

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE MIZORAM  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ~~HOLD-AT-THE-ASSEMBLY HALL~~  
FROM 20.10.1972 TO 1.11.1972

3RD SITTING ON 24.10.1972 AT 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT :

Pu H.Thanganga, M.A., B.T., Speaker in the Chair. One Chief Minister and four Ministers and twenty six Members.

**BUSINESS:-** 1. Questions.  
2. General Discussion on the Budget.

**SPEAKER:** Before we start discussion on the Budget today, I want to make an announcement. Election on Public Accounts Committee and Estimates Committee will be held on 31st Oct., 1972 in the Assembly Hall. Members with knowledge of accountancy will be very helpful for these Committees and I request the Hon'ble Members to keep this in mind at the time of election.

Now, we will take up Question No. 10 of Pu Lalsangzuala.

**PU LALSANGZUALA:** Mr Speaker, Question No. 10 - "The approximate percentage of fish produced in Mizoram out of 3,12,375 fish seeds distributed and cash grants of Rs.1,33,230/- disbursed by the Fishery Department to private parties during the last 10 years."

**PU R.THANGLIANA:** Mr Speaker, Since the fish seeds were stocked in the private water areas, it would be difficult to give the accurate production. However, taking into consideration that 30% of the seeds supplied survived after stocking and each of them grew to 2 Kg. each, the total minimum estimated production of fish was 1,87,424 Kgs.

The cash grants of Rs.1,33,230/- was given to help improvement of 263 Nos of private projects covering 141 acres of water area.

**PU LALSANGZUALA:** Mr Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister has given reply to my question. In his reply, he has also stated that cash grants of Rs. 43,27,800/- have been disbursed to C.D and T.D. Blocks. Then how did these Blocks disburse the grants ?

**SPEAKER** As the fish seeds were stocked in the water, it may be difficult to give accurate figure; as such, is not the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister enough ?

**PU R.ZOLIANA:** Mr Speaker, I want to have further explanation on what Pu Lalsangzuala has just said. Shall we put Fishery Department in the District level as we find in pages 117 and 118 of the Budget?

**SPEAKER:** That is outside the subject of the question. To save time, the questions we make must be direct and to the point. Now, question No. 11.

**PU LAISANGZUALA:** Mr Speaker, Question No.11 - Whether it is a fact that the Agricultural Department in Mizoram have -

- (a) irrigated 10,305 acres of land.
- (b) reclaimed 4,114 acres of land for Agriculture.
- (c) terraced 10,895 acres of land for wet cultivation,

in addition to Rs. 43,27,800/- spent for the same purpose by the CD/TD Blocks. If so, where are the said lands located ?

**PU R. THANGLIANA,**  
**MINISTER I/C**

: Mr Speaker, (a) Total area irrigated according to records are 10,305 acres only. The lands irrigated are situated on the plain lands within 9 (nine) Dev. Blocks of Mizoram mostly at Champhai, Serchhip & Kolasib at Blocks and also some within Lunglei, Lawngtlai, Saitual, Mamit, Hnahthial & Aizawl Dev. Blocks.

(b) Total area reclaimed for agriculture purpose according to records are 4,224 acres only, and the land located mostly in the Kolasib, Mamit and Serchhip Development Block, where possibilities existed for such works as extension of Wet Rice Cultivation.

(c) The estimated progressive total area of the Wet Rice Cultivation in Mizoram was 10,895 acres only, and the lands are situated mostly in Champhai, Chemphai, Saiphai, Buhchangphai, Matphai and Chawngte areas while the rest are spread throughout Mizoram.

**PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:** Mr Speaker, I have supplementary question. The total area irrigated according to records and the estimated progressive total area of Wet Cultivation in Mizoram are 10,305 acres and 10,895 acres respectively. What is the total production of each ?

**PU R. THANGLIANA,**  
**MINISTER I/C**

: Mr Speaker, I do not know whether there are records of such production. There is no doubt that the total area may not be suitable for cultivation. However, the estimated production in these areas is 90 tons per acre. But arithmetical calculation cannot be always correct as there is great difference in the fertility of the soil as well as the productivity of paddy seeds.

**PU LAHLIRA:** Mr Speaker, supplementary question - In question No. 11(c) it is stated that Rs. 43,27,800/- is spent for terracing 10,895 acres of land for Wet Cultivation. Is this grant given after completion of terracing or while being terraced ?

PU R. THANGLIANA; MINISTER I/C: Mr Speaker, this grant is given to those who are doing terracing.

SPEAKER: Now, Question No. 12.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker, Question No. 12 - "The names of Co-operative Societies which have <sup>been</sup> benefitted by the cash grants of Rs. 11,18,667/- given by the Co-operative Department in Mizoram during the last 20 years and whether those Co-operative Societies are still effectively functioning."

PU P.B. NIKHUMA; DY. MINISTER: Mr Speaker, (a) 139 (one hundred thirty nine) different type of societies received the cash grant during the last 20 years from the Co-operative Department.

(b) Out of 139 Societies 50 (fifty) Societies are functioning, 82 non-functioning and awaiting liquidation, 3 (three) non-functioning but can be revived and 3 (three) already liquidated (liquidation proceedings closed).

The Aizawl Branch of Assam Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd. which was functioning till 1966 did not re-open after the last disturbances.

SPEAKER: The questions demands names of Co-operative Societies. Members have the right to raise questions and this is a privilege to them. If the Minister concerned wants to give correct reply, he may inform the Secretary.

Now, proceed to question No. 13.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker, I am glad that my questions have been admitted. I request the Minister i/c to give reply to my question.

Question No. 13 - "(a) The number of Government godowns in Mizoram and their locations ?

(b) The total quantity and price of rice ~~issued~~ issued on Agricultural Loan, T.R and G.R. after 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1972."

PU R. THANGLIANA; MINISTER I/C: Mr Speaker, 150 Godowns in all the towns and all Group Centres.

<u>In Kind</u>		<u>Cash value</u>
Agri. Loan.	= 26027 Qtls.	Rs. 38,00,000/-
T.R.	= 3009 "	Rs. 4,39,432/-
G.R.	= 3545 "	Rs. 5,17,651/-
Total:	32581 Qtls.	Rs. 47,57,083/-

PU J. THANGHUMA: Mr Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister has stated that

in all, there are 150 godowns. It may be a bit difficult to know the accurate quantity of rice stocked in each godown. - in group centres. But we can know the quantities in the godowns which are in Aizawl town. What is then the exact quantity of rice stocked in these godowns ?

PU-R.THANGLIANA : Mr Speaker, 500 qtls of rice at present.  
MINISTER I/C

PU LALHUNA : Mr Speaker, supplementary question - In the reply to question No.13 (a), we see that godowns ~~have~~ have been constructed in all Group Centres. There is no such godown in Zote. Does this mean that Zote is not a Group Centre ?

PU-R.THANGLIANA : Mr Speaker, these godowns are only those which have been officially declared as such by the Deputy Commissioner.  
MINISTER I/C

PU HRAIGAI : Mr. Speaker, I have supplementary question. Why is it that pucca godowns are constructed in town only ? It is good to stock rice in pucca building. But all godown in my constituency are purely temporary buildings. Does this mean that rice in town can go bad more quickly than those in Group Centre?

PU.R.DOTINAIA : Mr. Speaker, in continuation of my question NO.13 (a), I want to rise supplementary questions. As the Hon'ble Members are fully aware, people in Group Centre are on the brink of a terrible famine. Do the Govt. intend to construct pucca buildings for godowns? Why is it that rice stocked in godowns are often decayed and stolen by miscreants ?

PU R.THANGLIANA Mr. Speaker, there is not yet any intention to MINISTER i/c : construct pucca buildings for godowns, but if this famine would linger in these areas, the Govt. will construct pucca buildings for godowns. Rice decayed in the past years, but now they are properly stocked in godowns.

SPEAKER : We have many questions on the table today. Now, we come to question No.14.

PU R.DOTINAIA : Mr. Speaker, Question No.14- "The number of trucks and Jeeps at present belonging to the Director of Transport which are in running condition and which are (out of order) off the road. "

PU R.THANGLIANA Mr. Speaker, the number of Trucks and Jeeps at MINISTER i/c :  
.....



present belonging to the Director of Transport are as follows:

Running Condition:		Off Road:	
Trucks	Jeeps.	Trucks	Jeeps.
106	64	28	12

But all of them are never in running condition.

PU C. LALRUATA : Mr. Speaker, these off road trucks were recently shifted from Govt. High School ground. What is their total number ?

PU R. THANGLIANGA MINISTER i/c : Mr. Speaker, I cannot, at present, give the exact number of these vehicles. What I can say is that 28 of them are off-road, and it will take some time to repair them in order to make them serviceable.

PU CH. SAFRAWNGA : Mr. Speaker, can these off-road trucks be repaired?

PU R. THANGLIANGA MINISTER i/c : Mr. Speaker, lots of money will be spent for repairing these trucks.

PU SAITLAWMA : Mr. Speaker, are all these Jeeps to carry supplies stationed in Aizawl town or in different places?

PU R. THANGLIANGA MINISTER i/c : Mr. Speaker, for carrying supply, some of them are stationed in Aizawl, Lunglei and some time even in Jorhat.

PU CH. SAFRAWNGA : Mr. Speaker, What is the purpose of creating a big organisation in Transport Deptt. ?

PU R. THANGLIANGA MINISTER i/c : Mr. Speaker, as Supply and Transport Deptt. was ~~look~~ looked after by the Deputy Commissioner in the past, it is used by the different deptt. according to availability.

PU CH. SAFRAWNGA : Mr. Speaker, we have heard that these Jeeps and Trucks are used for carrying supply and other necessary commodities. What is the expenditure on this? Is the Expenditure for maintenance of these vehicles totally with the benefit derived from the service rendered? Is there any rough calculation on this? What is the reason for not giving to Private Firm the work of carrying supply? Do We feel that it is still profitable for the Govt. ?

PU R. THANGLIANA  
MINISTER i/c :

Mr. Speaker, We will try to make such calculation.

PU. VANLAHURUAIA:  
officers ?

Mr. Speaker, are all these vehicles used for carrying supply or for other purposes or by Govt.

PU R. THANGLIANA  
MINISTER i/c :  
ing of supply.

Mr. Speaker, Govt. officers may use these vehicles which are under Director of Transport and Supply but the primary work of these vehicles is carrying

PU LALRINLIANA  
position, Why did contractors carry supply on contract basis ? These contractors carrying supply from Aizawl to Serchhip and from Aizawl to Saitual. Why ?

Mr. Speaker, We know that there are 106 Trucks and 64 Jeeps under this Deptt. such being the

PU R. THANGLIANA  
MINISTER i/c :

Mr. Speaker, contract is given only in Aizawl and Lunglei and it is being looked after by the Govt. of Mizoram.

PU R. ZOLIANA:  
corporation ?

Mr. Speaker, is there any intention to convert Directorate of Transport and Supply into a

PU R. THANGLIANA  
MINISTER i/c :  
late, if necessary.

Mr. Speaker, the Govt. of Mizoram do not have any definite intention to take over this Deptt. and conversion into a corporation will be considered

PU C. LALRUATA:  
But at present there are only 126 drivers. That means 30 Jeeps and Trucks are lying without any drivers ?

Mr. Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister said that 160 Trucks and Jeeps are in running condition.

PU R. THANGLIANA  
MINISTER i/c :  
driver is sick. It is, therefore, impossible to have an equal number of drivers and vehicles.

Mr. Speaker, all these Trucks and Jeeps are not always in running condition and at times the drivers have to look after one vehicle when the

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker, are the drivers driving one vehicle after another without looking after a particular vehicle? Will not the vehicles suffer for this?

PU R.THANGLIANA: Mr Speaker, it is necessary that these drivers drive one vehicle after another. For these driver are the same human beings like us and as such they cannot work as a machine which can even become unserviceable. The driver cannot at time render service due to illhealth of their relatives. So they are compelled to change their vehicles from time to time.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker, I was in Government service for about 28 years and during this I knew that there used to be equal number of drivers and vehicles. So there must be enough number of drivers to drive these vehicles.

PU R.THANGLIANA: Mr Speaker, there are sufficient number of drivers to look after these vehicles.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker, it appears that there are more vehicles than the number of drivers. Is it a fact that some of the officers used these drivers as drivers of their private vehicles?

PU R.THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I know nothing about that.

PU LALRINLIANA: Mr Speaker, from the Minister's reply, we have learnt that there are at present 160 vehicles with 93 handymen. Does not this mean that there are practically no handymen for trucks?

PU R.THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker, as some of these vehicles need repairing every now and then, there is adequate number of drivers for those vehicles which are in running condition.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker, is there any intention to recruit new drivers and handymen?

PU R.THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker, there is no such proposal as yet.

SPEAKER: In the question of Pu Lalsangzuala it is written 16 or 57. That is a mistake. It should be ~~of~~ No.16 and now we will take it up.

PU LAISANGZUALA: Q.No. 16. (a) The rate of contract in May to June 1972 for carriage of goods on jeepable roads as accepted by the Deputy Commissioner and as fixed by the Supply Ministry? If there has been a difference in the rates, why was that?

(b) If the rates fixed by the Supply Ministry was higher, what is the excess expenditure incurred between May and September, 1972 due to this difference in the rates?

(c) Has there been complaints made that the enhanced transportation cost had resulted in increased price of essential commodities in the interior places?

PU R. THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the rate fixed by the Deputy Commissioner was Rs. 2.50 per quintal per k.m. No rate was fixed by the Supply Ministry. Hence question of difference in rates does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There has been no such complaint received.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker, the actual rate of contact for carriage of goods on jeepable road was Rs. 2.50 per quintal for K.M. while the official rates was Rs. 1.25. This rate fixed by the Deputy Commissioner is too high. The Hon'ble Minister said that he received no complaint on this. But when the rate for carriage of goods is high, it is the villagers who suffer most. It is therefore necessary to reconsider the rate so that poor people may not suffer from this exorbitant rate.

PU R. THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I think Pu Lalsangzuala has misunderstood the position. Even during the Ministry of Pu Rawaga, the rate was Rs. 2.50 per quintal. The rate was not fixed by Supply Ministry. Rather, quotation was called for carriage of goods and the person who offered the lowest rate was selected. The rate was Rs.1.25 and not Rs. 2.50 as mentioned by Pu Lalsangzuala.

SPEAKER: We may like to discuss, but confine yourself to the questions only. Time is very short and we have to make time for other questions. Now, let us go straight to Question No. 17.

PU C. LALRUATA: (a) How many Chakma refugees has infiltrated into Mizoram as a result of the Bangla Desh war  
(b) Some are from Bangla Desh and some are from Tripura  
(c) Are they given Indian citizenship?  
(d) What is our Government's policy on the matter?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, Government received report that 201 Chakmas infiltrated into Mizoram from Bangla Desh and 82 of these claimed Indian nationality.

(b) Government have no information of the Chakmas coming from Tripura.

(c) ~~Government~~

(d) Government policy is to sort out the non-Indian citizens if any, and consider their deportation to Bangla Desh.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker, where are those 201 Chakmas living at present?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, they have already been sent back. Once these Chakmas claimed themselves to have Indian citizenship and no enquiry has yet been made in this regard. Before enquiry is made, they cannot be treated as Indian citizens.

PU CHAWNGHONGGA: Mr Speaker, what will then be the position of those Chakmas who infiltrated into Mizoram and are now living in Pang and Sajek?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, these Chakmas said that they have been living in Mizoram for a long time.

PU CH. SAPRANGGA: Mr Speaker, we know that 201 Chakmas infiltrated into Mizoram. What is the total expenditure on these Chakmas?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I have no information on this and if the Member desires to know, I will try to get it.

PU K. L. ROCHAMA: Mr Speaker, is it a fact that the population of these Chakmas increased by 100% between 1951 - 1961?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, we have not considered the Census figures.

PU K. L. ROCHAMA: Mr Speaker, will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to answer my supplementary question at other time?

What is the population of Chakmas between 1961-1971? What is the increase in population? Are these facts and figures which we see here, correct?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, we do not have information on the population of these Chakmas because they infiltrated into Mizoram as a result of the political movement in Bangla Desh.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr Speaker, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said that these Chakmas have already been repatriated to Bangladesh. When have they been repatriated?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I cannot say the exact date. Soon after the end of the movement in Bangla Desh, we instructed the Deputy Commissioner to send these Chakmas back to Bangla Desh and we were told that they have already been sent back. But I cannot say the exact date.

PU C. STEWINGTUNGA: Mr Speaker, those people who were living in Mizoram before the disturbances, who migrated to E. Pakistan when disturbances broke out in Mizoram returned to Mizoram. Have they been sent back to Bangla Desh. But the Chakmas have not been sent back. Why?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, those who migrated to Bangla Desh due to the disturbances in Mizoram are not sent back. Action will be taken only after we get report from Government officials who enquired their position.

SPEAKER: Now, we come to Question No. 18.

PU LALSANGZUALA: "The reasons for the sharp rise in the number of crimes in Mizoram (highest in the history of Mizoram for the corresponding period) since the Administration has been taken over by the Government of Mizoram.

(ii) How many cases of the following have been brought to the notice of the Government since 1st May, 1972:

- (a) Robbery or attempted robbery. (b) Thefts. (c) Rape
- (d) Murders or attempted murder. (e) Forcible removal of food-stuff from Government Godown. (f) Impersonation involving public fund. (g) Assaults and affrays.

(iii) What remedial measures have been taken to reduce crimes? "

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, Better reporting by the affected persons, and infiltration by the U.N.F.

(14): (a) 17 (b) 40, (c) 15 (d) 1, (e) 3, (f) 3, (g) 33,

*the name*  
PU LAESANGZUALA: Mr Speaker, I have supplementary question.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister said that members of M.N.F. are responsible for the sharp rise in the number of Crimes in Mizoram. I would be very pleased if the Hon'ble Chief Minister will tell me whether the government is trying to wipe out the M.N.F. or win them over by kindness.

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I did not give reply to (ii) of question No. 18. Here is the reply;

(iii) By intensified patrol with the existing staff, sustained efforts have been made to identify the criminals by means of open and secret enquiries; strengthening of the existing Police Force and opening of new Police Stations for effective policing work in Mizoram is under active consideration of the Government. Supply of vehicles to ensure mobility of the Police for better crime prevention and detection is also under consideration.

Next, I would like to point out that the Government never intend to wipe out the M.N.F. Rather, the government desire that these hostiles return to Mizoram in safety to live as good citizens of India. As the government want to win them over by goodness, amnesty was offered for a very long period. The Government is also ready to give them financial support for maintenance of their family provided that they surrender themselves to the Government.

PU LAESANGZUALA: Mr Speaker, I have supplementary question --  
The Government, it is stated, is trying to overcome M.N.F. by goodness. Since amnesty is no longer extended, what will then be their position? This, being public interest, is very important.

SPEAKER: In our Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, it is mentioned that only those supplementary questions which are relevant to the original question may be raised. We cannot therefore go too far.

PU ZALAWMA: Mr Speaker, this is a policy matter.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr Speaker, how many cases have been recorded so far in which the M.N.F. were involved?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, clear differentiation had not been made. But this may include those who relieved the officers of the money they were keeping in the office, those involved in an attempt on the life of Pu Anthony and others who made a sudden attack on Champhai Police Station. Recently others created disturbances at Kawrtathawng too.

Next, I like to answer briefly the question on the termination of Amnesty. We need not dwell on this a long time for it is a matter of security. The Government opened Amnesty for quite a long period during which only a few of the underground Mizos surrendered to the Government. Even these M.M.F. returnees did not surrender their arms and it is learnt that they left and concealed their arms with some others. This fact has been learnt from themselves. Some are reported to be ready to use these concealed guns for some co-ercive activities. Under the circumstances the Government could no longer extend amnesty period. And it could however be extended again if the circumstances demand.

**SPEAKER:** The question hour is over. Now we will resume discussion on the Budget. Today is the last day for its discussion.

Is there any one who has not yet spoken? Pu Chawng-kunga, do you have anything to say?

**PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA:** Mr Speaker, I am glad to take part in this discussion. We may not be fully satisfied with these provisions in the Budget. But it is now a pressing necessity that we executed plan schemes expeditiously. The Hon'ble Members are wasting time in reviling one another. Let us stop this and instead, try to make full use of the money in the Budget.

First, I will say a few words on Village Council. I want to point out that members of Village Council are working very hard, sometimes even harder than the M. L. As. But in the Budget, only a small provision is made for them. This needs reconsideration and it is also necessary to establish Village Council Office in every village at the earliest.

Next, it is not good to depend entirely on paddy cultivation. One acre of land produces Rs. 450/- worth of paddy only while the same land can produce Rs. 1600/- worth of Chilli and sesamum. Let us learn to eat rice produced in the plains and introduce and encourage cultivation of new and more productive crops.

In the Budget a provision of Rs. 75 lakhs, is made for reconstruction and rehabilitation of Aizawl bazar destroyed by fire in 1966. Provision should also be made for people in rural areas who sustained the same kind of catastrophe.

The Public Works Department simply repaired roads which are already jeepable. Why has Kawnpui - Sairang road, which construction was started before the disturbances, been ignored? In Vaivakawn - Sairang Road there is a land slide for which reason the P.W.D. had abandoned this portion. Why is this?



Inland Water Transport Department must be established as soon as possible. If this department is established Tlawng, Tut and Teirei rivers will be made navigable for boats and so also will be Inghakh river.

In Mizoram, Administrative Officers and Staff under them are corrupt; they are not ashamed of their illegal practice. New Administrative Officers must be appointed as early as possible. Other wise Mizoram suffers under the existing corrupt A.Os. Enquiry Commission must also be formed to enquire into the corrupt practices of these officers.

In paper the number of fish stocked is very big and so also is the area of land reclaimed. But inspite of grants-in-aid given for improvement of fisheries and land reclamation, Mizoram has gained nothing so far. Grants are given to those who do not really have fisheries and land reclamation. Only those who are expert in lip-service are given favours when giving grants-in-aid.

PU J. THANGTUAMA: Mr Speaker, I presume that I am given only one chance to speak. But I will speak again since Pu Rawnga spoke more than once. The Hon'ble Member who spoke before me said that we should not criticise. But he himself started criticising them. I think we must be brave enough to speak out the truth.

To start with, let me read out a stanza from Song on Village Grouping:

"Sad is the fate that befalls this land of ours  
Sadder is the heart that within us beat today,  
Like orphans at crossroad, not knowing where  
Come, a help of the helpless, be friend us we pray"

I see that members of the Ruling Party are trying to develop their respective constituencies. Provisions for development of the Ministers' Constituencies are very big, after all they are busy about their Residential Building only.

Recently, I paid a visit to six of the constituencies and I saw that people had nothing to eat there. There was no rice in Government Godowns also.

Strolling by Car comfortably in town, we neglect the sufferings of these people. The Hon'ble Finance Minister, in his Budget speech, said that Mizoram is the land of Christians. Then do our leaders in their administration live upto this standard? Indolence and laziness are the order of the day. Office hour starts from 10 A.M. who reach office at 10 A.M.? We are solely depending on G.R. and T.R. but people crowd tea-stalls playing cards and gambling down meats. Villagers want to meet officers; "the officer cannot meet them yet" "Why?" He has his fellow officers visiting him, who stay there for hours.

There are many works to be done. The Administration has no meaning at all. Where is Cement? "It is out of stock." Nothing is available!!!

The replies given by the Supply Minister are not also correct. Giving of wrong replies to questions is a shame to the Ruling Party but a blessing for us!

Perhaps, the Chief Minister's house was also burnt to ashes during the disturbances. But let us ask ourselves how many houses in villages were burnt? No Enquiry Commission has yet been formed to find out the exact number of houses burnt due to the disturbances. We are servants of the people and it is time that we give up showing off wearing neck ties and riding jeeps.

The Chief Minister is busy in constructing government building inside his compound while many people in villages are on the verge of starvation. 500 quintals of rice is stocked in Mizawl Godown. Why is it not given to the needy? Why has action not been taken yet on those persons who sold rice at Rs. 150 a quintal, which are meant for villages while village people have no rice to buy even at Rs. 170/- a quintal? Many quintals of rice is stocked in a deteriorated condition while village people had nothing to eat.

Our Chief Secretary is also busy with constructing a wall near his house and also near the Secretariat.

A provision of Rs. 50,000/- only is made for T.B. Hospital. All this money meant for officers and Ministers must be given to village people who have nothing to eat.

Let us next look at the Public Works Department. It is full of corruption from top to bottom. Even Santals used to sell away their spades secretly. It is reported that one S.D.O. brought out Rs. 50,000/- from his box. Is this wealth in conformity with his salary?

While some contractors have more contract works than they can execute some others have none. It is therefore necessary to overhaul this Department.

I do not like to speak against our Chief Minister but Pu Rawnga has been criticizing him again and again, and I am inclined to defend him. He is our leader; without his guidance, the people are at a loss and worried. The construction of Bangalows have become the proverbial "White Elephants".

In villages there are vast areas of land to be reclaimed; let these be given to those who can cultivate them. Maize flourishes in the eastern side of Mizoram and Maize growers told me that if given maize-expeller, they will be self-dependent. It will be better if money sanctioned for construction of the "Walls of Jericho" of Finance and Education Ministers' residences is used instead for purchase of the machines, since the provision for 30 machines for the whole of Mizoram is too inadequate.

While I was in-charge Education, I tried to make full revision of Primary text books which could not be completed due to change in government. In this connection, I want to mention that some persons, in order to earn a good name are ready to prepare Text Books without any financial profit. But according to existing practice, some one prepared Text Books, got them approved by the Board, published them and sold them at any price he pleased. This is unfair. I appeal to the Minister i/c Education to do away with this within this month if it cannot be done overnight.

It will not be fair if only few of the High Schools in Mizoram are provincialised. All High Schools expect grants and provincialisation. Some of them even rightly deserve grants.

The work of plantation of trees is undertaken by Forest Department. Let us preserve our green forests. It will be more profitable if these green forests are reserved and protected instead of spending huge amount of money for new plantation.

With regard to housing loan, I want to mention that if people living in and around Dawrpui (Bara Bazar) could be given loans in tens of thousands, at least a few lakhs should be provided for people living in Villages.

R.C.A. and S.C.A. given to IV Grade Staff are too little and as such should be increased.

Next why is movement permit still being practised in Mizoram? Nagaland is also declared disturbed area; but there is no system of movement permit, why do we continue to practise this? The use of Identity Card is also practised at Lungdar and I told the Post Commander there that it is no longer a necessity since Mizoram gradually returns to normalcy. I request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to enquire into this.

It is also necessary to be very strict about entry pass from Silchar. Persons without entry pass should be immediately sent back. If this is not done, movement permit will simply mean unnecessary measures for preventing out-siders from entering Mizoram.

An untoward event occurred in the eastern side of Mizoram recently. One youngman was shot dead. Why has not the Chief Minister gone to the spot with I.G.P. to have an on-the-spot study of the intolerable event? It is unlawful that the Sikh Regiment behave cruelly in the name of disturbances. One Sepoy at Tlungvel Group Centre should that he was not afraid of the Ministers and would shoot them to dead if he liked. What a shame to us! If you do not have the courage to defend the innocent people from usurpation of the Security Forces, you (Minister) better resign. Why do security forces come and why are they stationed in Mizoram? Is it to guard and comfort us or is it to disturb and harass us?

Adequate supply of safe drinking water must also be given to the masses. Let us always remember the interest of the common people.

Next, I want to mention that there is no regular Bus Service between Aizawl and Lunglei. Why is this? It is also necessary that Bus Service between Aizawl and Silchar is taken up by the Government of Mizoram. It is disheartening to see that there is no such provision in the Budget for this purpose.

With regard to appointment, I want to point out that those who are already selected for appointment are not appointed but new persons are secretly appointed instead. The new Government does not like to confirm those 200 Primary School Teachers who were already appointed by the defunct District Council. I demand that they be appointed if they are qualified. Mr Speaker; I request you to give me some three minutes more.

It appears that the Budget is meant only for comfort of Ministers and government officials. No provision for the poor people! Let us keep in mind the interest of both urban and rural people.

Next, I demand that provision for construction of Tuichang bridge be included in the Budget. It is a great extravagance to sanction Rs. 15,000/- for construction of the garages of Ministers. Only four or five bundles of C.C.T. sheets will be enough to cover the roofs of these garages. I want to point out also that when people in villages are running short of rice, they should be supplied rice as soon as possible. Text Books for L.P. Schools and M.E. Schools should be revised and transferring of Government employees who do not belong to the ruling party must be stopped forthwith.

Steps must also be taken to give financial assistance to families of those who were killed in the disturbances and Office Staff should not take part in politics. For instance, Pu Romawia, Overseer is posted at Vanlaiphal. This man is deeply involved in politics. This is against the rule of Government employees and he rightly deserves transfer. Otherwise he will not know he is a government employee. No Government employees should side with any particular political party. Rather, they should work honestly and diligently for the Government.

Lastly, I demand that Contractors who have no contract works be given contract works instead of giving to those who have already had too many works to execute. Political prisoners who have not received Family Maintenance Allowance must be given this allowance. Nurses and Pharmacists should be posted in villages and medicines sent there as early as possible.

PU K. SANGCHEUM: Mr Speaker, I am very glad to have an opportunity to take part in this discussion. But I hesitated a bit to speak before the Hon'ble Members. I rather feel inadequate to speak on this Budget which the Central Government had approved after 180 days thorough study.

The Budget contain 300 pages and is written clearly. I cannot understand why no provision is made in the Budget for Sangau constituency which is in Mizoram. I am disappointed in the various allocations especially in regard to the Police Department. Recently serious incident took place in Sangau and no policemen liked to go there to study the event. When such is the position in that area, nothing appears in this Budget to alleviate their problems.

Education is a most important factor for development of any country. If there is proper education, progress for the common people can be expected. But no provision appears on this subject wherein the people of my constituency can get some benefits.

Next, the Medical Department I think the Minister i/c has misunderstood the position for he said that population of my constituency is too small. The population is not small and people are in great need of the service of medical men. We do not have sufficient number of Pharmacists and Nurses. But there is no provision for creation of additional medical staff for my constituency. In this area the people suffer more due to famine than in other areas because we have no good system of communication either by land or by river and it appears also that the Budget does not contain any provision for development of communication for my constituency.

People in my constituency are also very backward in Agriculture. What do the Government of Mizoram intend to do in this regard? Will it supply rice to the people from Aizawl? Absolutely not! I therefore appeal to the Minister concerned to take necessary steps to improve the system of Agriculture.

To the people in my constituency even Gram Sevak appear more powerful than Deputy Commissioner. This is not due to the illiteracy of the people but due to the simple reason that Government have not done its proper duty. Therefore I request the Hon'ble Members to pay a visit to my constituency and study the real condition of the area and the people.

We are most backward in the field of Industry and only few people knew the name of "Industry". When the name of "Industry" is mentioned among a group of married men in my constituency, it means nothing than "Vaithang" (a noose-trap for rats) to them. This clearly shows that people in my constituency have been neglected by the Government in the field of Industry.

No P.W.D. staff who can do something had ever been posted in this constituency. Not to speak of Mohurir, even Santals (Department Daily Labourer) are not to be found in my constituency.

Green Forester in southern part of Mizoram, if carefully planned for their utilisation, would also offer good source of income. But no proposal has yet been made for this purpose.

With regard to loans, I want to mention that we have too many neglected people in villages who voted us into this place. They are human beings like us having the same necessities. Let us therefore pay full attention to their interests.

To sum up, I will say that the Budget does not contain sufficient provisions for the whole of Mizoram. I still remember what the Lt. Governor said before the House on 10th June, 1972. But inspite of the Lt. Governors promise of full financial assistance from Central Government, provisions in the Budget are too small and inadequate for Mizoram. Why is this? Let us then try our best to make full use of the money provided in this Budget.

PU VANLALHERUALA: Mr Speaker, I am greatly delighted to see that discussion on the Budget is resumed today. We already discussed a lot Yesterday.

Pu J. Thanghuama who spoke before me seemed to be anxious about the method money provided for in the Budget is used because he used abusive language and grumbled like a woman who lost her cloth. He also said "Come, thou help of the helpless, we wait for thee" I would like to console him that there is nothing for anxiety. He may think that there is nobody on his side. But this is not so. We are going to work together for the common good.

We, politicians as well as people of Mizoram are eagerly looking forward to the day when we will be having Budget Session and now this expectation has been fulfilled. As the Budget Session is delayed some of the politicians have taught people that the Lt. Governor refused to summon this Session. But now we can have the Budget Session earlier than we expected and this makes me feel very happy. As we all know, to prepare a Budget is not an easy task. It is only due to the hard labour and sincere effort of our Hon'ble Ministers and Government Officials that we can have Budget S Session after three months though preparation of Budget usually take at least six months. For this we owe many thanks to them.

On scrutiny, I am not fully satisfied with provision in the Budget. It contains only small provision and is not all-inclusive. All what we have said for development of Mizoram may not be done during this short financial year. Construction of Roads will have to be started in many parts of the country. My constituency also need construction of roads. Even if we have no time to *start* this year, at least alignment must be made during this current financial year.

As I already pointed out, every Member tried his best to develop his own constituency in every field of development. On 11th June, 1972 I also submitted Plans and Schemes for my Constituency to the Development Commissioner for inclusion in the Budget. The Development Commissioner promised me to include them in the Budget and this delighted me. But to my utter surprise, none of those Plans and Schemes are included in the Budget. But I console myself that Budget will be prepared every year and all Members will co-operate for our development. It will then be highly appreciated if the next Budget is prepared to contain more and bigger provisions for the whole of Mizoram.

In the Finance Minister's speech, mention is made about recruitment of L.P. Teachers. It appears only 200 teachers are to be recruited. The Hon'ble Finance Minister in his speech, said that the teacher-pupil ratio will be 1:40. If that is our target, more than 300 L.P. Teachers will have to be recruited. I say this because there is no adequate number of teachers in my constituency. To attain the teacher-pupil ratio of 1:40, we will require 20 additional L.P. Teachers and I appeal to the Minister i/c Education to fulfill our present demand.

Yesterday, the Hon'ble Member Pu Lalsangzuala mentioned about E.G.S. especially E.G.S. in my constituency I think Pu Lalsangzuala did not know the true position. A clear-cut Rules are framed by the Deputy Commissioner. (He reads out the Rules) According to these Rules, E G.S. works may be given to Village Council or any private individual of reliable character on contract basis.

Ngopa Jeep Road is being constructed under E.G.S. at the rate of Rs. 2500 per K.M. under the 3rd plan. In conformity with the Rules, works are given to Village Council and private individuals. For construction of this road about Rs. 12,500/- is already incurred and judged from P.W.D. standard, the expenditure is very small. When construction of Road is undertaken by P.W.D. the rate is usually Rs. 50,000/- - Rs. 60,000/- per km. and when undertaken by B.R.T.F. the rate is Rs. 2,00,000/- or more. But under E.G.S. rate is Rs. 12,500/- per K.M. and at this rate fair weather road of 43 miles is already constructed. It is expected that Jeep will be able to reach Ngopa before the end of December 1972.

When I approached the Deputy Commissioner I told him about the importance of Jeep Road. If the rate is fixed at Rs. 20,000/- per K.M. we can have good roads because people in my constituency, out of their eagerness to have good Jeep roads, can construct jeep road even at the rate of Rs. 12,500/- per K.M. without thinking about any financial profits for themselves. They really deserve praise to have constructed such good roads at such a low rate. Therefore, I think that Pu Lalsangzuala did not know the true position.

Before me, the opposition Leader spoke in an angry mood and we can know that he visited six constituencies recently. He also distributed some quintals of rice to the people. It is good that there are some persons like the opposition leader who would do such things. He also said that he is more powerful than the Ministers.



Our Budget is insufficient and if asked by people in my constituency, I would have nothing to say about the development work for this particular constituency. But I believe that only those Plans and Schemes which can be executed during this current financial year and now included in the Budget.

I want to point out also that Veterinary and Agriculture Department should be put under a separate Directorate. But I agree to the proposal of putting Forests and Soil Conservation under the same Directorate.

The Security Forces in Mizoram are now usurping the people these days. Three women at Lunglei and one Girl at Lungdar were raped and one young man was flogged to death by the Security Forces. Action should immediately be taken to stop the Security Forces from harassing the people and if necessary the whole Battalion should be transferred.

Lastly, I want to point out the provision for loans is too little. Many people in Mizoram lost their houses and properties during the disturbances and they deserve loans for relief and rehabilitation. But provisions for this purpose is too small. More and bigger provisions should be made in the next Budget.

**SPEAKER:** Now, it is time for recess. We will resume discussion on the Budget at 2 P.M.

Recess till 2 P.M.

2 P.M.

**SPEAKER:** Now we will resume the discussion. Today is the last day for discussion. There are some members who have not yet spoken. Let them speak.

**PU F. HRANGVELA:** Mr Speaker, the much-awaited Budget is now before us and the Hon'ble Finance Minister has also presented it in the House. I am grateful to have the opportunity to take part in this discussion.

To begin with, I will take up Water Supply first. It is proposed to give Water Supply to some of the Villages in Mizoram. Public Health Department has been undertaking the task of Water Supply for a generation and due to pressure of our leader we can now get a little bit of water supply. I request our leaders to instruct this Department so that adequate supply of drinking water may be given to the masses of Aizawl town. Besides, the existing water-points are not enough and this creates great inconvenience to the people.

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For instance, only one water point is made for the whole Khatla Line and people have to wait for their turn the whole day. If water supply by vehicle is discontinued, it will be quite lamentable to the people. More water pipes are required to make more water points. But it is reported that the required pipes cannot be procured at present. I would request the Minister concerned to take necessary action so that the Common people may not suffer from shortage of safe drinking water.

Moreover, even when water-pipes are ready for use, employes under P.E.E. are still working very slow. Once I saw four inexperienced boys fittings these pipes in Mission Veng. As we have already pointed, Public Health Department is doing its works simply out of fear of some officers. They have to work harder than they *are doing now.*

Agriculture is important in Mizoram. I do not think there are sufficient areas of land for rice cultivation and every year Famine visits Mizoram with more serious calamity, Cyclone and drought have now become too common amongst the farmer. Besides these, the lands are no longer fertile and productive for rice cultivation. Provision for development of Agriculture are thus inadequate.

There are vast areas of lands which can be reclaimed in my constituency especially in Tuigui Hal. But in our Budget we see provisions for land reclamation for lands in Thenzawl and Chite only. It will be more profitable for Mizoram if these virgin lands in my constituency are reclaimed instead of reclaiming the already ~~barren~~ lands in Thenzawl and Chite areas. I wish also that some provisions in the Budget are diverted for this purpose. For this will be a real safeguard against the terrible famine which visitsthis land every year.

Next, I would like to say that the proposed recruitment of 200 L.T. Teachers is not sufficient. In order to raise teacher-pupil ratio to 1:40 in Mizoram, it will be necessary to recruit about 300 L.T. Teachers. We have therefore to prepare supplementary budget for this. Otherwise, we may not have much progress in the field of education.

I cannot but think of my own constituency. If we neglect the progress of the people in the field of education, it will not be a good thing. These are the people who actually put us to the throne of the Assembly. My Constituency is situated along the Burma border. There is a small village named Leilet just beyond Vaphai and the Government of Burma has been looking after this village very well. Government M.E. Schools, Police Station and Hospital are established here by the Government of Burma.

The Government also pay every attention towards land reclamation. Due to this proper care of the Government many people in my constituency migrated to "Leilet". It is therefore imperative on the part of the Government to pay attention to the progress and interest of the people living in our side of the country so as to stop further migration elsewhere.

Next, I want to point out that in spite of my earnest prayer to our Hon'ble Ministers to send P.W.D. to do construction works in my constituency, only a provision of Rs. 2000/- is made in 'Schedule for works' for this purpose. Thus my constituency is no doubt greatly neglected by the Government. It is very surprising to see that while big provisions are made for maintenance and repair of roads which are already well constructed, only small provision is given for making a start in construction of roads and development works within my constituency. If a fraction of money which will be sanctioned shortly is diverted to my constituency, I think that people who have already migrated to Leilet would like to return to their former home village.

Besides, if we want to employ experienced and expert persons for P.W.D., we must give them Special pay. But they must be employed purely on contract basis so that they may be replaced by Mizos when they have the skill to hold the same posts. If they are given permanent appointment, our young boys and girls will condemn us. Let us give promotion to our educated men instead of giving it to non-Mizos.

At least six porters should be posted in every Grouping Centre especially in the constituencies of Pu Vanlalhruaia and mine. They will be entrusted with the task of carrying medicines for the people from Aizawl so as to put an end to the sufferings of the people, caused by shortage of essential medicines.

Lastly, I want to mention that Animal Husbandry must be put under separate Directorate. The Department needs be expanded and more husbandry farms must also be created.  
Thank you.

PU LAIRINLIANA: Mr Speaker, there are many things to discuss in the Budget. In spite of the many points of criticism that may be levelled against this Budget, I am quite satisfied with it. This Budget is prepared within a short period. It may not be possible to develop every corner of this land within the time we have this year. Let us hope that this will be possible next time.

I am very happy to see provisions which are made for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the main Aizawl Bazar, destroyed by fire during the disturbances. Businessmen occupy important position and we also depend on them. Their shops have been burnt and they rightly deserve assistance for this loss. It is therefore heartening to see that provisions are made for this purpose in the Budget. I hope that in the next Budget, provisions will be made for compensation of village people who suffered the same loss.

I do not have much time for studying the Budget but I see that Isolation Ward is going to be constructed. When dysentery epidemic occurred recently, the Hospital was full with patients suffering from this disease. Besides, there are many patients who could not be admitted into the Hospital due to the inadequate number of beds. Construction of Isolation Ward should therefore be given top priority. At least 50 beds should be provided for T.B. patients at Lunglei Hospital instead of 8 beds.

To put both Animal Husbandry and Agriculture Department under the same and one Directorate will not be convenient. It is bad that Director with no experience looks after these two Departments. It would therefore be necessary to create a separate Directorate for each of these Departments.

There are two Jails at Aizawl and one of these is being occupied by C.R.P. This is not fair. Since we have money in hand, steps should be taken to solve this matter.

Let special attention be also paid to P.W.D. Their works, especially in cement works, cannot last very long. Our leader should execute works which must be fit for copy by other leaders who would succeed them. Lastly, I demand that enquiry must be made regarding the harsh behaviour of the proud Security Forces and rape committed by them. Their very behaviour hurts me deeply.

PI SAPTAWMI: Mr Speaker, I consider myself a new-comer and I am sitting just to listen to the Members' speeches. Hon'ble Members referred to their own Constituency and they deserve to be called "Father of their respective constituencies" But I take the whole of Mizoram as my constituency.

Hospitals at Aizawl and Lunglei are proposed to be expanded. While appreciating this proposal, I want to mention that Dispensaries at Villages also need be expanded. I know that development work cannot be done in all places at the same time. If it is not possible to arrange this expansion, let us try to include it in the next Budget. There are no Midwives in every village and women who have no medical training used to do the work of midwives leading to the mortality at childbirth.

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Either Staff Nurse or Midwife should be posted in every Grouping Centre if it is not possible to establish Dispensaries there yet.

Every member who spoke before me ~~are~~ not satisfied with provision in the Budget. But I am afraid we may not have time to use all this money that is provided in this Budget. Many people in Mizoram try to get high salary with little works. When Head of a Department is out of the Station, all employees use to leave their offices before office hour is over. Only few employees are working as their own private work. We have now our own Government and it is imperative that our leader should put an end to this idleness of government employees.

Next, I almost cry when I think of the Security Forces who look upon Mizo people with insult. They committed rape and will never defend us. Rather they are our enemy. They should therefore be transferred from Mizoram. I consider this very important.

PU L.F. THANGZIKA: Mr Speaker, I am glad to have an opportunity to take part in the discussion on the Budget. But since time allotted to each member is very short, I prefer to speak after them.

From the foregoing discussion I have come to learn that most of the Members are blind to the Budget for I myself also thought that Budget Session would be held soon after the election. The delay in the Budget Session even filled me with despair. However, I am really happy to know the sincere and untiring efforts of our Ministers, officers and their subordinates when the Hon'ble Finance Minister gave an explanation regarding delay in the Budget Session.

Recently I have returned from my constituency; people asked me how their village would be developed. I think other members also received the same question from people of their constituency. People expect to see Mizoram developed in every sphere after this Budget Session. Some Members cannot but be filled with despair. However it will be necessary to execute plan schemes expeditiously for time at our disposal is now very short.

I want to point out also that no provision for development work of my constituency is made in the Budget. Construction work of Lungkowlh - Thangsal Road was already started under E.G.S. and 16 miles long has also been completed. Final completion cannot be done due to shortage of fund. I pray that Development grant should be diverted to complete this, because this area occupies an important position.

No air-dropping can be done at Thingsai. Since this Jeep road is not yet completed, people are compelled to depend on head-load for their supplies.

Next, I want to mention that only one-third of construction work Inakthial - Thingsai road is completed. Even if it is not possible to construct pucca bridge over Koladyne river from this Budget provision, at least temporary bridge should be constructed before the end of summer. People suffer many hardships due to non-existence of bridge over this river. Negligence to construct this bridge will surely lead to loss of many lives of the villagers.

As already pointed out by some Members, supply of safe drinking water is given to people in Aizawl town and this supply is still very insufficient. In this connection I want to point out that there is no such supply till today in Lunglei which is the second largest town in Mizoram. People therefore expect the Government to make arrangement for water supply within Lunglei town.

There are two Jails at Aizawl town. But there is no Jail worth mentioning at Lunglei. Why is this? Government godown meant for stocking of rice at the time of Mautam (Famine) has been used as Jail. It is therefore highly necessary to construct Jail at Lunglei at the earliest possible time.

Eight beds for T.B. patients at Lunglei Hospital ~~are~~ also too little. Persons suffering from this disease have to remain in Hospital for a considerable long period. As such more than eight beds should be provided for Lunglei Hospital.

We have also discussed such misappropriation and corruption practised by different Departments. I hope the new Ministry will try its best to do away with these two enemies of the government as well as the people.

Let me also say a few words about Civil Transport under General Department. The primary duty of this Civil Transport appears to be carrying government employees who are on official duty and transferred to another place, <sup>and</sup> carrying of foodstuff after disturbances broke out in Mizoram. It is reported that they are used for purposes other than these, which dislocates the smooth running of the government. The reason for this appears to be <sup>abuse</sup> of those porters by officers and staff for their private business. I request the Minister concerned to enquire <sup>into</sup> this misuse of porters.

PU HARI KRISTO CHAKMA: Mr Speaker, rats multiply rapidly in my constituency. They have eaten up paddy in the jhna. I appeal to the Government to take preventive measures against them.

I request the Hon'ble Minister to send medicines to the people in my constituency and to post Doctors and Pharmacists and give Agricultural loan to farmers.

We need good system of communication preferably jeep road between Borapensuri and Demagiri. I pray the Government that Private High School, S.V.P. and some M.E. Schools may be provincialised and one 1st Class Magistrate be posted in my constituency.

Lastly, I request the Government to put an end to the awkward position of Telegraph Department in my constituency. Telegram can be sent only from Demagiri and people have to go on foot from distant places to avail this facility.

As I am not fluent in Mizo language, I think that will be enough.

PU KHAWTINKHUMA

FINANCE MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the Hon'ble Members have discussed the first Budget of Mizoram and I find the discussion quite interesting. But I <sup>very</sup> ~~am~~ <sup>regret</sup> much for the delay in Budget Session which is due to the short period we had for its preparation and due to the insufficient number of staff. Nearly ten months have elapsed since we had a Union Territory and the Budget is ready for presentation before the Hon'ble Members almost five months after the installation of a popular Government. I will explain in brief the main reasons for delay in Budget Session.

Mizoram, a district under Assam Government was given a status of Union Territory from 21st January, 1972. All District staff were taken over by the new Government and these staff were entrusted with the task of preparing Budget. They have never been entrusted with such difficult tasks and no example is available for them in their preparation. We therefore owe many thanks to these officers and subordinate staff for having succeeded in preparing the Budget within such a short period and made it ready for discussion in the House. In other Union Territories, many staff are engaged in preparing the Budget and they are helped by U.D.A.s and L.D.A.s selected from different Departments. As we do not have enough number of staff in our Secretariat the existing staff were doing the work of preparation day and night.

This Budget contains provisions of nearly Rs. 10 crores. Some of the Hon'ble Members may not be satisfied with this. But we have to remember that this is our first Budget. In view of the existing staff and short period we have for execution of plan schemes, these provisions, I believe, will not be one of too little for Mizoram. If we make the right use of this money, Mizoram and her people will be developed abundantly.

The Hon'ble Members appear to have understood that tax should be paid immediately. I want to point out that this is not necessarily so. Rather, this proposal is made as a step towards self-dependence.

Mention is also made about inequality in the size of the newly-created three Districts of Aizawl, Lunglei and Chhittuipui. Proposal for creation of these Districts had already been made even before installation of popular Government in Mizoram and Deputy Commissioners with their respective powers and jurisdictions have also been sent there. As regards boundary line of these districts, I think it may be re-considered if and when necessary.

As pointed out by the Hon'ble Members Legislative Assembly Department cannot function properly yet because many employees of the defunct District Council are employed in this Department. Re-consideration will also be made on this. One may also think that Circle Assistants are no longer needed as they were in the time of District Council. But they have to be employed since they are the very persons who know best the facts and figures about the villages.

In Schedule of Works, some of the constituencies appear to have been favoured with regard to construction of roads. The reason is that it is made for completion of the works already started. Since time is very short, the small number of existing P.W.D. staff cannot start works of construction in various places of Mizoram. I hope in the next Budget development works for different places will be included.

Our Ministers praise the new Director of Education on his far-sighted plan scheme and his zeal and enthusiasm to reform the Educational system in Mizoram. Better Text Books I hope, will also be prepared next year. The proposal to recruit 200 L.F. Teachers may also be too little but some more will be added if necessary and the teacher-pupil ratio will come to 1:30 or 40.

There is nothing worth mentioning in Inland Water Transport in Mizoram. At present the work is done by S.D.O. posted at Silchar. A small number of staff is posted at Bairabi. But this Department is going to be expanded and Tlawng, Tut, Tuipui rivers etc. will be made available for important and export of goods.



Rehabilitation loan is not meant only for people living in town but also for those in villages. As it is not possible to give rehabilitation grants, businessmen of main Aizawl Bazar will be given rehabilitation loan for purpose of starting their business again. Businessmen hold important position and stand as mirror in which will be seen a clear picture of development and progress in Mizoram. We do not like to see these businessmen to be dominated by businessmen from outside Mizoram. Again, some sort of rehabilitation is also to be given to poor people in villages. Unfortunately this cannot be done as the financial year is now rather too short. Also, loan is to be repaid and as such many people in villages do not welcome proposal for giving loan. But the Government of India have a scheme under which Rs. 1,500/- is given to each family for purchase of land and construction of residential building. This is not given as loan but as relief; such type of relief will also be given to poor people living in villages and I hope they will be much benefitted when given.

As regards petrol, we <sup>no</sup> longer need to pay Assam Sales Tax except Central Sales Tax. 1 litre of petrol will come down to Rs. 1.37 instead of the old rate of Rs. 1.48 per litre. Orders will soon be issued by the Government on this.

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The Government of Mizoram also want to post Doctor, Midwife and Nurses and establish Health Centre and Dispensary in different parts of the Country. But as we cannot get sufficient number of Doctors and Nurses for the already-established Hospitals and Dispensaries, the Government cannot fulfil its ambitious plan yet. I hope we will be able to do this next year and I request the Hon'ble Members to wait patiently.

This Budget is prepared for the whole of Mizoram. However, the way we use this money may be different in various places. As plan schemes are prepared within a short period, they may not be as we expected them to be.

It appears that Rubber Plantation can be done successfully in Mizoram. Rubber Plantation is under Rubber Board Control and the nearest representative is in Tripura. This representative is invited to come to Mizoram to study the feasibility of rubber plantation in Mizoram.

Let me mention that the sky-high rise in prices of essential commodities is not caused by the new Government of Mizoram. Rather it is due to the fact that prices also rise in other states. For instance, the price of sugar (open market) at Shillong is Rs. 4/- per kg.

We cannot make much progress in the field of industry due to lack of supply of electric power. Next year steps will be taken to use diesel power for Industry.

The 1st Assam Rifles are occupying the heart of Aizawl town causing great inconvenience to public as well as to Government. The matter is also brought to the notice of Central Government and investigation is made with a view to finding suitable sites outside the town. Secretariat and Assembly Hall I hope will be constructed at their present site.

The points raised against Water Supply are true. But at present we do not have adequate number of staff and materials for water supply department. Most of the villages in Mizoram are set at the top of hills. In order to give supply of water to the people, it is required to pump water up to the hill-top. But we do not have electric power at present for pumping this water. But I hope the demand of the people will be met when we have sufficient number of staff and supply of electric power.

Now, the Budget is presented to the House. Works have to be executed expeditiously after demands in the Budget are voted by the Hon'ble Members. The duty of Finance Department will then be to see whether money is spent economically and for the right purpose.

SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister has finished his speech in just 30 minutes. Now, let the Hon'ble Chief Minister speak without giving him time limit.

PU CH. CHHUNGA,

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the Hon'ble Finance Minister has already given detailed explanation on provisions in the Budget.

Points of criticism raised on the Budget are true to some extent. As already pointed out by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, the reason for delay in Budget Session is that we do not have sufficient number of employees and most of them do not have experience in preparing Budget.

Popular Government was installed in May, 1972. During this month the Government devoted its entire energy and time for carrying foodstuff to villages which if not done, will put people in miserable condition because rain was close at hand. It was from the month of June that preparation of Budget was going in full swing and in August our leaders flew to New Delhi with this Budget to be discussed with Central Government. As there is some fear that money will have to be surrendered on account of the short period we have, Finance Department is work with full speed.

Now, we can have Budget Session. So in view of the limited number of staff and short period we have, this Budget Session is not too late.

New office buildings are required for different Departments under the new Government and our Chief Secretary has to work with only one or two Clerks. Most of the District Employees do not have experience in preparing Budget. This is the real position and I request the Hon'ble Members to understand this.

It is also necessary that only so much of money which can be spent within this short financial year should be provided in this Budget. If a lot of money is to be surrendered, the next Budget will be effected. Thus in spite of many points of criticism levelled against provisions in the Budget, I think that provisions are sufficient for this financial year.

With a view to putting people close to the Government, three Districts have already been created. As this is not enough, it is also proposed to create six Sub-divisions but no reply has yet been received from the Government. Even if this proposal is not accepted the Government will try its best to convince the Government of the importance of this proposal. Works will then be executed with greater speed. We also proposed to the Government, creation of 20 Development Blocks in Mizoram and acceptance is already received. Ten of these Blocks will be implemented in the first stage and the remaining ten in the second stage. With the creation of these Blocks, many of the difficulties faced by the people will be driven away.

As pointed out by the Hon'ble Minister the main Aizawl Bazar has not yet recovered from the fire of 1966. Progress in business is the way to development. Business centres play important part especially in the eyes of outsiders. It is therefore necessary to give proper maintenance to the Bazar Area.

Before disturbance broke out in Mizoram, Mizoram businessmen proper in business and businessmen from plains could not even compete with them. But these businessmen suffered great loss on account of the disturbance. They could not go as they pleased while plain people could do so.

I do not think that it is time for discussing <sup>not</sup> rehabilitation loan for people living in villages. It is known whether they are going to live in Grouping Villages permanently. Some even have returned to their old villages and for those who think they will return very soon, it is not time to discuss such loans for them. As we know, people in different villages are grouped in one village against their will.

Houses have been uprooted except the local churches. If people are allowed to return to their home village, it is, of course, the duty of the Government to rehabilitate them. Again at the time of grouping villages, we urged Central Government to give up the proposal. But the Government did not pay heed to our prayer and the reply we got from Central Government was - "The Government could look after the populous state of Punjab. The Mizos are no problem to the Government" So if people are allowed to return to their old villages, they should apply for rehabilitation grant and they deserve to be given. But it is not yet time to do that.

Fu Lalsangzuala felt great pain to see Industrial Training Institute Aizawl which is a guest Institute <sup>at</sup> Srikona near Silchar (Fu Lalsangzuala: I am not the one who said that) This is a scheme to us. About four students were studying in this Institute. We are now trying to shift this Institute to Aizawl and the building for this will be constructed very soon.

Before the recent general election, some politicians taught the public that they will not give house taxes and other taxes. People should not be taught such thing. Every individual should extend Co-operative hands to the Government. There are some people who are not in a position to pay taxes and such people should be shown leniency by the Government. Those who are able should pay it. Let us teach people to pay taxes in order to make them not too dependent on the Government.

Next, the Government try to improve the system of supplying water to people in Aizawl town. Bigger water pipes are ordered so as to drive away inconveniences caused by use of smaller ones. We hope to get these by November, 1972.

I want to say a few words regarding <sup>transfer</sup> of Vanlaiphai S.D.O. A dispute arose between this Sub-divisional officer and Sectional Officer. While the dispute was under consideration, their political interests and supports were not taken into consideration. S.D.O. Saha was transferred and S.D.O. Vanlaiphai was sent to Saha to fill the vacant post. It was not a fact that he was transferred because he did not side our party. (Fu J.Thanghuana: Mr Speaker, it is unjust to transfer officer due to a dispute between himself <sup>and</sup> his subordinate) Whether he be a big or small officer, action is taken as we deem fit.

Though we speak much about corruption in Mizoram, nobody is caught red-handed. However, people are aware that corruption is rampant. The Hon'ble Members are well-informed of such malpractices and I request them to help Government in driving away corruption (Fu J.Thanghuana: Mr Speaker, what will be our opinion if one Overseer, after serving in Govt. for 4 years, could buy two T.M.B.?)

It will be highly improper if such thing happens. Enquiry Committee will have to be formed to enquire into such things.

Regarding high costs of G.C.I. Sheets, we had to deliver them at Gauhati which raised the costs. So also Cements. They had to be transported by vehicles at Rs. 28/- a quintal, which raised their prices. We are studying the possibilities of bringing the prices down.

The Chief Minister was charged with neglecting people beyond Tuichang. Regarding wire ropes at Tuichang crossing, I believe Pu Thanghuama may be misinformed. (Pu J. Thanghuama: Mr Speaker, there were no wire ropes there) (Pu F. Hrangvela: Mr Speaker, there were wire-ropes a little down the river, I think Pu J. Thanghuama overlooked them) A bridge is to be constructed over Tuichang river with those materials of B.R.T.F. intended for construction of bridge over Mat river. However, these steel materials are too short for Tuichang river. But some grants will be diverted for this purpose and the Department concerned is now doing what is necessary in this direction. Besides this, a bridge is also to be constructed over Thupui river near S. Vanlaiphai one mile up from the place where it is first intended to be constructed. Here the width of the river is eleven yards only. If politicians extend co-operative hands to the Government, I hope Mizoram will be developed in various fields.

We may not be satisfied with this Budget. But if new plan schemes are added every now and then, we will never have time for Budget Session. Only those schemes which are the crying need of the people are included in this Budget. So I am glad that the Hon'ble Members understand the preparation of this Budget.

SPEAKER: We have now finished discussion on the Budget.

Tomorrow we will have voting on Demand. We cannot go fast as the staff are overburdened with heavy works.

Tomorrow, we will have questions in the first hour, to be followed by the Budget.

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr Speaker, *Discussion on* we want to get our business for the next day while we are here because we have no sufficient time for going through them if we received them late.

SPEAKER: Yes, I admit that. We are starting from the scratch, which must be understood. Now, the meeting is adjourned till tomorrow at 10:00 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 P.M.

Sd/- B. T. Sanga,  
Under Secretary,  
Mizoram Legislative Assembly.