

3rd Sitting on 19th September, 1974 at 11.A.M.

P R E S E N T:

Pu H. Lhansanga, M.A., B.T., Speaker in the Chair. Chief Minister and six Ministers and Twenty five Members.

BUSINESS: 1. Questions.  
2. Any other Govt. Business.

SPEAKER: Question No.26 Pu C.Lalruata's Question.

STARRED QUESTIONS TO WHICH ORAL ANSWERS WERE GIVEN.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr.Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Administration Department be pleased to state -

- (a) What are the reasons for not opening proposed Administrative Sub-Divisions?.
- (b) What is the target date for opening and functioning of those Sub-Divisions?.
- (c) Is it a fact that Kolasib Sub-Division has functioned?

PU CH.CHHUNGA: Mr.Speaker, (a) The proposed Administrative CHIEF MINISTER. Subdivisions could not yet be opened for the following reasons -

(i) All the necessary posts for the proposed Subdivisions cannot be created/sanctioned due to "Ban" imposed by Government of India on creation of posts.

(ii) The boundaries of these proposed Subdivision have not yet been notified.

(b) No specific date has been fixed for opening and functioning of these new Subdivisions.

(c) It is not a fact Kolasib Subdivision has started functioning.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr.Speaker, supplementary question: When was the proposal for the opening of new Subdivision made? and when was Financial 'Ban' started?.

PU CH.CHHUNGA: Mr.Speaker, the date on which government of CHIEF MINISTER. India agreed to our proposal was on 21.4.83. But, unfortunately, Financial 'Ban' started before we make proper classification of the boundaries and notification.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr.Speaker, supplementary question: What were our weaknesses and difficulties for not being able to make an appointment for just a number of staff within that six months i.e. before financial 'Ban' started? I find no reason not to make an appointment before, classification of its areas. I don't think there is any wrong in appointing few staffs before notification is made.

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker, I think our member was mistaken. After creation of post, the last thing we have to do was to make an appointment to fill-up those posts. But, before we could do that, Financial 'Ban' was started.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question: Is it a fact that Central urged the Mizoram Government not to fill up these new posts during an Economic 'Ban'?

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question - After the creation of posts for new Subdivision why has not government still could make an appointment even ~~fixing~~ giving 6 months for its execution?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker, our present Economic Ban is not just an ordinary one. We were only permitted to fill up the existing vacancies within six months. But, in case of new posts, we have to consult and inform Central as we were directed.

In answer to Pu Chawngkunga's question, new posts for subdivision has not yet been created, due to the occurrence of an Economic 'Ban'.

PU CLALRUATA: Mr. Speaker, our Hon<sup>ble</sup> Chief Minister have stated boundary as one of the difficulties, involved in creating new subdivisions, But, have not classification of boundary been done when the proposal of creating new subdivision was taken to the central government. If, subdivision could not be opened without classification of boundary why have they opened at Kolasib? Has the boundary of Kolasib new subdivision been classified?

PU CH. CHHUNGA: Mr. Speaker, Kolsaib siddivision os opened just in name only. There is no proper establishment also. An officer was sent to function without having staff or co-workers. because of the needing pressure of the existing circumstances.

Seven Divisions - of which we recommended and which Central approved were as follow -

In Aizawl District they are Aizawl Sadar, Mamit, Kolasib, and Champhai, Demagiri and Lunglei Sadar for Lunglei District and as per Chhimituipui District - Lawngilai.

The boundary of Aizawl Subdivision had been already classified. But, Lunglei Division has to be done a little later as the D.C. could not do alone, due to which Aizawl D.C. will have to look into the matter.

As for Chhimituipui District, there is no difficulty.

PU K. SANGCHUM: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question - On what basis, demarcation of boundary is made?

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I think our Chief Minister misunderstood my question. What I asked was the reason for their delay in creating new post within that six months. What was the difficulty?

PU CH. CHHUNGA,  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, The main reason for the delay was due to the occurrence of an Economic Ban before we could be ascertain as to whether central would approve of opening all the 7 divisions we recommended.

Demarcation of boundary is done mainly basing on population and areas. But, as there can be a vast area with few inhabitants, our demarcation might be uneven, in which case, we all have to understand.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Our Chief Minister stated Kolosib as having a specific importance, so what is its specific importance?.

PU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, Kolosib has been an important Police Station. No doubt, Champhai is also Police Station. But, Kolosib being located in the middle of Aizawl to Silchar Road, it has always been an important place for the entry of non- Mizos from other states into Mizoram.

PU CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary Question- Ther is still uncertainty in our classification of boundary. Still, there are places which had been located in one District. For instance- The yonder side of Marpara which is of Lunglei District was placed at Aizawl District in the last General Election. So, could Government stop this sort of thing ?.

PU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, We will see about it.

SPEAKER: Question No 27, Pu Sangchhum's question.

PU K. SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister/c Local Administration Department be pleased to state-

(a) Whether the Government of Mizoram granted some amount of money as grant-in-aid to the three Autonomous District Councils, in CHhim-tuipui District in the years 1972-73 and 1973-74?.

(b) If so, What is the amount given to each District Council in the said years?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) Yes.  
DY. MINISTER. (b) 1972-73:

FOR NORMAL ADMINISTRATION:

1) Pawi District Council	- Rs. 3,89,924.46
2) Lakher District Council	- Rs. 3,37,876.10
3) Chakma District Council	- Rs. 3,22,199.44
4) For Election of the District Council.	- Rs. 50,000.00
5) For arrear pays of employees of erstwhile Pawi-Lakher Regional Council.	- Rs. 4,00,000.00
TOTAL	- <u>Rs. 15,00,000.00</u>

FOR DEVELOPMENT:

1) Pawi District Council	- Rs. 1.20 lakhs.
2) Lakher "	" - Rs. 1.17 lakhs.
3) Chakma "	" - Rs. 1.00 lakhs.
TOTAL	- <u>Rs. 3.37 lakhs.</u>

1973-74

FOR NORMAL ADMINISTRATION:

1) Pawi District Council	- Rs. 6.80 lakhs.
2) Lakher District Council	- Rs. 5.55 lakhs.
3) Chakma District Council	- Rs. 4.65 lakhs.
TOTAL	- <u>Rs. 17.00 lakhs.</u>

FOR DEVELOPMENT:

1) Pawi District Council	- Rs. 70,000.00
2) Lakher "	" - Rs. 70,000.00
3) Chakma "	" - Rs. 50,000.00
TOTAL	- <u>Rs. 190,000.00</u>

FOR BUILDING:

1) Pawi District Council	- Rs. 1 lakh.
2) Lakher "	" - Rs. 1 lakh.
3) Chakma "	" - Rs. 1 lakh.
TOTAL	- <u>Rs. 3 lakhs.</u>

FOR WATER SUPPLY:

1) Pawi District Council	- Rs. 1.04 lakhs.
2) Lakher "	" - Rs. 1.04 lakhs.
3) Chakma "	" - Rs. 1.00 lakhs.
TOTAL	- <u>Rs. 3.08 lakhs.</u>

PU CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, As it is difficult for us to remember all the facts and figures, may we have the copy of it ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, you will be seeing it in the Proceedings. However, if you wish to have, we'll see about it.  
DY. MINISTER.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is there any specific classification of terms and conditions as to how and when this Normal Administration Grant could be utilized ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Normal Administration is plans and activities that had not been included in our plan, carried on and out by each of the three Autonomous Districts for better functioning of the administration within their own respective District. They are not detailed as to how they would run the administration and for what purposes they would utilize this Normal Administration Grant. So, we generally left the grant to be utilized as necessary.  
DY. MINISTER.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is there any act/rule being framed to control the activities of these Districts ? and, have their accounts been audited ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, We cannot possibly interfere in their activities if the power exercised by them is not beyond the limit of powers entitled to them under 6th Schedule..  
DY. MINISTER.

But, things done beyond the limit of power are restricted. For instance- if they want to have Chief Secretary, that would be beyond the limit, but if it is Secretary, we cannot stop them from having it, since each autonomous District Councils are entitled to have one.

Their accounts also could be audited. Generally, their Financial statement and expenditure are accepted only after the Deputy Commissioner of Chhimituipui District gives the Countersign.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question- Why can there be so much differences in the allotment of Normal Administration Grant to the three Autonomous District Councils- Pawl, Lakher and Chakma while there is no differences in our Budget ? And why can they be given on population basis when they have same set-up ?

Was it because Pawl District Council make many new appointment that Grant is unequally divided ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, The allotment of grant-in-aid is executed in agreement with each of the three Council's Executive Members, that is why it is distributed on the basis of population. So, Pawl District Council having bigger population got more than the other two Councils.  
DY. MINISTER.

hvlc/-

.....6/-

PU HIPHEI : Mr. Speaker Sir, In the allotment of grant,  
DY. SPEAKER. the difference in 1973-74 has become much  
bigger than the year 1972-73. If, there  
was an agreement to allot on the basis of population our Chief  
Executive Members also should have known. So, was there not  
an agreement made in the year 1972-73 ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, The agreement was made in  
DY. MINISTER. the year 1972-73. But, may be it has not  
been known to some of the Chief Executive  
Members as there had often been changes in their Councils even  
in such a space of time. There might as well be a little confu-  
sion in the year 1972-73 allotment since it was adone so with-  
out a thorough knowledge of the fact and figure of population  
resided in those Districts. It was thus allotted in hope of  
helping them their administration. However, I don't think there  
was much differences in 1972's grant. While Pawi District  
Council got Rs. 380000/-, Lakher District Council got Rs. 3,30,000/-  
which is quite proportionate. But, in 1973-74 Grant, the differ-  
ence has become bigger because of the amount involved, which  
has become bigger than the year 1972.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Is Water supply Grant also  
given on the basis of population ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I think it is quite obvious  
DY. MINISTER. that the water supply Grant is not allotted  
on the basis of population. Let me repeat  
the amount of money received by each of the three District  
Councils-

Pawi District Council	-	Rs. 1,04,000/-
Lakher " "	-	Rs. 1,04,000/-
Chakma " "	-	Rs. 1,00,000/-

They have not yet been audited, but,  
Deputy Commissioner had been ordered to see to it.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Does not Government have  
Financial Control over those Councils ?  
And does the Deputy Commissioner have power  
to take over Primary Education ? Why do they have Education  
Officer ? Will it be right for the Government to readily  
accept each and everything done by these Autonomous Districts?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Government did certainly  
DY. MINISTER. have Financial Control over the three  
Councils, but it only does not interfere  
in their activities that had not been done beyond the limit  
of power and jurisdiction endowed by the Rules. Regarding  
their having an Executive Member mentioned by Pu Sapliana-  
They cannot simply appoint an Executive Member without the  
consent of Government but it is a laid-out rule that there  
shall be an Executive Member as well as Secretary. As for the  
appointment of Education Officer- We didn't readily accept nor  
reject their appointing an E.O. as we think it necessary.

It was somewhat a legal advice. (Pu Sapliana: The appointment of Education Officer was accepted for it was published in Mizoram Gazette). It was done so because of the proposal to hand over Primary Education to District Council. Anyway, there are things that can be and cannot be approved by the Government.

PU K.SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, Does the Government intend to sanction Normal Administration Grant for the year 1974-75 ? And will the grant be increased ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Normal Administration Grant sanctioned for the year 1974-75 is I think about 18 lakhs although I could not tell the exact figure, which means 2 lakhs bigger than last year's Grant. Besides this, 4 lakhs had also been already given out for Development. However, as the Grant is still under process, we cannot as yet tell the detail of it.

SPEAKER : Question No.28-Pu Ngurdawla's question.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of the Local Administration Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Government is proposing to create some new Village Council

(b) If so, how many Village Council will be created ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) The matter is under consideration by the Government.  
DY. MINISTER. (b) Does not arise yet.

PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, From many Villages come a demand for Village Council. So, does the Government intend to sort out this demand before the coming General Election ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, As the matter is still under consideration, nothing definite can be said.  
DY. MINISTER.

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, will the existing By-Village Councils in one Village be rejected ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I have no knowledge about the existence of By-Village Councils in one Village except in Town.  
DY. MINISTER.

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I know Tuipuibari has two Village Councils.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It is quite meaningless to ever say, "The matter is under-consideration" while November is our target for General

Election. Have there been proper measurement or demarcation of boundary for the creation of new Village Councils ? And is there any well-laid scheme for the execution of this proposal ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Before creating New Village  
DY. MINISTER. Council there are many things to be first considered. Demarcation of boundary, Administrative convenience and maintenance of Law and Order have also to be considered. On the top of that, we will have to think whether we could effort the salary of new Members, which is sure to increase in number if more New Village Council are opened. There might also be necessary to appoint Village Boundary Commission. As was the case, it is not possible to say things in advance.

SPEAKER : Question No. 29-Pu Ngurdawla's question.

PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Local Administration Department be pleased to state -

(a) What is the probable expenditure estimated for the coming Village Council Elections ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The probable expenditure  
DY. MINISTER. for the coming Village Council Election is estimated at Rs. 67,300/- excluding T.A./D.A. of Offices which may be borne by the Department concerned of the Office.

PU C.LALRUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question- Is it true that Local Administrative Department faces financial difficulty due to the failure of Government to sanction money for the year 1974-75 Village Council Election ? And is it also a fact that Village Council Election is delayed due to the unavailability of persons to look after the affairs ?

PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, When do we expect to have the coming Village Council Election ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Regarding Pu C.Lalruata's  
DY. MINISTER. question- It is true that Budget Provision for General Village Council Election of 1974-75 was not made, as there was none to take-up the responsibility at that time. The Election Department that had been created after the mergent of an Union Territory accepted to take-up the responsibility of only Parliament and Legislative Assembly Elections, but were ready to give their Co-operation in the coming Village Council Election. As was the case, the Deputy Commissioners of Aizawl and Lunglei were appointed for Election Officers.

And, as for the expenditure, we thought of re-appropriating from other provisions which had also been approved by Finance Department.

Regarding Pu Sangkhuma's question- It is not only Departmental unpreapareness which cause a delay in Village Council Election. Political situation of the country have also to be considered. Anyway, the term of our present Village Councils would end on 19th November so if there is no particular problem arise, we are planning to have before 19th November.



PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, From what I gathered our planning for Village Council Election seems not very fair. It is also a surprise not to make a provision in our Budget for it shows our weakness. And what would be the consequence when L.A.D. takes up the responsibility right from the start comes a complain. Now, L.A.D. has been detailed to take up the responsibility of Election for which they are not entitled. The only thing they gain would be bad name and criticism especially when the Election is over the losers would come forward and make a bold statement and might also condemn them as having personal bias when Electoral Roll was made. If Independent Election Office takes-up the burden, that would be different case. So, what I wanted to ask is-Even if our conduct for the coming Election is like this, will the Government intend to end this conduct to be replaced with better means ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Let me explain it this way. Although L.A.D. has been detailed to take up the responsibility of the coming Village Council Election, practically it is the Deputy Commissioner who is responsible, for he is Electoral Registration Officer. So, the L.A.D. only helps him in their best possible way.

PU C.LALRUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think the extent of 'responsibility' will have to be explained. Although an Electoral Officer had been stated as preparing an Electoral Roll I know L.A.D. staffs also prepared an Electoral Roll from last year. What I remembered is a Town Sanitary Inspector who had been sent to Bungzung/Vanzau to prepare an Electoral Roll. Therefore, I wanted to know the extent of the responsibility.

PU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, To make Roll amendment or New Entry anyone can go. But as the authority was given by Deputy Commissioner, he is inevitably the one who is responsible.

PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Although the Deputy Commissioner takes up the responsibility the people always put the blame on the staffs who prepared an Electoral Roll, which is risky for them. For instance- one C.A. who had gone to Kawrtethawveng to prepare an Electoral Roll was directly criticised right from the start, which is not a very pleasant thing. It is for our staffs I'm afraid of. So, could our Hon'ble Minister accept this simple fact ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am thinking whether such things did really happened. Because when an Electoral Roll is prepared we do not readily accept the registration, unless and until each Political Party Leaders of each Village give their signature of an approval. If not, people can make a complain. So, the same case is with Kawrtethawveng from whom an approval is not yet received. But, the matter is now under investigation and the Village is also directed to sent their approval.

**SPEAKER :** Now, question hour is over. Shall we go on ? Any objection ?

**PU C.LALRUATA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, I think we better continue. As we have always mentioned in our previous Sessions I would once again like to reveal the weakness of various Departments. It has now been three days since we waited for our Departments to submit Government business but in vain. And, if I'm not mistaken, office staffs have to arrive office at 9:30 A.M. during the session, but yesterday morning I roamed about in the premises of Secretariat and Directorate Offices, but none arrived at the exact time except one Gazetted Officer who arrived at 9:45 which shows that none of our Officers/staffs really care for our Sessions. And this morning, when G.A.D. was discussed about, hardly there was an Officer presence in the Official Gallery. So, from now on, I really do hope that our Officers have more regard for our Sessions.  
(Speaker : If the sitting is being continued, let us call upon Pu Hrangaiia).

**PU HRANGAIA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, It is a shame for the Government not being able to present business to their members wasting lots of public's money without cause. And it is still more shameful to have many officers who cannot do the work and who do not know how to work. That's all I want to say.

**PU SANGKHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, Will it be possible to make supplementary question for those unanswered questions of before yesterday's sitting, for, there are still, many questions unanswered.  
(SPEAKER: If they are before yesterday's questions, it is not possible.) Government who is to blame.  
(SPEAKER : Instead of saying Officer, just say 'Government'.)

**PU CH. CHHUNGA:** We gathered here, hoping to move some Bills in this House, but, may be in vain for today. What had been said by our Members were true. But, there are some reasons for our failure to submit our Bills. Departments also have done their best to yet ready before the Session. But, due to the conflicting ideas of us with our administrator and because of being a Union Territory certain Bill had to be first referred to Central Government, from which, always comes a delay Language Bill and Non-Tribal Trade Licence are also had been referred to Delhi long before the Session, but no result till today. And as for Society Registration Bill, we are directed to have a re-consideration as they didn't think it necessary for Mizoram. Had we been granted full-fledged statehood things would have been different for, there would be less interference from Central. But, for our present circumstances, we have not much power to do things as we like. As was the case, I appeal our Hon'ble Members to understand the difficulty of our Departments which is also ours as well. Our Chief Secretary who had gone to Delhi to submit our Bills was also detained. So, it is always the Central Government who always detained our Bills.

**SPEAKER:** Now, let me explain it, instead of calling each of you, for I believe there would not be much differences in what you intended to say. Had the Bill been seen before 11 days of the Session, we might be able to publish in the Gazette for you would have already studied it. But, it was sent to Delhi only when we know that the Session was to be held, that is why it has been now been delayed. Anyway, it is good for the Government to know the opinion of the Members.

Now, we shall take question No. 30,  
**Pu Sangchhuma's question.**

**PU SANGCHHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of the Forests Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether the Government of Mizoram granted money for Forests Department as normal grant to the three Autonomous District Councils during the Financial Years 1972-73 and 1973-74.
- (b) If so, what is the amount of such money granted for each Autonomous District Council ?

**PU ZALAWM :  
DY. MINISTER.** Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) No. (b) No such money was granted when we were under Assam Government we have never thought about this for Pawi-Lakher Region Council & Mizo District Council were looked after separately. But, while visiting Lunglei before I became a Minister, each Secretary of the three Districts made a provision which they presented to me for further process. So, with the approval of our Chief Minister, I submitted the provision to the Director for further process. Then, Director after processing it submitted to the Development Commissioner on 20th August, 1974. So, a proposal was made to grant certain amount to each of the three Autonomous Districts. Thus- Rs. 1,93,000/- to Pawi District Council, Rs. 1,65,000/- to Lakher District Council and Rs. 1,53,000/- to Chakma District Council. Before this proposal, no money had been granted from Forest Department.

**PU SAPLIANA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, we have been told that Pawi-Lakher Regional Council and Mizo District Council were separately treated under Assam Forests Department. So, how would Mizoram Govt. now look after those Council's Forests ? And upto what extent Government would have voices in their Forest Administration ?

**PU ZALAWMA :  
DY. MINISTER.** Mr. Speaker Sir, As provided by Sixth Scheduled, District Councils are permitted to look after their own Forest areas with the appointment of staffs. We have now also made a proposal so that they can look after their Forest areas as they requested.

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, For the presentation of our Councils's Forests, I think Non-Tribal Trade Licence would be much more important than money. If we have no Control over Trade Licence or Non-Tribal Trade Licence big business men or Wealthy Traders would come and grasp all the lands with its possessions. Was it having this in mind, that the Minister thinks it safest to have again Non-Tribal Trade Licence ?

PU SANGCHHUM: Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question- When we were under Assam Government Pawi-Lakher Regional Council was provided with staffs and Ranger even in Deputation. But, now, nothing of this sort is done. So, what is the reason for not being able to do what Assam Govt. did ?

PU ZALAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, During the erstwhile Assam  
DY. MINISTER. Government a separate Tribal areas Department was opened from which we the District Councils draw Grant-in-aid money, which we then used for the welfare of various Departments. Like so, we now have L.A.D. from which comes Grant-in-aid money. So, our three District Councils having had their own Forest Department have to manage with the grant sanctioned by L.A.D. But, if they have Plan Scheme to carry out or if they need extra-grant besides normal grant for Reserve Forest, some extra amount can be asked from Chief Conservator like we did while in Assam. As far as our three Councils are concerned, I think they can at present manage with the grant sanctioned from L.A.D.

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question- It is evident that the Mizoram Government did not look after District Councils Forest as looked-after by Assam Government. While in Assam, District Council Forests were looked-after from Council Budget, whereas staffs, Ranger and Divisional Forests Officer were provided by the Assam Forest. So, when we enter a new era of an U.T. Government, Forest District Council which had been looked-after by Assam Government were all neglected. Why have those Forest Staffs be neglected ? And, is it only from L.A.D. intends to look-after Council's Forest ?

PU R. THANGLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, What had been said by our  
MINISTER. Deputy Minister i/c Forests-In-charge were true. No doubt, that Ranger and D.F.O. were posted here in Mizo District and in Pawi-Lakher Region, but, they were paid from Council Budget. So, when we get an U.T. one Ranger was posted at Saiha, but he, along with other Forest Staffs were withdrawn due to the failure of the Council to give their wages and also due to the shortage of staffs here in our new-borne Government.

And L.A.D. being the Department who looks after Councils from the beginning, Council's Forests affairs also would be included in the Plan Scheme of L.A.D.

SPEAKER : Question No. 31, Pu Sangkhuma's question.

PU SANGKHUMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of the Forest Department be pleased to state -

(a) What are the posts and their respective numbers under the Forest Department which are lying vacant ?

(b) Why are they kept vacant so long ?

PU ZALAWM :  
DY. MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

(a)

Sl. No.	Name of Post	No. of Post vacant.
1.	Planning Officer.	1
2.	Forest Ranger.	4
3.	Deputy Ranger.	1
4.	Forest Surveyor.	1
5.	U.D. Assistant.	1
6.	Account Assistant	1
7.	Forester	22
8.	Driver.	2

(b) They are not kept vacant so long. Actions have been taken and are being taken for filling up the vacant posts.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question- It appears that the administration of Forest Department is not very appreciating. For instance- They made their dwelling places inside the town or in an outskirt within the reach of fowls and domesticated animals, planting and cultivating various trees which can be a hindrance of the public. Not only that, unlike other places, here those who get quick and prompt promotion are the ones who could catch people to fine not those who were safeguard reserved trees, bamboos or reserved Forests without fine.

And as they are Forest Ranger and Forest Guard, why not let them stay in a Beat houses in Forest or jungle instead of staying within the towns like we found in Champhai, Sairang, Kanhaun, Bairabi. Will it be possible to make some changes in their administration ?

PU ZALAWMA :  
DY. MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, What Pu Chawngkunga said were true and we also intended to follow them too. We have also made certain proposals for the establishment of Beat House in Ngur Hman Far (Champhai) & in Bunghaun.

But, as regards to their dwelling in the town area it is unavoidable due to many circumstances. For instance - their children have to be educated, but if we cant affort facilities for their education, they somehow have to settle down in a nearby town so as to share the facilities of other children. Besides this, as it is always human beings who destroy reserved trees and Forest, our Ranger and Forester/have to reside among the people to stop them from doing harm to those reserved areas. But, this does not mean that none of them do their duty in Forest. Some of them are detailed to be on guard in Forest whole day while some keep an watch-over their respective areas. If they do not neglect their duties, we somehow have to think their conveniency.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question- I think our Minister was not well informed about the running of this Department. According to the verdict of the Departmental Promotion Committee, I think promotion is to be given in seniority and they have also gone so far as not to promote untrained and under matric staffs. But, unaccordingly, last year 9 persons, all untrained and under matric were promoted for Deputy Ranger. And, another two persons, untrained and under matric were again promoted for Forester I. If some of them can be promoted, why can't we also promote the rest who have the same qualification with these promoted ? Why does this Department function without definite principle and proper guidance ? It appears that only their favourite ones were promoted. Will it be possible to have proper rules to follow from now on ? And what about those vacant posts ? are they to be filled in with fresh appointment or in departmental promotion ?

PU ZALAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Forest Department being a  
DY. MINISTER. Technical thing, our principal is also surely be seniority-cum-efficiency. Those staffs, whom their superiors-Director/D.F.O. think fit for promotion viewing their efficiency and experiences are recommended to the Departmental Promotion Committee, so from there promotion is made.

As regards to the filling up of vacant posts, there are two avenues-one being Promotion while the other is New creation. If it is New Creation, there used to be an advertisement, examination & interview. But, in case of promotion, only a recommendation is sent to the Departmental Promotion Committee.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Within this year two untrained staffs were promoted for Forester I which means that 22 posts are still lying vacant. So, how are these posts going to be filled-up by promotion or by making new appointment ? Or, would the rest who also have seniority like the promoted two be promoted ? Here, the word 'efficiency' seems to be meant only 'favouritism'.

PU ZALAWM : Mr. Speaker Sir, I hope we all understand  
DY. MINISTER. that promotion is not just a recruitment. It is done only in view of experiences and efficiency. But, as there are some experienced applicants from other states we also make recruitment every now and then that is, if they accept to be in a bottom list.

PU R. THANGLIANA:  
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I think some of our Members do not fully understand those explanations given by our Minister. As there was no Recruitment Rules for the past, two years, some of the Foresters who had been sewing under the erstwhile Dist. Council were superceded by their junior and promotions of was also done on the recommendation of Department Heads/Officers. But, ever since we have proper rules I don't think there is any recruitment of untrained Forester I. Regarding promotion - I think there can be a relaxation of rule for a special circumstances. For instance- If a Forester II who had been sewing for many years could not go for training due to unfavourable circumstances or due to the absence of facilities. Such cases would be a different thing that is, there can be a relaxation of rule in such cases. What Pu Sangkhuma said, about the promotion of some Forester last year were also the same cases with what I mentioned just now.

PU SANGKHUMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Just once more, I know two untrained persons who had been promoted to Forester I this year. Why are those 22 posts been kept still vacant there are many staffs ?

SPEAKER :

It will be wrong to take-up an individuals cause in the House as it is not countable as public Interest not that I meant anyone of you. did. But, on the other had, it is indeed necessary to state the fact and principles in which we are certain.

PU SAPLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, According to our Minister there seems to be two avenues for filling-up vacant Post-one being Promotion, while the other is New Recruitment. But, if there is no specific classification as to which are promotion and New recruitment there would always arise mis understanding among the Public. So, can our Minister explain the classification of the two avenues ?

PU ZALAWMA :  
DY. MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, According to our principle a Forester II first has to go for training before promoting to Forester I. But, if untrained Forester/staff has efficiency and experience and if there is no an adverse entry in his confidential Report, he can be promoted to the next stage through the Departmental Promotion Committee, on the recommendation of their Heads/Officers. However, due to the shortage of trained persons in Mizoram, some of the things might have been done unaccordingly, in which case I beg you all to understand.

S PE  
SPEAKER:

Now, Question No.32, Pu Saitlawma's question.

PU SAITLAWMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of the Forest Department be pleased to state-

Whether it is a fact that 16 out of 18 vacant posts of Forest Guards and Foresters under the Lunglei Forest Divisions have been filled up by candidates from Aizawl District.

PU-ZALAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, No.  
DY.MINISTER.

SPEAKER : Question No.33.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr.Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble  
Minister-in-charge of the Forest  
Department be pleased to state-

(a) Whether it is a fact that the B.R.T.F. posted within Mizo-  
ram, are permitted to use Forest products, like stone, sand  
and timber for the purpose of road construction on pre-  
payment of royalty.

PU-ZALAWMA : Mr.Speaker Sir, Yes, according to existing  
DY.MINISTER. procedure.

PU SAITLAWMA: Mr.Speaker Sir, During the erstwhile  
District Council Rs 9,00,000/-had been  
drawn-in from Forest products, so what  
is the amount that had been drawn-in during the year-1972-73  
and 1973-74 ? How much royalty been imposed on the B.R.T.F. ?  
and what is the cost of stone per cubic metre and bamboo ?

PU ZALAWMA : Mr.Speaker Sir, I am sorry for not preparin  
DY?MINISTER. for those questions. I could only tell  
the amount acquired from Firewood/Lock  
Timber during the year 1973-74 which is Rs 15,671.57. But, if our  
Member wanted to know, I would be able to produce before this  
Session ends.

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr.Speaker Sir, supplementary question-  
B.R.T.F. and P.W.D. Contractors having  
detailed to do the same task-to construct  
roads, P.W.D. Contractors are never given free payment of roy-  
alty. But, when B.R.T.F. damage/destroy Forest and its products  
outside their boundary there seems to be no royalty been taken.  
If royalty is taken from Civilian, would not B.R.T.F. also be  
fined ? Will Forest Department take action for the damage they  
have done to those Forests in Sateek range ?

PU-ZALAWMA : Mr.Speaker Sir, B.R.T.F., like the Civil-  
DY.MINISTER. lian is not exempt from a royalty. If  
they devastated Forests and its products  
outside their boundary action would be taken. But, there is  
an intention to make a compromise between, for which their  
Officers and ours have been consulting each other.



PU R. ZOLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question-

If there was a compromise as stated by our Minister, what kind of a Compromise it was ? And what Compromise was there when Forest woods and bamboos are destroyed by the B.R.T.F. ?

PU SAPLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, How far the Government knows the utilisation of the money passed in every budgets for the B.R.T.F. ? And, would it be right for the Government to be too ignorance about the actives of the B.R.T.F. who do not regularly give royalty as they should ?

PU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Why there be a long pending relationship between the Govt. and B.R.T.F. who have been here for many years since ? And what does our Minister meant by efficiency, efficiency in what ?

SPEAKER : Time is up. There are about two more questions. So, I think we better stop here.

PU SAEFLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, just once more-If the previous year amount of royalty taken from B.R.T.F. is known how can Government do not know the amount acquired during the year 1972-73 ? And what about the rest of my questions- How much is Timber royalty per cubic metre and stone royalty per cubic metre ? Is it also true that Mahal System do not exist these days ?

PU ZALAWMA:  
DY. MINISTER. Mr. Speaker Sir, By a compromise which had been framed on 11.3.1969, it was suggested that royalty of woods/bamboos that had been used for the construction of roads by the B.R.T.F. would be decided only after calculation. But, light materials, like that we found in the reserve areas of Village Council, mainly used for the construction of temporary hut would not be calculated or taxed. Forest Department has some reserved forest products for which royalty is taken while there are some for which no royalty is needed.

As regards to Mahal System - It does exist even now. Some of our Mahal Areas are- Tuiruang where the Mahalder being Abdul Sadar, who already paid in full Rs 1100/- for the settlement of Mahaldership. And, another one is at Sairang, the Mahalder being Pu Rokhuma from whom Rs 525/- is taken.

Forest Department has also a right to claim Forest products that has come into existence before anyone owns the land even if the land owner claimed to have a right of property. But, if the products are out of his own labour, we do not have right to interfere.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think we are too lenient in our compromise with B.R.T.F. A royalty of Rs 10,000/- per a year is too little for B.R.T.F. who used-up heaps and heaps of fire-wood amounting more than Rs 10,000/- a year.

PU-ZALAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, This was done so, after  
DY. MINISTER. calculating with our own staffs who stay in our Forest Beat.

SPEAKER : 20 minutes gone since our fixed timing. Before we go on, we'll have to know the opinion of the House.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, At first we did go against the rule, without having time limitation. (Speaker: How did we go against the rule?) While there can be only 6 supplementary questions, we have given chances-for many supplementary questions at the beginning. So, why can't we go on asking question if there is anything to be questioned ?

SPEAKER : According to the Rule, there can be only 6 supplementary questions, but it is also relaxable depending on the subject. What shall we do now, time is up. (Members wanted to go on) Well, let us then continue. Now, question No. 34, Pu Dotinaia's question.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Medical Department be pleased to state-

(a) Whether the Govt. of Mizoram propose to give recognition to the Mission Hospital at Durtlang and Serkawn ?

(b) If so, what is the present position ?

PU P. B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir,  
DY. MINISTER. (a) There is no such proposal at this moment.  
(b) Does not arise.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It was learnt that the two Mission Hospitals of Serkawn and Durtlang were not recognition because of non-availability of qualified Nursing Superintendent. But, does the Government intent to recognise them when they are said to have qualified B.Sc. Nursing Superintendents ? If they have not thought about it, will the Government have intention from now ?

SPEAKER: There must not be a repetition of answers for it takes so much time.

PU P.B.NIKHUMA:  
DY. MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, We have not thought about the recognition of the two Mission Hospitals. But, Directorate Office is informed to see whether they can be recognised.

SPEAKER:

Question No. 35, Pu Lalkunga's question.

PU LALKUNGA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Health Department be pleased to state-

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Health Department, Mizoram is unable to get Polio Vaccine ?

(b) If so, the reason thereof ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA :  
DY. MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

(a) Not a fact, rather brisk efforts are a foot to procure the Vaccine.

(b) Does not arise.

PU NGURDAWLA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, We know that paralysis pervades the territory particularly among the young children. Having known to us those cases, to what extent an effort had been made in order to get the Vaccine ?

PU P.B.NIKHUMA :  
DY. MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all, let me tell you some of the difficulties that involved in acquiring Polio Vaccine. This kind of Medicine is supposed to be taken from Government Medical Store Depot, Madras. But, this, being a delicate medicine, it has to be packed in a Harmacle Box, which has to come through Calcutta where it is to be again unpacked and repacked. And once the Medicine is opened, it has to be used-up within a month and if one does not take a full dose a complete course which is thrice injection a month, the Vaccine would have no effect as stated by Doctor Mohan Redya who is the representative of World Health Organisation.

As was the case, it is now under consideration as to how we would get the vaccine in this kind of bad weather. However, the Medical Department has now started collecting a statistic of children below the age group of 11 at District level, so when we know our actual requirement and if there is a regular Air Service, (Pu C. Lalruata: Mr. Speaker Sir, which Air Service ?) Of course, there is no Air Service between Aizawl and Madras. Calcutta Liaison Officer also had been informed about the packing of the said vaccine.

And, one of the reason why we didn't purchase the medicine is also that unless we know our actual requirement, we dare not risk so much money in case there be a wastage.

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**PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, In view of our present condition as far as Polio is concerned, what had been said by our Hon'ble Dy. Minister was not at all satisfactory. Many children had been attacked by this disease now-a-days and the people are afraid of it, for once Polio attacks a persons, it is said to be uncurable. As such, the most important thing would be to take a precautionary step- to get vaccine. Many people had gone down to Gauhati and Alipore Hospitals to take/buy. This vaccine. And, Dr. Zokhuma also could get some. So, if our neighbouring hospitals and private Doctor could get why could not the Mizoram Government also get some boxes of Polio Vaccine ? Have the Government asked the Hospital and doctors as to how they get the vaccine ? If we delay any longer, we never know how many more children would be affected. And why does Government feel so scare of having an wastage, what is the price of this Vaccine ?

**PU P.B. NIKHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, What I have said regarding  
**DY. MINISTER.** Polio Vaccine might have been unsatisfactory. But, the fact is Government never purchase things without knowing an approximate requirement or without forehand estimation. So, the same case is with Polio Vaccine. Had this medicine been an ordinary APC tablets. we would buy many without first knowing our approximate requirement for, it can be kept as long as we want. But, Polio Vaccine is difficult. Once it is opened it has to be used-up within a month and it cannot also be kept more than a month. Not only that if one does not take its full dose/course, just once injection would do no good to anyone.

You might also think that we have been slow in purchasing the vaccine. For a private Doctor it won't be so difficult to get them, for, they are traders and they can charge as much money as they like. But, what about us ? As the medicine is for the whole of Mizoram, an Officer had to go down to get them. Calcutta Liaison Officer is also requested to help unpacking and prepacking when the boxes arrive Calcutta. All these were thought out when we know that Polio pervades the territory. Anyway, as I have said before, it is not my way of thinking to buy a delicate medicine/ undurable medicine without knowing an approximate requirement. In fact, a private Doctor who practise the said vaccine must also be checked to see whether their medicines are really effective.

**PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, What I wanted to know are- how did they calculate our requirement ? Is it this a calculation of population ? What is the necessity of calculating population for this particular case ?

**PU-P.B. NIKHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, I have said everything.  
**DY. MINISTER.** We have to know how many persons/children can be injected within one month. If the vaccine is durable medicine, we would surely buy lots.

**PU SANGKHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, According to our Minister they seems to be wanting to know the requirement of only Aizawl and Lunglei Districts, in which case, our actual requirement would never be known, for there are other children who has been attacked by this Polio and whose home sttod far from Aizawl/Lunglei Districts. Besides this, if a private Doctor or an individual could obtain the vaccine from Calcutta why can't the Government also get from Calcutta ? Is it not possible for the Government to get from a nearer places ?

**PU VANLALHRUAIA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, would not it be easier to first find out the quantity of the vaccine that can be purchased for one month instead of first collecting a statistics of population ?

**PU LALHMINGTHANGA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, In my opinions it is meaningless to propose a big scheme while there are children who has already been affected by this Polio. Not that I want the Government to buy a surpass, but, will it be possible to buy some bones of the vaccine just enough for the treatment of those already affected without delay ?

**PU P.B. NIKHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, For answer to Pu Sangkhuma's questions- I did not mean that a statistic of Villages would not be collected for our purpose, I only said that the collection would be started from District Headquarters.

And, it is also not possible for the Govt. to easily purchase the vaccine/medicine from each and every places like an individual did, for we have our own approved Firm, from which we are to buy these things and which had been approved by Purchase Board.

As for my answer to Pu Hruaia's question - it might have been a good idea to buy the vaccine just the requirement of the Department for the time being but it would be still better if there is more and enough vaccine for the whole territory, so that the Department can give their full attention.

**PU CH. SAPRAWNGA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, Next thing I wanted to know is when we delay in purchasing the vaccine, will its expiry be prolonged ?

**PU NGURDAWLA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, What kind of help is sought from the Liaison Officer of Calcutta? Why should it be help; it is his duty to help the Government when necessary.

**PU P.B. NIKHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, I forgot to mention this  
**DY. MINISTER.** that within two years i.e. 1973-74, 5 cases of Polio had been detected.

**SPEAKER:** Now question No.36, Pu Lalkunga's question.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Health Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the post of Joint Director of Health Services is lying vacant.
- (b) Whether the post has been advertised.
- (c) Whether the Government has any intention to fill up the post in the near future ?
- (c) If not, why not ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir,  
DY. MINISTER. (a) Yes, (b) No. (c) Yes (d) Does not arise.

PU LALKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, how are the posts going to be filled-up ? Will it be without an advertisement ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Usually, Senior Officer posts are filled by promotion. But, let me explain how we intended to fill-up a Joint Director post here in Mizoram. This post was created quite a long time back, but when we were about to fill-it-up, an order came, from Health Ministry not to fill-up for the time being, for, they think it not so necessary for our Territory due to the scarcity of population in comparison with other states. But, we have reconsideration of the matter lately and a decision was made just before the Session. So, I hope the post would be filled up soon.

PU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question- It is well and good that the post is going to be filled-up by promotion. But, what is the use of always saying 'We have intention' before the execution of our purposes ?

When we say 'we have intention' I am afraid less our intention again goes-off in smoke.

PU P.B. NIKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not know that our purposes used to go off in smoke when we have intention especially for this particular post. The post, being proposed from our own Plan an 'economic Ban' would have not much effect and I hope we would fill it up soon.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr.Speaker Sir, supplementary question- Will the cases of Officers/Staffs who are having cases or who are under suspension be considered in time of promotion ?

PU-P.B.NIKHUMA: Mr.Speaker Sir, That will depend on their decision. But, I think this won't have much effect on their promotion except that they would be delayed unless their case is finalized.  
DY.MINISTER.

PU C.LALRUATA: Mr.Speaker Sir, What I meant is those who get promotion while having cases. For instance- supposing one person is condemned after his promotion and suspended, will it be possible to make a motion without suspension ?

PU-P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr.Speaker Sir, I am not very sure whether it is possible to be promoted while having cases or while under suspension. Usually, a promotion of Officers/Staffs mostly depends on their Confidential Report which can have a far reaching effect in their carrer.  
DY.MINISTER.

SPEAKER : Well, I think we have said enough for today, so we'll stop here. Our sitting will resume tomorrow at 11:00 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 P.M.

SECRETARY,  
Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

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