

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTH BUDGET SESSION OF MIZORAM  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY HOUSE FROM  
11.3.1975 TO 1.4.1975.

11th SITTING ON 16th APRIL, 1975 AT 11 A.M.

P R E S E N T

Pu H. Thansanga, M.A., B.T., Speaker in the Chair. Chief Minister and 6 Ministers and Twenty six Members present.

B U S I N E S S

- 1: Questions.
- 2: Short Notice Question - Pu Saitlawma to ask.
- 3: Laying of Papers on the Table:  
Pu B. Thangliana, Minister i/c Development etc. to lay - 'List of Land Reclamation Work (District wise) taken up in Mizoram during the last three years'.
- 4: Consideration & Voting on Government Bills -
  - (a) The Lushai Hills District Village Councils (Amendment) Bill, 1975.
  - (b) The Mizoram Roadside Land Control Bill, 1975.
- 5: Half-an-hour Discussion -  
Arising from Starred Question No. 32 (Circulated under Memo.No.MAS 11/75/ of 19.3.1975 under rule 37(5) of Rules of Procedure etc.): To be raised by Pu Sapliana.
- 6: Adjournment sine die.

SPEAKER: Read from the Bible.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Declaration of places/towns as Urban Areas

\*117: PU LALHMINGTHANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the General Administration Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether the Government has declared the places/towns recognised as 'Urban Areas' under the Mizoram Urban Areas Rent Control Act, 1974?

(b) If not, why not?

(c) If so, what are the places/towns?

.....2/-

FU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir,  
(a) No.  
(b) It is under active consideration.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, does not arise.

FU LAHMINGBEHANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Until and unless the Administration proclaims the places/towns as Urban Area, the rule/Act will not be effective. Accordingly, the Administrator's assent to the Bill was obtained in Nov. 1974. Since the Act is framed in favour of the landlords who anxiously waited for its implementation, so far, it appears that the Government does not make active effort for its fulfilment.

Sir, with your permission, I like to read out my original Question which is admitted but incorporated in the present question. Besides this, one more Question is added into it - 'authority to fix its standard rent' - . The words - 'The authority or authorities who is to fix the standard rent as required under the Mizoram Urban Areas Rent Control Act, 1974' - if excluded, make the question meaningless. When will the authority declare certain towns and places as 'Urban Area' ? If the Minister can tentatively say the time, it will be informative for the House.

Secondly, I would like to know who is the appointed authority to fix this standard rent ?

FU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, As I have just said, the Government will fix the standard rent and declare towns/places as Urban Area. Places/Towns which are to be recognised as Urban Area will be selected by the Administrator.

The Hon'ble Member also restated that the Bill itself was passed in Nov. last. This was truly correct. Then, the Bill, as required under section (3) was published in the Mizoram Gazette (Extraordinary) only on two occasions, viz. 25.2.75 and 5.3.75. After it had been completely published in the Gazette, the Bill has become an Act. As provided under Section (2) of the Act, the Administrator is thus authorised to appoint places/towns as 'Urban Area'.

FU CHAWNGKUNGA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, One Supplementary Question. It appears that the Act is insignificant.

What are the places/towns etc. recognised by the dissolved District Council as Urban Area ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, It is not known to me that the then District Council recognised any places as Urban Area, except some restricted areas, which comprise Aizawl, Kolaisib, Sairang, Champhai, Lunglei and Demagiri.

PU LAHMINGTHANGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary Question. What there are no places worth saying as Urban Area, is it a fact that Aizawl is the only town to be recognised as Urban Area?

PU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, the fact will be revealed, as provided, by the issue of the notification of the Administrator.

SPEAKER:

Now Question Nos. 118 & 119 by  
Pu J. Thanghuama,

SUPPLY & TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

Requirement and present stock position of food stuff for Mizoram.

\*118: PU J. THANGHUAMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Supply & Transport Department be pleased to state -

(a) What is the total requirement of food stuff for Mizoram for the year ending 1975?

(b) The total Quantity now in stock (upto 28.2.75) at Silchar and Aizawl?

(c) When the Government propose to despatch them to the respective centres?

PU LAISANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Our proposed requirements of rice for the year 1975 is about 5,40,000/- Qtls. plus 3,000 Qtls of wheat. Moreover, we have to import some quantities of food stuff for the security forces stationed in various places of Mizoram.

The Stock position of food supply on 28th of February is 10,040 Qtls of rice, 5,535.12 Qtls of Wheat, and 600 Qtls of atta at Silchar Godown, and at Aizawl 2039 Qtls of rice, and 87.52 Qtls. of atta.

Despatch of food supply to various Centres started since March, 1975. It will take the whole year.

No. of persons against whom actions were taken in connection with irregularities of food supply is as follows :-

1. 8 persons of Supply Staff
2. 12 persons of Contractors
3. 8 persons of Retailers
4. 18 persons from Officials.

Total = 36 persons.

**FU SANGKHUMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, One more Supplementary Question. How did the Government take action against these persons? Whether action was taken on fact finding or on suspected condition?

**FU J. THANGHUAMA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary Question. Yesterday the Minister stated that the Stock position in Godown was 8 Qtls. As time goes, the Stock position is also changing. I want to know how many Centres are there in Mizoram with no buffer stock? Whether the number of persons stated by the Supply Minister included those Administrative Officers <sup>against whom</sup> action taken, as in the 'Mizo Aw' yesterday? Furthermore, Is it a fact that the case of one Contractor who was fined about Rs. 5,000/- for recovery of the loss and Rs. 5,000/- fine for his misconduct, was put up to Lt. Governor? Whether it is a fact that the Contractor has been pending Bill amounting to Rs. 1,50,000/-

*\* published*

**LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER:**

Mr. Speaker Sir, As requested by Hon'ble Member Fu Sangkhuma, the list is laid on the table, of which some cases are detected from the accounts and confirmed that those are really incorrect. Some of the cases are being investigated. Some are filed and registered. If the members are desirous of seeing the list, I can do that also.

Some Stock centres are now having more than they required. There is 1000 Qtls. stock at Tlabung at present. This may be reserved for Lunglei District. The whole of Chakma Area is self-sufficient. To Saitual Road Phaibuang and Bualpui, Aiduzawl are also self-sufficient. To Champhai side - Bungzung, Vaphai, Farkawn, Serchhip and N. Vanlaiphai need no food supply at present. Vervek, Vanbawng, Ruallung and Kawlkulh, where direct distribution from Silchar is carried on are said to be self-sufficient. There might be some isolated cases which are not yet detected.

Places where no transit Centres are located are Khawruhlian, Kawlkulh, Saitual, Khawzawl, Champhai, Serchhip, Chhingchhip, Sateok, Lunadai. Proposed Centres are Lengpui, Thenzawl.

As mentioned by the Hon'ble Members, publication of news in 'Mizo Aw' and other daily newspapers is mainly based on general informations received by them. However, Government procedure is based on official documents for which a separate line of execution is followed.

A case of one Contractor was not put up to the Lt. Governor so far as I know. Kawlkulh case, pointed out by Pu J. Thanghuama, was categorised under Civil Case but dismissed by the Magistrate. As a result, the departments has started supplying recently. In any case, it is a Civil Case, the magistrate has every authority to dismiss and to give judgement in favour of the person concerned.

TU SANGKHUMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, The Minister just read out the list of villages where demand for food supply is nil. But, it seems that wider clarification in this connection is needed. Among the villages, he includes Vorvek which is within my constituency. It is now in a worse situation for they have no food stock for the people. The Village Council Members are now in Aizawl to bring to the notice of the Government about their hardship resulting from shortage of food supply. It is, therefore, felt necessary to review the matter as to which is the source of informations which are received by the Government, and what is this information collected?

Yesterday, the Minister had announced that food supply cannot be stocked as demanded. He also made clear that the carrying charge is being revised, and the rate is likely to be raised in order to attract Contractors. People are now facing an acute shortage of food supply. Therefore, the Government should take immediate action to remedy the evil. Moreover, I like to know the names of villages where supplies are despatched. How many villages are there in Mizoram to which the Government could not send food supply?

TU VANLALHRUAIA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, It appears from the Ministers oral answers that about 5,40,000 Qtls will be required during the year. If so, the present stock available to us is only 14,000/Qtls. How the Government proposed to transport the remaining quantity from Silchar?

Besides, Hnahlan village, of my constituency is included by the Minister in his list of self-sufficient villages. But, why a contractor for the said village is appointed? I also like to know whether further supply or additional supply is received from Silchar to Aizawl?

PU R.DOTINAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I cannot appreciate the Minister for he said that there are some villages which required no supply. From whom the information is received? Whether from Administrative Officer or Village Council?

PU LALSANGZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The case of Vervek Village, questioned by Pu Langkhuma is being re-investigated. With regard to information received by us, centrewise requirement and collection of annual rice product are entrusted to all the Deputy Commissioners who gave such information at the end of harvesting season. The proposed enhancement of carrying charge, as stated by me yesterday, is to be published soon. I also emphasized that efforts are being made for the betterment of rice stock position. It is now improving at a great speed.

By the way, Sir, please let the Hon'ble Member repeat his Question.

PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, question is this. How many Villages are there in Mizoram where the requirement could be replenished and how many villages have not been supplied?

PU LALSANGZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, In what connection the Govt.'s decision in taking product is, however, unapplicable to the case. It was based on the calculation of grass product divided by the monthly requirement. The Government, thus, estimated, that there will be such and such amount produced and that quantity will last such and such period. This procedure is now found to be out of ~~the~~ style and inapplicable to the present situation. So, it has to be totally changed. From this year onward, we will be having a new method of calculation for people are not equal in possession as well as in productive capacity.

Requirements of supply are occasionally submitted by Villagers and those are despatch from time to time. But, sometimes these food stuff are delayed for which we very much regret. It is necessary to make combined efforts so as to give quick relief to the people.

It is also difficult to give a detailed centrewise requirement. Further, we cannot exactly say how much quantity is required by each village. Sometimes, Village people come to us with a message that

quick operation in sending food is needed. Otherwise, famine stricken people will die of hunger. As such, when supply of rice amounting to 200 Qtls was despatched to Mamit Village during the last rainy season as desired, they replied from the Village stating a stock of 200 Qtls. was kept un-consumed by the time the despatched supply reached the village. Similarly, supply stock of atta despatched for those areas around Pu Sangkhuma Constituency was reportedly learnt to be unconsumed. It was on us that the blame had been put by the Hon'ble Member in his speech yesterday.

FU SANGKHUMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I was not putting a blame on them that it was their fault to give rotten atta to the people. It was rather to mean that due to non-availability of food, people were alternately compelled to takeing of atta which was not fresh.

FU LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, The exact requirement of Villages is absolutely impossible to foretell. Several centres are now given their required Stock. But, some cases are found unreal. Immediately after receiving petitions from Chhiahtlang and Sunstlang Villages, Supply was sent. Tenzawl Village was also said to be in a state of starvation. Food supply was rushed to the Village by the Deputy Commissioner, Lunglei on the following day when I rang him up. About 200 Qtls. of rice was sent to Thenzawl, meant for Chhipphir Village. It was through the appointed contractor that 30 Qtls. of rice was despatched for Sial-suk Village. After 2 weeks 30 Qtls, about 5 Qtls. and 45 lbs only was received according to the report received from the concerned member. The case is being investigated till now.

It is beyond our capacity to be exact. On the one hand people came with news that they are facing hardship coupled with shortage of food supply; on the other hand, inspite of our utmost efforts we are blamed for whatever fell upon them. So are the difficulties.

FU SANGKHUMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Government stop supplying food to those areas where food is intensely required?

FU LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, As a matter of fact we are not going to stop giving food supply. From now on, supply will be distributed to those areas where food is absolutely required. Some quantity of food stuff will be kept in the

Transit Godown as a buffer stock. The stock will again be distributed to the most needy area.

As mentioned earlier, there is unconsumed stock within Tu Hrangvela's constituency till today. We do not know how to do with this stock. It will perish sooner or later. Similarly, the old stock of 400 Qtls. at Khawdungsei, of Tu Vanlalhrualia's constituency is reportedly said to be inedible.

I, therefore, appeal to the Hon'ble Members to have a true knowledge about our difficulties and to have a mutual understanding.

Yesterday, some people of Buntlang Village came to me saying that they are starving. On their request, some 90 Qtls. of rice was sent the following evening, of which 10 Qtls. was unloaded on the way by some unknown persons. However, effort is being made to exactly adjust the growing demand by examining every detail of requirement. Sometimes, demand may be less than what we actually estimated.

SPEAKER: Question No.120 by Tu Hrangvela.

SUPPLY & TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

Levy of taxes on vehicles of other States coming into Mizoram.

\*120 TU HRANGVELA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Supply & Transport Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether the Government of Mizoram levy taxes on the motor vehicles belonging to other states coming into Mizoram?

(b) If so, what is the amount of the tax levied per vehicle?

(c) What is the period of the validity of such permits?

TU LALSANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

(a) Taxes on motor vehicles belonging to other States coming into Mizoram under inter-State permit or special permit issued by the reciprocating states are not being levied due to an agreement arrived at between Mizoram and Assam on single point taxation. However, taxes on Motor Vehicles belonging to other States but plying in Mizoram under temporary permit issued by Mizoram Government are levied as per AMVT Act.



(b) Taxes on Motor Vehicles are levied in accordance with the types and models of Motor Vehicles the annual and quarterly rate of which differs from one to another.

The following types of transport vehicles are paying taxes in Mizoram as shown against each:-

	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Quarterly</u>
(i) For Vehicles Upto 5 ton -	Rs. 1,260/-	Rs. 382/-
(ii) For Vehicles Upto 7 ton -	Rs. 1,680/-	Rs. 510/-

(c) (i) Permanent permits - 5 years and 3 years vide Sec. 59 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

(ii) Inter-State permit - 3 years vide reciprocal agreement.

(iii) Temporary permits - 4 months vide Sec. 62 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

(iv) Special permits - 10 days vide reciprocal agreement.

FU LAISANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, I like to point out some more points regarding Inter-State permit. When a permit, temporary or permanent, for Inter-State Movement of Vehicles is issued, it is said that countersignature on the permit is demanded by our neighbouring State. Have you got any information on this ?

FU HRANGVELLA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, our Hon'ble Minister had said that temporary permits are issued by the Government. How taxes are levied on such permits? Are all the Vehicles plying in between Silchar and Aizawl paying tax to the Government of Mizoram? If not, will it be possible to make arrangement so as to avoid heavy tax paid by the Mizoram Vehicles plying in between Hailakandi or Air field and Silchar ?

FU LAISANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Countersignature in respect of Inter-State permit, questioned by Fu Lalhingthanga, is as per Motor Vehicles Act, required once in the first checking which was agreed at the inter-State meeting by the Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram Governments. It was further agreed to do away with this condition in the first agreement but, later on, found to be unchangeable as it has been clearly written in the said Act.

Permits are issued to all the vehicles that are running in Mizoram, as far as I know. But, unknown cases might be seen.

SPEAKER: Now, Question No.121 by Tu Hrangvela.

Inability of the Government to pay for headload charges for 107 Quintals of rice from Chanchai to Buzung.

\*121 TU F. HRANGVELA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Supply & Transport Department be pleased to state -

Whether it is a fact that the Government could not make payment on headload charges for 107 Qtls. of rice carried from Chanchai to Buzung in 1972?

TU LAISANGZUALA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, there was no such case.

TU HRANGVELA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary Question. A petition stating detailed quantity of rice head loaded, the date on which the carried quantity was received was submitted to the Government and a copy of the prayer was also sent to me. The very copy could be shown to the Minister if he so desires.

SPEAKER: Now Question No.122 by Tu Ngurdawla.

#### AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Step taken by the Government to enable rural Agriculturists to get Agriculture Loan.

\*122 TU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Agriculture Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Agriculturists in Mizoram cannot get the Agriculture loan as their gardens and house sites cannot be mortgaged?

(b) If yes, to above, what steps have the Government of Mizoram taken so far to enable them (rural people) to get the Agriculture Loan?

R. THANGLIANA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, (a) Yes, (b) the Government have made a new draft rules to enable rural agriculturists

to take loan on personal security. The draft rules will require Central Government approval which has not been obtained. The Government also have taken a decision that Land Settlement may be given for lands in the rural areas after proper survey and demarcation which will give right of ownership and transfer. If this is done Agricultural lands in the rural areas can be mortgaged against the Loan.

FU NGURDAWLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, One Supplementary Question. Will the Minister be pleased to state the steps taken and the present condition ?

FU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Minister i/c Finance once had announced that Loan amounting to not more than Rs. 2500 may be given, without mortgage, to the rural agriculturists. Why not the rule been in use and when will it be in use ? *has*

FU R. THANGLIANA  
MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, In answering the former question, I should say that the Government has been formulating rules which will decide the valuation of lands of rural areas. The rules will soon be published. There is no such loan as mentioned by Fu Chawn-kunga except long-term and short-term loans which carry no limit of loanable amount.

SPEAKER: Question No.123 & No.124 by Fu R. Zoliana.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Number of Draft Rules submitted and approved by Government.

\*123 FU R. ZOLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Education Department be pleased to state -

(a) Number of draft Rules already submitted to Government for approval ?

(b) Number of Draft Rules already approved by the Government so far.

FU VAIVENGA  
MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, Altogether 7 Bills & draft Rules were submitted to the Government so far. But, no draft is approved yet.

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The following are the Draft Rules submitted to the Government :-

1. "Draft Rules for non recurring grant-in-aid to Reorganised Educational Institutions in Mizoram".
2. "Draft Rules for Recurring grant-in-aid to Recognised Educational Institutions in Mizoram".
3. "Draft Rules for grant-in-aid- to Institutions or Voluntary Organisations for propagation of Hindi in Mizoram".
4. "Draft Rules to regulate the Award of Bookgrant to bonafide Students of Mizoram".
5. "Draft Rules for deputation of Trainees under the Education Department in Mizoram".
6. "Draft Rules for merit-Scholarships for Primary and Middle Schools Leaving Examination in Mizoram".
7. "Draft Rules for Grant-in-aid to Non-Official Voluntary Social Welfare *\*Organisations* etc. deserving physically or handicapped individuals".

Use of only Assam Education Rules Vol. I side by side with Central Rules.

\*124 TU R. ZOLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Education Department be pleased to state -

Whether it is a fact that Government of Mizoram in Education Department uses only Assam Education Rules Vol. I side by side with Central Rules?

TU VAIVENGA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Wherever admissible both rules are applied side by side. Before implementation of these Rules, intimation to the Finance Department is always made.

TU R. ZOLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary Question. The Hon'ble Minister said that altogether 7 Draft Rules are submitted to the Government for approval. He further stated that both Assam and Central Rules are applied in Mizoram. However, it is plainly and clearly written in the N.E.C. Re-organisation *Scheme* that newly instituted Government should follow rules and regulations framed prior to formations of a new Government provided that no other new rules are implemented. But, at the same time, the Government of Mizoram

is alternately applying rules framed by the Assam Government and the Central Government along with the Draft Rules made by the Government of Mizoram. Which of these Rules is most frequently used? Assam or our own Education Draft Rules?

**TU LALHMINGTHANGA:** Mr. Speaker Sir, It is gratifying to say that as many as 7 Draft Rules are submitted to the Government for approval. Further, I should be pleased to speak of another Draft Rules for, 'Recruitment and Promotion' in which it is said, no bar in regard to qualification for Inspector of Schools is made. Is it true?

**TU VAIVENGA  
MINISTER:**

Mr. Speaker Sir, In response to the later question, regarding Recruitment Rules I am not sure of the terms and conditions etc. to ensure the required educational qualification for Inspector of Schools post.

In regard to rules pointed out by Tu R. Zoliana, application of Central Rules and Assam Rules are introduced whichever is advantageous to our staff for pension cases, Central Rules are applied. In all other cases, Assam Rules are adopted.

**TU SAILLAWMA:**

Mr. Speaker Sir, It has been said that as many as seven (7) Rules are drafted by the Mizoram Government. On what Act are these draft Rules based and framed?

**TU VAIVENGA  
MINISTER:**

Mr. Speaker Sir, Basically, there is no main Act upon which these draft Rules are framed.

**SPEAKER:**

We still have another 'short notice question' submitted by Tu Saitlawma. In the meantime, the remaining uncalled questions numbering about 16, if necessary, will be taken up tomorrow. Now, we will take up the short notice question of Tu Saitlawma.

Short notice question regarding "Arrest of Shri Lalchhawnkima by security forces at Hnahthial".

**TU SAILLAWMA:**

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

Whether it is a fact that one Shri Lalchhawnkima died of torture at the hands of the Security Forces at Hnahthial on the 15th March, 1975.

TU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, According to the report received by me Shri Lalchhawnkima was apprehended by the Security Forces alongwith a MNF Volunteer and was taken to Underground hideouts on several occasions. On one of these occasions, he with an intention of running away, jumped from a high rift and sustained severe injuries on his body.

On further examination, his heart was found infected with disease for a long time. This was verified by Dr. Raj Khawar who did post-mortem of the body.

TU C. LALRUATA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, As we do not have prior intimation of the case, detailed information could not be given now,

TU SAETIAWMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, Suppose we like to see the report of Post-Mortem Examination. Can it be available now? However, the Post Mortem Examination report may be incorrect for we are in a disturbed situation. In the month of February last, a dead body was brought to the Lunglei Thana by the Security Forces. The dead body bore two deep stab marks at the lower part of his armpit and the rest of his body was found to be tortured. Despite the fact, the report of Post-mortem Examination said that the man died of fever. In our present situation, Doctors are compelled to give report falsely as it is the result of the unfavourable condition. Should we go on like this?

TU V.L. HRUAIA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, According to our Hon'ble Chief Minister, Mr. Lalchhawnkima was apprehended in the jungle by the Security Forces and died when he tried to jump over a high rift to away and was rescued from sure death. If he actually jumped into a high pitch, some parts of his body should be broken or damaged. Which part of his body was damaged and treated?

TU CHAWNGK NGA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, assuming that Mr. Lalchhawnkima was infected and suffered from heart-disease, was he given any treatment before he attempted to jump on a high rift? Who are the Security Forces responsible for this case?

TU R. ZOLIANA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, When he jumped on a high rift, had he got other friends with him? What is the time gap in between his death and his attempt to jump over the rift?

TU CH. CHHUNGA  
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, When he jumped on a high rift, Mr. Lalchhawnkima got a severe injury on his head and was shifted to a safe place and given treatment for his head-injury. No information was received by me whether he had got other person with him. The report on post-mortem examination is not disclosed to the public and it will be illegal to have a look at it. I am afraid that I know nothing of the Security Forces that are stationed at Hnahthiah post.

TU C. LALRUATA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, From whom is the report received?

TU CH. CHHUNGA:  
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, The report has its source from the S.I. Lunlei.

SPEAKER:

Now we will go to our next item -  
'Laying of paper on the Table' -  
Development Minister will lay.

LAYING OF PAPERS ON THE TABLE

TU R. TTANGLIANA  
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, With your permission I rise to lay the List of Land Reclamation Work (District-wise) taken up in Mizoram during the last 3 years -

SPEAKER:

Now, the paper is laid on the Table of the House by the Minister. As it is not clearly written on the paper, you may enquire from the Department concerned.

Now, next item No. 4 - Consideration of Bill "The Lushai Hills District (Village Councils) (Amendment) Bill, 1975". Let the Minister i/c move the Bill.

Consideration of the Lushai hills (Village Councils) (Amendment) Bill, 1975.

TU P. B. NIKHUMA:  
DY. MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that the Lushai Hills District (Village Councils) (Amendment) Bill, 1975 may be taken up by the House for consideration. Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Any Question on this?

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Our Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business states- As soon as possible after the Administrator has promulgated an ordinance under clause I of Article 239 (b) of the Constitution, printed copies of such ordinance shall be made available to the members of the Assembly <sup>under</sup> rule 73. The present bill is Cyclostyled which is not mentioned in our Rules. How can we discuss the bill as it should be of printed copies ?

SPEAKER: On the ground of such printed and cyclostyled copies, we cannot strictly follow the Rules in our case. As a rule, all budgets and bills should be printed and should be made available to the members. As was already discussed, members and Ministers had disclosed the problems that arise in the press. <sup>Thus</sup> Rules cannot be strictly observed.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I believed that the Hon'ble Members had mistaken for what he read out is meant for ordinances.

PU R. DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker Sir, It was originally made for ordinances but later on regularised for bills.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, We are not going to regularise but trying to substitute the ordinance for which printed copies should be made available to members within 6 weeks.

SPEAKER: We have now revealed our inability to follow our rules in the most strictest sense.

Now, if you have anything to speak, about the bill, speak specifically now.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I have got something to say on this Bill. But, the bill may be, as provided under our Rules of Procedure, after the first reading, discussed in general way. So, I should like to speak in a general way.

SPEAKER: You can discuss any point you like and you are permitted to participate in a general discussion.

PU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, As it is not an amendment to amendment, I do not see any barrier that bars us from discussing the Bill in a general way.



SPEAKER: Yes, you are not restricted, you can speak about your points in a specific manner from one point to another. So, you can go on saying.

TU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am grateful to say that the newly introduced amendment on District Councils Village Council Act framed by the erstwhile District Council was appreciated by me. Yet, there might be many points which required amendment e.g. under Chapter 2, Sub-Section 2 of Section 3, it is found that election of Members to the Village Council should be done on the basis of total number of houses that are within its jurisdiction. So far as my knowledge is concerned, I do not know this kind of basis even in the elections of members to Parliament or District Councils. As such, it is too vague and inappropriate.

SPEAKER: Are you going to speak of the number of members ?

TU C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I just pointed out terms etc. that required amendment.

SPEAKER: We should rather confine ourselves only on Section V - 'duration of Village Council' which is our point for amendment, not of the whole Act.

TU SAITLAWMA: Mr. Speaker Sir, May we discuss the general principle while considering any bill at its consideration stage, if clause by clause discussion is not permitted ?

SPEAKER: Let me explain this. At any stage of consideration of amendment to Bill, no further detailed discussion of the whole Act except the annexure attached to the Bill can take place in the House.

TU R. ZOLIANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Our point of discussion should be confined only to the duration of the term of Village Council.

SPEAKER: Yes, that is the point. In the old Act it was six (6) months. In the ordinance which is to be replaced now, it is 18 months.

PU C. LALRUATA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Since we are not permitted to discuss in general, this present amendment and the point that should be taken up seem to be vague to me. If the election is based on number of houses, unlike election to Parliament and District Councils, I cannot appreciate the term fully. Section No. 3 should be amended.

Moreover, Village Council is subjected to dissolution by the District Council Executive Committee when found incapable of executing and contradicts the existing rule. These are all insignificant and unconditional.

Sir, what is the urgency of amending the duration of Village Council term?

As we all know, the time for Village Councils election is coming. I have spoken on several occasions of the need for making a new rule.

In normal times, election for Village Councils occurred at an interval of 3 years. This Assembly was formed in 1972 meant for 5 years. So, before the end of this term of Assembly, the election of Village Councils will take place at least once. It is disgraceful that no attempt is yet made for amendments of Village Councils Act of Mizoram. Amending the duration and term of Village Council which is the milestone of our administration will not give good result for us so long as we neglect the mode of election etc. As far as election is taken into account, the formal election of Village Council was to take place in May last. I cannot appreciate the proposal to regularise the postponement of the Election.

Besides there is no provision for the Government to inflict any other punishment except dissolution in case report against Village Council is submitted by their subjects. Suppose, I have become a President of a certain Village, and could practice anything that may be offensive to the Government say for example, a bribery and corruption. Still I know that there was no penalty that can be exercised upon me except dissolution of the body, as provided under the Act. In case it is taken as Criminal Case, I may be charged for treason etc. To me, it is true that some kind of severe punishment on the ground of misappropriation of public fund should be given. The present amendment on the duration of the term is inadequate and addition should be made in it. The Government should, therefore, change the Act as necessary.

There are Village Councils where party spirit is most unhealthy for the good administration of the country. Example of the case may be pointed out from my constituency, Lungho. There ~~are~~ a body of Village Council was comprised of two parties, 3 members from one party and another 2 members from the other party. After a considerable period, no sitting was held. This type of condition is

unfavourable for the present age. Sir, I want the Act amended to suit changing circumstances. The present Act was framed in 1953 and this old Act no longer gives a suitable reference for the present space age.

Moreover, the existing Act is incomplete. Under this Act, as provided under section 25, sub-section (3), at the first Session of Assembly commencing from the date of dissolution of Village Council, the matter should be discussed in the House. The Act says - 'If any Village Council has been dissolved under provision of sub-section (1). Executive Committee shall lay before the District Council at its first meeting after such dissolution all the papers relating to the dissolution of the Village Council'. The existing Act is adopted by the Mizoram Government. So, the Executive Committee is the Government of Mizoram and the District Council is automatically the Assembly. The Government should have a thorough checking to get a full knowledge of the Act. Since the act of dissolution of Village Council has a very important impact on the main functioning of the Government, we should not be deprived of our privileges that are written in the Act. We should have a free and friendly discussion in this House regarding how and why Village Councils are dissolved. We are so long unprivileged to have a meaningful discussion in the House.

The proposed amendment on the tenure of Village Council office is readily accepted. But, in view of the whole Act, it is quite insufficient. This present Act which provides the exact term of tenure is not applicable in these days. So, the Administrator promulgated the ordinance in order to suit circumstances. Somehow, this is good and practicable in the present days. However, I should request the Minister concerned to make a new rule in this respect.

Thank You.

FU SANGKHUMA:

Mr. Speaker Sir, I like to speak on the amendment which has been proposed by the Government. I would last express my opinion on this amendment which seems unnecessary for the present.

As stated just now by Hon'ble Member, the very clause which is to be amended has been given priority. I don't know the reason therefor.

The number of dissolved Village Councils from January 1974 upto date, as indicated in answer to unstarred Questions is 12. Still we cannot have a chance to discuss the dissolution thereof.

The last election of Village Councils was held in 1971. The next election as usual to

take place in 1974 in the month of May. However, strangely enough, the election was postponed without any reason thus extending the term of Village Council. The election was proposed to take place on 4th and 5th of February but was again postponed. It appears that the Government is trying to put people in a most undesirable condition. At least we can have a fresh election for M.L.A. and Village Councils under this condition. We know that number of Village Councils were lately dissolved which makes the country's administration unstable. The remaining Village Councils which are now undissolved find no interest in the administration. People whom they rule do not look to them and regard them as their leaders. The Village Councils are not interested on their part. There is thus no good administrative set up at Village level. With these points in view, I see no reason to amend the Act which will make the term of Village Council extendable. I also oppose your policy to show the present atmosphere as impure.

After so many Village Councils were dissolved, you began to introduce a new system of election that provides vote to be cast by the name of. How is this system processed? We have one Village Councils Act on the basis of which election is to be conducted. How can we misuse these rules?

Moreover, up till now you cannot fix the date on which election is proposed to take place. Last time, the election proposal for 4th February was postponed with no intimation to the Village folks who themselves ready for the election. The proposal for postponement was at last issued only on 4th February. This kind of inattentiveness of the Government makes the people restless and disinterested in the working of the Government. Election can be had any time we like. If we are intending to hold it whenever Aizawl town is under curfew, it is feared that there might not be suitable time for election. People look forward to the election anxiously. You have better disclosed unpreparedness of your party to hold any election.

Our Hon'ble Dy. Minister i/c of Local Administration Department had on two occasions closed his efforts to make a merger a success. In his speech we can see ourselves how unsuccessful is merger in our soil. If that is your deadlock for which you dared not arrange election, I am sure you'll never see the Village Councils election in future. Regarding merger policy, I myself also tried my level best to absorb some of your Congress party branches into Miz. Union, 3 Units of Congress party in my constituency were absorbed and some are being prepared for the same cause. If it is your intention to hold a fresh election after all Miz. Union Party merged into Congress, election I fear will never take place in our land. We should organise the election on fair competition between parties that are existing in Mizoram.

PU HRANGAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, this amendment bill is the out come of circumstances that prevail in our surroundings. For a reasonable period, the act was adopted unchanged. This fact is known to our Hon'ble members.

It will be a bit difficult to amend the whole Act of Mizoram Village Councils. It will also be painstaking to make out the total population in Mizoram as was pointed out by Pu L. Lalruata. Considering these difficulties election of V/C has been simplified through a system basing on house number. Suppose we try to make calculation of the total no of population we have to go back to the cen us which is held at an interval of 10 years. As soon as the village council is dissolved, fresh election should be held within 6 months. The present amendment bill will provide for power to extend the term of village council which election could not be held within a specified period. Since the atmospheric condition of Mizoram prevents as from having a fresh election for which govt. had to postpone the date of election, the amendment will empower the govt. to postpone the date of V/C general election in case of unpreparedness on the part of the public. Since, our existing Act does not provide any provision for postponement, this present amendment bill has been successfully carried out for the good of the public in view of changing circumstances. We are not afraid of losing the election. But, we try to have a free and successful election. So, I think this present amendment should be passed as soon as possible.

Further, there are mentioning like Executive and District Council here and there. This may be avoided, if you can make appropriate amendment. Once a proposal was made for the whole amendment of the Act. You will find it impossible to have the whole of Mizoram affected by the inconvenient amendment. You can substitute the names that are necessitated by the present circumstance. I, therefore believe it will be more beneficial to pass this present amendment. Thank you.

PU R. ZOLIANA : Mr. Speaker, since we are not permitted to discuss the principal Act, I am much annoyed with the amendment. The Bill 1976 may, however, be passed as early as possible. As was spoken by our Senior member Pu Hrangai that the wording viz; Executive and District Council etc. should be awarded. I do not think that amendments on those terms alone are not satisfactory. As a matter of fact, that cannot be amended. Definitions of Mizo etc. are not sufficiently illustrated. Even the main Act should be amended. In the time of Dist. Council good Act was made. But as time went on, the Act has to be amended to suit changing circumstances. At present, the amendment bill is discussed. Most of all what I want to point out is that due to change in circumstance, the principle itself has become outdated now. Take for example, the term 'scheduled Tribe' has been incompletely defined in the Act which gives me a narrow sense. In this connection I have become dumbfounded. Is Mizoram a Scheduled Area? To this

extent we must think hard because this might not be suitable for our territory which is developing and such type of interpretation should be changed. Even such terms and interpretation have to be imperatively changed. There are doubtlessly some uncertain provisions for penalty against those persons who dislike to render their services for social labour mode of **report submission** on the resignation of one of the village council members, appointment of C.A.s and Circle Officers etc. Though our present Act served the requirements of the people purposefully in previous decade, it has become practically inapplicable to the present condition. Amendment on transfer of V/C and appointment of Village Officers etc. should certainly be made. As such, if the Act is to be amended, other provisions which are inapplicable should also be taken up at a time, so that no difficulty arises.

After Mizoram became U.P., as the Act has no longer practical meaning, some rules are made under this Act to suit our condition. This should also be notified by the Govt. or L.A. Department in the Official Gazette.

PU VANUALPRJATA : Mr. Speaker, I have also got some thing to say on this amendment. I do not know whether our Hon'ble Member, Pu Frangaia is mistaken or not. Sometime back he had clearly stated that his party members are large in number than in Mizoram. He now disclosed that the number of his party members increased here so much. In fact, we do not have more members here in Aizawl but in the whole of Mizoram.

However, the Govt. has proposed an amendment Bill which shows the unpreparedness of the Congress. It is obvious that V/C election cannot be held due to the fear of losing an election. They might have said that the main reason is due to the critical situation of Mizoram which appeared in 1966 till today. This condition is not a new incident that took place only this year. Had the Act been found necessary to amend, it should be done as early as 1966-67 when the first outbreak occurred. I think the main reason is merger that happened recently. It appears to me that the Govt. is intending to cause us to back in 1966. As a matter of fact, we are not confronted by any type of political situation that hold the election to a standstill. It makes me grief to say that we are not yet prepared to hold election though I do not deny that we still live in a disturbed area. It also appears that the way we put the country's position makes the atmosphere from bad to worse. I also see no barrier in having an election in Mizoram. Unfortunately, three of our police officers - I.G.P. and his two subordinate officers were assassinated in the office chamber during the first part of this year. The incidents affected not the whole of Mizoram but the Department itself. I, therefore see no necessary reason for amendment proposal for postponement of V/C election. If you insist, the bill can however, be passed as proposed otherwise not. If we carefully study the prevailing condition it has been necessitated to hold election at once. Even our Congress people have once spoken well of the election at

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the commencement of merger in Mizoram. In fact, I am very sorry to learn that the election of V/C has to be postponed for another time. Election should be held at any time and one party will gain and other party will go out of administration. There is no sense in growing jealous of each other. Then, we can have a proof of the Govt. whether it has got public opinion to run the Govt. This will be learnt from the public. If we dare not to see it come out, we must get the Bill passed straight away. Anyway, it appears to me that the majority members of this House could not make things go unexpectedly for fear of losing the election. That is why they proposed to amend the bill and postpone the date of election at their will.

So far we learnt of people saying merger took place in some part of the region but not in all. In some places, merger propaganda have no room in the minds of the people, assuming that election is to be postponed till all places of Mizoram merged into Congress, I can say that there will be no election till 1977 when the MLAs will be freshly elected.

As was spoken by Pu Ilruata, we give less attention and interest to this Act. I can feel that the Govt. has less effort to make V/Cs function smoothly. It is also surprising to note that there is no paper relating to village councils dissolution which is required to be placed before the House at their first sitting/session immediately after such dissolution. Such is the way we practised at present. If part of the Act is to be amended, why not other provisions which are also out of place? Amendment should also be made regarding the allowances given to the members of village councils in view of their positions. **I am also afraid** that the ruling party will eliminate the existing village councils on which they have no confidence by putting other persons into power. If election is to take place, they are afraid of losing power. Without having election, some persons on whom they found confidence are up listed and given power to govern the villages, I can clearly see that there is unhealthy politics within our reach. If this amendment bill is introduced with such view in mind, we must not pass the bill.

If you claimed that you have the majority party, then let us not pass this amendment bill, instead we will have a fresh election by now. I do challenge you. Therefore, this amendment Bill seems to be unnecessary thing. By now, it is already decided to give each vote for each House At Khawzawl. Why is this? Do you not have other rule to be followed? I am, therefore, very much displeased to learn that our government followed unconditional rules. We know all about congress and their policies. They go after the policy of drive the poverty out! Not to mention their policy, they drive poor

people out of the country. we do not think that postponement of V/C election is necessary. we should have a ~~xxxxxx~~ fresh election and that is what we asked for.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA: Mr. Speaker, the main intention of this amendment is not so bad as some of us might have ~~thought~~ it is apparent that there is no reason to extend a trap for some other people as you have been the leaders of the Mizo Union Party. As a consequence the postponement of election has no result at all.

There are persons who do not like to merge into the Congress Party. Still there are people who have been absorbed into the Congress Party. One thing what you should know is that there is one particular party which may surpass you in power if you delay the election. So, it will be safer for you and your party if you make quick arrangement for this election. That's all.

PU C. SAPHRAWNAH: Mr. Speaker, as we all know this present amendment is very simple and it has no much point to clarify. Some of us made complaints against this but they have actually no stable ground for their arguments. Still they show the courage to us all.

There is no time for question as to whose party will win in the election. we should not take false information into account. Truth will stand. General election was held in 1966 which was, however, discontinued unconstitutionally till 1971. You may say that why no election was held after such a long gap of period. That is correct because no election however ~~down~~ necessary could be postponed for more than six months at a time. On the other hand the election was postponed due mainly to unhealthy atmosphere in Mizoram resulting from the outbreaks of insurgency. But, the main cause for not holding an election was unhealthy political and social atmosphere which are most detrimental to successful election in the country. The government is aware of the urgency of preparing every detail for the election. we are now having U.T. Government not District Council, so, it is necessary to get everything alright regarding election for which we are now dealing with. Preparation of specific electoral rolls, notification etc have to be carefully done so that we can, to a great extent, avoid complaints from the public. As such, we cannot have election as yet. Besides, we cannot say exactly what will be the effect of the ~~last~~ ~~incursion~~ on the security forces, and how curfew will be imposed, in various villages. During this period it is quite impossible to have an election in time. To avoid all unconstitutional practices, the only alternative we have is to amend the present Act so that election could be held formally. we will surely have an election in which I wish, your party will gain. It is not sound enough to say that election is postponed for fear of losing it. we are not afraid of losing the election now. we are ready to accept whatever comes to us and you should take this as an announcement.

SPEAKER: we will now take rest for we were kept over time yesterday. we will rest till 2:00 P.M., recess till 2:00 P.M.



2:00 P.M.

SPEAKER: We will take up our present subject. Let Pu Dotinaia speak.

Pu DOTINAIA: Mr. Speaker, amendment on the V/C Act which provides for the postponement or power to cut short the time specified in the rule, is very important. This morning, in his speech Pu Saprawnga, our Chief Whip stated that every thing has reason or cause as to the necessity of the subject. Further, he seemed to oppose the opposition saying that we do not scale out our position. He seemed to be over-estimate himself. He never try to see the Congress party from the right side. Being the Vice President and a Chief Whip, he is to know his party position. The electoral roll as confirmed by me from the office of the L.N.U. was already kept ready for election. As was said by other members, there had been unsuccessful merger, arrived at between M.U. and Congress. Due mainly to this reason, the election was fixed for the first time to hold on 31st March which was refixed for 31st July and again postponed to 31st October. Still we could not have an election till now. This frequent postponement of election clearly indicates that their party has not yet fully prepare to face the election. As a consequent, Deputy Commissioner was said to be unprepared to finalise the electoral rolls. We, the Mizo Union Party, on the other hand wish to hold a good and unimpeded election in Mizoram. do not look it as a political competition to win the election but as a centre point of public contentment. Moreover, most of the village councils were abandoned, neglected and resolved by various means, some resigned from their posts, some migrated to other Dawks/Villages. As such, we may say that there are comparatively few village councils that retained the proper status.

When there was a proposal for postponement of the election, we wrote to the Administrator, and our hon'ble Chief Minister ~~xxx~~ requesting them not to let the election be postponed for the fightful administration of the government is needed by the country. The letter was kept till today and was, I presumed, received by the addresses. We did not meant to say that we will win the election but want to disclose our craving for true and rightful administration in our region. It will be enjoyable for the people if they can have popular elected administration within their own circles. At present, people do no longer recognise now accept their present village rulers, for example, Muantlang, the President, Vice President and Secretary of the council were absent from the village proper and settled at thenearby Thlawhbawk. They used to attend the usual sittings of the Council from the Thlawhbawk as a result no function could not be carried out effectively. If you happen to tour around the different villages, you will notice that every grown up person including their present village councils will show you of their desire to have a new election for their V.C. Considering this urgency, it is totally unpractical to have passed a bill that will provide for further postponement

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we are keen enough to know that the election of Village Councils has to take place during next year. In this object and reason, we find that the election of V/L could not be had due to the unhealthy atmosphere prevailing in Mizoram. The said reason could not be considered as satisfactory as it does not prevent from having an election in time. In the meantime, we are interested enough to see that whether the govt. is aware of the desire of the people. In any case, I approached the Minister /C who made excuses that the election could not be held due to non-compliance of elec-

tion. Now, we will call upon the Minister /C of the Bill. He has to study carefully about the position of his party. Now, the ruling party is Congress. The government has now been formed by the Congress party. It is only because of his ignorance that he intended not to pass the Bill.

So, we want to be under the administration of one man? We are not in a democratic government. The Bill was said to be first introduced in your Parliament. It was passed and assent to it is given by the House. But, the Bill is not strongly opposed by hon. members like Mr. Zolung. Does not it mean that you do not have the spirit of co-operation and consensus? How do you compare the guide and administrative law and order in Mizoram? It would be very dangerous. We have a Congress Ministry in our Government and this Bill is now supported by them. It would be very surprising if we pass this Bill in which the majority party put forward their district to it. We are interested in the good of the Mizoram. We will then pass this Bill after consultation to this Assembly. Our poor people look forward for the election and the right to govern themselves.

of election for another 18 long months. It was suggested that the time will come when we will be neglected. The statement of objects and reasons embodied in this Bill is unwarranted. In the year 1966, the outbreak of political insurgency was started to operate in the State of Mizoram. However, in 1967 there could be a successful election of MLAs and Mrs. in Mizoram amidst of the fun tings. Again, in 1970 I had convened a successful campaign in favour of Pu Hrangah for member in the District Council within the constituency of Ithanzawl. The political situation of Mizoram in November last was much better than those years. If there had been no election during this Bill, it can probably have an election in time, and there is no necessity of passing this Bill which ever passed the House. It is respectfully

PU P.B. NIKHUMA  
DY. MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker, hon'ble members have stated earlier their views regarding this Bill. Those critical assessments are likely to be helpful for future reforms in so far as this Bill is concerned. Anyway, first of all, it is my assignment that the opposition members are kept informed of the real object and nature of this Bill.

As stated by our Hon'ble Opposition leader, the election of V/C proposed to hold in November, last. By that time, it was the proposal made by the Electoral Registration Officer that every one should come and see that the electoral rolls are prepared systematically and satisfactorily. Subsequently, time was allotted to the public for making objection, if any, against the way of preparation of the rolls. As a rule, those objections raised by the public should be corrected and entered in the rolls. As a result, the programme tentatively fixed for the election had to be postponed for another month or so in order that a good and successful election could be conducted. It was postponed not for the sake of political factors like merger, etc.

The date for election was again fixed for 5th January after inviting complaints, objections from the public. The rolls, etc. were then prepared and kept ready for the election. Everything was prepared in such a way that fair and successful election could be had in the whole of Mizoram. Officers were instructed to come to headquarters and be ready before 20th Feb. But, unfortunately and surprisingly, three of our senior Officers were killed by the hostiles on 13th January. The incident was followed by the imposition of curfew in Aizawl town and other places of Mizoram. Officers detailed and called for election duty failed to reach the Headquarters on the fixed date. Owing to this failure on the part of Officials, it was very difficult to conduct the election. As such no election has so far been held till today. I hope the opposition members are ready to understand this and will accept my apology.

Some of our hon'ble members like Pu C. Lalruata, Pu Zoliana and Pu Hrangaia have put in their views regarding the amendment to this Act. As the time went by, the Act has become out dated and inapplicable to these days. It has, thus, become necessary to amend it so as to suit the present needs. Villages have been grouped in one place, boundary and Constituency boundary have to be re-demarcated and everything has to be kept ready before election is conducted. The government is also aware of the need for amendment in this regard and the principal Act itself.

One thing that I want to express is that the penalty to be inflicted upon the Village Council went against the Govt. It was also pointed out by Pu C. Lalruata. It was also my desire that the bill in that regard be introduced during this current Session. Unfortunately, we could not get it ready for introduction in this House. Generally speaking, it is my intention that whenever

a proposal arises for amendment to this Act, we should take note of our present Village condition. Probably this Act which is very convenient and suitable application to our present condition may become totally inapplicable to the condition of tomorrow. In such cases, we must first have far and wide knowledge so that the rules framed by us may become reliable even in the long run. However, there was **intention** to introduce the amendment bill relating to fixation of penalty that can be imposed upon the violating Village Councils. In spite of our great endeavour to get it ready for introduction in this House, we unfortunately, could not complete it in time. As was spoken by Hon'ble Member, Pu Hrangzia, the existing rule of election to V/C is simple and not difficult to appreciate. At the time of framing the rule, it was convenient to the people as well as to the prevailing condition. But, the rule has become inapplicable to our present condition and outmoded now.

Mr. Speaker Sir, what I want to bring to the notice of our Hon'ble Members is that to explain what our opposition leader Pu R. Dotinaia has said regarding something behind this bill. In fact, there is something, law and order situation of our territory which is the main purpose for which this Bill has been introduced in this House. What our Govt. wants to avoid an unsuccessful election in the midst of unhealthy atmosphere. The Govt. is trying its best to conduct the election in a healthy and fresh atmosphere.

Congress party wants to have peace and tranquility in Mizoram, and we try to have a very successful and fruitful merger. It is my intention and hope that Congress and Mizo Union parties should merge together to solve the Country's numerous problems. But, it is not the idea behind this amendment and postponement of the election. Governmental administration should be run effectively and it should normally be carried out. As a matter of fact, party can play **freely its role** in running the administration in a democratic country. Every-body has his freedom to lead his life according to his own will. Let us, therefore, know that the postponement of V/C Election does not mean to bring about a successful merger of the parties. It is my desire that our opposition members know that Mizoram is not ruled by the President directly and is not under the Presidential rule yet. It is very much appropriate and orderly arranged that this Bill seeks to amend, with your co-operation, the irrelevant terms and provisions so that the majority problems which we are now facing should be solved for the good of all Mizo people. Meanwhile ordinance was first issued. But, there is a chance for the introduction of the amendment bill in this House.

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If we cannot pass or oppose to pass it, the ordinance will be in force for another six weeks. Heroby it is our belief that the Bill will be passed unanimously by this House and it is my utmost desire that all members come forward and try to understand what the Bill tries to seek

**SPEAKER :** We will now vote for the Bill in favour of its passing or against its passing. The Bill "The Buxar Hills District Villare Councils (Amendment) Bill of 1975" has been introduced and the Minister i/c had spoken in favour of its passing.

You may now vote for its passing. (Members Agreed). Those who disapproved of its passing may say 'Nay' (Members : kept silent).

The Bill has been passed for its passing.

Our next item is introduction of Bill No. IV of 1975 "The Mizoram Roadside Land Control Bill, 1975". The Chief Minister who is in-charge of the Bill, may move the Bill for consideration by the House.

THE MIZORAM ROADSIDE LAND  
CONTROL BILL, 1975.

**PU CH. CHITINGA  
CHIEF MINISTER**

Mr. Speaker Sir, the bill "Mizoram Roadside Land Control Bill, 1975" was introduced in this House earlier.

It was then decided that the main bill is to be considered by the House today. But, as provided for under Rule 77(b) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislature, I am of the opinion that the Bill, in order to give more time and thought, might be referred to the Select Committee. As such, the following members are appointed for Select Committee including all the Cabinet Ministers:

- 1) Pu Uragiaia
- 2) Pu C. Lalruata
- 3) Pu K.L. Rochama
- 4) Pu Saitlawma
- 5) Pu T. Ngurdawla
- 6) Pu R. Zoliana and
- 7) P. Sangkhuma.

**SPEAKER :** The Minister in-charge of the Bill has decided, if you have no objection to it, that the Bill might not be considered today. Instead he proposed some Members for the Select Committee which, as a rule, will first scrutinize and will have a preliminary discussion before its finalisation in this House. Do you have any objection to that proposal?

If it is so, the Bill is referred to the Select Committee. The date for its return cannot be mentioned at this moment. Therefore, the report of the Select Committee will be presented to the House either on the first day of the next Session or on the last working day of the first week of the next Session. However, if you have anything to speak on the principle of this Bill, you can now say in general manner. Detailed discussion of the provisions will not be permitted now. A few minutes time will be allotted now. If you have no point to raise on its principle, the Bill is left in the hands of the Select Committee.

HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSION ON MATTER ARISING OUT OF WRITTEN ANSWER TO STARRED QUESTION NO 32 LISTED FOR 19 - 3 - 1975.

Our next item, will be half - an - hour discussion. The Notice is received from Pt Sapliana who is authorised to speak on it first. As it is a half-hour discussion, you must keep on watching your wrist watch while speaking for there will be a limited time for this. Accordingly you should bring out the point in which you are interested most. The mover of the notice will speak first.

**PT SAPLIANA :** Mr. Speaker Sir, as I was not satisfied with the answer given on the 19th March, 1975 in response to the question regarding Mizoram House in Silchar, I am very much thankful for allotting a hour time for discussing my notice.

It is apparently seen from the answer that there is no Mizoram House in Silchar. In (b) it was asked as to whether there is any proposal for construction of building or occupation of building for this purpose from the Govt. side. According to the reply, the matter is under consideration which was vague and very much unsatisfactory. Silchar, as we all know, is the only link and most convenient station while touring or performing ~~and~~ official journey to Delhi or Calcutta. In spite of its importance in viewing the Geographical condition, we could have no good accommodation at Silchar. For this reason, officials are always compelled to lodge themselves at the Circuit House with or without reservation Seats. That's why official representatives face endless problem at Silchar. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Govt. of Mizoram is aware of having a permanent House at Silchar. What is the intention of the Govt., ? Where is the site previously acquired by the Govt. of Mizoram?

Perhaps, there might not be any problem for those Ministers and other VIPs regarding accommodation at Silchar for they can get Seat at Circuit House very easily there. For other official representatives, there is still accommodation problem at Silchar. Thus, the importance of having a separate building for Mizoram. Land has been acquired at Silchar for this purpose. It is indispensable for us to have a good and spacious building or land for use not only for the purpose of meeting the accommodation problem but also for storing goods like rice, cement etc. that come from supply source. If we only could have a building on permanent basis or hire suitable private building for the purpose, it will be a great relief for officers, from lowest rank to the highest one, going to and fro Silchar town. My desire is that the Govt. presses and accelerates the process of this so as to solve the accommodation problem at Silchar.

Secondly, I would like to bring to your notice that a particular land-site was already acquired some years back. Still we cannot have even a thatched-hut for storage purpose. Why should we neglect and remain heedless for constructing a house on the Site which we have acquired previously ?

PU HRAAGAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would support the statement of my predecessor. As was stated, there are numerous problems at Silchar regarding accommodation for officers other than V.I.Ps, who performed official duties. As such, it is very much disconcerting to note that inspite of availability of land, we cannot construct a house there at Silchar. In addition to this point, I would say that an extension of Mizoram House may be constructed at Vairengte which is a very important out-station in Mizoram.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the importance of having a Mizoram House at Silchar at present has become intensified. As we are now separated from Assam, we have become outsiders at Silchar. To be accommodated at Circuit House is no longer comfortable. Though the Govt. is giving attention to this effect, more effort is to be made so that this burning problem may be solved.

Over and above, we should also have a house-like Circuit House at Vairengte to accommodate at least 10 (ten) persons and thus it will greatly relieve the problem and will become extension to the Mizoram House as and when constructed at Silchar. Moreover, it has become necessary to have a separate House at Shillong, designed for accommodation.

It will also be important for officials attending the U.E.C. Meeting etc. Those buildings constructed at Shillong before we were separated from Assam are part of our property. We have the right to own one of them. We must, therefore, possess one of the Buildings. In fact, once our Hon'ble Finance Minister approached and pointed out the matter before them. Otherwise, all the buildings will go to the possession of Meghalaya State. It is the Minister who is responsible and speak on it. More pressure should be exerted.

We must also have Mizoram House in Delhi. Being the Centre of all administrative functions, Delhi has become more as our headquarters. It is, therefore, necessary to have a building for our own State not only for the purpose of accommodation but also for the sake of upliftment of our prestige. We must make our utmost effort so that Mizoram House may be constructed.

**PU R. ZOLIANA :** Mr. Speaker Sir, as stated by hon'ble Members, the importance of having Mizoram House in Silchar, Shillong and Delhi is greatly felt. The importance was once felt when we went to Delhi with our Hon'ble Member, Mr. Ch. Sapraung. We were then lodged in the Hotel but were not very much comfortable. Over and above this, the need for having Mizoram House at Silchar is more urgent for the place is the only link and railhead we could easily visit. Not only for these, it is also necessary from our economic point of view. If you go to Delhi and visit Calcutta, you will see how convenient it is to have a separate House. We cannot only regard as prestige of Mizo people, it can rather be more convenient for it makes us feel at home. Thereby, it leads to the consciousness of having a house at Silchar. It will be more useful for business transaction as well as government functioning.

**PU SANGKHUMA :** Mr. Speaker Sir, What I should say is that the Govt. of Mizoram is not in a position to construct a separate House at Silchar or Shillong or Delhi since no building, in spite of the Students' pressure, for Hostel etc. could be acquired by the Govt.

**PU IRANGVELA :** Mr. Speaker Sir, there grew a great necessity of having a House at Silchar. It is the only link as stated earlier and we have to come across this place. But, there is no suitable and standard hotel in which we can get lodging etc. There are not enough seats/rooms in the Circuit House.

It is my desire that the Govt. should take action and accomplish the work soon so that it can also serve as ware-housing etc. It is time to act for the Govt. There is no benefit in losing time and there will be no gain for the Govt. by postponing the construction.

....33/-



SPEAKER : We will now call upon the Minister in-charge to speak on the subject.

PU LAISANGZUALA  
MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I shall try to reply those points raised by Members as broadly as possible. A certain part of land, apposite to the present P & Sons Petrol pump, having an area of 900,90 sq.ft, approximately 5 to 6 A. has, was purchased by the Govt. in the year 1973-74. The following, as proposed by the Govt., will be grouped together within the area :

(a) One Circuit House (b) Inspection Bungalow (c) Supply establishment with one set of godown (d) P.W.D. establishment with godown (e) Transport establishment with godown (f) Dharamsala building meant for ordinary travellers, and (g) S.T. Bus Station with waiting room for passengers. It is believed that all the above categories could be accommodated and a outline plan was also prepared. The delay in construction of the buildings is due mainly to non-availability of competent and expert architect to be engaged with the task of Planning. It was originally planned and estimated to be constructed magnificently. Accordingly, plan was made and checked out but, still progress is very poor. I should say that it has not been started. Moreover, we have to get the approval from the Municipal Board for construction of buildings on the site.

In our last year's budget, there was a provision of Rs. 1,000 as a token. Again, there is a new budget provision of Rs. 7,500/- which is indicated clearly at page No.4 of Serial No.21 of this year's budget. These are the progress made in this respect.

However, agreement is being made with Mr. M. K. Guha who will be willing to let his house on hire. Decision is being made and will be finalized soon. The building is situated in front of the present Mizoram Supply Officer. The following will be accommodated :

(a) Supply Office (b) Out Agency Office (c) Transport Office, with Bus Station and Passenger's Waiting room, (d) W/T Station (e) P.W.D. Officer with godown and rest - room. (f) I. R. with attached kitchen, having sitting room, dining room, with bedded rooms. There will be a show room for display of Mizo made handicraft etc. The building is cemented and it has to be partitioned according to the plan made by us. Rent will be fixed on valuation rate made by the P.W.D. Information has been given to the owner of the building.

Some points have been raised that houses should be constructed or otherwise in Delhi, Shillong etc. Some of us are of the opinion that assets left over by the Govt. of Assam are corroborately owned by us. It is also proposed that the House proper in Calcutta will be maintained and converted into a Circuit House type and another Dharan-sala type of building will be constructed within the premises. The Plan had been sent to the Chief Engineer and Architect to carry out the Plan. But, there is not much progress to be seen now. Points in respect of Varanasi, Shillong and Delhi, though they are outside the subject, are noted down for further action.

As regards the shortage of Supply Commodities, raised by Pu Hrangvela, I hope the problem will be solved as and when the F.C.I. take over all the charges from Supply Department. There will be godowns one each at Lunglei and Aizawl, controlled by the F.C.I. The matter is under process.

PU R. ZOLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Plan was said to be prepared by the architect but was found to be unsatisfactory. If so, are there no other Architects who can be hired for this work ?

PU Y.I. ROCHAMA : Mr. Speaker, the honorable Minister had said that I.B. will be constructed, What is the difference between I2B and Circuit House which could be maintained with Chowkidar and Cook ?

PU LASANGZUALA  
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, the name given now is differed from person to person. The intended mode of maintenance will be similar whether it is I2B or Circuit House.

Regarding point raised by Pu R. Zoliana in connection with the Plan made by the Architect, the Plan itself will be scrutinized and studied after which work will be carried out. As stated earlier, Rs. 1,000/- only was provisionally allowed for as a token during the last year. Another fund of about Rs. 7,500/- is now earmarked for starting the work. That much is the progress in this regard.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA  
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I am not mistaken, the Finance Minister had once gone to Assam and approached the Assam Govt. for negotiation of points arising out of assets, what was the result ?

PU LALSANGZUALA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Minister was said to have paid a visit to Assam Govt.

PU SAPLIANA : Mr. Speaker, we have just finished our discussion on the subject. Anyway, we know in time about your participation at the Common wealth Conference. Any report thereof ?

SPEAKER : Report on the Common wealth participation will be given later on, and that Report could not be included in the main record of this Session. There are some points that need to be discussed by the Members of this Assembly regarding enrolment into the Commonwealth.

It is gratifying to note that we could finish the business in time. I shall now read out lists of business or work transacted during the current Session which may be interesting and informative.

Date of Commencement was 11th March. During this period, 3 private resolutions were received of which 2 of them were admitted and disposed of. Out of 4 calling attention Notices, one was admitted and disposed of. One number of Short Notice Question received, admitted and disposed of by the House. 4 (four) Bills including Appropriation Bill, were admitted, disposed of except one which was referred to the Select Committee. Half-an-hour discussion was held and concluded. Altogether 8 (eight) papers were laid on the Table of the House. Questions, in Department-wise, are as follows :-

1. 10 questions were received from Supply and Transport Department and all were disposed of.
2. Out of 5 Questions, only 3 Questions were answered by the I.P.R & T Department.
3. 10 Questions out of 12 were received from the G.A.D.
4. In all 12 questions were received and disposed of from the Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department.
5. 17 questions out of 21 were replied by the Department of Public Works and P.E.
6. 4 questions were received from the Forest and Soil Conservation Department and were altogether disposed of.
7. 7 questions received in respect of Revenue Department were replied in full.

8. 4 were replied and disposed of in respect of Law & Judicial Department.
9. 5 questions in respect of P. & F.I. Department were replied.
10. 4 questions in respect of Community Development and Co-operative Department were received and fully disposed of.
11. One question out of 8 remained unreplied with the Home Department.
12. 7 questions received in respect of L.A.D. were replied.
13. 6 questions were replied and disposed of in respect of S.A.D.
14. 2 questions were replied by the Department of Industry.
15. 22 questions received in respect of Education Department were replied.
16. 2 questions were replied by the Power and Electricity Department.
17. 7 questions in respect of Appointment Department were disposed of.
18. 4 questions from Political Department were received and replied.
19. 1 question from Finance Department was replied.

There are, thus, altogether 151 starred questions, out of which 142 were answered and replies to 9 questions were not received.

Unstarred Questions are as follows:-

1. One from G.A.D. was replied.
2. One out of 4 questions was not returned back from Agriculture/Animal Husbandry Deptt.
3. 2 out of 3 unstarred questions were answered by P.W.D. & P.T.E. Department.
4. 1 from Revenue Department was answered.
5. One Unstarred Question in respect of Home Department was received.
6. 4 Unstarred Questions replied by the L.A.D.
7. 3 Unstarred Questions were answered by the S.A.D.

8. One was received from Education Department
9. One from Appointment Department
10. One unstarred question was received and answered in respect of Finance Department.

There are 18 unstarred questions, of which 15 were answered and 3 remained unreplyed.

The Session is discouraging. I hope we could do better than this in our next Session. Further, I am to say that we could present the Budget in time but only on the 5th day of re-fixation of the date for presentation. The cause and reason why the Budget could not be presented on the first and other appointed date was explained by Minister concerned. We sat in Session last night upto 9.30 P.M. It is however, note worthy that we could finish our budget discussion within a period of 5 days during which all Members could have enough time for discussing the Budget. I think and believe that it will be most practicable for us all to give votes on Account. It will greatly help the Govt. in preparing accurate budget for there will be more time for them to get the Budget book prepared with neatness, as well as in a systematic way. We should, therefore, make our utmost efforts and render our valuable services to get our budget prepared in a proper manner.

We will now close our Session, For all prorogation order, if necessary, will follow. The 7th Budget Session of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly is adjourned.

Sine - Die.