizoram is chilli which is a cash crop of Mizoram. It would be very grateful if, as in the case of ginger, the Government could have fixed price for it so that the people will not have difficulty to sell their chillies.

Regarding road communication, the success in road construction is achieved mainly when the B.R.T.F. takes it up. Tuipuibari and other Western parts of the territory are also reached by good roads. It appears that the road from Phaileng to Demagiri has been started now. If we have good communication with the fertile areas of the West, we may be able to solve food problem to some extent. Besides, when even P.W.D. constructs Roads, be it long or short, it should be passable by the vehicles. In some places, like Mamit Road they left it incomplete. I want to suggest that the P.W.D. may complete construction of roads which it has taken up, regardless of the length.

One very important thing that pleases us is that the Government makes arrangements for M.N.F. returnees. One senior I.A.S. Commissioner was appointed to see to those things. He would have to make schemes and the Government will give a large sum of money. Besides, the political prisoners should be compensated by the Government.

Lastly, the Lt. Governor makes statement about the Peace Talk between the Govt. of India and the M.N.F. There is suspension of operations for a long time, and I hope there may be real peace talk soon after this suspension of operations. I wish the Government pursues the matter with Central Government.

Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Anyone who wants to speak? If there is no one, we shall request the Treasury Bench.

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IU LALSANGZUILLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Member MINISTER. Iu F. Hrangvela has mentioned about Ginger. We have made much progress here. It was purchased with Rs. 30,00,000/- and purchase is still going on. Regarding Truck Loan, the Government has made plans to get Loan from different Banks and many people have taken it. Our country is not yet self-sufficient in this regard. The Government made a scheme for 50 trucks to be bought by ex-servicemen, graduates without job, M.N.F. returnees and Drivers on payment of Rs. 10,000/- only by them. It has to be completed within this year. If we can achieve these successfully, the problem of Goods-carrying vehicles in Mizoram may be solved within three years.

Hon'ble Member, Iu Lalkunga has pointed out about chillies. The Government is trying to improve the economic position of our territory by searching how to sell sesamum, spices, ginger and chilli.

Regarding M.N.F. rehabilitation, it is being processed. Many of them were given contract works and many were given Government jobs. Ways and means of their purchasing the trucks are also being considered. Besides, there are different schemes. It will appear in the Budget to be discussed.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: Now we are going to close discussion on the Motion. This is the Motion. We, the Members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly assembling for this Session beg to offer our humble thanks to the Lt. Governor for the excellent speech which he has been pleased to deliver to the House on the 22nd March, 1977'. Those who agree say 'agree' (Members say "Agree"). Those who disagree say 'disagree'. (Members kept silent). The Motion has now been passed.

We have finished our business for today. Our business for tomorrow is written in our Calendar. The House is adjourned till 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 (noon).

D.C. PANDE
SECRETARY.

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