

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE MIZORAM
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL
FROM 15.3.73 TO 30.3.1973.

5TH SITTING ON 24TH MARCH, 1973 AT 10 A.M.

P R E S E N T.

Pu H. Thananga, M.A., B.T., Speaker in the Chair. One Chief Minister and Four Ministers and Twenty seven Members.

- BUSINESS:
- (1) Questions.
 - (2) Minister i/c Finance to present the Supplementary Demand of Govt. of Mizoram for 1972-73.
 - (3) Any other Government Business.

SPEAKER: " He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.

A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.

He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor" (Proverbs 14:29-31)

Now, we shall take up Question NO.17.
Let Pu R. Dotinaia read out his question.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr Speaker, Will the Minister i/c Health be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether it is a fact that one Pharmacist of Serchhip Civil Hospital builds his private house within the Serchhip Civil Hospital Compound?
- (b) If so, whether the Govt. have permitted him to build the house.
- (c) If not permitted, what action Govt. have taken against the Pharmacist.

SPEAKER: We will call upon the Minister i/c Health Department to give reply to the question.

PU VA VENGA: Mr. Speaker, (a), (b) & (c) Construction of such house was noticed by the Civil Surgeon who asked the person to stop immediately. It has been now stopped.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: Under whose authority had the Pharmacist of Serchhip Civil Hospital built a house within the Compound of the Hospital?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, it is the Deputy Commissioner who gave permission to the said Pharmacist for construction of this house. As the house is constructed within the compound of the Civil Hospital, the Deputy Commissioner is not competent to give such permission to the Pharmacist. As such the Pharmacist has already been instructed to stop the construction.

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: It is not enough that he is only instructed to cease construction of the house. The house so constructed should be dismantled altogether.

PU K.SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker, just before the end of the last financial year, the Government of Mizoram sanctioned money for construction of a house for Doctors with thatched roofs and walls of split bamboos. But the work was very unsatisfactory and slowly executed. Is the Government proposing to sanction more money for construction of these houses during the next Financial Year?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, the Government have such proposal. However, it has been decided that 25% of the total work will be executed by the public since the whole work would take a longer period if the work is wholly done by the public Works Department alone. A major portion of the work has already been executed in money Centres and the Health Department owe much thanks to the people for their cooperation.

As for the Private house constructed within the compound of Serchhip Civil Hospital, it will surely be dismantled.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker, it is reported that the said Pharmacist has not yet dismantled the building. Instead, he is now building another house. Is there any intention from the Government to take action on this matter?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, from the Government's side, the Pharmacist had been already instructed to stop building the house.

PU K.L.ROCHAMA: Mr.Speaker, how many private houses have been constructed within the Compounds of Civil Hospitals in other places, other than Serchhip?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr.Speaker, there is one at Lunglei. A
MINISTER. proposal was made for demarcating the boundary of the Civil Hospital at Lunglei during the period of the defunct District Council. This house was ordered by the Government to be dismantled.

PU C.LALRUANTA: Mr.Speaker, Supplementary question:
Does the Government know that P.A. & A.D.C of Champhai constructed his private house within the compound of Champhai Civil Hospital?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr.Speaker, we have no knowledge about
MINISTER. this. If such be the case, we will look into the matter.

PU K.SANGCHHUM: Mr.Speaker, Supplementary question: One
Civil Hospital was constructed at Chhim-
tuipui. Was this house constructed in
accordance with the instruction given the Government?.

SPEAKER: Time for supplementary question is over
now . We will take up question NO. 11

PU R.DOTINIA: Mr.Speaker, Whether it is a fact that
one portable type X-Ray machine was given
to Serchhip Hospital?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr.Speaker, Yes.
MINISTER.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr.Speaker, Supplementary question: This
was mentioned when we had discussion on
the Lt.Governor's Address last year. Does
the Government propose to give portable type X-Ray machine
to Serchhip Hospital?.

SPEAKER: That supplementary question is not relevant.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, no question has come up on this
MINISTER: subject. So no reply needs be given to-day.

PU R. DOTINAILA: Mr. Speaker, that is good. Is that X-Ray serviceable now?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, that X-Ray was given with the purpose of giving service to the Hospital. I hope
MINISTER: it will be serviceable.

SPEAKER: Now, question No. 12.
Will the Hon'ble Minister I/C Health Deptt be pleased to state —

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, (a) Whether it is a fact that one Matron serving in Lunglei Hospital is having only Junior Certificate.

b) Whether some Staff Nurses having only Junior Certificates are entitled to promotion to Sister?.

c) If not, the reasons thereof?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, (a) (b) (c) Yes. Before the year
MINISTER: 1968, persons having Junior Certificates could be promoted to Sister. But with the amendments of the rules governing it, no person having Junior Certificate could not be promoted to Sister since 1968.

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: chances of promotion are given to non-graduates in other Departments such as PWD. It is prescribed that those who have only Junior Certificate cannot be given promotions; cannot the government of Mizoram follow this system? For we do not apply the Assam Rules in to-to.

PU HRANGALA: Mr. Speaker, I want to raise supplementary question. Is there any difference between Junior Certificate and Senior Certificate regarding the course of study to be undertaken by the persons?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, I believe the Government of Mizoram
MINISTER. will surely consider to be the better what the
Hon'ble Member Pu J. Thanghuama is considering
to be a better thing. There can be some distinctions between
junior Certificate holders and Senior Certificate holders espe-
cially in respect of proficiency in English and knowledge.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker, is it a fact that Junior Certificate
holders who have completed 15 years of service
will be taken as equivalent to Senior Certifi-
cate holders?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, I think that could not be done by
MINISTER. the Government.

PU F. RRANGVELA: Mr. Speaker, we cannot get enough of Nurses,
Compounders and Pharmacists. Cannot the Govt.
of Mizoram accept those who are considered
qualified in other countries like Burma as qualified?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, I think that could be done to some
MINISTER. extent. But if the persons are found to be
unqualified, they will not be employed.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: why is it
that the Government of Mizoram gave five years'
advance increment of pay to Dr. Zokhawmuana
since Dr. Zokhuma has had adequate previous experience?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, that particular Doctor has a higher
MINISTER. degree and we do not have enough number of
Doctors here (Pu Lalsangzuala: Mr. Speaker, why
was advance increment given to Dr. Zokhawmuana and not to
Dr. Zokhuma?). I cannot give reply to that question as no
question has been raised on Dr. Zokhawmuana.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, excuse me. I know the Hon'ble
Minister did not give reply to my question
is it a fact that the Matron who is working at
Lunglei has only a Junior Certificate?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, excuse me. That is a fact. The
MINISTER. Matron has only a junior Certificate and she
was promoted to Sister in 1950. She had
already been confirmed to that post in 1963. At present she
is working at Lunglei.

SPEAKER: Now, we will take question No.13.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, (a) Whether government is aware
that there was scarcity of Sugar in Mizoram
during January, 1973.

(b) If so, the reasons *thereof?*

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker, (a) Yes, partial shortage existed
MINISTER. in the first three weeks of January, 1973.

(b) The scarcity was caused because of delay
in receipt of January quota of Sugar from Food Corporation of
India, Silchar.

PU LALSANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker, the Mizoram Congress had an elec-
tion and its Assembly from 8th March, 1973 and
about 1600 persons assembled there. Is it a
fact that Supply Department refused to issue rice and sugar
during this period?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker, that is not due to the Congress
MINISTER. Assembly. The reason will be clearly explained
to the Member. Accounts of all retailers are
to be checked up annually and completion of this was awaited.
It was not for the Assembly that the Congress had.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA: Mr. Speaker, Supplementary question: Govern-
ment Fair Price Shops are opened in Town
and weekly ration cards are also distributed
to all families. The Government Fair Price Shop Dealers used
to open their Shops on Fridays and Saturdays but close on
Saturdays! The next day, Monday pertains to another week.
Does the Government know this? What action has been taken by
the Government on this?

PU R.THANGLIANA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, that is true to some extent. But it is not due to the inefficiency of the Supply Department but due to the heavy work load of the State Bank. The Fair Price Shop Dealers are busy with the work of depositing money in the Bank from Monday. There is proposal for changing this system. I hope this may be done from the month of April.

PU LAEKUNGA:

Mr. Speaker, it is learnt that reserve stock of sugar is made available for important persons even while there is acute shortage of sugar for the public. What will be the total quantity of sugar reserved for this purpose in a year?

PU R.THANGLIANA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, there may be different interpretations on the word "important persons" and our views may also be different. However, about 3 qtls or 4 qtls have been made available every week according to the importance of the demand. This could be purchased by use of special permit from C.L.Seth. Also 25grms of sugar are issued very week to each individual person. The reserved stock of 3 qtls is not meant specially for officers. It is issued to persons according to the importance of their demand.

PU C.LALRUATA:

Mr. Speaker, what is the monthly quota of sugar for Mizoram?

PU R.THANGLIANA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, the monthly quota of sugar is about 1190 quintals. The quota for the preceding month is distributed to the public in the next month and it rotates in this manner.

PU K.SANGCHHUM:

Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: in the past, air-droppings were done in various Air Dropping Centres; but it has now been discontinued. Have the government any proposal for its continuance?

PU R.THANGLIANA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, in the past, accounts on air-droppings had never been taken into government account and no air-droppings were done in places where jeeps can ply.

Air droppings of sugar, mustard oil, rice etc., were done only in distant Group Centres which have no jeepable roads. The system has now been changed by the Government.

F. HRANGVELA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: the Hon'ble member has pointed out some minutes ago that dealers selling to special permit-holders are made to sell sugar as the commodity is often found in acute shortage for the public. In Aizawl town sugar is purchased on special permit system. The special dealers are M/S Chhotalal Seth and M/S N.C. Bhattacharjee. But it is learnt that sugar is out of stock when people go to purchase it from these two special dealers. Does this mean that the dealers kept sugar for their private stock or the government issued special permit without considering the exact quantity of sugar kept in stock by these two special dealers?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker, this was not done according to the sweet will of the dealers. The exact quantity of sugar which can be purchased with special permit is fixed every week and no person is allowed to purchase without special permit. Let us suppose that 5 qtls of sugar is issued to the dealers for a particular week. If all the persons having special permits could not get sugar from the dealers, it means the stock had been exhausted. The present system is introduced in order to prevent smuggling (boarding?) by the dealers.

SPEAKER: Now, we will proceed to question NO. 14.

Will the Minister ifc Health Deptt be pleased to state—

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker, (a) Whether it is a fact that a number of persons have been deputed by the Govt. of Mizoram to undergo a training course of Pharmacists during the last two months.

- (b) If so, the total number of such persons deputed; and
- (c) The places where deputed.
- (d) Whether any advertisement or publicity was made for the purpose.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, (a) Yes.
MINISTER.

(b) 5 (five) persons.

(c) Agartala, Tripura.

(d) Yes.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: these persons who went to Tripura to undergo training for Pharmacists returned to Mizoram on account of non-availability of accomodation. Is it a fact that the Director appointed new candidates in place of these persons during this period?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, that is not true; two of these trainees were sent back to the Training Centre. But three trainees have not yet reported themselves to the office upto now, and it is not known whether they are willing to go back to the Centre or not. As such, new candidates are appointed in their place.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, according to information received by me, the reply is wrong. I will be very grateful if a correct reply is given to the question.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, why did these trainees return from Tripura?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, the reason is non-availability of accomodation and the Government of Tripura have also informed us of this before saying that we have to arrange accomodation for these trainees. We could not arrange accomodation for them. But after reaching the Training Centre, they were not prepared to face this difficulty. That is why they returned to Mizoram.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker, it has been pointed out that advertisement was made for selection of Trainees. But according to information received by me no advertisement was made for the selection. When was this advertisement made?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker, the advertisement was received
DY. MINISTER. late by the Newspapers. It was published
is one issue of the Local Daily Newspaper.
No Candidate could come in time for the interview. As such,
they were simply required to produce certificates showing their
qualifications.

PU R. ZOLIANA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: many
questions were raised during the last
Budget Session. Had not the Government
of Mizoram made correspondences ^{With} various Institutions in other
States in this regard?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, correspondences had been made
MINISTER. and these are the institutions we could find.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker, whenever there is such adverti-
sement, there must be wide publicity in
future for there are many persons who want
to undergo trainings. Can the Hon'ble Minister give us assu-
rance that wide publicity on advertisement will be made in
future.

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker, if there is time for wide
CHIEF MINISTER. publicity, we can give assurance. If there
is no time, we have to make selection here.
Where there could be no time to make advertisement, it is still
considered more desirable to send some persons instead of
keeping the seats unfilled.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, five (5) posts are not enough
for Champhai and Lunglei. Those who were
selected to undergo training could stay
here only two days, which is very bad.

SPEAKER: Now, question NO. 15

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker, the total number of Primary
Health Centres and Dispensaries in the whole
of Mizoram.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, 6 Primary Health Centres and 27
MINISTER. Dispensaries.

PU LAISANGZUALA: Mr. Speaker, how many Primary Health Centres
are there in Pawi District Council and
Lakher District Council areas *respectively?*

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, there is one Primary Health
MINISTER. Centre at Lawngtlai and Dispensaries at
Chawngtechhuah, Saiha, Bualpui and Vaphai.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: can the
Government of Mizoram establish more Primary
Health Centres in Mizoram?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, these are established on the
MINISTER. basis of population and we cannot establish
more Centres merely by our own desire. The
Central Government is now being moved to agree to establishment
of a Centre in every Development Block. If the Central Govern-
ment accepts our proposal, these will be adequate number of
centres in Mizoram.

PU K.L.ROCHAMA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: are all
the six Primary Health Centres functioning?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, they are functioning only in
MINISTER. ~~name~~. There are two Doctors in two places,
and the other four places have no Doctors
now.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: Does
the Government of Mizoram propose to open
new Dispensaries in addition to the existing
Dispensaries?.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, that is under examination of
MINISTER. the Government.

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr. Speaker, few minutes ago, the Hon'ble Minister said that one Dispensary was opened at Chawngtechhuah. That is very good. Where is this Dispensary located? Is it under Lunglei, Saiha, or under the Pawi or Lakher jurisdiction?

PU VAIVENGA :
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, the exact location has not yet been selected. But it is proposed to opened Lepers colony within Chawngte Area.

PU F.HRANGVELA:

Mr. Speaker, will a Doctor be posted for this Dispensary? Are there anyone willing to come from outside?

PU VAIVENGA:
MINISTER.

their posts so far.

Mr. Speaker, we have thirty applicants of which sixteen of them have already been appointed. But only two have joined

PU CH.SAPRAWNGA:

Mr. Speaker, it appears that four Primary Health Centres out of six are not functioning properly for lack of doctors. To enable us to have more doctors, does our government give stipends or scholarships to medical students? Is there any scheme made? Can we be enlightened on those points?

PU VAIVENGA:
MINISTER.

eligible candidates. One student was given seat from this quota.

Mr. Speaker, thirteen seats were reserved by us in different Institutions, but we could not get the adequate number of

SPEAKER:

Now, question NO.16.

PU SAITLAWMA:

Mr. Speaker, The reason why X Ray is not yet installed in the Civil Hospital at Lunglei.

PU VAIVENGA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, Portable X Ray 'Unidor' has already been installed.

PU SAITLAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Question No.17 (a)
Whether it is a fact that there us
no post of Sister and Laboratory
Technician in Lunglei Civil Hospital.

(b) If so, whether Government
propose to fill up these two posts at an early date.

....

PU SAITLAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Question No.17 (a)
Whether it is a fact that there us
no post of Sister and Laboratory
Technician in Lunglei Civil Hospital.

(b) If so, whether Government
propose to fill up these two posts at an early date.

....

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: it is learnt that the Sister is now at Lunglei. I will be grateful if the Hon'ble Minister explains about this.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, we propose to transfer these Nurse
MINISTER. to their place of posting as soon as possible. They are also instructed to join their posts as early as possible. The Laboratory technician has also been instructed to join his post at Lunglei. He is now remaining at Aizawl only for a few days.

RU R.DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker, will the Hon'ble Minister give repl to my supplementary question: How many Radio-grapher Technicians do we have? How many trainees do we have?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, I cannot say now the exact number
MINISTER. of trainees. I will tell the Hon'ble Member later if he so desires.

PU NGURDAWLLA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: lack of sufficient technicians and medicines is our problem. Their pay scale is also found to be inadequate. In order to attract M.B.B.S. and other medically qualified persons there have been a number of proposals for their pay scale to be raised? Is there any proposal to do this?

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, at present there is no such inten-
MINISTER. tion. The pay-scales, ^{used} when we were under the State of Assam remains unrevised.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA: Mr. Speaker, Laboratory technicians have been recently appointed for Aizawl and Lunglei Civil Hospitals. I am glad to know this. But the X-Ray are still unserviceable and the buildings have not yet been constructed. It will be very good if the Govern-ment hasten the schemes.

PU VAIVENGA: Mr. Speaker, we ^{are} trying our best in this regard.
MINISTER.

SPEAKER: The question hour is over now. Now we will have presentation of the Budget. The finance Minister will present the Revised Estimate for 1972-73 and 1973-74. His budget speech may now be distributed to the Members.

Now I will call upon the Finance Minister to present the Budget.

PU KHAWTIANKHUMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I rise to present the Revised Estimate for 1972-73 and the Budget Estimate for 1973-74 to the House.

The Hon'ble members are aware, that presentation of the Budget of Mizoram as an Union Territory to the Legislative Assembly requires prior approval of the Central Government. We have tried to make our Budget as an instrument and channel for realisation of our economic and social objectives. I am pleased to mention that the Central Government continue to extend their sympathy and co-operation to us in this respect. As against the gross provision for the expenditure during 1972-73 of Rs. 16.8 Crores, the gross expenditure I shall present for the 1973-74 budget is Rs. 23.6 Crores. In addition to this, through the conscious effort made by our Chief Minister, the Planning Commission has agreed to give us an additional grant of Rs. One Crore, which shall be included in the Revised Estimate and bringing thus the total to Rs. 24.6 Crores for 1973-74.

Hardly five months have passed since I had the privilege to present the Budget for 1972-73 to this august body. The Hon'ble Members are aware that it had taken sometime to organise the Development Departments of this Government, and to put them into shape, and it was only about three months ago that the staff in strength were placed in position in various Departments and the Secretariat. As a result, the delay that had occurred in execution of some schemes was inevitable. In spite of these difficulties and the very limited time at our disposal I am glad to mention that the Development Departments express their ability to utilise almost the entire fund at their disposal. It is encouraging to know that the central Government, in spite of their financial difficulties brought about by the last year drought and other factors, have indicated their readiness to spare additional fund for us when demanded in our supplementary budget, provided we can only spend the present allotment well and in time.

In my Budget speech of last year, I mentioned the difficult circumstances in which we were placed and how we were faced with the task of starting development works afresh after a long break caused by disturbances. It is sad to point out this time also that there was a failure of monsoon last year due to a severe drought. This led to a poor harvest and an extensive loss of crops by the cultivators and we are now faced with ~~xxx~~ scarcity and great hardship this year also. This drought was nationwide and the loss it caused to the country was immense. I therefore, take this opportunity to remind the House of the

.....(13).....

great and difficult task and the Government are concerned and all-out efforts for achieving our targets.

To meet the immediate problem of scarcity condition the Government have started Stock-taking in rice and other essential commodities through the State Trading Scheme at the Headquarters and elsewhere.

The roadside centres have now been well stocked and the others that used to be fed by air previously are being supplied through head load. This policy has to be adopted for economic reasons and to give employment generation to those who are in need of such employment. Continued efforts are being made to make sugar, Salt and Kerosine Oil available to the people at a reasonable price. Let us not, however, forget that these are of temporary measures and it should be our concerted effort to stop dependance on outside supply of foodstuff and to achieve self-sufficiency.

Revised Estimate for 1972-73.

Revised Estimates for the period from 3.5.72 to 31.3.73 are based on requirement of fund as demanded by the spending Departments. Measures taken in the Revised Estimate may be mentioned. As the Hon'ble Members may be aware, the Planning Commission made an allotment of an additional fund of Rs. 162 lakhs on top of the Budget Provision of Rs. 275 lakhs in the Plan Schemes for 1972-73. This additional allotment was received after the budget estimates were made and according to the instruction from the Planning Commission, the Schemes under 162 lakhs were to be finalised during Plan discussion for 1973-74. Finally, the Government of India made allotment of the total sum of additional 162 lakhs for Budgetary purpose and to that extent the Budget for the current year requires revision. Though the authority from the Central Government was received late in regard to 162 lakhs of an additional fund, steps were taken by Development Departments to utilise this fund from the earlier period.

Another major revision of the Budget was necessary in regard to Police Department. With the approval of the Central Government, Budget Estimates of 1972-73 were made during last year for Police re-organisation and Provisions for additional posts were accordingly made. The Central Government, however, subsequently suggested that the Police re-organisation Schemes might not be implemented until further clearance was obtained. The case was taken up by our Home Department with the Government of India and till recently no such clearance was received. This has resulted in the surrender of about Rs. 80 lakhs by the Police Department from the Budget Estimates. They have, however, indicated in their message that the strengthening of the Police set-up has been approved and it is hoped that more Police stations will be opened in 1973-74. To supplement the Police Force, the Home Guard Organisation has been re-organised. On the other hand the Transport Wing of the Supply and Transport Department and the Medical Department require more fund than what was provided and an additional fund is given to such Departments.

A large sum was to be provided for relief measures to meet the extreme food scarcity condition last year in addition to measures taken under Employment Generation Schemes, Test Relief and Gratuitous Relief. The Government sanctioned about 50 lakhs as Agriculture Distress Loan, to be repaid in one year with 5% interest by the Loanees. I am sorry to point out that the rate of repayment is far below our expectation and particularly in the Aizawl District. This has resulted in the cutting down of the net fund available for other types of Loan during the current year. It is hoped that the Hon'ble Members of the House will help the Government and do their best in inducing our people to honour the promises and the contracts made by them to repay the Loan if and when they are in a position to do so.

Budget Estimates 1973-74.

Budget Estimates for a particular year are made generally in the months of September and October of the previous year. I may recall that our Budget for 72-73 was voted by this House only in the last week of October, 1972. That was the time when we had no proper organisation for various Departments. To implement the Schemes and to utilise the fund fruitfully was the immediate task of the Government Departments during November, 1972 and afterwards. That peculiar situation coupled with staff re-organisation made it extremely difficult for the Government Departments to prepare Budget Estimates for 73-74 and with due apology I may state that our Budget Estimates under Non-Plan for 1973-74 and the Plan Schemes for the period were made in a great hurry and taken to the Government of India at a very late stage. Because of the special understanding shown to us by the Government of India we have been able to get the increased allotment of fund for the Budget Estimates for 1973-74 as compared to the current year. The Plan Schemes which were discussed by the Development Departments with the Planning Commission in the second week of January, 1973 were considered and the approval of the Planning Commission for an allotment of Rs. 5 crores was received by us only in the third week of last month. The allotment of fund for the Plan schemes of Rs. 5 crores was considered inadequate by us and immediately our Chief Minister rushed to Delhi and as I mentioned earlier, through his efforts the Planning Commission agreed to give us an additional fund of Rs. 1 crore. We have been told that Finance will not be a constraint for our development. But on our part, we have to create proper agencies and draw up Schemes which are feasible and acceptable to the Planning Commission and the Government of India. We know ours is yet an infant State but we are confident that in future we shall do better in every field of development.

It is unfortunate that our people are always hungry in spite of having a vast land at their disposal. To improve their lots in this respect efforts have been made in different departments under various schemes to increase food production.

Under Plant Protection Scheme of the Agriculture Department 100 quintals of Pesticides and Fungicides were procured for distribution to Farmers. A total area of 1000 acres is covered with a total expenditure of Rs. 0.75 lakhs. Estimates for the year 1973-74 under this item is Rs. 1.00 lakh. Different kinds of chemical fertilisers are being distributed during 1972-73. An area of 400 acres is covered with a total financial implication of Rs. 1.50 lakhs. Proposed expenditure under this item for 1973-74 is Rs. 1.50 lakhs.

Under the Minor Irrigation Scheme 450 acres and 420 acres of land are being reclaimed for Flow Irrigation and Lift Irrigation respectively for Wet-rice Cultivation. Total financial implication for 1972-73 is Rs. 1.60 lakhs. Proposed expenditure for 1973-74 under this scheme is Rs. 2 lakhs (Rs. 1 lakh each for Flow Irrigation and Lift Irrigation). Improved Agricultural implements have been procured for sale to deserving cultivators at 50% subsidised rate. Total expenditure under this item during 1972-73 is Rs. 1 lakh, Rs. 2 lakhs will be spent during 1973-74.

Under the Soil Conservation Programme a total area of 400 acres are being terraced and 224 acres of valley bottom land are being reclaimed with a financial implication of Rs. 3.30 lakhs. 108.88 acres of land have been selected for afforestation and Rs. 0.55 lakh is being spent for the purpose. Amount proposed to be spent for these areas during 1973-74 is Rs. 12.70 lakhs.

Under the Employment Generation Scheme a sum of Rs. 8.98 lakhs has been set aside for implementation of Agricultural & Programmes during 1972-73 (Rs. 4.81 lakhs for land reclamation and Rs. 4.17 lakhs for cost of inputs) 874.50 acres of land has been reclaimed under the Scheme (Mizawl District 546 acres, Lunglei District - 182 acres and Chhittuipui District - 147 acres). Under the C.S.R.E. Scheme 2090 acres of land has been reclaimed.

Under the Horticulture Scheme 5000 Nos of Fruit Plants are being purchased for distribution and 140 acres of land is covered. The total expenditure under this item is Rs. 0.79 lakh and a sum of Rs. 1.00 lakh is proposed to be spent during 1973-74.

Under the Fruit Processing Scheme machineries and accessories for production of Fruit Squash and Juices are procured and are being fixed at Vairengte with a total expenditure of Rs. 0.50 lakhs. The proposed expenditure for 1973-74 is Rs. 1 lakh. A total amount of Rs. 1.78 lakhs is being placed for manufacture of unbleached Dry Ginger. 200 quintals will be produced at the end of the year. Target for 1973-74 is 1000 quintals with an expenditure of Rs. 1 lakh.

It is proposed to extend plantation of Teak wood during 1973-74. Preparatory works have been taken up during 1972-73 like survey, demarcation, clear felling, burning etc. Total area proposed to be covered is 680 hectares with a total expenditure of Rs. 3 lakhs. It is ~~ixk~~ also proposed to take up a new plantation covering 193 hectares during 1972-73. Targets for 1973-74

.....(16).....

is 680 hectares with an expenditure of Rs. 5 lakhs. For re-plantation of degraded forests 45 hectares of land has been selected for new plantation and work is in progress and the total expenditure by the end of the current financial year will be Rs. 0.25 lakhs. The target for 1973-74 is 20 hectares with an expenditure of Rs. 0.20 lakhs. Mention may be made that a forest based industry of paper and pulp is proposed to be established at Bairabi. Raw materials survey by the Forest Department is under progress. This industry, when established, will provide employment to several thousand persons. The Forest Revenue in 1970-71 was 268,000/-, Rs. 900,800/- in 1971-73 and it will be more in 1972-73.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY: Under the Cattle Development Scheme 50 Cows of cross-bred are being purchased for distribution on sale free of transportation charges. During 1973-74 a total amount of Rs. 1 lakh is proposed to be spent for purchase of 100 more Cows. An artificial insemination centre has been started at Kolasib for which a sum of Rs. 0.37 lakhs has been spent during 1972-73. Three new centres will be opened during 1973-74 with financial implication of Rs. 1.70 lakhs. A Cattle Breeding Farm has been opened for production of Young Bull calves as well as for milk supply to Aizawl Town and its suburbs and a provision of Rs. 1.66 lakhs has been made for this and it will be spent fully during 1972-73. Rs. 2 lakhs is proposed to be spent during 1973-74 under this item. A Feed-Mill-Cum-Mixing Plant has been established during the year 1972-73 with a total expenditure of Rs. 3.03 lakhs. Three small units of Poultry Farm have been started with a total expenditure of Rs. 3.25 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 5.85 lakhs is proposed to be spent during 1973-74 for Pig demonstration farms. A mobile Veterinary Dispensary has been started at Saiha with an expenditure of Rs. 1.50 lakhs. During 1973-74 Rs. 7 lakhs is proposed to be spent under this scheme.

STATE TRANSPORT: Mizoram State Transport has started functioning from June, 1972 with a lone bus inherited from the District Council. Regular daily Bus Service has been started between Aizawl and Silchar. Buses between Aizawl and Lunglei are plying four times a week and a daily service is likely to start soon. A weekly private Bus service runs between Aizawl and Saitual. By the end of this financial year we hope to have 12 Big Buses, 8 Mini Buses and 2 Taxis on road and we will then be having daily two services between Aizawl and Silchar and Aizawl and Lunglei and regular Bus service between Aizawl and Saitual. Land for construction of Bus Station is being acquired and construction of the Bus Station is expected to be completed soon. During the next year we hope to acquire more buses and taxis to augment the existing services and to start new services towards Lawngtlai and Demagiri. A goods service is also likely to start next year.

HEALTH: Under Health Programme the following Schemes have been taken up during the year 1972-73. A 20 bedded Hospital is being constructed at Champhai and one 50 bedded T.B. Hospital has also been constructed at Aizawl. The Civil Hospital at Aizawl has been extended. The building of Out-door Department of the Civil Hospital has ~~xxxx~~ also been extended. Construction of a Central Godown at Aizawl has also been started during the year.

During 1973-74, all the Institutions started in 1972-73 are proposed to be furnished with requisite equipments, medical stores as well as staff and Doctors. The existing mobile dispensaries are also to be strengthened by supplying vehicles, stores and equipments. The amount proposed to be spent during 1973-74 is Rs. 13.85 lakhs.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: The PWD in Mizoram is to bear the brunt of the development activities in the field of construction of roads and buildings which are pre-requisites for developing the economy of any undeveloped state. The total work load of the PWD during 1972-73 is about Rs. 258 lakhs and it is anticipated to be about Rs. 370 lakhs in 1973-74 under both Non-Plan and Plan. The bulk of this amount will be spent on construction and maintenance of roads in Mizoram. For the execution of works which are several times more than in previous year. The PWD has been expanded by creation of three additional divisions and a Planning division~~s~~ attached to the Principal Engineer's Office.

Under the Annual Plan for construction of roads, the PWD is now concentrating in construction of a few selected roads to be completed during the 4th Five Year Plan.

WATER SUPPLY: Priority has been given to supply of safe and adequate drinking water under the Public Health Engineering Department. To cope with the increased work, expansion of the Department is under active consideration of the Government. In the Annual Plan, an allocation of Rs. 60.04 lakhs was made out of which Rs. 40.32 lakhs is expected to be utilised during the current year. During 1973-74 the allocation is Rs. 66.89 lakhs and work is proposed to be taken on water supply scheme at Lunglei, Kolasi, Lokicherra, Serchhip and Saiha while the Aizawl Water Supply Scheme will reach near completion state. The tempo of works is expected to increase next year with the strengthening of the department by expansion and recruitment of qualified personnel.

POWER: Practically all the works are being executed by the Assam State Electricity Board. It has been decided to take up an execution of electricity schemes in isolated areas under Government of Mizoram and a beginning has been made by creating a new Electrical Division. Action is being taken to recruit a qualified and competent officer for the post of Executive Engineer (Electrical).

The allocation under the Annual Plan for 1972-73 is Rs. 54.98 lakhs while Rs. 60 lakhs has been provided for

.....(18).....

SPEAKER: The Revised Estimate for 1972-73, and 1973-74 Budget have now been presented in the House.

After two days we will have discussion on these, which is according to the Administrator's Rule. We have obtained permission from the Lt. Governor, for one days' discussion on these. We will have the discussion on Monday.

Those who want to take part in the discussion will submit their names through the Whip of the Party to which he belongs so that we may work out the times to be made available.

The Calendar for this Session requires to be revised. As such there will be a Business Advisory Committee in the Speaker's Chamber after the meeting is adjourned to-day.

Since time at our disposal is very short, I would request you to study the Budget very carefully.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker, what will be the last date for submission of the names of Members who want to take part in the Budget Discussion?

SPEAKER: We have one whole week, so there will be sufficient time, But let the last date for submission be next Monday's afternoon. Does the Hon'ble Finance Minister like to place the supplementary Demand in the House now?.

(Pu K.T. Khuma, Finance Minister placed the Supplementary Demand on Table of the House.)

SPEAKER: Now the meeting is adjourned. We will meet again on Monday at 10 A.M. for tomorrow will be a Sunday.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

(N.C. HANDIQUE)
Secretary,
Mizoram Legislative Assembly

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