

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHT SESSION OF THE MIZORAM
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL
FROM 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1975 TO 3rd OCTOBER, 1975

3rd sitting on 25th September, 1975 at 11:00 A.M

P R E S E N T

Pu H.Thansanga, M.A., B.T. Speaker in the Chair.
Chief Minister and 31 Members were present.

BUSINESS

1. Questions.
2. Announcement of the Panel of Chairman for the current Session.
3. Obituary reference.
4. Laying of papers.
 - (1) The Tribal Welfare Discretionary Fund Rule, 75.
 - (2) The report of the Select Committee on the Mizoram Roadside Land Control Bill, 1975.
 - (3) Reports of the Rules Committee.

SPEAKER : (Read the Bible)

Now, we shall take up question No. 21,
Pu Sapliana's question.

SAPLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the Hon'ble Minister i/c General Administration Department be pleased to state -

- *21 (a) Whether there is any proposal to establish Liaison Office in Shillong ?
- (b) If so, what is the proposed strength of Officers and Staff for the said Office ?
- (c) If not, Why not ?

PU CH. CHUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER - Mr. Speaker Sir,

- (a) Not for the present.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) At present the need for a Liaison Office at Shillong is not considered pressing or urgent.

PU SANGCHHUM -

to

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question - Not only Liaison Officer, is there any Staff posted at Shillong to receive the officials going from Mizoram ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA -

Mr. Speaker Sir, Such arrangement has not yet been made.

PU SAPLIANA -

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question - Very often, the importance of having Liaison Office at Shillong was mentioned in the House. Shillong, as we all know, is N.E.C Headquarter where the representatives of Mizoram did often go to participate in the N.E.C meetings. Though Govt. have not yet now considered, will they make arrangement for the establishment of Liaison Office at Shillong in the near future ?

CH. CHHCHHUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER

Mr. Speaker Sir, We have not had any thought to consider like that.

SPEAKER:

Question No. 22, Pu Ngurdawla's question,

*22 PU NGURDAWLA :

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

Whether there is any difficulty faced by the Government to enforce the Mizoram Urban Rent Control Act ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Govt. have no difficulty as yet.

PU NGURDAWLA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, if there is no difficulty, is the Act being enforced now?

PU CH. CHHUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, yes, it is being enforced.

PU LALLMINGTHANGA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question -
What are the places declared for Urban Areas Rent Control ? And who is the authority detailed to fix the rent ?

PU CH. CHHUNGA :
CHIEF MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, P.W.D. is detailed to do the assessment of rent which would be finalized by the D.C. Places declared as Urban Areas are Aizawl, Lunglei and Champhai.

PU C.LALRUATA : Mr.Speaker Sir, Supplementary question -
Is there any house whose rent had been fixed according to this Act? And if the value of land is to be fixed at Market Price determined by the authority who fixed the rate?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr.Speaker Sir, so far 36 persons have altered their house-rents under the Act. CHIEF MINISTER: But, as we do not have proper Registration and record, it is not possible to know the market rate at which lands were sold. Therefore, the authority who fixed the rate had to fix it at what he thought reasonable.

PU.C. LALRUATA: Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question - Fixation of land value under Revenue Department varied according to the sites and situations of land - Some areas are fixed at Re 1/- and some areas are at Rs.2/-, Rs.5/- etc. If basing on this assessment that the authority fixed land value? Supposing, the tenants or land owners do not accept this assessment. What do we do?

PU SAPLIANA : Mr.Speaker Sir, Supplementary question - On what basis Aizawl, Lunglei and Champhai were declared Urban areas. If Champhai can be declared as Urban area, is there any intention to declare Kolosib, Tlabung and Chhimtuipui Dist. Headquarter as 'Urban Areas' for I think these are the towns that are equal to Champhai?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr.Speaker Sir, Let me first answer the CHIEF MINISTER: second question i.e. Pu Sapliana's question -

There is no intention not to declare other towns 'Urban Areas'. Gradually other areas too would be declared 'Urban Areas'.

Land value fixed by Revenue Department was not together market rate. The motive was to draw Revenue income. As I have said, Market rate is one's improvised rate. And if one does not accept the assessment, Govt. can still enforce the Act, that is, if they think it is necessary, for, there is Acquisition Act to stand by.

PU R.DOTINAIA : Mr.Speaker Sir, It is obvious that the Mizoram Urban Rent Control Act would be enforced between the Govt. and the individuals, But, is the Act being enforced between the individuals?

PU CH.CHHUNGA : Mr.Speaker Sir, It won't be possible to CHIEF MINISTER: enforce the Act between the individuals. That is the reason why we still declared the assessment of rent as Market rate.

SPEAKER :

Question No.23, Pu Ngurdawla's question -

PU NGURDAWLA :

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

Is there any intention to legalise prostitution in Mizoram ?

PU LALSANGZUALA :
MINISTER

Mr.Speaker Sir, Govt. have no intention to legalise prostitution in Mizoram.

PU K. SANGCHHUM :

Mr.Speaker Sir, Supplementary question - Whether the Govt. received any suggestions from the public to legalise prostitution in Mizoram ?

PU LALSANGZUALA :
MINISTER

Mr.Speaker Sir, Govt. have not received any proposal from any circle for legalising prostitution in Mizoram.

SPEAKER :

Question No.24, Pu Walruata's question -

PU C.LALRUATA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Supply and Transport Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that reservation of seats are made for V.I.P's in Mizoram State Transport Buses going to Silchar, Champhai and Lunglei.

(b) If yes, since when ?

PU LALSANGZUALA :
MINISTER

Mr.Speaker Sir,

(a) No.

(b) Not applicable.

PU C.LALRUATA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, Supplementary question -

To make reservation of seats for VIP's might not be necessary. But, is there any reservation of seats made for important officials and public leaders ?

PU LALSANGZUALA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, Reservations of seats made for officials are only for the times of emergency. If there is no emergency case, reserved seats are opened to the Public.

PU SAPLIANA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, If that was so, then how many seats are reserved ?

PU LAISANGZUALA :
MINISTER

Mr. Speaker Sir, if there is no advance notice, 5 seats are reserved in each Bus. But, as there is great demand for more bus services all over I, Central Govt. proposed to make rule for Buses to carry extra passengers. In other states, 30% are reserved for extra seats whereas it is 15% in Mizoram, due to which 5 seats can be reserved. However, reservation of seats does not change or alter the usual seat arrangements.

PU C. LALRUATA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question- Supposing M.L.As have to travel urgently, and they want to go by bus. In such cases, are they included among the officials for whom reservations of seats are made? For reservation seats for example, supposing one wants to leave the next day, we know that one had to book ticket today. But, till what time of today Ticket Counter is open?

PU LAISANGZUALA :
MINISTER

Mr. Speaker Sir, At present, reservations of seats are only for officials, Hence, M.L.As are not yet included. As for the time, if one wants to leave tomorrow the whole day of today is open for him to book ticket. If he does not book ticket today, tomorrow, the reserved seat will be opened to the public.

PU K. SANGCHHUM :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question- Is this reservation being extended to from Lunglei to Lawngtlai and Lunglei to Demagri?

PU LAISANGZUALA
MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, to the best of my knowledge, I do not think there is any reservation for officials only from Lunglei - Demagriri and Lunglei - Lawngtlai routes.

PU VANLALHRUALA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, only one Supplementary question - If I am not mistaken I think our Minister said that there is no reservation of seats for M.L.As. If so, is it possible to make reservation of seats for M.L.As or do the Govt. have power to make reservation of seats for M.L.As?

PU LAISANGZUALA
MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, upto this day Govt. have not received any proposal to make reservation of seats for M.L.As. But, if it is necessary Govt. will think about it.

SPEAKER :

Question No.25 Pu Ngurdawla's question-

PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the honorable Minister i/c Supply & Transport Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Is there any intention to fix the prices of Vegetables?
(b) Is there any intention to impose taxes on the vegetables imported from outside Mizoram such as, from Silchar etc?

PU LALSANGZUALA :
MINISTER

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- (a) NO
(b) NO.

PU K.SANGCHHUM :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question-
Is it really imported vegetables? If so, what are the vegetables imported from outside?

PU LALSANGZUALA
MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, since no licence is required for importation of vegetables from outside, the Govt. do not have

knowledge as to what type of vegetables are being imported into Mizoram.

PU NGURDAWLA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, to supplement my question.

We know that Central Govt. have various items under the list of essential commodities for which prices were fixed. So, how were the prices fixed locally? Is it based on the prices fixed by the Central Govt. or you sorted out local essential commodities and fixed the rates. If no licence is required for importation of vegetables from outside, does this mean that everyone can at anytime, bring in vegetables from other states without any restriction from the Government?

PU LALSANGZUALA
MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, fixation of prices was done by Central Govt. to be enforced all over India. Central Govt. have 31 items under the list of 'essential commodities'. In the 'Defence of India Rules', all the daily basic needs are included in the list of 'Essential Commodities'. As regards imported vegetables, we have thought different things like whether we would adopt whole-sale system or we would totally forbid importation of vegetables to encourage the people to grow more vegetables. But, we could not as yet think what would be the best.

SPEAKER :

Question No. 26, Pu Ngurdawla's question-

PU NGURDAWLA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Information and Public Relations Department be pleased to State -

What is the total expenditure incurred for publication of one issue of 'Mizoram Today' and 'Tunlai Chanchin' respectively ?

PU R. THANGLIANA

MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- (a) Rs 11451.58 for the first issue of 'Mizoram Today'
- (b) Average total expenditure for one issue of 'Tunlai Chanchin' is Rs 1000/-

PU SANGKHUMA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know whether 'Tunlai Chanchin' is given to all the Village Councils and to each School. And, supposing a private person wants to subscribe for 'Tunlai Chanchin', can it be given to him free of cost? I think it is also relevant that regarding the slogan 'Indira Gandhi to resign', All India Congress Committee published another slogan in favour of her (Indira Gandhi). As it is a party concern, I want to know whether Publicity Department used Govt's property like Printing machines, paper etc. for publication of this slogan. Will it be right to use Govt. property for thing which concerns party ?

PU J. THANGHUMA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question- If Rs 11451.58 was spent for publication of 'Mizoram Today' how many copies were printed ? And how many pages were there in one copy ? What is the total expenditure for printing of 'Mizoram Today' since its first publication ?

We have also learned that 'Tunlai Chanchin' had been published 25 times - 1000 copies in each edition. But, I would like to know how and where these (copies) are distributed and I would very much like to see Tunlai Chanchin's distribution list.

PU R. THANGLIANA

MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would first of all answer Pu Sangkhuma's question. Questions raised by Pu Sangkhuma and Pu Thanghuma were quite alike. I cannot say the detailed distribution of 'Tunlai Chanchin'. I know that they are distributed in every Govt. establishment including Village Group Centres. It is also distributed in every School. And Ministers, V.C.Ps, A.O. Offices are also given the copies. To meet the requirements of those I have mentioned, 5000 copies are printed in one edition. As regards Indira Gandhi - that I would'nt be able to answer all the activities of Directorate of Information, now.

(PU R.DOTINAIA : Mr.Speaker Sir, but, that was important as it concerned party matters. Can Govt. bear Party's expenditure ?

Mr.Speaker Sir, Is 'Tunlai Chanchin' printed only for the publication of the accounts of Ministers ? Or It is also meant for publication of the accounts of M.L.As ?)

Mr. Speaker Sir, if our Members ask all these at some other time, I would be able to answer. As regards Pu Dotinaia's question - that if the Editor feels it is necessary, the accounts of M.L.As can be printed too in 'Tunlai Chanchin', that is, if it is to be of no consequence to Government or to private person. Pu Thanghuama's question regarding the publication of 'Mizoram Today' - that 'Mizoram Today' was first published last year on 15th August. 3000 copies were issued for which Rs 11451.58 was spent. On 21st Jan. this year, there was second publication in which Rs 13524.62 was spent. And the copies issued were 3000. But, with English versions, we have 9000 copies. Fortunately, except for the Blocks, our Press can do the printing which greatly reduced our expenditure.

PU J.THANGHUAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I still want to know where 3000 copies were distributed. How many copies were given to each

School and how many copies were given to A.Os ? I must have a look at the distribution list otherwise how would we know that all these were true. It seems that our Press can do the printing except the Blocks. If so, why did we do the printing in other state thus spending so much money ? Had all the copies been printed here, we would spend much lesser amount. I think only Rs 10000 or Rs 20000/- (Rupees twenty thousand) can cover the total expenditure for publication of 3000 copies of 'Mizoram Today', if it is in local Press.

PU R.THANGLIAWA
MINISTER :

Mr.Speaker Sir, if our Members wish to see distribution list of 'Tunlai Chanchin' I can produce it later on. Regarding the distribution of 'Mizoram Today' - as it is the Magazine by which we advertise our land and the activities of the people, it is distributed, not only within Mizoram, but also in other States. Within Mizoram, the distribution is usually done through D.I.S, Inspectors, D.Cs etc. Outside Mizoram, Directorate directly distributes them. Other states' Ministers are also given the copies of 'Mizoram Today', for them to distribute it among their counterparts.

Pu Thanghuama suggested local Press for printing 'Mizoram Today'. There is no doubt that our expenditure too would be lesser if we print it here in our Press. But, as we desired better quality, we had them printed in other states' presses. When our Press is enlarged I believe we would not have to go to other states to print 'Mizoram Today'.

SPEAKER : Question No.27, Pu Ngurdawla's question-

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PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Information and Public Relations be pleased to state -

- (a) How many cameramen are employed by the Department of Information & Public Relation ?
- (b) What amount of money has been spent for photography with effect from 1.1.1974 to 1.9.75 ?

PU R. THANGLIANA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir,

- (a) NIL
- (b) Rs. 7,219/-

PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary Question -
Does that mean every photographer can use Govt's cameras or one particular person is detailed to do photography for Government ?

PU R. THANGLIANA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, to do photography work, the Department have one person or so to say a photographer detailed, but not cameraman, along with one dark-room assistant, who concerns with developing and printing. But, as it is not possible for one photographer alone to follow all the Officers in their tours, the Deptt. Officers handle cameras as they all had training in photography. As I have said, printing and developing are in the hand of Darkroom Assistant.

PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, can all the photographs for which Rs 7219 was spent be shown to us ? And, for what purpose these photographs were taken ?

PU R. THANGLIANA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, it won't be possible to see all the photographs for which we spent Rs 7219, for some of them would have been damaged by ~~now~~ fire. Even if not damaged, some of them might have been lost.

I say As for the purpose of photographs - say when V.I.Ps are on tour, there are special occasions. To note/remember those special occurrences, photographs are taken. The important developments and activities of Govt. are photographed. Social life or cultural developments that are worth exhibiting are also photographed. Like that, there are many important things that are worth photographing which can be produced in Exhibitions.

PU DOTINAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question- We know that the Department have photographer to take the photos of the activities of Govt. and of the social activities. But, can they also use Cameras for taking the photos of lovers and of the activities of Y.M.A or other Associations since they can use papers, machines etc. for publishing things that concerned political party ?

PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Our hon'ble Minister, in his answer, stated the reasons for not being able to produce all the photographs that had been taken by the Department. But, do the Govt. know that the 178 photographers and those who handle Cameras used to take the photos of their friends and relatives on Sunday evenings ?

PU R. THANGLIANA :
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, there is now hard and fast rule that the photos of lovers and of social activities are not to be photographed. The aim and objective of the Govt. is to take the photos of important things that serve the purpose of the Govt. Only those they think as important are taken.

(PU SANGKHUMA : What things/what occurrences are regarded as important ? Do the Govt accept all the photographs taken, and do they accept all of them as important ?)

SPEAKER : Be quiet now. It is wrong to ask or answer without addressing the chair.

PU R. THANGLIANA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, Photographers and authorities concerned cannot all the time remain together, If photographers take the photos of things which they regarded as important what can we do. But, it won't be right to take the photos of un-necessary things and it is also wrong to use Cameras at any time they like.

(PU R. DOTINAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, have not they (Govt.) Control over their photographers and have they not prescribed duties for them?)
Mr. Speaker, let me continue. Govt. gives them no permission to take the photos of their families or their friends on Sunday evenings. But, if they only used Camera Box with roll-film of their own, Govt. seems to make no charges.

(MEMBERS : Does that mean Camera Boxes can be lent out ?)

I think it won't be possible to have hard and fast rule regarding photographing. If it is a thing of importance, a photographer takes even the photo of Caterpillar. As such, it is difficult to mark what photos are to be taken and not to be taken.

PU VANLALPHUAI : ^{Govt.} Mr. Speaker Sir, have not laid down what things are to be photographed and what not to be photographed ? Do they accept each and every photograph taken by the photographers ?

PU R. THANGLIANA
MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have said photographs are taken to serve the purpose of Publicity and Information. Social life or Cultural developments, important occasions, and various activities of Govt. are photographed. These photographs are being utilized for Exhibitions, Calendars and for display etc. It won't be possible to lay down the detailed utilization of these photographs.

SPEAKER : Question No. 28, Pu Lalkunga's question.

PU LALKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Health and Family Planning Department be pleased to state -

- (a) How many cases of Malaria have been detected within constituency No. 21 ?
- (b) How many staff of Malaria Eradication Wing are posted in this Constituency ?

PU P. B. NIKHUMA :
DY. MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir,

- (a) Cases of Malaria detected in Constituency No. 24 for the last three years upto 1.9.76 is 523 cases.
- (b) 2 Nos. of Surveillance Workers of Malaria Eradication Wing are posted in Constituency No. 21.

PU LALKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Supplementary question -
Of 524 cases, how many were cured ? And, do the Govt. know that it is due to negligence of the Department Staff that Malaria cases increased ?

PU SAPLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, supplementary question -
Our hon'ble Minister mentioned the number of Malaria cases detected and the posting of Staff in Constituency No. 21. But, I would like to know from which date and year detection was started and in which particular place the Department staff were posted. Where is their actual whereabouts now ? How did the Govt. distribute Works/ assignments among the Staff ?

PU ROONAIYA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Of the 524 cases, how many were cured. I would also like to know the number of cases detected in Constituency No. 10. Of the cases detected, how many persons died and how many were cured ?

(SPEAKER : It won't be right to jump over to other constituencies).

What is the total amount of money spent for treatment of 524 cases of Malaria in Constituency No.21 ?

PU P.B. NIKHUMA

MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, let me answer Pu Sapliana's question. Detection of Malaria cases has been carried on for the last three years till 1st Sept. of the current year. In 1973, 466 cases were detected; in 1974, there were 241 cases detected and in 1975 (till 1st Sept) 177 cases are detected. And the following places are where Department staff were posted -

Kangmun -

One Surveillance Inspector and one Surveillance Worker.

Phalleng -

One Surveillance Inspector and One Surveillance Worker.

The same were posted both in Marpara and Darlung. Staff who had been posted to this Constituency since we formed new Govt. are many in number. But, some of them came out of their places of posting and their substitutes were also placed. One staff, who had been posted to Kangmun, has submitted his resignation on 10th of this Month. So now, his substitute is being searched.

As regards the question of Pu Dobinaia and Pu Lalkunga - we have not received any report as to how many persons died and how many were cured. We can believe there would be persons who had been cured and who had not been cured.

(PU DOTINAIA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, have not Govt. asked them to give/submit reports ?).

As I have said, we have the report of the number of Malaria cases detected. But, we do not particularly have report about the dead. As to the reason for increase in Malaria cases -

(PU VANLALHUAIA :

Have not the staff been informed to report cases of death as well as those cured ?). I particularly want to answer

Pu Lalkunga's question regarding the increase of Malaria cases. But, as for Pu Vanlalhuaia's question - I think it is understood that if one serves under Govt. he/she would give reports. However, I think we cannot particularly blame negligence of Staff for increase in Malaria cases for in recent times, Malaria cases increased immensely, not only within India, but all over the world, due to which Govt. also initiated Malaria Eradication Programme under which vigorous steps are being taken. Central Govt. had also been sent a proposal to strengthen our existing staff.

SPEAKER : Now, Pu Saprawnga.

PU SAPRAWNGA :

MINISTER : Mr. Speaker Sir, how many microscopes do the Govt. have for detection of Malaria cases ? And how far it is true that sample of blood taken in slide from patients in Villages, when taken to Aizawl couldnot be examined as the germs all died.

PU C. LAIRUATA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Is there any microscope placed in Villages ? If yes, besides Aizawl, in which places microscopes are placed ?

PU LAIKINGA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know the work schedule of Department staff for instance - how many times in a year Department Staff would pay a visit to various places? I would also like to know whether it is possible to sell Malaria Medicine ?

PU P. N. NIKUMIA

DY. MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, In each area, work schedule is chalked out by Surveillance Inspector under whose authority Workers are placed. Surveillance Inspector is responsible for the distribution of Works among the Workers in their respective areas.

(MEMBERS :

Is Surveillance Inspector responsible for detailed distribution of Works to the Workers even when there are many cases ? Mr. Speaker Sir, Govt. expects every employee to work/to perform his/h'r duty at any time. It is necessary for them to go even if they want to as they have to look after patients whose cases they have detected.

(PU C. LAIRUATA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, it can't possibly be like that. How would the staff know what is to be done if they are not given proper direction of Works ? If we wholly depend on the Workers, there might be slow progress in curing patients whose cases had been detected. In other Departments, there used to be proper distribution of works. For instance - Govt. staff is ordered to visit his constituency twice a month or once a month. Does not Malaria Department have such direction ? Or they wholly depend on the diligence of the Staff ?

FU P.B.NIKHUMA
DY. MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, Yes, the Department have such direction. Our Staff in the Department are directed to give/submit monthly report, according to which, Surveillance Inspectors will distribute works among the Workers. Not only Surveillance Inspectors and Workers, Health Assistants are also directed to do the same. (Pu Lalkunga - Will Govt. accept report given by the Staff who collects data, not from the spot? And will Govt. take action against the Staff who give report like that supposing I report such Cases?) Mr. Speaker, Sir, that will depend on the cases. We cannot possibly take action against the staff who does not visit his constituency. (Members - does that mean there would not be any action taken?) If the Department staff gives false report or a report which concerned other area, not his, Govt. will have to investigate in order to be able to take action. Unless there is evidence, Govt. cannot simply take action. If there is evidence, Govt. will undoubtedly take action against wrong-doers. For instance - not only Malaria Department staff but other Department staff are posted/ordered at Villages to perform their duties. Once they perform their duties, Govt. cannot give detailed direction for each and everything they do. One had to work according to circumstances arising there. But field staff are expected to pay visits to their constituencies at least thrice a year.

Regarding Pu Dotinaia's question - that I think I need not answer as it concerns Constituency No. 10.

Our hon'ble Minister Pu Saprawnga asked the number of microscopes we now have and he also enquired about the whereabouts of these microscopes. Recently we could have two microscopes for detection of Malaria cases. Previously, one microscope placed at Aizawl was the only microscope we had for the whole country. At that time, there were many difficulties in detecting Malaria cases. But, as we now have two microscopes things would be easier. However, Govt. is considering to have more microscopes. At present, the two microscopes we have are placed at Aizawl and at Lunglei.

SPEAKER : Question No. 29.

FU C. LAIRUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Health and Family Planning Deptt. be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that construction of Primary Health Sub-Centre building at Chhingghip Grouping Centre has been stayed by Revenue Department.

(b) If yes, what is the reason?

FU P.B.NIKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir,

(a) Yes, but it has since been lifted.

(b) Due to the dispute over the title of the land.

PU C. LALRUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, when the construction of Sub-Centre Building at Chhingchhip was about to be postponed, did Revenue Deptt. consult Medical Department ?

PU P. B. NIKUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, no specific notification was given to Medical Department. But, as there was complaint from the people, Revenue Deptt. thought it is necessary to postpone the construction. The copy of stay Order was given to Medical Department.

PU C. LALRUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, the site selected for the construction of Sub-Centre Building was in previous years too proposed for the site to construct other building. At that time, there were complaints and discord as it is today. If so, have Revenue Department no knowledge of this when the construction of Sub-Centre Building was about to be postponed ?

PU P. B. NIKUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I don't think Revenue Deptt. know about this.

SPEAKER : Question No. 30, Pu Frangaia's question-

PU FRANGAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Revenue Department be pleased to state -

(a) Is it a fact that Passes/Permits on land other than station areas have been issued to individuals/parties for Agricultural and other purposes in Mizoram ?

(b) If so, under what provisions of the law the Revenue Department of Mizoram have issued such Passes/Permits?

PU VAIVENGA : Mr. Speaker Sir,

MINISTER :

(a) Yes.

(b) (i) The Revenue Deptt. of Mizoram have issued such passes/permits under section 3 and 4 of the Mizo District (Agricultural Land) Act, 1963.

(ii) Issue of passes for House sites, shops, stalls and Postels is governed by sub-section 2 of section 3 of the Lushai Hills District (House Sites) Act, 1953.

SPEAKER : Question hour is over, But, if you insist on calling members, let us call only one member.

PU HRANGAIA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, According to Mizoram Agricultural Land Act, land pass for agriculture or garden are to be issued in patta form. Our Land Rules make no provision for issue of land pass. But, in Revenue Act, there is provision for issue of land pass and thereafter patta in towns which had been declared "Stations". The following are places which had been declared as stations : Aizawl, Lunglei, Champhai, Vanlaiphai, Sairang and Demariri. So, under what provisions of the law the Revenue Department of Mizoram have issued land passes/permits, for the answer given by our hon'ble Minister was not true. If passes are to be issued in patta form according to the provision of Mizo District Land Act, (the one we are practising) it means Villages too are capable of receiving Agriculture Loan. Does not our Minister know that land passes are to be issued in Patta form under the provisions of our Land Act unless and until it is (Land Act) revised or modified ?

PU VAIVENGA :
MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, I will give an explanation to that. As provided for in subsection (ii) of section 4 of the Act, Executive Committee can frame the rules. Based on this, in the year 1974; Rule was framed the word 'Executive' being changed into ~~the~~ 'Governor'. This Rules provides clarification of the word 'Patta' as it divides 'Patta' into two avenues Settlement Patta and Temporary Patta. Section 7 of the Bill confers the owner of the land permanent ownership. The land will thus become heritable and transferable.

PU DOTINAIA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, District Council Act stated 'Patta' as permanent settlement.

PU SAPLIANA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, we have been informed of the formation of law by Executive Committee. But, as the law was enacted before we become U.T., I would like to know whether Executive Order is being adopted since U.T. If not adopted **is it valid ?**

PU VAIVENGA
MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, So long as the Act is in force, the rule thereunder is effective. The Rule makes clear distinction between temporary allotment of land and Settlement under Patta system. If the land is to be settled, it will be surveyed and its valuation will be determined according to the rule.

SPEAKER : Now, we will proceed to our next item, that is, Item No. 2, Private Members Bill. Here we have Pu Saitlawma's Bill, but, (a) need not be introduced, as it has been published in Gazette on 22nd January, Now, Pu Saitlawma may introduce his Bill (b) for House's consideration.

PU SAITLAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, With your permission, I move 'The Mizoram Union Territory Legislature Members' (Removal of disqualification) Bill, 1975.

SPEAKER : Now, the Bill will be considered. As we have not received any amendment notice, anyone could start the discussion.

PU NGURDAWLA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am glad that Pu Saitlawma introduced 'The Mizoram Union Territory Legislature Members' (Removal of Disqualification) Bill, 1975 in the House, as Mizoram have not had Removal of Member's Disqualification Act. In other States, Removal of Member's Disqualification Act is being enforced, due to which Ministers of State, Dy. Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries etc. are not regarded as Govt. Staff; thus they are not disqualified even to cast votes. And Doctors, Professors or Lecturers could as well as practise remunerative job. As was how it has been in other states, it is a real privilege for the Members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly to have this Bill introduced as it is going to remove our disqualification. I am also glad to know that our Members give serious thoughts to the rules and regulations, for if we are too ignorant of the Rules and Regulations we may not know what privileges the Members could enjoy. Though we are supposed to be having privilege to hold job in Offices, if we are not given such chances/if we do not know that we have such privilege, it is a real headache for us (Members) to wholly depend on our salary which the Govt. too regarded as not sufficient. As it is going to remove many of our headaches/difficulties, I think we should pass the Bill. I at the same time request other members too to accept and pass Pu Saitlawma's Bill.

PU CH. SAPRAWNA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Viewing the contents of the Bill, there is likely be a controversy. For this reasons the contents might have to be explained. Hence, the mover of the Bill would do well in explaining as to why Executive Members are not mentioned in Clause 4. Is it not necessary or E.M's are already accepted as District Council Members. Secondly, can teachers under High Schools (that includes Aided and Deficit) and Middle Schools contest for Membership in the Election? Are not they to be included in the list of the Removal of Disqualification?

PU R.DOTINAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am glad that Pu Saitlawma introduced this Bill. If we can pass this it is going to be a great help not only at present, but in future too. Therefore, we must pass this Bill.

Though I found nothing to criticise, in the Bill and its contents, I would like the mover to explain Clause No. 6 under 'Schedule'. Clause No. 6 states as 'the Office of the partime Professor, Lecturers, Instructors or teachers in Govt. Educational Institution.' As no Deficit and Aided Schools are mentioned, I would like to request Pu Saitlawma to explain it. Previously, MIAs are not permitted to do contract works. The mover of this Bill did not either mention removal of Member's disqualification to do contract works. So the mover thinks it is not necessary or why did he not mention this in the Bill?

I have
PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, nothing much to say about the demerit of the Bill. But, in clause No. 6 under the head 'Schedule' it is stated as 'the Office of Partime Professors, Lecturers, Instructor or Teacher in Government Educational Institution'. So, I would like to know the definition of the word 'partime'. If we want to pass the Bill the word 'partime' must clearly be defined as there can be confusion in differentiating partime job and full time job. For instance - Lecturers of Aizawl College are not permitted/qualified for day teacher in High Schools; thus it is not possible to ascertain what is partime and full time. I, therefore, request the mover of this Bill to explain all these, before we go further.

SPEAKER : Are there no more to speak? If there is none, we will call upon the Member-in-charge of the Bill.

PU SAITLAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am glad that some of the Members support the Bill which I introduced and I do hope we would pass it in the House. However, I will now try to explain some of the things misunderstood by our Members.

Our opposition leader, Pu R. Dotinaia, asked the reason as to why removal of Member's disqualification for registered Contractorship is not mentioned in the Bill. But, as Representation of the People Act, 1950 does not confer such removal, we cannot include it in the Bill. Some of our members also asked the reason as to why Executive Members are not included in the schedule of the Bill. In District Councils of other States, Executive Members are not included as they are expected to have 24 hrs. duty. That is the reason why I too did not include them in the Bill.

As regards lecturers, teachers

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, while he is standing, I might as well mention this. That, in Assam State, Executive Members are not debarred from the Removal of Member's Disqualification Act. In fact, I too could hold members' ip both in Assam Assembly and in Mizo District Council, that was while I was C.E.M. Though, I cannot say how newly created States function, I know that in Assam State, Executive Members are not barred from the Act. So, why can't we too do the same in Mizoram?

PU SATTAWMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I might have been mistaken but I don't think I am mistaken. That in the last amendament, Executive Members are not included in the Act. During the erstwhile Assam Govt. C.E.Ms of P.L. Region Councils were included in the Act, as they, at the same time, could hold Membership in Assam Assembly. But, in the last Amendment, they are no more included and the same amendment is applied to Meghalaya and Nagaland States. In the Bill, as you have seen, Religious Institutions are not mentioned as they are not Govt. Institutions. But, Village Council Members and Village Council Presidents are mentioned, as they too have disqualification which has to be removed by passing the Bill. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I request our Members to deeply consider and pass the Bill I have submitted.

PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think we must not simply depend on the Amendment made by Assam Govt., instead we must depend on circumstances and necessities arising in Mizoram. What we think as necessary must be included though other states may not include them. As I have said before, I feel that the Bill is too simple to be passed into the Act as there is no definition of the contents. I, therefore, would like to request the mover to withdraw it and make clear definition of the contents. We would then willingly pass it. If he (the mover) does not make better preparation of it, I don't agree to its passing.

SPRAKIF : The statement hinting to the mover himself must not be recorded as it looks more like despising the mover.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The statement given by the mover regarding District Council E.Ms being barred from contesting for M.L.As was not, I feel, convincing enough. If they (E.Ms) have a tendency to hold both the posts of M.L.A and E.M. at the same time and if they are elected, it will be more convenient as they could as well improve themselves. Therefore, it is far better to depend on the necessities arising in locality instead of depending on the activities of Assam Govt.

This way, our District Council and Assembly might have closer link. I don't think it is right either to exclude only E.Ms while Chairman, Dv. Chairman and other Members are included. To open wider opportunity, can we, somehow include those Members I have mentioned in the Bill?

PU NGURDAWIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, It appears that the objective of the Bill is to give privilege to Members to have part-time services. As some of the members have stated, I too donot particularly dislike the idea of removing the disqualification of E.Ms that is, if necessity crops up. But, if our neighbouring states - Meghalaya, Nagaland and Assam do not enforce this, there might be a reason and might be that E.Ms have 24 hrs. duty. Hence, I suggest that we pass the Bill now as it is. And if there is any omission, we can make alteration or addition later.

PU SANGKHUMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I feel it is not right to depend only on the opinions and beliefs. Unless we have clear definitions, I think we must not pass the Bill, as this kind of Bill is rarely introduced in the House.

PU SAPLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Ever since Mizoram had Legislative Assembly of its own, this is the first time that this kind of Bill is introduced in the House. Therefore, the credit must go to the mover of the Bill - Pu Saitlawma, as it (the Bill) shows the enthusiasm of Pu Saitlawma for the development of the people and of the country. True, there might be some defects or omissions in the Bill, but, have not we seen them in official Bills too? If only we pass the Bill now, we can later on make amendments and additions. In my opinion, we should pass it now, as it is also the one and only private members Bill that has come up in the House. Since our opposition leader too accepted its passing, I hope other Members would accept the same.

SPEAKER : Please listen. Let me explain it. The Bill itself needs no further definition as everything is clearly defined in the Schedule. So, 'part-time' (or full time need not be defined. If Govt. Institutions allow parttime, what would be the case in Non-Govt. Institutions is understood, as it is how it has been practised. Regarding the exclusion of C.E.Ms and E.Ms - that if you want to make amendment of the Bill, you should have submitted it before it is discussed, for many days had passed since the copy was distributed to you to study. I had a feeling that our Members study the Bill too late. The copy of the Bill is distributed earlier only because we want you to study it before it is discussed. Once we make Rules/Acts, there is Law Deptt. to do the interpreting part.

If the makers of the law try to do both, it could mean they (law makers) are subordinates to the Interpreters. Once Rule/Act is made, Law Deptt. would do the rest. That is where the importance and superiority of law makers is seen. Hence, it is not necessary to have the detail of everything in the Bill. No one can make as clear as the one we have. If Members are included in the Schedule of the Bill, are not C.E.Ms and .E.Ms too Members ?. From legal point of view, this can be the interpretation. If we want to make amendment of addition, we can do it later. So, let us not trouble ourselves here.

PU CH.SAPRAWNGA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, It appears that we are puzzling about the interpretation of 'District Council Members'. If the mover of the Bill does not intend to exclude E.Ms 'Members of antonomous District Councils' will be a correct statement and Chairman and Dy.Chairmen need not be mentioned again in the Schedule, for the 'Members of District Councils' include all E.Ms, C.E.Ms, Chairmen and Dy.Chairmen. But, since the mover did not do kit that way, how could we say that E.Ms are included ?. If the Bill is accepted as it is or if it is not amended, it could mean that E.Ms are barred from such privilege.

SPEAKER :

Anyone from Treasury Branch ?
(R.Dotinaia - Mr. Speaker Sir)

Just one moment. Those who have stood up before must try to say as little as possible, as there are members who have not said anything.

PU VANLALHRUAIA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, I am not very much concerned about the passing or not passing of the Bill. But, what I don't understand is our inclination towards its passing while we are well aware of the defects that need explanation/definition, not that I disagree to its passing. If it is going to be too late to pass it after we make amendments/definitions, I do not mind passing it now. But, if not, I suggest that we first make necessary amendments and explanations, then pass it in the House.

PU G.CHAWNGKUNGA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, some of the members supported the passing of the Bill, because of the Bill being the first of its kind since U.T. not that I disagree to its passing. Our reason for passing must not be only because of it being the first of its kind. Instead, we must be careful and particular about it since it is the first of its kind. As it appears that E.Ms and C.E.Ms are intentionally excluded, we would do well in including them.

PU K.L.ROCHAMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, As far as the passing of the Bill is concerned, We seem to be at accord. But, I am sorry that our opposition members though small in number (please do not mind what I am saying) are not in agreement in this matter while their leader has already accepted it with gratitude. However, as we have had experience to know how Chairmen, Dy. Chairmen, E. Ms and C.E. Ms function in the District Councils, I think we should as well do as other states are doing, for, truly speaking, the work schedule of the Members I have mentioned is quite heavy. As a matter of fact, their work-load is as heavy as the Ministers we have at state level. But, if we want to make amendment to the Bill after passing it or if E. Ms, as we go on, want to contest for M.L.A. we can make amendment. For the present, I think we must pass it now as it is, as it (Bill) is going to remove many of our problems.

PU C.CHANGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, can E. Ms and C.E. Ms of those District Councils contest in the election supposing M.L.As term is going to come to an end and fresh election is going to be held by the next year ?

SPEAKER : Yes, they can contest in the election. But, they will have to resign their present portfolio to contest in the election.

PU SAPLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, there are many who want to contest in the election even without counting C.E. Ms and E. Ms .

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, What is the necessity of resigning their portfolio first to contest in the election?. Let them (C.E. Ms & E. Ms) be mentioned in the Bill, so that they would not have to resign.

SPEAKER : Since there is no amendment made before, the Bill will be taken up as it is. But, this does not mean that C.E. Ms and E. Ms cannot contest in the election. Anyone, not only they, but also Govt. servants can contest in the election, that is, if they resign their posts. That is the objective of this Bill. But, as the Member in-charge, of the Bill ~~said~~ had said before, Law Deptt. may please study it, and do the interpretation. I think we better end this subject as it creates more and more controversies. From legal point of view, it is also wrong to say many things about the matter if there is no amendment submitted earlier.

We have now discussed and studied - The Mizoram Union Territory Legislature Member's (Removal of Disqualification) Bill, 1975. Anyone who agrees to its passing? (Members - 'agree'. Anyone who disagrees? If no one disagrees to its passing, it is then passed.

Now, we shall take up Item No.2(a). Here, (a) is not from the list of a, b & c. Actually, this is not included in the List of Business. But, as it is a novel thing and amendment, we better take it up now. The Bill was Bill No.7. As the Bill No. is not filled in, I think you better fill in in your own copy, and please fill it as 'Bill No.8', which is 'The Mizoram Trading by Non-Tribals Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1975. For this Bill, recommendation of Administrator is needed to move an amendment. So, we shall call upon the Member in-charge of the Bill to ask permission to introduce it in the House.

**PU VAIVENGA
MINISTER :**

Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to introduce 'The Mizoram Trading by Non-Tribals Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1975' in the House.

SPEAKER :

Any objection? If there is no objection, the Bill has now been introduced. We would not have to consider study the principal Act except relevant clause/section. But, as there is not enough time for that, I think you all have the copy of the Bill which we have considered before. As you see it in the copy, it was sub-section 3 of section 15. Though the Bill had been introduced, its consideration can be put off till 4 days after its introduction, that is, if it is what you wish. But, as the Bill needs no serious study, we can take it up on Monday which means we have 3 days (that included Monday) for study.

Only the relevant Act had been ready for consideration. The other copy will come later. We now have only ten minutes left. Shall we continue or we will have recess? If we are not going to continue, we will now have recess till 2 P.M., and Resolution also will be taken up in the afternoon sitting.

Recess till 2.00 P.M.

AFTERNOON SITTING 2 P.M.

SPEAKER :

We will now have consideration of Resolutions. First of all, we will call upon Pu Vanlalhrual to move his resolution.

PU VANLAIHRUAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you for allowing me to move my Resolution in the House. My Resolution is as follows : - This Assembly resolves that the Government of Mizoram, Public Works Department do take over the following roads which were constructed and maintained under E.G. Scheme :

| | | | |
|-------------|---|------------------|------------|
| Serkhan | - | N.Hlimen | Jeep Road. |
| Champhai | - | Hnahlan | Jeep Road. |
| Rawpuichhip | - | Darlung | Jeep Road. |
| Ngopa | - | N.E. Khawdungsei | Jeep Road. |
| Hlaikhan | - | Vanzau - Farkawn | Jeep Road. |
| Phullen | - | Sungngpuilawn | Jeep Road. |
| Ngopa | - | Kawlbem | Jeep Road. |
| Lunglei | - | Buarpu | Jeep Road. |
| Bualpui | - | Aiduzawl | Jeep Road. |

When I approached D.C. to inquire about the condition of the above E.G.S roads I mentioned, I was told that they were all in good condition even in time of rainy season. Besides what I have mentioned, many other roads in different places are voluntarily constructed with little amount of money sanctioned under E.G. Scheme. Due to the zeal of the people only, these roads are serviceable during dry seasons. The roads taken up by P.W.D. are well maintained and are serviceable all through the year. As was the condition of the roads taken up by P.W.D, I do believe that E.G.S. roads I have mentioned above too would improve if P.W.D. take up the maintenance. Therefore, I request our Members to accept and to agree to the passing of this resolution of mine,

Thank you.

PU R.DOTINIAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I do really appreciate this resolution moved by Pu Vanlalthruaia. The roads mentioned in the resolution are all important roads due to which I would like to mention their importance one by one. With small amount of money sanctioned under E.G. Scheme, jeepable roads are constructed in many places. As there is no separate Department to deal with the Scheme, Dy. Commissioner, along with his usual assignment had to deal with the Scheme and its implementation. But, due to inadequacy of fund under the Scheme, D.C could do nothing when the roads are damaged by rains and Landslides during rainy season. Thus the roads are pliable only during dry season. Lack of technical staff is also one of the problems besides financial difficulty. Besides what had been mentioned in the Resolution, there are many important roads, of which I desire P.W.D. to take up. One of these was Serkhan - N.Hlimen Road. If there be enough fund, every potentiality is there for the construction of all weather road in Serkhan - North Hlimen range without having to cross any river.

The road is though newly opened, it is pliable only during dry season. Cash crops abundantly grown in the surrounding areas of the said range are mostly transported to Silchar as there is no good communication to convey them here. Had there been good road, we, particularly the habitants of Aizawl might not have to depend on cash crops imported from Silchar. Due to bad communications, Villages which motor roads cannot penetrate had to suffer all sorts of difficulties. Therefore, roads that had once been opened must be well maintained and if possible we must hand them over to P.W.D. for better maintenance.

Though I have not tracked Champhai - Hnahlan Road, I believe the people of those areas are very much anxious for better development. I heard too that cash crops and variety of fruits like apple are in abundance. But, if there is no facility/potentiality to transport these natural products to wider market for sale, there would not be any benefit for the people to grow only for local consumption. Under the circumstances, good and truckable road is what we need. As D.C. alone is incapable of constructing all weather road, P.W.D. is the only Department on which we can depend to have good motor roads. Therefore, roads which had once been opened must be, if possible, handed over to P.W.D. for better maintenance. Unless the people have good roads, there is no means of disposing of their productions. Let me mention one thing as an example. In the year 1973, the said range and its surrounding areas accumulated many quintals of Slinger to be transported to Aizawl. But, as the road was not in good condition to run vehicles, many quintals were wasted as there was no other means of disposing them of. To develop and bring more prosperity to the people of interior and distant areas, roads which had been constructed under E.G. Scheme might have to be handed-over to P.W.D. so that they can at least maintain them (roads) for light vehicles even during rainy seasons. Actually, I have seen and tracked roads constructed under E.G. Scheme which are as wide as truck roads. Mizoram - Manipur border road for example. If P.W.D. could continue its maintenance and construction, I believe the road would turn into a better road and it will also be easier to exchange goods/products.

Next, I feel it is necessary that P.W.D. take over Rawpuichhip - Darlung Jeep Road as there used to be much difficulty for the people of this area. Ngopa - N.E. Khawdungsei, Hlaikhan - Vanzau - Farkawn, roads are also important roads which need attention. In January 1st I travelled on foot from Champhai upto Farkawn, and I found that some parts of the roads are widely constructed, due to which it might not be difficult for P.W.D. to make it into better road. It is also my anticipation that if trucks can be run in those areas, there will be many agricultural products for earning money.

Under the present circumstances, it is no use encouraging people to grow more of cash crops and other foodstuff as there is no way of disposing them of. Whether or not we can construct good truck road, I think priority must be given to those areas I have mentioned. If I am not mistaken, I heard that Mizoram P.W.D. establishment is going to be expanded, for which we should be thankful. But, on the otherhand, there must be a good reason/purpose for expanding it. If there is no work, it is meaningless to enlarge the set-up. When Serchhip P.W.D Sub-Division was transferred to Sateek, the people were quite disappointed. But, when I learned the reason for this shifting, I knew that Govt. did the right thing, for there is no more work to do for them in that area. Like that, a time may come when one division has to be shifted to somewhere else. However, the Department must as well see not only to the condition of the roads but also to the advantage and benefit from the roads they have constructed/maintained.

What I wanted to say next is about Farkawn Range. I think many of us are charmed by Farkawn and its surrounding areas as these are places frequented by our progenitors and their traces and remains are found here. Had the places been developed and facilitated, none of them or the people of the said range would like to immigrate to Aizawl or to other places. As a matter of fact, many of the town dwellers would like to visit the places for enjoyment and to inhale the refreshing air which prevails in those areas. The advantage of developing Farkawn Range will be both economical and cultural. In order to develop the said range, first thing we should do is to construct good road.

Of Phullen - Suangpuiawn, Ngopa - Kawlben, Lugglei - Buarpui, Bualpui - Aiduzawl Roads, I don't know which one I particularly want to talk about, as all of them are backward areas. Though, economically backward, their brains would be as bright as the brains of the habitants of Aizawl or Lugglei. Actually, it is only because of the absence of good communications and facilities that the people of extreme south and the habitants of the yonder side of Tuichang river are looked down upon. In fact, those who reside in better developed places used to have disdainful attitude towards them. Had there been communications, in the first place, our Members would not have to mention the grievances of the people, in each and every session. Absence of good road was the cause of most of the grievances of the people. Imagine how the people of extreme south manage. Recently, I went on tour upto Saiha. To cross the river Chhmtuipui (which we all have to cross if we want to go to Saiha) there is only one Marboat plying. If the engine fails, nothing can be done, and the lives of all the passengers can be lost at one stroke. If the river is flooded, it means that the people of the yonder side belong to another world. Perhaps, it is also due to the absence of communicating link that the people of Saiha and its surrounding areas suffered so much when the Saiha incident took place.

If P.W.D. takes up the construction and maintenance of these roads, I am sure we would have at least Jeep Services in all weather. And I believe there would not be any racial, communal/regional discrimination, if we all have good communicating links. Due to the absence of good roads, tools and implements of Agriculture Department could not reach the concerned places which hampered economy and agriculture. Anyway, if we are to say the importance of having good road there would be a lot to say. Therefore, what we should do or what I want us to do is to pass this resolution, for I think it is inevitably necessary under our present circumstances.

Thank you.

PU LAIHLIRA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to say few things regarding our resolution. I accepted what had been said by our opposition leader as well as the mover for, what they said were all so true. However, though we have acknowledged the necessity and importance of having good roads, there is one thing that has to be considered. If we could not follow it up, there is no meaning in passing the resolution now. Frankly speaking, I cannot quite agree to the passing of this resolution due to the reasons stated below.

In the Resolution, 9 roads are pointed out for P.W.D. to take up. But, in view of technical staff we have under P.W.D. it is not possible for the Deptt. to take up all the said roads besides what they are undertaking at present. Supposing the construction and maintenance of one road is assigned to one E.E., to take up nine roads, 9 more E.E.s are needed, which we are incapable of having. Even if it is only the maintenance, I think it would not still be possible for the Deptt. Let me point out Champhai - Hnahlan Road for instance. In the beginning of the year 1974, together with D.E. I tracked the said road by Jeep. There I found how badly the construction was done. As a matter of fact, it can be regarded as 'unpliable road'. If the road is in such a bad condition, its maintenance is unthinkable. I don't think P.W.D. can also maintain such a road. Unless a new road is constructed, Champhai - Hnahlan road would never be improved. I don't think it is possible to maintain it either. As such was the condition of many of our roads, it might not be the best thing to pass this resolution. It is not that I don't want development and good roads for Mizoram. I don't think we should pass this resolution as there is no meaning to pass a resolution which cannot be followed up. Therefore, I request the mover to withdraw it.

PU HRANGVELA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, though our Members had said many things in regard to this resolution, I would like to say something more, I really appreciate what had been said by our opposition leader and I wish too that the works are executed speedily. But, I would like to remind him of the impossibility of doing all the necessary things all at once. As we have listened, the construction of E.G.S. roads has been completed only because of the people whose zeal for development prompt them to complete the roads once undertaken by them. That little...

It is a surprise that only Rs.5000/- is sanctioned for the construction of road per mile, which means no difference even after U.T. status is attained. During the erstwhile Assam Govt., the same amount was sanctioned. However, we are fortunate enough in having complete roads by spending so little money. But it is obvious that Govt. is incapable of undertaking all the roads mentioned in the Resolution, at once. However, I would like to request the Govt. to make these roads into better pucca roads and to take them up when they can. In this way, the people who enthusiastically constructed them will be encouraged too.

In the Resolution, the mover strongly recommended P.W.D to maintain and construct roads, But, I think we should not totally depend on them in view of what had become of the roads undertaken by them in the past years. For instance - since the time of British reign, Aizawl - Thenzawl road was started. But, till today, it is plyable only upto Melthum Village, though so much money had been spent for its construction. The same case is with Bhaathial - Sangau, Balha - Sangau Roads. I don't where have we gone wrong that roads undertaken by P.W.D. are always unplyable even though they (roads) may be all weather roads. Therefore, I think P.W.D would do well in adopting a new method of work so as to have better co-operation with the public. If Govt. do not see to the activities of P.W.D, I am afraid that the public as a whole have not much hope in P.W.D as far as the construction of roads is concerned. Since U.T. status is attained, thousands of rupees had been spent for the construction and maintenance of roads. But, instead of having better roads, Aizawl Town Road itself seems to be deteriorating. I am afraid too that the people have no faith in P.W.D. If we entrust the people to maintain roads constructed by them, no money for the maintenance of road is sanctioned under E.G.S. As a matter of fact, it appears that money sanctioned under E.G.S is diverted and utilized for the entertainment and refreshment of the Ministers who visited their Villages. If roads which badly needed maintenance by P.W.D and of which the Ministers too acknowledged the necessity cannot even be taken up, it is likely, as our opposition leader has said, that soon there will be villages/ people alienated from us due to the absence of roads and communications. I am afraid that we do not have good roads while there is no money problem for us as our Prime Minister had assured us. Actually we seem to be becoming more backward in many things than what we had been before U.T. was attained. For instance - during the erstwhile Assam Govt., Champhai - Parkam Road was well maintained and plyable. But, after U.T., no money is sanctioned for its maintenance. So, A.Os or the people themselves had to repair it somehow, when they expect visitors, both officials and public leaders. Therefore, I request the Govt. to consider what had been said in the Resolution. Though we cannot expect execution of all the necessary things, I hope Govt. made a decision to follow up what had been suggested.

Thank you.

.....29/-

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA
MINISTER :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I must admit appreciation I had for the resolution submitted by Pu Vanlalhruaia. But, if it is only his wishes as it appeared, I think there is a lot more to wish for. If we are to pass a resolution in which we express our wishes, let us make some more wishes. I wonder why Hnahthial - Sangau Road is not included in our wishes for I know the road badly needs repair. Not only this, N. Vanlaiphai - Thingsai Road too is an important road, Bilkhawthlir - Saiphai, Biata - Khawbung, Darlung - Buarpu Roads are no exception. Darlung - Buarpu Road is the road which had once been constructed but could not be maintained by P.W.D. Besides these, Baktawng - Hmuifang and Thenzawl-Lunglei Roads are the roads which have to be maintained. If we are to make wishes without considering the capacity of P.W.D., I think other Members too would like to make wishes, for it would not be difficult to pass the Resolution of wishes if it is to be executed later on. It is not that Govt. is un-aware of the necessity of maintaining all these roads but it is the capacity of Mizoram P.W.D. establishment we have to consider. As we all know, the establishment of Mizoram P.W.D. is not a big one. Hence, if we pass a resolution which cannot be executed, we would only degrade the dignity of the House. Therefore, I don't agree to its passing as it is, for, if we pass it as it is, it will only be a big wish which cannot be fulfilled.

PU SANGKHUMA :

Mr. Speaker Sir, I am glad that Pu Vanlalhruaia submitted this resolution. I would like to say a few things in regard to this. I am truly grateful to the people who enthusiastically constructed roads under E.G.S. for, without their zeal, our supply commodities can never be transported to interior and distant places. But, as no money is sanctioned for the maintenance of these E.G.S. roads, when rainy season comes, they are not pliable, thus losing their utility for the people. So, hoping that our Govt. would somehow find a way to solve this problem, only 9 roads are suggested (not only our wishes) for P.W.D. to take up. But, listening to the speech of our Chief Whip, it appears that he, belonging to the party who runs the Govt., is aware of the weakness and inability of our Govt. His (Chief Whip) accusation of us intending to take advantage of these 9 roads for our popularity was quite contradictory to our way of thinking, for we have never thought it that way. Perhaps he himself had such attitude/intention that he mentioned many other roads besides what had been mentioned in the resolution. As they have said, roads constructed under E.G. Schemes are purely for the development and benefit of the people. We know various difficulties. They can still construct good roads by spending so little money, knowing that good road is needed for their developments. They are so anxious of developments that it is only because of their zeal that roads under E.G.S. are constructed.

However, as I have often said, we must remember that only large amount of money would not take us far unless the minds of the people are first developed. In our present circumstances, people are given no encouragement, instead, works/task enthusiastically completed by them are left untended and are left to the care of nature thus destroying their aspiration and enthusiasm for hard work and development. I dont think the roads mentioned in the resolution are too difficult to maintain. May be our P.W.D. Minister too would like to make justification, for, I think he would not like us to think that P.W.D. is as weak as our Chief Whip had said. He (Our Chief Whip) had also said that another 9 E.E.S. would be required to maintain roads mentioned in the resolution. But, one E.E. is not required to maintain one E.G.S. road. One Sub-Division can easily maintain it. Pu Lalhira also said that Engineering and technical know how are required, but, rustic men/uneducated people can as well maintain roads. According to my observation, if a word of two is changed, Pu Lalhira too would surely accept to pass this resolution.

I am also glad that Pu Rawnga, in his speech, hinted his hope for the possibility of passing this resolution if Govt. gives priority to it. But, I think we know that we do not have to give priority in the House. If Govt. gives priority and if P.W.D. is directed to give priority to these 9 roads, there is nothing more to do for us. The rest will be done by P.W.D. Hence, we do not have to give priority here in the House.

I also dont deny the fact that we are incapable of doing all the necessary things at once. But, it is a surprise not to be able to even try to do some of the necessary things. If we cannot even try, I wonder when will we execute.

I must as well say a few things regarding P.W.D. Pu Hrangvela said that roads once undertaken by P.W.D. are always unipliable which to some extent might be true. If the few and important roads we suggested for P.W.D. to maintain are not accepted saying that they are incapable of doing it, then there is no hope new in P.W.D. However, though they said like that, I dont think P.W.D. is as weak as that for, I have seen their vehicles roaming in the streets. Under the prevailing situations, we might do well in detailing P.W.D. to do only light works, for instance, repairing and maintaining roads that had been constructed instead of detailing them to undertake large scale construction.

As our Chief Whip had low opinion of their ability the work of repairing and maintenance of roads might suit them best. Let them do their work according to the strength of Staff and Engineering and technical Staff recruited. Anyway, I don't think that the mover of this Resolution expects the works to be executed by tomorrow if it is passed today. If we know the real motive behind the resolution, we would surely accept its passing. I hope too that the passing of this resolution would bring about materialization of what had been suggested/recommended. Instead of saying 'We cannot do' right from the start, we must think a way as to how we would do about this or that. I, therefore, strongly recommend this resolution for passing.

Thank you.

PU K. SANGCHHUM : Mr. Speaker Sir, Our Members might find it funny to often hear me say 'Chhinctuipui District'. But, in the resolution Chhinctuipui District is totally excluded. I think Govt. should not neglect this District if they work for the Welfare and interest of the people of Mizoram. Though Chhinctuipui District is not included, I am glad to learn the activities of the people. (Members - about Chhinctuipui District, we left it for the members concerned). In that case, it is obvious that the said District is not included. Anyway, whatever resolution it may be, Govt. must see that it is in the interest of the people of Mizoram. If what is done or what should be done is to be for the interest of only a particular area/District, it won't be fair. While we cordially accept the activities of the people why do we accuse the Govt. as not doing anywork. They are working but it is not upto our expectation. In a true sense, it is due to work~~s~~ executed by the Govt. that this resolution is being moved in the House. Though I don't dislike resolutions, I think our resolutions should cover up too all the backward and undeveloped areas of Mizoram. I won't like it either if Chhinctuipui District is not chosen among the backward areas that need to be developed. Why? Because as we all know, constitutionally Chhinctuipui District is named the most backward area in Mizoram. As such, our aspect must be wider in every respect. If we are suggesting a novel thing which we have never had before, in a particular place/area where there is potentiality, that we can understand it. But, E.G.S. roads are to be found almost everywhere in Mizoram. Therefore, I do not understand why only few of them are selected for P.W.D. to take up. If Govt. accepts this proposal without considering other areas, I would not be surprised if there is communal/regional discrimination in their minds. But, if you, the Govt. detail P.W.D. to take up construction and maintenance of roads in the interest of the people of Mizoram, I would be indeed glad.

However, when the most backward area, Chhimituipui Dist. is excluded and neglected I can never agree to passing this resolution. It is not that I am unmindful of the grievances of the people. Great care must be taken while framing resolution, as it is how the Govt. would take up. Studying the form of our present resolution, I somehow feel the presence of regional/social discrimination due to which I know I will be disappointed if Govt. accept its passing.

PU C. LALRUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to point out some of the possible reasons that prevent us from accepting this resolution.

It appears that the resolution is framed not the way the mover wants it, for, instead of asking for their maintenance he simply recommended P.W.D. to take up. As such, it might not be a good thing to pass it here.

The next reason for not accepting this resolution could be due to uncertainty of time as to when P.W.D. will take up the said roads. It could be next year or perhaps after three years only that P.W.D. take up the roads. If these roads are to be taken up only after many years, I find no necessity of mentioning them now, for, gradually Govt. is doing the construction/maintenance of roads all the while, so the time will come when they come to maintain these roads. As we know, Govt. do not do big things all of a sudden. Slowly/gradually they made progress. It appears that Govt. is following the policy of 'one thing at a time'. But, this does not mean that I disregard the importance of the said nine (9) roads. We must however, try to understand the difficulty of the Govt. I think we are aware too of the many difficulties, for instance inadequacy of staff, involved, if the said 9 roads are to be taken up all at once.

Though what our mover said were all true and important, I think there are many things that are more important than what he said. There are many villages in Mizoram which have never been penetrated by Motor roads, It is understood that the people of these villages would like to have Dispensaries or would like to receive supply commodities like the rest of us. As they have also said, most backward places/areas situated in Chhimituipui District might first need to be developed and maintained.

In view of all that had been said and suggested, I feel this resolution need not be passed, for, if we pass it, it will look more like commanding the Govt. to do what they are doing and what they had already intended to do. It is also obvious that Govt. is capable of doing all these without our passing this resolution. Therefore, I would request the mover, Pu Vanlalhruaia to withdraw his resolution so that he could have a second thought.

SPEAKER :

Now, anyone from Treasury Bench.

PU CH. CHHUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER:

Mr. Speaker Sir, I truly appreciate this resolution submitted by Pu Vanlalhruaia. But, as our hon'ble Members have said, it is necessary to take great precautionary measure while considering important developments which we want to launch.

As we all know, many roads had now been constructed under E.G. Scheme. Due to the enthusiasm of the people, many villages have been penetrated by motor road. During dry season, most of the important towns and villages except temporary villages are frequented by Vehicles. To consider all these improvements we have achieved, I believe the credit must go to the people. Therefore, I would first of all like to express my gratitude towards them. But, at the same time, we too must put forth our efforts to have better and wider roads. Add, roads constructed by the people must also be well maintained. However, as our members have said, we have certain difficulties in maintaining roads constructed under E.G. Scheme as these roads are slightly different from the roads constructed by P.W.D. Normally, P.W.D. has classification of roads that are to be taken up or maintained by them. Hence, if the said 9 roads are not included in the specification list, it is not possible for the Deptt. to take them up, as financial conditions have to be considered whether there is enough money to meet the expenditure. Anyway, as we know, many new roads are under construction with the approval of the Planning Commission, and these roads are the ones which had been roughly constructed during the period of Assam Govt. Though we cannot obtain approval for the construction of all the important roads, it is obvious that Home Ministry is very much conscious of the necessity of developing interior places/areas of Mizoram. Being aware of the necessity, Home Ministry started various boards like Defence, Development Board, Border Road Organization and so on and so forth. Committees have also been constituted. And study Group was also formed in which our L.G., Shri S.K. Chhiber is the Chairman. The Committee formed by Home Ministry, made recommendation in respect of the following roads which we too had recommended soon after U.T. Status was attained - Kenghmun - Demagiri Road, Memarigi - Parva Road, Champhai - Mibung Road, Tuipang - Champhai Road, Tuipang - Parva Road. After waiting for sometime, we were told that they (Central) could not take up the recommended roads.

I think we are all aware of the good work executed by the people, and I believe we also appreciate the arrangement made by our officials for the construction of these E.G.S. roads. According to our speeches, most of us seem to have concern for the well maintenance of E.G.S. roads which had once been pliable by Vehicles. Consequently a resolution has sprung up. But, since the resolution is not acceptable, cannot Govt. sanction more money for the maintenance of E.G.S. roads? Truly, people who constructed E.G.S. roads really deserve having more fund, for, we know how good was the work discharged by them. If fund sanctioned under E.G.S. is too limited, cannot Govt. divert some amount from P.W.D. fund or from other sources for the maintenance of E.G.S. roads? If our Chief Minister of Govt. could think a way of diverting money as I have suggested, I believe none of us, even the mover would be disheartened.

PU CH. CHEUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, Apparently, a suggestion forwarded by our senior member can bring a compromise. But, as it is by the use of Central money we do the works, we can not give any assurance now. Even if there is large amount of money sanctioned for P.W.D. Fund, we can't divert it without the consent of Central Govt. Fund which had been included in Plan Scheme cannot be diverted without the approval of Central Govt. However, I think we would find a way of having more fund under E.G.S.

PU CH. SAPRANGA
MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, perhaps what I said was not clear enough. It is understood that our Govt. would not have fund of their own, if it is not from Central Govt. I think we know too that they cannot simply increase E.G.S. fund without first consulting Central Govt. But, what we want is their assurance to approach Central Govt. to ask for increase in E.G.S. Fund.

PU CH. CHEUNGA
CHIEF MINISTER: Mr. Speaker Sir, Yes, what had been said was true. But, if we now give assurance in the House, it means we are already committed. Whether or not we give assurance we have been trying our best to get more fund. Since, now is the time for preparing our Budget, we must find a way of having more fund.

However, letters are sent to Central Ministry and I believe our L.G. who had recently been to Delhi would have brought up the subject before them, though I have not yet met him since he came back. Lok Sabha Estimates Committee is also fully aware of the condition of our roads and they are now considering as to how these Kacha roads can be made into better roads and how would they improve the condition of E.G.S roads. As was the intention of Central Ministry, it won't be right to detail P.W.D. to take up/maintain whatever road we want. Therefore, I request Pu Hruaia to deeply consider the possible consequence of doing things as we wish. At the same time we would have to think of financial problem that could be involved. Not to mention field officer, I think our Members too are aware of our difficulty in Office establishment. Uptill now the following posts are lying vacant -

- 6 posts of S.D.O.
- 15 posts of Asstt.Engineer
- 61 posts of Overseer.

As we have no technical staff to fill up these vacant posts, outsiders are recruited/employed. But, they too do not want to stay for long, and those who remain here are only those whom we requested to continue. They too, like the rest always make excuse for leaving us. Hence, inadequacy of technical staff is one of our difficulties. If we have no workers, it is obvious that we would not be able to work speedily. The condition of roads in Chhimituipui District stated by Pu Sangchhum was true indeed, and everyone of us seems to take it for granted the backwardness of this District. Actually, backwardness does not crop up in itself, but it is distance which caused backwardness. If we go 20/30 miles away from Delhi, we will find that the place is less developed. And Silchar too is more developed than Aizawl. Like that, Chhimituipui Dist. too will be less developed than Aizawl Dist. as development is not started from the end of the line, but, from the beginning of the line. I don't deny the backwardness of Chhimituipui Dist. and I don't doubt what Pu Sangchhum had said. But, it is our intention to do things according to our ability/capacity. At present, the following roads are under construction -

Lungsen - Chawngte Road, Lawngtlai - Chawngte Road, and as I have said Hnahthial - S.Vanlaiphai - Sangau - Saita Roads. The construction was lately started due to delay in investigation. As I have also said before, it is not possible for us to commit big and heavy schedule of work under present circumstances. Therefore, I would very much like Pu Hruaia to understand our difficulties and withdraw his resolution.

PU CH.SAPRAWNGA :

Mr.Speaker Sir, we have now listened to the speech of our C.M. in regard to this resolution. So, before the mover withdraws it, I would like to make certain suggestions so that no one is disheartened by our decision.

PU C. LARUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Why do we still say 'Mile' instead of 'Kilometre' for measurement of length? I would also like to know whether it is Mizoram Govt. who fixed the rate for the construction of R.G.S. roads at Rs. 5,000/- per Mile. Though the present rate might be applicable to plain areas, would it be applicable to a hilly and rugged area like ours? I think the expenditure will be higher in rugged areas than plain areas. As such, will it be possible to increase the present rate?

PU CH. CHHUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I think it won't be too difficult to increase the rate if it is necessary. At first, the rate was fixed at Rs. 2,000/- per mile as the Scheme aims at cultivating the spirit of self-help into the minds of the people. But, the rate was again fixed at Rs. 5,000/- per mile. Though fixation was not done in accordance with plain areas, we thought Rs. 5,000/- per mile was quite sufficient. However, if it is necessary to increase the present rate, we will think about it.

PU C. LALRUATA : Mr. Speaker Sir, If I am not mistaken, under P.W.D. Rs. 4 lakhs is sanctioned for the construction of road at its initial stage. However, I believe it won't be possible for the Govt. to give assurance as it has financial involvement. But, since other Members want to increase the present rate, I am no exception. If we want to increase, all of us must try our best.

PU CH. SAPRAWNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, That means those who want to increase had to fight.

PU CH. CHEUNGA : Mr. Speaker Sir, As we have no power, the only thing we could do is to try our best.

SPEAKER : Let us go back to our resolution. If the mover has anything to say regarding this resolution, he may do so.

PU VANLALHRUAIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I am glad to have the opportunity to speak once again. Since I am given an opportunity I might as well say some of the things I wanted to say in regard to this resolution though I know our Members would dare not pass it.

According to the Speeches made by our Members, it appears that most of them appreciate my resolution except that it is a bit incomplete. But from what I gathered, I don't expect their co-operation in passing my resolution. I am truly sorry to be the M.L.As who dare not pass resolution which we all appreciate. And what had been said by Pu Sangehum regarding the exclusion of Chhantuipui District was a thing which really touched me, as I have not thought that such feeling would come up at the time when I prepared this resolution. Though I don't know whether there exist such roads in Chhantuipui District but when I collected information from P.W.D. as to which roads are liable to be handed over to them, 9 roads I have mentioned in this resolution were suggested. Hence, I never have regional discrimination at the time when I prepared this resolution. Anyway, if our Members want to include Chhantuipui District's roads, our resolution can be amended. But, what I am sorry about is the incapability of our Govt. to maintain even 9 roads, not to mention the construction which as we know, had already been done by the people under E.G. Scheme. Our Members too might have known that the maintenance of about 3 roads that had been completed under E.G.S. was handed over to P.W.D. To maintain these roads, no extra E.E./S.D.O. is appointed. And new appointment of Overseer is not made either except a Mohorir and a number of labourers. If a Mohorir and labourers could maintain three or four roads, I find no necessity to open new Division to maintain only 9 roads I have mentioned. To look after N. Limen roads, Kawnpui Sub-Division can be detailed. Like that, Ratu - Champhai - Unahlan roads will be maintained by Champhai Sub-Division. True, of the 9 roads suggested for P.W.D. to take up, most of them are in my constituency. The reason is that the people of my constituency worked hard. I believe the strength of the present P.W.D. establishment is adequate to maintain 9 roads I have mentioned. True, we will have to recruit more labourers and Mohorir. But, if we could not do even that, I don't know what else to expect.

Pu Rawnga regarded my resolution as mere declaration of our wishes. Perhaps because of that he too made wishes by recommending 7 roads in addition to 9 roads suggested for P.W.D. to take up. It is really a funny thing to recommend another 7 (seven) roads which we cannot take up or maintain even 9 roads that had already been constructed. Actually, if we have determination, I don't think it will be too difficult to maintain the said 9 completed roads. If there is no financial problem, I wonder why we dare not take up the maintenance of only 9 roads. Having attended the opening functions of new roads in various places, I am truly sorry that the Govt. have different attitude from that of the people. Actually, it is the wish and desire of the people that Govt. take up the maintenance of roads which they had enthusiastically constructed without wages or at half wages. Having attained a status, I thought we would be able to maintain these roads.

I don't know why we dare make even a suggestion. It is obvious that the roads cannot be maintained now as it had not been included in the current budget. However, if we pass the resolution, we can include it in the next Budget. But, if Central Govt. could not approve it, let it be so. Actually, as I have said, the roads I have mentioned are not for the benefit of the people of only the concerned constituency. The people of other constituencies could as well make use of them if they are well maintained. I had no political bias when I prepared this resolution. I therefore would like to request our Members not to view it on political ground. If our proposal, after including it in the Budget, is not approved by Central Govt. we would not blame our Ministry; instead, all of us will be responsible. Maintenance of only 9 roads I have suggested would not hinder the work schedule of B.R.T.F. or P.W.D., and the construction of roads under N.E.C. Scheme would not be delayed either. I know it is not possible to maintain roads that had not yet been completed. However, if we cannot maintain even only 9 roads that had been completed, I don't know what the people will think of us and of the Govt. Had I been told of the impossibility of passing this resolution, I would not have brought it up here today. I know we don't have to spend too much amount just for the maintenance. I can't insist on passing this resolution, but, what I am afraid is that the people are disheartened and discouraged by our attitudes. However, if you or the Members do not agree, to passing my resolution, we won't pass it. But, truly it is hard for me to withdraw it.

SPEAKER : I think what the mover means is that "This Assembly resolves that the Govt. of Mizoram, Public Works Department do take over maintenance of the following Roads which were constructed and maintained under E.G. Scheme."

PU VANLALHRUAIA : Mr. Speaker, that was what I meant.

SPEAKER : I think we need not say anything more regarding the mover's intention, for we have now understood that his objective was to urge P.W.D. to take up the maintenance of 9 roads he had mentioned. Now, we will take vote of the House. If anyone agrees to pass this resolution say 'agree' and if not, say 'not agree'. (Members - 'not agree'). We have now finished our business for today. Other resolutions will be considered tomorrow. So, the Meeting will be resumed tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.