

DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle?
who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that
worketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness
and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that
backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doth
evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a re-
proach against his neighbour. In whose eyes
a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth
them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth
to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that
putteth not his money to usury, nor taketh
reward against the innocent. He that doeth
these things never shall be moved.

Psalm : 15

We shall now go into our Business, I think every Member has a copy of the Business List. We shall first take up the questions, the questioner will first make a supplementary question, and after that 4 other questions will be allowed. We shall call on Pu Ngurchhina to ask his first question.

CO-OPERATION DEPARTMENT

Pu Ngurchhina to ask :-

1. Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Co-operation Department be pleased to state -

the figures on the balance sheet of the Mizoram Super Market as it stood on 31st. December, 1980.

2. Whether these figures include pay and allowances of Officers and staff employed in the Super Market and the House rent.

DEPUTY SPEAKER:

We shall request the Hon'ble Minister i/c of the Department to reply.

PU F.MALSAWMA,
MINISTER.

1. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Balance Sheet of Co-operative Institutions are drawn up after Co-operative year ending on 30th. June each year. The Balance Sheet of the particular year is prepared during the following Co-operative year after completion of the audit. Hence no figure on the Balance Sheet of the Mizoram Co-operative Super Market Ltd. as it stood on 31st. 12. 1980 is available. The figures on the Balance Sheet of the Mizoram Co-operative Super Market Ltd. at the Co-operative year ending 30.6.80 was Rs.2,981,524.00/-
2. (1) The total expenditure on pay and allowances of the staff during the Co-operation year 1979-80 i.e 1.7.79 to 30.6.80 is Rs.164,959.81/-
.....5/-

- (11) The figures on the Balance Sheet of the Mizoram Co-operative Super Market Ltd. at the Co-operative year ending 30.6.81 given above includes pay and allowances of officers and staff employed in the Super Market and all other establishment expenditure including House rent.

PU NGURCHHINA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I think my question has not been answered to the point. I would like to know if there is any profit and also whether the account is closed annually instead of monthly?

PU F. MALSAWMA,
MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, there have been some amount of loss right from the start. But there have been some profit since 1979. However, I do not know about the monthly Balance Sheet.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: If there are no other supplementary question, we shall take up Pu L lupa's questi

APPOINTMENT 'A' DEPARTMENT

PU LALUPA: Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Appointment 'A' Department be pleased to state -

- (a) whether or not there is an intention on the part of the Government to conduct Account Training and Administrative Training Courses within Mizoram?
- (b) If yes, when will the Training be opened?
- (c) If not, why not?

DRIG. THENPHUNGA SAILO,
CHIEF MINISTER.

Qa) There is no intention to conduct cash & Account Training Courses within Mizoram at present although there is a proposal to conduct other Training Course in Mizoram. In fact recently a course was conducted for A.O (NG) which has proved quite successful.

- (b) & (c) Courses in Cash and Account Training cannot be conducted in Mizoram for want of experts locally. Other training course will be conducted at convenient time, in future.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER:

If there are no other supplementary questions, we shall take up Pu K.Lalsanga's question.

HOME DEPARTMENT

PU K.LALSANGA:

Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Home Department be pleased to state -

1. Whether Government intends to give better treatment to Ex-Servicemen of Mizoram by means of giving relaxation of education qualifications for employment and giving colony etc.

MR.IG.THENPHUNGA SAILO,
CHIEF MINISTER:

Yes, Government has given relaxation in educational qualification as follows -

- (a) Army special certificate equivalent to matriculate H.S.L.C.
- (b) Army 1st. Class certificate equivalent to Class VIII.
- (c) Army Second Class certificate equivalent to Class VI
- (d) Army 3rd. Class certificate equivalent to Class IV.

A proposal for treatment of Army 1st. Class certificate holder with 15 years of service ~~presently~~ as equivalent to matriculate is presently under the consideration of Government. A proposal for establishment of a colony for Ex-servicemen at Hnahthial and at Kolasib-Bairabi Road are under consideration of Government.

PU K.LALSANGA:

Is there any idea to create District Soldier Board in and for all Districts in Mizoram?

MR.IG.THENPHUNGA SAILO
CHIEF MINISTER.

Pu Deputy Speaker, at present we have Mizoram Rajya Evan-zila Sainik Board at Aizawl and zila-sainik Board at Lunglei. A proposal for setting up zila Sainik Board at Chhimituipui Districts Saiba had been submitted to Government of India in July 1979 and the proposal is under consideration of Government of India.7/-

PU K. LALSANGA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am glad to know that the Government of India is doing what it can for the qualification relaxation of ex-servicemen, and also for the endeavour to create a colony for them. Also, along with the endeavours to set up District Soldier Board at Chhimpupui, it would be most appreciated if a District Soldier Board is set up in Aizawl District. From my own source of knowledge, I believe that the administration of the whole of District Soldier Board is rather heavy. Is the Government aware of these hardships? Does the Government consider it unnecessary to create a District Board in Aizawl?

BRIG. THENPHUNGA SAILOM
CHIEF MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is true that the present Soldier Board in Aizawl is not fully satisfactory. The Officer incharge has retired and we are seeking for a competent Mizo Officer of Major rank. Inquiring is being made in the Defence Ministry. And as the Office is not ~~very~~ a very large one we hope that it will suffice. As such, we also do not think it is necessary to set up a separate Board for Aizawl District, however, we are prepared to consider the matter if the need arises.

PU NGURCHHINA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in answer to the supplementary question, the Hon'ble Minister in-charge of the Department pointed out the equivalence of Army Special Class, 1st. Class etc. as relaxation. Can this be accepted as Relaxation? Secondly, what type of Colonies are to be built for these Ex-servicemen? Is it for their Rehabilitation?

BIG. THENPHUNGA SAILO,
CHIEF MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the equivalence that I have mentioned is a Relaxation. The special Certificate are of very high standard but ~~they~~ they were not recognised for a very long time in the civil administration, but after much efforts it has been accepted, and that is a Relaxation. The Colony is meant for whatever suitable business with which the ex-servicemen can occupy themselves, whatever ~~it~~ it be agriculture or some other means of livelihood.

DEPUTY SEAKER:

If there are no more questions we shall take up the next question, Pu Lalthanzauva to ask.8/-

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SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

PU LALTHANZAUVA: Will. the Hon'ble Minister i/c Supply & Transport Department be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government of Mizoram intends to stock sufficient quantity of foodstuff for the year 1981 for the people of Mizoram?
- (b) what are the total quantities of foodstuff brought into Mizoram since the beginning of this year, 1981?

PU ZAIREMTHANGA, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the answer to the first
MINISTER. question is 'yes'. And the second question is that the total quantities of foodstuff brought to Mizoram since the beginning of this year, 1981 upto 20th. February, 1981 is 22851.08 qtls.

PU LALTHANZAUVA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this concerns only rice. I would like to know the amount of oil and sugar brought in. I would also like to know when we can receive our quotas in full?

PU ZAIREMTHANGA, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not know the
MINISTER. exact quantity of oil and sugar as it was not included in the original question. The usual quota will be given out when there is ample stock of rice.

PU SAINGHKA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister stated that the amount of rice upto 20th. February, 1981 is 22851 qtls. where as the allotment from the Government is 121400 qtls. for January and February. This shows that we lag behind in transportation. Can the Government try a speedier way of lifting our allotment?

PU ZAIREMTHANGA, Mr. Deputy Speaker, our allotment for
MINISTER. the month of January and February were about 121400 qtls. but only some have been brought to Mizoram. However, the Government is doing its best for better means of transportation.

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PU JOE NGURDAWLA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are now in the month of March and as it has been pointed out the amount of rice needed is a large amount. Even now there are reports of food scarcity in the rural areas and if it goes on like this we are sure to face great hardship in the monsoon seasons. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister whether the food corporation of India have sent our required amount of rice, or ~~the~~ whether the Government of Mizoram has difficulties in bringing in the rice to Mizoram? If the required amount has not been supplied, is there any intention of urging the Centre to do so?

PU ZAIREMTHANGA,
MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, some of the allotment have not reached Silchar. We have not been able to lift all the ones that have reached Silchar. The Government is doing its best to see that the Contractors brings it as soon as they can. We have also endeavoured and done our best in urging the Centre for better supply of foodstuff and essential commodities. There has also been a Committee with the Railway Board Chairman at Shillong and also with leaders of the F.C.I at Gauhati and enquiries were made on the spot. It is arranged to bring in as much foodstuff as required before the monsoon set in.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall now take up questions of Pu J.H. Rothuama and Pu C.L. Ruala. Pu J.H. Rothuama to ask.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION AND TOWN PLANNING & HOUSING
DEPARTMENT.

PU J.H. ROTHUAMA: Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c LAMP & H Department be pleased to state -

- (a) whether or not Government intends to hold election to the Village Council in Aizawl and Lunglei Districts, within this year, that is 1981?
- (b) If yes, which will be the approximate time?
- (c) If not, what are the difficulties?

PU ZAIREMTHANGA,
MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the answer to the first question (a) is 'yes, at the earliest convenience'

- (b) not yet decided.
- (c) Does not arise.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER: If there are no supplementary questions, we shall take up Pu Sainghaka's question.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

PU SAINGHAKA: Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Community Development be pleased to state -

- (a) The total quantity of rice sanctioned by the Government of India for Mizoram under 'Food for work' scheme in 1979 to 1980 and 1980 to 1981.
- (b) Whether these sanctions have been fully utilised?

PU P.B.ROSANGA, MINISTER. (a) Total quantity allotted under Food for work programme is as follows :-

1979-1980: Total allotment - 1000 M.T
1980-1981: " " - 1550 M.T
and cash of Rs.5.00 lakhs

- (b) Out of the total allotment of 1000 M.T of rice 500 M.T for 1979-80 was released by the Food Corporation of India. Out of that 2283.76 qtls. were released and fully utilised. Total balance un-utilised from 1979-80 allotment for 1980-81 is released by the Food Corporation of India. We are in correspondence with the F.C.I to issue the entire amount of balance rice not yet issued and the schemes are ready for implementation as soon as rice is made available by F.C.I.

PU SAINGHAKA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, out of the 1000 M.T for 1979-80, 500 M.T was released and 229 M.T were utilised. This means that the 1550 M.T for 1980-81 has not been touched at all. Why is it that the sanction for 1979-80 released by the F.C.I is still not utilised. Is it because of the Government of Mizoram can not lift it?

PU P.B.ROSANGA, MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is because they do not have the rice to give as allotted.

PU SAINGHAKA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is understood that food for work has been allotted for work in various departments. In the Agriculture Department also there are 500 qtls. of un-released rice.

In the Veterinary Department there are also quantities amounting to almost Rs.10000/- which have already been committed by the Government, but which has not been released till today. According to the Committee minutes of

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February 7th, 1981, there have been distributions of Food for work in some areas. Why is it that the commitments of the Government have not been included among these?

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Speaker, the F.C.I cannot supply our required allotment. They cannot fully meet the needs of the Supply Department.

Out of the 500 M.T only 229 M.T were released in the Food for work scheme. That is why we cannot fulfill the commitments in the various departments. The recent scarcity areas have also been given sanction verbally, but the foodstuff has not yet been able to be supplied.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister stated that 500 M.T has been released. But the quantity which been utilise in Mizoram

is only 229 M.T, where have the rest been sold?

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, as the Hon'ble Minister i/c Supply has stated, what has been released by the F.C.I in words have not

all reached silchar. We have therefore not received the full amount.

PU S.VAMMU :

Mr. Deputy Speaker, a supplementary question. In the past year, Lunglei and Chhimitupui Districts were not given any from this

scheme. What are the District wise allocation for the utilisation of the 229 M.T for 1979-80? How is the balance intended to be utilised? Besides these, what are the plans for utilising the allotment for the year 1980-81? Does it include the whole of Mizoram?

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the transport cost was not sanctioned initially in the Food for work scheme and this has made

it difficult for the Government to supply it to very remote areas where there are no good means of transport. Distribution was therefore done in the areas, along the main highway. I regret to say that I can not tell how the various Department are going to utilise it. However, a committee is being arrange for this purpose. An exclusive arrangement for the whole of Mizoram is being prepared now.

According to the guide lines given by the Centre, the daily labour wage allotment is 3 Kgs. per head. That alone is also a difficulty in itself. The main problem lies on

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the difficulty of transportation. The plan fund sanction for 1980-81 is now quite different. A cash component of Rs.50000/- has been sanctioned along with the foodstuff. There has been a consideration of utilising this cash sanction for areas where transport is difficult and utilise the foodstuff for areas of easy transport and facility. However, a definite decision has not been made.

PU C.L.RUALA:

Mr. Speaker, the Hon'ble Minister i/c stated that there is a cash sanction of Rs.500,000/- for the year of 1980-81.

I would like to know if this has been utilise as we are now at the end of the year. Or is it meant to be utilise for the year 1981-82? And if the utilisation has not yet been decided, is the cash to be returned or is it to be utilised for the year 1981-82? It is also heard that owing to shortage of rice the Supply Department had borrowed rice from some departments under the Food for work scheme. Have these loans been repaid?

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, arrangement for the utilisation of the cash sanction for 1980-81 has been made and will be utilised

during the current financial year.

Regarding the loan of rice by the Supply Department in 1979-80, there is no classification whether the rice released by the F.C.I is for the Food for work scheme or Supply Department whatever comes is utilised by the supply Department owing to the scarcity of food. Now the F.C.I understands our position, the remaining amount to be released will come from the F.C.I and will go to the various departments.

PU JOE NGURDAWLA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is an important question. I think it is good for the members to know how the Food for work scheme is

operating. When work is done under this scheme, the F.C.I is only an agent. And if they cannot supply enough rice, I think it would be a good thing for the Government to purchase the foodstuff from some other market Silchar or from some of the village where it is available. Is it impossible to procure it from other sources?

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this Food for work scheme is a sanction of the surplus Food for work in rural areas. What the

respected member has suggested is not done under this scheme. However, a program for the upliftment of rural areas has been formed on a national level and I think you might have received the circular from the Chief Minister. This is known as the NREP (National Rural Employment Programme) This is meant for the utilisation of the Food for work scheme. As we do not have the E.G.S it is for the members good, to know the guidelines of the food scheme. Copies of the circular guide line prepared by the Mizoram

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High Committee are still available.

If there are any members who wish to give suggestions, there are also welcome."

PU SAINGHAKA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, from what the Hon'ble Minister has stated, we can know that the NREP is going to be a very important thing.

According to the answer received from the Hon'ble Minister, it seems that there is an amount of 1321 M.T of rice un-utilised for the years 1979-80 and 1980-81. Out of the 500 M.T released by the F.C.I, only 229 M.T were utilised. and it seems that the 500 M.T released recently needs to be re-validated now. It therefore seems that the sanction for the year 1980-81 has been left untouched. Therefore, with the opening of this new scheme NREP, it would be a good thing to amalgamate it with the Food for work scheme if there is enough rice.

PU P.B.ROSANGA, Mr. Deputy Speaker, with an acception of MINISTER. the commitments in various departments, the NREP will utilise the rest.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: we shall now request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to speak on the matter.

BRIG. THENPHUNGA SAILO, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am glad to have CHIEF MINISTER. this opportunity to speak as I have some important thing to say. It is a good thing to know that henceforth, the Govt. of India will be using the term NREP (National Rural Employment Programme) instead of the terms 'EGS' and 'Food for work'. We should therefore try to acquaint ourselves with the NREP.

From the guide line given by the Central Government on the NREP, the Government of Mizoram has sought means of its implementation and has prepare it in written work. And since this is a new thing, it is most important for all the MLAs and officials to study it thoroughly. If we do not understand this scheme it would bring about a lot of difficulties. If the implementation is carried out properly it would prove to be a most useful development for Mizoram. I therefore request all members and officials to co-operate in this matter, as we will soon be discussing it in a week or two when the committee is summoned.

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DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now take up question no.9-
Pu H.Rammawi to ask-

FOREST DEPARTMENT.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Forest Department be pleased to state -

- (a) Is it a fact that decoration work of Blue Mountain in Chhimtuipui District will be taken up by Mizoram Government, Forest Department?
- (b) If not, why?

PU P.B.ROSANGA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, yes, Mizoram Forest Department wants to do protection and development of Blue Mountain area. But the District Council authorities have not yet handed over the area to Government of Mizoram for taking up any work.

(b) Does not arise.

PU H.RAMMAWI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, as the Hon'ble Minister has stated, does the Government intend or want to take up the work? (Pu P.B Rosanga, Minister : Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Government intends to do it)

If it intends to do so, why is it necessary for the District Council to hand it over to the Government of Mizoram? Can not it be done without their consent? If such is the condition, how is it possible that the Mizoram Forest Department has constructed the approach road to Phawngpui, without the District Council handing it over to the Government of Mizoram? This has been done through the District Council. Cannot the same procedure be used for the decoration of Blue Mountain?

PU P.B.ROSANGA, MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the decoration and development of this ... mountain cannot be done in one sanction. The Department has to settle there and see to all the maintenance needed for the work. This can not be done unless it is handed over to the Forest Department, and the Government cannot sanction money for it. The Construction of Road which the Hon'ble Member has pointed out is quite a different thing. The road has been constructed through the District Council and it could be done in one sanction. The District Council cannot supply man power for the technical work of the decoration of the mountain. It could be done if the District Council takes over staff on deputation. Otherwise, it is not possible.

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PU S.VADYU: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the estimated amount for the construction of the approach road of Blue Mountain was more than one lakh whereas only Rs.30,000/- was sanctioned. What is the meaning of engaging workers without giving them their due wages? Could not the District Council be given technical advice by the Government of Mizoram for the work of the Blue Mountain development through the Forest Department. Besides this, the approach road would need maintenance and would do well if the District Council Forest Department could be given technical hand by the Government of Mizoram.

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Hon'ble member must have been mistaken about the said sanction of Rupees one lakh for the construction of the Blue Mountain approach road. However, grant has been given by the Forest Department in accordance with the measurements of the roads. The second suggestion of giving technical advice to the Council has not come from the District Council.

PU H.RAMMAWI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, regarding the question from the member from Saiha, it is a fact that the Director of Forest made a public speech saying that there is a sanction of Rs.100,000/- for the construction of the approach road. The public responded to this and started the work. The Forest Department also ordered the construction of the road through the Council. Towards the finishing of the construction the Director said that only Rs.35,000/- was sanctioned. However, that is not what I intend to say, the Government must have heard ~~that~~ about it, no doubt. If the construction of the approach road can be done through the District Council with the help of the Forest Department, I see no reason why the same cannot be done for the decoration work of the mountain. If not, why has the road been constructed at all?

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, in order to carry out this work, the land must be handed over to the Forest Department. The construction of the road was possible because the District Council asked the Forest Department to make a sanction.

PU C.L.RUALA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not understand the question but the Hon'ble Minister i/c seems to understand it quite well. I do not understand how the mountain is to be decorated which nothing of the sort is done to other mountains. However, I believe their intention is to preserve and develop the Blue Mountain. Does the Government intend to preserve it as a State Forest Reserve or as a Wildlife Sanctuary? Apart from these, I do not know any other way as most of the western side is covered with cliffs.

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PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not know about the geographic aspect, but a survey would certainly be required. The only steps to be taken are preservation and development. A proper plan would be needed for the purpose, but at present nothing has been done in this respect.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: Our question hour is over, but we still have three questions left. Shall we finish up there? (all Members agree)
Then we shall resume our questions and take up question No.10 which is Pu C.L.Ruala's question.

PU C.L.RUALA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, before I ask my question, I would like to know if the Blue Mountain has been proclaimed as Reserve Area?

PU P.B.ROSANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, there has been no proclamation as Reserve Area, but it is necessary to hand it over to the Forest Department for the necessary development to be done.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall now take up Pu C.L.Ruala's question no.10.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PU C.L.RUALA:

Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Public works Department be pleased to state -

- (a) whether there is any proposal for shifting the 1st. Assam Rifle's Headquarter from Mizawl to Luangmual?
- (b) If so, what is the present position?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, there was a proposal for shifting 1st. Bn. Assam Rifle's Headquarter from Mizawl to Luangmual, but the proposal was dropped and at present there is no proposal for shifting the 1st. Assam Rifle's Headquarter from Mizawl to Luangmual. However, there is a proposal to shift 1st. BN. Assam Rifle Headquarter to a suitable place other than Luangmual.

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PU C.L.RUALA: Mr. Speaker, the 1st, Assam Rifles have their Headquarters in the heart of the town of Aizawl, occupying the best place in the town. This has brought about many difficulties to the public. It has therefore been proposed to shift their Headquarters to a suitable place by the previous Ministry. However, from the statement of the Hon'ble Minister in-charge, the proposal to shift it to Luangmual has been abandoned. Although the proposal to shift is still standing, we do not know where it will be shifted. I would like to know when and where it is to be shifted.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA, MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Government has not yet decided where it is to be shifted. It is decided that a suitable place would be discussed with the Assam Rifles themselves. However, the places which the Government has pointed out are the areas around Paikha, Bangla, and the site beyond Tuirial on the Lunglai to Aizawl road. The term cannot be decided neither is the site chosen.

PU NGURCHHINA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, a supplementary question please. When were the Assam Rifles allotted their present place? We never knew that they had land anywhere. They were allowed to take wood from the Khatla reserve only because they pay royalty, and there was no such thing during the British Superintendents. I would therefore like to know when they were given this area.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA, MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Hon'ble Member's question is not exactly relevant but I would like to point out the facts. The Assam Rifles were founded before the foundation of Aizawl town. Their records show that they had been established sometime before 1880 and therefore they claimed to be founders of the Aizawl Town itself. In 1947 and 1948 when India acquired Independence, such occupied areas were naturally treated as the property of the occupants. For example, Fort William in Calcutta. The Assam Rifles are aware that they are occupying the centre of the town and it is important that we should work together with them in searching for a suitable site elsewhere.

PU C.L.RUALA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, from the light of the Hon'ble Minister's answer, I would like to ask a supplementary question. What was the reason for abandoning the proposal to shift the 1st. Bn. Assam Rifle Headquarters to Luangmual? Was it due to their refusal or because the Government of Mizoram intends to utilise the said place for some other purpose?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is an important question. It is important that the facts be known not only in this House, but in Mizoram as a whole. As we know, the previous Ministry had proposed to shift the Headquarters of the First Assam Rifles to Luangmual and a site was already allotted to them. Road & Construction was also taken up. However, this proposal was abandoned not because of the Assam Rifles refused that idea but because the Ministry considered that Luangmual would not be suitable in view of the future development of the Mizawl Town and after about 10 or 15 years we might face the same problem which we are facing now, if they are shifted there. Therefore the decision of the former Ministry was reviewed. It was decided that the shifting of the Headquarters would be in some other convenient place other than Luangmual. The facts considered by the Government are as follows:-

Since Mizoram has become a Union Territory, there were many requisites like the Assembly and Secretariat Complexes. And we do not have these, we have furnished and renovated the old Council Hall and the small office building of the Council for serving the purpose of the Assembly Hall and Council Secretariat. In comparison with our counterparts in other states, there are many Government assets to be made. Directorate Buildings, Secretariat Complex, Ministers' quarters, Senior Officers' quarters etc. All these cannot be accommodated in the town, and as we see we do not have suitable sites anywhere other than Luangmual area. On the northern side, Durtlang and Siphir are not suitable. Only the western side is suitable for these complexes. If the Assam Rifles are allotted site in Luangmual, the Government Offices and Complexes would have to be on the outskirts of the area and we would again face the same problem as we do now. The area could be extended upto Sakawrtuichhun, Tanhril and Lungverh. The Government has decided to cancel the proposed plan and plans to allot it for the construction of Government buildings. Therefore, the place for shifting the Assam Rifle Headquarters will be decided with the Assam Rifles themselves in good-will. The previous plan is therefore cancelled.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall now go to the next question. Pu Ngurchhina to ask.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

PU NGURCHHINA: Will the Hon'ble Minister i/c Education and Social welfare Department be pleased to state -

- (a) whether or not it is a fact that fees have been realised from students of 'Deficit High Schools' and 'Aided High Schools' in the form of parents' contribution.
- (b) If yes, do^{es} not the Government give grant of fee remissions to these institutions?
- (c) Does the Government make sure that fee remissions are given back to the students?

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PU F.MALSAWA,
MINISTER.

(a) Deficit and Adhoc Aided High Schools are not supposed to collect fees from students. Free-will contributions from parents or other persons, if any, are not, however, ruled out.

(b) The Government gives grants of fee remissions to these Institutions.

(c) Fee remissions are not to be paid to the students but are to be used by the Institutions to make up the loss of not realising fees from the students.

PU NGURCHHINA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, although it is supposed to be a free contributions, students are often punished and barred from appearing in exams if they do not pay the contribution, thus making it a compulsory contribution. Why is this allowed?

PU F.MALSAWA,
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Government does not know about such things. Action can be taken against such Institutions and we would be grateful to Members who can inform us such defaulters.

DEPUTY SPEAKER:

We shall take up the next question. Pu Ngurchhina's question No.12.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

PU NGURCHHINA:

Will the Hon'ble Minister, i/c Education and Social Welfare Department be pleased to state -

(a) Whether it is a fact that tuition fee have been collected from the student of Government Model School at Aizawl?

(b) If so, what is its justification?

PU F.MALSAWA,
MINISTER.

(a) Yes.

(b) The Government Model School being a special school, it is felt reasonable to collect fees from the students as Parents' liability to the school.

PU NGURCHHINA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, if that is so, does it mean that the students of this school do not enjoy the free education provided for Schedule Tribes and Schedule Castes by the Government of India?

PU F.MALSAWMA, MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is a special school and it is a special case.

PU SAINGHAKA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, what does the Hon'ble Minister mean by saying that it is 'special'?

PU F.MALSAWMA, MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, it was originally intended to be a school with a higher and better course of education on the same lines as the Pine Mount School in Shillong. This could not yet be implemented fully but the Government is taking steps in this matter.

PU SAINGHAKA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Model School seems to be special only in name. The teachers are mostly women and most of them are always on leave, taking substitute teachers. These substitute teachers again take leave and the children suffer very much. Is the Government aware of these facts? And does the Government intend to improve the condition of this school? In the case of admission to the school, many children were rejected for the K.G Class. It is learnt that the Education Department objects to the proposal of having two sections for the K.G. If that is so, does the Government have planned to enlarge?

PU F.MALSAWMA, MINISTER. Mr. Deputy Speaker, considering the many applicant for admission I do not think we can say that the school is deteriorating. However, it needs much consideration to open a new section because if post creation is to be made from non-plan, it is not an easy matter. We are grateful to the Hon'ble Members for bringing this matter for discussion as the Government is already trying to improve the condition of this school.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, from the statement of the Hon'ble Minister, Model School is a Government establishment. The salary of the teacher and other required expenditure for the running of the school is borne by the Government. Where does the fee collection go to?

.....21/-

PU F. MALSAMA:
MINISTER.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it goes to the right place. It is not misused.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question hour is over. The unstarred question of Pu J.H. Rothuama is answered and laid on the Table. We shall now proceed to ~~item~~ Item No. 2. Announcement of names of pannel of chairmen under the rule 10 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to be pannel of chairmen:-

1. Pi L.Thanmawdi
2. Pu B.Lalchungnunga
3. Pu S.Vadyu

Let us proceed on the Business No. 3 Presentation of Report. ~~By~~ Pu Zairemthanga Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs to present Report on Business Advisory Committee.

PU ZAIREMTHANGA
MINISTER.

Report of Business Advisory Committee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the 6th. Session of the Third Legislative Assembly having been summoned by the Administrator, Union Territory of Mizoram, under Section 3 of Union Territories Act, 1963, the Business Advisory Committee met twice on February 26, 27, 1981 in order to recommend the time that should be allocated for the discussion of the stage or stages of such Government Bills and other businesses.

2. No information indicating the duration of the 6th. Session and the Business that are likely to be transacted having been received from the Government, the Committee goes to the extend of making a proposal on which the session will be adjourned sine die.
3. Accordingly the Committee recommends that the session be held upto Friday, the 27th. March, 1981, covering a period of 23 days and the member of which the House may sit ^{each} ~~for~~ 13 days for 3 days i.e Monday, 9th. Tuesday, the 10th. and Wednesday the 11th, during the month are recommended for discussion on the motion of Thanks of the Administrator's Address. Thursday the 19th. March 1981 is reserved for Introduction of Annual Budget 1981-82. The Supplementary Budget for 1980-81 in allied paper.

Under the provision of Rule 11 of the Administrator's Rules for the Legislative Assembly of Mizoram, general discussion on the budget shall not be held earlier than two days subsequent to the day on which Budget is presented. Therefore, two days i.e Monday the 23rd. March 1981 and Tuesday, the 24th. March 1981 are recommended for general discussion on the Budget and another 3 days i.e Wednesday the 25th, Thursday the 26th. and Friday, the 27th. March 1981 for voting on Demand and for Introduction, Consideration and passing of appropriation Bills.

.....22/-

5. Every Friday in every session is under the rule allotted ~~under~~ for Private Members Business. It is further provided that the Speaker may in his discretion allot any other day if Friday is Holiday or if any Government Business allotted on the Friday 20th. March being a Holiday on account of Chapchar Kut. And another Friday on 27th. March 1981 is recommended for Government Business. The Committee recommends that Tuesday, the 17th. March 1981 be allotted for Private Members Business.
6. As regards the time that should be allotted for the discussion of the stage or stages of such Business the Speaker may regulate the time.
7. A provisional Programme of Business for the session as recommended by the Business Advisory Committee is as follows:-
- 5.3.81 (Thursday) - (1) Address by the Lieutenant Governor (Administrator), Mizoram.
 (2) Motion of Thanks on the Address, if any.
 (3) Any other businesses.
- 6.3.81 (Friday) - PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS
 (1) Questions.
 (2) Introduction of Private Members' Bill.
 (3) Resolutions.
- 7.3.81 (Saturday) - Off.
- 8.3.81 (Sunday) - Holiday.
- 9.3.81 (Monday) } - GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
 10.3.81 (Tuesday) }
 (1) Questions.
 (2) Discussion on Lt. Governor's Address.
- 11.3.81 (Wednesday) - GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
 (1) Questions.
 (2) Discussion on Lt. Governor's Address (to be concluded)
- 12.3.81 (Thursday) - Off.
- 13.3.81 (Friday) - PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS
 (1) Questions.
 (2) Discussion and passing of Private Members' Bills.23/-

- 14.3.81 (Saturday) - Off.
- 15.3.81 (Sunday) - Holiday
- 16.3.81 (Monday) - Off.
- 17.3.81 (Tuesday) - PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS.
(1) Questions.
(2) Resolutions.
- 18.3.81 (Wednesday) - Off.
- 19.3.81 (Thursday) - GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
(1) Questions.
(2) Presentation of the Annual Budget of the Government of the Union Territory of Mizoram for the year 1981-82 and the Supplementary Demand for Grants for 1980-81.
- 20.3.81 (Friday) - Holiday on account of Chapchar Kut.
- 21.3.81 (Saturday) - Holiday on account of Holi.
- 22.3.81 (Sunday) - Holiday.
- 23.3.81 (Monday) Y
24.3.81 (Tuesday) X - GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
(1) Questions.
(2) General Discussion on Budget.
- 25.3.81 (Wednesday) Y
26.3.81 (Thursday) X
27.3.81 (Friday) X - GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
(1) Questions.
(2) Voting on Demands for Grants.

I would be grateful if my report of the Committee is accepted.

DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Pu, Zairenthanga Minister I/c Parliamentary Affairs has presented the 7th Report of Business Advisory Committee. Are there any members who wish to discuss the B.A.C. Report ?

.....24/-

PU. JOE NGURDAWLA :

Mr. Dy. Speaker, I think the Report should first be circulated. (Mr. Dy. speaker:- It may be distributed among the members). The B.A.C. has scheduled the Time Table after careful study of the Private Business and Govt. Business received, and also in accordance to the schedule of our previous Sessions. However, if any unforeseen matters arise, it will be considered, and necessary adjustments made I therefore request the House to accept this Time Table as prepared by the B.A.C.

D.Y. SPEAKER:*

Is there any member who wishes to second the proposal of Pu, Joe Ngurdawla?

PU, K.LALSANGA :

Mr. Dy. Speaker, I second the proposal of Pu, Joe Ngurdawla.

DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Pu, K.Lalsanga has seconded the proposal of Pu, Joe Ngurdawla. Is there any member who is of the opinion that the B.A.C. Report is not satisfactory?

PU, NGURCHHINA:

Mr. Dy. Speaker, only two days are allotted for General Discussion on Budget. This seems rather short as mostly every-one of us wish to take part in the discussion. I think it should be at least 3 days.

DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The Hon8ble Minister I/c Parliamentary Affairs be pleased to answer the question.

PU, ZAIREMTHANGA, MINISTER:

Three days have been allotted for the Demand for Grant, which gives enough time for discussion. Therefore together with the 2 days allotted for the general discussion, 3 days more for voting is quite enough.

DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Do all the members agree to this? (all members agree) If so, can the House accept the B.A.C. Report presented by the Hon'ble Minister I/c Parliamentary Affairs? (members agree) Then, the 7th Report of the B.A.C is accepted by the House. We shall now take up Private Members' Business. Pu, K.Lalsanga to beg leave to introduce the Mizoram Board of School Education Amendment Bill.

PU, K.LALSANGA:

Mr, Dy, Speaker, I beg to introduce to the House the Mizoram Board of School Amendment Bill 1981.

DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Is there any member who wishes to speak on the matter? Does the House permit the introduction of the Bill? (members - Yes). Then, Pu, K.Lalsanga may introduce the Bill.

PU, K.LALSANGA:

Mr Dy.Speaker, thank you for allowing me to introduce to the House the Mizoram Board of School Education Amendment Bill 1981. The Bill is now laid out with your permission. I do not think it necessary to read out the Bill as every member has a copy of it. If need be, it shall be read out. I beg to thank you for your permission. I shall be glad to discuss the Bill with you. Yours faithfully, K.Lalsanga. 126/-

be read out on the day of discussion. However, I would like to point out the importance of introducing this Bill. It is a fact that all the Rules and Regulations passed by Departments need to be approved by the House. However, in the Rules/Regulation section of the Mizoram Board of School Education, it is not mentioned that the House should approve them. They just proceed on their own way. I therefore think that it is necessary that these Rules/Regulations made by the Mizoram Board of School Education be approved by the House. I am sure the hon'ble Members of this House will also agree with me. Thank you.

DY. SPEAKER:

Now that Pu, K.Lalsanga has introduced the Bill the Secretary may please read out the title of the Bill (Secretary reads out). There will be a discussion on this Bill on Friday the 13th March, 1981.

We shall now proceed to list of Business No.5. Private Members Business Among the Resolutions, No.5 and 6 are of Pu, C.L.Ruala's resolutions. However, No.5 has been picked by ballot. It is also mentioned in the Rules of Procedure & Conduct of Business 119 of Chapter 11, that, Provided that not more than one Resolution, standing in the name of a member shall be included in the order of Business for the day in question, except with the permission of the Speaker.

With the permission of the Hon'ble Speaker the two resolutions of Pu, C.L.Ruala are taken up. We shall now take up list No.5 Pu, C.L.Ruala to move.

PU, C.L.RUALA:

Mr. Dy. Speaker, thank you for your kind permission to move my resolution. There is a printing mistake in my Resolution as it appears in the list of Business No.5, but not so in the Bulletin Part II. I would therefore like to ask permission to move my resolution as it appears in the Bulletin Part II 3.3.1981.

DY. SPEAKER :

Yes, that was a typing mistake, 'Suspension' should be read as 'Suppression'. Pu, C.L.Ruala may read out his resolution.

PU, C.L.RUALA:

Mr. Dy.Speaker, my resolution reads :-
" This Assembly is of the opinion that laws on 'Prevention and Control of Juvenile Delinquency at Social Level' and 'Suppression of Immoral Traffic in women and girls' be enacted by the Government of Mizoram."

DY. SPEAKER:

The hon'ble member may proceed to speak on his resolution.

.....27/-

BU, C.L.RUALA:

Mr. Dy. Speaker, if we study our society closely, we find that there are many immoralities and other kinds of social evils which were unknown in the past. Evils like theft, drinking, murder and other crimes have greatly checked, our social will soon be the laughing stock of others.

My resolution may be divided into two categories but, I have managed to make it into one. Firstly, the juvenile Delinquency or misbehaviour of children is mentioned. It is a fact that there are many children roaming around the streets and cinema halls with no proper escort. The reason for such delinquency may be many. It could be owing to a broken home or lack of guardian. It could also be the result of neglect on the part of parents who are rich and thus giving pocket money to their children, who in their turn misuse it and spoil themselves. Such delinquency may be in a lower level and a higher level. However, what they need is a proper guidance and care in order to make them into good. Citizens, otherwise these children will ruin our national integrity very soon. It is needless to say that today's youth take not only alcohol but also dangerous drugs which have been smuggled to our country. This has brought about a lot of degradation in our society. In my recent tour to Chandigarh and Delhi through courtesy of the Hon'ble Speaker, I found that these states have Laws and Acts regarding these matters of juvenile Delinquency and Immoral Traffic in women and girls. These laws have been made in line with those passed in the International Convention held on May 9th 1950 in New York, and made to suit their own society. I do not say that these Laws prevent them cent percent, but they certainly prevent it to a great extent. It is therefore important that we should have been laws in our land considering the fast deterioration of our social life. A child of 10 years today will be 20 in a short while and if they are not prevented in time, they shall turn out to be unwanted criminate in our society.

It is an unfortunate thing that the disturbance in our land has not been erased. Youngsters have often used this as an excuse to threaten their parents saying that they will join forces with the underground, if their wants and demands are not met. Meanwhile, there are many parents who think and feel that they are inadequate and unfit to bring up their children. It is therefore necessary that these children and youngsters be controlled from the social level. This can be clearly seen from the efforts taken by the Y.M.A. in our society. These volunteers of the Y.M.A. have managed to prevent children wandering about at night without proper escort. In places where such volunteers are operating, there are less delinquency. But it is impossible for associations such as these to be active all the time. However in spite of their good efforts, there are some parents who want to sue these associations for defamation of their children. It is therefore important that a strong legal support be made in this respect. The Government should therefore take necessary preventive measures. It is a fact that laws on suppression of Immoral Traffic in women and girls are existing in many states in India.

.....28/-

It is therefore a bad thing that we still do not have such laws in our state. In the past few years there were practically none of these immoralities in Mizoram, however, today we face what many other states are facing and it is a must that we should have laws on this matter. Because of the absence of such laws, it is useless effort on the part of local parties to try to eradicate such immoralities. Let us therefore have a thorough discussion today and have my resolution passed by this august House, before it is too late.

The increasing rate of crimes is indeed amazing. If we study the Police Deary we find that there are practically no record of crimes since 1936 up to 1960. Since the insurgency in 1966, the rate of crimes and murder has shot up very high. While trying to eradicate such crimes, the younger generation, children above 10 years too cannot be left ignored. These children are the future leaders of our nation. They could make or smash the nation. They must therefore be guided and prevented from turning into criminals. We are aware of the dangerous drug known as No.4 which is being taken by these youngsters today. Because of high crime rates in youngsters below 18 years, it is important that we should have the children Act which is being adapted in some states. As it is not possible to punish minors with adult punishments, it may even be necessary to have separate courts for minors.

In this respect Mr. Dy. Speaker, I have brought to this House my resolution stressing the need of the hour, which is a law on Prevention of juvenile Delinquency and Suppression of Immoral Traffic in women and girls. I request the members to kindly see the importance of this matter and pass it without further discussions.

DY. SPEAKER:

Now that the mover of the resolution has read out and moved his resolution, are there any members who wish to discuss the matter further?

FU, F. MALSAMA, MINISTER:

Mr. Dy. Speaker, what the hon'ble mover member has said is very true indeed. However, I do not think we need to pass this because there is an existing Law applicable to the whole of India. In order to practice this existing Law, there are two things to be done. Firstly, we need man-power. Secondly, we need persons acquainted with Laws. The Act itself is already existing which is 'Suppression of Immoral Traffic in women and Girls' 1958.

If we are to adapt this Act, we would need some sort of 'Protective Home for women' which the social welfare Department is not yet able to provide. And if we are to adopt this Act in Mizoram, it means that prostitution will have to be acknowledged as existing in this State.

.....29/-

Do we think it wise to take this step, or should we think of some other means to solve this problem? A special police officer would also be needed for this purpose.

The Government has been aware of this matter since 1979. Assam has also passed and adopted the children Act in 1970, at this time Mizoram was still a District Council, and can therefore adopt the Act. As we have said, a lot of preparation and adjustments have to be made in this respect if we are to adopt this Act.

Untill recently, the Social welfare Department was attached to the Education Department. It was only from 1978 that it was under a separate Directorate and is intended to be made a full fledged Directorate. Many problems have arisen in this respect, and I therefore request the co-operation of the hon'ble members in this matter. It is therefore important that these should be given priority if the Rules are to be practised. There is no need to pass the Act here as there is the existing Act in India. Social Defence Acts are all operative in Mizoram. However, we have to make Rules which are suitable for Mizoram, therefore the Department concerned has to see to these necessities. I hope the hon'ble member understands this. The Government is taking steps in this matter and it need not be passed again.

PU, JOE NGURDAWLA:

Mr. Dy. Speaker, what the hon'ble member has brought forward is indeed a matter of utmost importance. Delay could be dangerous. However, as the Hon'ble Minister has stated, I would like to say a few more regarding the adoption and practice of the Children Act. I was a little confused whether he meant that the Social welfare Department is inadequate on that new Rules have to be made. However, it would need a lot of time to have the Social welfare Department prepared for the operation of these Social Defense Acts. It would therefore be best if Rules are framed to suit Mizoram. However, if there are problems faced by the Department regarding post creations and other necessities, I request the Hon'ble Minister to kindly clarify the present situation.

PU, F.MALSAWMA, MINISTER:

Mr. Dy. Speaker, the Department has to prepare itself to frame the Rules. Rules from other states have to be collected, and special Officers for Children's Courts would be needed. Therefore, man power is one of the first requisites. The Department has studied this matter since 1979, but owing to the weakness of the Social welfare Department nothing is yet accomplished. However, the Directorate has made arrangements to obtain permission from the Home Ministry. That is the present position in the Social Welfare Department. When the Department frames the Rules all the other details will be added to it. I cannot say what problems have cropped up

.....30/-

regarding post creations. The first thing is to frame the Rules based on the existing Act.

PU, LAL THANAWLA:

Mr, Dy. Speaker, I support and share the mind of the mover. I also think what the Hon'ble Minister has stated is true. And if there is an existing Act operative in the whole of India, it is all the better. However, I think that the Social welfare Department is very slow in framing the Rules if it has taken up the matter since 1979.

The Resolution does not necessarily mean that delinquents and immoral women should be punished. It rather intends to reform or prevent such things.

It is therefore important that there should be an Executive Order to prevent these things even before we have the Rules framed.

Youngsters are very free in Mizoram compared to other states. They indulge in drinking, smoking, and wandering in the streets aimlessly, if these are not checked now it will soon be too late. I therefore think that an Executive Order will suffice for the time being. This will prevent child from going out of cinemas by themselves and also prevent them from indulging in other bad practices such as drinking, taking drugs and selling cinema tickets in black.

While some zealous groups of citizens have tried to reform these social evils, they are often sued in court by the defaulters. This shows that a legal backing is needed in order to safeguard such reformers. The same thing goes for punishing immoral women. Therefore, while the Government is going through the stage of adopting the Act, it would be best to have an Executive Order for the time being.

For the prevention of juvenile Delinquency, we do not have facilities for constructive recreation, such as a proper playground, indoor and outdoor stadiums. It would be therefore more effective if the Government sees to cater to the needs of youngsters in this respect. Lastly I would like to stress the need for an Executive Order before we have the Rules etc.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now have recess till 2 P.M in the afternoon.

Recess till 2P.M

Afternoon sitting
2.P.M.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall resume our business now, four members and the mover had taken part in the debate this morning, now we shall call other members to speak.

PU F.MALSAWMA
ISTER

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to make a clarification. The 'Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls' Act' is not 1958 but rather 1956. It was enforced in the year 1958. The other is the Assam Children Act 1970."

PU C.L.RUALA :

Mr Deputy Speaker, in order to save more time I request the House to allow me to amend my Resolution. As the Hon'ble Minister i/c Education has pointed out, there is an existing Act known as 'supression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act 1956. The 26th Article of this Act states :- 'The government may by notification in the official gazette make Rules for carrying out the purpose of this Act'.

Acc-ordingly the government of Assam may have made Rules for their state. All these Rules made before 1972 are operative in Mizoram and can be enforced.

I would like to amend my Resolution thus:-

'This Assembly is of the opinion that Children Act 1970 of Assam and Suppres-sion of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 be enforced as early as practicable in Mizoram".

I would like to have it passed likewise.

PU C.CHEWNGKUNG
DEPUTY SPEAKER :

The mover of the Resolution has asked permission for amendment. Are there any members who have anything to say against it? If there are none, the mover may read his resolution again.

PU C.L.RUALA :

Mr Deputy Speaker, I shall read it again (reads).

PU JOE.NGURDAWLA:

Mr Deputy Speaker, the amendment made by the Hon'ble Member is as good as having the copy here in the House. I think it is a very good thing.

.....32/-

PU F.MAISAWMA

MINISTER :

Mr Deputy Speaker, I think the 'Children Act of Assam 1970' should be "The Assam Children Act 1970".

PU SAINGHAKA :

Mr Deputy Speaker, If we are to adopt the Assam Children Act, are we to use the Rules even though we are not very clear about it.

I am surprised that none of the Social Welfare Department personels are present today as we are discussing Social Welfare business.

PU F.MAISAWMA

MINISTER :

Mr Deputy Speaker, I do not think any problems will arise regarding making Rules as the Assam Children Act 1970 was at the time when we were still under Assam.

PU JOE.NGURDAWLA:

Mr Deputy Speaker, it is a good thing that the mover of the Resolution has made an amendment. I therefore support it as there is an existing Act in this respect.

It is therefore important to pass it in this House as the government is already aware of the need, and also shall see to the enforcement of the Rules. As our Social condition is deteriorating everyday, I find that it is an urgent matter.

DEPUTY SPEAKER :

It appears that we are unanimous regarding the amendment of the Resolution. The mover Pu C.L.Ruala may read out his resolution and request it to be passed by the House.

PU C.L.RUALA :

Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you for accepting my resolution in the amended form. I shall now read it out. "This Assembly is of

the opinion that The Ass-am Children Act, 1970 and Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 be enforced as early as practicable in Mizoram".

I request the House to pass it in this form.

C.CHAWNGKUNGA

DEPUTY SPEAKER :

Now, the Resolution of Pu C.L.Ruala, which has been amended in Business No 5 thus,

"This Assembly is of the opinion that The Assam Children Act, 1970 and Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act 1956 be enforced as early as practicable in Mizoram". Let us raise our right hand to show our approval of passing the resolution. (all members raise their hands)

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Therefore, the Resolution of Pu C.L.Ruala which reads :- " This Assembly is of the opinion that the Assam Children Act, 1970 and Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 be enforced as early as practicable in Mizoram" is declared passed.

Now we shall go to Business No 6. Pu C.L.Ruala to move his next resolution,

* PU C.L.RUALA : Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you for allowing me to move my Resolution, Business No 6. My resolution reads :-

"This Assembly resolves that the government of Mizoram should, in the interest of public service, move the government of India for early creation of a separate Telegraph Division for Mizoram".

I have brought out this resolution with an ambitious mind, and I hope that the respected Members of this House will see the importance of my resolution.

It is a fact that Mizoram needs a separate Telegraph Division and it is high time to move the government of India for this purpose. As we all know, we have only one Sub-Divisional Officer Telegraph for the whole of Mizoram.

However, this Sub-Divisional Officer Telegraph's power is too limited to make the necessary expansion and suggestions for improvement. His rank is almost on the same lines as the Postmaster. This problem will be solved if we have a separate Division. It would mean that there will be an Office of the Divisional Engineer who will have the power to make suggestions for the expansion and Improvement of the Telephone and Telegraphs. These suggestions will then be sent to the General Manager Eastern Circle, and if it is accepted, the Divisional Engineer will be able to execute it.

At the moment the Sub-Divisional Officer has his Divisional Headquarters at Silchar, that means that our Sub-Divisional Officer is working under the Divisional Engineer of Silchar. As a result, he is not in a position to improve conditions in Mizoram.

It is not necessary to repeat how incompetent our telephone system is in Mizoram. It is so inefficient that it does not deserve the name Telephone.

It is a pity that nothing can be done about these things as the Division headquarters is at Silchar. For instance, I once made a complaint about a telephone call to Shillong in which I was billed Rs 81/-. On complaint, I was told to clear the bill first at Silchar. I wonder how many others have received such bills.

.....34/-

However, all these complaints and grievances would be so much easier to solve if we have our own Division Office. Now, we are threatened that our phones will be disconnected if we do not first clear up the bills. And when we do clear it up, it is like dropping an axe in the sea.

It is therefore top priority that a separate Divisional Engineers Office be created at Aizawl. I do not think that the Chief Secretary and the Chief Minister has contacted the Sub-Divisional Officer about the public grievances, as the level of the Sub-Divisional Officer is too low for that purpose.

In the Postal service, we have a Division with a Senior Superintendent. He makes the proposals for opening up new Post Offices. Branch Offices etc. These are approved and it is executed. However, this is not the case in the Telegraphs Department.

It is also a regret that there is no direct line between Lunglei and Aizawl neither do we have it in Champhai. We have managed somehow with the Wireless Telegraphs in cases of important matters. There are small call office along the hill tract to Silchar, but even these are not in good condition. In order to do away with all these problems and hardships, the powers of the Sub-Divisional Officer is not sufficient. It is too limited. With all these in mind, I request the House to pass my resolution.

PU C. CHAWNGKUNGA

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there are any Members who wish to discuss it further may please do so.

PU BUALHRANGA : Mr Deputy Speaker, the Hon'ble mover has stated the need of a Divisional Office in Mizoram. It is needless to repeat the inefficiency of the Telephone system in Mizoram, and also about the Bills we receive. I consider it important and necessary to move the government of India for creation of a separate Division in Mizoram. Let us pass this resolution without further discussions.

PU SAINGHAKA : Mr Deputy Speaker, It seems that we are going to pass the resolution of the Hon'ble Member. However, I would like to add a few words. The subject itself is a central subject and I do not think that the Assembly can implement it, even after it is passed. If the Central Government implements this proposal, it will not only solve the problem of communication, but it will also solve the problem of un-employment.

.....35/-

In the course of the North-Eastern Re-organisation, the Eastern Area which was under a Director has now been under a P.M.G Circle and new Divisions have been created. As we know, there has been Telephone in Mizoram since April 1957 with only a few lines. Today there are about 700 lines in the Ex-change, about 100 lines in Lunglei, 50 lines at Molasib and 25 lines at Lawngtlai.

The supervision of all these are under one Sub-Divisional Officer and some 56 staff members. If the underground cables are out of order, there are no experts for joining the cables. One Mizo was sent to train for this purpose last year, and since then conditions have improved a little.

In the present circumstances, I feel that Mizoram deserves to have a separate Telegraph Division. I do not think this issue needs much debate. Along with the creation of a Divisional Engineer Office, an Accounts Officer's Office will have to be created, which will have direct contact with the senior D.A.G; P.T. This will solve the many problems we are facing including the un-employment problems.

Besides this, its been some time back since we have had a Satellite Station in Mizoram. This has made it easier to have direct contact with Delhi. However, for the interior problems of Mizoram, our telegraph is too inadequate. The problem has often been solved by the Police Radio in the rural areas.

In order to have more Telegraph lines, the Sub-Divisional Officer does not have the power to purchase even one insulator.

Therefore, if the need to create a Telegraph Division in Mizoram is not moved in the government of India, the present condition is not enough to meet the demands of Mizoram.

I therefore would like to have this passed today.

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall request the Leader of the House to speak.

BRIG.THEEPHUNGA SAILO

CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Deputy Speaker, I am glad that the hon'ble Member has moved his resolution, which I feel should be passed without further discussion. However, for general information, I would like to point out the back-ground in a few words.

In 1978, the General Manager of the North East was invited to Mizoram to discuss with him the possibilities of creating a Telegraph Division in Mizoram. However, all our hopes were crushed by his witty reply. He said that the number of telephones in Mizoram are not large enough in

the All India Standard for creating a Division. He further promised to see that the Division Engineer in Silchar would visit us more often.

Time went by without much improvement, and in 1979 the new general manager was again invited to visit Mizoram for the same purpose. We were again informed that Mizoram did not measure up to the All India Norm for creation of a new Division. We even told him that Mizoram might never reach the expected norm, and that it would have to be done in a special case without the norms.

However, a letter was sent directly to the Union Minister i/c Telegraphs etc. expressing the need for a separate Division in Mizoram. He was even invited to come to Mizoram and see for himself. Accordingly he made a programme which was cancelled to our regret owing to some important matter. Another programme was scheduled for his visit to the North Eastern Area, in which Mizoram was included.

In such circumstances, a resolution of this type would be most effective and timely. The wordings, of the resolution, "Move the Government of India" is also very appropriate. It is true that we cannot do this by ourselves, we can only 'move' the government of India. The best we can do is to pass this resolution. Besides this, although it may not be quite relevant, I would like to request each and every member to write in detail, complaints about the telephones, and if you cannot type it I shall gladly do it for you. This, I want you to hand it all over to the Union Minister when he comes, so that we may be able to make the situation unavoidably in favour of creating a separate Division for Mizoram. Otherwise, I fear that our endeavours may not be fruitful again. I am sure this will be very effective.

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Mr Deputy Speaker, I was very happy when I came to know of this resolution, and I am sure we all agree to pass it without much comment. If Aizawl town faces so much problems it is needless to say that the smaller towns face much more problems. Personally, I feel that it is easier to talk to Washington from Aizawl than from Aizawl to Lunglei.

Apart from all the said problems, it seems that the line from Aizawl to Lunglei is in the hands of the Army and not in Civil hands. This has also posed quite a few problems in itself. It is at their mercy that we depend on. It is also a fact that only about 50 connections are given in the Town of Lunglei although the reported lines are 100. It would be very much appreciated if the government of Mizoram sees to the smaller problems which can be solved locally.

I therefore support that we should pass this Resolution.

.....37/-

PU LAL THANHLAWL : Mr Deputy Speaker, I don't have anything much to add to what has already been said. The Hon'ble Leader of the House had pointed out that there are Norms in All India level and that we do not measure up to these standards. Therefore, our only hope is to be considered as a special case.

We are now a sensitive Border Area and we need to have a good communication system with the Centre. As a result the criteria for other states is not actually applicable to Mizoram.

There is one thing I would like to mention, and that is regarding the Postal Division, As we know, our present Postal Division is under a Superintendent. However, for more efficiency of work and administration, it would be good if a Director, equal in status to the Divisional Engineer looks after the Division.

I have only mentioned this as a proposal to move the matter to the centre.

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA
DEPUTY SPEAKER : Much has been discussed and there seems to be no one against the resolution. We shall now call Pu C.L.Ruala the mover, to request the passing of his resolution.

PU C.L.RUALA : Mr Deputy Speaker, I am happy that my Resolution is going to be passed. I also request the Ministry to bear in mind what the Leader of the Congress Literature Party has brought to notice.

I request the House to pass my resolution which reads :-

" This Assembly resolves that the government of Mizoram should, in the interest of public service, move the government of India for early creation of a separate Telegraph Division for Mizoram".

PU C.CHAWNGKUNGA
DEPUTY SPEAKER : As the mover Pu C.L.Ruala has read out his resolution, let us show our approval by saying 'yes' (All members say 'yes'). Now that we are all unanimous, the resolution which reads :-

This Assembly resolves that the government of Mizoram should, in the interest of public service, move the government of India for early creation of a separate Telegraph Division for Mizoram" is declared passed.

.....38/-

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Our business is over for today, we shall have the next business at 10:30 A.M. on Monday.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

J. Malsawma,
Secretary,

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