



सत्यमेव जयते

Address

of

HIS EXCELLENCY
SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN
GOVERNOR OF MIZORAM

TO

THE TENTH SESSION

OF

THE SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MIZORAM

ON

20th MARCH, 2012

Hon'ble Speaker and distinguished Members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly,

It is a great privilege for me to address the tenth session of the Sixth Legislative Assembly of Mizoram. I extend my greetings and best wishes to the Hon'ble Members and to the people of Mizoram. In this session, the Supplementary Demand for Grants for the year 2011-12 and Vote on Account on the budget for the year 2012-13 will be presented. I am confident that the House will function with a deep sense of responsibility and purpose, and that the reputation and dignity of the House as also the high standard of debate will be maintained.

2. We are living in times of high expectations of the people from their elected representatives and from the governmental machinery. We therefore need to strive for an accelerated growth for the State, while ensuring that this growth is inclusive, with benefits reaching all sections of society, especially the poor and marginalised. My Government is committed to providing good

governance and administration which is clean, responsive, accountable and target oriented.

3. The recently held General Elections to Village Councils and 1st General Elections to Local Councils of Aizawl Municipality which went off peacefully and smoothly have been hailed as successful and well-conducted elections by all stake-holders. The record 76.54% voter turn-out in respect of General Elections to village Councils and 68.33% voter turn-out in respect of General Elections to Local Councils are significant indicators that a healthy democratic spirit prevails in our State.

4. I take pride in the fact that peace and tranquility continues to prevail in the State. Securing the safety of the citizens and providing an efficient and just administration at all levels of governance remain the top priority of my Government. There has been no major outbreak of law and order in the State during the past year mainly due to the concerted efforts of our efficient law enforcing agencies, non-government

organisations, religious institutions, media and the general public. Our police force are being provided with the latest equipment, advanced weaponry, efficient fleet of vehicles and building infrastructures to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness under the Police Modernisation Scheme. Mizoram is one of the frontrunner in implementation of the Crime and Criminal Tracking and Network System (CCTNS) Project in the country. The Economic Offences Wing and the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit have managed to solve a number of cases pertaining to economic offences, cyber crimes and human trafficking during this year.

5. With continuous endeavours of our able political leaders, government servants and the people of Mizoram, the state today is ideally placed for an economic ascendancy. The image of peace and prosperity that Mizoram projects has augured well for the state and encouraged private investors to make larger investments. My Government would strive to use this favourable condition to increase the pace of development so that the gap

with the developed states is bridged at a faster pace. In order to ensure that this growth is both sustainable and inclusive, steps are being taken for the development of the most backward sections of society.

6. My Government is committed to have an efficient, transparent, responsive and corruption free administration. Towards this end, the State Module of Centralized Public Grievances Redressal and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) – 'MIPUI AW' was successfully launched by the Chief Minister on 29th February, 2012. The system, developed by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India in technical collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) aims to enable effective and expeditious settling of grievances both online and manually. Training in this regard was successfully conducted in all districts of Mizoram before the launch, with trainers from the Government of India, NIC (Mizoram) and Information and Communication Technology Department, Mizoram.

7. The New Land Use Policy (NLUP), the flagship programme of my Government, officially launched on 14th January, 2011 is also gaining momentum and beneficiaries of various trades under the programme are now actively engaged and being monitored in their respective trades. Detailed land use planning exercise has been undertaken to ensure proper planning and quality in the project implementation. Rs 413.27 crores have been earmarked for the implementation of NLUP during the current Financial Year, and under its aegis as many as 20000 beneficiaries are being assisted. I am confident that the programme will gradually transform the economy of the State and usher in an improved and better quality of life and environment for its people.

8. My Government is acutely aware of the fact that agriculture is perhaps the only safety-net for our economy. It continues to be the main source of livelihood of the majority of our population with roughly 60% of the total workers engaged in agricultural activities. During 2011 – 2012 jhum cultivation area has been brought down by about

42% as a result of the implementation of National Watershed Development Programmes for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRAs) and Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCAs). There has been an increase in the area of Wet Rice Cultivation (WRC) which has subsequently led to an increase in production of rice to the tune of 51,948 MT during 2011 – 2012. Net cropped area has also increased by about 46%. Farm power availability and fertilizer consumption have increased significantly during the current year. For all round development of Agriculture and Allied Sectors, my Government is also undertaking construction of basic infrastructures like irrigation facilities, approach roads to potential areas for transportation of agriculture inputs and outputs, farm roads, field drains and protected seedbeds through land levelling and shaping. To bring in more areas under irrigation, a number of major, medium and minor irrigation schemes are under implementation with funding under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). 49 such projects covering Culturable Command Area of 2,339 ha will be completed within the current

financial year. A number of projects are being taken up under Anti-erosion Scheme under Flood Management Programme and Command Area Development programme as well.

9. Under Horticulture Department, my Government is assisting poor farmers to abandon shifting cultivation and settle to more profitable and sustainable system of permanent farming. Plantation and cultivation of various horticulture crops have been taken up under Area Expansion Scheme. We have managed to increase our production of Anthurium cut flowers, chayote (iskut) in vegetables, Mandarin orange, banana, pineapple, grapes and lemon in fruits, off-season cabbages, turmeric, ginger and chillies in spices. Horticulture Centre of Excellence at Thiak has been established wherein infrastructures are being installed for production of quality planting materials and various other needed facilities. Besides, a number of nurseries have been established throughout the state which resulted in production of more than 2 lakh quality planting materials for distribution to selected growers. Scion Bank for

citrus is being established at Horticulture Centre, Chite for collection of disease free bud-wood scions for budding.

10. Animal Husbandry is an important sector for improving the socio-economic condition of the people particularly those living in the rural areas. My Government has taken up a number of programmes for livestock development in the State, like programme for improved and enhanced fodder production, backyard poultry development, artificial insemination and control of animal diseases through massive vaccination. The project for establishment of Veterinary Polyclinic at Aizawl had been approved by the Government of India and financial approval of Rs 482.30 lakhs for the project has already been received. Approval for Rs 500.00 lakhs project on National Mission on Protein Supplement has also been received and will be implemented soon. A number of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries are being established and strengthened, construction of Rural Slaughter Houses at Mualpui, Lunglei and Serchhip are underway. The Liquid Nitrogen Plant

at Lunglei has been commissioned during this financial year and 200 units of Biogas Plant have been installed for dairy farmers all over the state. Under NLUP, the department covers 9827 beneficiaries with a financial outlay of Rs 7325.40 lakhs during the current fiscal.

11. Fish farming has emerged as an important component for our economic growth. My Government has been taking steps to increase fish production. During this year, 47.70 ha of new ponds have been developed and 129.34 ha of existing ponds have been renovated. The Freshwater Prawn Hatchery and Backyard Ornamental Fish Hatchery at Lengpui are expected to start production from June 2012 coinciding with the breeding season. Three new district offices are opened at Lawngtlai, Serchhip and Champhai. Under NLUP, 1445 families have been covered with anticipated production of 2373 MT of fish and 60 MT of prawns at the end of 2012 – 2013.

12. We have brought about substantial increase in the production of cash crops like Rubber, Coffee

and Broom. Broom plantation alone is expected to yield the farmers Rs. 19.70 crores in the coming year, and these activities will be given further thrust under the New Land Use Policy to boost the rural economy. A well regulated marketing system will be developed to protect the interest of the farmers as well as the State Government.

13. My Government has been trying its best to provide adequate means for upliftment of the people in the autonomous districts of Lai, Mara and Chakma. General Elections to the District Councils, as per the laws passed by them, are being entrusted to an independent body i.e. State Election Commission, for the first time. Entrustment of functions to the Autonomous District Councils under paragraph 6(2) of the Sixth Schedule has been revised and my government has been sincerely trying to implement it in letters and spirit, to avoid duplicacies of functions in these areas as best as possible. Developmental projects in these areas will be reviewed on regular basis in the light of the recommendations of the Commission, already set up for the purpose.

Efforts are on to restrict non-plan expenditure and to increase plan allocations so that more developmental projects can be undertaken for the benefit of the people in these autonomous districts.

14. My Government will continue to focus on providing quality education and skill development. To cope with the new requirements under the Constitutional mandate for ensuring Rights of Children for Free and Compulsory Education, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has appropriately been re-oriented and many new interventions have been taken up. As many as 2776 teachers and additional classrooms for class VIII students have been constructed in various Schools. Under Rashtriya Madhyama Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), 154 existing Secondary Schools are being strengthened and 161 teachers and 222 laboratory attendants are being appointed. Out of 23 High Schools now under construction, work for 15 schools have been completed and work for the remaining 8 schools are in its final stage. The Right to Education Protection Authority has been constituted to look after all relevant matters of

the RTE Act like school administration, buildings and rationalization of teachers. Construction and infrastructure development of a number of Government Colleges have been undertaken during the current financial year. We have made significant progress in taking up the construction work for infrastructure development of 4 Govt. Colleges (at Saiha, Lunglei, Serchhip and Zirtiri), of Mizoram Law College at Luangmual, Aizawl, Post-matric Students Hostel at Aizawl, new polytechnics at Champhai, Kolasib, Lawngtlai and Mamit. The construction works for Govt. Colleges at Lawngtlai and Champhai as well as new Polytechnics at Saiha and Serchhip are to begin soon.

15. The year 2011-2012 has been a watershed year in the history of sports in Mizoram. Our sportspersons won laurels at various disciplines at different levels of competition. While the credit of such success goes to the talented sportspersons, government's progressive sports policy and vast expansion of sports infrastructure have also contributed in a sizeable measure in creating a sports-friendly environment in the

state. There has been tremendous growth in sports infrastructure for the last few years. Laying of Artificial Turf at Thuamluaia Mual, Lunglei, laying of Astro Turf at Boys' Hockey Academy, Kawnpui, construction of Rajiv Gandhi Stadium at Mualpui, cricket stadium at Sihhmui, indoor stadium at Aizawl, Champhai, Bungtlang and Keitum, State Sports Academy at Zobawk, Mini Sports Complex at Lengpui, Regional Sports Training Centre at Saidan, Kolasib are some of the projects taken up recently. Mizoram Sports Incentive Cash Award amounting to Rs 22,02,250/- was awarded to 302 sports persons in the first week of March 2012. To add more colour to the already decorated sports calendar, the people of Mizoram will witness sports extravaganza in the form of the 26th North East Games beginning today at Aizawl. I take this opportunity to wish all the athletes the very best in their dedicated pursuit of excellence. I do hope that this great event will boost sporting activities and channelise the energy of the youth.

16. My Government is alert to the need of undertaking Disaster Risk Management initiatives as Mizoram is prone to natural disasters such as landslides, hailstorms, flash flood and cyclonic storms and is also lying within Seismic Zone V. The State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister has been formed and in its first sitting approved the 'Mizoram State Disaster Management Policy', revision of the 'Mizoram Urban & Regional Development Act, 1990', 'Mizoram Urban and Regional Act, 2005' and enforcement of 'Mizoram Urban and Regional Development Act, 1990'.

17. My Government has initiated a number of steps to promote efficient public transport system by strengthening and expanding the bus fleet and associating the private sector to supplement the public transport facilities. The Ministry of Shipping, Government of India has approved our Inland Water Transport project at Tlawng river at an estimated cost of Rs 527.93 lakh. Smart card and high security plates for vehicles will soon be introduced to improve our efficiency and security.

With the amendment of the Mizoram Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 2011 which came into effect from 1st September, 2011, revenue of Rs 3.30 crore is expected during the current financial year. The Ministry of Urban Development approved purchase of 25 Urban Buses at an estimated cost of Rs 325.00 lakh, out of which 14 buses have already been purchased which are expected to be on the road soon. Steps are being taken to improve our transportation facilities and infrastructures at various places.

18. My Government is taking all possible steps to augment our power generation. The problem in the hydro-mechanical system in the power channel of the recently commissioned Serlui 'B' SHP has now been rectified and the power plant has resumed generation of power since February 2012. Construction of 2x2.5 MW Tlawva SHP in Champhai district at the project cost of Rs. 5749.08 lakh is underway and is expected to be completed within 3 years from award of the work. Construction of 210 MW Tuivai HEP near Ngopa Village, 100 KW micro-hydel stations at Tuiriza

near Phullen and Tuiching near Hrianghmun Village are about to commence soon. Necessary formalities are being undertaken for construction of Lungreng HEP (815 MW), Chhimtuipui HEP (635 MW), Mat HEP (76 MW), Kolodyne Phase-II HEP (460 MW), Tuirini and Tuivawl HEPs. Construction of 132 KV line from Khawzawl to Champhai at an estimated cost of Rs 764.00 lakh was completed in the month of July, 2011. Construction of 132 KV line between Kolasib to Aizawl at an estimated cost of Rs 2497.00 lakh and that of Melriat Sub-Station to Luangmual Sub-Station at an estimated cost of Rs 499.00 lakh have also been undertaken. The construction of 33KV Double Circuit transmission line from Lawngtlai to Saiha at a total cost of Rs 1020.00 lakh is expected to be completed by the end of this month. Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) 4 nos. of 33/11KV Sub-Stations have been covered and electrification of 137 un-electrified villages, intensive electrification work in 570 already electrified villages and provision of free service connection to 27417 nos. of BPL households are being undertaken.

19. Improving the basic infrastructure of our state is a priority of my Government. The stretch of NH-154 within Mizoram is being widened to 2-lane from Bilkhawthlir to Assam border. Out of the entire stretch of 53Km, about 50Km of formation cutting and 18 Km of pavement have been completed. Similarly, section of NH-54 between Kawnpui and Buichali (Sairang) is also being upgraded to 2-lane national highway standard under SARDP-NE Phase-A. Nearly 26 km of formation cutting and 10km of pavement have been completed. The whole project is expected to be completed by the end of 2012. In addition to 2-laning, resurfacing of various national Highways have been taken up and about 54km have been completed so far during 2011-2012. Double-Lane Highway to connect Lawngtlai (NH-54) with sea port at Sittwe in Myanmar is being constructed under Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport Project. The portion of the highway within Mizoram is about 100 Km. The project is to be completed in four years time, i.e. by 2014. About 25 Km of formation cutting have been completed and the work is progressing

smoothly. Re-construction of Mizoram House at Chanakyapuri, New Delhi is now at completion stage and is slated to be ready by the end of March, 2012. Many more building projects are undertaken under Public Building and Government Housing.

20. My Government is committed to providing adequate, safe and potable water as well as basic sanitation facilities to all the people of the State. A number of projects under Rural and Urban Water Supply schemes are being taken up through different programmes at various levels. Out of the targeted 128 rural habitations to be provided safe drinking water during 2011-2012, 64 habitations are so far covered. 86.167% of the on-going Greater Aizawl Water Supply Scheme Phase-II has been completed; Durtlang Water Supply Scheme is being taken up with an estimated amount of Rs 341.93 lakh; augmentation of Greater Lunglei WSS and Greater Serchhip WSS under JNNURM has also been undertaken. Greater Water Supply Schemes for Saiha, Tlabung, Saitual, Lawngtlai, Hnahthial, are also underway. Construction of

Link Drain within Aizawl city amounting to Rs 150.00 lakh is earmarked during 2011-2012.

21. A number of steps have been initiated in the field of Financial Administration. Under The Mizoram Treasury Manual, 2011, treasury payment by Cheque system is being implemented in Aizawl North and South Treasury from 1st October, 2011 as a pilot project. This will usher in a new era in financial administration by simplifying the transaction of bills between Treasury and Bank. My Government has also extended the scope of family pension to dependant disabled siblings of retired government servants. The Mizoram New Contributory Pension for Un-organised Employees and Workers (NPS-LITE) Scheme, 2010 was notified on 8th June, 2011 to provide old age income security to the unorganised sections of employees. The Mizoram Money Lenders and Accredited Loan Providers (Regulation) Bill, 2010 and The Mizoram Public Demand Recovery (Amendment) Bill, 2010 have been passed during this year and the draft 'The Mizoram Protection of Interest of Depositors (in

Financial Establishment) Amendment Bill' is being completed. The implementation of the Mizoram Public Resource Management Programme (MPRMP) is bringing about changes in fiscal operation of the State. It aims to bring in a balanced and sustainable fiscal situation and to enhance the revenue earning capacity of the State. The programme component includes Tax and Non-Tax Reforms, Debt Management, Public Expenditure Reforms, Sector Improvement in Health and Education Sectors, Pension Reforms and PSE Reforms.

22. Under Taxation Department, exclusive web-based VAT MIS software under Mission Mode Project-Commercial tax for State of Mizoram is being developed, under National e-Governance project (NeGP), a scheme of the Govt. of India. The new system, called VAT soft, was formally launched in 8th December, 2011 and will cater to the needs for State's specific tax administration. In our endeavour to effectively streamline the e-governance system, an electronics tax portal is put into operation within the State for the very

first time. This will offer services such as e-payment, e-registration, e-waybills and e-returns. Plans are underway to integrate other tax related services.

23. Amongst the top priority of my government is ensuring food security, availability of essential commodities and protection of the rights of the consumers. In spite of many hurdles we have ensured uninterrupted distribution of rice through the Public Distribution System. Due to the special efforts of my Government, besides normal monthly allocation of rice under APL (2841 MT), BPL (1470 MT) and AAY (910 MT) the additional quota of rice 16,000 MT (APL) for November/December 2011 and 6001.46 MT of OMSS rice in February 2012 and 5000 MT of Additional BPL and 3000 MT OMSS rice were received for March 2012. And for the poorest District of Saiha, additional quota of 40.0 MT for BPL families and 30.5 MT for AAY families was also received for one year. Depending on this, another 233 families of BPL and 145 families of AAY were selected in addition to the normal and existing BPL & AAY families. My

Government is committed to provide social security to the aged, widows, destitute women, specially-abled and other vulnerable sections of society. More than 25,000 persons of different categories are receiving financial assistance under different schemes for the welfare of the aged

24. My Government accords high priority to provide quality healthcare to all. A number of schemes have been taken up at the Primary, Secondary and Tertiary level towards this end. Various programmes under the flagship National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) are being implemented with renewed vigour. To ensure that our children are healthy with hope for the future, School Health programmes were conducted in 2140 schools and as many as 1,14,752 children were examined. Malaria Control Programme and T.B. Control Programme are continued with full vigour. A number of advanced machines and equipments are being procured and installed in various hospitals during this year. The construction of Referral Hospital, Falkawn which commenced in the year 2000 is in the final stage

of completion. A plot of land has been allotted at New Secretariat Complex for construction of Directorate of Hospital & Medical Education building. An amount of Rs 370.5 lakh have been released by Government of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, for upgradation of Nursing School Aizawl to Nursing College Aizawl, and construction work is in progress.

25. My Government recognises the importance of development in the industrial sector in the socio-economic upliftment of the people of the State. A special initiative is being taken up to change the land use system by providing permanent engagement through the NLUP and a pro-active role needs to be taken by all the stakeholders so that the policy meets its objectives. Steps are being taken for development of industrial area at various locations. Zuangtui Industrial Estate, Export Promotion of Industrial Park, Lengte and Industrial Growth Centre, Luangmual are completed with basic Infrastructure requirement like water supply, power supply, industrial plots and other necessary facilities.

26. My Government continues to place development of rural areas and poverty alleviation on top of its agenda. Rural families are provided basic infrastructure, gainful employment opportunities, skill development and credit linkage to uplift their living conditions through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), Integrated Watershed Management Programme, Indira Awas Yojana, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana. National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is being introduced recently by restructuring the existing SGSY and several preparatory activities are undertaken for effective implementation of the scheme in the State. Under Border Area Development Programme (BADP), an amount of Rs 3702.00 lakh is allocated and a total of 465 works are being taken up during the current year.

27. Under Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation Department, a number of schemes and programmes on urban housing and urban poverty

alleviation are being taken up. Projects worth of Rs. 12,896.62 lakh are to be taken up under the Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UI&G) programme. Under the Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP), projects for Housing for Economically Weaker Section worth of Rs. 9131.97 lakh are underway. Renovation of Lunglei Greater Water Supply at an estimated cost of Rs. 867.64 lakh and renovation of Serchhip Greater Water Supply at a cost of Rs. 687.60 lakh are also being undertaken under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT). The Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) contributes 8 Projects for EWS Housing worth of Rs. 3926.84 lakh. An amount of Rs. 359 lakh has been allocated by the Central Government for 2011-12 for taking up various programmes of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). My Government is planning to make full use of the Central Government's special dispensation for North-Eastern Region in the 10 per cent GBS of plan fund under Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of Housing & Urban

Poverty Alleviation wherein total projects worth of Rs. 23,551.25lakh are under implementation. We are taking various preparatory steps towards successful implementation of the Rajiv Awaz Yojana (RAY) Scheme in Mizoram.

28. Under Trade and Commerce Department, construction of a number of market infrastructures is being undertaken including repair and renovation of existing infrastructures. Trade Facilitation centre at Tlabung at a cost of Rs. 108.07 lakhs has been commissioned. With an aim to promote Indo-Myanmar Border Trade, the Land Custom Station (LCS) at Zokhawthar, Champhai District in Mizoram has been completed and is ready for commissioning. Projects for improvement of roads in the border areas need to be given priority and a comprehensive DPR has been submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), GOI. Development of border trade with the neighbouring countries will have special significance to the economic growth of the states of North-East India due to its geographical isolation from the mainland and its relative

proximity to the vibrant market economy of the neighbouring South East Asean Countries. Access to South-East Asian Countries will be provided by the Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport on both inland and water through Aizawl to Sittwe port in Myanmar via Lawngtlai, Zorinpui, Kaletwa and Paletwa. The site identified for Land Custom Station at Zorinpui in Lawngtlai District on the Indo-Myanmar border where traditional informal trade transactions have been carried out for generations by the people of both the countries is due for an inspection by an inter-Ministerial team of Govt. of India within the next few months.

29. Significant strides have been made in Information and Communication Technology. E-Governance Road Map and Capacity Building Road Map have been prepared. Office Procedure Automation Software and Advances and Recovery Maintenance Software have been developed and are being put to use. State of the Art State Data Centre is being established with a capability of storing all the State Government information for many years to come. A pilot e-District project for

Aizawl is being implemented under The Mizoram State e-Governance Society (MSeGS) which aims at computerisation of district administration so that citizen-friendly services will be provided more efficiently and accurately. The entire State Wide Area Network (SWAN) project is expected to be operational soon.

30. My Government is concerned about the ill effects of climate change and global warming and is committed to create awareness among the people for protecting the environment. Under National Afforestation Programme (NAP), Ministry of Environment & Forests has accorded sanction amounting to Rs.1336.02 lakh during 2011-2012. So far, NAP has reached 598 numbers of villages in the state. Under the National Bamboo Mission project, Bamboo Plantation has been carried out in 1600 ha Non Forest Area and 5150 ha Forest Area during 2011-2012. Under Green Mizoram Programme, as many as 1,75,194 seedlings were planted during the current year. Firm steps are being taken to protect wildlife. Mizoram has 1 Tiger Reserve, 2 National Parks and 7 Wildlife

Sanctuaries covering an area of 1240.75 sq km or 5.9% of the state's geographical area. Under the New Land Use Policy, the state tentatively proposes to create 21,480 ha Bamboo plantation covering 10,740 families over the next five years as one of the targets of the project is control of shifting cultivation. Government of India has approved Rs. 212.00 lakhs for the current year under Intensification of Forest Management Scheme. The fund would be utilized for forest fire control and management, Working Plan preparation, Survey & Demarcation and Strengthening of Infrastructure for forest protection.

31. With its beautiful natural landscapes, dense forests, flora and fauna, Mizoram has the potential of becoming an attractive tourist destination in the very near future. In order to promote tourism and as a part of publicity campaign, Anthurium Festival at Tourist Resort Reiek, Thalfavang Kut at Tourist Resort Hmuifang and Hnam Kutpui at Tourist Resort Reiek and Khuado Festival at Tourist Complex Berawtlang were successfully organised

during this year. Construction of State Institute of Hotel Management is in progress and is expected to function shortly. With financial support from the Ministry of Tourism, steps are being taken to promote Adventure Tourism. Infrastructure for development of Aerosport has been created at Tuirial Airfield. The first Mizoram Paragliding Festival and spot landing competition which was jointly organized by Tourism Department and 3 Dimension Adventure was successfully held at Serchhip and Brigade Field, Aizawl on 29th and 30th November, 2011.

32. Hon'ble Members, I have attempted to give the brief highlights of the plans and programmes of my Government and also certain achievements in specific sectors. This is in no way exhaustive. More details will be explicitly spelt out during the deliberations in this present session.

I would like to conclude by reiterating that my Government remains fully committed to its development agenda, to ensuring peace and tranquillity in the state and to a transparent and

fair administration. My Government seeks the full cooperation of all members of the House and also civil society at large for building better future for Mizoram.

To this end, I wish all success to your deliberations in this session.

Ka lawm e !

Jai Hind !