

(e) Pu F.Lalchhawna to move-

"This Assembly is of the opinion that General Nursing Training Centre at Aizawl be transferred to Lunglei and Chhimituipui District during 1986 - 87".

(f) Pu Lalhmingthanga to move-

"This Assembly resolves that the present peace talk between the Government of India and the MNF which is being unduly delayed by the Congress I Government should be successfully concluded without any further delay".

(g) Pu F.Lalramliana to move-

"This Assembly is of the opinion that the members of three Autonomous District Councils in Mizoram should be given pension by the Government as is given to the Members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly".

(h) Pu Zairemthanga to move-

"This Assembly resolves that the liquor permits both wholesale and retail issued by the Congress I Government should be cancelled with immediate effect in compliance with the popular feelings of the people of Mizoram expressed through the voluntary organizations like YMA, KTP TKP and Church Organizations

Speaker : "He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he. Do they not err that devise evil? but loyally and truth shall be to them that devise good.

In all labour, there is profit, but the talk of the lips tendeth only to poverty"

·proverbs 14:21 - 23.

Question No 61 — Pu J.Thanghuama. Is he absent ?

Question No 62 — Pu Lalramliana.

Question No 63 — Pu J.Thanghuama.

Question No 64 — Pu K.Biakchungnunga All are absent.

We shall proceed to the next question.

Question No 65 — Pu Vanlalnghaka.

Pu Vanlalnghaka : Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon.Minister i/c Education Department be pleased to state- "The criteria for transferring Primary School teachers within Lunglei Ease Circle".

Pu Rokamlova : Mr Speaker Sir, there is no criteria for transferring/ Minister posting of Primary School Teachers in Lunglei East Circle.

Speaker : Question No 66 —
Pu F.Lalramliana. He is absent.
The next question. Question No 67 —
Pu K Biakchungnunga.

Pu Biakchungnunga : Mr Speaker Sir, I ask my starred question No 67 that - "If there is any castration on account of rape at Civil Hospital recently".

Pu Vaivenga : Mr Speaker Sir, there is no castration for rape. Minister

Speaker : Question No 68 — Pu R.Lalawia.

Pu R.Lalawia : Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon. Minister i/c District Council Affairs be pleased to state -

"Whether Government has an intention to give greater power to the existing District Councils".

Pu C L Ruala : Mr Speaker Sir, Government is looking into the Minister subject matter in terms of provisions under para 6 of the Sixth Schedule to the constitution of India.

Pu R.Lalawia : Supplementary question please, Mr Speaker Sir, When the Hon. Chief Minister toured the Southern region, he promised to give greater powers to the District Councils which was announced over A I.R. and published in newspapers. Why is it that the Hon. Chief Minister made such a promise while the subject is being under examination?. Mizoram was under district council for many years and the powers as provided by the provi-

sions of para 6 of the Sixth Schedule to the constitution were never given to it. Is it not unfair to promise to give the powers to the district councils while the matter is being examined by Government ?

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to make one suggestion in this connection. Giving greater powers to district councils, on the one hand has many advantages. But on the other hand, as I have personally seen on the spot, the functioning of the district councils is no better than that of the Village Councils. Under the circumstances, I consider the District Councils unfit for giving greater powers. I would like to ask Government to reconsider the subject carefully.

Pu C L Ruala Minister : Pu Speaker, let the Hon. Member of Sateek constituency make clear which points he suggested to be re-examined by Government.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to dissolve and abolish the Chakma District Council since the people are yet unfit to have a separate district councils. The calibre of the general public is too poor to run a district council let alone embezzlement of Government money. The C. E. M disbursed salaries of his staff in a tea stall. District Council is too great for them and Village Council is quite enough.

Pu C.L. Minister Mr Speaker Sir, the powers of a District Council is clearly indicated in para 6 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India. But all the powers mentioned therein cannot be vested to a District Council at a time. In some states, District Councils were vested with greater powers. The leaders of the Pawi and Lakher District Councils demanded that such powers be given to them. Government to a certain extent, agrees to their demand. But certain points like financial implications and requirement of technical personnel are required to be carefully examined because Government has to make clear to what extent it can meet such requirements. Now, primary schools have been placed under their charge, but all powers prescribed by the Sixth Schedule cannot be vested to them at a time due to financial constraints and lack of technical persons.

Regarding Chakma District Council. It may be stated that the District Council is not the creation of this administration and its dissolution or prohibition is beyond the purview of this administration. The District Council was born as a result of North East India Reorganization Act. If any provision for the dissolution of the District Council is made in the accord expected to be signed shortly, action can be taken at that time. But no one can say what will be the provisions of agreement. Under the circumstances, this administration is not in a position either to dissolve or abolish Chakma District Council.

Pu R.Lalawia : Mr Speaker Sir, I am not yet satisfied with the answer. I would like to know why the Chief Minister promised that District Councils would be given greater powers while the matter is at a stage of examination by Government. As stated by the Hon Member of Sateek Constituency, the people are too uneducated and unenlightened to have a District Council of their own. Yet Government is intending to vest the District Council with greater powers. This greatly hurts the sentiment of the Mizo people. Even though the Hon. Chief Minister made a promise to give greater powers to the District Councils, cannot Government find ways of withdrawing the proposal ?

Pu Lalmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, the most obstructive power given to the Chakma District Council is the power of allotment and ownership of land in which Government of Mizoram has no power to intervene. The same power vested with the District Council of Pawi and Lakher is not equally obnoxious since the people are all Mizos. Has Government any intention of snatching away the power of allotment and ownership of land from the hands of the Chakma District Council in particular.

Pi K.Thansiami : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon Minister stated that Chakma District Council was born of North East India Re-organization Act, and that the Government of Mizoram therefore had now power over it. It is because of this that the District Council has not yet been dissolved despite established corruption and misuse of powers against it. While Lakher District Council was dissolved for corrupt practices ?

Next, if Government of Mizoram has no power over the District Council, which state is in charge of it and which state is financing it ?

Pu C.L Ruala : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon.Member of Aizawl West does not seem to be clear about my answer. The Chakma District Council was born of North East India Re-organization Act. Had the administration of Mizoram powers to dissolve the District Council, it would have been so done a long time back. The power to do so is in the hands of Government of India.

The Chakma District Council till today stands undissolved since the enquiry commission made no recommendations to the effect. Lakher District Council was dissolved as recommended by the enquiry Commission.

Government of Mizoram has no power to withdraw or snatch away the powers of Chakma District Council of allotment and ownership of lands as suggested by the Hon Member of Lunglei constituency, since the District Council is an autonomous body.

To conclude, this Ministry is willing to give additional powers even though all powers mentioned, in the constitution cannot be given. But the requirement of additional funds and staff is being examined by Government.

Pu Zairemthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon.Minister is understood to have said that all powers envisaged in para 6 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India would not be given to Chakma District Council and that out of them assortment would be made. What powers among those are proposed to be given ?

Pu C.L.Ruala : Mr Speaker Sir, considering the financial implications and the requirement of manpower, selection is intended to be made after careful examination of the whole set. However, priority will be given to which would most benefit the people.

Speaker : Let us go back to question No 61 - Pu J.Thanghuama.

Pu J Thanghuma : Mr Speaker Sir, Will the Hon. Minister i/c Finance Department be pleased to state -

“Is the so - called Assam Rifles canteen (1st Bn) exempted from non-tribal trade license since the so - called canteen is open to public ?”.

Pu Sainghaka : Mr Speaker Sir, the answer is ‘No’.
Minister

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, if so cannot Government expell it ? It is a general store and not a canteen. Has Government taken any action to cancell or close the store ?

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, it appears that there are many non - tribal traders in Mizoram without having valid trade licenses. Sometimes back the Hon. Member of Sateek Constituency prepared a list of non - tribal traders in Mizoram and distributed to Ministers. Various voluntary organizations and Students Union also investigated the case and seem to have a first hand knowledge about it. I would like to know if Government has any intention tracing out such illegal traders and closing their shops and even expelling them from Mizoram.

Pu Sainghaka : Mr Speaker Sir, detection of illegal non - tribal traders
Minister is a baffling problem. When the Mizoram Trading by non - tribals Regulation Act was put into force on 7.5.1957, the provisions of the Act itself was found to have many loopholes. Even the previous Ministry felt it necessary to amend the Act. On 26.7.1978 all DCs were instructed not to issue either licenses or exemption- from licenses since Government was thinking of amending the Act. Upto 1983 the Cabinet had meetings five times to discuss the subject but it reached at no conclusions. This Ministry in its Cabinet meeting held on 9.8.1984 decided to enforce the Act without amending it since there were many pending cases. Perhaps the DCs were not well informed of the decision of Cabinet meeting that no action has been taken by them. Now, fresh instructions have been issued to enforce the Act. Hence-forward, the so - called canteens and other shops will be dealt with more strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Act

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, when is action intended to be taken ?

Pu Saingbaka : Mr Speaker Sir, Government is now issuing instructions to the effect, as soon as they are received by the DCs, actions will be taken.
Minister

Speaker : Question No 63—Pu J.Thanghuama

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, will the Hon.Minister i/c Supply and Transport Department be pleased to state -
“Why the quality of super fine rice is so bad when good quality is available in the open market abundantly?”

Pu R.Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, sometimes the quality of super fine rice supplied by the FCI is bad.
Minister

Pu R.Lalawia : Mr Speaker Sir, supplementary question please. Congress members accused P.C. Ministers of feeding their pigs with fine rice while ordinary MLAs could not even get fine rice. What action has Government taken to improve the quality of rice supplied to MLAs.

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, it is learnt that the quality of rice despatched by the FCI through rail wagon is usually very good. It is also learnt that at a certain stage, the good quality rice is changed with poor quality ones, those are which we get here. There seems to be cases of black marketing at some state. Is Government aware of this ? It would be a good idea if Government intervenes in the matter and find ways of curbing such undesirable practices.

Next, the Hon. Minister stated that the problem was faced by the whole of North East region: How could he say that ?

Pu Vanlalngbaka : Mr Speaker Sir, was flour supplied to the public during the P.C. Ministry received in exchange of Mizoram's quota of rice ?

Pu K.Biakchungnunga : Mr Speaker Sir, a good quality rice is seldom available from Government godown. The only available is also reserved for VIPs. Who are the VIPs ?

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, yesterday I went to godown to purchase super fine rice but it was out of stock. So, I go to the market where I found fine rice in abundance. The quality of fine rice in the market is much more superior than that of the super fine rice in Government godown. When I enquired from where they purchased it from Government godown. While that is the case, assurance that action would be taken is not enough. Let the Director be summoned here and given instructions. I would also like to know if Government can reserve two quintals each of super fine rice for all members and have them placed at one corner of the godown already weighed ?.

Pu R Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, let me first answer the question of Pu R.Lalawia. When good quality rice is not available, members wait for a time when a better quality rice is available and no members consumer poor quality rice. The question of Pu Lalhmingthanga is a sheer attempt of defamation. Since the required quantity of rice cannot be despatched through railway wagon, 2000 MT os rice is carried from Gauhati by road every month. Since the carrying charge is borne by the FCI there is no loss incurred in it.

Rice purchased from the growers from railway sidings is fresh and of good quality. But fresh rice is not available all the year round. Sometimes, old stocks have to be despatched which are not of poor quality but merely outdated. Super fine rice is branded when it is unhusked. The same is the case os course rice. The quality of super fine rice is sometimes poor just because it is outdated. A rumour that there is a charge with poor quality rice at some stages is absolutely baseless.

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon.Minister himself said that the quality of fine rice because poor the instance it is transported from railway sidings to godowns. A super fine rice cannot cease to be a super fine rice just because its being stocked in a godown overdate. Is it a miracle at work that changed the quality from godown? What charge or transforms a super fine rice into poor quality rice while it is inside godowns?

Pu R.Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, the quality of rice stocked in godowns for a long time can become worse. But that which arrives from railway sidings is fresh and the quality is also good.

Pu Lalmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, perhaps Hon.Minister is not aware of the nature of problem we have been facing in godown. It is not quality that bothers us. What is called super fine rice is not at all a super fine rice. Rice stocked in godowns is seldom damaged just because it is stocked overdate unless the godown is not waterproof. What is branded as super fine rice is always a fine rice while in the market what is sold as fine rice is always super fine rice. Enquiring from where the dealers get the rice, we are informed that they get it from Government godowns. Can the Hon.Minister explain as to why local dealers can get super fine rice for resale while the same quality rice is not available for MLAs ?

Pu R Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, there are many large godowns at Gauhati, where there are much quantity of old stocks of rice, say just superior in quality than those condemned as unfit for human consumption. If there is no other rice to choose, we have no alternative but to carry such rice. This is considered better than having nothing in order to make the flow of rice continuous. When the new supply is available, the quality of such rice is good. I cannot agree with the contention that what is branded as super fine rice is another brand. But there can be one which is accepted by FCI as super fine rice but which is inferior in quality due to long stocking. A rumour that super fine rice is changed with inferior quality rice at some stages in its way to Mizoram is not known by Government. From the best of my knowledge, there is absolutely no such change.

Lastly, I do not agree with the suggestion that the quota of MLAs be put aside somewhere in the corner of godowns. Instead, let them go to the spot and select what they like.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, rice of superior quality is always reserved and sorted out from the bulk.

Pu R.Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, if members tell Inspectors of supply
Minister to select good quality rice for them. I think it will be done so.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, are members supposed to beg
 Inspectors of supply their favour In order of precedence, Inspectors are too far below.

Pu R.Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, I think Inspectors of Supply allow
Minister you to select whichever you like. If any Officer above them requests an Inspector to select good quality rice, he has to do so. (Pu R Lalawia- Can the Hon. Minister instruct the godown incharge to select or sort out good quality rice for all MLAs) ? Pu Speaker. never before has such a request been made by members. If they want me to do so, it will be so done

Speaker : Question No 64-Pu Biakchungnunga.

Pu K.Biakchungnunga : Mr Speaker Sir. Will the Hon. Minister i/c Health
 and Family Welfare Department be pleased to state

“What measures have been taken by the Government for the safety of Mizo students at the Regional Pharmacy Institute, Agartala” ?

Pu Vaivenga : Mr Speaker Sir, Government of Mizoram has taken up
Minister the matter with Government of Tripura with a request to take appropriate action for the safety of Mizo students in the Regional Pharmacy Institute Agartala.

Pu Lalhmlugthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, the Chief Minister of Tripura sent a letter to Government of Mizoram and the Health Minister sent Health Director to Mizoram who promised that all the expenditures incurred on journey to Agartala would be borne by Government of Agartala. The Hon. Member asked questions regarding actions taken by this Government. The only action taken by this Government seems to be sending of an officer to take the students to Agartala and allotment of Rs 3000 for expenditure on journey. All the rest has been done by Government of Tripura.

I would like to know if Government intends to give compensation to students for loss of property during the rest ?

Pu K.Biakchungnunga : It is very sad Mr Speaker to learn that our students studying outside Mizoram have been intimidated and manhandled. The fact that Government ignored the report that such disturbance is going to take place well in advance is a serious blunder on the part of Government of Tripura. I think it would be a very good idea if Government of Mizoram takes up the matter with Government of Tripura on Ministry level to curb the attitude or feelings of difference among the students one for all. The tinderbox which caused the flame of communal hatred was collection of donation. But we must remember that there was something behind it. I would like to ask Government of Mizoram to take up once again the matter with Government of Tripura so that strict instructions may be issued to the teaching staff of the institute to the effect that any report of possibility of untoward incidents in the Hostel should be henceforward seriously viewed and appropriate actions be taken immediately to avoid similar incidents. I would like to know if Government has any intention to do so.

Next, some students are sated to have been seriously injured. What are the latest conditions of those students ?

Pu Vaivenga : Mr Speaker Sir, one of the students was admitted in a hospital. After a few days he was released from hospital and now he continued his study in the institution.

This Government sent one officer to take the students to their place and all actions were not taken by the Government of Tripura.

As suggested by the Hon'ble member, Government of Tripura was asked to take appropriate actions to prevent recurrence of similar incidents. The Chief Minister also apologised for the incident and promised that action would be taken to prevent recurrence of such incident.

Pu Lalmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Minister did not explain if Government intended to compensate the students for loss of properties.

Pu Lalhuthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, have the family of Zonunsanga, a student of BD, who was killed during the PC Ministry given any compensation by Government ?

Pu Zairemthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, has Government made any assessment of the properties lost by the students during the communal fighting ?

Pu F Lalchhawna : Mr Speaker I am very happy to note that this Government condemned the incident and that it took every possible steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents. But such incidents may recur before precautionary measures can be taken. Can Government take action to have teachers of the institute instructed clearly as to what action would be taken in case such incidents recur ?

Pu Vaivenga : Mr Speaker Sir, at present I cannot give the actual Minister present value of properties lost. The students could not make any assessment until they return to their hostel. This Government has no intention of giving compensations for the loss but Government of Tripura expressed its intention to do so.

In order to prevent recurrence of untoward incidents in future, Government of Mizoram suggested posting of Superintendent in the Hostel which was agreed to by Government of Tripura. As stated before, Government of Tripura of promised that necessary steps would be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future.

Speaker : Question hour is over. We shall take up resolution today. The number disposed of will depend upon your tactfulness in making economic use of time in the discussion.

First of all I would like to say that the first resolution to be taken up is that of Pu R. Lalawia. After the resolution had been moved, a notice of amendment has been received from Pu Lallawmsanga. Rules 127 states ... "After a resolution has been moved, any member may, subject to all the rules relating to resolution move an amendment to such resolution, a copy of which shall be given to the member, moving the resolution". Rules 128 (1) states-"If a copy of such amendment has been sent to the Secretary one clear day before the day fixed for the discussion of the resolution, any member may object to the moving

of the amendment, and such objection shall prevail unless the Speaker, in his discretion, allows the amendments to be moved". The Speaker in his discretion can allow amendment to be moved but I do not allow it since admitting all that can be done with my discretion is not a good thing. But it is up to Mr R.Lalawia to accept it or not.

Let me read the resolution of Pu R.Lalawia as it is-

This Assembly is of the opinion that detection and deportation of foreigners in Mizoram be regulated in line with the Assam Accord basing the cut off year as agreed by Government of India".

The proposed amendments reads-

"This Assembly is of the opinion that detection and deportation of foreigners in Mizoram be regulated in line with the Assam Accord fixing the cut off year 1951". There is a difference in the cut off year. What is the idea of the mover of the resolution ?

Pu R Lalawia : Mr Speaker Sir, I would like to explain the reasons why I do not accept the amendment. The difference in the cut off year is as many as 20 years. All the Mizo people like to base the cut off year as far back as possible. But it is a common practice to follow the directives of Central Government. In Assam also, the struggle for determination of the base year as 1961 costed many lives, elections were boycotted. I don't think it is the best thing for Mizo people to follow suit. The best thing seems to be to follow the directive already set by Government of India in case of Assam.

Now, the main problem is the influx of Chakmas after the creation of Chakma District Council. I would like to ask the Hon.Member who moves amendment motion to agree to my resolution for I cannot agree to the proposal of amendment.

Pu Lallawmsanga Zadeng : Mr Speaker Sir, let me explain the circumstances under which I proposed the amendment.

Speaker : You have written in your amendment "in line with Assam Accord%. In article 5 (1) of the memorandum of Settlement under reference, it is written that" for the purpose of detection and deportation of foreigners 1st June, 1966 shall be the base date and year" but you suggest the year 1951 to be the base year, this is contradictory. What do you say ?

Pu Lalthamsanga Zadeng : Mr Speaker, I suggest that for the purpose of detection, the provisions of Assam Accord should be followed but the base year would be 1951 and not 1966. The first census conducted since India's independence was in 1951. I suggest that those whose names were not included in that census be treated as foreigners.

Speaker : It is clear now. The mover did not accept the amendment. Moreover, the motion of amendment was received after the resolution was moved which can be accepted with the discretion of the Speaker, but I decided not to do so. Therefore this amendment is invalid.

Pu Zairemthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, as per provisions of rules 128 (of rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly) an amendment is valid if it is submitted a clear day before fixation of a date for discussion of the resolution.

Speaker : Go through the following lines meticulously. I have thoroughly studied them (Pu Zairemthanga- the following lines stated that it is the discretion of the Speaker to admit it or not. It is your discretion to regret it. But the amendment has been submitted just as prescribed by the Rules) If the amendment is submitted in order. I have no discretion to regret it.

Rules 127 provided that "After a resolution has been moved, any member may, subject to all the rules relating to resolutions, move an amendment to such resolution, a copy of which shall be given to the Member moving the resolution". It is quite clear that an amendment has to be submitted before moving the resolution which is proposed to be amended. An amendment has been received after the resolution has been moved. We shall now begin the discussion. Let Pu J.Thanghuama speak first.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, I support the resolution moved by Pu R.Lalawia. I also consider the amendment quite good. The disturbances in Assam costed many lives. Now an accord has been signed and peace has been once

again restored. To a certain extent it may be impossible to fix 1951 as base year since Government of India has already fixed 1971 after which year no foreigners could be treated as refugee, instead they should be arrested and deported. They were very few foreign entrants before 1971 and therefore I think the resolution of Pu Lalawma is good enough. I would like to ask the House to pass the resolution.

Pu Zalawma : Mr Speaker Sir, the Hon Member of Khawhai constituency has so far submitted a solution as foreigners issue as many as three times. This makes me believe that he has really been anxious about it. A meticulous study of the provisions of the Assam Accord clearly reveals that foreigners who settled in Assam are eligible to have votes in election. Therefore, great care has to be taken while considering fixation of base year. The Hon. Member of Sateek constituency stated there were very few foreigners before 1971. But it is evident that most of the non-tribal traders have already entered into Mizoram between 1966 and 1970. Recent entrants are mainly security personnel. During the disturbances, people suffered great loss of properties thereby rendering them unable to do business. In that void was filled up by non-tribals like the Mosolman shopkeepers we see today. Now the number of non-tribal traders increased substantially.

By foreigners we generally mean Chakmas who illegally entered into Mizoram from Chittagong Hill Tracts. It would be very difficult to convince Government of India to make regulations for deportation of foreigners in Mizoram similar to those applied for Assam State unless they are formulated as the suggestions made by Pu Lallawmsanga Zadeng.

An act once passed stands for long time not amended. However, the best thing is to wait for the conclusion of peace talk for none of us do not know what the provisions of the accord would be and whether this issue would be included in them. An Act once assented by the President of India is very difficult to amend. Therefore, let us all take extreme care in such matters and see first if there is anything that can be detrimental to the existence of our Mizo Community. When Mizoram attains statehood, it can pass an act fixing 1951 as a base year for detection and deportation of foreigners. An act passed in the UT stage will continue to be in force even after Mizoram attains statehood. Therefore, great care has to be taken when framing any rules or acts.

To conclude I would like to say that while sharing the feelings of the member who moved the resolution.

I would like to suggest that the matter be put by for the time being for review when the accord is signed and when Mizoram attains statehood.

Speaker : Pu Lalhmingthanga

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, if we study the Assam Accord meticulously, it may be seen that the principle of detection and deportation of foreigners is very good. But the procedures prescribed are almost impossible to follow. The spirit behind moving a resolution for the safeguard of Mizo people against foreign assimilation is quite acceptable. The proposal of amendment submitted by the Hon. Member of Tlungvel constituency is stated to have been unclear, but to me it is quite clear. However, it has been rejected.

By foreigners, members of the opposition definitely mean those illegal entrants from Bangladesh who are mainly Chakmas. Indians residing in Mizoram are non-tribals. The two terms must not be confused. Foreigners issue becomes a burning issue requiring immediate attention and solution. While Mizoram was under the British administration, Mizoram was an excluded area and Chakmas could enter into Mizoram only with valid permissions which was valid only for one year and the SDO Lunglaji was responsible for this. Besides this, a Chakma should be medically examined to prove that he was free of elephantiasis and small pox because Chittagong Hill Tracts was infested with the diseases. After India attained independence from British Government the Chittagong Hill Tract was included in the then East Pakistan which later became Bangladesh. As stated by the hon. member from the records of 1951 census, the number of Chakmas residing temporarily in Mizoram with valid permits was clearly indicated. Those who resided in India during the transition period were thus regarded as Indian citizens but those who entered into India after that period are foreigners. In Assam, those who are called foreigners are who entered into Assam during the civil war between Hindus and Muslim, between 1947—54. Therefore, the case of Assam is not physically and originally the same with that of Mizoram. In order to fix a definite cut off year for detection and deportation of foreigners, Assam does not have any historical land map to show the

clear cut distinction of the two periods as Mizoram has. Because of this an accord was signed with 1951 as base year.

In the case of Mizoram, the year 1951 is the year upon which bases, we can produce definite figures of foreigners along with their photographs. Because of this an amendment was moved.

The saddest incident in Mizoram history is the creation of Chakma District. It gives land to foreigners in which this Government has no power to intervene. Had an objection been raised when it was proposed, the Chakma District Council would not have been created at all. Now, the only way of cancelling is to trace out the original inhabitants of Mizoram among the Chakmas and deport all illegal immigrants. This would greatly reduce the population of Chakmas, say to about ten thousand. Under the pretext, the area can be regarded as underpopulated ineligible to have a separate district administration is provided in the constitution of India. This seems to be the only chance to erase Chakma district from the map of Mizoram. Therefore, the opposition stands firmly on the amendment.

By the month of June, 1984 as many as 7000 Chakmas entered into Tablagagh and Tiperabagh. This Government also diverted all funds allotted for old age pension, etc. for entertainment of these foreigners. Government announced that it had deported all of them last month. From the report received recently, these Chakmas stated to have been deported cross the river Sazuk just to receive the allowances given by the Bangladesh Government and then returned to Mizoram soon after the deporting authority left the spot. The number of Chakmas are increasing day by day. Therefore, the opposition insists that 1951 be fixed for the cut off year for detection and deportation of foreigners.

Thank You, Mr Speaker.

Speaker : The mover may now wind up the discussion.

Pu R.Lalawia : Mr Speaker Sir, I am the first among members who moved a resolution in this House on the foreigners issue. The issue of assimilation is a burning issue everywhere in the world. We must carefully ponder upon the problem of how to prevent the assimilation by foreigners. But most of us are inclined to

please the people by speech alone instead of by deeds. Some members even like to protest the foreigners just because they serve as vote banks during election.

The speech of the Hon. Member of Kolasib constituency mainly dwells upon the issue of trading by non-tribals and not upon the subject of the resolution itself. It may, therefore, be stated that he is not much anxious about solution of foreigners problem. He even stated "If an act is passed" for expulsion of non-tribal traders in Mizoram. He probably does not know that there is already a regulation by virtue of which all non-tribal traders can be expelled from Mizoram. The problem arises just because Government has no courage enough to expel these non-tribal traders.

This subject is not included among the points of discussion in the peace talk between the MNF and Government of India. I move this resolution because Pu Laldenga told me to do whatever we can do in this regard from this end. During election campaigns, all political parties express their eagerness to curb influx of foreigners into Mizoram. But so far no Government has taken any steps to the effect.

During the PC Ministry the Chief Minister bluntly refused to the proposal of construction of fencing along the boundaries with Bangladesh. This was not known even by members of his cabinet. There is a vast difference between what is said and what is done. We like the solution of the problem of foreigners just because we want to have their votes.

The PC party was also in power for such a long time but not a single resolution on detection and deportation of foreigners has been passed. On 30th October, the Congress party passed a resolution on foreigners issue and I have a copy with me. But the Vice President just now spoke in contradiction with the party's resolution. The party does not seem to have any intention of taking steps to have its resolution implemented. The PC party also is said to have passed similar resolution but till today no action has been taken for the implementation. Under the circumstances it is quite clear that our aim is to cheat the people for our benefit.

I know my resolution will eventually be dropped but what I desire is to voice concern over the issue of foreign influx. I hope and I think the same resolution will again be moved in this House sometime in the future. I move this resolution since I have a hope that it would not

be difficult to have regulations for detection and deputation of foreigners framed in line with these already put to force in Assam. To some extent, I thought the resolution would be passed since the same resolution has been passed in the conference of the Ruling Congress Party. But members prefer to ignore and neglect the resolution of their party. If things go on like this, I hope there would soon be a deeper rift within your party. Passing this resolution is a prevention of bloodshed which is required to be shed in the next generation for solution of this problem.

Students have been taking steps for the solution of Chakma issue. To attain any object one has to work. In order to become rich one has to work. Similarly, in order to solve the problem of foreign infiltration, this Government and the people must work, must do something with a flickering hope that something might be done for solution of the problem facing the Mizo people, I moved this resolution. Whether it is passed or not, the coming generation will not forget it. The people know that we are good only in outer appearance but in reality we have no will to do anything beneficial for them. Therefore, I am not ashamed to raise my hand alone in favour of my resolution because I know the feelings of new generation and because I know it is a key to the existence or survival of Mizo Community.

Thank You.

Speaker : We shall now have voting. Those who agree to pass may say "agreed". And now those who don't like to pass the resolution may say "not agreed". Okay, the resolution is dropped.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, first of all let me read my resolution—"This Assembly is of the opinion that any further delay in solving the 20 long political problems of Mizoram will only create more problems. This Assembly therefore earnestly request both the Central Government of India and the Mizo National Front (Who represent Mizos) to resume their talks immediately and thereby arriving at honorable settlement before the budget session is adjourned Since die".

Some members are in a habit of making amendments to resolutions submitted by other instead of moving resolutions themselves. This time also, from the beginning I am afraid that there would be an amendment.

True to my fear, the Deputy leader of the Ruling party made the amendment just because they feel humiliated to pass the resolution as it is, but at the same time they dare not simply drop it. But the amendment is not also unacceptable. The wording is almost the same with that of the original one and it seems a bit stronger in sense. The reason why I suggest resumption of peace talk before adjour Parliament Budget Session Sine die is because I like it announced during the session. Arrangement is being made for consumption of talk between Government of India and the MNF. Pu Laldenga and his wife also arrived in Delhi. This talk has been started as far back as in 1976 and it lasted almost ten years now. It is evident that the pace of progress is very slow. When the talk would resume is everybody's guess.

Fasting and procession conducted for the purpose of attainment of our demands are not pleasant. But we are in India where people resort to such means to attain their demands, it is a good idea to follow their footsteps.

Some incidents like missing of Aisavunga at Farkawn in 1974, slaughtering of Lalrema by Darlawn Post Commander, recovery of the amputated arms of Pu Lalruala near Mamit and forceful grouping of villages remind everyone of the urgent need for peace in Mizoram. During every election campaign, nay party which has solution of Mizoram problem as a manifesto is voted to power. The ruling party is also having a conflict within itself because there is a rumour that some of its members have been trying to spoil the atmosphere of peace talk. Any party which has the blessings of Pu Laldenga is sure to come to power. When Pu K. Lalhnuna and Pu Zautea brought out a tape recorded speech of Pu Laldenga from London and launch a campaign with it, emany congress members left the party. But Pu Lalduhawma met with Pu Laldenga in London to ask for his blessings with a promise that the Congress party would not serve as a tool in the hands of Central Government. So Pu Laldenga blessed him with his tape recorded speech with which the Congress party hardly was victory in the ecetion. The differences with which the Congress caudidates won was as small as three and four votes. But they bagged almost solid votes from the lungi clad Chakmas. Therefore, this resolution is very important. Even the BSF which is deployed along the boundary to prevent influx of Chakmas from Bangladesh rather encourages them to enter into Mizoram instead of repelling them. Even if foreigners who enter in to Mizoram without any valid permits can have a separate autonomous district council

of their own. I see no reason why Mizos cannot have a district council in Meghalaya. I expect this resolution to originate from the ruling party, but I do not see any gesture, so I submitted this resolution.

Judas Iscariot was also a follower of Jesus Christ but he betrayed Him at the last moment. Similarly, members of the treasury bench also crave for solution of our problem but there is a difference in the way how we like it solved. One prominent member of Congress party told me some days back that his party wanted that the problem be solved immediately. When asked what he meant by immediately, "immediately after expiry of the term of Congress Ministry," was the reply. Similarly, what Pu Zalawma meant by "immediately" in his amendment is not clear. I am of an impression that this also means 'immediately after the term of Congress Ministry is over'. Therefore, I have a presentiment that the peace talk would further be delayed. Now, Parliament is in session. I want conclusion of peace talk announced before the session is adjourned since die. Under the circumstances, I would like to ask all my fellow members to be in readiness to get involved in any action or campaign if and when necessary to demand immediate conclusion of peace talk. If the talk fails again this time, the consequences would be more dreadful. Now the tape record speech of Pu Lalduhawma has been distributed in villages. I warn you that while you consider your party to be much popular, your collapse would not be too far.

Human being is insatiable in nature. One who has one lakh rupees likes to have more. One term in power satisfies none and craves for more terms. The ruling party claimed itself to be in a position to give instead of begging. If you really want restoration of peace and harmony in Mizoram, why don't you give them to the people. If you are really willing an early conclusion of peace talk, you go to Delhi and warn your bosses that the Congress Ministry would resign and the party dissolved unless the peace talk is concluded before the adjournment of parliament Budget Session. That would make Arun Nehru bow down his head in sorrow and the party bosses will find ways of early conclusion of the lack without fail. We must act instead of speak if we really mean business. From one point of view, the ruling party has an intention of delaying the talk manipulating certain tactics till the expiry of its term, while the people are fed up with an atmosphere of fear, checkgate etc. and are craving for the time when all these

would be done away with. The parliament session may last up to April or even May. I earnestly ask all members to vote in favour of my resolution so that conclusion of the talk may be announced in Parliament, before the session is adjourned.

Mr Speaker, all party delegates were intended to be sent to Delhi for the purpose, but some parties refused to participate. A procession was organised but the ruling party once again refused to participate. Students took steps to demand early conclusion of talk, but as time went on, these students revealed their identities and their action took a political turn. Some of the members joined Congress party while the others joined P.C. The Assam students were very firm in their stance, they took no political turn until their object was attained. The stumbling block which hampers any progress in every field is lack of a sense of ownership among the people. All of us are going our own way as alien workers just working for money. A popular advice is "Try your best to stabilise your economic position when your party is in power". Now, the active members of the ruling party are those who are in the good book of Government and those who are blessed with contract works. The people seldom vote one power to power more than once. The reason why the P.C party was voted to power for consecutive terms was because Pu Thena's Government was fortunate not to have any prominent shortcomings in its first term of office. The victory of any party can be attributed rightfully to the blessings of Pu Lal-denga. He is a King maker, any party which has his blessings comes to power. Now I would like to warn the Ruling party that if you go on against the will of the people just for the sake of power, your collapse would come soon with terrible consequences. Have courage to be poor for the welfare of the people.

The deep rooted corruption cannot be checked from Government Department. Action requires to be taken from the top, that is the Ministry. Offices have always been accused of misuse of Government vehicles. We do not object to their use of vehicles, but let them not monopolise them, let them spare those vehicles for use of other members of staff when needed.

In P.W.D. Saitual Division has been investigated and some officers have been placed under suspension. Why is it that the whole of PWD has not been investigated ?

Speaker : You are speaking as if is a general discussion. Please concentrate on the resolution. However, the time is over.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, I have mentioned those facts to explain the difficulties of reforming the administration until and unless the political problem is solved.

To conclude, I would like to ask all members to have courage to sacrifice power for the sake of the people and the solution of our problem. Let us join hands to work for the survival of our community. We need solution to our problem before we have non-Mizo Ministers in our Ministry as Sikkim is inhabited by Nepalis assimilating the natives.

Thank You.

Speaker : Now, we shall have recess till 2 P.M. in the afternoon.
Recess till 2 P.M.

Speaker : There is an amendment motion submitted by Pu Zalawma. Let him move it now.

Pu Zalawma : Mr Speaker Sir, as per provisions of rule 128 (of Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly) I submitted an amendment to the resolution moved by Pu J.Thanghuama.

First of all, let me read my resolution, "This Assembly is of the opinion that the present between the Government of India and the MNF should be successfully concluded immediately". The sense is not different with that of the original one and the spirit is also the same. Shall I move it now, Mr Speaker ?

Speaker : Yes, you have to indicate the reasons why you propose the amendment.

Pu Zalawma : Mr Speaker, the original resolution of Pu J.Thanghuama is time bound that is before adjournment of Parliament session sine die. As we all know a budget session lasts at least for four months. Since we are urgently in need of solution to our problems, fixation of time is considered improper for conclusion of peace talk. The peace talk may be concluded even many days before adjournment of Parliament session. The mover of the original resolution seemed to be confused about the interpretation of the

term "immediately". A resolution, if passes by the House, is effective from the date of its being adopted. This resolution is a very urgent matter. The people urgently need immediate solution of the problem which has been facing them for more than 20 years. That is the reason why I move this amendment.

Speaker : The first thing to do now is to dispose of the amendment. The amendment was submitted in proper order, and the mover indicated the reasons for his amendment. Those who agree with the amendment may now say "agree". Is there anyone against it. Okay, the amendment is accepted. Whether passed or not, the resolution will go as amended.

Pu Zolawma : Mr Speaker Sir, let me speak first as I am the mover. All of us know that there arose disturbances in Mizoram on 1st March, 1966 for political reasons. I think all members know that the disturbance was the result of discontentment of the people on the existing status of administration and also out of a desire for a better administrative status. Despite Government of India's attempt to crush the uprising with force, the uprising cannot lose its political nature. The people of Mizoram unanimously agreed that the problem was a political problem which can be solved only with political solution. So, the Congress party in its meeting on 20th December, 1967 decided to convince Government of Assam and Central Government to have talk with the MNF to search for solution of our problem. So the Congress party dedicated itself to find a solution to the Mizo problem. Leaders of the MNF were then persuaded to agree upon having negotiation with Government of India after convincing them that the people were no longer in a position to withstand the consequences of the armed struggle against India demanding a higher status of administration. Memoranda was submitted to Government of India and Government of Assam trying to convince them that our disturbance was a political one and that it required political solution. After meeting with the leaders of Government of Assam and India many times, a foundation stone for the present peace talk was eventually laid. I remember clapping our hands in joy when we heard the then Home Minister Mr Y.B.Chavan answering a question with a statement that the problem of Mizo people was a political problem during the 1967 winter session.

As stated by the Hon. Member of Sateek constituency, the policy of restoration of peace in Mizoram attracted voters that the Congress party came to power when Mizoram became a U.T. in 1971. On the eve of the struggle for independence of Bangladesh, we met the representatives of Pu Laldenga who promised us to have contact with correspondence since the MNF had to shift its headquarters somewhere because of unfavourable situation prevailing in Bangladesh. The then Prime Minister the late Mrs. Indira Gandhi was convinced to find ways of making arrangement for the coming in of Mr. Laldenga to Delhi to have negotiations for the settlement of the Mizo problem. In the early part of February, 1976, Mr Laldenga arrived Delhi from Bonn to have peace talk with Government of India. Since I would like to apprise members of the importance of this resolution, I have to tell the detailed stories and origin of the peace talk. I hope members also have patience to listen to me.

In the course of the peace talk there arose many blocks which hampered the progress of the talk. Since the MNF delegates bore in mind the need for the safeguard of Mizo community as well as better status of administration within the framework of Indian constitution, it was expected that they would demand special provisions which Government Of India was understood not to have easily agreed to. I firmly believe that Mizoram would open a new era if the people join hands and work together for the solution of peace talk. It is high time that we leave behind a willingness to take advantage of the fall of others which will never yield good results for the people.

When we went to Delhi in December, we came to learn that for some minor reasons, the Peace talk was hampered by some minor obstacles. Through the efforts made by leaders of Mizoram Congress party, the talk was resumed and eventually the draft agreement was viewed by both sides of the negotiating parties. On 13th December, Pu Laldenga and the Prime Minister met once again and left the talk for resumption after Christmas festival. Now it is learnt that the talk has been arranged for airlifting members of the deligation to participate in the talk. I, therefore, hope that the talk would be successfully concluded soon. Moreover, passing of this resolution would be quite effective in expediting conclusion of the talk. I hope members have one concrete idea about this matter which concerns the survival of Mizo Community. The mover of the original resolution Pu J.Thanghuama is understood to

have a sincere desire for the successful conclusion of peace talk. As I already said, there is no difference in the sense between the two resolutions except some amendments in the wording alone. I, Therefore, request the House to pass my resolution as amended that—"This Assembly is of the opinion that the present peace talk between the Government of India and the MNF should be successfully concluded immediately".

Thank You.

Speaker : Pu F.Lalchhawna

Pu F.Lalchhawna : Pu Speaker, thank you very much for giving me a good chance to speak on the subject of peace talk. There are many things which can be touched by this subject. First of all, I am of an impression that some members are not clear about the actual identity of Chakmas. I worked as Circle Interpreter in 1946 under SDO, Lunglei. At that time Mizoram was under British rule and the village administration was in the hands of chiefs, each chief having an area with definite boundary lines. Among those chiefs was a chakma chieftain whose headquarter was at Lokisuri. There were also two Tuikuk village, at Uiphum tlang and Serlui. The rulers were Monsai and Boidonat Tripura respectively. These people cannot be regarded as foreigners since they inhabited Mizoram since many years back. But there is no doubt that these permanent resident of Mizoram invited their friends and relatives to join them and hence there were illegal immigrants.

I want to let it known to the public that there are some chakmas and tuikuks who are natural citizens of India residing in Mizoram. The subject of illegal Chakma entrance is the main topic occupying prominent place among the manifestos of the P.C. party before every election.

Speaker : You are not dwelling on the subject. Why are you beating the bush? I am not giving to give you an extra time.

Pu F.Lalchhawna : Mr Speaker Sir, there is no one who does not like peace and hermony restored in Mizoram. Young people today do not know or experience the depth of sorrow that enveloped the people during disturbances. We had to

abandon all our belongings to be grouped everywhere the army found it convenient. No worker was in a mood to work in his jhum because of the lack of peace in mind. Therefore, the need for peace is most urgent for Mizoram. Everyone works his own way for the restoration of peace and harmony in Mizoram and no one can be accused of unwilling restoration of peace in Mizoram. Besides political parties, various church denominations and voluntary organisations also expressed their willingness to have peace immediately. All the people prayed for peace. What had the previous Ministry done in this respect. What it had done could not be condemned since it followed the way it considered best for the early conclusion of peace talk, that employing might and force of the army and inculcating a sense of hafred of MNF in the minds of the people.

It is now clear that it had followed a wrong path since the talk completely failed. Now the Congress party follows another path. It clearly tells the people it can do nothing except to set a table for resumption of peace talk and that negotiation is in the hands of the two negotiating parties. Now, a dawn is breaking for the solution of our problem. There is a rumour that some leaders have been trying to occupy prominent places in a Government that would be formed as a result of conclusion of peace talk. I firmly believe that those places will be occupied by only those for whom they are made.

To conclude, I would like to say that I support the resolution.

Thank You.

Speaker : Pu K.Biakchungnunga.

Pu K.Biakchuhnunga : Mr Speaker Sir, each and every one of us claims that he is eager to have peace in Mizoram but none of us plainly express his cherished hope without any attack or blame of others. I consider it most shameful to express willingness and desire to have peace while even one's family is in discord.

The ruling members seem to be in a habit of making amendments. I wonder if the delay in peace talk is the result of an amendment made by them. I would like to ask them not to make any more amendment afterwards, so that peace talk could be concluded early.

The term "Immediately" troubles me much because it can be interpreted in various ways. The motive or spirit behind it is to me a bit doubtful. I have a presentment that it would mean other than what it is mainly thought to mean. It would be a good idea if the ruling members reexamine the spirit behind using the term "immediately". So that this Government can take action effectively to expedite the conclusion of peace talk. The issue of peace talk is very sensitive one. It requires unanimous and sincere support of all of us. I hope the resolution is passed since the ruling party amended it as it liked.

Thank You.

Pu R.Lalawia : Mr Speaker Sir, members are voicing one opinion in the issue of peace talk. Both the ruling and opposition members unanimously like early conclusion of peace talk. I would like to quote the content of Chhantlang daily in which it was stated that in the peace talk, the Mizoram state which would be created was proposed to consist of 40 MLA seats. But this newspaper accused the ruling party of intending to have the number of seats altered and reduced to 35. The reasons for their willingness to reduce the MLA seats stated to have the possibility of buying voters if an area of one constituency became much smaller. The paper concluded that before the talk is resumed, there is an intention on the part of Congress party to intervene on Secretary level.

This morning Pu Laldenga contacted his emissary over telephone and the emissary told me what Pu Denga has said, and the articles of Chhantlang daily is confirmed. In the opening ceremony of Chhantlang Tourist Lodge, the Hon.Chief Minister stated that the MNF and Government of India agreed that the Mizoram State would have 40 members. But after sometimes, the number has been reduced to 35. To a great extent, this made me uneasy and gave me an impression that the Congress party has intervened.

Now the people think that the pace of progress of negotiation would be most speedy if the Chief Minister and his cabinet step down. But I think the time will come when such necessity would arise. I think all of us will be happy if the present ministry is dissolved consequent upon the conclusion of peace talk. Students Union also issued a press release demanding resignation of the Ministry unless peace talk is concluded during April.

I am afraid that if the peace talk is not concluded successfully, some of our youth would go underground once again and there would be more bloodshed. This would hamper the progress of development. Students Union could hardly afford to send two members of its delegates to Delhi to find means of expediting conclusion of peace talk. With the help of students, studying in Delhi, the students, 24 in number staged a procession to make their demand known to Central Government. I am very proud of what our students did in Delhi.

It is the tendency of young generation to resort to undesirable means to express or seek solution to their discontentment. To prevent such undesirable incidents, it is high time that the representatives of the people assembled together today unanimously pass this resolution. In this connection I would like to ask Congress party to withdraw its proposal of reduction of number of members for the Mizoram State and to accept the number already agreed by the MNF and Government of India, i.e 40. Otherwise, some minor obstacles are sure to crop up in the course of peace talk. Even now, the subject of separate High Court for Mizoram requires a great pressure from the public. Any action taken by students afterwards, I hope, will receive full support of Government, if they really mean business.

Thank You.

Pu Liausuama : Mr Speaker Sir, opposition parties, the P.C. party in particular accused the Congress party of promising to have peace and harmony restored in Mizoram within three months from the inception of Congress Ministry. In the party's manifesto, it is written that the party would set a table for resumption of peace talk and there is no mention of having peace and harmony restored within a period of three months.

What the Congress party committed to the people before election was done. But we do not intend to sit idle doing nothing. The Hon. Chief Minister also stated in the opening function of Tourist Lodge that the extent to which we made commitment to the people has been done. Now Pu Laldenga arrived in Delhi and the talk is being resumed and it is expected that conclusion would be made soon. Since no conclusion of peace talk has not yet been made, what can be done to have peace talk expedited from this end is to pass a resolution to that effect. All members have many things to do. The Hon. Chief Minister has no

time to stay with his family because he has to go to Delhi very often to do necessary works in connection with peace talk. It is quite a pity that some members have a habit of accusing us of working to spoil the atmosphere of peace talk. If you recollect what the P.C. Ministry had said to General Sparrow, M.P. you will be quite certain that the path followed by various parties in trying to solve our problem is extremely contradictory. Out of such though emanated a doubtfulness of everything done by other parties. Since Congress party come to power, there prevailed in Mizoram an atmosphere of peace and members can now freely tour their constituencies, without any bodyguards. I know that pointing out the blunders committed by other parties is of no use, but what I would like to explain is that everything is judged by everyone with his own yardstick. Therefore, I would like to ask opposition members to repeat their sins and to help us pass this resolution.

Thank You.

Pu Zairemthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, there are many resolutions to be considered and I think it would be better not to waste much time for discussion of one resolution since a discussion eventually turns into mud-slinging against various parties. Therefore, passing a resolution without much discussion seems to be the best. It is obvious that many members would like to participate in the discussion. If those members agree not to speak, I will also take my seat and keep quiet. But if other members cannot keep quiet, I also have many things to say.

Needless to say, every Mizo has a desire to have peace. When a table was set for resumption of peace talk, the credit went to the Church and no one had a claim in it. But after sometimes, the credit begins to go elsewhere. All of us always say that the best thing is not to try to take advantages of this subject by any political party. But every Government we have ever had is not free of accusation of manipulating the issue of peace talk for the advantages of its party. Everyone knows that the progress of development works are completely blocked by an atmosphere of disturbance which has been prevailing in Mizoram for almost twenty years. At the same time, it is impossible to wait for conclusion of peace talk without doing nothing to expedite it. The PC Ministry was thus blamed for its concentration upon development works instead of restoration of peace and harmony.

Even the Congress Government cannot turn its back to development works while taking up the issue of peace talk at the same time. The two things have to go side by side. To emphasize the need for some members always exaggeratedly stated that the only requirement of Mizoram is restoration of peace. Because of the urgency of the need for peace, the original resolution urged conclusion of peace talk "Without any further delay," bearing in mind that the term "immediately" might not be effective enough.

To conclude, I would like to say that we must not waste any more valuable time for attack and counter attack among political parties. The best thing we can do at present is to pass this resolution unanimously.

Thank You.

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker, I prefer the original resolution which is time bound to the amendment. The mover of the original resolution is absent today and it is taken granted that he has no objection to the amendment. Bringing back those things of the past as did by the Hon.member of Kolasib constituency is of no use and has nothing to do with the early conclusion of peace talk.

I do not consider the amendment strong enough and I prefer the original are since it is time bound. When the Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi visited Mizoram, she stated that the key to solution of Mizoram problem was in her hands. The then Secretary of Congress Party Mr Rajiv Gandhi also said the same. He also promised that if his party was voted to power, peace and harmony had to be restored in Mizoram. The Mizo people had faith in that statement and voted the Congress party to power. But to the extreme frustration of the people, two years have elapse without any development in the negotiation. To add to the discontentment and frustration of the people the Congress leadership was accused by the party's own President of having an intention to bring the talk to complete failure by creating artificial incidents in order to complete the Ministry's term of office. This news greatly surprised the people. Frankly speaking, I don't have any faith now in the ruling party. Therefore, I support the original resolution which is time-bound.

Thank You.

Pu Hiphéi : Mr Speaker, why is it that no one voiced any objection to the amendment when there was a chance but it was objected later?

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, I can raise an objection to the amendment if I feel like to do so. That is my prerogative. (Pu J.Thanghuama—There was no information before 2 p.m. When an amendment was submitted It is because of absence of information regarding the time of its discussion that I came late. Had an information been given. I should have arrived in time.)

Speaker : Let me explain it, your excuse for coming late is meaningless. There was already a notification.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, the number of members who are to participate in the discussion is not known at the beginning. No time is fixed for consideration of the amendment.

Speaker : Let me explain it. When a resolution is moved, the mover is given a chance to speak in support of his resolution. This time you have been given 30 minutes time to speak. After you have concluded your speech, the chair announced that there was amendment submitted in right order, and it was also published in Bulletin, copies of which have been attached with the lists of Business. Why didn't you know that?

Pu J.Thanghuama : I know it and I received a copy of it. But no time, hour was fixed for consideration of the amendment.

Speaker : Whenever there is an amendment, you are supposed to know that an amendment is to be moved just after you move your resolution.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker Sir, he did not move his amendment after me. It was not moved till one o'clock.

Speaker : How could he move it? You have spent all the time left in the forenoon and recess followed. After recess the first item was to move the amendment.

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr speaker Sir, that is quite true had amendment been made that an amendment would be considered at 2 O'clock. I would not have come late at all.

Speaker : No need to make any announcement over and above an announcement that sitting would be resumed at 2 O'clock.

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker, whatever be the case. I would like to voice an objection to the amendment. A time bound resolution is badly needed. In a public

meeting held the day before yesterday, the M.P. disclosed everything about what the people feared the Congress party would have done in connection with the delay of peace talk. What the M.P. disclosed was rightfully regarded as a truth by the people including me. Moreover, the people believe that a branch of a party in power in the Centre can do what it likes to do. Now, I beseech members of that party who assembled here to day to take action in that direction. You must remember that would be your salvation. Members who are not in the good book of Government along with nearly five lakhs of people in Mizoram consider that too long time elapsed since the beginning of peace talk. But for those who are in power, another two years may be too short. Under the circumstances, a time-bound resolution would be most effective. Even if the talk is concluded tomorrow or the day after, people consider it too late. Yet there is an amendment submitted by the ruling member relying upon the strength of members the ruling party in the House. Last year, the opposition leader Mr T.Sailo submitted a resolution that the peace talk should not be delayed any further. That time also, Pu Vanlalngbaka made an amendment that this House expressed its gratefulness for resumption of peace talk and that it was recorded omitting the terms "should not be delayed any further." which were substituted with "immediately". At that time, a point of agreement was a single word, i.e. "immediately" since its meaning could be much different depending upon those who spoke it. Almost one and a half year elapsed since then and there is no development worth mentioning in the progress of negotiation. The Mizo people would be too frustrated and discontent unless there is no development within three months time.

The present Ministry has enough power to effect early solution of the problem of Mizoram as it is the child of Central Government. The party in the Centre has control over the prime Minister, the president and Home Minister. We beg you today to give what the people of Mizoram have been craving for and for attaining which they have been struggling for almost twenty years. Mr Speaker Sir, I am afraid the sense of the term "immediately" is not strong enough and that the same subject would be considered in the next budget session.

The people are now very interested in anything that has any connection with peace talk. Pu Lalduhawma is understood to have an intention of conducting a public meeting tomorrow. Whenever a public meeting of such kind is conducted, the building, whatever may be the size, is fully packed with audiences. If the ruling party refutes all the accusations levelled by the MP, why can't it pass a resolution for conclusion of peace talk even tomorrow. If you really do like that, your party will be voted to power again. I am also strongly of the opinion that if accusations levelled by Pu Lalduhawma are not true, this House must pass the resolution in its original form to prove the baselessness of all the accusations. Otherwise, there will be countless questions to answer from the public if the accusation levelled against Congress leadership of playing a tactic of delay of peace talk. How shall we answer them? Passing the resolution as amended will merely testify that the allegations made by the MP Pu Lalduhawma are true. Therefore, I like to pass the resolution in its time bound original form, for which the ruling members can boast of their contribution for early solution of the Mizoram problem. Otherwise the atmosphere is too tense for them I would like to help them clear the atmosphere this way.

As stated by my brother-in-law Mr Zalawma, we have all been baptised with the doctrine of peace. If so, what we can do for the attainment of peace at the earliest possible is to pass a time-bound resolution which would make the people very happy. I consider the sense of the term "immediately" not strong enough and I prefer the time-bound one.

Thank You, Mr Speaker.

Pu Hiphei : Mr Speaker Sir, the reason why I made a point of order
Minister was because no one made any objection to the amendment when it was called for. But after it was accepted, some persons raised objections. Criticism of the amendment itself is allowed but raising an objections after acceptance of the amendment is not in order. Some members were not satisfied with the term "immediately" most probably because the urgency of the need for peace in Mizoram. But I consider the term strong enough to express the urgency of the matter. Now conclusion of negotiation is in the hands of the two negotiating parties.

Pu Rajiv Gandhi, the then Secretary of Congress party might have said that conclusion of peace talk was in his hands. This has been testified by the fact that the MNF leader arrived New Delhi to resume negotiation with delegates of Government of India. As we all know Government of India did not like to accept the Mizoram problem as a political problem for a long time. Through the efforts made by the Mizo leaders, the Government of India eventually accepted that the Mizoram problem is a political problem. Immediately after that the Mizo leaders were not clear about what the solution of the problem would be. To the best of my knowledge, the MNF leadership convinced the local leaders that the best way for solution of the Mizo problem would be to have a negotiation with the Government of India. It was only after this that steps had been taken to pave the way for negotiation between the delegates of the MNF and Government of India. So, negotiation was started in 1976. For some reasons, the talk came to an end without any results. After sometimes, Pu Laldenga the leader of MNF party was again called to India to resume negotiation. All members of this House, belonging to either ruling or opposition parties, have been working their own ways for an early solution of the Mizo problem. Sometimes there arises differences in opinion among members, sometimes, they have one view. The two contrasting opinions which were held by members are making an agreement through negotiation between the MNF and Government of India and annihilating the whole lot of MNF. The Congress party has been following a policy of negotiation to reach an agreement between Government of India and the MNF. I wonder how some members can think the party does not really like solution to the problem of Mizoram.

Since our problem is a political problem. I don't think the solution can be reached at overnight. It must take time. Now, Pu Laldenga told London newspapers that he hoped the accord would be signed by the month of June. Even after he entered into India, Pu Laldenga always expressed his optimistic view of the situation yet some of us have been accusing others of trying to spoil the talk. This made me quite uneasy. I am afraid it can effect delay in the progress of peace talk. But I fervently hope that the efforts made by leader of the congress party would yield good results and that conclusion of peace talk would be made shortly. Therefore, to express our urgent desire for peace, the best term for use in the resolution seems to be "immediately". Therefore, I support the resolution as amended.

Thank you.

Speaker : Pu K.L.Lianchia, today, I know for the first time that the Central leadership was convinced by the Congress party leaders of Mizoram to accept that the Mizo problem was a political problem. As we all know, in 1966 the MNF party declared independence which was followed by armed struggle against India. It is strange that even then the Central leadership was required to be convinced to accept the Mizo problem as a political problem.

Previously, similar resolution was move in this House. At that time also the terms "without further delay" was omitted through an amendment. This time, the same thing happened again and "without further delay" has again been expunged. Why is it that the ruling members cannot digest the terms "without further delay". One cannot but think that the term "delay" frightens the ruling members. The Hon.member who moved the amendment stated that the spirit of the amendment is the same with that of the original one. If so, why is amendment required? Why is the original resolution not been passed as it is? The fact that we cannot digest the term "delay" reveals our actual stand. It is learnt that the accord was ready to be signed as far back as on 23rd December, 1985, but it has not yet been signed till today. Everyone accepts that the peace talk was delayed. A habit of cutting off the term "delay" whenever a resolution is submitted is undesirable and has to be kicked off immediately.

Accusation and counter-accusation have nothing to do with peace talk. But there is one truth, Pu Lalduhawma M.P. is the present President of Mizoram Congress (I). He has the responsibility in implementing the policy laid down by the party and he is to take care of the policy matter. Since his resignation has not yet been accepted by the competent authority, he continues to be the President till today. There is no need to accuse the Congress party of working secretly for the delay and ultimately for the failure of peace talk. The truth is that we accept what the party's President said we accept that his party is working for the delay of peace talk.

Frankly speaking, we have faith in the Congress Ministry and we hope that it would restore peace in Mizoram. But after sometimes, we started to accuse the party of intending to spoil the atmosphere of peace talk. We also told the people that even though there was no proof, from the appearance and movement of workers of the party, we believe that the Congress party did something wrong, something to

delay peace talk so that it can enjoy power for a full five-year term. I therefore told the people of my constituency that Mizoram accord would not be signed until the term of Congress Ministry expired. All the accusations have now been confirmed to be true by the statements of the MCC (I) President, who clearly stated that the Congress leaders tried to bring the talks to a complete failure let alone delay. I don't think even ordinary members are aware of the actions of their leaders. It is extremely unfortunate that our doubts are testified by the statements of the Congress President and MP Pu Laldhawma. What the Congress leadership has done to fail the peace talk, has now been disclosed in detail with dates and months.

The people firmly believe that all the statements made by Pu Laldhawma to be true. Under the circumstances members are afraid that peace talk may abruptly come to an end without any agreements and therefore consider that passing a time-bound resolution would be most effective.

The Hon. member of Khawhai constituency stated that the Hon. Chief Minister was in Delhi to do something in connection with peace negotiation. But what we have heard and learnt make us doubtful of the role played by the Chief Minister and his presence in Delhi make us quite uneasy. The fact that the Chief Minister is very much busy working in connection with peace talk while the negotiation is stated to have been concluded only subject to review makes us more uneasy. I don't think there is any undesirable motive behind submission of a time bound resolution with the terms "without any further delay". While an atmosphere of mutual mistrust is prevailing amongst us, the best way to show our sincerity in our willingness for an early conclusion of peace talk is to pass a time-bound resolution.

Thank You.

Pu C.L.Ruala : Mr Speaker Sir, the term "immediately" has been included in the original resolution too to describe the urgency of his willingness of the resumption of peace talk. He concluded the resolution with a time-bound suggestion i.e. 'before adjournment of Parliament-Budget Session.' Since die. At the same time, some mem-

bers dislike the term "immediately" which appears in the amendment and prefer a time-bound one. To me, there is nothing to be doubtful about the motive behind using the term "immediately" in the amendment.

During election campaign, the Hon member of Lunglei constituency despised the MP Pu Lalduhawma. But now he considers whatever be said to be true. However, Pu Lalduhawma tendered his resignation from Presidentship of Congress party I think outsiders do not know about this.

Some days back, members of the opposition party were chided by their boss because of their interest in the unfighting in the Congress party, but they still did not seem to obey their boss.

While the policy of the party was 'forgive and forget', when it formed a Ministry, it taught the people to fight against the MNF with axes afterwards. This considerably pushed back the time of restoration of peace and harmony in Mizoram. Under the circumstances no peace negotiation could be held. Moreover, the atmosphere for peace talk was completely spoilt. The fact that they cannot believe that peace talk has been resumed clearly reveals that they think we shall do as they did before. Peace is going to be restored in Mizoram soon despite any efforts to spoil it. We are not going to follow the footsteps of the opposition party.

Mr Speaker Sir, What they did make them blind and cannot see clearly what others do. Peace is no doubt near and is now within our reach. Therefore, the term 'immediately' is added in the resolution. I would like to make it known to the members of opposition party that we are not going to follow their footprints in dealing with the MNF. We are not going to resort to arms to fight against the MNF.

To conclude, I would like to express my support to the resolution in the amended form.

Thank You.

Speaker : Pu Thangliana.

Pu R Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, to day I am not going to speaking anyteing against the opposition members. But I would like to say th t whenever a discussion is held the
Minister

opposition members are always very eager to dispose of it. But peace negotiation is a burning topic and everyone of us wants to say something about it and it can never be so speedily disposed of.

One thing which we should remember is that any leader who defects from the party to which he belonged never lasts long. Even now, the defecting Congress (I) President also convened a public meeting with a huge audience. But remember that he will not occupy a high position after the result of the next election is announced.

Mr Speaker Sir, to me a time-bound resolution has a sense of command or order in it. It may be proper and suitable to be communicated to inferiors. But it is not unfair to pass a time bound resolution since the implementation is in the hands of Government of India and Pu Laldenga who are our superiors. Either of the two sides of the negotiating party might not have been ready to conclude the talk on the specified time. Under the circumstance I am of the opinion that the resolution as amended by Pu Zalawma is most suitable.

Much has been mentioned of foreigners issue. For the time being I think it is not yet time for it because we are hoping that there would be provisions in the accord to be signed shortly. I cannot think this issue would be left over in the course of negotiation.

To conclude I would like to express my support the resolution in the emended form. Thank you.

Speaker : Pi K.Thansiami.

Pi K.Thansiami : Mr Speaker Sir, I will not take long as many fellow members want to speak today. If carefully studied, one finds out the importance attached to the resolution moved by the Hon'ble member of Sateek Constituency. I therefore support it.

First of all, I would like to express my disagreement with the contention of the Hon'ble member of Ratu Constituency that the resolution in its time sense was a command to inferiors. I think he did not thoroughly study the wording. To me, it is a request and not a command or order. It is a humble request.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister attaches great importance to the issue of peace talk which was announced in his Independence Day speech at Lammual. When he said that he was summoned to Delhi in connection with peace talk and that a great progress had been achieved in the matter, the audience clapped in joy. On his arrival at Aizawl from Delhi he was given a great welcome by his partymen as if he brought home good news. But till today there is not much development and personally I am quite frustrated.

For the party, the defection of the Congress (I) President is a great loss. On the other hand, I hope it would go a long way in safeguarding the peace talk as he disclosed the secret activities of his fellow party leaders in attempting to spoil the negotiation. It is quite heartening to note that the Congress leadership reversed its path of action and now works for the speedy conclusion of peace talk.

Frankly speaking a long time elapsed since conclusion of peace has been stated to be near at hand. The people are therefore frustrated and are no longer in a position to believe in whatever the Congress leadership says regarding peace talk. Under the circumstances, I do support the resolution moved by the Hon'ble member of Sateek Constituency in its original time-bound form. The amendment as proposed by one of the ruling members is meaningless. It is merely a tactic of endearing to the public.

Speaker : Pi Rokungi.

Pi Rokungi : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would, first of all, like to express my support to the amendment made by the Hon'ble member of Kolasib Constituency. Everyone knows who really work for the restoration of peace in Mizoram. Accusations levelled against the Congress party alleging it as delaying peace talk during its two years in office is baseless. The P.C. Ministry also did nothing during its six year term of office. We all know that it is impossible to speed up the pace of progress of peace talk. First of all the leader of one of the negotiating parties had to be called into India from London. This is not an easy task. No one can give order to the negotiating parties to resume talk. Even then, the talk has been progressing and conclusion will be made before long. We must have patience to wait for

that time. Accusing the Congress party leadership of attempting to spoil the peace talk is your very own brainchild and it is a totally baseless allegation. This merely testifies your unwillingness to have peace talk concluded.

Lastly, I would like to say once again that I do support the resolution in its amended form and I would like to ask all my fellow members to vote in favour of it. Thank you.

Pu Zosiama Pachuau : Mr Speaker, Sir, I would first of all like to say that the people believe that the only political party which can bring peace to Mizoram is Congress party and voted it to power. On August 15, people through the A.R. ground hoping that some good news about peace talk would be announced but no such announcement has been made till today.

One cannot but believe that there are reasons for the delay. Under the circumstances we agree to pass this resolution. Even the ruling members are supposed to be more eager to pass it because it would confirm their speeches. After passing, the Ministry may hotly pursue the matter with Government of India as that conclusion of talk would be made soon. Otherwise, the delay tactics would make the people frustrated. They will lose confidence on the Ministry. Therefore, I support this resolution. Thank you.

Pu Lallawmsanga Zadeng : Mr. Speaker Sir, first of all I would like to express my sincere support to the resolution submitted by honourable member from Sateek constituency. I think the ruling members also support it despite the fact that it originated from opposition party. I even heard some of the ruling members say that they would vote in favour of it and this made me quite happy.

When Rajiv Gandhi visited Mizoram he told the people who gathered in the public meeting that solution of the Mizo problem was in the hands of his mother and that if Congress party was voted to power peace would be restored in Mizoram at any time. He had not made any mention of MNF. The speeches of Rajiv Gandhi still sounds in the ears of the people. If peace and harmony is not restored now through negotiation, who would the people condemn ?

Before the election, you asked the people to vote for you because you said that the most important thing at that time was strengthening your hands. The people honoured your request and now you have been voted to power. Your party even captured almost all the seats of VC and the only seat of MP. But till today no progress has been made in the negotiation. The only explanation we have is that the peace talk is nearly concluded. How long will we be cheated? The people are expecting you to be sincere in your deeds and to stop taking senseless.

Last year similar resolution has been passed with a term "immediately" why is it that this year also you desire to amend it just the same way? We have experienced that the term "immediately" had no effect, and as such there arises the need for adopting a bit different resolution so as to urge the negotiating parties to expedite conclusion of talk. We need adopt a time bound resolution. Asking the negotiating parties just to expedite conclusion of talk is not strong enough we must press them to conclude at once.

You are voted to power by the people. If you do not act to the expectation of the voters, you will be let down in the next election. If dicating in favour of the MNF now will be your glory. It will surely enable you to retain your position in the coming years. Thank you.

Pu Vaivenga : Mr. Speaker Sir, as we all know each and every political party has been trying its levels best to bring about peace in Mizoram. But the power or ability of every party in this regards is very much limited. The conclusion of peace talk is in the hands of the two negotiating parties i.e. the MNF and Central Government. There is always a split in a political ideology. Even now such a rift occurred in the ruling Congress party. The main reason for this is because there is a difference in opinion among members of the party in the issue of peace talk.

This resolution expresses our sincere desire for an early conclusion of peace talk. When we talk about peace talk most of us fix a larger portion of responsibility upon the Central Government. This is to a certain extent true. Personally I do not play important role in fighting for restoration of peace in Mizoram. Last year I was sent to New Delhi as a member of the delegates of congress party along with Pu Zalauna, Pu Lalthanhawla and Pu Laldhawma, the then President of

Congress party, to find ways of expediting conclusion of peace talk. At that time the talk had two bottlenecks i.e. Special power of Governor and sharing of revenue on land and resources. The MNF could not accede to the proposal made by the Central Government. At that time both the negotiating parties liked to stop the talk since they could not reach agreement on the two points. Pu Laldenga also told us that his party intend to discontinue the talk since no agreement could be reached on the two points. We promised him that we should try our best to convince Government of India to drop either of the points so as to reach an agreement. We met the Home Minister and persuaded him to condoned either of the points. He told us that he agreed to drop the special power of Governor. Immediately we conveyed the decision of Home Minister to Pu Laldenga, who told us his desire to meet the Prime Minister. So we made arrangement for meeting of the Prime Minister and Pu Laldenga. Thus the Congress party approached both the negotiating parties to enable them to reach an agreement. But the finalisation of talks lies in the hands of the MNF and Government of India.

Sometimes, the MNF delegates have to persistently stand on their demands without acceding to each and every suggestion made by Government of India. This always delays the pace of progress of talk and we must have patience to wait. Haphazard conclusion of talk may yield undesirable consequences in the future political status of Mizoram. As it is a very important negotiation, both sides have to ponder upon the subjects of talk carefully which is understood to take long time.

One member, stated that students demanded resignation of this Ministry for an early conclusion of the talk. Can the students guarantee that peace would be restored in Mizoram if the Ministry resigns?. (Pu R.Lalawia : Mr Speaker, I do not demand the Ministry's resignation but I merely stated that the Students demanded it.)

The Hon.Chief Minister always expressed his readiness to step down if necessary for the conclusion of peace talk. Even now, he is understood to have been consulting Pu Laldenga as to what would be the best way of forming a new Ministry. Meanwhile the best thing is to consider the matter meticulously and stop attacking each other. All of us are willing to have peace in Mizoram. I therefore, would like to ask all members to unanimously vote for the resolution.

Thank You.

Speaker : Let us now call the mover of the resolution Mr J.Thanghuama

Pu J.Thanghuama : Mr Speaker, thank you for your fairness. When you called me I was out to do something but now you called me once again.

The issue of peace talk is not of the concern of an individual. It is of the direct concern of the state as a whole. If the talk fails this time, Mizoram will be stranded in a point of no return from which there is no other place to go but to utter destruction. If the Ministry announces that it would resign and the party will be dissolved unless peace talk is concluded during budget session, it would be quite effective. For those who mean business this is not a difficult task.

Just now the Hon'ble Minister i/c Supply stated that because Pu Laldenga did not accept our advises, the talk was delayed. It might be a slip of tongue. It is most unfortunate that the MNF leaders were charge like this.

All of us agreed that my resolution was a good resolution. All of us wanted to have peace restored in Mizoram early. But there is an amendment to it just because it originated from an M.C. party's M.L.A. Why didn't you submit such resolution before? I was a member of Congress party from the very beginning and I was elected an opposition leader. But when a Ministry was form I was left out, but I was not disheartened. The reason why I left Congress party is because I can no longer dance the drum beat of Central Government. Whenever you went to Delhi, you met Mrs Indira Gandhi only. I advised you to meet Pu Laldenga too, but you dare not do so because you thought that your boss would not like you to see Pu Laldenga. From that very moment I realise that you are Congress members true and true. So I quitted the party on 12th May, '77, and formed Janata party of which elected President. Immediately I went to Delhi to meet Pu Laldenga. The then Home Minister told me that he did not allow me to see Pu Laldenga. But I to'd him that I did not care whether he allowed or not, so I met Pu Laldenga in the Imperial Hotel and talked with him for an hour. I was the first to venture to meet Pu Laldeng after his return from Delhi.

Dancing to the tune of the drum beat of the Centre is not our duty. As a branch of Ruling party at the Centre, we must have the Centre danced to our drum beat. Among all of you, I am the one who knows about the past the past best. Whom did the Home Secretary Mr M.L.Kampani tell that Pu Laldenga had surrendered? Had he really surrendered? Pu Laldenga is the undisputed leader of Mizo people, and he is the greatest person in the world. It is because of him, the father of Mizo nation, that you occupy bungalows and you are provided with cars. Mr Speaker Sir, we are now doubtful of the effectiveness of the term "immediately". Under the circumstances, the only choice is a time-bound one. I would like to ask the Ministry once again to have peace talk concluded before the adjournment of budget session, and also to be ready and prepared to resign if that demand is not fulfilled.

Long live Mizoram!

Pu R.Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, let me please clarify what the Minister mover accused me of charging the MNF. What I really meant was that before the disturbances, we told Pu Laldenga that sovereignty was an unattainable political goal and because he did not pay heed to our advices we have been now stranded in this awkward position.

Pu Zalawma : Mr Speaker, this resolution takes more than three hours for discussion and I think members attach great importance to it. Because it is an important resolution, we feel it necessary to make an amendment.

This party has not much to do with the conclusion of the peace talk because the negotiating parties are the MNF on one side and the Centre on the other side. What we can do is to adopt a resolution to urge both the parties to expedite conclusion of talk and as such, such a resolution is passed every year.

The Ministry and members of this House are ready to step down on condition that the Centre and the MNF guarantee that peace talk would be concluded immediately following the resignation of the Ministry and MLAs. Unless there is such a guarantee, the resignation would be

totally meaningless. Under the circumstances, the only right thing we can do is to wait patiently for the time when peace talk would be concluded. Whatever business transacted goes in the name of Congress Ministry when Congress party is in power. We must therefore, be careful when transacting any items of business or when adopting any resolution.

Some members expressed their doubtfulness of the sincerity of the Congress Ministry in its commitment to bring about peace and harmony in Mizoram. Had this doubt been true, the truth would have been revealed. Now both the negotiating parties have faith in us. The Congress party is clear in peace policy and there is nothing to cloud it. The pace of progress of peace talk might not be speedy enough as we desire, but we shall go up to the end till the conclusion of peace talk is made.

Thank You.

Speaker : Okay, the resolution in its amended form is as follows—
“This Assembly is of the opinion that the present peace talk between Government of India and the MNF should be successfully concluded immediately”. Anyone who agrees to adopt it may say, “Agree”.

The resolution is adopted in the amended form.

It is now 5 past five and we have many resolutions left. Shall we go on?

Pu Lalhuthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, the opposition members are very much interested in the speeches of Pu Laldhawma MP and they were understood to have attended all the public meetings convened by him. I think they would like to arrange seats tonight for tomorrow's meeting and it would be best to step now.

Pu R.Thangliana : Mr Speaker Sir, today is the only working Friday Minister we have during our session, the next Friday being Good Friday. There are many resolutions left which members consider very important. Let us finish them all.

Speaker : There is no problem from this side if you agree to go on.

Pu R.Thangliana : Mr Speaker, what the Hon.member has said is true to a certain extent. But it is obvious that we shall not be able to dispose of all of the resolutions today. Therefore, I consider it the best thing to leave them all.

Pu Zairemthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, as a member, we must finish our task which confronts us.

Pu F.Lalchhawna : So let us continue it on Good Friday.

Pu Zairemthanga : Let us not make that a subject of jocking.

Pu Lalhmingthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, last week one resolution was disposed of and another one was half done which has been disposed of today. Altogether only three out of nine resolutions have been disposed of leaving as many as six resolutions intact. I would like to suggest that the remaining private resolutions be taken up labouriously otherwise it would greatly disfigure the image of this House and not of an individual member.

Speaker : The duration of this session is quite long yet there are few working days because some holidays fall during the period. If members agree to take up the remaining resolutions I agree. However, some members contented that we could not finish all the resolutions and it would be better to stop here. Let us decide it by voting. Those who want to go on may raise their hands please. And now those against it. Thirty. The House agrees to stop.

Pu Zairemthanga : Mr Speaker Sir, if the remaining resolutions are to be left over, I have a privilege to ask some questions in connection with my resolution for clarification by the concerned Minister.

Speaker : The sitting is adjourned till 10 : 30 A M on Monday.

Meeting adjourned at 5 : 12 PM.

L.C.Thanga, Secretary.
