

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLED AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTION  
UNDER THE SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN  
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.  
.....

3rd. Sitting on 12th. May, 1972 at 10 a.m.

PRESENT:

Pu H. Thansanga, M.A., B.T., Speaker in the Chair, One Chief Minister and three Ministers and twentyfive Members.

Business: Discussion on the Lieutenant Governor's Address.

SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, I am sorry we could not begin our meeting in time as the office matters requiring my attention delayed me.

There is a motion proposed by a member regarding the Lt. Governor's address. We are now to discuss the address given by the Lt. Governor, it is not, strictly speaking a debate, but it will be just a discussion. The motion for a vote of thanks is proposed by Pu Ch. Saprawnga, the Chief Whip of the ruling party. He may now move his motion.

MOTION OF THANKS ON LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

Pu CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr Speaker, I want to move a motion of thanks for the address that the Lieutenant Governor had delivered to this House. The motion is this:-

"We, the members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly assembled in this session beg to offer our humble thanks to the Lieutenant Governor for the most excellent speech which he has been pleased to deliver to the House on 11th. May, 1972"

This the motion that I move.

SPEAKER: The motion has <sup>been moved and</sup> seconded, Pu C. Lalruata, may also speak.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, I support the motion of thanks for the address given by the Lieutenant Governor.

SPEAKER: The motion has been moved and it has also been seconded.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker, we have the copies of address made by the Lieutenant Governor to this House on 11th. May, 1972. In general there are matters where we should be happy, especially with the proposal to develop our country and in regard to the relief works proposed to be taken. This Territory has many special difficulties. Many people have exhausted their stock of Paddy. For giving relief, there appears to be no proper plan as yet, and all the Godowns ~~are~~ are now empty. Therefore it is essential that the government and we the members, should work hard to face this problem.

As we are moving now there is not much to expect because relief is mostly given in terms of Test Relief and gratuitous relief. In T.R. grown up persons earn about 2 kg. of rice, instead they should at least earn 3 kg. of rice, and children 1½ kg. of rice, if their earnings could be regularly paid.

A very important matter regarding relief measures is the selection of Administrative Officers. There are some good ones, some others are burdens to the people who deprive the villagers of their just share. It is necessary for the government to give proper supervision.

One point not easily understood in this address is the statement that Rs. 212 lakhs had been spent in 70 days. It is necessary to clarify this matter since it is not known how such a large amount could be spent. There may be a few new buildings, which do not justify so much expenditure and this needs through investigation.

For 1972-73 Rs. 10.90 crores is said to be earmarked. Will this amount meet our requirement since the past performance, on which this is based, does not show any worth while works.

I am glad that the Lieutenant Governor stated that as regards the ~~the~~ resources in terms of money, material and expertise there is no problem, as this great country is not only behind you, but is anxious to see the emergence of strong and prosperous Mizoram on its eastern border.

It is seen from this that we will face no problems in regard to money as we used to do. The Central Govt. is now responsible to find out ways and means which lift away the major problem for us. We must take full advantage of this.

.....3

I want to say a few words about our youngmen who had gone astray and who had lost their lives in the last conflict with Pakistan over Bangla Dosh. Not less than 12 Mizo boys had lost their lives and, as it is done elsewhere in Meghalaya and Assam as also by the Central Govt., we must give assistance to their families. We have a number of our boys in the Army and other Defence forces, and we should give them due honour. Therefore we must find out all those who have lost their lives so that necessary assistance may be given to their families.

In this connection mention may be made of those people who have lost their lives during the past five or six years of disturbance, and those who <sup>were imprisoned and who-</sup> have lost their chances in their careers. Unless the government finds a solution to give them rehabilitation they have nothing to look forward to. The government should make some scheme for their rehabilitation.

Once again, I would repeat that we must be thankful for the address that the Lieutenant Governor had given, but a word of caution may be added here that the government should work hard from now on.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr Speaker, just a few words. In regard to relief measures the whole Mizoram should be covered instead of selecting few places. Just as the eastern and southern people face scarcity, people in the west and in the north also face the same problem.

As the Speaker before me had stated it is not understood how so much money had been spent at so short a time. The works done should have been easily seen but the people have not been getting any benefit.

The reason for stoppage of T.R and G.R. schemes from this month should also be explained. The authorities should <sup>take</sup> be action in this matter.

PU ZELAWMA: Mr. Speaker, I am glad we have a chance to discuss the Lieutenant Governor's address. Let me make comments point by point.

At page 1 it is stated that the election pass off smoothly. I disagree with this because there are some injustice done-(1) Some candidates were allotted spade as their symbols but the picture of Spade which appear in the ballot papers were different from what they consider as a Spade. Therefore there was injustice in the process used (2) According to the Election Rules propoganda to incite feelings of communalism and religious differences are prohibited and such practice could be punishable by imprisonment and the whole election could be made null and void for this reason. On this point also

there had not been full satisfaction and for future benefit I would request the government to look into these matters (3) also after the results of the election of 2/3 of the total contingencies had been announced, election was held at Tuipuibari. This also was not quite fair.

I find here that the government will take it as its first concern to find satisfactory solution to the problems of the people who are dependent for their livelihood on the land. But how could any one say there is an absence of any mineral wealth unless there is a geological survey. Therefore the Ministry should take the matter and have experts to find out if there is any mineral wealth in our territory.

I support the mover of this motion regarding the relief measures. Almost all of the godowns are now empty and there is no sign that Rs. 226 had been spent in the recent past of two months. The Ministry should have the matter checked up as to how this amount had been spend and let this House know of its findings in the next session.

I am very much dissatisfied with the way development schemes have been implemented. Rs. 1½ lakh had been earmarked for road at Rengdil but when Rs 1 lakh had not been spent under this scheme, I wonder if the whole amount had been shown as expenditure within the stated period between January, 21 and 31 March, 1972. I would request the government to find out this. The amount of Rs. 10.90 Crores sanctioned by the Central Govt. for this financial year is too meagre. When we were just a district under the Assam Govt. not less than 8 Crores were spent here. Under the U.T. there is enlarge all departments and we now also have a Secretariat, for which this amount will be too small. In Tripura U.T. in 1969-70 as much as 28 Crores had been earmarked in the budget considering our backwardness and need for accelerated development on all sphere we would soon find this amount inadequate. Since it is always difficult to ask for additional grant it is necessary for the authorities to ask for more fund immediately.

The address omits to mention anything about Housing loan, Industrial loan, Agriculture loan etc. When we were under the Assam Govt. this benefits were deprived to us and I would request the Ministry to take action to make these available.

The question of rehabilitation of MNF returnees had been considered when Shri Das was the Chief Commissioner. I believe there had been a proposal to give them Rs. 1000/- each for starting their life anew. I hope the Ministry will make this a reality.



This new Government should work for the country deserving its dignity and, feeling of partisanship should be kept aside. A very acute scarcity condition prevails in the west and inspite of our pressure the authorities had not been able to airdrop any food there for the last two months. I have received a report just now that one sorty had been airdropped at Kawrthah the day before yesterday. I would impress upon the authorities that in this way many lives are in precarious conditions.

PU J. THANGHUANA: Mr Speaker, the Lt. Governor, <sup>he has addressed this House</sup> on behalf of the Government and a motion of thank on this address having been moved, we are to consider if that motion of thank deserves to be given.

The address is printed in 4 pages but the subject matters are not very important. Now that we ourselves are in the helm of the Government the people expect a great many things.

I want to make comments on some of this:

Pu Zalawma had mentioned about the last election. The Lt. Governors' statement that the election went off smoothly does not means that the election was fair. For example, on the question as to whether one supports non-Mizo (Vai) or Mizos there were coercions, threat and even canvassing on the question of religious belief. Such practices should be condemned and for these practices the last election should have been made null and void. And also in the government organ unfair practice was displayed. Some candidates selected spade as their symbol, but when the picture of this symbol was published, it showed quite a different picture than the one they thought what the spade to be. Therefore this show that the election was not legally fair. The statement of the Lt. Governor that the entire process of election passed off smoothly cannot be correct since, even in my constituency, there had been threat and coersions by persons disguising themselves as hostiles. Do not the C.I.Ds know of this? and under such circumstances was the election done smoothly?.

Then the Regional Councils have been converted into three District Councils. If this is done to lift up the more backward areas the action is understandable, but when we want integration such fragmentation would give rise to very great regret in future. It was also published, in Mizo Arsi that the first thing done by the Congress party was creation of Regional Council for the chakmas. But this is not the work of the Congress, it was done by the Mizo Union leaders, and to put the blame on the Congress could be a matter of regret.

The statement regarding supply of foodstuff, as already stated by others, is far from satisfactory. Why is not the District Commissioner taken sufficient step for relief? As it is many people die of starvation while our officers run around in the street by government vehicles. The amount is too meagre for giving relief to our people. And where is this Rs. 27 lakhs spent? I also demand that an enquiry Commission should look into as to how Rs. 212 lakhs could be spent within a matter of two months.

Under para 3 mention is made of political reform, but what does this mean? Does it means peace talk? A reform will be very essential if the people are to be made satisfied.

Mention is also made of the liberalised Amnesty terms extended by our Prime Minister to our misguided brothers, which is a matter for gladness but the failure to give assistance to them have been with holding others from coming out. The Mizo grouped villagers are also very anxious to go back to their respective villages. Nothing is mentioned about this. Let me read an article appearing in Statesman Dt. 7.5.72 where the Chief Minister is purported to have said that they will be allowed to go back (read out the article). But no mention is made by our Lt. Governor in this address, and I do not find any reason for thankfulness in this address.

It is also stated here that the maximum possible stock of essential commodities will be pushed into the interior before the monsoon. But there is no stock anywhere, and is this the maximum stock that have been pushed in? It is now high time to solve the problems of our people who are now approaching the Deputy Commission expecting T.R. and G.Rs in large numbers every day. Even in my constituency stock of food is to be made at Sialhawk and Khawhai but there is only one quintal of rice now. Is this one quintal the maximum that could be stocked? The maximum possible tock has really no meaning and this could give lots of false hope to our people. I would therefore suggest that all the vehicles now roaming on Aizawl streets, including private vehicles, be used for transporting footstuff.

The vehicles allotted to our Ministers also appear to be the worst ones, this also must be rectified.

It is also wrong to say that there is an absence of any mineral wealth in our Territory as there had not been any survey made. The scope for a paper project is mentioned, but only one will not meet our employment problems. There are such other industries as preservation of fruits like Pineapples and Oranges. But development of these industries will not be possible unless communication system is improved.

When Rs.212 lakhs were spent in two months an amount of Rs. 10.90 crores will be far too little, especially when the amount is to include plan outlay.

Corruption is too rampant in this territory and in the P.W.D. where Rs.1,00,000/- is spent Rs. 60,000/- is usually spent for practifications.

As Pu Rawnga had stated and if we want the cooperation of the people then why is the government order dated 8.5.72 stays the passes of Houses and Shops which were issued after 1.3.72? Why is 1.3.72 so selected, has there been some interested party receiving passes on 28.2.72? Why do not the stay order given only to those who have not started work?

There was also an order of the Education Officer refusing newly appointed L.P. Teachers to join their duties on the plea that there is no sanction. But what does sanction mean. There is a provision that there should be one teacher for every 40 pupils and on this basis we require at least 600 to 700 more teachers. When that is the position why are these 230 teachers disallowed to join their duties, when the Lt. Governor stated that there will be no financial problem?

.....(7).

If we are to take this sort of attitude some way out may be found out. The order of the Education Officer is not valid. The dissolution order of the Mizo District Council is very clear, and if these teachers were appointed after the dissolution his action could be right. To discretion what is done by the predecessors should not be our usual practice as this could be very harmful. In case of this teachers also, if there is no fund scheme may be prepared. To do nothing when we know there is need for them is the fault of our leaders.

In ~~regard~~<sup>regard</sup> to salary the constitution prescribes that people doing same nature of work should get some pay. But there is a great deal of difference between the pays of different category of teachers. Some get about Rs.500/- while others get only Rs.100/-. It is sad that nothing is done to watch bringing them on equal footing. We have now our own Chief Minister who professes his desire to do good for our people. Previously he could not do any thing as he claimed that he was not in a position where he could do anything. Now that he is in that position where he can do anything, he must know that the public have very high hope in him.

Mention may be made of the few ~~bus~~<sup>bus</sup> services within our territory. If necessary a Department may be created so that regular bus services may be run on Aizawl to Lungleh, Aizawl to Champhai and Aizawl to Thenzawl Roads.

The need for adequate food supply is to be stressed. I would impress upon our ministers to keep this in mind and to work diligently.

We should also look for opening up of employment opportunities. And there should also be dispensaries in all the Group Centres.

I hope the authorities will heed our comments on the Lt. Governor's address and implement whatever that could be done from their levels.

PU HRANGAIA: Mr Speaker, I am glad that Pu. Ch. Soprawnga has moved a motion of thanks on the Lt. Governor's address. There are many things in this address which should made us happy, and I am specially happy to know that there will be no problem in terms of money, material and expertise to make Mizoram strong and prosperous. I am all the more happy because this statement is no much different from what our friends were saying before the election that the Government would face financial difficulties unless their party comes into power.

Out of Rs.226 allocated for expenditures between 21 January and 31 March, 1972 Rs.27 lakhs is said to have been spent on relief. Does this amount includes the expenditure spent on children park and the making of a Zoo as well as the expenditure incurred in purchasing the wild animals and construction of their sheds. If the expenditure on this has deprived us of the amount for relief this would be very bad.

In regard to the process of election about which Pu J. Thanghuama had mentioned what Pu Thanghuama says and what he has in his mind are often different. He put the blames on some others, but I feel that the greatest blame should be put on the Congress, their candidates took with them jeeful of sweing machine, knitting machine hurricane lambs, hockey sticks etc. which they get from the Deputy Commissioner's Office. It was a matter of amagement for the votes. *to do as it leader to take some one in collecting votes. that was an action to be condoned.*

He also emphasis the absence of rice in the godowns. But some party ~~can~~ candidates could distribute rice stock in Government Godown whereas the Mizo Union candidates could not do the same. But those who could distribute them did not give rice to the poor but they gave them only to certain category of people. In this respect is not the Govt. entirely blameless? As also had not the candidate himself distributed all the stock available in those godowns?.

I want to mention about the administrative officers posted in various places. Some are ~~gr~~ Gramsevak, Agriculture Demonstrator, Office Assistant and also Gazetted officers. Therefore, the term A.O. does not signify the actual position. Therefore the post Commanders of the security post where they are posted respect them or otherwise depending on the status of the A.O. Where the A.O. is of subordinate rank he is given less respect and the villagers are more at the mercy of the ~~se~~ security forces. It is therefore essential that uniformity in the status of A.Os be made, and preferably they should be of Gazetted rank.

Pu J. Thanghuama mentioned also fruit preservation schemes. I believe such industries could be easily started so that villagers of Chhingchhip and Chhiahtlang etc. may avail them. I believe we may even start sugar factory, and since they Lt. Governor had said that they will be no problem in regard to money etc. all these will be brought about easily. In the same way we should also have more electric power.

I believe also that the necessity of movement permits and need to report oneself to the security forces should be discontinued.

Mention was made also on the need to go back from grouped villages to the old village sites. A proper workable solution on this matter is to be made. The villages should be properly connected with good roads and villages should be properly planned.

Last of all I want to mention about the havoc caused by Cyclone in constituency No. 17 just before the election. In Villages like Tlungvel, Baktawng and Thingsulthiah as many as 300 hundred houses had been destroyed in one villages--~~These village~~ three died at Tlungvel. These villages deserve assistance of the Government.

PU K.L. ROCHAMA: Mr Speaker, I want to say a few words on the address given by the Lt. Governor. It is taken that it is rather an unhappy recent past in which the people of Mizoram had to suffer deprivation and restrictions of various kinds ~~by~~ leading to a disruption of their normal pursuit and way of life. This refers even to the present day. The movement permit system has no more use it is only a burden for the villagers and an additional bother for the security forces. Whose entry do we try to check? Any one of us can get it permit. An identity card should be of more use. The authorities must look into this.

The Prime Minister declared a liberalised amnesty terms when she inaugurated the U.T. of Mizoram. But it is fansion all necessary to release those who are now convicted and give amnesty to those whose cases are pending.

A grant of Rs.100 to those who surrender themselves is still too insufficient. For them it is difficult to earn livelihood by daily labour, and they should be given more rehabilitation grant of at least more loans.

Our territory need to have peace and tranquility, unless they have sufficient food it is difficult to have peace among the people. Therefore our brothers who have lost their foodhold in life should be given assistance. It is mentioned that the government would endeavour to provide relief work to people who are devoid of sufficient purchasing power. To my knowledge the government is ~~not~~ realising Rs. 19 lakhs T.R. and G.R., but grown up people can earn only 2 Kg. of rice a day along the main roads and only one and half Kg. in remote areas. Converting these they are equivalent to about 2.25 paise only, whereas contractor offered Rs.6/- a day for similar labour. Therefore the system of relief measures that is applied does not benefit the people because the earnings are too meagre.

It will be necessary to give more G.R. from this month as the mover had stated, and I would suggest that one week's quota be given at first. For adults a week quota should be raised to 4 Kg. and for children 2 Kgs. Another matter which should received attention is the utilisation of land properly on scientific lines. As it is now storm destroy our crops and cultivation could not be properly carried on due to various difficulties arising out of the grouping of villages, curfews, and other security measures. The storms are beyond our control but the others are man-made and could be stopped. If villagers can you back to their respective lands and cultivate the fertile lands, it would be expected that self-sufficiency will be realise in a year or two.

The Mizos consider rice as staple food and nothing else. What other crops we may have need to have a good market for their disposal. In this connection the authorities must examine the possibilities of border trade; especially in the southern side this could be a source of wealth.

Amongst those mentioned in para 6 nothing said about medical side. An old M.D.C. once said of Lunglei Hospital that even the most common medicines are not available and the medical staff do nothing on this plea. As such it would not be difficult to perform their works too, as he can also do nothing but play drough games on the plea that they have no medicines. Not to speak of Grouped Centres that is the position as it is in a Sub-Division Headquarter.

Regarding the appointment of A.Os Officers from the District Council and relieve and Rehabilitation Department are being appointed on the pay scale of Rs.300-800, whereas it is said that ex-emergency Commission Officers. will be appointed on Rs.300-900 pay scale. When they perform similar duties, there should be uniformity in their salaries.

Now that we are a Union Territory, in some cases akin to a state, this Assembly Hall is also far from adequate and we have not had a building for the Civil Secretariat. Will it be necessary to shift the capital somewhere? This matter should be considered.

The allocation of Rs. 10.90 crores for the current year is based on past performance. But which period had been taken as the best, because this amount will be far too inadequate.

It is a matter of gladness that the Lt. Governor has assured us that for the development of Mizoram into a strong and prosperous one, there will be no problem in regard to money, material and expertise. Since we are still very backward, we must insist on having experts. In this connection a Principal Engineer ~~has~~ has been brought out but he is said to have little experiences and seniority beyond those acquired by our local officers. If that is on this will simply complication and jealousy. Unless they have special knowledge and experience, to induce others from outside would simply stand in the way of our progress.

PU SANGCHHUMA: Mr Speaker, I am glad to hear of what the Lt. Governor had to say yesterday about a Territory. I want to add a few points on what has been said.

The system followed in regard to the underground people has to be systematised many things are promised to attract them to surrender, many have actually surrendered themselves, but the offers are not fulfilled in many cases. Take one case of once hostile who surrendered himself at Sangau, when he approached the A.O. Sangau for the rehabilitation grant, the A.O. could not give him anything and this reflects very badly on the Government. If something is promised it must be fulfilled. These hostiles return from the jungles empty handed and the difficulties they have to face are many, and it is therefore, imperative for the government to give them suitable works to earn livelihood.

A great many harassments are received by the people from the security forces. The citizens and the security forces should work hand in hand, but the way things are going now there are loss of things to be rectified. When I was coming to attend this meeting, there was a little altercation at Serchhip due to which the Security Forces prevent all the villagers from going to their jhums. Such behaviour will cause more harm in the long run.

As members have stated earlier many people have ~~no~~ crops to harvest. To give relief to such people the Govt. allots some T.R. But very often these Test Relief works are given to individuals depriving the general public of the benefit. Such grants should be utilised to benefit the largest number of people. Side by side with T.R. grants the Govt. should allot some gratuitous relief grants too.

We used to face a number of difficulties ~~and~~ under the Assam Government, now that we are giving a new setup we are quite happy but our happiness is still half-hearted. The Pawi-Lakher Regional Council has been made into three Regional Councils which are now converted to District Council. But these are put under one man which is not quite satisfactory. If such arrangement continue many complains and dissatisfaction will crop up. I hope the Government would hold an election so that representatives of the people may take charge.

Regarding despatch of supply goods, Sangau and S. Vanlaiphai areas are across a big river. Unless their requirements are despatched during the dry season deaths by starvation cannot be ruled out. Big rivers are good communication systems in other places but they are just the source of death for us. To make full utilisation of this river it is necessary first to build a bridge across this river. To depend on air-dropped foods is too uncertain because clouds can prevent their successful operation.

We need medical staff very badly as also medicines and necessary instruments. There must be dispensaries and a hospital in the area. Even when ~~xxx~~ epidemics broke out doctors without medicines are helpless and medicines cannot reach us due to high flood of the river. Thus for ~~xxx~~ lack of quick transportation many people have to lose their lives. This shows also that a good road connecting this area is essential. I hope the authorities concerned would pursue this matter.

Since our needs as I have stated are such I would be very glad if our budget makes adequate provisions for this.

**SPEAKER:** We have made a number of observations on the ~~a~~ address and the discussion will be continued in the afternoon. You may see from our List of Business that there are also some other matters to take up in the afternoon. We may now have recess till 2 P.M. today.

Recess till 2 P.M.

.....(12).



Afternoon 2 P.M.

**SPEAKER:** Although we have not finish the discussion on the Lt. Governor address, let us take some other business first and we shall resume discussion later on.

The Minister i/c Law & Judicial may now lay on the table of the House these papers (a) Delimitation of the Legislative Constituencies in Mizoram. (b) Appointment of Returning Officer, Mizoram (S.T.) Parliamentary Constituencies. (c) Appointment of Officers to assist Returning Officer. (d) Appointment of Returning Officers for Mizoram Assembly Constituencies (e) Appointment of Officers to assist Returning Officers, Mizoram Parliamentary Constituencies.

(Pu Vaivenga Minister i/c Law & Judicial moved the papers on the table of House).

The Minister i/c has placed the paper mentioned above, they are now the property of this House.

We shall proceed to the next business, which is the election of the Deputy Speaker. There is only one nomination paper filled in favour of Pu Hiphei of Constituency No.1. The proposer is Pu P.B.Nikhuma and Seconder Pu C.Lalruata. Let the proposer read out the proposal (Pu P.B.Nikhuma read out).

Pu C.Lalruata may now speak as seconder.

**PU C.LALRUATA:** Mr Speaker, I second the proposal made by Pu P.B.NIKHUMA.

**SPEAKER:** Pu P.B.Nikhuma has proposed the name of Pu Hiphei for Deputy Speakership, which proposal has been formally seconded by Pu C.Lalruata. In the absence of any other nomination I declare Pu Hiphei elected Deputy Speaker of this Legislative Assembly without contest (Members clapped hands)

Let him come before the dias (newly elected Deputy Speaker came before dias and shook hand with the Speaker. Then took seat in the place arranged for him).

We have finished the other business pending before us. We shall resume discussion on the Lt. Governor address. There is not much time at our disposal and I would request members to sparing in their speech and not to repeat the something to prolong their speeches. You will find these two globe lights. One shows green which warns the Speaker that his time nearly up. When the other light, which is red is on, it means the member speaking has exhausted his time limit.

**PU C.LALRUATA:** Mr Speaker, let me open the discussion. In general the address given by the Lt. Governor deserves thanks. But there are some few points which require clarifications.

Let me first express my gratitude for the District Council staff having been absorbed as the Government Servants. This matter has been a subject for political discussion. Now that the question has been finalised I want to express my gratitude.

.....(13).



Regarding the formations of Regional Council Pu J.Thanghuama stated that he was told at Delhi that the leaders do not object the risk. We know who Pu J.Thanghuama is. For him his leaders are the Congress leaders. The Executive Committee was removed in the last District Council Session on the 15th March, 1972. Before this removal nothing serious was discussed about the Regional Council except that they may be given special consideration. The creation of Paw-Lakher-Chakma-Regional Councils was made by an order of Chief Commissioner (Shri S.Das) on the 2nd April, 1972. This was after the Congress Party took over the District Council. Therefore it appears that the Executive Committee formed by the Congress Party Members has raised no objection to this matter.

The Lt.Governor also stated that Rs.212 lakhs has been spent in seventy days. Some of the members has suggested the holding of an enquiry as to how this amount was spent. It may also be examined how Rs.14 lakhs out of Rs.226 lakhs had remained unspent.

**PU SAPLIANA:** Mr Speaker, we must thank the Lt.Governor for his address we may not be able to express all our opinions in so short of a time.

The money whose expenditure we could not understand may perhaps be the money spent by the Congress candidates for electioneering.

Regarding the appointment of more than 200 L.P. Teachers by the District Council. There are still villages in P-L Region where there is no single school teacher. The Government must look into this.

Pu J.Thanghuama stated his apprehension with the creation of different Regional Councils. It must be noted that this will not be separation from Mizoram, as a matter of fact we are not quite satisfied regarding the boundaries that were made.

We want that post and Telegraph Offices should also be opened in our area.

We are in a disturb area where we cannot move freely. People are often detained in the check post for long period, which could be very harmful especially for the M.L.As. The authorities should order ~~discontinuation~~ <sup>discontinuation</sup> of this.

To give relief T.R. works alone cannot solve the difficulties of cultivators because they have to work in their jhums. Something, such as loans, may be arranged.

There are a number of our brothers in Bangla Desh who are being ~~revent~~ <sup>driven</sup> out of that country, they migrated to our area and the Government should find solution of the problem.

**PU VANLALHRUAIA:** Mr Speaker, we have ~~made~~ <sup>heard</sup> from the opposite bench about the alleged unfairness in the elections which was mainly on the question symbol - Spade, the candidate concerned could have clarified the matter from the election office, what caused the trouble was the negligence of candidate who failed to ascertain the correct picture.

We have discussed the Lt. Governor's address quite thoroughly, and I feel that only Rs. 10.90 crores for Mizoram for one year is too little from what works are said to be laying before us to do this amount will be insufficient. To take a particular case of my Constituency (No. XIII) there is no motorable road in the entire area. This is, therefore, a yoke area. It is necessary to build a motor road in this area and also in many other places. Therefore this amount would become too little.

Some members have complaints against the A.Os and spoke of their corruptions. These A.Os are burdens to our people and if we are to have A.Os at all, let us be careful to have Gazetted rank and who are free from corruptions. In my constituency about Rs. 5,000, Rs. 6,000 had been misappropriated. It is not only the A.O., it is also his staff who are guilty. A few specific cases were brought to the notice of the Deputy Commission. Nothing seems to have been done and the most serious step taken was a transfer to another place. This does not give their money back to the villagers and I hope this sort of toleration should not be shown in the new set up. I do not feel full satisfaction with their implementation of Employment Generation Scheme under previous Deputy Commissioner, Shri A.C. Ray Rs. 5/- was fixed as daily wages half in kind and half in cash. The half in kind was usually a handful of rice and a very small quantity of M.Oil, Salt and Atta. The cash portion remains unpaid. In many cases the villagers have not received a single money till now. This causes more problems to the villages, and such system should be better discontinued.

The Lt. Governor also mentioned about the water supply. But the P.H.E. which is responsible for this failed to pump up water from the Tlawng River within the past 10 years. This is said to be mainly due to the inefficiency of the present E.E. He shows partiality towards non-Mizo in recruitment and other things. Therefore the new ministry may take particular interest, in matter concerning this department.

For 21st January - 31st March. Rs. 226 lakhs had been earmarked for our territory of which Rs. 212 lakhs had been spent. This Rs. 10.90 crores is calculated on that basis and if the work done during 21st January - 31st March is not very remarkable, as it could be easily seen the amount earmarked for the coming year will not be adequate for any substantial work.

It is stated that only Rs. 27 lakhs had been spent out of Rs. 212 lakhs for relief. If that is so where had the other Rs. 185 lakhs been spent? Is it for the construction of Umbrella type buildings that Shri A.C. Ray had made that Rs. 212 lakhs had been spent?

If these works we see had involved an expenditure of Rs. 212 lakhs in 70 days, then Rs. 10.90 crores for a full year will be too small.

For the development of our country the Lt. Governor stated that there will be no problem of financing it. If that is so our budget estimate should provide for double the works of what has been done. I hope this will solve our poverty and our problem in regard to the development.

PU HRANGVELA: Mr Speaker, we must thank for the address that the Lt. Governor has delivered, especially where there is no likely difficulty in regard to money to make Mizoram strong and prosperous.

During the election the Congress candidates opposing me stated that Development works would not progress unless the Congress is voted into power. To support his propaganda he distributed many things like Petronax, Rubbersheets, rice and others. The T.R. and G.R. grants were claimed to have been sanctioned at his recommendation, and these grants were given only to his party supporters. Some deserving cases who were not his supporters were refused, for which trouble nearly broke-out I also took with me T.R. and G.R. grants sanctioning letters but I handed over the papers to the authorities concerned as I am not the authority to distribute these things. Was the actions of these Congress candidates been instigated by Pu S.J. Das or the Chief Commissioner? I am glad that there will be no financial difficulty as stated by the Lt. Governor ~~Nizza~~ under Mizo Union Government inspite of the propoganda that the other party had spread. Reading the Lt. Governor statement that the people will be encouraged to take up horticulture etc. etc. I feel that there is sincere desire to develop our land. Reformation regarding our cultivation system has been felt necessary by the politicians as long ago as 1946. We must take advantage of the scope given to us, but since we are not experienced, the Government must show us.

The Civil Supply is too inadequate e.g. only 150 quintals of rice was air-dropped for April, May and June at Vaphai Centre where there are about 2 thousand people. This needs reconsideration. When food Supply are sent unless T.R. grants follows some A.Os donot know how to give out the supply. Therefore the A.Os should be of Gazetted rank. Some times there is lots of pilferage in the dropping area, taking advantage of this some A.Os ~~thearx~~ and their staff misappropriated the rice. Such practice should be stopped.

Better dispensaries are necessary. In my Constituency there is only one dispensary, it has no wall, it has mud floor and in very bad condition. It only has every big signboard. Mere prominence in the signboard is useless.

/ The river Tuipui must also be bridged.

PU SAHGHUMA: Mr Speaker, in general the address given by Lt. Governor deserve our thank. I would specially mention my gratitude to hear that there will be no difficulty regarding financial problems.

At para 6 mention is made of the intention to open up facilities for education, especially Technical education. This is a very happy news. We must remember our Mizo students here and elsewhere are waiting to see what government propose to do for this country. There are many people appearing P.U.C. examination if they are to wait for the technical institutions to be opened here it will be delayed for them. Therefore, Some arrangements may be made now so that our students can get facilities to proceed with their studies without brake in suitable institutions e.g. the Nagaland Government reserves a number of seats for the Nagas in Osmania University at Allahabad. It is necessary for us also to do the same thing. While waiting for the high power board to chalk out suitable programme, we must make arrangement for our immediate needs.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker, I am glad for what the Lt. Governor had stated yesterday, but I am afraid mere Rupees 10 crores would be insufficient to fulfil all that were promised. It is necessary to increase the fund.

His assurance that any expert advice that may be required will be available is very re-assuring but any expert advice could mean local experts as well as foreign expert. Considering our needs I believe experts from Japan etc. should be brought in.

In places like Spirang and elsewhere there are vast stretches of lands owned by individuals but left unutilised. If the owners do not develop these lands the government may acquire them and use them for plantations and House sites. Development of Inland Water Transport is also necessary so that Tlawng river and other places could be reached by boat.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker, we have made sufficient <sup>an</sup> comment<sup>s</sup> on the address of the Lt. Governor I am glad there is assurance that there will be no problem regarding money. But I feel that provision of Rs. 10.90 crores for our budget, calculated on the basis of the performance within the last 70 days may not be quite sufficient. When our status has been raised, such small amount would not be very helpful.

Our Mizoram is often called a land of promise, but even after 25 years of Independence there is nothing to show it as such. The authorities must work to realise these.

In para four (4) it is said that stock of food will be kept in remote villages, but nothing has yet been done till today, and the monsoon being very near the truth of this statement is still to be proved. We are no more under the Assam Government, it is the responsibility of our government to see that sufficient stock of food, so that villagers can have at least two ~~square~~ meals a day, should be ~~xx~~ arranged in the interim. <sup>Square</sup>

It is also necessary to improve our system of cultivation on a long term basis. But immediate improvement and solution of this problem is also necessary, for which experts from Japan or elsewhere, as suggested by Pu Ngurdawla may be brought in.

The problem of unemployment is also to be solved. There are today as many as graduates and about 175 Matriculates in Mizoram. Who have no suitable employments. The authorities must find a solution of these problem.

Post and Telegraph Department must also arrange to provide telegraph facilities in more places and more quickly.

Road communication should be improved, the B.R.T.F. should construct roads connecting North to South and East to West for quick communication. The P.W.D. may take over after the B.R.T.F. has completed the Roads and they may also take up construction of feeder roads.

The College that we have should also be enlarged as suggested by the Central Minister when he visited this place.

To develop our economy it is necessary to arrange facilities for border trade with Burma and Bangladesh. For this purpose a State Trading Corporation of Mizoram and a State Commercial Bank of Mizoram should be created. Electric Power is also far below our requirement. More power is required for which a State Electricity Board of Mizoram must be created.

For safe-guarding our internal security we used to depend on the Assam Rifles but we must have our own Mizo Rifles.

It is also necessary to have Town Planning, experts should be employed.

To fulfill all these and to do many other things for our Mizoram it is necessary to have a very efficient administrative machinery without which we will fail. Government servants from bottom to the top must work hard. We must also give suitable remuneration to them for their hard works. It is necessary to have a Pay Commission, and also a separate Public Service Commission of our own.

There is frequent border dispute with Cachar, this must also be settled without any delay.

PU SAITLA WIA: Mr Speaker, we must thank the Lt. Governor for what he had said. Pu J. Thanghuama complained about the fairness of the last election, but he spoke as though he was speaking in sleep. The unfairness may have been unfairness for their Party because their party was defeated.

Mr Speaker, we must thank the Lt. Governor for considering us politically matured as he stated in para one of his speech. It is also true of his statement that we are facing a challenging task, which could be achieved only with the full co-operation of the political parties and sections of all the people.

Amongst those things mentioned the creation of the District Councils out of the P-L Regional Council is one thing which does not please me. This arrangement does not seem to satisfy the people of this area either.

Mr Speaker, we must be grateful that all the employees of the erstwhile Mizo District Council are now absorbed into Government Service. But why is not the employees of the P-L Regional Council mentioned?

To see what has been done and what has been spent between 21 January and 31 March, 1972 makes us surprised and wonder if the money had been mis-used. If this fund ~~was used~~ for purchase of wild animals and for the making of a Zoo at the Aizawl Children Park, how could such thing be done while many villages all over Mizoram are starving and without proper clothing?

Mr Speaker, I would also suggest that the government should extend the period of ~~amnesty~~ <sup>amnesty</sup> given to our brothers underground.

The Transportation of foodstuff in the interior must also be accelerated. Where there are no good roads food should be airdropped from now on.

Mr Speaker, Rs. 10.90 crores meant for one year should rather be that Rs. 10.90 crores is the additional grant over and above the usual yearly budget provision for Mizoram.

We must also be grateful to the government for its intention to make Mizoram into a strong and prosperous Mizoram on India's Eastern Border.

Mr Speaker, taking the whole <sup>thing</sup> ~~thing~~ the address delivered by the Lt. Governor deserves our thank.

PU LALHLIRA: Mr Speaker, we have stated our happiness and displeasure on the address given by Lt. Governor. I want to say a few words.

At page 1 (one) it is stated "I would like to express my satisfaction over the fact that continuity with implementation of the Development Scheme was maintained and supply of essential commodities ensured in the remotest corners" Though on this matter in this particular subject, I do not feel satisfaction. The way money is spent in the implementation of the Development Works in Mizoram cut very sorry figure. The Development Blocks we used to have before the disturbance do not resume work till today. Many of the Development staff posted in villages are now at Aizawl, away from the villagers who required their help. For these reasons no work could be done in villages. I would suggest resumption of work in the Blocks and resumption of duties by the staff.

As regards supply matters we cannot say what constitute the essential commodities because we are supplied only with rice, which quality is often unfit for consumption. Does essential commodity mean only rice and not the K.Oil salt, N.Oil etc.?

In para 5 it is stated "Agriculture backwardness has to be tackled on a long term basis". I doubt the truth of this also. If we are to plan on a long term basis only I am afraid our present scarcity condition would lead to sorrow. Therefore, we require something for the Relief of immediate problems. For examples, had there been adequate supply of chemical fertilizers the harvest at Champhai would surely be double.

In para 6 mention is made about the planning boards. I hope the authorities would make an effective board covering the whole territory and it would be much appreciated if the powers that would be given to this board could be told to us.

SPEAKER: We have made comments and the Members would like to know the views of the Government, and the Treasury Bench may now speak.

PU CH. CHUNGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, what the Lt. Governor has said are what he should have said in his position. Although he has been here only for a short period he has sincere desire to develop ~~our~~ our land, and I am glad that Pu Ch, Saprawnga has initiated a motion of thanks in regard to the address, and I hope this will be passed unanimously.

.....(19).

.....(19).

From our speeches, it appears we are not quite satisfied. But if everything we want is promised here, it may cause dissatisfaction in future and we may try to put blame on each other. Our criticisms now will be a guide for the preparation of the budget, because this will be a good chance for the government to know what the representatives of the people want for Mizoram. We must understand this.

I will try to explain the different points one by one, perhaps I may miss some points accidentally.

The address comments the successful and smooth completion of election. There is no reason for argument because this is an undeniable fact. There had not been any riot or troubles happening during the election. That sort of incident had never occurred in Mizoram till to day, which is worth praise. We live under disturbed condition but election was peacefully held, which is what the Lt. Governor has praised.

Many things has to be done preparing for the election between January and March and we must appreciate that every thing went off smoothly considering the short period available.

C<sub>1</sub> \* There is a tendency to blame each other for the creation of District Councils out of P-L Regional Council. When we visited Delhi we were also asked if we have any objection to give District Council to the P-L Region. When such things have been created, it has often been very difficult to undo them. It may be a difficult thing to undo what had been done only on the plea that they are not content. We have expressed our opinion that the Pavis and the Lakhers are indigenous inhabitants of Mizoram since their ancestors. This opinion was reached in consultation with our District Congress Committee. We were apprehensive about the third District Council, and we are very sorry about the other one. Personally I do not agree with the idea of a Chakma District Council.

I do not know if I misunderstood what has been said or if the members has misunderstood it. Let me read it out again this sentence.

"I would like to express my satisfactory over the fact that continuity in the implementation of development scheme was maintained and supply of essential commodities ensured in the remotest corner". He merely stated what was a fact.

There were a number of complaints about the insufficiency of Rs. 10.90 crores, but our discussion to-day will indicate our views, and the said amount is not unchangeable. We should consider that matter in this way.

It is also stated that the government is determined to launch an all-out attack on poverty and backwardness wherever it exists in Mizoram. This is the foremost task for the government, whether the government is big or small. Even in very advanced country like England this task still remains. The fulfilment of this task cannot be expected in a short time and within the term that our Lt. Governor is in Mizoram it may not be possible to fulfill this task. But for this reason we should not be discouraged but we should give full cooperation to our Lt. Governor in his desire to help us.

.....(20).



Some members have pointed out that no mention is made about loans. I am sure provision are made in the budget under Agriculture etc., and for the starving people G.R. grants must surely be made available.

There are complaints from some members that the Lt. Governor had stated as if there is no mineral wealth at all in Mizoram. But the Lt. Governor does not speak about the future and the possibilities, he merely stated what is the present position as it is. Since there are no mineral wealth extracted the statement made by the Lt. Governor is quite correct.

Regarding the forests some members stated that the timbers are not food. But we must know how to protect them because they are the source of earning livelihood. If we have a Paper Mill it will open employment opportunity and the benefits will be ours. Without proper protection places around Aizawl are now bare of woods. We may have to plant timbers to create woods again. It is not known if the materials exist for a paper mill but this does not mean that opportunity for other industries should not be explored.

What the Lt. Governor has said deserves our thanks because this speech open up our minds.

Mention was made about L.P. Teachers. Proposal for sixty new teachers was included in the District Council budget for April to June 1972. Against this, when the Council was on the eve of dissolution, on 28.4.72 it appears that 127 new teachers were appointed, thus altogether 227 seem to have been appointed recently. Budget estimate cannot be implemented unless there is a sanction from the government. It is reported that a Secretary had consented to the additional recruitment but which Secretary had given the consent because the objection to the appointment of new teachers without sanction had come from the Secretariat. Therefore it is doubtful that a Secretary has given a consent. Ruling Parties often change, and to act as it one loses reason and do things haphazardly as we have seen in the recent past should be discontinued. I do not mean our Congress friends particularly.

Some mention about the discontinuation of G.R. grants, there is no such discontinuation except for lack of funds. Now that there is fund this will be resumed.

Many has complained the lack of medicines. The great handicap is the unavailability of doctors. Few doctors who are here are not very anxious to remain. It is necessary for our youths to take up this line. We must try to understand the problems.

We are very much concerned about our brothers underground. The Lt. Governor himself is also interested and he had discussed their problems with me many a time. I am very sorry I have not known that there had been an Advisory Board to look after the M.N.F. returnees, but we shall examine what could be done.



Complaints against A.Os <sup>had</sup> ~~had~~ been many and the people are mostly disillusioned. Some donot care to tay at their posts. This matter will be considered soon and we must all study the position in our respective constituencies.

Regarding transportation of foodstuff the Lt. Governor himself took very great interest, and the general position has been very disappointing. In some places the M.L.A candidates are reported to have purchased all the stock. Therefore our present Deputy Commissioner has been entrusted to look after supply matters entirely ~~xxx~~ and Shri Bezbarua will take charge of the Office of Deputy Commissioner.

It appears the previous Deputy Commissioner, Pu A.C.Ray, and Pu S.J.Das had not left things properly. But steps will be taken now in right earnest by using even Private vehicles, so that food may be sent out to the interior. Many things could be said in this connection but I will say only this much now.

Apprehension for remaining in Group Centres and difficulty in proper development for this reason was heard, but it is not advisable to rush matters at once. There are still some difficulties, especially when we consider the fact that some of our brother, are still remaining underground. The difficulty is mostly on the security point of view. We shall try to solve this problem quickly but we must also understand that some difficulties are still remaining. What we most want is absence of disturbance and if they all come out I think there will be no problem in dispersing from the group villages. However we will require your cooperations to tackle all these matters.

I support that the motion of thanks be passed.

PU J. THANGHUMA: Mr Speaker, on point of information, can it be explained what who would be the position of those who have gone back to temporary villages (Thlawbawk)? We have seen some reports in newspapers of what the Chief Minister said about this.

Regarding the L.P. School teachers the Govt. is the sanctioning authority as such should not appointments made by the predecessor authorities be honoured?.

PU CH. CHHUNGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, no one had been allowed to go back from Grouping Centres since grouping was done. There are some people who are permitted to have temporary villages (Thlawbawk) they are not permitted to have the Grouping Centres.

Regarding appointment of L.P. Teachers, we should not encourage such practice as appointment of many people at the fag end of the term, especially when there is no sanction. If such practice should be tolerated, what would happen if more than 500 people are given appointment when one is to be out of office. This will create over-staffing and confusion. We should not encourage such things in our land. (Pu J. Thanghuma: There will never be over-staffing in case of teachers). We should not do this sort of thing in future otherwise, for some people it could be a source of gain to be out of office frequently. We should condemn this practice in future.

PU KHAWTINKHUMA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the Lt. Governor does not mention anything about L.T. Teachers in his address. However when that matter is pointed out, we should know that appointments could be done only after the posts had been created. Department concerned is to make proposal, and the competent authority will create the posts, only then appointment could be made. Even now many ~~clerks are~~ <sup>clerks are</sup> ~~clerks~~ and required, but in the absence of creation of posts we cannot make appointments. For this reason even the Ministers have no peons yet, they are depending on the peons already in existence. Only after the posts of peons are created by the Secretariat shall we be able to appoint new ones.

In regard to Land Settlement the District Council was all along been a competent authority. Now that a new set up has come, we shall require places for construction of Government buildings and the passes issued by the District Council authorities after March, 1972 have been stayed only to enable proper re-examination.

Regarding shortage of Medicines under Medical Department, scheme will be prepared and only after the schemes had been approved, will they be able to purchase their requirements, we know only very few of what are required by the different departments but when the budget is prepared the department concerned will submit their proposal. Which will be taken to the Central Government and if necessary to the Planning Board. Without obtaining sanction, it is not correct to incur expenditures.

PU ZALAWIA: Mr Speaker, allow me to speak a few more words again. It is gather that some Mizos living along the Mizo-Cachar border are facing great difficulties, because the Assam Government has sent Forest Officers and an A.D.C. accompanied by security forces to evict them and that these Mizos have approached our Minister i/c Forest to help ~~them~~. What ~~of~~ steps are we going to take?

The Chief Minister referred to the P-L Regional Council, and what was discussed, when ~~we~~ formed a United Mizo Parliamentary Party in the District Council. We informed them (at Delhi) that since the Pawis and Lakhers cannot work together, they may ~~not~~ do anything as they (Central Government) like about the Pawis and the Lakhers. That ~~the~~ is how we gave our opinion, and we should not try to put blame on each other. Regarding the L.P. School teachers the Administrator is a competent authority to give the sanction, and he consented to the appointment of 100 teachers when we approach him. The letter was endorsed to the Development Commissioner and should be there.

Regarding the M.F.F. returnees and <sup>Advisory</sup> ~~Advisory~~ Board was formed, which should be available in the file.

PU CH. CHUNGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, Regarding the appointment of L.P. Teachers there appear to be no sanction in writing as it is claimed. But there was an instruction for proposing 100 more teachers in the budget but this also was apparently without anything written.

In regard to the appointment also they were said to have been appointed by one who is not a competent authority, and objection was raised on the ground that they were not appointed by the then Chief Executive Member.

PU R. THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker, Member Pu Za-lawma pointed out about the Mizo-Cachar border dispute. I am glad this matter was mentioned.

The matter is under investigation. The incident occurred on the 8th May, 1972 and report was received in 9th May. Matter is under investigation by our forest department, but we must be very careful how we proceed, as this may not be a simple forest trouble, but something concerning the border as well.

SPEAKER: I believed we have had enough of discussion, and the position of the Government has also been explained by the leader of the House.

Let me read out the motion submitted by the Chief Whip of the Ruling Party Pu Ch. Saprawnga: "We the members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly in this session beg to offer our humble thanks to the Lt. Governor for the most excellent speech which he has been pleased to deliver to the House on 11.5.1972."

Is the House agreeable to pass the motion as it is?

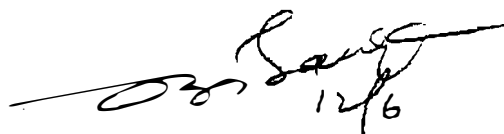
(Pu Lalsangzuala - Is it not better to change the word "beg" by something else?).

Do we agree to have this motion passed?  
(Members "Ayes").

Then the motion has been passed unanimously.

We have disposed all the business meant for this session. I have with me an order of the Lt. Governor proposing the session. Therefore this meeting stand prorogued.

Meeting prorogued at 4.30 P.M.



Under Secretary,  
Mizoram Legislative Assembly

17/6

....