

Third Sitting of the Eight & Budget Session, held on 16th March, 1982.

Pu C. Chawngkunga, Deputy Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, Four Ministers and 21 Members were present.

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.

(Psalms 23 : 1-3.)

We shall now take up Business No. 1, which is question. Pu Saidenga may ask his question.

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Information & Public Relations Department be pleased to state -

- (a) What is the total amount of fund utilised by DIPR & T for printing Calendar and Diaries during the year 1980-81 and 1981-82 separately ?

* PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker,

MIZORAM CALENDARS

1980 - 81	—	6000 copies	Rs 34,485.00
1981 - 82	—	8000 copies	Rs 84,240.00

MIZORAM DIARIES

1980 - 81	—	3000 copies	Rs 14,098.00
1981 - 82	—	3000 copies	Rs 17,634.00

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, supplementary question - Diary, as we know is an important article. Before the past two years, we used to get Diary at the right time. But, since the past two years, Diaries and Calendars are distributed lately. In fact, it has not been long since we get Diary even this year. If Diary and Calendar are not acquired at the beginning of the year, they lose their value. Why were Diary and Calendars distributed lately after 3/4 months after the beginning of the year ? Is it not possible to distribute them earlier ?

*PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, I think it is everyone's wish to have Diary and Calendar at the beginning of the year. We may be aware that Government have certain procedures to get printing done. Being newly installed, our Government Press still have many technical problems. Whenever there is some complicated and coloured pictures to print, quotation has to be called. Such quotations are usually called even from outside Mizoram. Truly speaking, there is no Firm or Printing Press in Mizoram that could print beautiful coloured pictures such as those we found in our Diary and Calendars. Firms selected to do the printing also used to have certain terms and conditions. When selection of quotationers is done and gone through all formalities or conditions, time used to run short. I did not doubt that the publication is done later than expected. However, we should do well to remember the difficulties faced by the Government.

PU C. VULLUAIA : Pu Deputy Speaker, supplementary question - As noted, there are many Diary and Calendars, more than required to buy

in the market at cheaper price. Nevertheless, it must be for wider publicity that the Government spent large sum of rupees for making Calendars and Diaries. Previously, there was 'Mizoram Today' publication which was highly appreciated even outside Mizoram. But this publication is no more to be seen. I would therefore, like to know since when DIPR & T stopped publication of this Magazine.

Regarding the printing of Diary and Calendars - Have not none of the Mizoram printers tendered quotation called for this? Does the DIPR & T still intend to continue their practice - to send an officer outside Mizoram to attend to the printing of Diary and Calendars even after the selected Firm assured them of their ability by tendering the quotation while in other department. Mizo suppliers supply all kinds of things not even manufactured or available in Mizoram?. If there is no technically competent Printing Press in Mizoram to print Diaries and Calendars such as we get from DIPR & T Department, will the department continue to send officer to Calcutta for about 2/3 months to attend to the printing of Calendars and Diaries? Is this practice a policy?

***PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER :** Pu Deputy Speaker, the hon'ble member wanted to know since when the publication of Mizoram Today was stopped. It is not a matter of having stopped the publication. It is published generally once in a year since the emergency of Mizoram. In 1980-81, 6000 copies were printed. For 1981-82, the printing is under its way at Calcutta. After completion, they will be distributed.

One of the members asked whether it was a policy to have an officer sent to Calcutta or outside Mizoram for 2/3 months to attend to the printing of Diary and Calendars. Government have no such policy and there could not be concrete policy in this regard. It is in fact, competition not policy matter. It is through quotation that printing was done. The Government have a criteria for printing these Calendars and Diaries. Local firms also tendered the quotation. Tenderers who are reliable and whose rate of tender is acceptable to the Government are usually selected.

As regards the printing facilities in Mizoram in the course of various developments, printing also has improved in Mizoram. For example we may remember that before the past 10 years, it was hardly possible to do any printing in Mizoram. But now, many Printing Presses have sprang up. After ten years, many more Printing Presses with better equipments would spring up. At this time, our local printers will be able to take up works usually entrusted to Calcutta or Delhi Firms. Hence, there can be no policy in printing.

PI L. THANMAWII : Pu Deputy Speaker, is it not possible to have Calendar printed earlier so as to have them distributed at the time we exchange X'Mas Cards? Even if we want to present our friends living outside Mizoram, the Calendar could not be acquired earlier. Is it therefore, not possible to have them printed earlier?

PI K. THANSIAMI : Pu Deputy Speaker, while we require Calendar from the first day of the year, Mizoram Calendars are distributed only in the month of March. Is it not wastage of money to make Calendars that could not be distributed at the time we exchange X'Mas Cards? Other company and Firm also could make and distribute beautiful Calendars before the beginning of the new year. If we want more beautiful and complicated pictures, it means that its preparation will take longer time. Is it not therefore possible to start preparation of Calendar from the month of January?

***PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER :** Pu Deputy Speaker, as regards to the time for its distribution -it is our wish that Calendars be acquired

earlier that is before the beginning of the new year. It may however, be realised that DIPR & T Calendar and Diary are not used only in Mizoram. It is actually much more used outside Mizoram.

A suggestion for not making Calendar at all was not Government way of thinking. For example—Calendars are used all the year round. Though it may not be acquired at the beginning of the year, it is but used later by our L.Os for making friendship with some firms and companies right in the month of October. It may also be noted that other firms also used to distribute their Calendar at the end of the year. Not to make or distribute any Calendar during the year just because they cannot be distributed at the beginning of the year should not be our way of thinking.

Anyway, the Government is aware of what the members dislike regarding printing of Calendar and Diary. It may be noted that the Government also often tried to have them distributed earlier.

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, clarifications made regarding printing of Calendar and Diary were quite clear. However, Calendars acquired lately lose their value. Diary and Calendars distributed presented to others at the end or middle of the year are usually old stock that could not be disposed of at the right time.

One of the members mentioned about the publication of 'Mizoram Today'. If I am not mistaken, this magazine was I think quarterly magazine. Yet, it appears that it is published only once in a year, that also, with much difficulty. Is it not therefore, possible to have this magazine published quarterly as it is printed at the cover of the magazine ?

***PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER :** Pu Deputy Speaker, I did not know what was written, 'quarterly' or 'yearly', But, the Government have no fund to have it published quarterly.

***PU SAIKAPTHIANGA :** Pu Deputy Speaker, supplementary question-regarding the printing of Diary and Calendar, the hon'ble Minister said that quotation was called and that there was competition. He also said that the printing is being done at Calcutta. Have not any of Mizoram Printers tendered the quotation or was Calcutta Firm selected because they were the lowest rate tendered ? I request the Minister to furnish the rate of Mizoram tendered and that of Calcutta Firm.

***PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER :** Pu Deputy Speaker, I am sorry I do not know the rate of the tenderers. I have not in fact, prepared myself for this. As Mizoram Today was relevant with the printing of Diary and Calendar, I made replies to supplementary questions. However, if the member wanted to know, it will be possible to furnish them later on.

DEPUTY SPEAKER ; Starred question No. 9

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, will the hon'ble Minister i/c Community Development be pleased to state Utilization of the fund under NREP is very low compared to the amount allotted for 1981-82. What is the reason for this ?

PU P.B. ROSANGA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, An amount of Rs 34.50 lakhs had been sanctioned by the Government of India for the year 1981-82 under the NREP including the split out amount of Rs 2.50 lakhs from 1980-81 fund.

This amount had fully been utilized.

***PU JOE NGURDAWLA ;** Pu Deputy Speaker, how is allotment of fund

made ? Is it only after the Deputy Commissioners of each district reported utilization of fund in the first quarter that Central Government made allotment for another quarter? Cannot State Government sanction and allot fund for utilization of fund under NREP ? If we wait for Central Governments sanction for every quarter of fund to be allotted, it will take too long.

PU P.B. ROSANGA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, I think I better state about utilization of fund under centrally sponsored scheme. Steering Committee constituted at block-level made plans on which fund should be utilized. Plans made at block-level are submitted to Deputy Commissioner which are then considered by Deputy Commissioner level Steering Committee. The recommendations of Deputy Commissioner level Steering Committee are submitted to State-level Steering Committee. The approval is made by State Steering Committee. As NREP is centrally sponsored scheme, there is no fund to be released unless utilisation is submitted and allotment is received.

***PU JOE NGURDAWLA :** Pu Deputy Speaker, I feel that the present system for utilization of fund under NREP is not workable for Mizoram. There is too long a channel before we could actually utilize the money. Is it not possible to follow simpler procedure, for instance - to get sanction order for a year or half instead of having to get new sanction for every quarter of fund allotted. As under the present system, I think it will be only around 2 quarters that could be utilised in a year.

***PI THANMAWII :** Pu Deputy Speaker, I think I better make statements to clarify later on. Till today, I am confused about NREP. As stated by the member, there is too long a channel before the fund could actually be spent where needed. It is not only the people, but I also used to lose hope by the time we could actually utilize the money, considering the urgent need of the public where famine is severe.

Is it not therefore, possible to make the system for utilization of fund under NREP applicable to the conditions and requirements of Mizoram ? It may be noted that the people who used to come to Aizawl from famine-affected areas are truly affected. If they have no money to buy with, it is meaningless to supply them with tons of rice. NREP is therefore, the only means for them to earn money. Being deeply stricken, they used to lose hope when there is many difficulty to acquire money through NREP. It is not therefore, possible to make the system more simple to suit the conditions of the people in Mizoram?.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your question is similar to that of Pu Ngurdawla.

PU P.B. ROSANGA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, generally speaking, Central Government have careful financial control over the utilization of fund we have under centrally sponsored scheme. Had one quarter of fund be allotted and spent and utilization be submitted at the right time, there will not be any difficulty. We could have utilized all the fund allotted within the financial year had everything been done at the right time. It is however, obvious that there is late submission of utilization certificate somewhere. As stated earlier Government is searching for the way to have NREP implemented urgently due to the pressing needs and difficulties of the people. In this effort, about 100/- lakhs is demanded for NREP under the 6th Plan. As a rule, NREP is implemented uniformly all over India. For proper implementation, Central Govt. laid down proper guide lines.

***PU SAIKAPTHIANGA :** Pu Deputy Speaker, the hon'ble Minister said that there was allotment Rs 4 lakhs in the first quarter which will mean that there was a total of Rs 8 lakhs with the second quarter allotment. I too have often attended the committee and it is a standing order that the departments should utilize 20% from their planned - fund for NREP. If so, where has this money gone to ? In 1981 - 82, there was a total outlay of Rs 34.50 lakhs under this programme. But, why cannot we make use of

this money while the people have great difficulties in finding employments to earn money besides being severely hit by famine?. As stated, we are still confused about NREP. Is it not possible to detail separate department/state-level officer to deal with the implementation of NREP?- If I am not mistaken, it is gathered that PWD have not utilized not a single rupee for NREP till date. If this happens to be true, why have not they utilized it?.

PU P.B. ROSANGA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, though one of the Committee members, the member seemed to be still confusing about NREP as he himself admitted. It is 10% not 20% which the departments should utilize from their plan fund towards the implementation of NREP. The reason why PWD have not spent a single rupee is that their approved plan does not tally with NREP. Being technical department, Public Works Department requires technicians to execute the works. While other departments could make contribution from their plan-fund, Public Works Department could not do so as their approved-plan is not tally with NREP.

As regards to entrusting State-level officer to implement NREP - one Deputy Secretary is now entrusted. Sometimes they hold meeting under the guidance of Development Commissioner and Chief Secretary regarding the implementation of this programme.

As stated earlier, first and second quarter of fund is already utilized and utilization certificate also have been submitted by the Deputy Commissioner. We have also sent these Certificates to Central Government. Preperation is under its way for utilization of matching contribution arrear from first and second quarter of fund as well as fund we get from 3rd and 4th quarters.

It may also be noted that there is much fund under NREP as it is in the case of EGS. Shortage of fund is in fact, our main difficulty. Under EGS, we usually got Rs 100 lakhs for a year. In the year Thingtam famine occured, there was a provision of Rs 170 lakhs under EGS. In comparision to EGS, fund we have under NREP is very meagre. If we know the amount of money we have under NREP, we will realize that there could not be much to be used for the whole of Mizoram.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, question no.10.

PI L.THANMAWII : Pu Deputy Speaker,

Will the hon'ble Minister i/c Supply and Transport Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Is it fact that several posts in the Supply and Transport Department have been lying un-filled for the last 2/3 years?.
- (b) If so, what are the reasons for not filling up these posts?.

PU ZAIREMTHANGA MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker,

- (a) No, excepting the post of District Transport Officer, no other posts are lying un-filled for the last 2/3 years.
- (b) The posts of District Transport Officer cannot be filled up due to non-approval of Recruitment Rules for the said posts.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there is no supplementary question, we will proceed to Business No.—

Paper to be laid on the table of the House.

*PU LALHMINGTHANGA, MINISTER : Pu Deputy Speaker, I beg to lay on the table of the House 'Mizoram District, Land and Revenue Amendment Rules 1981.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The copy of Mizo District Land and Revenue Amendment Rules 1981 and Mizo District Agriculture Land Amendment Rules, 1982 be distributed to the members.

*PU JOE NGURDAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, when shall we discuss these amendments? It is an important matter to consider as to how we will dispose of these. (Deputy Speaker : after they are laid on the table of the House, we will discuss them). Should the discussion be held after the members request for it ?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : They have now been laid on the table of the House. It appears that no one intends to make further statement in this regard.

*PU JOE NGURDAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, discussion of amendment laid on the table could be held if the members think it necessary. It being an important matter, I feel that the amendment should be discussed now or at other times.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there is modification or suggestion to make, the members could do so.

*PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, will the Minister concerned make amendments before the members discussed and pass the Bill?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : What did Pu Ngurdawla mean to say them?

*PU JOE NGURDAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, may be we did not give much thought to these amendments. If we do not discuss them or make amendment while it is possible, we may have difficulty later on.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the members want to have discussion, we will leave it for discussion at some other day.

*PU JOE NGURDAWLA : That will be alright.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : If that is so, we will proceed to our next item i.e. Business no. 3 - Pu J.Thankunga to move 'Motion for Election'.

*PU J. THANKUNGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, with your permission, I beg to move the motion for Election - 'that the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (I) of rule 229, read with rule 230 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly, 9 Members from amongst themselves to serve as members of Public Accounts Committee for a term of 30 months with effect from 1st June, 1982'.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Though June is the time for election as moved by the member, there is not likely to be another session besides the present one before the month of June, we may have election now if you all agree.

PU C.L. RUALA : Pu Deputy Speaker, when shall we have the election ?

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Specific date be fixed within the period of this session. What is the opinion of the members ? Should we fix the date at later days of the session. Instead of sitting another day sometimes after session, it will be better to have election within the period of this session. Otherwise, we may have difficulty in assembling together after the session is over.

PU C.L. RUALA : Will it be difficult to assemble again to have election ? There are still 3 more months left before the expiry of the time set for the election. The expiry date is 31st June, 1982. Will it not be better to have the election at the end of May ? (Deputy Speaker—Yes, it is as the members wish. What is your opinion?).

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I think it is better to have election just before expiry of the term. Otherwise, the members also may not be able to do the works if election is held before the expiry of their term. I don't think it will be difficult to assemble together to have election.

*PU BUALHRANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, if we are called to assemble we usually go to assemble. If no other difficulty crops up, specific date be fixed in the last week of May.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do you all agree to this suggestion ? If you agree let us remember and note it down what Public Accounts Committee election will be held in the last week of May.

Now, we will call upon Pu C.Vulluaia to move motion of election.

*PU C. VULLUAIA : Pu Deputy speaker, with your permission, I beg to move in my capacity as the Chairman of the Committee on Estimate, that the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule one of rule 132 read with rule 232 of the rule of procedure and conduct of Business in Mizoram Legislative Assembly, 9 members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the committee on Estimate for a term of 30 months from the first day of 1st June, 1982.

Thank you

DEPUTY SPEAKER : As in the case of Public Accounts Committee, do you agree to have the election in the last week of May? (Members—'agree') We will then have election of Public Accounts Committee and Estimate in the last week of May.

We will proceed to Business No. 5—Discussion on Motion of thanks. We have had one hour discussion yesterday. If we want to finish today, we will have to see to proper allotment of time since there are still seven or eight members who have not stood up. I think 15 minutes each should be allotted to one member. Now, we will call upon Pu J. Thankunga.

PU J. THANKUNGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, I am glad to have an opportunity to discuss Lieutenant Governor speech today. As the speech, generally, contains new developments which are pleasing to us, there seems to be not much to say regarding it, besides, there is still going to be detailed discussion on the Budget later on.

The first Paragraph of the speech is about the disruption of peace dialogue held between India Government and the MNF. It is truly regretful that the talk had abruptly come to end while the people are anxiously and hopefully waiting for the time peace prevails in Mizoram. I therefore, want to request the Government to make top-most effort for resumption of the peace talk.

At para 8, Mizoram Police Service was mentioned. Various difficulties faced by Mizoram Police, had often been mentioned in the House. In pursuance of what were said, the Government take various measures to find solution to their problems. Besides this, many new posts are being created for which I am thankful.

Regarding famine stated at para 11— I do not have to repeat various difficulties Mizoram had to face due to famine. Besides famine,

various circumstances caused good problem in Mizoram. There is however, one thing for which I am thankful. It is the visit of Mizoram by Central Team who, after on the spot study, have submitted their report to Central Government with suggestions to have relief works operated in Mizoram.

The achievement of Soil Conservation Department is listed at para 13. We may observe that Soil Department made good progress in recent years. Traces of their progress could be seen in many places of Mizoram.

In the field of Agriculture at para 15, the department have taken various measures for improvement and attainment of self sufficiency in food stuff. There is however, one setback which hinders our progress. It is the strength of the department. In spite of their strenuous efforts, the Agriculture department is too small and the divisions are too few and far between to look after the whole of Mizoram. To attain self-sufficiency, the department will have to be strengthened with more division and staff. It seems that the department has much difficulty in implementing developmental works due to its small establishment.

I hope the people will not mind by saying this that it seems the people are also responsible for misappropriation of fund allotted for improvement of agriculture. If, for instance, Rs 2500/- of grant-in-aid is given to a person, he will spend only around Rs 500/- for the purpose i.e. for improvement of his cultivation. Such being the case, it may be better to have grant-in-aid distributed in muster-roll system as it is in Soil Department. This way, fund under the department may be utilised for its true purposes.

We may also notice that most of the workers in our paddy fields particularly in terraces are non-Mizos. I think this is the reason why we could not have profitable harvest as expected and desired. To be able to have bigger share of harvest, Agriculture Deptt. may do well to provide tractors for hire. If we can induce our youth who have nothing to do to drive these tractors, we may have better harvest. As we, the Mizos are not diligent enough to work in paddy fields/terraces specially in hot climate, scientific method of cultivation has to be introduced. I do not think we would attain self-sufficiency in foodstuff merely by man-method of cultivation.

As stated at para 25, Forest Department seemed to have made good progress. But, if we go to villages however, Forest Department used to reserve all the good forest causing difficulty to the people in finding suitable sites and places for cultivation. In my constituency, there is Lungsum village where all the good forests and suitable sites near the main road are reserved by Forest Department. As a result, there is no good forest left for cultivation and the people had to migrate elsewhere where they could find land to cultivate. I feel that the Department, being governmental body should give consideration to the people while selecting sites/forests to reserve. Places which are easy to approach and where there is easier means of transport for their production should be left to the people for cultivation.

For the government, it will not be too difficult to make new roads even in remote areas. If the Department reserve all the good forests, the villagers would soon have great difficulty in getting material for construction of their houses besides having no suitable land to cultivate.

I am glad that the construction of Mizoram House in Calcutta & Delhi was in progress. As we know, Mizoram House is being constructed in different places and the buildings are not bad either. I would however, like to mention certain things regarding Shillong Mizoram House. In Shillong, we do not have Cook and the one we have is employed as a muster roll employee. But, being muster-roll employee, he could not be given salary regularly, sometimes he has to go without salary for 2/3 months. Actually

it is a shame to have a stately house in other States without providing a Cook. I feel that permanent Cook should be appointed immediately.

Besides Cook, there is no Night Chowkidar in Shillong Mizoram House. It appears that the Day watch/Chowkidars has to attend also guests who arrive late at night time. I think it will be a tiresome job for only one or two persons to attend to all the guests who arrive at day time and night time. So as to ensure that there is good service in our Mizoram Houses, I think we should have what other State Houses have. I therefore, request the Government to take immediate actions in this regard.

As stated at para 31, special emphasis is laid on availability of power. The Central Ministers who visited Mizoram also expressed their believe in the potentiality of more megawatt of power in Mizoram. I believe that many of our daily problems such as water supply will be solved when we could drain more power from our local rivers.

At para 40, Mizoram State Transport is mentioned. Regarding the service of our State Transport Buses, I have one little displeasure. I think it is unfair to have worst bus plied for New Vervek. It had also met with an accident the other day. It is disgraceful to have worst bus plied and met accident. I have often complained about this.

As we know, there is bus accident quite often these days. When there is bus accident near Kawnpui, Govt. gave ex-gratia grant to the bereaved and wounded passengers. But, when Vervek Bus met an accident near Tuirial, Government remained silent upto this day. In a way, this makes me think if not, there is discrimination. May be the people of Vervek do not deserve ex-gratia grant. Yet, the life of every human being has the same value. To the persons affected, no one's life is dearer than that of their dear ones. Hence, I want the Government to note this and make ex-gratia grant available to persons affected by Vervek Bus accident.

In the field of education-there is considerable progress. There is however, one difficulty this year. It is regarding Text Book. Perhaps we know that this year, the price of text books increased so much that it is double last year though they are few pages, in fact, less in pages than text books last year. I feel that the Government should probe into the reason why there is such a very fast increase of price in school text book. In my opinion, it is a serious case.

It is also gathered that the printing of many school text books have not been completed till now. As the required books are not available, school children have to go class without them for which they are punished by their teachers. If we are the ones affected, we will find that it is very irritating to see our children suffer due to non-availability of text-book which the printing also have not been completed. If you go to market, you will see that what most of the people come to buy from Book Stalls are books that are not available. It is truly regretting that the people have to face much difficulty because of non-availability of text-book. I believe in fact, there is some unfair thing in this connection. I also believe that the Minister would come to understand certain things if he compare the prices and text-books prescribed by Mizoram Board last year with this year's prescription. We should realize that it is not a trifle matter.

Lastly, I think we should all be glad to have Thlawhbawks given Village Councils. It is what the people of Thlawhbawks are looking forward to have. As we are not the ones affected, we may not realize its impact on the people affected. Allotment of Village Council to Thlawhbawks is a thing to be remembered. It seems that more than 400 villages are going to have new status which is a joy to us all.

That's all. Thank you.

PI L. THANMAWII : Pu Deputy Speaker, I would like to say a few things regarding L.G's address. As the speech contained the achievements made by the Government on various fields of development, I think we should all be thankful for it.

In the first para of the speech however, we learnt about the failure of peace-dialogue between the Government of India and MNF. It is truly regretting that the talk ended without bearing any good result. I do not think there is any one among the Mizos who does not want peace. Hence, to accuse one another as not wanting peace is merely false accusation. When the talk abruptly came to an end, there were many rumours and accusation. Fortunately however, the Lieutenant Governor, in his speech clearly stated the reason for failure of the peace-dialogue. I am therefore truly thankful for his statement-permanent peace which was so near, credited us due to the adamant attitude of Mr. Laldenga who refused to accept the rather substantial concessions offered by the Government of India. This statement clearly reveals the true reason why peace-talk failed.

It is also obvious that the Government pay due importance to improvement of the conditions of our Police Forces. I am truly glad that quarters are being constructed besides other programmes to pursue further for their improvement. One thing that needs to be done is to have Thana reconstructed. The present building is so ugly that it lost its dignity. If a Police Officer sits and does desk-work in a dignified building, he is approached by others respectfully.

If however, the building is so poor and ugly, it is difficult for anyone to command respect and dignity. Hence, Aizawl Thana building should certainly be reconstructed. It will be pleasing if a modern building could be constructed at its present site which is suitable enough for Thana headquarter.

Generally speaking, our Lieutenant Governor Address contained much about Prime Minister's 20-Point Programme. Perhaps this is the reason why one of our opposition members said he was only a little pleased in the content of the Address. When I deeply consider about the 20-Point Programme, I realize that it is the same with the Programme of this Ministry. The programme gives due importance to improvement of drinking water facilities power and education as this Ministry do. I have in fact, gone to the extent of pondering that the Prime Minister does seem to be very P.C. in view of her 20-Point Programme. It is truly appreciated.

Though the Lieutenant Governor stated various developments point by point, it will but take too long to say point by point. Hence, I will say selectively.

Regarding Public works Department at para 27-Previously, there used to be much complaints about the working of Public Works Department and corruptions associated with it. But now, there is much improvement. For example-the trace of their achievement could be seen so much as it changed the appearance of our capital, Aizawl and the roads have been widened. It is evident that Public Works Department is a progressive department if they execute the works with firm resolution.

Forest Department have Bus to collect their students so has Health Department. I think Public Works Department also should have Bus to collect their trainees such as S.As who, while undergoing training have to go a long distance for practical training. If they could be provided with Buses, I think they would be able to execute more works than the present amount of work they can execute in a day besides, it will be less strenuous for them.

I am glad that the construction of MLA Hostel and Circuit House at Saiha had been completed. At para 29&30, nothing is mentioned about Mizoram House at Silchar which I would however, like to say about it.

Because of the misfortune which has befallen my family, we stayed quite a long time at Silchar Mizoram House. For the Mizos, the main difficulty is food. As we are aware, the time we, the Mizos, want to take meal and the time non-Mizos take meal is so different that we have difficulty in adjusting ourselves as all the cooks in this Circuit House are non-Mizos.

I remember that there was once a commotion regarding meal-time in which Pu Hnuna, who have expired, fired the cooks. Such being our difficulty, it is desired that the Department detailed to look-after this Circuit House, make proper arrangements for us to be able to take meal at our own meal-time since it is Mizoram House. As it is Mizoram House, so should arrangements be made accordingly. If we are well-fed, it is easier to be calm and gentle. It will be highly appreciated if the Department make arrangement in such a way as suggested.

As stated in the address, more megawatt of power is expected to be available. I am glad that investigation of Tlawng Project have also been taken up. In view of efforts made by the Government it is likely that we would soon have more power. May be some of us do not want to give 'thank' before all these projects get materialised, in which case, they are like Thomas, who, unless poks at the wound, would not believe that it was Jesus, his teacher, who had risen from death. As for me, I strongly believe that these projects will get materialised successfully. Previously, it was stated that Mizoram rivers do not have potentiality for construction of hydel projects. But, contrary to this, experts have investigation of our rivers and have reported the potentiality for construction of such. I think we should hope for the successful materialisation of these projects which would soon provide us with more megawatt of power.

I am also pleased to note that efforts had been made for inclusion of Bairabi in the Indian Railway Map. It is great achievement. I feel that there is no reason why we should not be thankful in view of all the achievements made by the Governments. It seems that it is all joy that awaits us considering our present developments in comparison with the past 10 years.

Though it is not a big project, Silk worm rearing seems to be quite profitable. Not like other occupations, Silk worm rearing requires only three months at the end of which the Cocoon can turn into cash. It is in fact, gathered that there could be 3/4 times rearing in a year. If so, I think Silk Worm rearing is quite advantageous, and the silp produced is also the finest type. But, as we, the Mizos are a little adventurous, it may be necessary to teach the people to be resolute in taking up this employment even if money does not come easily at first.

I think the Department would do well in making their staff visit different places to encourage the people in this easy employment.

I appreciate the proposed establishment of Youth Adventure Clubs. It is clear that the govt. paid due importance to what was said regarding non-availability of clubs where our youths could pursue healthy amusements.

Previously, it was taken for granted that Science and Mathematics are not meant for the Mizos. Hence, it is left to non-Mizos whom we regard to have more brain than the Mizos. But, when the government actually made all out efforts to encourage a study of Mathematics and Science among our

youths, there is immense improvement. It is realized more and more that the Mizos, like others could master Science and Mathematics. As a matter of fact, it was our Mizo students who won prizes in Science Exhibition held outside Mizoram. It is therefore, a privilege to have made obligation towards improvement of Science and Mathematics education among our youths.

Lastly, it is impossible to forget persistent efforts made by the government for restoration of Village Councils to Thlawhbawks. It is truly pleasing that Thlawhbawks who have been deprived of their power for a long time are given back Village Councils. It is an achievement worth to be recorded in the Mizoram history. It is in fact, greatest achievement made by the government. Hence, I could not but help to give thanks and mention about it. I am also glad that there are many other achievements to look forward to in the near future.

Thank you

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, the Address, not like other sessions is quite lengthy and achievements made by the government are also mentioned in detail. However, I regret to note that Official Lobby is empty while important subjects on development are being discussed. I think it is more or less the responsibility of the government. I think we should have as many Officials as possible presented when we discuss the Budget.

I shall try to summarise what I intend to say. The Administrator has said in his speech, that the Village Council elections have been carried out successfully and peacefully without any disturbances from outside.

However, according to the six-page pamphlet issued by the Ruling Party, it states that the MNF threatened and intimidated the PC Ministry, and that the Congress party also involved themselves. This accusation is contradictory to the speech of the Administrator. If the Congress had really done such a thing, we are to blame. But I hope that such a contradictory statement to the Lieutenant Governor speech may not be repeated by the Ministry in future.

In Point no 8, we find mention of Police Department. It is true that the Police Department are mentioned every Session. The Thanas in the rural areas especially my constituency are really in a degrading condition, not to speak of Aizawl Thana. The buildings are old and unrespectable to be used as Police Offices. The Offices of the Police Department at Kawrthah is a second floor of an old building which is rented. This does not command the respect of the public. If operated from such an old and ugly house, how will our Police command people's respect? When I was first elected as MLA in 1980, I went to the office where I was informed that though there is fund, the construction is in the hand of Public Works Department. However, nothing has yet been done till date to improve our Thana.

I feel that care should be taken regarding the posting of Police. In my constituency for example there are two Police Stations- Kawrthah and Lokicherra whereas some important places such as Kanhmun and Tuipubari in the Cachar-Tripura border do not have Police Station. Our neighbouring states have and posted Border Police and made Boundary State Gate.

Perhaps we are not aware of the importance of Kanhmun Village. It is bordered Village through which non-Mizos sneaked into Mizoram without Inner Line Permit. I have often stated the importance of posting Police in this bordered village. Is it only at Vairengte Gate where influx of non-

Mizos should be checked ?. It is necessary for the government to have Police Station at this place.

I also want to request the government to immediately consider Police Housing. It is a pity that they are expected to be active and efficient while they do not have proper quarter to live in. I feel that government should also inquire into the reason why the Police Drivers do not entitle the same amount of pay as drawn by other department drivers. If the government improve their conditions I strongly believe that we would have better organised and well-disciplined Police Force.

As we all are aware, our Lieutenant Governor in his address also pay due importance to agriculture, as much as we do. It is almost however, thinable that there is more poverty in places where Agriculture Department exert more works. For example-in Saikhawthlir, which situates in my constituency, the Department used large fund under NEC Scheme. But, there is rarely any Rice terrace to be seen around here. In Lokicherra, on the contrary, there are many Rice fields and Terraces though the government have not used much fund. Hence, I feel that the government should get more involved in the functioning of Agriculture Department. It appears that the government still have not got proper guide-line for the functioning of the Department. This can be seen in their undertakings in and around Phaisen and Bilkhawthlir. Before the project is started, proper investigation should be taken first to know where rice could flourish and where irrigation could easily be done. In my constituency, there is a place called Darlak Phai where rice could flourish and from which place there used to be bumper harvest every year. I have often recommended this place for making project though the government never paid attention to it. I would however, like to inform the House again that there is potentiality in this place for producing rice to meet the requirements of almost the people of Mizoram. I also appeal to the government to visit this place.

As Agriculture Department encouraged, many Garden Colony have sprang up in different places of Mizoram. The Department distributes seedling and transplanted-plants to garden owners. May be it is advantageous and profitable for plant nursery owners, but I don't think garden colony will be successful so much as to improve our economy. I think there will be better improvement if fund, used for Garden Colony are diverted for grants to be given to gardeners who have made their garden prosperous. Truly speaking, there are many persons who have no proper garden but to whom seedlings and plants are given. I hope no one minds my saying this - in my constituency for example - it is persons who talk much and leisure much in the street are always the ones who could get grant-in-aid though their gardens are soon sure to be covered by weeds and grass. It is persons who do not get grant-in-aid from the government who are the ones who make prosperous garden. Such being the condition, the government will do well in taking more care in the allotment of fund for Garden Colony.

Mizoram also participated in the National Agriculture Fair at Calcutta and International Trade Fair in Delhi in which special prizes were won as stated in the address. It seems that these prizes make us think that we have production to be proud of without realizing the reason why we were given. It is necessary to realize how scanty and inadequate is our production in agriculture.

For horticultural improvement, Agriculture Department encourages growing of Cardamom. As stated in the Address, five lakhs large Cardamom clumps were supplied to the cultivators. But, whether this will be successful has to be considered. One clump I have grown has already dried up.

What I am afraid is to spend large amount of fund un-necessarily.

My constituency is I think the most advanced area in Mizoram in the field of fishery but, the functioning of the department in the area is far from satisfactory. There are many persons who have no fish-pond but to whom grant is given. Previously, there is one demonstrator at Sairang who looks after this part of area. Nowadays however, one staff used to come to Bawrai on rare occasions. Perhaps his visit is private for our request is never headed whether it is for fish seeds or to verify our fish-ponds. As there had often been cases where persons who have no fish-pond are given grant-in-aid, I want the Minister to note this-that Fishery Demonstrator is going to be appointed in the near future, and instead of appointing persons who would not want to come and stay in this part of area, candidate from my constituency, who have thorough knowledge of the people and their occupation should be appointed. If candidate from my constituency is appointed I think he would be able submit true report on fishery in this part of area in the Aizawl Office.

As stated in the Address, the Community Development functions as the Nodal Department for implementation of the N.R.E.P and I.R.D.P. It appears that the Departments used to distribute various loans under these centrally sponsored schemes. Veterinary Department in particular also distributed Cattle Loan, Piggery Loan etc. In my constituency however, persons to whom Cattle Loan are given did not purchase Cow or Cattle. If necessary, I can even furnish the name of these loanees. If Cattle loan is given to persons who have no cattle, I wonder when will we develop Mizoram into a progressive state. I have in fact, complained about the case of one Loanee, a High School teacher who have no cattle but, who happens to be useful supporter of P.C. Party. When I complaint about this, I was asked to name one person who has actually taken up Piggery and Cattle rearing. So, I named Congress Unit President. If this is how the Department functions, real progress is far from our grasp.

As stated at para 23 of the address, the Directorate of Local Administration implements schemes for urban development and housing. In pursuance of these schemes we had a committee, with the presence of the Minister. In the Committee we made selection of villages where G.C.I sheets should be allotted. But, villages such as Mamit, Kawrtethawveng and Kanhniun have not been allotted till now whereas more distant places in Chhimtuipui District have already been allotted. I would therefore, like to know the reason for this. Have all the G.C.I sheets for these villages been despatched to Falkawn? As they have been selected, G.C.I sheets should be allotted to them immediately. I want the Minister concerned to look into this matter.

I appreciated the achievements made by Forest Department. There is however, one draw-back in their activities. For example - they chopped down good forest and make Teak or other plantations. But, these plantations are not properly maintained later on thus destroying good forest for nothing. It is therefore, necessary for the Department to be more careful in their activities.

It is also pleasing to note that Public Works Department made many improvements during the past few years. The hon'ble member from Aizawl East Constituency in particular, praised much the achievement of Public Works Department which is quite natural for member whose constituency had improved alot. However, if we go to my constituency as the member must have noticed, we will see that Public Work Department have no achievement in this part of area. As Aizawl is not the whole of Mizoram,

developmental works should not be confined only to this area. A new Sub-Divisional Headquarter is opened at Kawrthah, but it is just in name. for, no improvement has yet been done till today.

Anyway, we are glad to have Sub-Divisional Headquarter and we hope that there will be better and more expeditions improvement in this part of area.

I regret to note that Education and State Social Welfare departments have not taken up any scheme towards the improvement of the life of our youth. It is truly important to know that the life of youth is the mirror of the society. We may also remember that Sports, Games and various other recreational activities prevent our youth from straying into the path of evil.

In the case of Education Department—the Lieutenant Governor, in his address, stated that — 'all the villages including small hamlets have been provided with primary schools manned by Government teachers during the last three years 1979-81'. I regret to say that this statement of our Lieutenant Governor happens to be incorrect. I want to inform the House that there are still many Thlawhbawk villages where there is no school or teacher and where teacher, if there is any, manned school on voluntary basis.

I cannot also fathom the reason why the price of school text books are so high. Not to speak of their prices, we could not even get enough copy to be sold though they are printed and published in Mizoram. I do not know whether it is Board or Education Department who is responsible, but text books printed outside Mizoram, most probably at Calcutta, are more expensive than books printed in Mizoram while we thought that books printed outside Mizoram will be cheaper than those printed in Mizoram as they are more well-equipped and well-facilitated than our Printing Presses in Mizoram.

It is evident that there is great corruption in the printing of school text books. I feel that the Ministry should look into this matter. Why are text books sold at high prices and also enough copy is not available while there are still many schools in villages which have no proper building and where the public take up the construction of their own school on voluntary. As stated by the member from Ratu Constituency, our children have been scolded in the school for not bringing text books that is not available. Why cannot Mizoram government supply enough copy of text book?. It is the government of Mizoram who is responsible for this.

In the case of Health Department—may be we are not fully aware of the difficulty faced by the people of villages. Many candidates from Aizawl are appointed under Health Department when they are posted outside the capital, they do not want to remain in the village for long. Sometimes they come to stay only for 3/4 days and go back to the capital leaving the poor village to their fate. We should be aware that patient who is at Kawrthahweng is afraid to die as much as patient in Aizawl is afraid of. I therefore, desire that priority be given to candidates belonging to villages so that there may be better execution of works in the department. I also believe that there will not be slackness in their duty due to their place of posting if village candidates are appointed.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I will take only 5 more minutes to conclude my speech. As we know, many new buses have been purchased by Supply and Transport Department. The hon'ble member from Ratu Constituency had stated the un-satisfactory condition of Bus Service in his constituent villages. It seems that Kawrthah and Ratu Constituencies are sailing in the same boat. Why is the Bus plying to Phaileng scheduled to leave the station last?. Why cannot they have it started earlier at the time Silchar & Lunglei Buses leave

the Station? Phaileng Bus used to leave so late that it caused many inconveniences to the passengers particularly those who want to reach farther than Phaileng in a day. Besides starting late, Bus allotted for Phaileng used to be very wretched. Such treatment is intolerable for the affected persons.

Lastly, as stated by the member from Ratu Constituency, there was terrible bus accident near Kawnpui. Persons who died and wounded in this accident were given ex-gratia grant by the government. Recently, there was another Bus accident near Tuirial. It was, as stated, Vervek Bus that met an accident. One of the person who died in this accident was our Congress Youth President whose contributions to the party we highly appreciated. But, as no ex-gratia grant is given to the persons affected by this misfortune, I have almost made a conclusion that the government do not want to give ex-gratia grant the Congress members who were also the passengers in this ill fated Bus. I hope that the government of Mizoram will give ex-gratia grant to them as was given in the case of persons affected by Kawnpui Bus accident.

Pu B. LALCHUNGNUNGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, as there is no ample time to discuss every topic in detail, I will make my speech brief. I will only say the general outlines.

At para 7, service rendered by the Police and Para Military Forces was mentioned. When I look back all that had happened since the peace-talk ended and the Police and Military Forces resumed their operations, I appreciated services tendered by our Police & Security Forces. It seems that they have made great improvement especially on comparison to their made of action during the years 1966 and 1977. It appears that the public do not face any more difficulty from our Police and Security Forces since the peace-talk ends.

Recently, that is before I came to Aizawl, I visited Lunglei Thana and I was told by the O.C. that none of the persons arrested was tortured or ill-treated. As a matter of fact, all of them were provided with food and they were properly treated. When I learn this, I wanted to thank the government and the Lieutenant Governor.

I also appreciated efforts made by the government for the improvement and strengthening of MAP organisation. They have, however, certain things to do to strengthen Home Guard Organisation. A proposal made to strengthen this organisation is pending with the government of India. I would therefore, want to request the government to make strenuous efforts to get this proposal finalised.

At para 11, a visit of Mizoram by Central team of experts and the poor harvest of Mizoram and hope for substantial financial assistance based on the report of these experts were mentioned. As a result of the visit of Central team in addition to the efforts made by the Government, a provision of Rs 75 lakhs was allotted to Mizoram under Famine Relief Fund for the year 1981-'82. It seems however, that there is misappropriation of fund. It is learnt that fund is used for construction of godowns in different places. In Lunglei District, the Construction work is given to the individuals on contract basis. If the works are given to individuals on contract basis, it will mean that the government fail in their objective in providing fund for famine affected persons. As it is Relief Fund, it should be utilised for its true purposes. It is not proper to spend it for other purposes. I therefore, would like to advise the government to ensure that fund allotted for Famine Relief is used for its true purposes.

There is Soil Conservation at para 13. The hon-ble members have stated much about Soil Conservation. Hence, I do not intend to say much in this

regard. Soil Conservation, as we know, is one branch of Agriculture Department. But, it is the wish of the people that separate directorate be created for Soil Conservation, which I think will be more advantageous for the public.

I appreciate the activities of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department. In spite of the member's criticism on the allotment of loans under the Department. I still regard their achievements to be great. There are also laonees in my constituency who are overjoyed to receive loan from the Government. I do not think there has been any complete failure in the allotment of loans and other items distributed under the subsidy scheme. The number of cows we have also increased so has the production of milk. I am truly glad that we could now have fresh milk in Lunglei. If there is steady progress, there may come a time when we cook our rice with cow-milk.

The achievements of Public Works Department were mentioned at para 27. In his statements Yesterday, the hon' ble member from Chhimituipui area seemed to be quite apprehensive about the achievement of Public Works Department in their part of area mentioned in the address. Perhaps some of the Departments undertaking are not yet completed at the moment but, if we go to different places in Mizoram, we will see, how progressive is Public Works Department in their works. There have also been lots of improvement in Lunglei District. It is stated that the Annual Plan 1982-83 with an outlay of Rs 520 lakhs envisages formation cutting of 100 kms and metaling and black-topping of 50 kms'. I hope that this too will be achieved. If there is such a vast improvement every year, I think we will soon make Mizoram into a paradise.

I am also glad that the government have laid special emphasis on the availability of power. Besides having electrified 47 villages under rural electrification programme, the number is expected to go up to 64 by the end of current financial year and more power is expected to be available. Besides these, Serlui Micro Hydel Project, Medium Hydel Project and KV Transmission line from Aizawl to Lunglei have been taken up. All these are great achievements for which we should be thankful.

It is pleasing to note that the availability of power is expected to rise to 17.5 megawatt by the end of 1982-83. It is also worth to note that the Bairabi hydel project was inaugurated by Union Minister for Energy on 7th January.

PHE Department have made immense improvement in the last few years. Many villages have been provided with the supply of drinking water. Yesterday, some of the members alleged the government as being concerned with only the welfare upliftment of the conditions of town's people. But, this is wrong allegation. In my constituency for example, there is water-tank in the street and some house-holds have even their house connected with pipe-line, and their gratitude knew no bounds.

There is however, one suggestion, I want to make for better improvement of PHE Deptt. I am of the opinion that there will be better and more expeditious improvement in the activities of the department if they are separated from PWD or if separate department is created for them.

The literacy condition of Mizoram is mentioned at para 36. But as, I have already raised questionnaire yesterday, I will not say anything at this time. I would however, say certain things in the Budget Discussion.

Regarding health services at para 38. It is pleasing to note that there is allocation of Rs 120 lakhs for opening of New Primary Health Centres. But many

developmental activities have not reached my constituency. For example—there is no Police out-post, Hence, it is our desire that Primary Health Centre be opened at least in one of my constituent villages. I believe that the Minister also will give special consideration to what I demand in regard.

At para 39, there is Co-operative Society. As stated in the address, 7 Large size agricultural multi-purpose societies (LAMPS) have been set up. It seems however, that these are all confined to Aizawl District. In Lunglei district, there is not a single society of that kind. In this case, I do not blame the government. According to information collected, it appears that it is the Registrar who is responsible for not having such society set up in Lunglei District. It is learnt that he (the Registrar) used to give report that setting up such society in Lunglei District is impossible. If this happens to be true, it is very unfortunate for the people of Lunglei District. I do not know why it is not possible to set up such large-size society in Lunglei District. I want to inform the House that Lunglei District is suitable enough for setting up Large-size agricultural multipurpose society.

It is pleasing to note that supply condition improved immensely due to efforts made by the government. In Lunglei, the governments godown is already filled up with rice. In fact, Town Hall has to be used for additional godown. There is so many quintals of rice in the godowns that some persons have in fact, complained that Brig. T. Sailo has too many rice brought in that Town Hall also could not be used for public meeting.

I am also glad for the improvement of Mizoram State Transport. If P.C Ministry is the party which forms, the government for another five years term, there may be too many buses. As we know, the government have buses operated in many different directions. But no bus is yet operated to Thingfal. Though I dare not say that we will kill an ox—for giving thanks, but, the people would be thankful if bus is operated for Thingfal.

There is one more thing I want to say. What I intend to say concerns every Mizo not only the people of my constituency. As we are aware, many Mizos have gone to live and studied in different parts of India. There are also times when we go to Delhi or Calcutta on medical ground or for various reason. As we have experienced, some Mizos have met accident or died in some of the Indian cities. But, as there is great difficulty in bringing the dead body to Mizoram, the dead have to be buried in the soil of other states. Nevertheless, as piece of land for burying the dead also has to be purchased in big cities, the Mizos used to meet many difficulties. I am therefore, suggesting that one bigha of land be purchased for graveyard, in the Indian cities where there are a good number of Mizos so that we may no more have difficulty when misfortune befallen the Mizo community outside Mizoram. I am thinking that if the government could consider this matter.

Thank you.

PU K.LALSANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, it is evident that the government is sensitive to the wishes of th people, for, almost all the contents of the address are pleasing things.

Not only the provision of the Budget increased this year, but, preventive measures are also being taken to check corruption in the implementation of various schemes for further improvement.

I am happy that the behaviour of the Police and Security Forces have improved. The most popular complaint of the Mizos since disturbances used to be the atrocities of the Police and Security Forces. But now, there is much improvement in this regard. If I am not mistaken, it is gathered that none of the persons arrested on ground of suspect is being tortured or ill-treated. It appears that Mizoram moved some steps further towards peaceful living which is run doubtly great improvement.

Besides mentioning various efforts made by the government for improvement of agriculture, the Lieutenant Governor also mentioned steps to be taken further towards this end.

One of the members alleged that Cardamom growing is a failure in Mizoram which is not however, true, for, it is very successful in my constituency. I therefore, want to inform the House that Cardamom growing could be successful in Mizoram.

In the case of Agriculture - as stated by the members, I feel that we have not explored enough fertile areas where Agriculture could flourish. For example - Tuisenphai which situates in my constituency is the area where all the fertile soil flow in. If some amount of works is put to cultivate this place, I think it will serve useful purpose for fulfilment of our policy and the Prime Minister's 20 Point Programme. I therefore, want the government to note this.

Government's intention to create community assets through the Community Development Programme was mentioned at para 19. The Programme includes rural communication. As we all are aware, communication is one of the most important factors for further improvement of the people and the country. Many of our complaints would not have been made if there is good communication in every constituency. Being the key-factor to various other improvements, communication should be given special importance particularly in remote and far-flung areas.

Under para 20, there is implementation of N.R.E.P. If I am not mistaken, it seemed that many of the members are still confused about the implementation of this programme. We may not yet know the detailed implications of this programme to have it implemented fully as it should be, but, I want to inform the house that this programme was the saviour of many hundred persons in my constituency at the time famine was most severe last year. If fully implemented, N.R.E.P is the source of money. I hope that the government will find the way to have the money utilised purposefully.

Regarding allotment of GCI Sheets under Local Administration Deptt. at para 23 the member from Kawrthah Constituency asked as to where GCI sheets were allotted. I do not know about Aizawl District, but, in Lunglei District centres where the sheet should be allotted are already selected. As there is transport difficulty for far-flung villages, the Department intends to make transport arrangement for them. Hence, I want to inform the members that the government have really taken up developmental works besides what is stated in the Address.

Mizoram is fairly rich in forest products. But, as stated earlier, there can be clash of works with Agriculture Department. For example - areas reserved by Forest Department in the valley of Tuisenphai are fertile land, good for agriculture. It is not that we do not appreciate the activities of Forest Department, but, their achievement, on the other hand caused hindrance to cultivators in their agriculture. Both the department should therefore, do well in making proper arrangement between them so as to avoid clash of works.

At para 27, there is communication. As we are aware, Public Works Department have had many achievements. The roads in Lunglei town have been black-topped and the roads in Aizawl town have also been widened. One of the things for which, I particularly want to extend my thanks is the opening of new Division at Lunglei. It is actually great achievement that comes beyond the expectation of the people.

I am also happy to note that construction of strategic road to interior places such as Thenzawl - Bunglei have been taken up. However, I want the authorities to note that the people are anxiously waiting for the time the work is started and completed. It may be noted that the work, though claimed to have been taken up is not yet started till today.

As stated at para 31, the government have laid special emphasis on the availability of power. In pursuance of rural electrification programme, electric-power engine is being installed at Lunglei and the work also have been started. Besides this, Hauruang has recently been electrified and Vanhne is soon to be given connection.

One thing I want to mention is that some of the members seemed to be finding nothing in the achievements of the government on which to give thanks. Truly speaking, it is not gentlemanly for anyone if we have no sense to appreciate the good deeds or achievement of others. I feel that it is the responsibility of the members to honour each other's achievement.

Education had been partly discussed yesterday. I would however, like to discuss it in more detail. There is government's order that all Middle school teachers, except those recognized before 1978, who have not passed P.U.C. will have their appointment cancelled. In my constituency, more than half the number of Middle schools are given recognition only after 1978 which could mean that Matriculate teachers who have not passed P.U.C. will have to lose their service which they have held on voluntary ground for more than 10 years. If the order is being enforced, it is certain that the schools will suffer. It is also unlikely that persons who have P.U.C. or B.A. qualification would go and volunteer to work in a remote-corner such as my constituency. Such being the complications, will it not be better to cancel the order if the government have not made final decision? Even if it is not cancelled, I think they should be given some years' chance to acquire P.U.C. qualification, otherwise, the public will suffer too much.

Hindi has become more popular than before not only in India but, all over the world. It appears that it is going to be popularized more and more even in Mizoram. If I am not mistaken, Hindi is introduced only from Middle School level in Mizoram, which in my opinion, is not enough. As what we learn at early childhood have more vivid impression in our minds, I feel that Hindi should be introduced also at Primary School level. I think this will help us, to a great extent in our education of Hindi.

Regarding Primary School - I have stated shortage of primary school teacher in my constituency. In my way of thinking, it is more advantageous for the people of my constituency to employ local person acquiring only class VI qualification than employing outsider from Aizawl or Lunglei who has B.A. qualification. The reason, as I have often said is that no qualified teacher really wanted to come and work in a remote corner such as my constituency even if they are posted there. If there is no teacher, the school has to be closed. Even if they come, they stayed and opened school only for 2/3 days and go back to Aizawl again leaving school children without a teacher. This has bad effect on school children. I do not know what measures should the government take in this regard, but, equal distribution of teachers may be well advised. However, this may mean depriving some

persons of their likelihood as there could be persons who prefer resigning to being posted in remote and far-flung area while on the other hand, education is an important thing that cannot be neglected. What decision will the government make in this entangle?. What is more important—education or to save some persons from losing their livelihood ? It is truly necessary to consider what steps to be taken to implement universalisation of education.

As stated earlier, sport is an important and healthy recreation for youths. A separate directorate should therefore, be created for our Sports Council. I also feel that higher authorities should be approached to include any of the persons from Mizoram as member in the Indian Sport Council so as to strengthen our Sport Council.

Bus Service is mentioned at para 40. The Mizoram State Transport is operating Bus services in 27 different routes. I am also glad that Bus service is operated to Shillong for students, while we were students at Shillong, there had never been Bus service operated from Aizawl to Shillong. From Lunglei, Bus service is operated to Tlabung but, there is none for Lunglei. The Bus plying from Lunglei to Tlabung used to be so crowded that the people of Lungsen have great difficulty in getting transport. I therefore, request the government to arrange Bus for the people of Lungsen.

Lastly, restoration of the institution of Village Councils to Thlawhbawks is great achievement of the government. I am truly glad that many Thlawhbawks are given back their power after they have been deprived of it for so many years. As stated, it is an achievement worth to be recorded in the history of Mizoram, considering all that had happened since villages are deprived of their power due to disturbances. I hope and believe that we will adopt and pass this motion of thanks on Lieutenant Governor Address.

Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now have recess. But, sitting will be resumed at 2 p.m in the afternoon.

Afternoon sitting 2 : 00 P.M.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will continue our discussion. Five members have stood up in the morning sitting. As in the case of members who have stood up, 20 minutes each will again be allotted to one member. Now, Pi Thansiami may speak.

* PI K. THANSIAMI : Pu Deputy Speaker, I am glad to have an opportunity to speak on the Address delivered by the Lieutenant Governor. I do not however, intend to say much.

On scrutiny of the address, we will realize that it is full of pleasing things and also facts. As we, human beings have happiest moment to recall in one's lifetime, the government also may have certain period to recall when the pace of development is fastest than in other periods. After 20/30 years, we may recall the period of the present Ministry as being the the time when the temps of development is fastest. As I do not intend to say much, I will only make few additions to what other members have said.

The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, highly appreciated the services of the police and Security Forces. He also stated Government's attention to the welfare of the Police. In 1981-82, Rs 28 lakhs was provided for the construction of Police Houses and another Rs 48 lakhs was proposed in the Annual Plan 1982-83 for the same. What comes in my mental picture is the deteriorated condition of Aizawl Thana Building. It is so congested that there could not be even separate room for female prisoners. I, therefore, desire that reconstruction of Thana Building be included in the Police Housing Scheme.

The organisation of Home Guards is mentioned at para 9. Their service is also quite appreciated, particularly female Home Guards who are entrusted to Traffic control. However, traffic-control is the duty of the Police. Hence, it may not be right to use Female Home Guards for traffic duty if they not enjoy the pay other than that of Home Guards. I do not know what steps have been taken for creation of woman Police Force. But, as I have often said in the House, I am longing to see Woman Police standing at traffic-controls and I desire that Woman Police Force be set up in Mizoram at an early date.

The governor have been taking steps for improvement of Fishery in Mizoram. However, as stated by one of the members in the morning sitting it appears that some of the department staff are not sincere in their duties. I feel that action should be taken against such departmental staff to make them abandon their way of insincerity. At the same time, it is also necessary for the people to co-operate the government in their attempt to increase the production of fish. As we may be aware, we, the public are also responsible for hempering the progress of the government in Fishery. We are too lazy to catch them by hand, so, some kinds of medicine are used, killing all the fishes that are there in the river. If we want to have more fish, such method of catching fish should be stopped immediately and the government also should take strong measures to prevent mass killing of fishes by human errors.

It is pleasing that State Houses and Residential quarters have been constructed. The construction and plan of new MLA Hostel is in fact, quite satisfactory. But, the residential quarters constructed for Civil Hospital do not seem to be well-planned. One flat has to be shared by two families, but, there is only one small entrance-door. This may be quite confusing for patients coming to consult doctors. They will have difficulty in locating the exact-entrance of the room where the doctor whom they come to consult resides. As stated in the address, the government have proposed many more buildings to be constructed. I feel that proper-planning should be made before any building is constructed.

Mizo Customary Law, which I regarded as one of the most important subjects is being mentioned at para 50, for which I am thankful. I am also glad that Committee on Mizo Customary Law is constituted. As we are aware, all kinds of evils have sprang up in the Mizo society though no one wants evils. One of the main reasons why evils sprang up so fast in the society is the children born out of wedlock.

The Mizo Customary Law has provisions to deal with this particular problem. If we look back the past years, we will realize that the Mizo womenfolk have many reasons for shedding silent tear. This particular topic covered one whole day discussion at M.H.I.P. Conference which was attended by many women-folks coming from different places. This subject attracts wide range of discussion not only in the Conference which makes it obvious that the old Mizo Customary Laws need modifications and reforms. I am truly glad that the government have taken measures to uplift the deteriorated conditions of the Mizo Women. However, I feel that there are certain things to say regarding the formation of the Commi-

tee, we know that all the members of the Committee are good old faithful persons, but, we, women have already studied the conditions of their families and we are a little doubtful whether they will fully understand the undesirable conditions of womenfolks in the Mizo society. Hence, it will be a good thing if the present standing committee could be expanded so as to include members from different family background and who have had varied experiences. Otherwise, if the committee whose members have not had much experience themselves make bias decision, the women-folk may have to shed again silent tears. I therefore, desire and request the government to make Customary Laws without prejudice.

Lastly, I appreciate efforts made by the government for restoration of the institution of Village Councils to Thlawhbawks. When I consider efforts made by them and proposals for further developments, I realize more and more how reliable is our government.

Pu L. Piandenga : Pu Deputy Spcaker, I am glad that the Lieutenant Governor delivered a speech to the House. I do not intend to say point by point. I will only say the outline.

The address stated its regret for the breakdown of the peace talk. Various achievements and effort to be made further for development may not be satisfactory all-together. But, I think we should still be thankful for what the government have done to develop our territory.

As stated by the Lieutenant Governor in his address, everyone is touched by the breakdown of peace Talks between the MNF and the government of India and I also regret that Peace—Talks have been used for political weapon against one party to another. I feel that we should stop making false accusation against one another merely to win over the public in the politics struggle. As there is none who is not desirous of peace, it is necessary for the House to condemn all these wrong allegations we have often heard.

The departments have made achievement in various fields of development. Some achievements were appreciated and some of them were criticized for not being done satisfactorily. Some members have even stated development as nothing if there is no permanent peace in the territory. This slogan had often been used for political instrument. It is a fact that permanent peace is what Mizoram thrives for. Nevertheless, development is also what we require. The government is aware of the need for further improvement in different walks of life and due importance is given to all round development. To achieve this end, all out efforts were made and achievements made by the departments are the reflection of the government. Our competition also should be directed towards development instead of criticizing and accusing each other for what is done for further development. Actually, what we found in the address are things that are advantageous to the individuals and the people and the country. Hence, not only the members, but the people also owe thanks to the government for what they have done for us all.

Some of the members have stated about Police Organisation. The government have also been urged to pay more attention to the welfare of the Police. As stated, the Police require residential quarters and Thana Building has to be reconstructed. At present, they are living in a scattered area as there is no proper quarter to occupy. Truly speaking, living with other civilians has bad effect on their morale and standard of working. I feel that the government should immediately have quarters constructed for the Police so that they may have better cooperation and devotion to duty.

It being great achievement, every member mentioned about restoration of the institution, of village councils to Thlawhbawks. As we are not the

ones affected, we may not know how pleasing it is to get back village council after so many years of deprivation. To the people affected, it is like chickens being let out of a cage in the morning. It is great achievement which I cannot omit in my speech.

Thank you.

PU ELLIS SAIDENGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, the Address, as we see, is a small booklet in which the detailed achievements, activities and programmes of the government could not be all written down as expected by some of the members. It is only a brief outline of what they have achieved and aimed to pursue further.

The address, in general, is quite satisfactory though there could be criticism due to enthusiasm. However, to criticize or regard every achievement of the government as a mere headache should not be the way to work for the welfare of the people. I feel that the opposition members have things to learn in this regard.

The Lieutenant Governor clearly stated the reason why the peacetalks end. I hope there would be no more allegation against the Chief Minister or P.C. Party as being the cause for failure of peace dialogue. If we read para 2 of the address, we will know who is responsible for the breakdown of the peacetalks.

At para 3, he stated efforts made by the government for achievement of lasting peace, and the difficulties faced by them. He also stated the reason why it is necessary to resume operation. I am glad that 163 misguided youth of the MNF have come overground to join the mainstream of life. Yesterday, the member from Tlungvel constituency alleged the government as rearresting MNF personnel who had surrendered. But, what we should know is that ex-MNF personnel also could be rearrested if they do wrong.

The Lieutenant Governor stated, at para 7, his appreciation of the morale and discipline of the Police Force. In the past years, there used to be many complaints about their morale and many difficulties confronted the public due to atrocities of the Police and Security Forces. But now, the Police are well-disciplined and they maintain good morale. I am truly glad for this.

Many new posts have been sanctioned for re-organisation and strengthening the Mizoram Police. Last year, I moved a private resolution for creation of more Police-out post on which the Minister made an assurance. Since the present strength is going to be expended, I hope and believe that Police-out post will now be created in different important places of Mizoram.

It is pleasing that the government gives the highest priority to Agriculture. They have taken up extensive plans for achievement of self-sufficiency in food production. But, as lots of money is going to be required for this, it will be necessary for the government to be more careful in the utilization of fund.

There is great improvement in Fishery. It appears that the people have now realized the advantages of taking up this occupation. If I am not mistaken, I think there are two State Fishery Farms in Mizoram both of which are in Aizawl District. There is one pond at Zobawk which would be very suitable for State Fishery Farm. I want the government to investigate this pond.

The achievements of Forest Department are now to be seen in different places. New Divisions, are opened at Darlawn and Mamit. Besides this they have many plans and programmes to pursue further. Dampa Wild Life Sanctuary is another notable achievement of Forest Department. It appears however, that Chakma settlers have been destroying and devastating this forest. I feel that strong measures should be taken immediately to preserve the forest and its products.

Having laid special emphasis on the necessity of power, the government have made many achievement in this line. It is inevitably necessary to be thankful for what they have done. I am surprised that some of the members do not seem to be thankful. Had our forebearers who have died long ago risen again from their graves, I think they will be surprised to see our improvement in electricity. Besides the construction of Hydel Power at Bairabi, the construction of 132 KV Transmission Line from Aizawl to Lunglei have been taken up. It is understood that the government will face many difficulties in their attempt to provide more power and the Projects we have started also may not be completed as early as desired. We should therefore, try to understand and be contented with progress we've made step by step.

Government also have given special importance to water supply. As stated in the address, 21 villages have been covered by piped water Supply. A numbers of projects have also been started in different places to provide more supply of drinking water to the public. Due to our enthusiasm, we want the projects to be completed expeditiously. For example In Lunglei water-pump is installed to draw water from Tlawng river and pipe lines have covered its surrounding areas upto Hnahthial. However, the machine could not be operated upto this day. Hence, I want the Department to take more vigorous steps to have water drawn by this machine at an early date.

Education had been broadly discussed. Though I appreciated efforts made by the government. I feel that they have but certain things neglected. For the mizos, education is the only line by which we can keep pace with other parts of the country. Considering its importance, we may do well to make it as one of the basic needs and more fund should also be provided for improvement of education in Mizoram.

Shortage of teachers had often been mentioned. It is a fact that many more teachers are required. Nevertheless, we may do well to examine ourselves in this regard. When we were children, there used to be only one teacher in the school even where there are hundred or more children. Nowadays however, there used to be 4/5 teachers in a school wher there are about forty children. If only one teacher also can look -after 100 or more children, I wonder why four or five teachers cannot lookafter only forty children. I think it is nesasary to investigate the performance of teachers in the present days.

It is pleasing to note steps taken by the government for improvement of supply condition. But, one of my constituent villages-Cherhlun has been starving all along till the present day. Whereas Contractor to carry supplies has also not been appointed. What I am afraid is that supply will not be reached there before Monsoon. Hence, I request the government to see to this matter.

Lastly, it is pleasing that the government of India have agreed to restore the institution of Village Councils to Thlawhbawks. It is truly a great achievement. But, our opposition members do not express their joy on this achievement for which I regret. Considering all the hardships the people of thlawhbawks have faced since they are deprived of their power, it is a joy and great achievement for them to get back the power they valued much. Such being the case, I feel that I should extend my thanks to the government for this.

Thank you.

*PU BUALHRANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, there are 4/5 things which I want to say regarding the address.

First of all, it is regarding peace settlement. Much had been said on this topic. As stated, the breakdown of the Peace Talks between the MNF and the government of India touched us all. The Lieutenant Governor also stated the commitment made by the government himself to usher lasting peace and tranquility and the government is ready to strain every nerve to achieve this. Though I am happy to know that the government is intending to make continuous efforts for achievement of peace in Mizoram, I could not help remembering certain things and incidents that had happened whenever there is going to be election. If we are entrusted to shouldering the responsibility of the country, I feel that we should stop making false propagations regarding the peace-talks as this only harass the people.

Frankly speaking, I could not but wonder when I consider various incidents that had taken place in the recent past. There was ambushed at the outskirts of Muallungthu and B.R.T.F labourers were attacked in Serchhip to Thenzawl road. Again, C.R.P were ambushed near Bilkhawthlir and a Civil Bus was burnt near the outskirts of Kawnpui. If we look back all these incidents, we may have realized that in the past, there had often wrong allegations made to hamper peace process. Our Chief Minister, in particular, was accused of using the Police for instrument in many of these incidents. The statement 'of allegations has still ring in my mind. If the statement was based on facts, I could understand. But, to make such a baseless statement merely to win-over public's support, I wonder where will Mizoram be heading to. Fortunately however, the Lieutenant Governor, in his address clearly stated efforts made by the P.C. Ministry to usher peace in Mizoram. I am glad that the government is ready to strain every nerve in the time to come for attainment of lasting peace.

One of the hon'ble members said that the Lieutenant Governor's statement regarding Village Council election clashed with the prevailing atmosphere before and during the election. He said that the Congress Party was alleged as distributing circular of intimidation issued by the MNF. But, if we carefully study the statement of the Lieutenant Governor, we will realize that his wording—'peacefully and without any untoward incidents' does not imply such activity as distribution of circular for the MNF. As we all know, the election was held peacefully. Whether or not there was intimidation or threatening of lives, I want to remind the House the Village Council Election was held peacefully and without any un—toward incidents.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I could not but be thankful for what the government have done for further development. If people—elected have actually taken up developmental works, Mizoram, which had before been neglected, is no more neglected. It is evident that Mizoram has entered into a new era under the present Ministry. Railroad, we have never expected to see in Mizoram, has come to be materialised. Perhaps we are thinking that it is only for the rich and wealthy businessmen that Railroad is going to be constructed. It is not so, it is in fact, for the advantage of the people that Mizoram has to be linked with Railroad.

Hydro- Electric Power Project, which will have an installed capacity of 160 megawatts is going to be started. This will make Mizoram self sufficient in power and we would be able to set up industries and raw-materials found in Mizoram will no more be wasted. It is needless to say how advantageous it will be when all these projects are completed. Dams constructed for them for generating electricity also will be advantages for ginger growers as it will be possible for them to dispose of their productions by boat to Silchar at cheaper rate than by vehicle. When I consider all the advantages we are going to have when all these projects are completed, I could not but be thankful to the government.

Amidst many difficulties, the government have made some progress in the field of agriculture. As we know, it is not possible to make large-scale improvement within a short span of year. If we consider the requirements of the people, the achievement we have made is still in-adequate. But, if we study Economic History, we will know that it takes 50 to 100 years to change the economical face of the country. Let us not therefore, expect that our economic problem will be solved just within 2/3 years. We should not however, slacken out pace of development. The Agriculture deptt. also will do well to find marketing channel for their productions so that the people who worked hard with sweat and tear to improve their economy may be rewarded. We may be aware that there could be slackness if we feel that our labour is not rewarded.

Hence, I think it will be necessary to find marketing channel for the productions of our cultivators. One pleasing thing I want to mention is that the Agriculture Department, for the last 3 years, used to send Truck to Serchhip to collect agricultural products of Serchhip and its surrounding areas to be sold at Aizawl market. This had not only encouraged the cultivators but also provided, the people of Aizawl fresh vegetables. I therefore, urge the department to pay more attention to marketing side.

I think we all are aware of the importance of water to human beings. It is one of the most important sources of life and clean water is needed for healthy living. Regarding water supply— I appreciate the achievement of PHE for the improvement of water supply. Many places now have water Tank near their houses. For persons brought up in Villages we will know how pleasing and advantageous it is to have water tank near our houses. In villages where scarcity of water is acute, one has to wait the whole night for his turn to draw-water from the Spring. For persons who have to face such hardship it is inevitably necessary to thank the government for what they have done. The government also will do well to investigate springs that can be drawn by gravitational force. These kinds of spring are to be found also in Keitum and Thenzawl in my constituency. If I am not mistaken, it is learnt that proposal had been made for construction of more watertank for public use. I desire that the proposal be implemented at an early date. As it is people's government, the government should continue to make efforts for improvement of water supply.

Thank you

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we will call upon the Minister concerned to make classifications.

*PU F. MALSAWMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, the hon'ble members have stated about many things.

First of all, much had been said regarding school text books and the government also have come to learn complaints lodged against text books. However, as it is under Board of School Education, information has to be collected from this end. Education Secretary had been given order on 4th of this month to investigate the matter.

The hon'ble member from Aizawl East Constituency mentioned about Sericulture. As stated, it is necessary to educate the public to know the advantage of this employment.

Previously, only the sign board of Sericulture could be seen. But now, the people have come to know and realize the advantage of Silk-worm rearing and many households have started this employment. However, there are yet many things to do in this line and the government will remember what the members suggested.

The member from Kawrthah Constituency alleged that there is no provision for Games and Sports. It may be noted that the real budget is not yet opened, but, provision for Games and Sport was made in last year's Budget. In the last financial year, Central Govt. provided Rs 2 lakhs for this. Hence, the members may note that the government have taken steps to improve recreational activities of the youths. One Deputy Director post had also been created under Physical Education Wing.

Regarding education - it appears that the members do not accept the statement - 'all the villages including small hamlets have been provided with Primary Schools manned by government teachers and Aided teachers'. This does not cover small hamlets which has only 2/3 families. This only mean that villages and small hamlets which have been proposed to be provided with teachers have nearly been provided all. As we may be aware, there are also villages which have been proposed to be provided with teachers but could not be given due to financial difficulty.

What the member from Tawipui Constituency said regarding the setting up of LAMPS in Lunglei Dist. was true. But, we may not be aware that LAMPS could not be set up simply in area where we want to set up. Besides the potentiality of the area, there are some factors to be considered such as whether there will be profit had LAMPS been set up in the particular are. Nevertheless, government will continue to make efforts for strengthening and multiplying co-operative societies to cater the needs of the people.

The hon'ble member from Buarpui Constituency pointed out the case of Middle School teachers who have not had the prescribed qualification P.U.C but who rendered service on voluntary in remote places. As stated, it is a delicate matter which requires serious thinking. What we also have to consider whether we will do right in giving special consideration to such teachers to the extent of lowering the standard of education in remote areas while higher standard of education is being emphasized all over Mizoram. However, I hope that the Department will try to find a solution to the problem faced by some interior-villages, though I cannot assure the members that the department will certainly do this.

The hon'ble members have stated many important things which I have noted down. They were good advice and suggestions worth to note down. However, what we should remember is that what we say or suggest should be realistic. Some of us, particularly, the opposition members used to suggest things to do which even they themselves will not be able to do had they

been in power. Hence, what we said should be realistic and approachable. It is also not fair to ask others to do things which we, ourselves could not do or to point out the faults of others when they happen to do good or make notable achievement. For instance - there was saying that Hydel Power Project may not be materialized even though all the investigation works had been done. This kind of talk can implant doubt in the minds of the people thus lowering the ability of the government. What we gathered from the speech of the Lieutenant Governor is therefore, the possibility of achieving thing which had once been impossible. One good example is restoration of the institution of village council to Thlawhbawks. During the previous Ministry, the people were allowed to stay in Thlawhbawk only for a year at a time that is when they have to work in jhums. But, now, they are made permanent villages which is a notable achievement. The speech of the Lieutenant Governor is therefore, worth appreciation.

Thank you.

***PU LALHMINGTHANGA MINISTER:** Pu Deputy Speaker, we have had interesting discussion on the Lieutenant Governor's address. I found nothing much which needs clarification in the speeches of the members. However, there are certain things I noted down and which I want to clarify.

The member from Tlungvel Constituency charged that it was legally right on the part of the government to demand cash payment for bailing out a person.

He even mentioned the name of the person he bailed, The name was Shri R C. Khuma. The reason why the government demand cash-payment is that since the last 2 years, there are a number of U. T. P. (Under Trial Prisoners) who are out on bail. Taking this for an advantage, the MNF used to recruit them back to their organisation intimidating the Magistrates not to take any action, against the bailers even if the persons they bailed run away. Such being the condition, cash-payment is demanded from the bailers.

The hon'ble member from Tlungvel Constituency stated about rural housing and allotment of land to the landless. He said that rural housing is one of the Prime Minister's 20 Point Programme. When the Central Minister for works and Housing called a conference of state Ministers on 4th & 5th February, we had 2 days discussion in which 20-Points Economic Programme was also discussed. The condition on which allotment of land is based under the 20-Points Programme is not actually applicable to Mizoram. In other parts of India, landless are those for whom there is no way of ever acquiring land. If we study their land tenure system, we will know that there is no plan for them to acquire land. They are persons/families who have no place to lay their heads.

In Mizoram however, there is no such problem as that of which we find in other states. Density of our population is only about 23 per sq. The only problem for us is to acquire land in the specific land or area where we so desire. Particularly in villages, no one really has land problem as they are under the jurisdiction of Village Councils. In Aizawl also for example, there are stretches of land to be acquired in the surrounding area of Lengpui though it is hard to acquire in the specific are/locality where we want to acquire. To put it plainly, Mizoram has no landless problem as that which other states are facing.

Implementation of housing scheme was also discussed in the conference. However, there are many good things we discussed which are not applicable to Mizoram. For, instance-let us take 'slum clearance'. 'Slum' is defined as 'a place/are where there is no sanitary system or water supply and

where building materials are local materials easily perishable' when I said that except Minister's and Secretaries' Bungalows, Mizoram is a slum, they could not believe it though it is a fact if we go by the definition of 'Slum'. There is no sanitary system nor is there proper water supply and our building materials are all local materials. The Assembly Hall itself is no exception as it is not RCC Building. Such being the condition, there is difficulty in applying to Mizoram all that which other state governments are intending to apply to their states.

Take the case of Rural Housing Loan for example-as there are some differences in our land tenure systems, new laws have to be made for Mizoram. Hence, there have often been difficulty in applying scheme/programme to Mizoram which are applicable to other states. Nevertheless, the government have been making plan for advancement of Housing Loan to rural people. Some Rural Villages which have not been declared as protected area are going to be declare for them to be able to have land settlement without which housing loan could not be allotted. Revenue Department is also taking steps to speed up land settlement.

The same member stated about advance payment made to Band Standard Firm for supply of materials for the construction of water Tank Reservoir. As stated, steps are being taken for construction of water tank Reservoir in different villages. Almost 220 villages are proposed to be given such reservoir. The government have also decided to stock materials in the Store which will be issued later through the contractors. To supply the materials, a government's Firm-Band Standard Firm is given supply order it is believed that they will be more reliable than Private Firms. As regards advance payment-we have not checked up the matter thoroughly. Anyway, what we should know is that the Band Standard Firm is not private firm. It is governmental Firm. (Pu C.L.Ruala-could the government give contract work to a Firm whether they are reliable or not without calling quotation ?. It was 12 lakhs of rupees not 15 lakhs which the government have given to this Firm as advance payment.)

We will look into the matter. As we may be aware, Public Works Department has different kinds of rules for purchase of materials. All these rules are formed and approved by Departmental Board not by one/two individual Officers. Hence, I don't think there was any unfair means in the selection of Band Standard Firm. But, regarding the amount already paid as advance payment, we will have to look into it.

Since special emphasis is laid on Power, much had been said about it. Various investigations have been taken up. Bairabi Hydel Project is one of the most talked about regarding Power. The investigation work on this project was recently inaugurated. The investigation is for its dam construction not the potentiality of the river. What we should know is that the project will not be abandoned again even if the report on the present stage of investigation is not upto the mark though we should give due importance to investigation. I think we remember the importance of investigation stated by the Union Minister for Energy when he inaugurated Bairabi Hydel Project.

The hon'ble member from Tuipang Constituency seemed to doubt covering of 21 villages by piped water supply. For those who have not seen it on the spot, it may not be easy to believe. But, these are the villages which have, some of them partially, been covered by piped water supply - Vairengte, Bilkhawthir, Lungdai (partially), East Phaileng, Thenzawl, Lokicherra, Bairabi, Sialsuk, Hortoki, Ruallung, Champhai, Khawruhlian, Nisapui, Kawnpui (partially), Kanhmun (ring well system), Rangvumual, Baktawng, Pangzawl, Hauruang, Bualte, Zobawk. Besides these there are villages which have been covered but which have not been opened.

The same member also seemed to doubt the reality of the statement at

para -27 of the Address which is -in the current year, 90 Km of formation cutting and 17 Km of Black topping have been completed! Let me name places where formation cutting and black topping were done. In Champhai, 1 1/2 of town road is black-topped, 1/2 km of Lawngtlai town road, Km 10 of internal road in Aizawl, and Km 5 of Lunglei Town road. If we add together all these Kilometres, it makes 17 Kilometres. But, in actual fact, roads that had been black-topped will be more than 17 Kms length.

Roads where information - cutting have been done are - Lunglei - Kawmzawl also named River Tlawng 4 Km, Lunglei Ring road - 2 Km, Zobawk, - Haulawng 5 Km, Lunglei - Buarpui 10 Km, Mission veng thlang road 3 Km, Kolasib - Tipaimuk 12 Km, Thenzawl - Chhipphir 6 Km, Lungsen - Chawngte 3 Km, Chawngte - Borapansuri 12 Km, Aizawl - Churachandpur 15 Km, Saiha - Bualpui - Sangau 4 Km, Saiha - Chhualung - Zawngling - Tuipang road 2.5 Km, Ratu - Suangpuiawn 3 Km, Saitual - Phullen 3 Km. In this case, only the completed portions are being mentioned. Had we included all those portions which have not been completed, it will be more than 30 Km where information - cutting is done.

One other thing I want to mention is that no development could be completed at one instant. There is also a saying - 'Rome was not built in a day'. Particularly, Mizoram is newly created state. It is only since 1972 Mizoram have its own Government. Whichever party forms the Government, it is not going to be an easy task to bring all-round development within a short span of time. There are various difficulties to come across. The climatic condition and morale condition also play an important role in the development of the country. What is most important is to co-operate each other in our attempts to develop the country. Our discussion should therefore, be with an objective to bring fruitful result for all. It is also important to have constructive discussion not only in the present discussion but also in times to come. It is for this that we are elected by the people.

Thank you.

PU P.B.ROSANGA MINISTER. : Pu Deputy Speaker, I have noted down quite a number of things to clarify in what the members said in our discussion. They are however, integrated topics. Particularly, quite a number of things were said regarding agriculture and the allied departments. It appears that various difficulties pointed out in the discussion are mostly difficulty faced by the government and the cultivators. There is nothing much to clarify in this regard. I will therefore, make clarification of only an outline. It is understood that many programmes under Agriculture Department are not implemented satisfactorily. But if we seriously consider the reasons, we may realize that all of us are responsible. For example - the hon'ble member from Kawrthah constituency pointed out lack of sincerity in the people particularly those persons to whom seedlings were given. He said that the persons to whom seedlings were given are the ones who roamed much about the street in his constituency whereas persons who were not given seedlings are the ones who are most sincere in their works.

Similarly in the case of the allotment of cattle - loan, it was stated that the persons to whom cattle - loan was given do not have any cattle. If the person to whom seed plants was given does not do any planting, it is quite impossible for the government to do the works. Agriculture Department usually have one Gram Sevak posted to look after 4-6 Villages/places. Hence, it is not possible for a single staff to watch closely the activities of the people of different places. In this case, it is the public who are responsible for un-satisfactory implementation of agriculture programmes. I think I have made an appeal to the House 2/3 times to reform the morale of the public in this regard. I feel that the members, whom the people elected have great responsibility towards the reformation of the morale of the public. As I have done before, I will, once again, appeal to the House to take

drive towards the reformation of the morale of the public to do away such in-sincerity in the public.

It is also learnt that some of the cattle-loanees do not take up the employment of cattle-farming. (Pu C.L. Ruila - it is because loans are given in cash though cows are to be given at subsidised rate). Yes, I will explain that. It seems that the member is not clear about the scheme. It may be noted that there are different kinds of loans under Loan Scheme. Distribution of loans is made on the basis of the selection made by the Loan Board. The board members consisted of official, non-official and members from ruling and opposition parties. As they are persons from different walks of life who make the selection, it is not fairly just to allege that loan is given to persons inclined to P.C. Party or to think that loan is distributed in a concentrated area in a particular constituency. I think we will do well to remember that it is our common responsibility to have various programmes implemented successfully.

The hon'ble member from Tlungvel Constituency seemed to doubt the distribution of 120 Cows. We may be aware that these Cows are given only to the persons who are willing to buy at subsidised rate. Private and Government Trucks are requisitioned for transportation of these Cows into Mizoram.

There has also been distribution of Hill-cattle under centrally sponsored scheme. Under this scheme, there are distribution of cattle as well as distribution of money for purchase of cattle.

There is another cattle-loan which should be distributed in cash. It may be confusing for those who do not know the terms and conditions of various schemes we have for the distribution of loans. If we wanted to know this, information can be obtained from the Department concerned. If there is going to be discussion, I think we should first collect information so that there may not be wrong allegations.

Regarding Community Development - the hon'ble members stated certain things regarding the implementation of NREP. If we study the Lieutenant Governor's address, we will see that both NREP and IRDP are clearly defined. In certain cases, some of the members have almost made an impression that fund under IRDP are to be used for implementation of NREP. But, if we study the address, we will know that it is not so. It is our common responsibility not to give the public wrong impression on the functioning of the Department regarding the implementation of these programmes.

The Government of Mizoram have participated in the International Trade Fair and National Agriculture Fair in which a special prize was won. However, there are member who, instead of honouring, would criticize and depreciate the achievements of the government and the prize we won was also depreciated. All these achievements are not only the achievement of P.C. Party. They are the achievement of Mizoram Government. Actually, it is only when we honour each other in our good deeds and achievements that we feel and appear honoured. It is humiliation to ourselves when we criticize each and every achievement and good of deeds the government. Hence, I feel that we should all be thankful for the special prize we won in the Trade Fair and Agriculture Fair.

The hon'ble member from Kawrthah Constituency stated about growing of Cardamom, the successful growing of which he seemed to doubt. But, if we seriously consider and study things as the member should, we will see that Cardamom growing are successful in many parts of Mizoram. When the first seed-fruits are collected, it is found that they are not in any way of inferior to that grown in other places outside Mizoram. It will be a good thing if we give thought to the advantages of growing this plant in Mizoram.

I will go on making clarification to things I noted down from the speech of the same member. It was stated that grant-in-aid under Fishery Department was given to persons who have no fish or fish-pond whereas those who take up the occupation of fishery with earnestness were not given. Perhaps there are such cases somewhere but, I do not think all that we learn will be all correct. If there is/are such cases, the persons who acquired the grants are the ones who are responsible for being in-sincere.

The hon'ble member also pointed out the in-sincerity of some of the demonstrators. He also requested the government to appoint candidates from his constituency for Fishery demonstrators which are going to be appointed in the near future. Only those candidates who have had qualified training are appointed for Fishery Demonstrators. If there are candidates from his constituency who have had qualified training, the government will certainly appoint them.

Another subject I want to mention is about Forest Department. The hon'ble member from Ratu Constituency informed the House non-availability of land for cultivation in one of his constituent villages due to afforestation programme pursued by Forest Department. Similarly, the hon'ble member from Kawrthah Constituency stated about devastation of good forest and forest products by afforestation programme. I think information had been made once or twice regarding plantation programme. If the public and the authorities want to give land to Forest Department in their locality of local area, the Department will accept it without hesitation. But, they have never taken land for afforestation either by force or with intimidation. Hence, what is important for us to know is that when the Department look for land for afforestation land or area, which can cause inconveniences to the public and the authorities concerned, after afforestation should not be allotted. However, one thing I can say from my own experience is that there are cases when the public leaders, without much further thoughts, give away their good lands to Forest Department for plantation in the hope of getting easy employments as daily wage labourers nearby their villages. When the department make commitment and start the plantation in those areas, the public used to have difficulties. It is therefore, necessary to teach the people of our respective constituencies not to give land to the Forest Department that could cause inconveniency to the public when the Deptt. make commitment and do the plantation.

It is a fact that some forests were destroyed for plantation. But, we may be aware that some forests do not have good products that can be turned into a source of revenue. It is in this kind of forest that plantation is done. Useless and barren forests have to be turned into good and productive forests by plantation. I also want to inform the House that there is successful implementation of plantation programme under Forest Department.

Regarding Health Department - the members particularly the one from Kawrthah Constituency made suggestion for appointment of candidates from villages to undergo Health Worker and Nurse training. It was a good suggestion. He said that only the candidates from villages are willing to work in villages. This is a fact the government also have experienced. Having experienced the dis-advantage of selecting candidates from town area, the government since the year before last, made 90% reservation of seats for candidates hailing from villages. Only the exceptional one / two candidates are selected from town. The rest are all from villages and far-flung areas. Particularly Chhingtuipei District was given first preference last year. Because of the many difficulties which confronted this district, the government gave them first priority and candidates from this district were selected most. Of 40 candidates selected, 17 were from this district, 12 from Lunglei and 11 from Aizawl District. Similarly this year, selection was made district-wise. I believe this practice will be followed for some-times to come.

There are trifle things stated under different topics. But, I don't think it is necessary to clarify them. I would however, like to say what I think about the Lieutenant Governor's address. The members have stated about the address para-wise. Hence, I will not say para-wise.

I feel that there are two novel things in the address. The first one is the turning of events against our hope regarding peace settlement. The Lieutenant Governor had clearly stated about the peace-talks and why it was not successful. It is truly regretting that the peace-talk ended in failure. What advice the Lieutenant Governor gives to the people and the House is what I want to say since no member mentioned about it. His statement in this regard is permanent peace is a basic pre-condition for progress and this can be secured only if the peace loving people of Mizoram do not in any way assist the hostiles and drive home upon, them the need to abjure the path of violence. I do not know whether or not we fully grasp the meaning of this as no one mentioned about it. But, I think this must be said. Frankly speaking, no one is ignorant of the background of disturbances in Mizoram. After fighting for independence for many years, our underground friends have now realize the impossibility of achieving what they aim and they have come to realize that the only solution to their problem is to come forward and make settlement within the framework of the Indian Constitution. In the course of the peace-talks, there were many events. The Administrator's statement regarding the talks is this that 'permanent peace which was so near eluded us due to the adamant attitude of Mr. Laldenga who refused to accept the rather substantial concessions offered by the government of India'. We know that a peace solution to our problem was sought within the framework of the constitution under the leadership of the hon'ble Prime Minister. Unfortunately however, this has also failed. What is now important for us and the people to know is that it is our common responsibility to drive home upon our underground friends to give up the path of violence to uplift the conditions of the people of this backward land of the Mizos.

What I want to say next is that there are things in the Address which we have never found in the address of the previous Administrators. It appears however, that some of the members do not fully understand the impact of these novel things. It was also stated that there was much fuss in the inauguration of Bairabi Hydel Project by the Central Minister. But, it is a thing to be fussed about, for, it is a novel thing we have never had before. We know what steps the Central Government take to finalize this project. Rs 200 lakhs is sanctioned for this project and another Rs 97 lakhs is proposed for the investigation works. Such being the commitment made on this project, it is hardly proper to take ourselves merely as children's playing. I think we should be glad to have the Project opened by the Central Minister as it is novel thing in the economic- development history of Mizoram. If we do not appreciate such a great achievement as Bairabi Hydel Project, it will be regretting. It is not only for the benefit of P.C. Party that the Project is started. It is for all people and the country.

The Project, when completed will be a real asset for the Mizoram and for all Mizos. We should therefore, try to seething from this angle and let us also try to give up the habit of criticizing each and every achievement made by the government just because we are the opposition members. I am saying this for the interest of the public and the country as a whole. I strongly believe that it will be more interesting if our discussions and debates in the House are directed towards this end.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is now 4 p.m. would you live to finish the discussion on Lieutenant Governor's

Address today ? What is the opinion of the members'?

*PU JOE NGURDAWLA : Pu Deputy Speaker, what is the opinion of the Minister, for, we, the members have all stood up.

*PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Pu Deputy Speaker, Our business tomorrow is Private business. Hence, there may be ample time for continuation of the discussion. If the Chief Minister and Local Administration Department Minister have much thing to say, it may not be convenient to continue the discussion today since it is already 4.00 p.m. I think the Chief Minister and Local Administration Department Minister should be spared for tomorrow.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do you all agree to this suggestions ? (The members said 'agree'). Well, the meeting will be adjourned now till 10:30 AM tomorrow.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

J. MALSAWMA, *
Secretary,
Mizoram Legislative Assembly.