

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2ND SITTING OF THE 4TH & BUDGET SESSION  
OF THE 3RD MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD FROM 24TH MARCH,  
1980 TO 31ST MARCH, 1980.

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FOR 2ND SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, THE 26TH MARCH, 1980.

(Time - 10:30 A.M.)

PRESENT

Pu C. Chawngkunga, Deputy Speaker, at the Chair, Chief Minister,  
Four Ministers and 26 Members were present.

BUSINESS

1. QUESTIONS entered in a separate list to be asked and answers given.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

RESOLUTION

2. Pu Ellis Saidanga to move the following :-

"This Assembly is of the opinion that in view of scarcity of water in Mizoram during dry season and a conspicuous absence of storage facilities, loans for construction of private water Reservoirs be given by the Government".

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the  
paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the Valley of the  
shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for  
thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they  
comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the  
presence of mine enemies: thou anointest  
my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all  
the days of my life: and I will dwell in the  
house of the LORD for ever.

Psalm 23: 1-6.

For information to Members. Supplementary  
Demand of the Government of Union Territory of Mizoram for  
1980-81 should be corrected as '1979-80'. It was typing  
mistake. I think we haven't forgotten that tomorrow we are  
going to take photograph. Please remember it.

Now, we will take up Business No. 1.  
First, priority may be given to Member who has question and  
5 supplementary questions be accepted for one question. Now,  
question No. 1, Pu Hiphei.

\*PU HIPHEI : Pu Dy. Speaker, Will the hon'ble Minister, i/c. Law, Judicial and District Council Affairs be pleased to state -

(a) Whether Government propose to create a separate cell to look after the District Council Affairs ?

(b) If yes, what is the progress ?

BRIG. THENPHUNGA SAILO : Pu Dy. Speaker, (a) Yes  
CHIEF MINISTER. (b) The matter is under consideration.

PU HIPHEI : Pu Dy. Speaker, supplementary question -  
What do you exactly mean by 'Under consideration'. Whether Under Secretary or Deputy Secretary should be given supposing a separate cell is created ? Is it illegal to say their intention ?

BRIG. THENPHUNGA SAILO : Pu Dy. Speaker, we have made decision  
CHIEF MINISTER to have Under Secretary exclusively to look after District Council Affairs. The file is still under process and it is now at the disposal of Finance Department. If it comes out clear of Finance Department there will be no more difficulty. I hope it won't be long.

\*PU S. VADYU : Pu Dy. Speaker, what action has been taken and when will it gets finalized regarding the decision of the Consultative Committee to establish various Departments at Sub-Division level in the three District Councils of Mizoram ?

BRIG. THENPHUNGA SAILO : Pu Dy. Speaker, what you asked was  
CHIEF MINISTER about creation of separate cell for District Councils. As I have stated, Under Secretary will be placed in-charge of District Council Affairs after which other necessary arrangements will be made.

\*PU HIPHEI : Pu Dy. Speaker, if Under Secretary is placed in-charge of District Council Affairs, will there be creation of posts for L.D.C. & U.D.C. over and above the existing posts ?

BRIG. THENPHUNGA SAILO : Pu Dy. Speaker, we will do whatever  
CHIEF MINISTER is necessary.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Question No.2, Pu C.L.Ruala's question.

\*Speech not corrected.

\*PU C.L.RUALA : Pu Dy. Speaker, Will the hon'ble  
Minister-in-charge Animal Husbandry  
Department be pleased to state -

Is it a fact that one Chilling Plant had been  
purchased by the Government of Mizoram at the  
expenditure of Rs. 41,350/- and the same was  
installed at Zemabawk ?

PU P.B.ROSANGA :  
MINISTER, i/c. A.H.etc. Deptt.: Pu Dy. Speaker, 'Yes'

\*PU C.L.RUALA : Pu Dy. Speaker, supplementary question -  
Is it a fact that Chilling Plant purchased  
from New Delhi - 6, India was old machinery which cannot  
function ?

PU P.B.ROSANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, the Chilling Plant was  
MINISTER purchased in March, 1974. But as it was to  
be generated by electric power, power  
supply could be obtained only lately on 16 January, 1978.  
Perhaps the Plant has been damaged for being laid un-used for  
a long time. Nevertheless, it was a new Plant when it was  
purchased.

\*PU C.L.RUALA : Pu Dy. Speaker, our Public Accounts  
Committee Members also have had spot  
verification of this Plant and they strongly believed that  
it was an old one. Is it a fact that another two chilling  
plants were purchased for Rs. 1,36,300/- to cover up the  
previous corruptive purchase and that they were installed  
again at Zemabawk ?

PU P.B.ROSANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, I think our question does  
MINISTER not concern much about purchase of new  
Chilling Plants. The amount spent for  
purchase of Chilling Plant and the place where it was installed  
were asked specifically for the reply of which a specific  
answer was already given. I therefore have no information  
to give to the question raised by our Hon'ble Member.

\*PU S.VADYU : Pu Dy. Speaker, is it a fact that  
Chilling Plant claimed to have been  
purchased for Rs. 41,350/- was an old one purchased from an  
individual at the cost of Rs. 7,000/- ?

PU P.B.ROSANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, as stated earlier, the  
MINISTER Plant was purchased in 1974 and it must  
have been a new one when the buyers  
purchased at this time. As stated by our hon'ble Member, it  
seems that the matter had been referred to the P.A.C. and

\*Speech not corrected.

the P.A.C. also have had spot verification. I think it is therefore better to depend on the findings of the P.A.C.

\*PU HIPHEI : Pu Dy. Speaker, it seems that there are more than one Chilling Plant at Zemabawk. How many Chilling Plants are installed at Zemabawk ?

PU P.B.ROSANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, I thought it must be  
MINISTER one Chilling Plant.

(PU HIPHEI : How many machines are there ? So far as I know, there is only one machine).

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now question No.3.

\*PU C.L.RUALA : Pu Dy. Speaker, Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge A.H.& Vety. Department be pleased to state -

Is it a fact that the Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary had purchased a private building at Kawlkulh with an expenditure of Rs. 3,000/- against Rs. 10,000/- expenditure shown by the Department for construction of Rural Animal Health Centre at Kawlkulh ?

PU P.B.ROSANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, 'No'.  
MINISTER.

\*PU C.L.RUALA : Pu Dy. Speaker, supplementary question - If no such building was purchased, is there any building constructed at Kawlkulh with Rs. 10,000/- sanctioned ?

PU P.B.ROSANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, in 1977-78, the A.H.& Vety. Department issued tender for construction of Rural Animal Health Centre Building at Kawlkulh for Rs. 10,000/-

\*PU C.L.RUALA : Pu Dy. Speaker, was Pu Thanchuma's building purchased for Rs. 3,000/- after the construction of a building spending Rs. 10,000/- ? Is it a fact that the Department has not received any approval from the Government as the fund was used against Financial rule ?

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\*Speech not corrected.

PU P.B. ROSANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, Government made no purchase from Pu Thanchhuma. In Vety MINISTER, Tender No. Vety/CW-5/77-78, work order was given to an individual. The contractor completed the construction for Rs. 10,000/- as incurred.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there is no more supplementary question, we will proceed to our Business No. 2, which is Private Resolution. It is likely that we shall have ample time for discussion as there is only one Private Resolution.

Now, Pu Ellis Saidenga may move his Resolution.

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, I, first of all, would like to thank the House for allowing me to move my resolution which is -

"This Assembly is of the opinion that in view of scarcity of water in Mizoram during dry season, and a conspicuous absence of storage facilities loans for construction of private water reservoirs be given by the Government".

Water, as we may be aware is one of the most essential daily basic needs for human's living. Being aware of this, Government spending lots of money used to supply water freely to the people. When I consider the yearly expenditure incurred for water supply, I have often thought as to how the people get better water supply. From this thought have sprang up my resolution. Due to absence of storage facilities, rain water received profusely during rainy season flow away into earth's interior and when dry season comes, scarcity of water prevails causing serious problem. I therefore believe that loan given to the people for construction of their own water-reservoir will be of much help to them as well as to the Government. If Rs. 4,000/- or Rs. 5,000/- is given to each household, I think it is possible to construct water-storage for use during dry season. I believe that this will solve much of our water problem besides reducing yearly expenditure for water supply. Perhaps it is difficult to cut-down the expenditure at once but if effort is made in this way, it may no more be necessary to have emergency water supply after 2/3 years, besides this will mean one way to make profit for the Government as the money given to the people is loan. I therefore request all our members to accept and pass my resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since the resolution had been moved, we will now have discussion. However, we should try to avoid making points which are not relevant to our subject. Now, members may speak up.

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\*PU NGURCHHINA : Pu Dy. Speaker, in view of water problem we have been facing all over Mizoram, it is truly necessary to materialize this resolution. On the other hand, however, this clearly reveals the failure of P.H.E. Department. Actually, water supply had been started in Aizawl back in the year 1948. But, there has never been adequate water supply in Aizawl till the present day. During dry season, water-carrier who goes to draw water at night is usually catch up by the one who goes in the morning. Such being our difficulty, so much money had also been spent. Even when the scheme for maintenance of Aizawl water supply was implemented, there cannot be much improvement. It is stated that in Tui-khuahtlang Reservoirs only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet of water is stored. Such being our difficulty, it is truly necessary to get the Resolution materialised. On the other hand, the Resolution reveals the failure of the Ministry. However, they will go on making efforts and there will be time when they are successful even though they may be failing it at present. Before they attain success that I want to get this resolution materialised. Truly speaking, there is plenty of rain water in Mizoram but its storage is what we have to bother. When we introduce pumping system, there cannot still be enough water to meet our requirements whereas in some localities, water comes out of the pipes so profusely as if a heavy fall. Actually, we are not self-sufficient in water as we could be. However, if loan is given to the people as suggested, much of our problem due to scarcity of water will be solved. There had also been suggestions for recovery of loan allotted for construction of water Reservoir. Nevertheless, I do not intend to elaborate this side of thing, for, I believe that the Consultative Committee will consider it if there is going to be an allotment. I support this resolution and I want it to pass as we, the Members also could not get water-supply unless we asked. Only when we asked, we are given whereas Government Officials like Secretaries and other Government servants could get. I have in fact been wondering what type of Government we have in Mizoram. Whatever it may be, the reason is scarcity of water. Though private connection were given to many household, there is but no water supply. When I consider all these, I feel that we should surely pass this resolution.

\*PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, what was stated by our MINISTER hon'ble member who supports this resolution was very irrelevant to our subject as the mover made no mentioning about the failure of the Ministry in water supply. To speak of irrelevant matters and one's made up stories really degrade the members besides revealing the immaturity of us, the members. This resolution gives no hint about the failure of the Ministry in water supply or is it the intention of the mover. If we really want to dig out the deep root of Aizawl water supply, ordinary persons who could have common sense will very well know about it. It seems that our hon'ble member who had just spoken knows well about Aizawl water supply and he even said that it was started back in the year 1948. But the fact is that water supply was started since the time of British period and pipe line work was done only for Government employees.

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\*Speech not corrected.

But when Mizoram gained U.T. status in 1972, there arose necessity to entertain State visitors and persons who have higher political and administrative status than those entertained at District level besides having high ranking officials like Secretaries and Assembly Members to work whole day and night for the public and it is understood that they are not expected to carry water as they are expected to be full time workers. As such, the previous Government made arrangement for them to get water supply. But truly speaking there has not been water supply scheme for the public at large. It seems that this matter of fact is often misunderstood even in Aizawl. It may be noted that since the time of the previous Ministry till the present day, Mizoram have never had water supply scheme which covers the whole lot of growing population. But 'augmentation scheme' we have been processing however covers the public at large not only Government employees which has not yet failed as alleged. The date for its completion has not arrived. If we want to make allegations against the Government, we, the representatives of the people should avoid making wrong allegations and our allegations should also be based on truth and facts so that there may be better co-operation between us. As I have stated in my Budget speech, the Government is in need of constructive criticism and co-operation at all time and the same will be required by Governments that will be formed later. It is understood that the Government, which ever of the parties may formed it, will surely attend the needs of the public even in regard to water supply. However, we may be aware that Government, in the course of their activities is confronted by various problems which crops up beyond their control and it is to tackle with such problems that our members are requested to make suggestion and constructive criticism which in turn we will gladly accept. Moreover, it should not be the intention of this august House to twist the resolution beyond its real motive. The resolution itself is appreciating and I am glad that it had been moved in the House. Most of the fund allotted for various loans is usually at the disposal of Local Administration Department but some Departments have also operated. Regarding execution of loans, I think the Minister-in-charge will make a speech later. I believe that if we can pass and get the resolution materialised, it will be a great salvation for the people before the P.H.E. can supply sufficient water to the public. I therefore support this resolution.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Dy. Speaker, I am glad that our hon'ble member moved a good and simple resolution. However, when I carefully go through the details of it, I found it to be a little perplexing. As there is no other resolution besides this, I request the House to allow me to take time in my speech. Our Hon'ble Minister said that the P.H.E. has not failed in its task which I didn't deny. But it is only that the P.H.E. cannot supply enough water to meet the requirements of the public, which the mover of this resolution has also been well aware of. May be being aware of this, the mover moved this resolution. In his resolution, however, (PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : I didn't move this resolution to disgrace the Government, for, I know that Government is making strenuous efforts and they will go on making it). I did not say it to disgrace the Government instead I simply stated what is there in the

\*Speech not corrected.

resolution. If the resolution is materialised, it means that Government is going to make water storage for each household. It will be very pleasing if the Government have fund ready on hand and we should immediately get this resolution materialised.

It is however, inevitably necessary to speak of our own constituency. My constituency situated on the bank of a river has almost no clean water to use during rainy season as all the water gets turbid. The people are therefore much in need of pure water. It seems however, that the mover of the resolution and our Hon'ble Ministers speak about only towns as there is no mentioning of places and areas where water supply should be started. As such there may be difficulty in the execution of this resolution even if it is passed and get materialised, because the people of Villages will also expect the same. Government will therefore do well in naming specifically places and areas where water supply will be initiated after which only should we pass this resolution. Otherwise, the resolution will only cause confusion. I think we should be particular in moving resolution whatever it is for, the more the resolution is detail the easier to execute. Actually, it is meaningless to pass this resolution as it stands now. To pass it without making amendment such as naming specific towns where to start water-supply, will be quite meaningless. However, the resolution itself which aims to improve water supply is appreciating and I support it. But it is a bit simple that there will be difficulty in the time of its execution. I therefore would like to request the mover to prepare it in more detail. As often stated, it is we, the representatives of the people who used to get blame when things gone wrong. I therefore suggest that the resolution be made more detail before we pass it.

\*PU HIPHEI : Pu Dy. Speaker, as the resolution is for the welfare of the people, we should accept whatever is good for the welfare of the people. Before I speak about resolution, I want to say something. There are things like customs, mode of behaviour, standard of living etc. which are good for adoption or imitation whereas there are others which are not. For example - If we do not want to imitate other countries for wearing long-pant, we may have to go without wearing long-pant now. We should therefore adopt/imitate what is good. Similarly, we, the members have great freedom in the House and whatever we say here cannot be questioned in any court of law and such is how much freedom we have. But, our Ministers from the Treasury Bench have always stood up while we say something that pricked them. As is done in other States, Ministers from the Treasury Bench should be called only after the members have said all that which they want to say. They are to speak to make conclusion speech. If there is anything to pass, we shall pass. But, when the Ministers from Treasury Bench often speak up their ideas and opinions while we speak, our minds are distracted. I think we should therefore conduct the House as it is done in other States. Only after we, the members finished speeches, Ministers from the Treasury Bench should stand up to speak.

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\*Speech not corrected.



Though I appreciate the resolution, there is something I do not understand. The mover said that the expenditure for water supply during dry season is too high. If we are going to make loan available to reduce high expenditure I do not think the village people will get any loan and even if they are given where will they get water storage? Having thatched roof, water cannot get accumulated even during rainy season besides rain water is not good for storage. As such, we can presume that for many villages, loan will have no real value.

Our Minister said that 40 (forty) TMB vehicles are requisitioned to distribute water daily at the rate of Rs. 36,000/- per day which means the monthly expenditure amounted Rs. 10,80,000/-. Such is how the Government spent money for the people. In a way it is a shame to depend solely on the Government for food, water and other essential commodities. Nevertheless, when Government operate water supply, the people benefited by it are those living in towns and probably the people of Saiha at furthestmost. Under the present system, not a single rupee out of Rs. 36,000/- spent daily for water supply, has entered into Tuipang constituency, for example, the reason why there are no vehicles to supply water may be that there is no truckable road. Actually, none of the thing suggested here is beneficial to the persons living in rural areas. As such, will the Government find the way to make loan money available as widely as possible to cover even rural areas? Even if we pass this resolution, may be only the people living towns will get benefit, for, in villages there will be no water to store in their storage. Rain water collected from thatched-roof is also not tasty as there are only few who can afford to have corrugated iron roof. Though I have no proposal to make as to how Government will take action for the improvement of water supply, I do but notice that the present system is beneficial only to the people living in towns. Even if we pass this resolution we should find the way to get the villages benefited. Generally, speaking Mizoram as a whole gets plenty of water during rainy season and scarcely enough water during dry season. In fact, many springs get dry during dry season and there could be no time for other works for a mother who sits whole day by the side of the spring waiting for her turn to get water. One of the reasons for continuous famine in Mizoram may be because of water problem as much time is required to draw even a bucket-full of water preventing many persons from concentrating their labour on their jhums. If Government could find the way to make loan available also to the people of villages I think we inevitably pass this resolution. However, even if this resolution is passed, I think water-supply operated these days should not be stopped abruptly. Loan money and water supply should go side by side so that the people of villages may also get benefited by what we aim to do otherwise there will be too much difference of advantages between the people of rural and town areas.

Thank you.

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\*Speech not corrected.

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PI L.THANMAWII : Pu Dy. Speaker, I feel that there is nothing to confuse about in this resolution though our hon'ble member seemed to get confused regarding its implementation. I have in fact found this resolution to be very clear and smooth. The wording 'scarcity of water in Mizoram in dry season' does not concern with only Aizawl town, it covers the whole of Mizoram. As such, there is nothing to complain about. It does not either expose the failure of the Government though scarcity of water is one of our major problems. It is to tackle this problem that Government made earnest efforts not only in towns but also in villages. In fact, survey had also been launched at various places for construction of water well where there has never been any of that kind. It may be noted that there are things which can be applied to the place of our living and surrounding whereas there are others which cannot be applied. Whatever it may be, it is still recommending to have water storage only in towns as there is pipe-line system applicable to villages and in fact, construction of pipe-line in villages is being considered. Nothing is better than having many water storage in towns like Aizawl, Lunglei, Champhai etc. Hence, materialisation of this resolution is thing of the must and there is nothing to criticize about as it is for our own good. We should however remember that it is not possible to do all the necessaries at once. Government will make a scheme according to which action will be taken. As such, there is not much to say regarding the implementation of our resolution and it is also not necessary to make amendment.

Truely speaking, most of the churches in villages are roofed with corrugated iron sheet very convenient for collecting rain water and we may as well construct Public Reservoir in such places. I did not doubt that there will be no pure water for drinking purposed in villages situated near river in western part of Mizoram during rainy season. However, if water reservoir is constructed near the church from the roof of which will they collect water, I think they will have water pure enough for drinking purposes alone. I therefore believe that this resolution is good enough from both angles.

PU C.WULLUAIA : Pu Dy. Speaker, our resolution must be good enough for I too support it. We like it so much that we almost have twisted it all wrong. In fact, our members have already stated what I want to say.

When I carefully go through the resolution, the aim and motive of the mover is clear enough, as he simply requested the Government to make loan available for construction of water storage because of scarcity of water problem we have been facing all over Mizoram. I believe this resolution covers even Tuipang and Kawrtethawveng not only Aizawl, Lunglei or Champhai. It is obvious that the resolution aims to improve water supply for all the people of Mizoram. One thing I want to say is that one should remove the thought of constructing storage while one gets the source of water only from thatched roof. It is clear enough that storage is meant for storing water during dry season. As regards the source of water from where one will draw water and how would one accumulates water - from nearby spring and stream will they draw

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water by pipe-line and would finally accumulate in the storages. Besides private storages, I desire that public storages be constructed at convenient sites in various places and community leaders look after the storages and distribute water to the people in times of scarcity of water. If necessary, they may also charge 25 paise or 10 paise for a bucket of water and use the money collected for their community. My thought, in fact, dwell on this. As the resolution is so good we should really pass it. If we pass, I think we should let the Department concerned start the execution work at once. I strongly support this resolution and we should definitely pass it.

**PU SAINGHAKA :** Pu Dy. Speaker, I thought the Government have made much effort so as not to require to pass this resolution. I do not know whether it was rumour that last year I heard the people talked about the intention of the Government to distribute loan. In his Budget speech, our Finance Minister had also mentioned the commitment of the Government to improve water supply according to the requirement of the people. As such, I found nothing to object in this resolution. The urgency of getting this resolution materialised seems to be due to in-adequacy of water supply. Usually, one vehicle could have two trips a day carrying about 1000 gallons of water per trip. If there are 10 vehicles, it means that Mizawl town where the population is above 50,000 thousand can have 30,000 gallons of water in a day which hardly suffice for the requirements of the people as there are still many localities which water supply has never reached in spite of having 10 vehicles to supply water. What had been stated by some of our members regarding in-adequacy of water supply by pipe-lines was also a fact. It seems that in some areas, there is enough water not only for drinking/cooking purposes but also for watering flowers whereas in some localities, there is no water supply even for drinking purposes. I strongly believe that loan given to the people for construction of their own water storage will be much relief to our water problem. I think we all know various difficulties faced by Mizoram due to scarcity of water. I think I am not wrong to say that water is a nature's gift which every part of the world regarded as one requires. I therefore truly appreciate this resolution and I want the Government to start the execution work as soon as it get passed.

Construction of water storages in villages stated by one of our members was once started in some villages during the earstwhile District Council. They were constructed from development fund and they were, in fact, very useful. Even if they cannot be connected with this resolution, I take it for granted that the P.H.E. will construct storages for villages without wholly concentrating on pipe-line system. I feel that we should pass this resolution.

**PU C.L.RUALA :** Pu Dy. Speaker, I do not particularly dislike this resolution. But, I think its implementation should be carefully considered. If loan is distributed as suggested here, which Department will be made in-charge? If P.H.E. Department is made in-charge of loan distribution, they may have to divert money from their

normal budget. It is needless to say many difficulties involved in the distribution of loan. In the case of Housing loan, persons living in towns who already have dwelling house also want to get loan not to speak of persons who do not have dwelling house. As regards distribution of loan stated in the resolution - I believe there will be many applicants as it concerns not only towns people but also villagers. It is likely that there will be much difficulty in its implementation as there seemed to be more persons without water storage than persons who have house. I think we should take great care in this regard. If the resolution is passed and get started right away our normal budget may be jeopardised as it had been already prepared and is, in fact, to be passed only after a day or two. Nevertheless, let us believe that our Government will know how to tackle the matter. Is it also not possible to pursue plan and programme already chalked out by the Government without having to get this resolution passed? If works connected with this resolution cannot be started without getting this resolution passed, we may as well pass it.

What I want to say is that if loan can be given to the people for construction of water storages, persons who have private connection may not be given, for, it appears that we are going to have better water supply as stated by our Hon'ble Minister. I think it is better to make it available for villages where water storage is really needed. As may be aware, too much time and labour have been wasted for drawing water even during the current dry season alone. It is therefore necessary to make fund available to people living in places where Government made no arrangement for supply of water, otherwise, it is the people living in towns again who will expect to get this kind of loan when we actually implement the scheme. If we are not careful in the implementation of this resolution, places which P.M.E. water scheme have not covered for the last 10 years or so will remain dry and barren. Actually, it is the villagers who work harder than the people living in town and in fact, their requirement is greater than ours in view of heavy burden of works they have to do. I want the Minister concerned to note this that loan for construction of water storages may be made available to the people of villages who have not received any other kinds of loans widely distributed by the Government to many persons particularly living in towns.

PI K.THANSLAMI : Pu Dy. Speaker, I think our resolution is good enough, for, none of the members seemed to have objection. It appears that we all appreciate it.

What was stated by one of the members who had spoken before me regarding the difficulty of accumulating water in villages due to non-availability of houses roofed with corrugated iron sheet, may be true to some extent. But, in such cases, more fund may be allotted instead of giving small amount which has to be added by one's own money to construct ordinary storage that will last them all through the dry season. If water from nearby stream or river is not drawn by pipe-line, it is possible to collect water from the roof of church which is usually roofed with corrugated iron sheet even in villages. As stated, there is hardly any village

in Mizoram where there is not even one house roofed with corrugated iron sheet. I think, in fact, there is no village where there is not a single house roofed with corrugated iron sheet. Even if there is any village, loan will be made useful. It appears that we give due importance to villages regarding distribution of loan suggested here. As stated, actually it is the villages who labour harder than the people living in towns. They have to work in jhums the whole day hardly having time to carry water. We often said that persons from villages are bad smelling. But the real reason for being smelling must be due to non-availability of enough water for washing, bathing etc.

PU K. BLAKCHUNGNUNGA: Pu Dy. Speaker, the objective of our resolution is good. But, it seems that the Government have yet to work out the detail of works involved for its implementation, As our requirement for better water supply is so immense Government make scheme every now and then for water supply and some of the schemes are meant for longer period. Besides being difficulty, it may not be wise to give loan to all the people living in Aizawl town. But if a number of families could have storages, it will be a relief. It will therefore be wise to make fund available also to the people living in Aizawl town. Some of the members have almost compared Aizawl with the villages. May be our requirement is as great as that of any other person but I think we are aware of the nature of difficulty found in Aizawl town. In villages particularly which has small number of population, there is always some means of getting water from the stream, in fact, villages with small population could easily have enough water. Besides, the Government have sanctioned money for construction of water-well and it is also obvious that they have intended to solve water problem of the villages. Let us therefore place it in the hands of the Government to select places or areas where priority should be given in the allotment of loan. I do not deny the grievances of villages due to scarcity of water, but we may have many points if we also mention the difficulties of Aizawl town. In villages, streams and fountains are usually found at the outskirts of the village or in areas nearby. But in Aizawl, streams and brooks found are so far away that there is hardly a way to draw water from there. As such, the necessity of giving loan to the people living in Aizawl town may be as necessary as giving it to the people of villages. However, if all the people cannot be given, it is still recommendable to give to even fewer number of people as this will also mean one way to relieve masses of people. At Chhinga Veng locality in Aizawl, there is water-hole that has water all through the year. Persons who have no storages can easily draw water from here. As we know, rain is one source of blessings as those who have water storages can give chance of drawing water from water-hole to persons who do not have storages. I therefore really appreciate this resolution, for, I know that it is truly necessary to make loan available to places where it is needed.

As for small village having small population - I support suggestion made by one of our members for construction of big water tank or storage for all to use. In fact, it may be better to construct one big storage instead of making small fund available to each household, as this will

provide one source of income for their community . I truly desire to get this resolution passed as I hope that it will be one way to provide our immediate need while at the same time Government make efforts for further improvement.

One thing I like to say next is what the Department concerned should do when the resolution is materialised and loan is given to the people. I feel that sites for construction of water storages should be carefully selected. Otherwise if we have water storages constructed at any site or place we like, we may cause landslide and inconveniencies to many houses as most of our houses are situated on the hill slope. I therefore desire that the Department concerned select suitable sites for construction of storages. When loan is distributed we should as well provide fund under this loan for construction of water drainages as water flowing scatterly can easily cause landslide. It will be appreciating if we can do all these.

Thank you.

**PU ZAIREMTHANGA :** MINISTER Pu Dy. Speaker, the aim and objective of this resolution is clear enough. It resolves to relieve our water problem. As partly stated by our Finance Minister as well as some of our members, requirement of loan for construction of only water storages is not much. As the scheme is from urban development, it is inevitably urban people who are to get benefited. While at the same time I mention this loan, let me also mention the nature of Housing loan as we always get confused. Under Housing loans Rural Housing is meant for the people of rural areas and the fund sanctioned under this are spent for purchase of roofing materials which are then distributed to the people of rural areas. It is not distributed in cash. What we call 'loan' on the other hand is urban housing loan. Many people including some of our hon'ble members have pressurised Revenue Department to declare some villages as town to enable settlement of house-sites. It seems that Housing loan is expected for those villages. But if they are not from urban areas, it is difficult to include them under Housing loan scheme. In the 6th Plan, there is loan for Septic Tank. But, as there cannot be septic tank without water we call it Septic and Water Tank Loan. As it is from urban development scheme, the people living in urban areas are the ones who will get benefited.

In the case of our resolution, it is simply water tank loan. It is from urban development, it will be possible to augment our scheme already made and the fund sanctioned under it will be utilized in the urban areas. However, if we want this loan covers both rural and urban areas, we will have to take up the matter to Central Government to get the head - Rural Area Water Supply. But, it seems that there is quite a lot of fund amounting to Rs. 1,18,73,000/- for Rural Pipe Water Supply under P.E.E. Department. As such, most of the areas where we want priority to be given will cover by this Rural Pipe Water Supply and it is not likely that sanction of fund for this will end. In fact, I believe that there will be provision of fund for this every year. Anyway, it is good that our member moved this resolution as it is what we need.

...15/-

As I have said, wherever loan is given, it is still necessary to pursue schemes already formulated in regard to water supply as it is going to be difficult to make scheme large enough so as to cover each and every person. Whatever efforts have been made or are to be made I still desire to get this resolution passed.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Eleven (11) members have spoken but it seems that none of them has objection to pass this resolution. As we all seemed desire to get this resolution passed I think there is no more members who want to speak in this regard. Members who agree to pass this resolution -

"This Assembly is of the opinion that in view of scarcity of water in Mizoram during dry season and a conspicuous absence of storage facilities, loan for construction of private water reservoirs be given by the Government"

may raise your hands and say 'agree'. (Members agreed). As there is no member who objects to pass this resolution, the House have now passed this resolution. We have finished today's business. I want to remind you that sitting will be resumed tomorrow at 10:30 A.M. and members may try to reach the House at 10:00 A.M.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

J. Malsawma,  
Secretary,  
Legislative Assembly.

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