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4th Sitting on the 25th March, 1977 at 10:00A.M.

P R E S E N T

Pu Vaivenga, Speaker in the chair, Chief Minister, Six
Ministers and 22 Members.

B U S I N E S S .

1. Questions
2. Government Business

General Discussion on the Budget for 1977-78.

SPEAKER: Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and
clamor and evil speaking be put away from you,
with all malice. And be kind to one another
tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as
Govt for Christ's sake ~~was~~ forgiven you.

Our business for today is Questions. After
that we shall have general discussion. The member may ask
question No.3

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPT.

Supply of drinking water to the people of Champai.

*3:PU LALHLIRA: Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c P.H.E.
Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether drinking water has been supplied to the people
of Champai after spending Rs 6.9 lakhs.

(b) If so, since when?.

SPEAKER: The Minister i/c PHE is absent. Has he
entrusted anyone to answer the questions
on his behalf?.

We shall take up Question No. 4. The
Member may ask it.

POWER & ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT

Post of Operator at Champai Power House.

PU LALHARA: Mr. Speaker there is none to answer my question No. 4. I think it will be better if you allow me to say why I want to ask.

(SPEAKER: The Minister incharge has not come to answer the questions. The Member does not have to say but the Minister has to answer) If so, why does he not come? Does this mean that there is no Government? There is none to answer my question No. 4 also. I'll ask my question No. 4 and if there is none to answer, I want to say why I ask.

Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Power & Electricity Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether Operators have been posted to operate machine at Champai Power House?
- (b) If so, since when?
- (c) If not, why not?

SPEAKER: Question No. 4 has been asked. The Minister incharge may answer it.

PU LALHARA: Mr. Speaker sir, please say I say why I want to ask? (Speaker: You have asked, it is enough). Let me add my question (Speaker: It is not possible to add anything to the question because it is against the rules).

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker we the Members have so little questions still, there is no Minister to answer our Questions. This has happened for the first time since we have this House. It is very shameful.

PU LALHARA: Mr. Speaker, the Minister i/c has come now. Let me ask from the beginning.

SPEAKER: Question No. 3 has been asked, and the Minister i/c has also come. Let him answer it.

PU H. BHANSANGA:
MINISTER. I think my extension of sound box was not working. The sound does not come at all though I have been listening. That is why I got late.

Question No. 3 is that whether drinking water has been supplied to the people of Champhai after spending Rs 6.9 lakhs. This has been supplied from last part of the year 1975.

PU LALHLIRA: Mr. Speaker I want to ask supplementary question. The Hon'ble Minister has said that drinking water had been supplied to the people of Champhai from the last part of the year 1975. This is not correct. It had not been supplied to the people but to a few families of four or five near the S.D.O's Office because it was given to this office only. Has not the government any intention to improve the situation? I want to know if the government is intending to supply water only to these four or five families after spending Rs 6.9 lakhs?

PU HPTHINSANGA:
MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, the whole town of Champhai is not to be supplied water. As the source is not big enough, it could be supplied only to the lower part of the town during the dry season.

New schemes should be made in addition to the existing one. In order to carry out that scheme, we have not enough staff. Unless PHE Department is amalgamated with the P.W.D. the schemes could not be carried out by PHE alone. And the Chief Engineer is arranging posting of staff for this.

PU K.L.ROCHAMA: Mr. Speaker this House has made a suggestion to have a commission on Champhai water supply scheme. It is learnt that the commission has been constituted. I want to ask if the report of that commission can be laid on the Table of the House

Secondly, this water supply scheme is based on gravitation system. It is very unfortunate to have such little amount of water which can feed only four or five families, after spending Rs 6.9 lakhs. Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state what works have been done with this large sum of money?

PU H. THAKSANGA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, that Commission consists of the Chief Engineer. As he does not have enough time he asked for an extension of time and it was granted. His report has not yet been received by the Government.

Regarding the use of Rs 6.9 lakhs, water pipe of cement concrete near Kharwt veng church is the most costly one. Besides, the lines also cost much. I do not know the detailed estimate. Water is taken from Vavabal river. Even if we have pipes, much water cannot be obtained during the dry season. The river near Hnumhaltha kawn, Tuipui and other nearby rivers were also examined to see whether water could be brought out for supply to Champhai. But they are not strong enough to supply water to the whole town. It seems necessary to make new schemes for supply of water for the whole town because we cannot get enough water from gravitation only.

PU LUNGLEINA:

Mr Speaker, supplementary question:
It is not Vavabal water that the PHE had taken by gravitation. The P.H.E. took Rahtea river in addition to Chewiruma's river. The source is big enough to feed all the lower portions of the town. So, what I want to ask is why the government is unable to supply water to Champhai vengtalang with this big source of water which can be taken by gravitation.

PU H. THAKSANGA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, what we call good source of water may not be so. The villagers used to find these rivers big enough for water supply but when investigation was made it was found that they were not big enough. The scheme for that purpose is too costly and water obtained is not enough in comparison with the money spent. For example, Champhai Water Supply was also investigated by SDO when I visited Champhai and it was proved that it was impossible to make out a scheme. After some time, some people told me that the investigators did not assess correctly. If we are going

to carry out a dependable scheme, we must carry out technical survey here. I felt it will be necessary to have a better look at Champhai water supply scheme also because we receive different reports.

PU LALKINGA: Mr. Speaker, when was the commission formed?. Whether only one water-carrying point is the only outcome of spending all the Rs 6.9 lakhs? Are there no other places when other scheme could be carried out with this Rs 6.9 lakhs?.

PU H. THANSANGA: MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, I do not know if the work is in proportion to the expenditure. A commission has been formed and it will give its report. I do not remember the exact date on which the commission was formed. I believe it was formed just after the matter was discussed in the House.

PU LALHLIRA: Mr. Speaker, the technicians have surveyed the source and found big enough. The reason why it could not be used was the collapse of the water reservoir. The government did not repair it. Has the commission ever visited Champhai?. Or is it going to give report without visiting the place?.

PU H. THANSANGA: MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, I am not sure about his going to Champhai for that purpose. However, if the Hon'ble Member wants to know whether he had gone there I'll find out and inform the member during this session.

SPEAKER: New Question No. 4

PU LALHLIRA: Mr. Speaker Let me ask my question No. 4

PU H. THANSANGA: MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, the question is whether operators have been posted in Champhai Power House. It was not done. We have not yet sanctioned post for this. The matter is under consideration.

PU LALKEIBA: Mr. Speaker, we have had Electric light at Champhai from 28th June, 1976. But the duration of light depends upon the will of the workers. But the Minister has said that they had no Operators. I want to know if the Generators at Power House can be operated by non-operators?. Besides, in some other places also, though the Generator is placed, why does not the government give operators?.

PU H. TH. H. S. INGA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker sir, this is the difficulty in Electric Department. The present line-men are to be given licence. But we have no such efficient workers who could be given licence. Those who have no licence could not operate according to the rules. It is very risky because accident may take place. If we do not use them it is because we have no efficient workers. We placed one who had been used to work at Diesel and one Jugali at Champhai, Kelasib and Lunglei. Due to lack of efficient workers, the Department could not serve to meet the public need. The A.S.B. servants want to leave because we cannot increase their pay according to new scale. We did not make agreement to take them on Deputation when we took over the charge. In spite of the shortage of skilled labour and technicians, the Department is making progress. Even now we have Vacancies of Line-men I, Electrician II, Electrician I and Electrician II, but we have no efficient workers. This is the difficulty.

SPEAKER: We have finished questions. Our next item will be general discussion on the Budget for 1977-78. The Finance Minister has presented it and it was decided to discuss today. Do we agree to discuss?. It is agreed. Discussion may be started now.

PU LALKHWEA: Mr. Speaker, it is pleasing to have a Budget Discussion today. I think we use the money for the development of the territory. However, it appears that we neglect the remote areas and some Constituencies have been found neglected and seldom visited by Government Officers. People from some constituencies can get more government jobs in comparison with my constituency because they are higher in their standard of living and are acquainted with big officers. Besides, as the Government officials hesitated to visit these areas, they could not get government help and grants in agriculture, etc. As such, the Budget has no bearing to some areas. The Government should look into the difficulties of remote areas also. Also, the money should be distributed equally among the people.

Besides, roads have been constructed in the west also. But the Government officials did not want to see its completion and when rainy season comes, we are blamed in our work as there are many landslips. I wish our Ministers to see the backward areas and visit the remote areas on foot. Every year we gave our votes for a large sum of money. But the distribution in the state is very uneven. For example - My constituency is most infested with Malaria but the workers have never been appointed from my constituency but from eastern part or around Aizawl town. Even Chhittuipui District is also given much more help from the Government in comparison with my constituency. While making appointments for government jobs to work in remote areas, the candidates from that area should be favoured than other candidates though they have equal educational qualification. If not, those candidates living in or around Aizawl did not want to go to their posts or they are not interested in such areas and caused such difficulties to the people.

We have often pointed out too much Budget provision on Police in last year's Budget. We may be called Police state. We spent large sums of money on police though we do not make use of their services. Many of them had undergone training course. But when they completed their courses, are they more useful and beneficial than before for the government? Do they serve the people? Recently photographers for Identity Card came to my constituency. They wanted to employ three men to carry their materials from Kangmun to Lungphun without giving their wages. But when they know that they are not going to give their wages, they ran away. The policemen caught, slapped and harassed them. I do not know what we gain from these policemen that we give them money in large quantities. Besides, the I.G.P. is another expensive one. He never goes even a short distance unescorted. Why do we retain him if he so afraid? I think this (his going with full escort) should be stopped. I have no objection to the expenditure for this kind of expenditure.

And they are occupying Govt. High School Field. Why do not they vacate this? I do not think they are to cause public difficulty because they are to serve public and I do not find the necessity of giving them such money.

Regarding the administration in our Jail. The staff do not want to go to office at the early time. The medical facilities are also very bad. The Government should look into the matter carefully and see that the prisoners get their share.

The Public Works Department have common work with the B.R.T.F. I have said in the last Budget Session that the house they constructed at Shivaji Tillah is not good enough. Soon after that, it was blown off by the wind. But they were given other houses to construct. Mizo Contractors are better to construct houses than the B.R.T.F. The B.R.T.F. may be better to construct roads because they have better facilities. I want to know if our Ministers have a look on the blown off houses constructed by the B.R.T.F.

The B.R.T.F. have many roads to maintain but actually they cannot maintain them. The Government should make a better way to make arrangements with the P.W.D.

Besides this, it is very bad we cannot give water to the people. Every year we have more and more budget for water supply and PHE. We can not increase the supply of water even if the Budget is increased every year. Rural water schemes are not also successful. So we must try to give water to the people as much as possible.

There is also a very important work in the P.W.D. The B.R.T.F. could not construct all the Roads though they did most of them. Those which were constructed with EGS are not enough. Ginger is grown in many places. But if big vehicles cannot reach the place, the cost of transportation is very high. So the P.W.D. must work more so as to enable the farmers to sell their produce at a good price.

We have Budget Session for 6 years. We spoke well of constructing water way along the rivers. But we cannot yet carry out till date. I have often suggested that it may be more profitable than roads especially in the west. Once I asked for a sum of money for the construction of water-way in the Tut river. But the government have no fund for that. I think it would be better if the Inland Water Transport be abolished if the government has no fund for it. I felt the Government do not see the difficulties of the people and that is why it has been neglecting the grievances of the people. Rice is also taken by head-load. Had water ways been made in the Tut river there seems no necessity of taking it by head-load. We, the Members of this House make suggestions for the development of the country and the government should pursue its implementation. But now, as it appears, the sayings of the Members have no meaning because the government did not want to implement them. So I need not to repeat the same difficulty and I think this is the last chance I get to say this. I think our suggestions should be implemented not because of our membership but because we are the representatives of the people.

The Government servants especially the A.Os who are posted in Group Centres and Villages do not want to discharge their duties. We have reported manytimes to the government but no action has been taken in this regard. The government servants deliberately continue their bad conduct as if they know our reports instead of making their conduct better.

In my constituency I want to say about the frequent shifting of Lallen Dispensary because we are having Budget discussion. It was once shifted to Phaileng (West) and shifted back to Lallen. Now it has been shifted out again. The people could not understand this. If it was once placed it should not be shifted to other places. Otherwise, the people of this area are very much discouraged because they need the Dispensary. The Government should make arrangements not only with the population but it should meet the requirement of the people.

When many vil. ages have two High Schools, we have not yet even Deficit High Schools. Though we have not many pupils as they have in the Eastern part of the territory education should not be neglected due to small number of students.

We have many commissions under our government. They seemed to be not as successful as they are expected. Whenever commission is made, I think the government pursue its works and reports.

This year, our Budget is pleasing and I wish it could be used for the development and progress of the backward areas. Any fertile lands which can be cultivated or places suitable for terraces may be found out. Whenever spot verification has to be taken, the field staff should go diligently and work properly. If not, this large amount of money would have no meaning unless it is used for the development of the backward areas.

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PU SANGKHEMIA: Mr Speaker sir, we may not be very enthusiastic to discuss our budget today. We are not so sure who will carry out our Budget which we are going to pass because our term is not extended*is almost coming to its end. However, we have much to say from our past experience. We are happy to have large sums of money. But only large sum of money if not utilised has no meaning. If we do not use it as it should be used, it will lapse again. We have often said in the Budget Session that power centralization is not good because it causes such difficulties to the people to work. But the Ministry continues as before

as if it is doing this deliberately. The reaction of the people appears to be that the power is too centralized in our government. It seems we have to work according to our responsibility. If one has no responsibility he can not work. Too much interference of Ministers even in filling up the leave vacancies, tenders, to take in electric lights has caused retardation in official works. They must revise themselves.

We have passed many bills in our Session like Excise Bill, Salaries Bill, etc. We do not know exactly what our own salaries Bill means though we have passed. We discussed and made suggestions for the up keeping of the towns and villages. We must check ourselves.

I am happy to learn that the villages have good supply of rice. We have great hardships in this supply. The Department should try to stock enough rice during the dry season.

Many villages councils have been dissolved. The Government should see the cause and carefully decide whether they are to be dissolved or not. It should not be judged on the basis of political affairs of that village council. Whenever a village council is dissolved, the division should be laid on the Table of the House at the first Session after its dissolution. But it has not been laid. We dissolve them having no proper cause and the authority who dissolve them has no meaning.

Besides these, the price of commodities is now higher again. Bacon is sold at Rs 15/- per K. We may say that is because of the relaxation of emergency. But I do not think it is. During the time of emergency, the price of commodities was controlled by Defence of India Rules. But we can use DIR even when emergency is not proclaimed. It appears that we are trying to win the people by means of emergency. But this will cause difficulties for the people.

We cannot neglect the temporary villages. The farmers meet with many difficulties in living in Group Centres. We all know their difficulties. This is why they live in temporary villages. If I am not mistaken, it was in the year 1973, that I myself gave a resolution which was passed in this House. Re-settlement Committee was formed to make plans for village sites. The Deputy Ministers was the Chairman. It is very disheartening not to be able to send even the schemes to Delhi within 4 years which could be completed within six months if it is done with efforts. We told them that we are going to make them permanent villages. We make use of this empty promises for getting

votes. The people now come to understand our behaviour and negligence of their situation. Actually we are going to pass a large amount of money today, but what is the use of this money? It has no meaning. We ask people to make terraces energetically and issue work orders. But how do we spend the money which is to be used for the success of those day terraces? We try to win their decisions by bribes when we go to villages in campaign. We set traps for them in order to get their votes. But the people are too wise to be caught by those traps. As such we must check ourselves. Pu Lalkunga has said that many of our suggestions are never carried out by the Government. This is very bad and we should make attempts to stop this kind of negligence of what the Members say.

We are expecting 66 KV line for a long time. It is of no use to have big machines unless they could be used. We had warned the Minister i/c that a bad machine may be supplied again if we are not careful. But the Minister said that he has sent orders and he must go on and the members may ask if they want to know why we have bought a big machine spending large sum of money. But we gain nothing from it.

Regarding the administration of Police and Home Guards, we make even Home Guards do their duty with arms. And there may be accidents also. What is the opinion of the government when such accidents may happen to their life? Besides, they met many difficulties in their supply of rations. Sometimes they get and sometimes not. I request the government to think out how to carry on the budget and estimates in a better way.

Thank you.

PU R.DOFINAIA: Mr. Speaker, as we have heard we are having our 6th Budget Session. The budget itself is large enough. But how it was spent in the previous years makes us think in a different way. It appears that most of the money was spent for a few people and this caused a unrest in the minds of the people and the result has appeared in the M.P. Election. Let give us an example - A large amount of money lapsed from the Public Works Department due to weak administration. A bridge is to be constructed at Tuichang river and it was included in the Budget every year. It was supposed to be opened during the month of April, 1975. Actually many roads have been constructed under Public Works Department. But this river is very important because all the supply of rice

for the eastern side of Tuichan river is carried through this river and if there is no bridge over this river, those supplies could not reach their destinations. Besides, most of the people are cultivators. The money spent on agriculture will not be enough for the development and advancement of agriculture in our territory.

The Finance Minister has said that a big scheme is made for dry terraces and some of them have been reclaimed. But we cannot support ourselves in our agricultural products especially in rice. We produce some cash crops like ginger, Chilli and sasam, Spices. Large quantity of wheat is produced in Punjab and bought by the Government at a high rate. It is again exported to other States or other Countries of the world and it becomes an important sources of income. Our government also prepares to buy gingers, chillies from the farmers though it is not yet upto our desire. The government should take immediate steps for the proper conditions and should settle the time, place and rate with the farmers. It was sold at the rate of Rs 125/- per quintal in 1975. Perhaps there was some quintals to be repaid on loan. But they could not find customers by themselves without the helps of the government.

Schemes are also formed for the better supply of water in towns and villages. The estimated amounts are also increased every year in the budget. But we have no sufficient water supply inspite of all these schemes as if the obstructions are increased. We see that only money can not give us water without working.

As we are facing great difficulties regarding our cultivation due to unfertility of the soil, we must settle ourselves in places of easy cultivation or farming. Our Government has not yet implemented the settlement of these temporary villages which in my opinion, would not be so difficult for the Government. Had the government been serious enough to make progress of the villagers, this settlement of villages should have been done. When we were under District Council, the Council had the power to give village council. Is not U.T. the Government which gives village Councils?. If they are not permanent villages, the government excluded there from the governmental aids to Schools, water supply and developmental works. The government does not follow its policy of eradicating poverty. As the Hon'ble Member Pu Sangkhuma has said, a Committee has been constituted to take up this settlement of villages. Perhaps it may be too difficult to make permanent all the temporary villages, but the selected villages such as Khawzawl, Vervek, Khawlaillung etc., want to shift during this very dry season. But they could not help depending

upon the government. The Government gave them E.G.S. money for construction of local roads, and fund for construction of Public Hall. But the EGS money was not fully sanctioned again. In some places, they are asked to build houses and they should be helped by the government with ECI Sheets. They may be persuaded to shift 80% or 60% during the dry season. I wish the government takes immediate action to give relief to these poor people.

I am very pleased that the government has made arrangements for the resettlement of MNF returnees by introducing Rehabilitation. Besides these MNF returnees, there are so many people who suffered disturbance and could not reestablish their living without the help of the government. I saw with my own eyes those victims when I visited Tuikual veng. They are not reached by water supply and they have no proper road. Cannot the Government give help to these poor people in terms of money?

We are a christian country. But we are very much troubled by liquor. I am one of the most bitter opponents of liquor. We have passed Excise Bill, but the Government could not yet ready it to be enforced. If we really want to enforce this Excise Act, we must punish them equally. It appears we punish without this selling of liquor and let free those who are of high ranks and honourable. This is very bad and we must give equal treatment to the people regardless of their position or profession.

Besides, we got one Nurse, one Midwife, one Compounder, one Pharmacist, and a Chowkidar in each Grouping Centre. Generally, there are 2000-4000 people in grouping centres. But now the Government transferred all the Pharmacists and put Supervisors who have not enough time to supervise carefully. The presence of Pharmacists is a great help to the people and they could serve the people in times of accidents. But now, the Chowkidars are the only distributors but they could not do this at their own end. This caused a great hardship to the people though we put enough money in the budget.

In conclusion, if I am not mistaken, Chief Secretary said before the public on the Home Guards' raising day, 1974 that the Mizoram Home Guards will be given special maintenance like the Home Guards in Kashmir and Border Areas. The battalion will be increased and will get better salary and clothing. But they are treated as daily labour in their salary. They are to use arms as we are in a disturbed area. Their position is too bad in comparison with their responsibility. I wish the Government take proper arrangements immediately.

PU KRANGALL: Mr. Speaker I want to say something of great importance and I would like to request the government to consider them very carefully. It may not be very useful just to say against the Government. As we have heard from our Hon'ble Members, our Budget is sufficient. We all know that our government worked hard in the past and used the money properly and we can see now progress in Schools, roads, forests, hospitals etc.

We have very limited accommodation in the Circuit House and it does not meet the requirement of the State. Whenever we have a large number of guests and the only Circuit is occupied by some guests, we feel that we are not fit to lodge them in our houses. In our villages we have no rest houses for travellers. ~~Due~~ to the increase in the number of travellers and the progress of the state, we may have more and more tourists. So the government must take immediate steps for construction of rest houses. It is best if the different departments could have their own Rest houses. This will help the villagers also.

I want to say about supply of electricity also. The wires are stretched to different directions following the main roads of the town with a few exceptions. I am taking in the light by three posts at my own expense. There are no posts between the post near my house and Khatla Bazar which is an important road. This may be considered.

We must look into the education of the temporary villages. The Education Department may think of the grouping centres to have enough students in their schools, but many students went to their temporary village schools and the teachers are appointed in Group Centres only. These temporary villages appoint private teachers. Reports may be given about schools including these private schools in the Grouping Centres. It will be better if the Education Officers clearly know how many students are in the temporary village schools and subtract from the number of students in their Grouping Centre Schools. Grants may also be sanctioned following this.

Thank you.

PU LALRILIAN: Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to have this opportunity to discuss our Budget. Though we may not be very active I think we are all grateful to the government of India which gives us a large amount of money for the development and maintenance of our State regardless of our limited resource.

We always had difficulties in our budget in the previous years. Sometimes we could not receive the budget in time and could not have discussions in time. This year, we got it in time and we are having full discussion. Some of our friends have said that the government is not working hard enough due to want of much better thing for the country. But we all know the workings of our Government. We can see them in all the Departments such as roads, supply of rice, forest plantation and Medical field etc. The progress can be seen every month. But as we know, the schemes could not be carried out as desired due to shortage of efficient workers. I am afraid that the schemes included in the budget may not be carried out by our Government and may spoil our schemes. The term of the 1st Assembly is coming to an end and new officers will be taking over the charge of the works. However, let us hope that God will not leave our country and we shall have good leaders.

I want to make few suggestions, and I would like to request our Ministers to consider them till the end of the term of their office. We have not yet enough supply of water in towns and villages. As it is our daily need, we must be serious to give our people enough drinking water. I have heard from a reliable source that our government is having a scheme to give supply of water to the whole town. We are looking forward with eager hope to the time when that scheme will be carried out. Three years hence it will be difficult to supply water to all due to large increase of population. If the pipes have reached here it will be better to fit them and try to get enough water.

Besides, our forests have almost dried and cleared up. The forest Department is working very hard and we can see the result of their hard toil. We are happy to see their plantations in different places. When I saw a thick forest at Mamit I was happy and I could see the big trees. But those forests have been distributed to the villagers for their gardens. The tall trees should be cut down and various crops like banana trees will be grown in their places. My heart ached when I saw those lands. I thought we may make our country a desert one day if we continue to set fire in the forests and cut down big trees like this. So it would be better if the forest Department reserves the remaining forests and tries harder in plantations. We have such reserves in Chalfilk, Tawi and Dampa areas. The government should make proper schemes to reserve forests as much as possible so that we have beautiful trees in our country in the near future.

When we think of our advancement in different departments, we must be self-sufficient in our agricultural products in the first place. In support of this, we must introduce wet cultivation and dry terrace will be done also. If we cannot support ourselves without the help of other States, whenever some troubles arise between Mizos and non-Mizos drivers, we shall be in a state of starvation. So we must make wet-cultivation as much as possible. The roads may also be blocked by land slips. There may be some people who get pass of the rice-fields of wet-cultivation. Most of them work hard. But the small families who could not work in paddy fields alone must have jhus for their food. In this way we get less amount of rice. It would be more beneficial if the government could grant them loans for these poor people. Shifting system is no longer enough for our country because land became less fertile every year. We must not give up our hard works. We must try harder to make our country green. We must not depend ourselves upon the central government only.

Thank you.

PU KHANTIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to see the budget in time this year. It is more than the budget of last year. The achievements of the different departments are splendid. We can see them in Aizawl town - the big buildings which we have never seen before U.T., good roads, government buildings etc., We hope that we could get more of them from the coming budget.

Now our attention should be taken to the introduction of industries. As we have no big source of power it is almost impossible to set up big industries. If industry is not based on power, the products are costly and we cannot produce much. The Hon'ble Minister incharge PWD has said that 66 KV line is being ready to be used. It is also learnt that the transformers near Zombawk may be used also. If so, we will get more power for our industries. The best is that our government pursue its preparation of Hydel Project as soon as possible.

We may not get enough power if hydel project is established in Flawn river or Chaintaipui (Koladyne) river. We may not carryout the scheme of our proposed Paper Mills also without power (Pu Sangkhuma: Mr. Speaker, can we continue discussion if there is no quorum? Does it appear in our rules? If not, let us not continue our discussion).

SPEAK R: According to our Rule 30 the quorum is 1/3. Quorum bell may be rung. (Quorum bell was rung)

PU KHAWTIINKHUMA: Mr.Speaker, may I continue?.

SPEAKER: If there is no quorum, you may not continue(Quorum was formed).
You may continue now.

PU KHAWTIINKHUMA: Mr.Speaker, the proposed paper Mill will require large quantity of power. It seems that about 18 MW will be required. But the present power that we get is less than one MW. The need of power becomes more and more not only in Aizawl town but also in villages. The greatest object of the government may be power and energy.

We are having more and more government vehicles. They can be seen in the streets. Most of the Officers want to go to office by Government vehicles. The Government officers know quite well that government vehicles should not be used for going to office but for going on official duty, except Ministers and Speakers. But here, the officers use their vehicles for going to office, reaching about the church, Bazar etc. This has not been done in other States. I had worked in the offices of the other States being a senior officer. If I did not use my own car, I went by bus. That was how they do in other States. The maintenance of these vehicles is very expensive and if the government officials could go by bus the money saved may be spent on some other development works.

More buses may serve in villages and government officials could travel by bus on duty. Suppose one officer goes to Lunglei or Silchar by Jeep. The expenditure is high. This amount may be used for other important work.

SPEAKER: Don't you have to say any more?. We are going to rest at 1:00 P.M. and we have 15 mins left. Anyone who wants to speak may take 15 mins.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr.Speaker If I cannot complete before 1:00 P.M. may I continue at 2:00,P.M.

SPEAKER: We have to stop at 1:00 P.M. you may say now, we shall begin at 2:00 in the afternoon

PU SAPLIANA: I am happy to say about 1977-78 budget of Mizoram. Since we have U.T. government it is our desire to have our own roads and buildings made beautiful and the difficulties of the people should be removed by the Government.

The plans could not be carried out by the government due to some difficulties. That is why there is not yet staff in many dispensaries and primary Health Centres. We may think that we could make such progress with this large amount of money even in a year. The amount is actually larger in comparison with those of the amount we spent during District Council time. The Government servants work very hard and the result could be seen even in the most backward and remote areas of the territory which seemed once to be ignored for such a long time. Some people say that though we have enough money we are not having sufficient workers. It seems our resolutions and budget we discussed in this House may be carried out and implemented within a short time. But this is different.

We have three districts in our territory and we have several civil sub-divisions in our districts and Block headquarters in sub-divisions. With the increase of government offices in villages, the villages become important places and this strengthened our trade and commerce. The process of organising finance Department pleases me. It is expected to have sub-treasuries and District treasuries in each sub-Divisional Headquarter and District Headquarters respectively. One important thing to consider is that we are having two Subdivisions in Chhietuipui District. The extreme west is Chawngte sub-division. It is also Chakma District Headquarters. As we all know Lwn tlai is also Civil Sub-headquarter and an important trade centre in Chhietuipui District. It is also District Council Headquarters. Saih is the District Headquarters. The necessity to set up sub-treasury in Lwngtlai lies in the fact that all the retailers in the Western part of the district have to deposit their money at Lunglei or Patha treasuries. Besides, there are many important government offices and there are many things to be done with the treasuries. So would like to remind our Government the necessity of having a sub-treasury at Lwngtlai and as such to take necessary steps. The opening of State Bank in different places to enable the villagers to take loans for industrial and commercial development is also very important.

The Revenue Department faces a great difficulty owing to shortage of efficient workers. The strength of the Department is not yet satisfactory as staff is not sufficient for issue of pass of rice fields and maintenance of farms and gardens. I think it would be

better if we get more officers and staff to make better progress in this Department.

The government of Mizoram is making good progress in power. In order to get lights more regularly we are looking forward with eager hope to the time when we can use 66 KV line. I would like to make a suggestion that our government should send efficient officers to start investigation at Koladyn river as soon as possible under the provision amounting to Rs 1,00,000/- This will solve our problem of power for various industries and supply of electric light generated in our own territory.

The Public Works Department is one of the biggest Departments in our territory. Sometimes we may think it of to be loose and the department is mostly contacted by public. It is a pity that we could not yet have workers in PWD Sub-Divisions. In my constituency also, there is the post of SDO but we have not got any SDO at Lawngtlai till date. The construction of road from Lawngtlai to Chawngte is looked after from Lawngtlai Sub-Division. The progress is very slow as it is looked after by the S.D.O. who is under the Engineer, and had to do his duty. If the construction of roads is taken up by Section Officers or Overseers, the progress may be slow. I think there are some formalities to be followed by the government. However, there are some difficulties faced by PWD in the construction of roads when the road must cross private compounds and it is necessary to give compensation to the owner of these compounds. If there is provision for compensation, it would be better if they are released as soon as possible.

The present department of PHE is not satisfactory. We are sure that the staff in District and Sub-divisional Headquarters are very limited. The increase in population in the District Headquarters is more due to the economic prosperity of these places. As such the requirement of water supply is more than that in other villages. I think the government must take steps to solve our problem in water supply as much as possible. Many places had been surveyed just before we get U.F. Status but water supply schemes are also not yet implemented till today. At Lunglei and Lawngtlai many people spend the nights at the water fountain. These places may be given special consideration by making emergency water supply schemes by the government.

SPEAKER: Now, the time is over and we shall take rest. We shall begin at 2 P.M. in the afternoon.

AFTERNOON:

SPEAKER: I shall announce this. I called a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee today, to consider the Provisional Calendar of the Meetings of the current Session as chalked out by the Committee on 7.3.77. In view of the less volume of pending business for the current Session, the Committee decided to make alterations in the previous programme and recommends that Monday the 28th March, 1977 and Tuesday, the 29th March, 1977 be allotted for discussion and voting on Demand for 1977-78 and Appropriation No. 2 Bill 1977. Wednesday the 30th March, 1977 is allotted for private Members' business. Now, I shall call upon the Minister incharge Parliamentary Affairs to move that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

PU LAUSANZUALA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the programme chalked out by the Business Advisory Committee be adopted by this House.

SPEAKER: Do we approve it? Alright the programme processed by the Business Advisory Committee has been approved. Now, we shall begin general discussion. Seven Members spoke in the morning. We have to stop at 4 P.m. We may continue discussion upto 3.30 P.m. and 30 mins will be used for Ministers. Let us try to say to the point. This morning Pu Sapliana had not yet finished. Let us call upon him to continue.

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to say first Though we have several police stations, we have not enough policemen. They perform their duty. In my opinion, it is necessary to have at least D.S.P. in border areas especially in Bangladesh border areas. If I am not mistaken, the new D.S.P. who had just undergone his training has now come back to join his duty. These D.S.Ps may be posted in border areas to solve Law & Order problems in these areas. If not, the life of travellers may be in danger because these areas are infested by robbers and thieves. We often pointed out in this House that these Traffic duty policemen may have uniforms and special training as they have done in other States. Besides, there are some policemen serving in the Radio organisation whose service and pay and allowances had not been settled by our government. Their cases may be considered by the government because the State Commission has fixed their pay scales and not settled only because of their services had not been cleared.

I am very thankful to our government because it makes better progress in Co-operation (Co-operatives). Especially in Aizawl we have Super Market and Co-operative Whole-sale Stores in various places. They are beneficial for the public as the rates of our daily needs and different kinds of materials are cheaper than those in the market. The need of having such Co-operatives is felt in rural areas also. When the villagers tried to buy some goods in markets, they could not always afford them due to high prices. The same kinds of goods can be bought at Super Market and Co-operative Societies at lower rates. To solve this problem as much as possible, Co-operative Societies should be set up in Villages.

Besides, E.G.S. money has been sanctioned to give relief to the poor villagers. The rate has been fixed at Rs 5000/- per mile. But this rate is too low for construction of roads. People could not get the money if they could not complete at that rate. To avoid this hardship, the Government may kindly make new arrangements.

Now we are separated from the Board of Secondary Education, Assam, and have Mizoram Board of School Education. The no. of Government servants is also increasing. This shows that we make progress. What I want to point out in Education Department is the handing over of charge to the three District Councils is a must to some extent, especially to Chakma District Council, because under the jurisdiction of Chakma District Council, there are non-Chakmas, who use the Mizo language as the common language such as Church Services, Schools, Streets, etc., It seems the leaders of the Chakma District Council want to introduce a non-Mizo language like Bangali etc. in their L.P. Schools. As such there is trouble in the prescription of language for teaching medium in those Schools. So the Government should see how to determine their case. Besides, there are few government Schools in that area. This may kindly be considered.

Although we have enough supply of rice in Chhim-tuipui District, we have no good government godown. There is a saying that rice should be stocked for fifteen months. We have no such godowns and we hope that our government will kindly construct early.

As bus cannot service upto Saiha in the South, the Government gives us one Jeep. This is very helpful to the public. But the difficulty is that there is none to look after the vehicle. The supervisor appointed for this charge does not perform his duties and the condition of the vehicle is not known. Besides, the collection of fares

and where it is to deposited is not known even by the high authority i.e. the Deputy Commissioner. The Government must give instructions in this regard.

We have often pointed out in this House that the three District Councils are under the Local Administration Department. In Assam they have a separate Department. The Councils also face difficulties due to this. I suggest that the government may kindly review this system.

Regarding the sanction of grants to the District Councils, it should be based on the size of the Council. Although they have been given large amount of grants by the government, they are not content. In order to avoid their complaints, it is best to give grants on the basis of the size of the District Council. That is my opinion.

In conclusion, the increase in the budget every year shows the progress of our country.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: Is there anyone who wants to speak? If not, we shall call upon the government. Under the rules of procedure, we have to call the Ministers to answer those points pointed out by the Members. Now we shall call upon Finance Minister.

PUR. THANGLIANA:

MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, unlike the previous years, some of the members are not interested in the discussion. This Budget is more worthy of being proud of than the previous budgets. As there are Autonomous Districts in Chhitatipul District, we have put their budget in a separate book.

The amount in this year's budget is nearly equal as compared with last year's budget. Both are not less than rupees 46 crores. Last year it was increased due to payments towards arrears of allowances of the government servants. This year we do not have much payment on this account. Besides, it is high in B.T.F.F. The Plan-Budget last year was a little less than Rs. eleven crores which now becomes rupees 18 crores, the difference being rupees 7 crores. The non-plan budget is increased by 4 or 5%.

Some of the members have made suggestions etc. I want to say on the loan on ginger which the opposition member pointed out. I do not think the Government Committed to buy ginger at the same rate. It gave about rupees 9 lakhs to those who wanted to take at the rate of Rs 125/- per quintal. This year it could not be done due to bad market. Our Ginger is rather better than those of Manipur Ginger. The Co-operative Society, the main buyer may not be active enough and the rate is lower than last year. But the loan taken in kind must be repaid at the same rate. This means that if a person took 2 quintals of ginger, he would have to repay Rs 250/- this year. The government knows that if it gives loan in cash, it is always spent on some other things; that is why it gives in terms of ginger. This year also, the government is intending to spend about Rs 25 lakhs on ginger loan. This will also be paid in kind.

The temporary villages give us much trouble because the central government does not want to give village councils as permanent villages when they return to their original villages from the Grouping centres at their own risk. As such, it is difficult for us to treat them as permanent villages in development funds, grants, etc. We all know their poverty and feel pity for them. However, with the expectation of progress in peace-talk, the Central government and Lt. Governor, Mizoram felt the necessity of treating the more important villages as permanent villages. As such certain amounts have been spent on the Primary Schools fund for water fountains, P.C.S. etc. There is no such practice as to buy votes and use government money for election campaign as some members alleged. Whenever the Ministers visit villages, the people apply for grants and the Ministers give them grants without discrimination as to which party they belonged to.

I remember our member said about Excise Bill. There is a difficulty in our Excise Law which we have passed. When we talk of liquor, our home made liquor may also be meant, and also the imported liquor. For this reason there may arise some difficulties in our Excise Law, and it has been revised by the government. However the making of the law is with the permission of the Central government and the amendment of the Law can not be done without its approval.

It appears we punish local liquor-sellers here. It may be right to some extent. However, we cannot carry out our rules. Regarding the cancellation of house-pass, let them see the back side of their pass. They can see that a pass may be cancelled if the house is used for selling liquor.

While issuing the house pass they agreed to abide by the conditions. So it is not wrong to punish them if they do not keep their promises. Actually the government do not enforce the Prohibition of liquor. But the drunken men who created troubles are arrested by Policemen and punished under police Act. Besides, this the individuals, Y.Ms, VDPs of villages tried to abolish liquor sale from their respective villages. If there are punishments, the government does not know all of them. I am not going to say about portfolios of other Ministers. As we have discussed, we know that our budget this year is better than that of the previous years. Members and Ministers will have discussion of different Demands. So I'll stop now.

Thank you.

SPEAKER: We have time. Is there any Minister who wants to speak?

PU H. THANSANGA

MINISTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to say about the Deptts. under my charge. Honorable Member Pu Lalkung suggested that construction of roads under P.W.D. should be completed at once. This is necessary indeed. In order to do this, it is necessary to have a full-fledged mechanical division and we cannot yet establish such a Division. Now it is under consideration. After having efficient technicians the equipments will be purchased. We cannot complete the roads due to lack of equipment.

Inland Water Transport is also very important. It is indeed important. I think it would be very helpful if we can make our rivers navigable. As I have said the difficulty is the lack of equipment (further speech could not be recorded due to power failure)

PU CH. SAPRAWHA:

MINISTER. (speech not recorded due to power failure)

SPEAKER: Now it is 3.05. Session is adjourned till 10:30 A.M. tomorrow.

D.C. PANDE
SECRETARY.