

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE MIZORAM
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL
FROM 20.10.1972 TO 1.11.1972.

7TH SITTING ON 30.10.1972 AT 10 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

BUSINESS:- (1) Starred Questions.
(2) Voting on Demands.

SPEAKER: Before we start question hour, I want to make
an announcement. Tomorrow (31.10.72) election will
be held for Estimate Committee which will have 6 Members
and for Public Account Committee which will have 9 Members
Nomination may be submitted to the Secretary ^{respec-} up to 3 P.M. ^{tively}
to-day. Now, we will take Question No. A-79.

PU R.ZOLIANA Mr Speaker Sir, "Whether it is a fact that no
interse seniority list has been made of
Mizoram Secretariat Staff? If so, when will this be done?"

PU CH.CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, No. The interse seniority
list will be drawn up after the initial
recruitment is over and Mizoram Secretariat Service has
been constituted.

PU LAISANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, Supplementary question -
whether it is a fact that Common Seniority
list will be drawn up for Mizo District Council employees
and other Government employees?

PU CH.CHHUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, The Dissolution order of
Mizo District Council provided that all
staff and Officers who served under the District Council
should be given if not better position, at least positions
not lower than before, when they enter service under the
new Government of Mizoram. It also provided that they can
protect their service and seniority. This can be changed
only with the prior approval from Central Government.

PU R.ZOLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, Supplementary question -
Is it a fact that 44 staff of Mizoram
Government Secretariat such as L.D.As and above are tempo-
rarily appointed? Will the Chief Minister be pleased to tell
us if the staff coming from Arunachal Secretariat, Assam
Secretariat and Mizo District Council had the same status
when they entered Mizoram Government Secretariat?

PU CH.CHEUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, Some of those who came from
other States are working in Mizoram
Government Secretariat as Assistant Superintendents, because
they have had long experiences as U.D.A. The position of
these may not be necessary to be changed by the Government.
Others are given only adhoc promotions, and some of them
may deserve the promotion by virtue of their length of
past services.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, Is it a fact that there is
a proposal to regularise those officers
who are working in Mizoram Government Secretariat on contract
basis? If so, will not these officers create a handicap for
the Mizo Officers in regard to their promotion?

PU CH.CHEUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, It is not necessary to take
many officers on deputations or on contract
basis; only if their technical qualification is required by
Mizoram Government Secretariat, they will be appointed on
contract basis. To fill the present vacancies, we intend to
put our own officers.

PU C.LAIKUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, Is it a fact that some of
the Staff of Executive Engineer (P.W.D) are
giving regular appointment to work in the Secretariat?

PU CH.CHEUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, I am not aware of this.
Appointment for the Secretariat will be
made on the basis of seniority. If there are junior staff,
I do not think their cases will create any difficulty for us.

SPEAKER: Now, Question No. A-80.

PU R.ZOLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, Whether the Government of
Mizoram is making any reservation of posts
under it for the Mizos?

PU CH.CHEUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, There is no such proposal.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, Supplementary question -
Reservation of posts for minority groups was made under the Government of Assam. Has the Government of Mizoram made reservation of posts under it for minority group like Lakher and Pawi? If so, what is the percentage?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, Whether Lakher, Pawi and Chakma are to be treated as minority group will be decided later. However, proposal has been made to make reservation of posts for minority groups as was done by Government of Assam.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question -
Did the Government of Mizoram know that Pawi and Lakher Region informed Central Government that they wanted to *secede* from Mizoram Government?.

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, Personally I did not know about this. The Government also does not know about it.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, is it a fact that the Government of Mizoram intended to recruit only Mizo Union Members to fill up 3800 posts created in the Budget? If so, will not unemployment problem in Mizoram assume serious proportion?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Member be pleased to tell me the names of those persons who spread such a bad rumour?

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, I will not disclose their names now. Congress members living in and around Mamit Village do not expect to get employment under the Government of Mizoram. So also, people living in the eastern parts of the country.

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, we have not done such dirty things. As a matter of fact, contract works are given mostly to those Congress members, and very few to Mizo Unionists.

SPEAKER: Now, we come to question No. 81.

PU h. ZOLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, Whether the Government of Mizoram is reserving a certain percentage of posts for ex-servicemen?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, Yes. The percentage of Grade III and Grade IV posts reserved for Ex-servicemen by the Government of India will also be followed in Mizoram.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question -
Is there any reservation of posts for Ex-Servicemen under Government of Mizoram as was done under Government of Assam?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, There is proposal to make reservation of posts in Grade IV & III for Ex-servicemen.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question .
Can reservation of posts be made for M.N.F. returnees as given to Ex-Servicemen?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, I cannot say exactly the policy of the Government on this matter. However, age can be relaxable by 5 years for Ex-servicemen. So the age limit for them is 35. Special consideration will also be made for the relatives of those who lost their lives, during political disturbances in Bangladesh.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, Will special consideration be made for Ex-servicemen to fill up 3800 posts created by the Government of Mizoram?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, There is no such proposal.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, If reservation is made for Ex-servicemen, why was an ex-servicemen not appointed to fill up post of Grade IV under Agriculture Directorate?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, They already had 22.22% of their posts filled-up by ex-servicemen.

SPEAKER: Now, question No. 82.

PU R. ZOLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, Whether the employees of the erstwhile Miz District Council have been given appointment as prescribed by the law.

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, The erstwhile District Council staff ~~are~~ being absorbed by creating suitable posts under the Government and so far appointment orders have been issued in respect of 12 officers and 58 other staff.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr Speaker Sir, Is it a fact that these officers cannot draw their pay till today?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: That is so, Mr Speaker Sir.

SPEAKER: Now, question No. 83.

PU R. ZOLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, Whether certain posts of Under Secretaries under the Government of Mizoram have been filled up by persons who are neither I.A.S. nor A.C.S. Officers? If so, Why?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, Yes. Two posts of Under Secretaries, one in the Department of Law & Judicial and the other in the Department of Finance have been filled up by officers of the Government of Assam not borne on I.A.S. or A.C.S. cadre. This was considered necessary since these posts require technical knowledge and experience in the particular field and no I.A.S./A.C.S. officer with such qualification and experience was readily available.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr Speaker Sir, Is there any proposal to appoint A.C.S. or I.A.S. Officers for the Secretariat without altering the appointment orders already issued?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, One Under Secretary joined his post under Law & Judicial Department and the other under Finance Department. Formerly the latter held the post of an Accounts Officer. Such a person with experience in accountancy is not easily available. Moreover, he had been appointed before the new Ministry started functioning in Mizoram.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question: What kind of technical qualification is required for the post of Secretary, Law & Judicial Department? Is not there any Mizo amongst our graduates?

PU CH. CHHUNGA

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, as I have already pointed out Mr. Srivastava had served as Law Translator for a long time. After this, he hold a post in the Law Department, No favouratism is practised for his appointment.

PU R. ZOLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, two persons had been appointed to serve as Under Secretary, Law & Judicial Department and Under Finance Department before this Ministry was formed. Is there any proposal to give promotion to Emergency Commissioned officer to the rank of Under Secretary ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am not aware of it.

SPEAKER:

Now, we will take up question No. 75.

PU R. DOTINAIA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Question No. 75. 'Is there any proposal for having Agriculture Institute, e.g. Agriculture Research Institute in Mizoram ? If so, When ? If not, Why ?'

PU R. THANGLIANA

MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, proposal for establishment of Agriculture Research Institute has not been approved by the planning Commission for 1972-73. We will take up again with the Planning Commission. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has a plan to establish Agriculture Research Centre at Shillong which will function as the Eastern Regional Research Station of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. It will also have a substation in Mizoram for which 100 acres will be required.

SPEAKER:

Question No. A-76

PU R. DOTINAIA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Question No. A-76. 'How many Agriculture Demonstration Farms are there in Mizoram ? Where are they situated ?'

PU R. THANGLIANA

MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, There are 11 (eleven) Orchard Demonstration Farms in Mizoram created in 1970-71. They are located at -

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| (1) Vairengte, | (6) Chhingchhip, |
| (2) Bilkhawthlir, | (7) Sarchhip, |
| (3) Kolasib, | (8) Hnahthial, |
| (4) Thingdawl | (9) Zobawk, |
| (5) Thenzawl | (10) Demagiri. |
| | (11) Lawngtlai. |

PU SAPLIAM : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question :
This Orchard Demonstration Farm is situated
in the heart of Lawngtlai Village. Is there any proposal to
shift it to another suitable place ?

PU R. P. ANGLIA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, there is no such proposal.

PU A. DOTNAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Orchard Demonstration Farm at
Surchip appears to be full of wild plants
only. What plants are grown here ?

PU R. P. ANGLIA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, What the Hon'ble Members
saw at this Farm is true indeed. Since, only
a small amount of financial help is given, most of the Farms
existed only in name.

PU K. L. ROCHIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, no Agriculture Demonstration
Farms with the name can be seen at Zohawk,
Donagiri and Lawngtlai. What is the total amount of money spent
for these Farms ? What is the total amount of outstanding bill
for Government Demonstration Farm at Thenzawl ?

PU R. THANGLIANA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, Rs. 6,000/- had been spent
on clearing work of these Farms. As the secu-
rity Forces bought the produce of the Farms every now and then
the expenditure on the Farm at Vairengte has gone down. The
total expenditure on Farms at Kolasib and other places cannot
yet be seen in the office. Even the Farm itself has no record of
this. The expenditure on Thenzawl Farm is somewhat very high.
According to the contractor's bill, the total expenditure is
Rs. 50,000/-. In short, there is a big outstanding bill.

SPEAKER : Question No. A-77.

PU R. DOTNAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Question No. A-77.
"How many Agriculture Seed Farms are there
in Mizoram ? Where are they located ? What are the names and
quantities of Seeds produced ?"

PU R. THANGLIANA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, There are 5 (five) Seed Farms
including one at Thingdawl recently taken
over from Deputy Commission (Dev), Mizoram. The rest are located
at Chite near Aizawl, Neihboi near Siphir Village, Thenzawl farm
and Dubinallah near Lunglei.

PU R.DOTINAI: Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question -
Is there any profit from these Farms?

PU R.THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, We are not concerned with profit from these Farms. We are more concerned as to whether the Government distributed good seeds to the people. They are only Demonstration Farms.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, The Hon'ble Minister said that it is not profitable for the Government. Is it then profitable for the people?

PU R.THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, Even if there is no profit in cash, the people learn from these farms progressive arts in farm cultivation. This is considered a great profit for the Government. For instance, there was one Demonstration Seed Farm at Thingdawl. It is from this Farm that people come to learn that 25 loads of rice can be produced in one acre.

PU ZALAWMA: Mr Speaker Sir, Supplementary question - What is the total expenditure on these five Farms? What is the total output in a year?

PU R.THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, I had explained this before this member arrived. There is no official record of the total production. However, Demonstration Seed Farm at Thingdawl is found to be very encouraging.

SPEAKER: Now, we come to question No. A-78.

PU R.DOTINAI: Mr Speaker Sir, Whether it is a fact that seeds produced in some seed farms lies rotten for the ignorance of their use?

PU R.THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, No. Some quantity of Maize seeds produced in Thonzawl Farm were damaged due to insect attacks. The result of inadequate storage facilities and also because of disruption of communication.

SPEAKER: The question hour is now over. We will have discussion on the Budget. Let the Hon'ble Chief Minister move the motion on Demand No.21.

PU CH. CHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, "On the recommendation of the Administrator of Mizoram, and with your permission Sir, I move the Demand for grant No.21 for Rs. 1,43,63,800/- for meeting the expenses of Public Works in the Public Works Department."

SPEAKER: Any Members who want to speak on Demand No.21 may do now.

PU R.ZOLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, The Development of Mizoram greatly depends on this provision. An evil practice is prevalent among P.W.D. Contractors, Staff and the labourers. This needs no further explanation. It is therefore imperative for P.W.D. to adopt a new method for development of Mizoram.

Next, P.W.D. staff used to work independently and exercise power as they liked for a long time. As such they find themselves in a difficult position to work ~~with~~ the new Government of Mizoram which maintains some sort of control over them.

Lastly, I want to point out that P.W.D. started constructing Aizawl - Khumtung Road even before disturbances broke out in Mizoram. But it is not yet completed till to day!

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, I had already discussed this subject days ago. This Department is an important machine for development of Mizoram and this provision though very big will serve little purpose, when misused. The other day our leaders told me that the delay of this Department in doing construction work was caused by want of sufficient number of staff. So there must be, at least 4 Sub-Divisions in Aizawl District, 2 Sub-division in Lunglei District and 1 Sub-division in Chhimituipui District respectively.

Similarly, Building Division must be created to enable the Engineers to work in the Department of their interest. If we are to speed up the development work, we will need better instruments.

I also request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to constitute a separate Electric Board for Mizoram. The financial year for 1972 is very short. It is desirable to have such a Board next year.

There is too much interference from Ministers in connection with calling of Tenders under P.W.D. Mizoram U.F. is now one year old. But all works under P.W.D. are given on emergency basis. This is too expensive for the Government. For instance, a few days ago, tender was called for construction of road at a particular place. But by the time tenders were submitted, that particular road construction had nearly been completed.

If we want Contractors to speed up their works they must be given their money in time. Their Contract Bills were kept pending for months. It is said that these Bills take weeks to travel from one table to another table of the dealing clerks.

Frequent revision on contract works is also very undesirable. Let me cite one example. One contractor undertook construction work along Siatsuk Road after an estimate ^{was} made. But the expenditure incurred by the contractor was higher than the amount in the original estimate. Supplementary Bill prepared by this contractor moved back and forth between the tables of Principal Engineer and Executive Engineer. The contractor, having no more savings, requested me to lend him Rs. 200/-. This sort of harassment should be avoided in future.

Also, there are no concrete estimates in Building Department and this is a handicap to the beautification of Aizawl which requires planned schemes. It is therefore imperative for the Government to employ experts from Central Ministry of Housing etc.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, I want to say a few words on P.W.D. In my opinion, PWD had been a failure for the last 20 years in Mizoram.

Communication is very important for development of any country. There is no good system of communication in the remote areas of southern Mizoram. Here, a small provision is made for construction of roads for these areas. But I do not think they can be completed within this short financial year. The District of Chhintuipui must also be surveyed so that they may have good system of communication. Due to non-existence of communication system, foodstuffs have to be air-dropped. Even this is not possible during the rainy season. So absence of good system of communication intensified famine condition in these areas. Formerly, there was a bamboo boat at Chhintuipui. But unfortunately, the great flood carried it away last year. I request leaders of the Govt. to construct one such boat again.

Lastly, I want to point out that many PWD Officers are not willing to stay in their place of posting. For instance, S.D.O. (PWD) Lawngtlai has not yet returned to his station since May 1972. All work-charge labourers could not draw their pay due to his absence from the Station. Works cannot be continued and these labourers are facing great difficulties. I request leaders of the Government to note this.

FU CH. SAPRAWINGA: Mr Speaker Sir, There are spaces for widening of roads within Aizawl. The town itself needs beautification and plan schemes. When these works are actually started, P.W.D. faced difficult problems - it is very easy to cause indignation to private persons. Since P.W.D. cannot exercise power over private persons, it is difficult to construct side-drains and widening of roads. When this work was done by the Deputy Commissioner, such power was exercised by himself. So I suggest that P.W.D. staff must also be given such power if we want them to do these works.

It is learnt that the BRTF has finished construction works on Aizawl - Silchar Road, Aizawl - Lunglei Road and Aizawl - Champhai Road. P.W.D. must be entrusted with the duty of maintaining these roads. Under BRTF labourers consisted of young girls and boys. This is not very desirable, so PWD must take over these roads immediately.

People desire to live in a village which is not far away from Jeep roads. I therefore suggest that new road must be constructed to run through Villages. When roads are too far away from villages, people like to shift their village. This was often seen in Kikir Hills.

Hon'ble Members has been condemning corruption which is very rampant among the staff of PWD. This dirty practice should be driven away as soon as possible. Next, the present system of giving contract works to contractors deserves criticism. Some of the Contractors have many contract works while others have none! Equal distribution must be made in this regard. It is not also a wise policy to give contract works to those Contractors who offered the lowest rate because they might have done it in collaboration with the officers. So it may even be better to introduce lump-sum system of contract in Mizoram.

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr Speaker Sir, Some members said they would say only few words. But they give lengthy speeches. In my case I will make a long speech. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, when he paid a visit to Serchhip Grouping Centre said that Serchhip - Thenzawl Road was to be undertaken by B.R.T.F. But now it is undertaken by Civil Contractors. What is the reason?

The charge that P.W.D. stands for Public Waste Department is true. It is vitiated by corruption. Recently the Principal Engineer went to see Serchhip - Thenzawl Road. But he could see no labourers working in this road. The Officers employed the labourers to do their own private works. Is this right?

Residential buildings for Chief Minister and Ministers are constructed in the name of emergency, I consider this unnecessary waste of public fund because they can live comfortably in the old buildings, since they are living without their families.

I want to suggest also that delegation of financial powers to officers must be made so as to avoid corruption. It is reported that contractors can draw Rs. 10,000/- for works costing only Rs. 5,000/- and Rs. 1,00,000/- for works involving Rs. 10,000/- only. It is also necessary to introduce new method of distributing contract works through lump-sum system. Otherwise they resort frequently to revision of estimates.

Provision for construction of Tuichang Bridge must be included in the Budget and construction work of Khawzawl - Lungdar Road should be undertaken by P.W.D.

Pu Lalrammawia, the best officer among the staff of P.W.D. was transferred to Saiha and Pu Neihlaia was posted at his place. When an accusation against a Government servant is received in future, an enquiry commission must be constituted and action must be taken only after a report is made by this Commission. The Principal Engineer also discharged one office assistant without any reason. I request the Minister i/c to look into this. I have many things to say. But time is very limited. Thank you.

PU VANLALINUAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, This subject is very important. Development and P.W.D. must speed up their works in order to bring about development and progress to this nascent state. One P.W.D. Officer said that this Department constructed 30 miles of roads only during 20 years. This is very strange! But it may be true!

We expect Public Works Department to speed up the various development works it has to undertake. But the total strength of staff under this Department is too small!! Shall we expect them to do their works expeditiously? We praised B.R.T.F. who had undertaken the works of construction of roads in Mizoram. As a matter of fact they could do these works only because they have all the necessary tools and machinery for construction of works. Corruption is very rampant even amongst them. But we do not know about it as they worked independently.

It is necessary to expand P.W.D. In the Budget we see that provision is made for 3 posts of E.Es only. This is not enough. We must also supply them with better tools for their works. It is also a must to give promotion to Mizo Officers serving under this Department as we are now having our own Government.

It is learnt that B.R.T.F. are to undertake construction works of 5 important roads. If this is so special consideration must be given to those remote constituencies like those of Pu Hrangvela and mine.

According to the estimate prepared by P.W.D. rent for the building now being occupied by the Chief Secretary is Rs.700/- per month. But he actually pays Rs.27/- per month only. This needs re-examination by the authority.

As regards the method of giving contract works I suggest that the system of lump-sum be introduced as already pointed out by the Hon'ble Members before me. The change that only contractors belonging to Mizo Union Party could get contract works is baseless. Even now many Mizo Union Contractors are without any contract works!

PU LALRINLIANA: Mr Speaker Sir, I want to say a few words regarding the officers under P.W.D. Below Principal Engineer, there are Executive Engineers while there must be a post of Superintending Engineer. The P.E. has not been witnessing this session. Had there been a senior officer under him; at least that officer should have come today. The Superintending Engineer will then look after the different work-charges. He will also scrutinize all bills of the Contractors.

I must also point out that top priority must be given to improvement and widening of roads within Aizawl, the Capital of the State. The roads are too narrow and even two vehicles can hardly pass each other. Next, P.W.D. has a very low standard of workmanship. Good workmanship ~~solely~~ depends on the efficiency of the staff of this Department. A huge amount of money for development works of Mizoram is in their hands. One man said: "I am afraid to commend my life in the hands of drunken driver. I will instead commend my life in the hands of the Almighty God" This may be true. So, all the staff of P.W.D. must have the fear of the Lord. Otherwise, this huge amount of money for development of Mizoram may be misappropriated. I request the Hon. Minister to keep all this in mind.

PU VANLALIRUAIA: Mr Speaker Sir, Rent for the building now being occupied by the Chief Secretary is Rs. 250/-. This is based on his monthly salary.

PU ZALAWMA: Mr Speaker Sir, a special manual of P.W.D. must be made since there are some differences compared with that of other States in India.

Corruption is rampant because actions are not taken by the authority in time. If we take actions immediately after reports are received, corruption may be reduced very soon.

The Public Works Department must be very careful as it has in its hand a large amount of money for development of Mizoram. In this connection I want to point out that Mizos are more honest than non-Mizos. But we have now many non-Mizos under this Department. What will they do against those few Mizos working with them? They called many quotations and gave work order to non-Mizos who came to Mizoram only yesterday. It is therefore necessary to have secret agent while preparing provision for P.W.D.

The Principal Engineer must be entrusted with limitless power in regard to technical sanction, and we should create the post of Superintending Engineer. No allotment of contract works should be given to non-Mizos who had no Non-Tribal Trade Licence. The Ministry must look into this matter. Lastly, Scheduled Rates must be made into a workable rate. Priority must be given to registered Contractors when allotment of works is made.

PU K.SANGCHHUI: Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to point out important things for Constituency No.3.

We have too much neglected Chhimituipui District in the field of development. The population of this District is a few 10,000s. These people have the same needs like us. It is really difficult to get PWD staff to work for this District. No trace of development works done by the Govt. could be seen in this District. Even the people have no respect for the Govt.; the area is important on Security point of view. So, I suggest that a bridge be constructed over the Tuipui river. Otherwise people will be in a helpless position. If we neglect them, something much worse may happen.

PU F.ERANGVELA: Mr Speaker, Sir, I denied the charge made by the Opposition leader that only 25 % of money sanctioned for contract work is spent for doing the work, while 75 % of the money is misappropriated. (Pu J.Thonghuama : Mr Speaker, he is a bonafide Contractor) (Speaker : It is not necessary to speak against individual member. We cannot expect all members to speak the truth)

I believe they may sometimes do unfair things. We put many blames on PWD. But they may not have such a huge amount of money in their hands as we expect them. They cannot be compared with BRTF. The BRTF could do their works expeditiously only because they had more money and better tools than the PWD.

The areas under one Division of PWD is too vast and the strength of the staff is very small. I also recommend the suggestion that system of lumpsum contract be introduced in Mizoram because contract works which were allotted at the

rate below Scheduled Rate could also be revised from time to time. A Contractor who offered to take up work at Rs.10,000/- for work estimated at Rs.30,000/- may be given the contract works ! Many Contractors offered a very low rate and this made PWD Officers unable to do their works properly. Since the Contractors could not complete the works with such low rates.

A large amount of money sanctioned for repair and maintenance of Members' Hostel and Ministers' Residences is unspent till today. I therefore suggest that this provision be diverted for meeting the expenses on construction of roads between Villa es.

PU SAITLAWIA: Mr Speaker, Sir, let me say a few words this Demand. All the members who spoke before me said that the Government must not do development works as were done by the Government of Assam. It is necessary that some of the works which appear in the Schedule for works are started by the Departments. One state Dispensary was constructed at Thingfal within Lunglei before disturbances broke out in Mizoram. The construction work of this Dispensary needs be resumed.

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Next, it is strange that the PWD has not constructed even 10 K.M length of road on Mhalthial-S.Vanlaiphai Road, since the construction was started in 1963. The Department concerned must be made to complete it immediately.

Construction work of L.P.S.T. Road was started before the disturbances. But no contract Bills could be prepared due to the disturbances nor could the works done be measured now. The Contractors who undertook the construction works deserved to be paid for their works by the Government.

The staff of PWD used to employ V.Labourers to do their private works, such as doing cultivation works, drawing of water, collecting fire-wood and carrying hay for cows. This should be stopped immediately.

Compensations payable to those private persons whose compounds were destroyed as a result of construction of roads by BRTF and PWD in 1965 are still unpaid. This should also be paid without any further delay.

Some PWD officers used to give contract works to those contractors who bribed them even though they knew for certain that these contractors would not be able to do the work efficiently. I request the Hon.Minister i/c PWD to look into this sort of dirty practice prevalent amongst the staff of PWD.

SPEAKER: We are discussing this Demand for a long time.
Now, I will call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister to speak on this Demand.

PU CH. CHHUNGA

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker, Sir, the Demand for PWD is Rs. 1,43,68,300/- only. I want to express my thankfulness to the members for their appreciation.

There is proposed to open new Development Blocks. As it is not yet finalised, it is not included in this Budget.

We put many blames on PWD for not speeding up their works of development for Mizoram. They are doing the most important works for this country. I want them to understand the nature of these blames which we put on them, which are due to our desire to see them implement the plan schemes expeditiously.

We talked much about corruption in PWD. Corruption is caused by many factors. One such cause is the difficult time we are now experiencing in this country. Also, the distant Government of Assam could not supervise the workings of the different Departments and their staff. As such these staff are, more or less free to practise corruption. It is therefore necessary that we try our best to do away with corruption and misappropriation of money.

Some Members suggested that system of lump-sum contract be introduced and contract works be given to the lowest bidders. If we follow these systems, many different rates will be offered by the contractors. Some will offer Rs. 500/- while others will offer Rs. 300/- only. If contract work is given to the lowest bidder, the contractor will get no profit from the works. But it may be a bit difficult to introduce lump-sum contract system for the estimates already prepared. Besides, introduction of such a system requires ~~the~~ technical knowledge about the lands - whether they are rocky or of clayey type. If we can know all these before estimates are prepared, it will not be different for this House to adopt lump-sum contract system.

It is really difficult to know the exact position of contractors, merchant and professional contractors. Some will think that the position of merchants is better than that of contractors and vice versa. The Government therefore has decided to do what is best for all these people.

Some members made a suggestion that after construction work of roads are undertaken by BRTF, maintenance must be undertaken by Government of Mizoram. Even BRTF accepted this suggestion. But I request the Hon. Members to understand the policy already framed by the Government of Mizoram. If the Government of Mizoram undertake maintenance of these roads, many experts from outside will have to be employed

..... (17) ...

because the existing P.W.D. Staff have no prior experience in this regard. So, it is not yet time to handover maintenance works to the P.W.D.

I will carefully study the conditions of Chhimtuipui District. I have also noted down their problems.

So, I request the Hon'ble Member to vote for demand NO.21.

SPEAKER: Those who can pass Demand NO.21 will say 'Aye' (Members said 'Aye') and those who cannot, will say 'No' (Members kept silent) So the demand is passed unanimously. Now, we come to Demand 30. Let the Hon'ble Chief Minister read out motion on this Demand.

Pu CH. CHHUNGA,
CHIEF MINISTER Mr Speaker Sir, "On the recommendation of the Administrator of Mizoram, and with your permission Sir, I move the Demand for grant NO.30 for Rs 81,09,000/- for meeting the expenses on Public Works in the Public Works Department."

PU R.ZOLIANA: Mr. Speaker, we had already discussed Demand NO.21 which is almost the same as Demand NO.30. Can we pass it without having discussions ?

PU J.THANGHUAMA: Mr. Speaker, it may be good to pass this Demand right away. But I demand some explanations. The Hon. Chief Minister said that construction work of Serchhip - Thenzawl Road will be undertaken by BRF. But according to my information, it was undertaken by civil Contractors. Next, one Assistant working at Serchhip I.B. was discharged by the Principal Engineer and some PWD Officers employed V.labourers to do their private works. What action will be taken on these.?

SPEAKER: All these, we have already discussed in demand NO. 21. shall we call upon the Hon. Chief Minister to speak on this Demand now ?

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker, we have often charged PWD staff with corruption. I want to point out that there are some efficient and honest persons working under this Department. There can also be corruption in the Administration I want to request the Hon. Chief Minister to explain a provision of Rs 1 million for lump sum grant which we found in Demand NO.30.

We have also too much neglected maintenance of roads in Southern part of Aizawl. This area also require one Hospital.

I want to^{make} mention about our narrow roads in this Aizawl Town. During the time of the defunct District Council, a commission was formed to do planning work of Aizawl Town. The commission planned to widen all main roads in Aizawl town to 30 ft. But this plan could not be carried out on account of the formation of this Ministry which is overburdened with manifold tasks. I request the Hon'ble Minister to carry out this plan.

PU J. THANGHULAMA: Mr. Speaker, while we have good roads in some areas of this town, namely the area around Govt. Offices, the condition of roads, South of the Raj Niwas is in a deplorable condition.

A few days ago I went to Bura Bazar and saw that some labourers were busy with carrying small pieces of stones for construction of road leading to the residence of Pu Sangliana M.P. Is this necessary at a time when roads, South of the Raj Niwas are in such deplorable condition? The main road between the Raj Niwas and U.P. Church is very narrow and road-accidents could occur very easily. It is therefore necessary that PWD staff try their best to improve this road. They should stop spending their days in playing gambling.

Next, a huge amount of money is sanctioned for construction of roads. While some contractors will get many contract works even more than they can execute satisfactorily, many of them get none. The rich will be richer and the poor poorer! Let us therefore make equitable distribution of contract works. Those who got a value of Rs 1 million of contract works this year should not be given contract works next year. If we do not practise such method, a revolution of the type of the French Revolution may break out in Mizoram! Let us work honestly and diligently. There is no time to sit idle! The harvest is really great, but the labourers are few.

PU LAIKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, discontentment of contractors often appeared in local newspapers. Perhaps some Members endorsed their recommendations in sealed Tender. We must try to stop this from now onwards.

Next, PWD can be rightly compared to undisciplined fowls which require vigilant watch of the owner. The staff of PWD do not like to stay in their place of posting. They wandered in the street and employed V. labourers to do their private works, all in total disregard of public criticisms. Shall we employ them any longer? They are required to supply explosives for construction of roads. But even these cannot be arranged by them. Let us therefore keep a vigilant watch upon this Department.

SPEAKER: Now, we will call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister. He may speak on both Demands (Demand NO.21&30). We must have confidence in our Ministers.

PU CH. CHHUNGA

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that there is not much criticism on Demand NO.30 and I hope that the Hon'ble Members will vote for it.

All the points raised by the Members will be considered. Regarding Thenzawl tender, we were also criticised perhaps some M.L.As might have recommended some contractors to the authorities for contract works. However, this is not a serious matter.

The road leading to ^{the residence of} Pu Sangliana M.P. is being constructed only because it is a public road. It may be more appropriate to call this road "Publicity Road," or "Pu Sainghinga's road." This road leads to Babu Tiliyah at the top of which are also stationed some Assam Rifles personnels. That is why it is being repaired.

The suggestion of some members that those contractors who got many contract works should not be given any contract work during this year deserves careful consideration, and action will be taken on the Mohurrir at Lengpui.

The B.R.T.F. are now trying to undertake construction of Thenzawl Road for they thought that it is convenient for them to maintain this road. However, this does not mean that they will undertake it. Roads leading to Serchhip and Darlawn will also be constructed very soon. I will also enquire into the corrupt practice of employing V.labourers to do private works.

Political transfer is not good. Pu Remawia was sent to fill a vacant post on account of a dispute which arose between the Administrative Officer and himself. When such a quarrel arose, the Officer of the lower rank had to be transferred. This is the usual practice. (Pu J.Thanghuama: Mr. Speaker, I appeal to the Hon'ble Chief Minister to post Pu Remawia to his formal place of posting (Speaker: We need not discuss such personal affairs in this Hall) (Pu J.Thanghuama Mr. Speaker, let him tell me what action will be taken on the Principal Engineer for discharging one Stenographer and about the Inspector Tunpla at Serchhip)

Mr. Speaker, we, Mizos try to avoid criticising a person in his face. But when we are compelled to do it, there may be even some serious consequences. It is not necessary for us to discuss the shortcomings of individuals.

I admit that roads in Aizawl Town are narrow and small. It is difficult for vehicles to run both-ways. They are hardly suitable even for use as one-way traffic. Roads along Bazar Bunkawn, Thakthing and old Cateen can be used as one-way traffic.

It is very difficult to widen roads in southern areas of Aizawl town. We do not neglect southern areas. These areas are old and too small for construction of Hospital and Post Office. It is proposed to develop these areas.

SPEAKER: Those who can pass Demand No. 30 will say 'Aye' (Members said 'Aye') and those who cannot, will say 'No' (Members kept silent) So the Demand is Passed unanimously.

We have one more Demand to discuss, i.e. Demand No. 22. Let the Hon'ble Chief Minister read out motion on this Demand.

PU CH. CHUNGA,

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, "On the recommendation of the Administrator of Mizoram and with your permission Sir, I move the Demand for grant No. 22 for Rs. 3,40,000/- for the services of Inland Water Transport & Road Transport Organisation in the Public Works and State Transport Department."

SPEAKER: No Member will be allowed to take too much time for it is already too late. Now, any members who want to speak may speak.

PU CHAWNGKURGA: Mr Speaker Sir, Demand No. 22 though not important for the constituencies of Pu Wanlalaruaia and Pu F. Hrangvohla, is essential for my constituency. Certainly we are going to face a terrible famine. The period from January to April is the best season for storing supply of foodstuffs. This Demand is also needed by the Constituency of Pu Ngurdawla. Buichalidar and Asminader were formerly used as the turning points of small boats. Such points can also be made in the Tut and the Teirei rivers. If the Government spends Rs. 40,000/- only ten miles long of the course of the Tlawng river starting from Darlak, the confluence of the Tlawng and the Teirei rivers, may be made navigable. Let us therefore do the work on the spot instead of merely discussing it in this Hall.

PU SANGKHEUMA: Mr Speaker Sir, provision for Inland Water Transport is very little. A large amount of Money will have to be spent for improvement of the Tuivai and the Tuirial etc.

People living in the north-eastern areas of Mizoram will have to sell their agricultural produce through this transport system. In fact, Inland Water Transport is more important than P.W.D. for these people. It is therefore necessary to make Tuivawl river navigable for steam boats. The proposed number of staff for Department of Inland Water Transport is also too small. This must be increased in the next Budget.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr Speaker Sir, I consider what Pu Chawng-kunga said very important. Pu Sapliana also asked me to mention about the importance of this river. The Kolodyne River touches Skyaf in Burma in the east and Bangladesh in the west. Such being the position, the importance of Inland Water Transport for purpose of border trade along this river needs no further exaggeration-

Similarly, the Tlawng river must also be made navigable within this financial year. As already stated by Pu Chawng-kunga Pu J. Manliana had formulated this scheme long ago. I think we can make it pliable for ferry-boat by spending a ~~small~~ small amount of money. There are great rapids near Asmanidar and Buichali and these need be removed. Some small rapids can also be seen near Suarhliap. The rocks along this river are soft and can be broken into pieces very easily.

The number of the staff for Inland Water Transport I hope, will be increased in the next Budget. In this connection, I want to mention that we need not employ those staff who are now working under Inland Water Transport Department who are stationed at Silchar. Mizes must be appointed to work under this Department.

Lastly, I do not know any other rivers except Tlawng river which will be suitable for starting Inland Water Transport system in Mizoram.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr Speaker Sir, I had no time to mention the forest along the Karnaphuli river which had been cut down without realising its royalties. Many of the forests produces were also lost. The river is mild and even big Ferry-boats can ply upto a considerable distance. As such it will be very suitable for carrying out border trade with Bangladesh.

In the Budget, Bus-Services are to be introduced in Aizawl - Silchar Road, Aizawl - Lunglei Road, and Aizawl - Champhai Road. I am much disappointed to see that no bus-services is to be introduced in Sairang - Aizawl Road. Sairang is only 3 miles from Aizawl and many people in this village, have to go to Aizawl to sell their agricultural produce. So, I suggest that bus service should be introduced for this people.

I want to appeal to the Hon'ble Minister that Tut river must be made pliable for small boats upto Sabual Village because people in this area have to buy essential commodities from this Village.

Before the political insurgence in Mizoram, small boats could ply upto Parvatui Village and the inhabitant of Sabual Village were also determined to make this river navigable for small boats upto their village. But the disturbances which broke out in Mizoram stood in the way of the successful implementation.

SHU SAITLAWMA: Mr Speaker Sir, Just a few words on Inland Water Transport. The Hon'ble Member Pu Ngurdawla already made mention about problem of Inland Water Transport in Chhintuipui river. Before the political insurgence, Inland Water Transport Department was entrusted with the task of maintaining this river and people were much benefitted from this Department. Pu Petera also used to send some commodities through this river. Formerly ferry boats could ply from Darzo to Saiha and thence to Serkawr and people living around these villages find it very convenient. So, I request leaders of the Government to make these rivers navigable so that people may be much benefitted from Inland Water Transport.

SPEAKER: Now, I will call upon the Minister concerned.

PU R. THANGLIANA, MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, I want to give explanation on this Demand. Under the Government of Assam, Mizoram was looked after by Directorate of Inland Water Transport. The total number of staff was about 19. Thereafter, one Sub-Division was established at Silchar.

When Mizoram become an U.T. all properties of Mizoram were handed over to the States to which they were located. As such the strength of the staff had decreased. Work-charges were given by the staff at Silchar and the pay of 6 staff of this Department still remains unpaid. Provision will have to be made for this purpose. There is proposal regarding handing over of Inland Water Transport to I.W.D. for which a provision of Rs. 6 lakhs had already been made. As I have already pointed out, rivers in the western areas occupy important position. They also offer convenient export facilities for goods and agricultural produce of Mizoram.

Next, a big provision is made for Road Transport. In addition to this provision, an additional provision of Rs. 15 lakhs will also be available for improvement of road transport.

At present, most of the Buses are run by private persons. An agreement will have to be made between them and the Government. But it is not the policy of the Government to treat them with unfairness or disrespect.

Let me give explanation to the charge made by Pu Zalawma that non-Mizo contractors were preferred to their Mizo counterparts. This charge may be true to some extent because they offered rates lower than that offered by Mizo Contractors. For instance, these non-Mizo Contractors offered a rate of Rs. 22 for carrying foodstuffs between Aizawl and Lunglei while the rate offered by Mizo Contractors were over Rs. 30/-. In case similar rates are offered, Mizo Contractors will surely be favoured.

Some Members also suggested that Mizo Contractors must be favoured in giving river contract works. But it is not always possible to do this because all Mizo Contractors are not honest- When they failed in their contract works, it is the people who suffered. However, I want to mention that Mizo Contractors will be favoured in every possible way.

So, I request the Members to vote for Demand No.22 without raising further objection.

SPEAKER: Those who can pass Demand No.22 will say 'Aye' (Members said 'Aye') and those who cannot will say 'No' (Members kept silent) So the Demand is passed unanimously.

Now, we shall have recess and the meeting will be resumed at 2:30 P.M.

Recess till 2:30 P.M.

2:30 P.M.

SPEAKER: Let the Hon'ble Chief Minister read out the motion ~~and~~ on Demand No.24.

PU CHHUNGA,

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, "On the recommendation of the Administrator of Mizoram, and with your permission Sir, I move the Demand for grant No. 24 for Rs. 2,22,840/- for the services of Printing & Stationery in the General Administration Department."

SPEAKER: Now, I will call upon any Members desirous to speak on this Demand.

PU R.ZOLIAHA: Mr Speaker Sir, Just a few works on Demand No. 24 - Stationery & Printing. We may not be fully aware of the importance of Stationery and Printing. As I had already served under this Department in the Government of Assam, I know its importance very well. I therefore want to point out that the Demand for this Department is not enough.

Let us turn to page 246 of the Budget. The Government had no printing machine of its own, and now one machine is borrowed from a private firm for publication of Mizoram Gazette etc. In view of its important role for the Government, the provision for purchase of printing machine seems to be a good idea. If we cannot get new one, we must try to purchase at least secondhand one. This machine may be used for printing different kinds of Newspapers and this will be a good source for earning public fund.

If there is no Mizo qualified in printing technology, experts from outside may be employed. And if we cannot make provision in the Current Budget for this purpose it must be included in the next Budget. I think we need not discuss the strength of the staff for this Department. What is more important is to have the printing machine first.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr Speaker Sir, the head in Printing and Stationery and its contents are contradictory. In my opinion, this Department is to be entrusted with the works of printing forms and stationery for the Government of Mizoram. But I see here the provisions for the posts of Editor, Journalist etc. This shows that the scheme is not well-planned. Complete Printing Machine which we have in this country costs about Rs. 20,000/- So, with this provision, I think we can purchase even two printing machines. A big provision is made in the Budget for meeting charges on printing of stationery undertaken by Directorate of Information. It will not be good if the General Administration Department pays the cost of printing of forms etc. since such a big provision is already made for Directorate of Information.

A provision of Rs. 90,000/- is made here for purchase of Printing machine. I cannot understand this. Will the Hon'ble Chief Minister be pleased to give explanation?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr Speaker Sir, I hope the Hon'ble Members will pass this Demand unanimously. As already pointed out by them, this Department had no essential materials, no printing machine etc. As the organisation of this Department is not yet completed, it cannot start functioning till today. As such their works were done by Information & Publicity Department.

The Central Government is also consulted in regard to purchase of Printing Machine and I hope they will accept our suggestion. Before we have Printing Machine, Hand Machine will have to be used for the time being. The Central Govt. will give us better machines as soon as we get expert in Printing technology. At present we have only one Printing Technologist who is now working here. All other points raised by the Hon'ble Members cannot be carried out now.

SPEAKER: (Read out motion, a second time) Those who can pass, the Demand NO.24 will say 'Aye' (Member said 'Aye') and those who cannot will say 'No' (Member kept silent). So the Demand is passed unanimously.

Now, we come to Demand NO. 25. I think you have a paper on your table. You have to attach it to page 267 of Budget Volume II.

Let the Hon'ble Chief Minister read out motion on Demand NO.25 (Miscellaneous).

Pu CH.CHHUNGA CHIEF MINISTER: "On the recommendation of the Administrator of Mizoram, and with your permission Sir, I move the Demand for grant NO.25 for Rs 1,27,42,170/- for meeting the Miscellaneous Items of expenditure in the General Administration Department.*"

Pu C. LALRUATA: Mr, Speaker, a few words on this Demand. In page 267, we see a provision of Rs 1,00,000/- for Gifts and Rewards. But in this Budget, it appears that only the Chief Minister can have discretionary grant. Every now and then, there are some persons who should be given financial assistance. This makes me think that provision for Gift and Reward is too little.

A provision of Rs 1,00,000/- for ex-gratia grant is also insufficient. In 1968, the total number of those who died in the hands of M.N.F. and Security Forces rose to 200. The relatives of only few of them were given ex-gratia grants. While we were under the Assam Govt. some were given Rs 1000/- while some others received only Rs 500/- The amount depends upon the whims of the authorities. If we are going to give them now, every person must receive equal amount. It is desirable that bigger amount may be given to bigger families.

Next, we see a provision of Rs 75,000/- for ex-gratia grant to Army personnels killed in action. I hope the number of Army personnels killed in action during this current year may not rise so high. I therefore suggest that grants for this purpose be diverted to the first grant.

I think there was separate sanction for expenditure in connection with inauguration of U.T. of Mizoram. But we see here a provision of Rs 160,000/- for that

purpose. Will the Non'ble Chief Minister be pleased to explain this?

Lastly, I want to point out that Relief and Rehabilitation Establishment is not big enough as as to help villagers who often come to Aizawl for financial help, from the Govt. It is therefore imperative for the Govt. to expend this establishment.

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr. Speaker, in page 267 of the Budget, we see that a provision of Rs 160,000/- is made for expenditure in connection with inauguration of U.T. of Mizoram. Mizoram U.T. was already inaugurated in the beginning of this year. Is this a double expenditure?

I do not understand ex-gratia grants to Army personnels killed in action. Men were enlisted Voluntarily the Army to fight for the Country and their families are entitled to family persons. Is it necessary for us to provide something for them? Why does this appear in our Budget?

Moreover, we see that a provision of Rs 100000/- is made for ex-gratia grants to those who lost members of their families during disturbances. The present system of distribution of this grant is very bad. Those who have some one to intercede for them are given a big amount of money while some cannot get even a rupee. Some can get as much as Rs 500/- The life of a man has the same value as that of another. No distinction can be made in regard to its value. I therefore suggest that a commission be formed to enquire whether the families lost their members in action. No grant should be given before such a commission is formed. A seperate commission should also be formed for houses burnt down by the Security Forces during the disturbances.

In regard to the Rewards for Destruction of wild Animals, I want to suggest that at least 5 guns or more be sent to each village.

A provision of Rs 50,000/- for Republic Day and other State functions is insufficient. The last anniversary of Republic Day was not celebrated in a befitting manner. There was not even State Dinner. Grants to surrendered M.N.F. should have be increased.

Lastly, I want to raise objection to employment of transport porters. They are not necessary anymore because we now use Vehicles instead of porters these days.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker, the Non'ble opposition Leader Pu J. Thanghuama said that Enquiry Commission may be constituted which would be able to enquire within this month the number of families which lost their members during the disturbances as well as the numbers of Army personnels killed in action. But it is very clear that this cannot be done during this month- To-day is already 30th October.

The amount of money spent by the Govt in connection with the celebrations of Republic Day and Independence Day in villages was very small. And I do not consider necessary to spend a huge amount on these occasions. Rather, it is more importance for the Government to give relief grants and rehabilitation grants to the people living in Villages.

I am much surprised to see that no provision is made in this Budget for grants to those who lost members of families during the disturbances. Next, I want to point out that relief and rehabilitation grant for people who took refuge in Aizawl and Lunglei as a result of disturbances in Mizoram were blocked by Assam Government. These people have high hope in the new Govt. of Mizoram. When the Hon'ble Finance Minister visited Lunglei in the month of June, I told him all about their difficult position. He also assured me that the matter would be taken up. But to my utter surprise, I find that no provision is made for this purpose in this Budget.

Many people living in Zobawk G.C., Tawipui G.C., and Thingfal G.C within Lunglei District have not yet received rehabilitation grant upto now. Many Grouping Centres could not receive grants as there were no permanent Administrative Officers and probably due to the inefficiency of those Officers. I request leaders of the Govt. to take necessary steps so that these people may get grants which they have been waiting for a long time. Mr. Speaker, I have few more words to say on Transport Porter. From the Budget, it appears that a large amount of money was spent for Transport Deptt. Though such a big amount of money is spent for this Department, the volume of work done is very small. It is learnt that Transport Supervisors used to employ some porters to do their private works. I admit that what Pu J.Thanghuama had pointed out in regard to this Department is true. I therefore request the Hon'ble Minister to look into this

Pu LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker, Market establishment is looked after by three different departments. Besides these departments, the Deputy Commissioner also deals with the market administration. I want to suggest that the Secretariat should not interfere in such an establishment as Market Establishment.

I do not know whether grants for M.N.F. returnees had been distributed or not. They should be given rehabilitation grant as soon as possible. Recently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister condemned the acts of these M.N.F. returnees. But such things were done by them only because they were compelled by circumstances. It is also desirable that Family maintenance allowance be given to each family of these political Prisoners.

If Rehabilitation and Relief is taken up on Secretariat level, it is enough. We also find this establishment in the District level. I request leaders of the Govt. to reconsider a provision of Rs 84,00,000/- for all subsidy and arrear claims.

It is too difficult for one Department to look after many different Departments.

A provision of Rs 100,000/- is made as grant in-aid for the three newly created District Councils. This amount is too little and needs re-consideration by the Govt.

The Hon'ble Member Pu Saitlawma had made violent criticism against the Ministry in regard to Transport Department (Pu Saitlawma: Mr. Speaker, I did not do that. I merely pointed out what had happened before we have this Ministry). This should function under Directorate of Transport.

PU HRANGAIA: Mr. Speaker, as pointed out by the Hon'ble Member we find many different subjects under Demand NO.25 I want to suggest that a separate cultural grant should be made in the next Budget for celebration of National Festivals like 'CHAPCHAR KUT' on Republic Day and Independence Day. Most of the items presented are cultural shows. So, it is very necessary to provide such grant for such functions.

Next, I want to mention that provision for ex-gratia grants to those who lost members of families during disturbances in Mizoram is not big enough. The total number of persons killed during the disturbances as noted in my Diary is 142. All these persons were killed by M.N.F. Moreover, many innocent persons were killed by Security Forces about 10 persons were killed in the constituency of Pu Vanlalhraia along as a result of the families of these men were given grants. But there was no equitable distribution of grants. Many of them have not yet received anything till today. So, I request leaders of the Government to provide more grants for the families of those persons who were killed during the disturbances.

Lastly, it is disheartening to see that no grant is provided in the Budget for celebration of a red letter day in the history of Mizoram.

PU SPALLIANA: Mr. Speaker, I want to say a few words on the ~~these~~ newly created District Councils. In the Budget we see the liabilities on pay and allowances of the defunct. Mizo D/C. P.L. Regional Council also had many liabilities; but they do not appear in this Budget. While P.L. Council was under Assam Govt. I believed, without any scope of doubt, that a large amount of grants were given to this Council. But these grants were, perhaps spent by the Staff of this Council for which we had no knowledge. However, we knew that some of the staff could not get their pay for 33 months! The Audit. General audited their accounts upto 15.7.70. and found that there were arrears amounting to Rs 4600/-; but no action has yet been taken till to-day.

Lakher and Chakma after Mizoram became an Union Territory there was still a large amount of liabilities. The total amount of arrear from the period we were under Assam Govt. upto this day has amounted to Rs 6 lakhs! It is difficult to understand why such a huge amount of grants for these Councils could remain unpaid, and whether this is due to misuse of the funds. So, I request leaders of the Govt. to give arrears to the officers and staff who suffered miserably due to non-receipt of their pays for a long time. The southern part of Mizoram is divided into 3 autonomous District Councils. Their source of income is very small. In the Budget, we find a provision of Rs 1 lakh under plan for these three Councils. That means, each council will get a little more than Rs 30,000/- during this fiscal year. It will therefore be necessary for the Govt. to give more grant-in-aid to these Councils. If this cannot be done, the Govt. must control the Council.

At the time of formation of these three Councils, the number of staff to be recruited for each council was fixed. But recruitment has been made more than the fund can meet. For instance, in addition to staff appointed by the Administrator for Pawi Council, an additional recruitment for 5 Officers and a number of staff was made. The total number of staff has now become 86. Recently the Govt. sanctioned Rs 8,00,00/- for pay and allowances of these Staff. But this money was not sufficient and the staff could draw only two months' salary. I therefore request leaders of the Govt. to explain the position to these Councils. Otherwise, these Councils may go through bankruptcy, total disorder and chaos. The Pawi, Chakma and Lakher Regional Councils, only a month old, was given District Council. During this transition, pays were not paid to the Staff. These staff should be given their arrear pays as soon as possible.

I would also be very pleased if the Minister i/c would explain to me as to how Rs 14 5,000/- is to be spent.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, as our fellow Chakma M.L.As cannot adequately express themselves in Mizo language, I will say a few words on their behalf. They will be very pleased if the Minister i/c will state as to how a grant of Rs 1,00,000/- for the three District Councils is to be distributed.

Let me also say a few words on a provision of Rs 56.86 for diet charges of non-criminal, lunatic and burial charges. Lunatics were sometimes kept in Jails. These lunatics had different causes for their lunacy. Some could be cured if they were given good food and so on. Thus they need special care. Sometimes they tried to beat Jail Warder, and if they were not given proper care, they might go from bad to worse.

I am very anxious to know how grants for these lunatics were spent before we had the U.T. If they were not spent for the purpose, it would be highly unfair. Let us hope for the best from this new Ministry.

Surrendered M.N.F. must also be given grants which are due to them. The Government must keep its promise to them.

Lastly, I want to request the Hon'ble Minister to explain provision of Circuit House Chowkidar and IV Grade staff ~~was~~ which we find at the bottom of page 265.

PU K.L.ROCHAMA: Mr. Speaker, as has already been pointed out by the Hon'ble Members, Chhimtuipui District has to pay Rs 6 lakhs deficit incurred by P.L. Regional Council.. Three new District Councils have now been created and it is desirable that the Govt. keep a vigilant watch on them. If these Councils continue to appoint their favourites even without having financial concurrence from the Government, we will not be able to pay all deficits incurred by them.

Rehabilitation grant had already been given to most of the Grouping centres. But those who took refuge in Lunglei and Aizawl as a result of political insurgence were not given this grant. On the otherhand, some of those who supported hostiles received this grant. For instance, some people living in Pakpui were ordered to move to Zobawk G.C. as a sort of punishment for giving help to the M.N.F. These very people have already received rehabilitation grants, also C.I. sheet and money. But people who sided with the Govt. were asked to settle in Zotlang, Sarkawn and Lunglei. They have not received any grants from the Govt. This means the Government helps the wicked and neglect the righteous.

When the Hon'ble Finance Minister came to Lunglei I apprised him of the position of these people. On his recommendation, I collected names of those who had not yet received rehabilitation grants. But no ^{provision} made in the Budget for this. The people will lose all hopes of getting the grant. I therefore request leaders of the Govt. to take steps so that they may be given rehabilitation grant.

While a considerable amount of money is provided for market at Aizawl, no such provision is made for markets at Lunglei and Saiha. The markets at Lunglei, constructed by the defunct District Council is in a dilapidated condition. Its buildings fell on the ground, its posts and walls were damaged by pigs it needs complete reconstruction!

Besides, butchers sell meats any place in the Market as there is no authority which controls the markets.

It cannot be detected whether they sell meat unfit for human consumption or meats of stolen animals.

We cannot also know who is responsible for the cleanliness of the streets. We must also try to make Cattle Pounds already made by Dy. Commissioner, Lunglei a success. Sometimes, it may be necessary to start progress in development works from Aizawl, then to Lunglei and Saiha, but in such matters affecting everyday life of the people, we have to take action immediately and simultaneously.

Here, we find construction of Circuit House at Aizawl and Lunglei. This is a good idea. But no provision is made in the Budget for construction of Circuit House at Saiha. Saiha has often been visited by important Govt. Servants and big officials. But there was no Circuit House and even a Rest House. So, I request leaders of the Govt. to construct Circuit House at Saiha as early as possible.

PU ZALAWMA: Mr. Speaker, just a few words on this Demand Here, a provision of Rs 50 lakhs is made for subsidy for discharging arrear on liabilities on Transport. But the matter relates to past period. I therefore demand an explanation.

Next, a provision of Rs 1 lakh made for Pawi, Chakma and Lakher District Council also seems to be too little.

What is the meaning of grant to surrendered M.N.F.? Is this meant for relief and rehabilitation or rewards to surrendered M.N.F.?

A provision of Rs 3 lakhs is made for total liabilities of the three District Councils. This provision is said to have been meant for pay of staff in these District Councils. What will be the grade of staff included by this provision? Does it include those L.P. Teachers appointed by the defunct D/C on the eve of its dissolution? In short, Budget provisions are too little. It will be a good thing if the Ministers explain as to how they will be spent.

PU CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, Demand NO. 25 appears to be free from objections since the Hon'ble Members who spoke before me made no mention about it. To-day, these Transport Porters have nothing to do. As they do nothing, we cannot get essential medicines in Villages. If they carry parcels of medicines to Villages, the difficulties faced by people in Villages may be lessened. These transport porters, instead of doing their official duty, were doing fencing work of the officers. They have forgotten their places and duties now; as such it will be more appropriate to re-name them "Yoke Wing" or Yoke Battalion."

SPEAKER: Now, I will call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister to speak on this Demand.

Pu CH. CHHUNGA :

CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, it appears that there is nothing which cannot be understood under Demand NO.25. This Demand includes different subjects. A provision of Rs 50 lakhs for Transport also includes carriage charge of foodstuffs. The provision is therefore a bit too small.

Construction of market at Lunglei and that of Circuit House at Saiha will be considered. The Chakma D/C will be given more funds for developmental works because it is the most backward in development and most populous among the three District Councils. Supply and Transport is not to be put under the Deputy Commissioner but should function under the Secretariat. Porters are to be used by those officers going on Tour.

Grants will be given to surrendered M.N.F. who are also asked to form societies. These grants are not meant for relief and rehabilitation of M.N.F. such thing has not yet been considered by the Government.

A provision of Rs 3 lakhs is made for paying arrears of pays and allowances of the staff of the three District Councils.

Some Members asked whether provision made for the 3 District Councils is under plan or non-plan scheme. This is under plan scheme. And ex-gratia grants are to be given to those who lost members of families during disturbances. These grants may also be given to their wives provided that they have been declared rightful heiress to the properties of their husbands. (Pu Zalawma: What about wild animals. Does it include boars?) This will not include a bear. The suggestion that more fund be given for celebration of our national festivals like Chapchar Kut instead of Republic Day and Independence Day is true to some extent. But the Central Govt. have never given grants for the celebration of the festival of a particular tribe. As Independence Day and Republic Day are National Days, we have to celebrate them in a befitting manner throughout India. We may celebrate Union Territory Day if we like to.

Pu J. THANGHUMA: Mr. Speaker, I demand some explanation. In page 2 we have Rs 84 lakhs and in page 268 we have the same amount. Is this the same thing or typing mistake?

PU K.T. KHUMA: Mr. Speaker, this is not a typing mistake.

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker, let me try to explain. We have not cleared subsidy of liabilities last year. In this

Budget we have a provision of Rs 50 lakhs for subsidy of liabilities.

The increase in high charge of air-freight did not necessarily lead to high prices of commodities. We devised such means as we found necessary since the total expenditure on air freight was very high for the Government. Pu Lalsangzuala pointed out that the price of these commodities was very low at Kohima. But we could not get such a low rate here. We must know that all charge will be borne by the Central Government however high it may be.

Next, let me give explanation to the suggestion made by Pu Hrangala. Republic Day and Independence Day are national functions. They are different from Mizo festivals like Chapchar Kut and special provision cannot be made in the Budget for celebration of this festival. There are some * and popularising these festivals. A special grant will also be made for these Clubs.

* Clubs which aim at preserving our culture

Branches of Transport Department will be opened in the northern and Southern areas of Mizoram according to the requirements. These Branches will look after supply of foodstuffs to G.Cs. Air subsidy will be cleared by the Government.

Grant-in-aid for the three Districts will be given on population basis.

In regard to Grade IV Staff, I want to mention that Chowkidars are treated as Grade IV Staff. But they did such works like drawing of water, Cooking etc. Staff other than Grade IV are also required in Circuit House ^{and} their designation will be decided later.

SPEAKER: We are discussing Miscellaneous Deptt. Those who can pass Demand NO.25 will say 'Aye' (Member said 'Aye') and those who cannot will say 'NO' (Members kept silent) So the Demand is passed unanimously.

Now, the Hon'ble Minister will read out motion on Demand NO.29.

Pu VAIVENGA: "On the recommendation of the Administrator of Mizoram, and with your permission Sir, I move the Demand for grant NO.29 for Rs 54,98,000/- for the services on Power and Electricity in the Public Works Department."

PU ALALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker, at the time we discussed the Lt. Governor's address, we stressed the need of having a separate Electric Board for Mizoram, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister gave assurance on it. I am very grateful for this. It was published in local newspaper that the Govt. of Mizoram is proposing to take electric power from Bangladesh. But I think it will be better for us to have our own Electric Boards, instead of depending on Bangladesh which has an uncertain political situation.

If we can divert some rivers for about 10 to 40 miles, we may be able to start Hydro Electric Power. Just as Prime Minister of India has a plan to develop our country on a phase programme, let us try to give electric light to one area or one Village every month. If we can do this, the whole country will be able to get electric light within 15 years.

The power generated by the Electric Board at Aizawl is very weak. Its light is so dim that we cannot read at night. Many poor people get electric connections at a high price. On the other hand our V.I.P.s are consuming electric lights extravagantly. The Budget estimate for electric power seems to be adequate and if properly utilised, we should be able to get more power.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, electric power is important for every field of development in this land. As such we must have our own Electricity Board. At present Mizoram is under the Assam State Electricity Board which has no enthusiasm for supplying electricity in Mizoram. At Aizawl and Serchhip, the electric power is generated by diesel engines, and no electric power is given to some of the streets ~~whi~~ within Aizawl Town, namely Ramhlun and Tlangnuam.

A provision of Rs 44,700/- is made for electrification of Villages. In this regard, I want to mention that those Villages between Aizawl and Lunglei must be given priority. Between these two Towns, there are big villages which are even bigger than Lunglei town, especially Thingsulthliah Grouping Centre.

Next, a provision of Rs 8,75,000/- is made for residential buildings. This provision must be utilised for development of Villages.

Lastly, the erstwhile D/C had already passed a resolution for construction of dam at Vanva River. This must be implemented.

PU M. THIANGHUZMA: Mr. Speaker, point of information. A Minister is using electric lights in his residence. Are these to be paid by the Govt. or by himself? If it is paid by the Govt. should he not repay the expenses?

Is Serchhip regarded as Village? There is electric light in many house of this Village but the power is too low. Why is this?

Electric light is consumed extravagantly in the Assembly House and in Raj Niwas while we can hardly get any power in the Southern area of Aizawl Town. If complaints are made from this area, the staff of A.S.E.B. refused to come on pretense of non-availability of Vehicle. So, it is necessary to open an office at Thakthing or Kulikawn which would receive complaint from the Southern area of Aizawl Town.

Lastly, it is not fair that many residential building are being constructed while neglecting the sufferings of Villagers.

PU HRANGAA: Mr. Speaker, mention must be made that those villages lying between Aizawl and Lunglei which are grouped by the Government deserve to get electric lights. At the time of preparing this Budget, I submitted to the Govt. a plan scheme in this regard. But no provision for such scheme appears.

As you know, my house is situated just below the public road. Since no electric line runs along this road, I asked some of the big officers who are living near my house to make a joint effort in taking electric light. But they remained silent. Left with no other alternative, I purchased three electric posts and electric light was installed in my house. After this, the Officers also get their electric lights from the posts I had purchased. They even refused to pay me a certain amount of money I had spent for the purchase of these posts. Moreover, they were using bigger electric bulbs which consumed more electric powers than mine. As such the power of electric power I use in my house had decreased.

Again, as already pointed out by the Hon'ble Members only 25% of the Staff of Assam State Electricity Board at Aizawl are Mizos. While making new recruitments to this Department, Mizos must be given preference.

No electric light is available for the public at Khatla Maubawk and ^Bungkwawn which are within Aizawl Town. However, the Principal Engineer who is living in one of these area, can get electric light.

As mentioned by the Hon'ble Member Pu C. Lalruata, Grouping Centres like Thingsulthliah, Tlungvel, Baktawng and Chhingchhip must be given electric light as early as possible.

In regard to the question raised by Pu J. Thanghuama, I want to say that the erstwhile D/C did not declare Serchhip among the towns in Mizoram. But it deserves proper development and maintenance because the place is suitable for permanent settlement. If Grouping Centres like Serchhip are well developed and maintained by the Govt. the people will no longer try to return to this former villages.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker, I want to point out a very important thing. No member has mentioned the inadequate supply of electric light in Lunglei which is the second biggest town in Mizoram. In a big town like Lunglei, we can use electric light only from 5 P.M. to 11 P.M. at nights!

Moreover, electric light is not available at Serkawn Christian Hospital, and many of the Streets in Lunglei town and

and important Grouping Centres like Zobawk are not supplied with electric light. This difficulty experienced by the people has called for the formation of Mizoram Electricity Board.

It does not appear to be very difficult for the Govt. to give electric light generated by diesel engine in places like Lawngtlai and Saiha, Since the B.R.T.F. can generate powers in this way wherever they are. Like Mizawl District, ~~X~~ badly need supply of electricity. * The two Districts of Lunglei and Chhimitupui

Recently, it was published in the Assam Tribune that the Govt. of Mizoram was trying to take electric powers from Kaptal Hydro Electric Power in Bangladesh. This is very important. Kaptal Hydro Electric Power is only 30 miles from Tlabung. In my opinion it is good to use electric power from Bangla Desh before we have our own electric power. While we use this power we must try to have our own electric power. I therefore appeal to the leaders of the Government to take steps for the implementation of this scheme.

FU L.P. THANGZIKA: Mr. Speaker, I have many things to say on this Demand. If we are going to make a stride in every sphere of development, we require electric power. The town of Mizawl is given electric light. This is good to some extent.

I have learnt that the Government of Mizoram has proposed to take electric power from Umiyam Hydro Electric Power. But one S.D.O. working in the Mizoram Electric Department told me that it will take 2 or 3 Years, to reach Mizawl. If such is the position, a time will never come for the people living in the Southern part of Mizoram when they will get electric

light.

para 1 The Govt. of Mizoram is also reported to have proposed to take electric power from Bangla Desh. But we should not depend on Bangla Desh which has a very unsettled political situation. It will therefore be better to have electric power of our own.

The erstwhile D/C had already passed a resolution for starting Hydro Electric Power at Varva river. A dam may also be built at the place where Chhimitupui river meets Tuichang river. If electricity is generated from this dam, all the areas in the Southern part of Mizoram will get electricity. This dam will also be able to feed paper Mill & Saw Mill with enough electric power. Besides, there are enough forest produce to supply these Mills with the required raw materials. We can easily get good timbers from Burma through Tiau river. I therefore request leaders of the Govt. to send experts to study feasibility of implementing such scheme.

FU ZALAWMA: Mr. Speaker, I demand clarification. Why do we pay tax on street lights? Under which Head was this tax included? Actually, the Govt. put street lights for the benefit of the public, and it is not reasonable to levy taxes for these

street light from the people living on the roadsides.

To take electric power from Barapani is not a difficult problem. We can take this power along the southern area of Tlawng river and then to Lunglei. This power will also be made available for Demagiri and Saiha. This must be done as soon as possible.

The V.I.Ps at Aizawl are using electric lights too extravagantly. Due to this, lights along the Streets are very weak. This must be rectified because light is an important safe guard against drunkards.

Electric Power Houses must also be constructed in both the capitals of Chhimitupui and Lunglei Districts. It is desirable that the Govt. of Mizoram has its own electric power because Assam State Electricity Board has a deficit of Rs 10,000/- every year.

PU LALRINLIANA: Mr. Speaker, only a few words. Even after internal wiring is completed, light connection cannot be given for a long time in Aizawl Town. Is this due to inadequate number of staff in the Electric Department? What is the reason.?

PU VANLALHRUAIA: Mr. Speaker, electric Department is very slow. The Department promised to give light to Tlangnuam within a short period. But there is no light at Tlangnuam upto now. People living in Melthum also cannot get electric light. Should not they be given electric light as early as possible?

PU VALVINGA: Mr. Speaker, I am glad that many good suggestions are made by the Hon'ble Members. This Budget provision will include supply of electric light to Villages from Silchar to Aizawl, Aizawl to Serchhip and other important centres which can be given from Serchhip. It will also include Tlangnuam and Maubawk which have not yet received electricity.

There is a proposal to increase the power of this electric power which we have at Aizawl. But I want to say that we can hardly control the staff of electric Department as they belong to the Assam Govt. However, we are trying our best to appoint Mizos to fillup the vacant posts in this Department. I hope we will be able to have Mizoram Electricity Board very soon.

Lastly, we have to pay tax on street lights so as to recover the money spent by the Govt. on this work. of public interest. (Pu Zalawma: Mr. Speaker, I understand that we have to pay tax on lights used in our houses. But I cannot understand why we paid tax on street lights), We have been paying tax on street lights since we had the District Council. So, I request the Hon'ble Members to vote for this Demand.

PU VANLALRUUAIA: Mr. Speaker, electric posts which we had already purchased were used by the Electric Department at their own sweet will without getting prior permission from the owners. What is the reason?

PU KHAWTIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker, under the rules of Assam Electricity Board, a person has to purchase electric post for connecting, electric line to his house. If the Department wants to use this post for the post of street lights, it must get permission from the owner. So, the Electricity Board might have committed some illegal acts.

PU IRANGAIA: Mr. Speaker, let me give further explanation. I bought three posts for more than Rs 1000/- I asked the officers living in Govt. buildings near my house to take electricity jointly with me. But they flatly refused. But when the posts I purchased were erected, they started taking electric lights, to their Bungalow, using my posts.

SPEAKER: Those who can pass Demand NO.29 will say 'Aye' (Member said 'Aye') and those who cannot will say 'NO' (Member kept silent). So, the Demand is passed unanimously.

Now, we will take up "Re-appropriation Bill". Please write 30.10.72 after 'As introduced in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly on'... This Bill is the Bill for the Budget provision we had already passed. Let the Minister i/c move the Bill.

PU KHAWTIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker, "In pursuance of the recommendation of the Lieutenant Governor (Administrator) of the Union Territory of Mizoram this Bill is introduced to provide for the appropriation out of the Consolidated Fund of the Union Territory in Mizoram of the Moneys required to meet the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund and the grants voted by the Legislative Assembly, Mizoram for expenditure of this Union Territory for the period from 3.65.1972. to 31.3.1973."

SPEAKER: This includes all the provisions. Is there any Member who wants to speak on this? (Members kept silent). So, it is passed unanimously.

PU SAITLAWIA: Mr. Speaker, in the list of Business, it is written "Re-appropriation Bill". But now we see that it is "Appropriation Bill" Is this due to the carelessness of the Staff?

PU KHAWTIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker, in List of Business we see "RE". This is a mistake. I apologise for this.

SPEAKER: That is a typing mistake. Though we have a limited time, we can pass Demands unanimously. I am grateful for this. Now, those we can pass the Appropriation Bill moved by the Hon'ble Finance Minister will say 'Aye' (Member said 'Aye') and those who cannot pass will say 'NO' (Member kept silent). So, the Bill is passed unanimously.

Now, the meeting stands adjourned till it meets at 10 A.M. to-morrow.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15PM.

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

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