

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL FROM 19.3.75 TO 24.75 .

.....

4th Sitting on the 22nd March, 1974 at 11:00 A.M.

P R E S E N T.

Mr. H.Thansanga, M.A., B.T., Speaker in the Chair. Chief Minister, Four Ministers and twenty seven Members.

BUSINESS.

1. Questions.
2. Private Members' Resolutions:
 - (a) Pu Sapliana, "Making River Chhimtuipui navigable".
 - (b) Pu R.Dotinaia, "New Capital of Mizoram".
 - (c) Pu Sapliana, "Brigade across River Chhimtuipui".

SPEAKER: "Treasures of wickedness profit nothing; but righteousness delivereth from death. Hatred stirreth up strifes; but love covereth all sins".

ORAL ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Now, Question No. 7, Pu J.Thanghuama's question.

PU J.THANGHUAMA: Will the Minister i/c Home Department be pleased to state -

Why have not the Mizoram Government given remission to the Prisoners of Aizawl and Lunglei Jails in commemoration of the Republic Day of India (26.1.1974) ?

PU CH.CHHUNGA :
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr.Speaker Sir, Government do not find that there is any special occasion for grant of remission to the Prisoners on 26.1.1974.

PU J.THANGHUAMA: Mr.Speaker Sir, Supplementary question - It is understood that even if our Lt.Governor could not pardon the prisoners, Central could do so. Here, our Government have responsibility of asking the Central Government for the power of pardoning, as they themselves are not likely to mention it. But, it is learnt that no words of pardon had been given from Aizawl. I too submitted a letter to Lt.Governor and Chief Secretary in regard to this, so what action had been taken ?

hvlc/-
16/5/75

....2/-

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, It has been given last year. Also, Pu Thanghuama's letter was received, but it was not recommended as we regard it to be beyond our power; besides, the Inspector General of Prisoners had just given before the letter arrives.

PU LALKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, we know that big and high ranking Officers, while visiting Jail could give remission. So, what is the difference of giving them on Republic Day?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, though I do not know what our Member meant by big and high ranking Officers, anyway, the ones who could give remission are Inspector General of Prisons and Governor, that also, when the Jailor duty recommend them to the I.G. of Prison.

SPEAKER : Question No. 8.

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Will the Minister i/c Home Department be pleased to state -

How the matter now stands regarding payment of ex-gratia grant to the bereaved families of those killed by MNF/Security Forces ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, A code for the payment of ex-gratia grant to the bereaved families of those killed by MNF/Security Forces during the disturbances was already made, but as we have not yet receive an approval from the Central Government, we can not give now. However, it is prepared to be able to give as soon as we receive an approval.

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question- In our last year's Budget Rs 10,0000/- was sanctioned for the payment of ex-gratia grant. Was it done without having any rule ? Also, when we were under Assam, the Assam Chief Minister used to give Rs 2,000/3,000 to almost all every bereaved family. Was it given according to the rule of Assam ? or are they to be given in flat rate ? Or according to their condition ? And do we intend to give again those families who are already given before ?

Lastly, Is this a way to be to appoint each and every bereaved Member particularly female for Primary Teachers, for, there are some who are not interested in educational line ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, we are very sorry for not being able to give grants within last year, due to the failure of Central Government to approve our proposal.

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Regarding the distribution of grants by Assam Government- some of them are the ones who had gone down to the Chief Minister, after getting certain amount from Deputy Commissioner, and who are again given by him some other grants. The amount given was also very unequal, for, some of them received Rs 500/300 while others Rs 1000/2000. Such was the condition that it was then suggested to have a proper method of distribution. In regard to the double payment of grants-no proposal is made to re-pay those who are paid before, except, the ones who got only Rs 200/- whose cases are hoped to be re-considered. Also, there are petitions which had been verified while some of them are under verification.

Regarding the inequality of payment, I think it has to be distributed equally, otherwise, the family which has a lesser family Member might received bigger amount than big family. So, it is better that it has been distributed equally.

PU J. THANGHUAMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, are they to be treated equally, those persons who had been tortured by MNF/Security

Forces ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Yes, I think they are to be treated equally but those killed by MNF need no investigation as done to the ones killed by Security Forces, for, the reason why they have been killed is understood. But, in case of those killed by Security Forces an investigation is taken and the record of the Security Forces is also submitted to the authority. After that, if it is evident that the person killed was innocent his family will be given the grant.

PU R. ZOLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question- Our Chief Minister, just now stated the reason, which, he said, was due to the non-existence of a proper method. But, in villages, verification is done by Police and Village Council, Is it possible to have verification without having proper method ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA :
CHIEF MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, whether there is a prescribed procedure or not, it has nothing to do with investigation. In fact, it is better to have everything ready, so that we can carry out our plan as soon as the Central Government an approval. And even if Central does not approve what had been suggested to them, it is anyhow necessary to investigate the killing of persons by MNF/ Security Forces. Besides this, it is also necessary to know how many persons are killed during the disturbances. As an approval is not in our hand. I could not tell when we would give out the grants. Anyhow, we are to get along with it to the Central.

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PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The impossibility of giving out grants before finalisation of the Rules was mentioned.

But, did not our leaders who always go down to Delhi carry it along with them ? Or there is some difficulty in urging the Central for an approval ?

Also, we often heard the losing of an application of ex-gratia grant. So, how comes, they are lost ? And didn't all the applications been accepted ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, What I remember from my reply during year's Session in regard to the Ex-gratia grant is that we thought it not proper to give out the grants without a proper method. It is only this time we say that the Rule is referred to the Central Government.

Regarding the acceptance of applications, Yes, it is accepted upto this day. And in regard to the loss of applications. I think it is a good idea if the applicants could complaint it to the office referring the exact date of their submission, otherwise the Office is always busy with so much works on hand, so perhaps by mistake some applications are misplaced.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, In before last year's Budget, Rs. 10,0000 was sanctioned. I wonder why those applications recommended that time could not be paid uptil now. It was reported that the Prime Minister said that "Money will not be the problem for the Union Territory of Mizoram", we are still held back. Therefore, don't you think we are blueffed by her, to delay for so long what had already been recommended by the Mizoram Government ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, Perhaps it is because we have no rules since it is not due to the money's problem. This also shows our true condition that is 'not a full-fledge State'. As we are not in a full-fledge State we often face difficulties in regard to sanction of money and framing of rules which requires approval of the Central Government.

There are times when we have to get an approval of Central Government to take up certain things here in the House. As such we are often delayed in many things. Now also, what had been submitted to Central Govt. would first of all go to Home Ministry and after sometimes later to Finance Ministry. In this way, so much times are often lost. So, due to all these reasons, I think there would always be delayed in our programme.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, As we are in a newly created state, we are still in short of laws and rules for the guidance of the country. While certain laws and rules of Assam and other laws are used by different Departments.

Why is Assam's Rule not used for payment of ex-gratia grant unless—and until we have our own rules. So, why can't we use Assam's law while we cannot frame a new law ?

And lots of money are sanctioned in our Budget every year, which cannot be distributed without a proper method. Are those money refunded or where have they gone to ? I would also be glad if they could tell us the exact number of the applicants.

PU CH. CHHUNGA :
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir— Although I could not tell the exact number of the applicants, I think you can see it from the Office. Regarding the rule, it is necessary to have a proper rule first, otherwise, if the one who could give, gives what-ever amount he wants, it would not be fair.

PU J. THANGHUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I thought it was not difficult to know the number of the applicants. Here, I think Home Department is to be blamed. Supposing, the rule is ready how much amount is expected for each applicants ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : -
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, I am sorry for not being able to tell the exact amount suggested for each person. But, I hope to be able to do later on if our Members wish to know.

PU J. THANGHUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Well, the number of the applicants cannot be known which in my opinion shows the unpreparedness of Home Department for Budget Session. Actually my question was how much amount would be given to each person?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : -
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, it was what I said just now. I am sorry, I cannot as yet tell the exact amount bounds by the law. Anyway, I would be able to tell sometimes later.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think our Govt. really tries hard in regard to the Ex-gratia Grant. But, what I do not understand is the way we have been treated by the Prime Minister checking us back like this while she herself was the one who encouraged us to learn the art of proppressing. So, I hereby would like to request our leaders to induce the Central in this matter.

PU SAPLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, My question is not yet answered. As we know in our Budget Sessions certain amount of money had often been sanctioned for Ex-gratia grant, but as there was no proper method for its distribution, all the funds seemed to be withheld. So, what I wanted to know is where had all those moneys gone to ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA :
CHIEF MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, The moneys are laid-aside in the new Budget for future use even if we can not use them now.

SPEAKER : Question No. 9 Pu Dotinaia's question.

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PU R. DOTINAIA : Will the Minister i/c General Administrative Department be pleased to state-

- (a) Whether the post of Liaison Officer at Calcutta, Mizoram House was advertised ?
- (b) If so, how many applicants were there ?
- (c) On what basis or consideration was the appointment made?
- (d) Was the present Liaison Officer of Calcutta Mizoram House the only available or suitable applicant for the post ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) No.
CHIEF MINISTER. (b) Does not arise.
(c) Due to urgent need for setting up a full fledged Liaison Office with attached Guest House, etc., at Calcutta, Government decided to obtain the Services of Shri D. Gupta on usual terms and conditions of deputations from Government of Tripura. As the Officer has got enough experience in this line and also because Shri Das Gupta, who was then serving under Tripura Government would be able to utilise the facilities available under Tripura Government for running Mizoram Liaison Office, he was picked up as the most suitable Officer under the circumstances obtaining at that time.

(d) Yes, he is the only suitable Officer considering the circumstances as mentioned against Question No. 9(c) at the time of the appointment.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I think it is to be noted that while few of our leaders praised the Liaison Officer of Calcutta Mizoram House, there are others who do not like him and who complaint about him in certain things. We said that he had an experience for being a Liaison Officer, But what is the use of his experience if he is unsuitable for the majority of the people and I think it is not necessary to appoint a person who is not good for the people. So, I requested the Government to deal with him so as to have a suitable Officer there in Calcutta Mizoram House.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I think it is relevant regarding what I intended to say. We know that the vehicle and the Calcutta Mizoram House is in our Liaison Officer's hands. But, when our M.L.As and other Officers who are on duty visited Calcutta, the Liaison Officer always behave as if he did not know anything, even when an information is given before. As such was his behaviour that could our Government still call him a suitable person ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The time when we were
CHIEF MINISTER. looking for a suitable person was mentioned. At that time, present our Liaison Officer is regarded as the most suitable person available.

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PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The time for looking a suitable person is over, and we have already appointed the present Officer, but with so much complaints from here and there, shall we still regard him as a suitable person ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would not be able to say my opinion now, anyhow, it seems there are many complaints regarding our Liaison Officer.

PU K. L. ROCHAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Did the Government know the uselessness of Liaison Officer not only for M.L.As, or other Officers but also for other Mizo travellers ?

Secondly, Is it true that our present Liaison Officer, Das Gupta is to be transferred Tripura or other States ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It seems there had been so much criticism, but the time when the criticism reached the Government's ear is when a letter of criticism reached Office last month.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question - Is it impossible to pay regularly that our Liaison Officer of Delhi Mizoram House has not draw his pay for 6 months ?

Secondly, Has the Mizoram Government receive a payment for those doors and window's frames made of Burma teak and which had been taken down from Calcutta Mizoram House ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Most of the frames which had been taken down are now re-fixed.

PU K. L. RICHAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is there any proposal being made for the transference of Calcutta Liaison Officer back to Tripura ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, What we need to know regarding the Calcutta Liaison Officer is that he held the post of Liaison Officer in addition to his actual post of Deputy Director of Supply. But, there are some reasons for appointing our present Liaison Officer. At the beginning, it was a bit difficult to see the background of certain things as we were in a newly created Government. And when the need for having Supply Officer there in Calcutta was felt, we thought it necessary to have someone who is familiar with the place, not only that, even if we were to search from Mizoram itself, it was not so hopeful to find an Officer who is willing to stay in Calcutta, for most of the Officers refused to stay even at Silchar because of

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salary and accomodation. Hence, our present Liaison Officer is then appointed. As Deputy Director, there seems to be no criticism but as an Liaison Officer we know how often he had been criticized. But, as he is on deputation for only 2 years, his term: also almost ended, and he himself too like to go back to his own Tripura Government. So it is believed that he would be replaced soon.

PU ZALAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know how our Deputy Director of Supply -Cum-Liaison Officer is criticized. Is it also true that he looks down the Mizos? And have you searched for our Mizo Officers who were there in Calcutta at the time when the appointment was made?

PU R. THANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The main criticism from our M.L.As, Officers and other people seems to be that 'he does not show consideration for'. But, saying that he looks down the Mizos would be very difficult to know the exact meaning since we can have different view points in regard to it.

The Deputy Director of Supply post of Calcutta is made equivalent to the Deputy Director of Supply, Silchar with the payment of Rs 550-1100/-. If we could get, it is much preferable to have an I.A.S Officer, but it is not easy to start right from the very beginning, if not in a gradual step. So, that's the way it is.

PU R. DOTINAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think most of the complaint regarding the Calcutta Liaison Officer comes due to the negligence of his duty. So, what is his duty?

PU R. THANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think it would not be wrong to call Calcutta as one of the most important place for supplies and other commodities. So, the Liaison Officer's duty is- as Deputy Director of Supply he has to look after all those supplies which come and go. And as an Liaison Officer he has to act as a sort of co-ordinator between our State and other States. Besides this, he is expected to look-after and accomodate our Government Officers and to see seat reservation in Aeroplanes and Railways. But, there is no hard and fast rule being made as to how he would perform all these duties and how he would deal with each visitors except the one we gave just recently in which different classes of Officers who are permitted to stay in Mizoram House was stated. So, you can see the list of those from there.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I, being a regular visitor of Calcutta know that there had been so much disappointment with Calcutta Mizoram House, particularly with our Liaison Officer. Of course, we do not expect a good treatment for each and every Mizo visitors who came and go doing

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business or other things, for we know it's not possible to do so. Since Calcutta is a big trade-Centre with many visitors, but, we only ask that at least our M.L.As who go there on rare occasion, not even once in a month be treated with due respect. And if he is incapable of doing this to even an M.L.A., the fate of others is understood. However, what I wanted to ask is- could our Government post a competent Trade Adviser to the Government of Mizoram to direct all these materials, like Iron rod, Cement etc. from Calcutta ?

PU LALKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, An Liaison Officer is said to be an experienced person, so what experience had he, besides, living in Tripura House ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, As regard experience the Liaison Officer at Calcutta has had 14 years experienced as Liaison Officer at Calcutta, and for working for the Mizoram, his only gain is the deputation allowance which he can get by remaining at his same place at Calcutta.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, there are two very good quality bath tabs at Calcutta, Mizoram House and there is apprehension that they may be stolen.

PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, One Car and one Van are placed at his disposal. The van is always said to be under repair. But, some Mizo people at Calcutta reported that this Vehicle is used for private business, and the Log Book also is not kept by the Driver and entries made by the Officer himself as he likes. Is there any intention to enquire into this ?

PU SAITLAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, It had been stated that complaints against him had been received and the Mizo Arsi published in September 19, 1973 and almost all other local papers in February last published complaints about him. Are not these considered as complaints ?

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Supply Minister stated that his duties had been informed to him, does this include the necessity of attending to the needs of M.L.As on Official tour ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, regarding one of the Cars I also noticed that it is frequently out of order and I have also heard about the suspected misuse. I have also instructed the Director to look into this but no proof appears to be found. Had the misuse been proved action would definite definitely be taken ?

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As regard Newspaper Reports some reports may be true and some false. Since the Liaison Officer's are to attend to important Government works we should not expect them to give attentions to everyone who may visit there. He also has many difficulties and limitations.

Regarding the M.L.As on tour, the M.LAs are considered as Class I Officer and their status is actually considered as above the Joint Secretaries. As such altho' specific mention of M.L.A may not have been made, it should be considered that they are included of necessary, a clarification may be made to him.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Perhaps omission to mention M.L.As may be there but in respect to Officers also it is a fact that he realized some money from Pu Zosanga who was sent to Calcutta on official duty his may be looked into and used as a clue.

SPEAKER : Now, question hour is over, so we shall then go to the next item. Here, we have 3 Resolutions and we will call upon Pu Sapliana to move his Reselution.

PRIVATE RESOLUTIONS
RESOLUTION NO 1 OF PU SAPLIANA.

RE: MAKING OF CHHIMTUIPUI NAVIGABLE BY MEANS OF LOCK-GATE SYSTEM.

PU SAPLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you for allowing me to move this resolution.

" This Assembly recommends to the Government of Mizoram to take up early construction of a bridge on the River Chhimituipui connecting Lawngtlai and Saiha for the benefit of the people in general".

The Kolodine River starts from Burma near the South East Corner of Mizoram along the Eastern Border and flowing through Mizoram it enters again into Burma. For the Development of the Economy of surrounding areas in Mizoram it is essential that this river be made navigable. Construction of two or three Lock-Gates could regularize the volume of water and this would also be used for various industrial and agriculture purposes.

Mizoram is economically backward, more so after the disturbance, and instead of more thinking action, it is necessary to solve this problem. For this the decision of this House is most important.

We have a number of rivers but under the District Council and Regional Council nothing substantial had ever been possible to do. If these rivers could be made navigable under our new status I'm sure there will be economic improvement. Under the prevailing system of cultivation we would never be self.sufficient if intensive labour is extended. New scientific methos have to be introduced for which electric powers also will be required. We have no

adequate land for wet rice cultivation and our river valleys have to be properly developed.

Preliminary survey and Hydro-Graphic survey had been done of the major rivers, like Delesawri, since 1966 by the Assam Government and the maps and drawings are perhaps still available. When we have our own administration this matter should be pursued.

Kolodine river was also surveyed and possibility of making it navigable for power-vessels had been examined. Darzokai-Lawngmasu a distance of 133 Km. had been surveyed and it is a matter of finalizing the scheme that remains. Our Mizoram Government should look into this and this will also be used for generating powers. If we want progress in Industrial Field we need powers and through this there will be possibility of solving the employment problem.

On the Commercial side also a good navigable communication system would bush-up trading the neighbouring States of Burma and Bangladesh are comparatively better off in respect to food. If there is good communication trade & commerce could flourish after an agreement is reached with these states.

The report of the Director, Inland Water Transport, Assam stated that possibility of improving the Kolodine River as International Water way is very much bright, and this opinion was also shared by the Central study Team led by Shri Turlok Singh, Member of the Planning Commission. So much spade-work having been done by Assam and India Government this should be pursued by us. This will be a major project and our Inland Water Transport being a very small cell necessary steps should be taken to make it capable to deal with this. Advance states like Punjab and Haryana know how to utilize the potentialities and we should learn from them. The Kolodine also could open up vast areas for wet-rice cultivation. But as I have said, unless the scheme is taken up as a major one small improvements here and there will hardly make any noticeable impact. Therefore, it must be made into a big Project. This can also generate powers for Aizawl because relying on power drawn from Barapani in Meghalaya or from Bangladesh would be very uncertain.

Since this would bush-up trade and commerce, in view of our backwardness the Government would be justified in giving special consideration and instead of all developmental works starting from Silchar side it is necessary that some major scheme should be made in the Southern part also. For the development of our Country, work should be done where ever the potentialities is available and this being what should be our first concern I hope the honourable Member would agree to this Resolution pass.

SPEAKER:

40 minutes had passed, so if anyone likes to have a speech on Resolution can do so now.

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PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, It is delightful to hear the Resolution moved by our honourable Member. And I believe everyone of us would be anxious to see the Kolodine River being navigated for the better improvement of Agriculture, Industry, and Power etc. in our State. And it is no doubt that there will be lots more improvement on various grounds if we could succeed in navigating the said River, particularly after learning the existence of Gas in the over-laying areas between Hnahthial and S. Vanlaiphai.

However, even if there is so much utilisation to be had from that river, the solution of a problem which would surely involve in such a Major Project must also be considered. For one thing, it is not a minor thing to navigate the river, it is rather a Major Project which needs a lot of money and which used to be included in Central List. It is also understood that Mizoram Government alone would not be able to carry out the work even if the resolution is passed. So, I thought, it might not be right to pass such a big Resolution in this House. And as I have said before, all the difficulties that confronted us must also be considered. The thing is, there is none at present to do an investigation also. Just for Secretariat Building also, we need to hire an architect from other state, who were given a rank of Asst. Engineer while their qualification is just an architect diploma holder, since no graduate architect like to come over to our state. Such was the condition even just to construct a Secretariat Building that to pass a Resolution of a Major Project might not be an easy thing to do. With our present situation, I do not think there won't be much benefit even if we pass the resolution now. However, it won't be at the same time right to end up here knowing all the benefits and advantages of it. But, in view of all the above reasons I request our honourable Member to withdraw his resolution. For some other time, so, from our side, we will try our best in convincing the Central Government, and press them to trace out the notes of Mr. Tarlok Singh and also to have an Investigation.

SPEAKER:

Since our Chief Minister had given a clear explanation I think we now all know our present condition particularly in regard to the passing of Resolution. So, we shall now hear the opinion of the mover before calling others.

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Yes, what had been mentioned was a big Project which requires at least 10 lakhs according to the report given by Inland Water Transport Director, Gogoi in the year 1966. It is also my believe that Mr. Tarlok Singh would, to some extent, press the Govt. of India and Assam in regard to our subject. So, if our Govt. really intend to get along with it, consulting the recommendation of Mr. Tarlok Singh and Assam, I would not mind withdrawing it. So, I agree to withdraw.

SPEAKER :

Since the Government agreed to work on, our Member now agrees to withdraw his resolution, so is there any who does not agreed ? (Members kept silence). It is then withdrawn.

We shall now have a break to continue again at 2 P.M.

Recess till 2:00 P.M.13/-

Afternoon 2 P.M.

SPEAKER : Our next item is Pu Dotinaia's Resolution, so we will now call upon the mover to move his resolution.

PRIVATE RESOLUTION NO 2 MOVED BY PU DOTINAIA.

RE: NEW CAPITAL OF MIZORAM.

PU DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you for permitting me to move Resolution. This is my Resolution -

"This Assembly is of the opinion that a new Capital Mizoram Union Territory be set up and for that a Commission be constituted to select a suitable site".

As we all know, previously, our land used to be named the Lushai Hills in which Aizawl was the Capital where Superintendent directed the country's affairs. But, after India got an Independence, the Lushai Hills was renamed into "the Mizo District". So went on the administration and increased population where improvements attained on various grounds. Such was the growth of our town that the extension of its area along with the construction of new roads. was necessary which was then partly done during the time of District Council. Especially after disturbances, more people flow-in and began to realize the advantage of being in town, And after we got an Union Territory Government more jobs had been created right from Lt. Governor down to the Peons. As such, most of the staffs have to reside in town, because of which each and every corner are filled up with houses. And, as there had never been proper planning for the town's structure, it is now too congested that there's not any space left for constructing Public Buildings like Stadium, Schools, Hall and so forth.

If we go to other places, we can see that private houses are built a little distance from the main road, reserving some space for its extension when necessary. And, for the safety of Pedestrians from moving vehicles, a pavement is made on the road-side. But here in Aizawl, we know the impossibility of having and doing such things mentioned above partly because of our bad physical feature which at the same time prevent us from having a straight and easy-approach road of different localities. And, as Aizawl is not planned for Capital, the roads are narrow and curve with mud in the rainy season and dust during the dry season. Even when the roads are repaired with Alkatra, the whole thing would be again damaged by the rain as there is no proper drainage. Not only that, being a state capital, we can no doubt expect to have visitors from different places of India as well as from Foreign country, but to accomodate them, there is no good and standard Hotel available, not even a site is to be had.

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Besides this, it is also necessary to have places for recreation, but as we know, even just to have a proper drainage many houses and compounds has to be cut off which would surely cause lots of confusion. In some cases, houses are built on drainage which is very unhygienic.

Another important thing which has to be considered is water-Supply. Unless and until we have sufficient water to supply the whole town, we would never stop have a pleasant city. So, to have sufficient water, there will be again another difficulty for Aizawl, for the pipe line connecting River Tlawng can always get spoil which will again cause the people to complain the scarcity of water particularly in time of dry season. Considering all our present conditions it is really necessary to have a new capital. Not only me, who felt about this, but also our leaders who were under the District Council. Also in 1972 October Session, Pu Rochama also mentioned about it. So, now is the time for planning a way of having new capital with better plan. If we do not do it now, I apprehend that the new generations who come after us would put the blame on us.

When we carefully study the physical features of other places, I believe we would find a better site, better than Aizawl to suggest for a new capital instead of renovating the present capital with lots of money. So then, we can use the money for the new one. We might think that shifting a Capital is a task too complicated. But, Assam also transferred its Capital to Dispur while the same case is about to happen in Arunachal. So, I hope we too would be able to do so specially after merging into one Party which I believe would help us in having one accord to certain our end. And, I think, the advantage of merger is to set up a new capital with well and careful plan like Chandigarh, of course I do not mean as good as Chandigarh, but I felt, it is one of the most urgent needs to have a new Capital, which can accomodate more population with enough space for Public Garden, Park, Picnic Spot and all that beauty a city.

My intention is not to suggest a suitable site, of course I would know two or three places to mention if I'm asked, but it is rather to remind you all the necessity of having a new capital with careful plan and scheme beforehand, and for which I'd like to suggest of having a Special Commission to carefully study and consider this resolution of mine. Since some more years would be needed for them to study the site and all that other necessary things. I think it is a good thing to form the Commission right from now.

Regarding the sites, Tawitlang, Thenzawl, Lengpui are all suggested by Pu C.Z.Huala, while some people suggest Kolasib range. And, according to what I heard, just before disturbances, one Mizo high ranking Officer Pu Kaphranga while touring Mizoram had a serious talks with different Political leaders of Mizos in regard to the new capital in which he suggested Thenzawl for the site. Like so, our Lt.Governor, in his tour diary wrote

his much appreciation of Thenzawl for new Capital. In addition, I think Thenzawl might perhaps be one of the most suitable places since it is situated in the heart of Mizoram which would be convenient for both sides of Mizoram if the Capital is set up there. Tawitlang is also suggested.

In my conclusion, I would once again like to remind you all the necessity of setting up a new Capital and at the same time request on all to pay attention to what I've said, for I believe it is the duty of we the M.L.As whom the people elected for their representatives.

SPEAKER :

Now, a resolution had been moved, so we will call upon others who wish to have a speech.

PU NGURDAMLA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I do really appreciate the resolution which we have just listened, for I too felt it from long before. But, let me say the difficulty of doing what our honourable member suggested. In the first place, it is important to think whether the places mentioned would cover the wide range covered by Aizawl area. And if we carefully study the range of Aizawl, we will find certain areas unoccupied, which had also been noticed by our Lt. Governor according to his speech given to the reporters. He said "while there is more space in Luangmual-Tanhril areas, you the Mizos are very fond of being close knitted with your neighbour that the serenity of your capital has now been degraded! After hearing this, I too began to think that we ourselves could be the one who defile and spoil our own Capital. And frankly speaking I think we are to be blamed for the uncomfortable living we now lead mainly because of our greediness in acquiring lands and constructing houses and stalls in a tight-corner, not caring what others would feel. In the end, we will again blame the Government, which might be true to some extent. But, if we, the people do not know how to care for a comfortable and healthy living, we would never have a nice and spacious city wherever the place it might be. The first and foremost important thing should be rather the minds of the people. In History, we studied about Muhammed-Bin-Tughlak who transferred his capital to a distant place which at the end brought him a complete disaster. So, we cannot simply say that the same case would not happen to us if Aizawl is transferred somewhere else, and I believe the Commoners would be the one who would suffer most if we really transfer Aizawl.

If we really intend to have a better and well-planned city, I think we will get a chance of extending and beautifying it after the Assam Rifles leave their present quarter which is likely to happen soon. I also believe that some of our difficulties in regard to this would be relieved when Assam Rifles leaves so that we can use their place for Public purposes, like for building Public Houses, Office, Halls etc.

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I think it is also necessary for our Government to take a firm measure in regard to traffic control. Perhaps we remember how the traffic has been controlled in Simla. There, heavy loaded vehicles are forbidden to go through or enter the main town. Like so, it must be a good idea to adopt such measure with proper direction here in our state capital.

Regarding our capital Highway maintained by the P.W.D., what the people including me regard to be the foremost important thing is to have a retaining wall between Zarkawt and Pi Darawti's residence where the road is narrow, curve and risky for both the pedestrians and vehicles.

Supposing, we go back to our main topic which is the transference of capital. Here, I sometimes share the view point of some others who believed in the possibility of setting up a new Capital at Lengpui of which topography I carefully studied since it is also my Constituency. But, even with all its facilities and potentialities I somehow and perhaps the same case must be with Thenzawl. What we have to consider for us, the Highlanders is the altitude and climatic condition of a place. It appears that most of the Mizos prefer high altitude and cold hilly region to a low-lying hot place, so, in a way, it is also doubtful that the hotter climate would suit our health, for I have often heard the complaint on hotter climatic condition by some Mizo fellow-beings who settled down at Sairang where the climate is hotter than Aizawl. As a whole we seem to care more for climatic condition rather than suitable site. As such, it might be a wise thing not to forsake our present capital with all its expensive buildings and facilities, for I believe to have a wider spaces when Assam Rifles leaves.

No doubt, it will be necessary to have a remote place, at the outskirts of Aizawl for Secretariat Building, Staffs' Quarters and all that, that is, when new generation emerge, but, for the present, we must know the impossibility of solving all our problems just by transferring our capital, and we should rather cultivate the standard of living among the minds of the people which I think would be the first important thing. Otherwise if we go on trying to acquire every vacant spot and corner without caring for public welfare, we would never have a pleasant city wherever the place it may be. So, in a way it must be better to think of setting up new capital sometimes later on when the people learn more about the standard of capital of living so that we can have a better planner for our scheme.

PU CH. CHHUNGA:
CHIEF MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the transference of Aizawl had always been mentioned including what had been mentioned just now by Pu Dotinaia. To some extent, yes it would not be easy to renovate with all its narrow Highways and congested space, and there would surely be lots of difficulties if we are to renovate it. And perhaps there are better sites for capital, but some more years is needed for such thing, it might be a good thing to study the topography of our present Capital where more spaces are to be found in accordance with our Lt. Governor's opinion.

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I also believe that more acre of lands would be acquired after A.R. leaves their present quarter. A proposal also had been made to build a Government Quarters there at A.R. areas of Khatla Veng. Besides this, a site for Home Guard Training Centre in Tanhril-Sakawrtui-chhun area is under investigation. Having all these in view, the necessity of having Town Planners was felt because of which an encounter is often held with Central, but so far no result. However, there is one who did the town planning of Arunachal, so if this planner is willing it might be good to employ him so that we can have a better look of those areas which I now mentioned. It is also expected to join Zemabawk with this town, and more spaces for the expansion of town's area are to be found in the hill range of Beraw. At present the construction of two new roads is undertaken - one leading to Tanhril which they called 'Tanhril Road' and the other one is near Vaiyakawn. To come right up to this new road, another Highway starting from Khatla, skipping over Tuikual is also intended to work out. To skip our Tuikual, a bridge is necessary which at the same time will be useful for the damming up of water. And if we wish to have a shorter approach road of Zemabawk, again bridge would be necessary which will again be convenient for damming up of water. Also, the Public Health Department is looking for a suitable site to throw the dirt and refuse of the town.

Regarding the transference of Capital perhaps it is better to renovate and develop it first and after that if we still feel it necessary to transfer we might as well do. But for now, frankly speaking, there's more space to be found for its expansion and development. Simla, the Capital of Himachal Pradesh was mentioned perhaps for example, but there also we will find some places which are also as congested as some areas. And I think there would be some mean for the extension of our narrow Highways. We know the roads in Silchar are also very narrow like here, but the rule of one way traffic is followed. So, we can do the same thing here I suppose. However, the first thing to be done is development and renovation of this Capital and after that if we still wish to transfer we might as well do. Having all these in view, perhaps it is too early to suggest such a thing like transferring Capital. So, I requested our honourable mover to withdraw his resolution, and I'd be glad too if he could do so.

SPEAKER: The mover had said the necessity of transferring our present Capital while as Pu Ngurdawla said the difficulty of doing it now for the present and Chief Minister said the intention of Government in regard to the development and extension of Town's area. So, before we call anyone else we shall hear the opinion of Pu Dotinaia.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to give certain explanation to some of the things said by Pu Ngurdawla. Regarding the transference of Capital I did not mean the way Muhammed-Bin-Tuglak transferred, with all fowls and

animals. I did not mean that the whole lot would shift, for, even after transfer, Aizawl will still be an important town with trading Centre. So, what I meant is just to set up a new Capital, and I think it might be better if supply Directorate is still in Aizawl even after setting up new Capital.

The saying of 'that the Mizos are fond of high altitude' might not be acceptable now. For example- if we go to Kolosib, the north-ern side has a higher altitude than the south, but most of the settlers wanted to fit in at Diakkawn which has lower altitude. So, the northern side which used to be the main town has now been deserted. Like, so, the old Serchhip has situated at 4500 ft. above sea-level, but before disturbances the whole of town shifted to the down town of ft.3,000. And supposing the disturbances ended, and one can settle down at wherever places he likes, I apprehend that the whole lot of Serchhip town would like to shift to Mat-Ruam. If we really want to have better development we search for better and suitable places. And I do not think what we call the hottest and warmest place in Mizoram would compete Delhi, Chandigarh and other states capital. Having been both to Kolosib and Thenzawl, their climatic conditions during Summer and Winter is quite similar and the occupants are also seem to be quite healthy.

Perhaps, we think that all others developments would stop if we set up new Capital, but we never heard that all the developments stop when Chandigarh, the most beautiful City in Asia is set up. Not only that, they (Punjab) still can be the most self-sufficient state in India.

However, I do not think that the Govt. wholly oppose my resolution, but with all our present circumstances, perhaps they are not ready. But, since it is the Government who borne all the expenses for this thing, Chandigarh also could have a beautiful city with French Town Planner. So, if we are to wait for Mizo Scientist it will be a long time to have a new city. However, as I am requested to withdraw I will then do it since Aizawl is going to be renovated.

SPEAKER: Anyone who does not agree to the withdrawal of this resolution?
(Members kept silence). Well, it is then withdrawn.

Our next item is Pu Sapliana's Resolution. " This Assembly recommends to the Government of Mizoram to take up early construction of a bridge on the River Chhimtuipui connecting Lawngtlai and Saiha for the benefit of the people in general."

Since he is not present, if he does not authorize anyone, the resolution is then withdrawn. We will now end up here for today to continue again on Monday 25.3.74 at 11 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 3:08 P.M.

Under Secretary,
Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

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So, I would be very glad if the Government carry-out the scheme in such a way as I made an appeal to our hon'ble Members.

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr.Dy.Speaker Sir, I am glad that all the members could be present here today to have discussion on our Budget for the year 1974-75 and also glad to have the opportunity of having a speech.

At the beginning of our Session, L.G had delivered his address and we have also listened to the speech of Finance Minister. On the whole, the words and policies contained there was not at all bad for which I am thankful. The budget-book submitted from various Department were also good and find nothing to criticize about as far as money is concerned. However, as my fellow-members have previously said it is possible to issue them because of which there had been lots of difficulties in the past years. To reduce all these difficulties or else to stop them, it is very important to have unity to fight together our common dislike.

In page 5 of L.G's address, the remarkable work done by the State Transport System was mentioned. Well, it is true we now have State Bus Services almost in every directions, which to some extent relieve the people nevertheless, while the people are relieved we must as well consider whether we are benefited by running this Transport. In other states, it is believed to be beneficial for the Government that's why only they used to run this Transport System. Otherwise they would have never done. So, in our State too, if we are not benefited by this, there might be something wrong somewhere perhaps in the Department concerned, which the Government must find out. If I am not mistaken our State Transport seems to be always a loser ever since 1972 April. Here, the reason would not be because of our Budget preparation, instead perhaps something wrong with the staff and workers employed. At present there are 21 Buses with few conductors, due to which so often a Handyman or a Driver had to take charge of a Conductor job. Also, other states used to have road checker at every interval of 50 Kms, but here, there are only 3 of such post even between Aizawl and Silchar, which more or less could creates loop-hole for corruption. And, the Department have mechanics of their own but, for a small damaged part also, the Vehicles have to be taken to someother Workshop where lots of money had been charged. Regarding the Buses we blindly have purchased. As spare parts could not easily be obtained to repair the damaged ones other states are said to have no enthusiasm in purchasing them. As such was our condition that losing is sure to be on our side what I believed to be one of the reasons that the Buses, after retuning from one journey used to remain for so long before making the next work, enthsing themselves by saying that 'there is no tyre', while there are so many passengers how can we say for a new Bus that there is no tyre ?

I think our Officers and the Department concerned have no love for the people. The Ministry should spare no rod to taskle with such staff or officers who do not care for Public Welfare. This is also my suggestion that a post of Statistic Officer along with Station Superintendent be created to maintain proper record of this transport. And if we do not have more conductor and road checker, the pockets of some persons would be too loaded.

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Land Policy is another urgent important that has to be taken into consideration. If we are asked as to why we can't make speedy progress, a suitable answer would be mainly our incapability of having Permanent Settlement. Almost every states except hilly regions, have some kind of Land Policy like Land Tenure System or rather Land Reform Policy. But in hilly regions particularly in Eastern areas no such system is found, perhaps because of which we are far behind other states. To make a speedy progress in different spheres of life our present system of shifting cultivation must be stopped immediately. To put an end to this system the Government must introduce some land act policy or Land Reform Act. Otherwise we would never make a good progress particularly in agriculture. By a kind favour of Government certain amount of money has been sanctioned for the people to borrow. But, the borrowers could not purposefully utilize them as they should, because they cannot give they whole heart and soul to a piece of land which would be tilled only for a year and of which to be no more theirs by the next year. In page 17 of his speech-book, our Finance Minister said as "The Government will, however, be ready to take up the question of having land ceiling law as and when circumstances demand". Here, I think the circumstances really demanded us now, that is why, I would like to Government to make a fresh start right from the present day. While our Hon'ble Finance Minister states their zeal for the introduction of Land Policy, workers who are to undertake an extensive work, named in the budget Book were smaller than I expected. If the District Officer concerned as mentioned in Budget Book, is to undertake the work, Director would not then have enough staffs. So, just in case there is misappropriation arrangement as far as the workers are concerned, I would be glad if they could revise the proposal.

Something have I to say regarding Forest Department. I think the Department is not active enough in their duty of Forest protection particularly in those areas of Tuichangral, where there is still plenty of uninhabited Forests to be protected. In the year 1959-1962, the Soil Conservation Department took up Pine Plantation in North Vanlaiphai area which was supposed to be given to District Council. But as the time went our, nothing much was done to protect them so the people likely of the surrounding areas, not knowing their value and purpose burned up the grounds, destroying these planted Pine trees which have grown very tall now. Some of them 24ft high with 15 ft circumference and so on. So, to look-after the whole areas of Tuichangral along with these planted trees, only one Forest Guard is there who after being posted out from Forest Department office made only one correspondent. Such, was how it had been looked after- If we really want to protect and preserve or forests and natural vegetations, I suggest that if not division, a Range be opened in those areas of Tuichangral.

As they had previously said, it is due to the absence of proper delegation of power which often cause certain difficulties in various departments. For example - It os happened that one IVth Grade staff was posted to Lunglei by Aizawl Civil Surgeon without the knowledge of Director who is responsible for the transference of staff and works of Medical Department. As Directorate was responsible for district transfer, this IV Grade Staff had to go without 4 months pay which would surely cause him many difficulties.

The same thing happened to the Staff Nurses as well. Here, the main reason for their mistake could be due to the absence of proper delegation of power among the heads and Officers. As many Government servants have suffered due to this, I request the Government to look into the matter immediately.

Regarding Education, our L.G. in his address mentioned about the combined Basic and Normal Training Schools which I regard as not at all necessary. When I deeply consider, I think the idea of introducing 2 years Training Course for Basic is also not necessary, for we have never heard such thing. And there would be lot of difficulties too if we try to combine two different Institutions which has different states and qualification. Those who suggest this idea might think it economical, but there is also a demerit side of it. Supposing the two Institutes had been combined as we suggested, only one Principal would be needed in a place where we previously have two. And some of the staffs and IVth Grade workers would have to be discharged. Not only that, from our own experiences, we know how difficult it is to run the administration of by institute, many of us would not be able to do that of course, in some places, like Biate we found the combined M.E and High School, but, none seems to be imitating it. So, the same case might as well be with our suggestion.

PU HIPHEI
DY.SPEAKER:

Who is next ? If there is not any, let's give a privilege to those who have not stood up. (Pu R.Dotinaia - If there is not any, let me finish my speech).

PU R.DOTINAIA: Mr.By.Speaker Sir, When I study our current Budget, I think the fund sanctioned for stage I Block has been differ from previous fund which used to be 12 lakhs for 5 years. As it is the speech, which I delivered to the people of my constituency Lungdar on the inauguration day of C.D.Block might then be regarded as a lie for I told them of the amount they would get for this newly Block thinking that it was to be the same amount as we previously had. It's going to be a sad case indeed if the reduction of fund really do happen. Tho' it might have been suggested for better development of the country, I still hope that the Government reconsider it once more before putting into practise.

It has also been learned that upto this day no Department head has as yet been found for Local Administration Department due to which certain difficulties arose here and there. I think we remember the political changes brought about by the North-Eastern Re-organization Act, by which Mizoram too got an U.T. But, as it is without an autonomous district except for Pawi and Lakher Regions, some set-back could be noticed in our Local Administration too. Instead of having District Council, the Plain States adopted what we called Panchayat System, by which some states adopted 2 tier system whereas some adopted 3 tier or a similar term 'ram Panchayat whose immediate subordinate body is Panchayat Samiti which is equivalent to Village Council. The Village Council, being a Block-Level

takes-up the development affairs. Next comes, the last and the lowest body called 'Zilla Parishad' which is a District level. So, that way runs the local administration of Plain States. The Mizoram, on the other hand had previously followed 2 tier system in which there were V/C body as well as District Council. But, owing to the recent political changes Lunglei and Aizawl District now have only V/C with its immediate authority - Ministry, leaving a wide gap there due to which some difficulties arose in various development and local Administration as well. Small things that cannot be settled in Village Council are brought up straight to the Ministry thus pestering and preventing their from concentrating on bigger and higher developments. So, to be able to carry out bigger plan and development it might be well to have District Council once again. And I think the resolution on this subject would also come up later.

It is also learnt that an estimate for Sub-Divisional Building in North Vanlaiphai was made sometime back. But, when I study the current budget along with its 'Schedule for work' no propose was made for the construction of this building. However, although it has not been included in Schedule for Work, I would glad if the Government could think a way of its construction, for I know the necessity is there. I also do hope that the road between Keitum and North Vanlaiphai which had been started before disturbances be completed. The reason why I mentioned this, is that only Lungdar-Khaw zawl road and N. Vanlaiphai-Lungdar road were mentioned. Without proper communication, Bridge which we intended to construct over Tuichang River would not be profitable either. Therefore it is much important that we give foremost important to roads and communication.

Lastly, I want to mention one thing which concerns supply for Tuichangral. It is this, that a Godown for Tuichangral area was constructed at Keitum for which Rs. 3600/- had been sanctioned. While that much amount was sanctioned only about Rs.500/600 seemed to be used up according to same information. As for the Building it is very unsatisfactory. For I myself want to see it. The construction was under taken by the A.O. concerned, In such a Godown all the supply is sure to get rotten when the rainy season comes. It also happened once that condemned Rice Bags were supplied from Serchhip Godown to the Godown of Tuichangral which I once complained. And the Government was also did their best for this. But, if we do nothing for the reconstruction of the Building before Rainy Season, all the supplies will get rotten again, and the people of Tuichangral will have to eat a rotten rice which would again hurt my sentiment for I too, like others I believe, care for the people of my constituency who are facing a hard famine all the year thro'. So, I would be rally glad if the Government pay due importance to the things I mentioned.

Thank You.

PU CH.SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Dy.Speaker Sir, we gathered here to attend this important Budget Session and I believe everyone should also regard, this as important. For it is a time when the members could make certain plans and suggestions for the Government. It is also a time when they/we give vent to our disappointments and anger. Our Ministers alone would not be blamed for every disappointments and failure. They, no doubt shouldered the responsibilities

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of the Government but much of the things we dislikes might as well be from our Departments and Officers. However, I am not here to give vent to my disappointments and ill-feelings rather I am here now to back-up the things said by our Hon'ble Member Pu Lalkunga. Here, I think our Department Heads and Officers must also come to this House when Department is discussed. Well, some of the Heads might not know the language, but they at least must sent their subordinate to relate to him the things discussed and mentioned by the members. If others like Department Heads concerned do not be any use for us to mention what we heard and learnt. They at least must come when fencial discussion is held, after that if they do not like they can go back to their own departments. Perhaps, some people did not come to listen to what we said of the things we knew and learnt that the Members also are not interested in speaking up, and the same case is also with me. So, for today, I would not say anything.

PI SAPTAWNI: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, almost in every Session our Department Heads & Officers are expected to give due importance to these Sessions. But, surprisingly, none seems to care much about it!! For, only few used to be present. Really, I am very surprised !!!

First of all, I would like to mention about the fate of Zanlawn, for it really touches me when I heard this morning. It is really a sad case indded to see the innocence people being punished for the things done by criminals. If they did wrong, they too would understand the judgement befell on them. It is really a pity to learn the cause of their suffering. If disturbance is going to end because of their shifting and peace is going to prevail, their fate might be acceptable. But none of these would come up just because of their shifting. Even when the city of Ninevi was to be punished for their crimes and sins God forgave them because of the innocense children who did not know even their right or left. So, it might be well for our Government to adopt such kind of attitude to the innocent villagers of Zanlawn. And I think, it is very important to protect and restore the lives of the innocent ones.

Some of the members who stood up before me criticise much about the work of P.W.D. saying that most of the fund had been used up for Aizawl town only. If such was the case, I was thinking which part of Aizawl is renovated and which road is undertaken for I could find no changes in our roads or highways. The roads are ever narrow, dusty and rugged. We, the poor people have to go on foot, and have to swallow up dust during the dry season. And during the rainy season no shoes could be worn due to the accumulation of mud and water. Those who could afford to go by car or other vehicles might not notice it, but for us the poor, it is really terrible. Besides these, the roads are too narrow that one has to risk one's life even just to let bid vehicles pass. So, it is a surprise that our roads are still very narrow and bad even after using such a lot of money. I think it is high time we do some thing about them. Due to such circumstances some of our members even suggested to have a new capital. It is very necessary too. Capital must be well maintained and cared for. I hope none resent my saying this, that I think the allotment of lands by our District

Council was done without the anticipation of future needs, because of which the roads are too narrow, and too congested to extend them. What I regard to be one of the foremost importance for the Government to do is to extend these narrow roads of ours by compensating those, whose compounds are needed for its extension. Otherwise we would never have good roads and the present ones are too bad that it's a shame for others to see. So, good roads must be made as soon as possible, instead of giving due to importance to the nearby roads of well-to-do man or an influential man, public roads must be given first due importance.

Like they have said, I think too much power is concentrated in our Department Heads and Director which can be proved from the thing I intend to say. In Education Department, we have D.I. whose constituency extends from east to west, but no power is in his hand. Everything is in the hand of the Head, due to which he is incapable of doing anything. Therefore, it will be wise to give powers not only to the Heads, but also to their immediate subordinates in every Departments. In this way, we would be able to make better progress. One friend of mine even told me about the difficulties faced by Asst. Inspector of Lunglei, because he had no power to do anything. The same case might as well be with other Departments too. So, I would once again remind the Government to do something in regard to the delegation of power mainly among the Department Heads and Officers.

One thing I wanted to know in Medical Department is that could we do some thing to have more Nurses in the Civil Hospital of Aizawl ? For I believe their inadequacy is felt by many. If we want to have more Nurses, still there are many Mizo trained Nurses unemployed, so we can employ them.

Lastly, it is my heart-felt-desire that more Craft-Training Centres for women be open, so as to have self-efficiency in economic life of the women particularly. Weaving and Knitting and also Graft Centres in Villagers would be of much help for us the people of this territory. As long as we are the Mizos, we are sure to be in need of weaving our own cloth. So to meet the requirements of the country as well as to offer the Mizo Women the opportunity of developing their creative skill, it is much important for the Government to give heed to what I have suggested. We must at the same time remember that the women, being more backward than male members, as far as Mizoram is concerned their advancement must also be regarded as important. Previously, there was much distinction between man and woman in education and other spheres of life here in Mizoram and scholarship were also given in such a way that women in those days had a slight chance of obtaining them. For which case, I would request the Govt. to adopt new outlook. We must also remember that womens' advancement is as important as mens'. If we are too one-sided the lives of the Mizo women would never be lifted up. So, I really do hope that the Govt. give heed to what I suggested for the advancement of the Mizo women.

Thank you.

PU LALRINLIANA : Mr. Dy. Speaker sir, I too would like to say few things. First of all, it is the absence of our Departmental Heads from this all that which I dislike. Being the limbs and legs of the Ministers, their presence is needed especially when critical question arise concerning various Departments of which the Ministers could

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not clarify. It is true that the Ministers are the main root and stem in administration, but the Co-ordination of our Department Heads is also needed without which the Ministers alone are incapable of handling different affairs. So, in order to have better progress on various grounds there must be close co-operation among them.

What had been said by our hon'ble Members regarding education was also true. Education, being one of the most well-established Departments we could now name 5 or 6 Directors with 3 Inspectors on whom so much work is placed. But, their advancement is not very fast. What had been said about the D.I. of Lunglei is also seems to be true. He would not be able to do much if all the powers are rested here in Aizawl.

Before I go on, I would like to tell you that there is a long way for reformation in which we can all participate. So, let me mention one by one the things that need reformation.

The difficulties that confronted each Department would not be same. While L.A.D. needs a Director, others would need Technician or rather working Staff. However, whatever the difficulty may be it is important that the Government tackles each, in every possible way.

Regarding Forest Department, it is my heart-felt-desire that we start doing something to preserve our Forest and Jungles. Just recently, I was touring over the land of Eastern Mizoram, there, I noticed how fast our Forest change into prairie. Hardly any jungle with trees for Fire-Woods. They now all become a grass-land except and Tawi Tlang. As such, it is now a problem especially for town dwellers to obtain Fire-Wood. Most of us now depend on the Fire-Wood collected at Hnahthial, Champhai or other Villages. That is how we manage. But these Villages too, soon would be short of trees to chop down. So, to preserve our Forest and for self-efficiency what I had in my mind is to start Fir (Pine) Plantation in our grasslands of Muthi, Sakawrhmutuai, where some had already been planted or elsewhere in every convenient places like they did in Khasi Hills. If our Forest Department does not start immediately soon all our Forest and jungles would turn into prairie and we would not have sufficient fuel for our daily use. So, it is necessary that Forest Department takes vigorous step in this line.

It might have been also known to us that Transport Department here like in other states could be corruptible because of which it is also difficult to manage. What had been said of side-way passengers' fare that never reach in full into Government's fund would be true I believe. But, if private owner could run Buses with profit, the Government also must be able to do which case, it is necessary for the Minister-in-charge to keep an watchful eye over the Department.

It is also a well-known fact that India like other countries is now facing a crucial time due to the shortage of Petroleum all over the world. The effect is also felt here in Mizoram where sufficient Kerosine Oil could never be had. And Fire-wood is also a problem. So, to meet the requirements of the people as well as to enrich the states income it is time that our Ministers especially Home and Finance give thought to the mineral sources

which are said to be existing in Chhintuipui areas particularly of Gas and Coal minerals. I would also remind the Ministers of the necessity of having investigators to investigate those areas as early as possible.

There had also been a talk of Paper Mills Industry. Well, it is well and good if we could run successfully. But, before we start opening it, we must first of all have technicians among us. Such technicians are not available here in our present State of being due to which it is important to send our young Mizo boys and girls to do some training outside Mizoram. Otherwise, even if we are to have Paper Mill Industry, we will have to employ others from our neighbouring states which in the long run could bring un-employment problem among the youths of Mizoram whose participation needed for the service of the country. So, if we are to open up major Project, everything that could involve must be considered. I do hope that our Ministers pay heed to what I have said.

Lastly, it is the delegation of power which has to be considered. It is true that there are many difficulties due to the vast power vested on one hand. Just for the temporary post of a Peon, the Director have to do the selection which proves that his subordinates do not have any power. So, it is very important to know where our responsibility lies. It will be much easier for us all if power is given to the subordinates also. We might have got lot of money to spend for the developments, but if we do not know how to spend all these money it would be meaningless. We must know how to distribute works and powers for smooth running of the Government. If we know that we are sure to make good progress.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is now 4 O'clock, so we will stop here to continue again tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

Meeting Adjourned at 1600 hrs.

Under Secretary,
Mizoram Legislative Assembly,
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