

MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

BULLETIN PART I

(Brief Record of Proceedings)

No. 53 (10:30 A.M.)

Friday, 19th March, 1982.

1. Starred Questions:

Starred questions Nos. 17 listed for the day with supplementaries thereto were orally answered.

2. Presentation of the Budget

Pu Lalhmingthanga, Minister in-charge Finance Department presented to the House the Supplementary Demands for 1981-82 and the Annual Budget for 1982-83.

3. Discussion on the Budget

The Deputy Speaker announced in the House that as per programme of the Sittings, discussion on the Annual Budget for 1982-83 and the Supplementary Demands for 1981-82 would be held on Monday, the 22nd March, 1982.

4. Official Resolutions

(i) Pu F.Malsawma, moved the following Resolutions:-

“Whereas under the customary law and practices in Mizo Society a male member can claim his right over a girl only because of his making love earlier with that girl;

And, whereas, such a system under which girls are often subjected to a wretched condition which brought down the status of women in the whole society;

And, whereas, the well being of a society depends on the moral sense of the society;

And, whereas, it is necessary to emancipate the women of the Mizo Society by doing away with such evil practices;

Now, therefore, this House resolves to put an end to such so-called right of the men over a girl on the basis of Mizo customary law and practices and requests the Government to take all necessary steps to give effect to this resolution as early as practicable.”

The following members took part in the discussion:-

- (1) Pu Joe Ngurdawla
- (2) Pi K.Thansiami
- (3) Pu J.Thankunga
- (4) Pu Hiphei
- (5) Pi L.Thanmawii
- (6) Pu B.Lalchungnunga
- (7) Pu C.L.Ruala
- (8) Pu S.Vadyu
- (9) Pu H.Rammawi
- (10) Pu Bualhranga
- (11) Pu K.Biakchungnunga
- (12) Pu L.Piandenga

Pu F.Malsawma, Minister, mover of the resolution replied to the debates.

The motion was put to the vote of the House and was unanimously passed.

(ii) Pu F.Malsawma moved the following resolution-

“Whereas, under the Customary Law applicable to the Mizo Society, the penalty for sexual offences leading to birth of illegitimate children is so meager that it does not serve as a deterrent against such undesirable practices;

And, whereas, such a system under which young girls are duped into a situation leading to the birth of illegitimate children which affects not only such mothers and such children but also their relationship with different members in the family and affects family life which is the basic foundation on which the well being of a society is built upon;

And, whereas, the well being of a society depends on the moral sense of the society;

And, whereas, such practices are also alien to the religious belief of the Mizo Society;

And, whereas, there is now a great amount of public opinion against such indulgence in illegitimate relationship in the Mizo Society;

Now, therefore, this House is of opinion that the Government should take all necessary steps administrative as well as legal to put an end to such undesirable practices in the Society.”

Pu F.Malsawma again moved in an amended form as follows:-

“Whereas, under the Customary Law applicable to the Mizo Society, the penalty for sexual offences leading to birth of illegitimate children is so meager that it does not serve as a deterrent against such undesirable practices;

And, whereas, such a system under which young girls are duped into a situation leading to the birth of illegitimate children which affects not only such mothers and such children but also their relationship with different members in the family and affects family life which is the basic foundation on which the well being of a society is built upon;

And, whereas, the well being of a society depends on the moral sense of the society;

And, whereas such practices are also alien to the religious belief of the Mizo Society;

And, whereas there is now a great amount of public opinion against such indulgence in illegitimate relationship in the Mizo society;

Now, therefore, this House is of opinion that the Government should take all necessary steps, administrative as well as legal to put an end to such undesirable practices in the society. The steps taken by the Government to give effect to this resolution be presented to the House for its consideration and adoption before enforcement.”

The following members took part in the discussion:-

(1) Pu Joe Ngurdawla

(2) Pu Ellis Saidenga

(3) Pi K. Thansiami

(4) Pu Hiphei

Pu F.Malsawma, Minister and mover of the motion replied to the debates.

The resolution in an amended form was put to the vote of the House and was adopted unanimously.

3:10 P.M

The House was adjourned till 10:30 A.M. on Monday, March 22nd, 1982.

J. MALSAWMA
SECRETARY.