

Mr. Speaker and Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly,

It is my privilege and pleasure to welcome you all to the first session of the newly elected third Mizoram Legislative Assembly. I extend a warm greeting to all the members of this House. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the entire process of election to the Legislative Assembly has passed off smoothly without any untoward incident. Once again people have demonstrated their faith in the democratic principles.

2. The Council of Ministers which assumed office on 8th May, 1979 have come in with a clear verdict given by the people at the poll held in April last. This mandate by the people is a re-affirmation of their faith in the new Ministry and an earnest desire for peace, stability and economic development. Peace is a precondition to prosperity and Government is determined in achieving lasting peace in Mizoram and to that end no consideration of any party or group interest will be allowed to come in the way. My Government would, therefore, appeal to all the people to extend their whole-hearted co-operation in achieving the cherished objective.

3. In my brief address, I propose to narrate the achievements of the Government during the previous year, which includes the period during which this very Ministry was in office, as also to give a brief resume of the future programmes. To start with, I am happy to note that there are signs that law and order situation is taking a turn for the better. In the wake of suspension of operations, Mizoram Police remained busy in maintaining law and order and thereby infusing a sense of security among the law abiding citizens. The number of criminal cases for the period from April, 1978 to February, 1979 has come down to 843 as against 909 for the corresponding period during 1977-78. Efforts have been made by the Government to link all Police Stations and some strategic locations with a wireless network. Sufficient care has also been taken for the training and improving of service conditions of the Police personnel. So far, 706 Constables have been given basic and refresher training. This is inclusive of training provided to a number of Police Officers. Also, one rank

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one rank promotion has been given to 167 Police personnel of Mizoram Police against the existing vacancies and 134 new recruitments in the rank of Constable and Sub-Inspector have been made. Besides, my Government have undertaken schemes for construction of residential quarters, new administrative buildings, Police Stations and work on 89 such buildings involving a sum of Rs 8.36 lakhs is already in progress. Above all, a reorganization scheme of the Mizoram Police has been prepared, with the help of an expert team from the Ministry of Home Affairs. This scheme along with another scheme for raising an additional M.A.P. Battalion is presently under consideration of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

4. With the improvement in the situation as a result of suspension of operations and with the expectation of a lasting settlement my Government have intensified the implementation of the scheme for rehabilitation of the returnees, and made a budget provision of Rs 70 lakhs as grant and Rs 10 lakhs as loan, for the current year, for their rehabilitation. So far 766 returnees have been sanctioned rehabilitation grants of which 564 returnees have already received the second instalment also, involving a total amount of Rs 6.65 lakhs. Similarly, 175 returnees have so far been selected for normal Agricultural Scheme for Land Reclamation of which 118 returnees received grant amounting to Rs 4.72 lakhs. A scheme for Potato cultivation was also evolved for returnees and about 200 returnees were accordingly selected and an amount of Rs 15.83 lakhs sanctioned for this purpose. Likewise, 35 returnees were given milk cattle loans amounting to Rs 3.5 lakhs. Sanction was also issued for Rice Hullers on hire-purchase basis amounting to Rs 14.31 lakhs for 103 returnees.

5. My Government have also taken up certain administrative measures with a view to strengthen the administrative machinery. So far more than 6,500 employees have been declared as quasi-permanent in their posts and more than 1,200 temporary posts have been made permanent under various Departments of the Government. This is an administrative achievement worth mentioning because it has brought stability in services and removed the fear of uncertainty from the minds of Government servants. Besides, as a welfare measure House Building advance to the tune of Rs 39 lakhs has been sanctioned to more than 200 officials which stands at the highest so far.

During 1978-79 three Employment Exchanges were functioning in Mizoram. These Exchanges catered to the needs of job seekers as well as the employers in the matter of Registration and placement. The apprenticeship training has been implemented in Mizoram since 1976. So far 19 trainees have passed out and during the current year 30 boys and girls will undertake the course and presently 15 such apprentices are under-going training. The Industrial Training Institute is functioning in its permanent location in Aizawl since April, 1975 with an intake capacity of 168 seats.

6. With the improvement in the law and order situation and the gradual building up of the infrastructure during the Fifth Five Year Plan, there is now a better-preparedness all round, and Mizoram is poised for launching a massive development programme, and my Government, right from the beginning when this very Ministry assumed office, engaged itself in formulating a big Sixth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs 128.47 crores, together with a proposed rolling annual plan of Rs 23.72 crores for the year 1979-80, with the main thrust on self-sufficiency in food over a period of time. The final plan document emphasises the need for a rapid economic development of Mizoram with emphasis on agriculture and allied services, water supply, power and road communications. Development in other spheres viz Industries, Education, Health and other social services has also been given adequate attention. The Planning Commission has now allotted an outlay of Rs 95.09 crores for the Sixth Five Year Plan against Rs 46.58 crores in the Fifth Five Year Plan. Thus, the increase in the allocation for the Sixth Five Year Plan compared to the Fifth Five Year Plan is more than 104%. The annual rolling plan allocation for the current year is Rs 17.72 crores. This excludes a special allocation of Rs 4.77 crores that has been made during the current year as committed expenditure of the Fifth Five Year Plan for meeting the expenditure on Plan establishment and for maintenance of Plan Scheme completed upto 31st March, 1979. Thus, in fact there has been an increase of 35% in the allocation for the current year over the annual outlay for the year 1978-79. This is in addition to the separate allocations made for Central Plan and Centrally sponsored schemes, NEC Plans and for the Border Road programmes which come to Rs 8.02 crores, in total, for the year 1979-80.

7. The progress made on various schemes under the Annual Plan of 1978-79 has been quite satisfactory. In the field of agriculture, considerable headway has been made by bringing more area under permanent cultivation covering more area under irrigation, increased yield of cereal crops, and increased area under plantation crops. 2300 hectares of valley land has been reclaimed, and about 1000 hectares of land has been terraced benefitting nearly 2,000 families. Irrigation now covers an area of more than 2,400 hectares of land and horticulture plantation covers an area of about 2,000 hectares benefitting nearly 1967 families. Agriculture Link Roads of more than 280 Kms. in length were constructed benefitting about 74 villages. During the current financial year the Plan aims at full settlement of 4,354 families and Part Settlement of 1,845 families. An area of 9,485 hectares will be covered under land reclamation, terracing and plantation crops. Also, a programme is being given shape to bring about 800 hectares of land under sugarcane cultivation at Tlabung and Kawnpui. A good number of tractors and power tillars have also been distributed on deferred payment basis. The Sixth Five Year Plan outlay of Rs.19.15 crores in the Agriculture and Soil Conservation Sector envisages settlement of 15,000 families reclaiming 30,000 hectares of land. This has a twin objective of providing permanent settlement, as also to wean away the people from the present practice of jhum cultivation. Simultaneously, research, training and marketing have also been emphasised during the Sixth Five Year Plan. The measures taken in hand are expected to bring considerable changes in the field of agriculture during the next five years. Side by side, emphasis has also been laid for the development of fisheries. During the last year Rs.9.95 lakhs have been spent for the development of fisheries. During the current financial year the approved outlay is Rs.10 lakhs. The production of fish in the Union Territory has reached the level of 600 Metric Tonnes and by the end of current financial year the level of production will reach 900 MTs. It is estimated that by the end of 1982-83 the production will reach 2,300 MTs per year.

8. The activities of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department have also expanded rapidly. The 6th Five Year Plan outlay is Rs.324.78 lakhs with a provision of Rs.60.97 lakhs in the rolling Plan for the current financial year. In the field of Cattle Development associated with milk production 195 Cows of high yield variety have been distributed at 50% cost price covering the whole of Mizoram, thereby augmenting milk supply not only in Aizawl town but also in a number of Group-Centres and townships. During the current year 160 more cows of high yielding varieties are proposed to be distributed and the scheme of Heifer Rearing with a 100 crossbreed Heifers to be reared up by private enterprises and rural cattle farming

colony extending benefit to 220 families is proposed to be introduced. In poultry development, a Broiler Farm at Selesih has been established during the last financial year, and also demonstration farms at Thingdawl and Kolasib. In Piggery, the Regional Pig Breeding Farm at Selesih has achieved the targetted 100 sow strength. This farm has developed the capacity to meet half the requirement of the State demand of Pigs for breeding purposes. Small Farmer Development Agencies Programme has been implemented covering 175 beneficiaries in Mizoram under 50% subsidy scheme and 600 breeding pigs were distributed in Mizoram during the last financial year. Sheep development is also making a progress and at present we have a stock of 100 ewes in convenient areas like Samthang and Champhai for meat and coars wool production. For purpose of disease control, 12 dispensaries and 29 R.A.H. Centres are presently functioning in Mizoram. My Government intend to take up large scale distribution of cross-breed breeding bulls during the current year to all the pockets in Mizoram for establishment of Rural Cattle Development Colony and Heifer Rearing Programme.

9. In the Sixth Five Year Plan an outlay of Rs 250 lakhs is provided for development of forest, and the annual allotment for the current year is Rs 40 lakhs only. During the year 1978-79 two new divisions have been created. Large areas have been covered by planting with economically important species like Teak, Gamari, Pine and other local species. During the current year it is proposed to create plantation over 2,300 hectares with fastgrowing economically important species and in addition preliminary works on plantation would be carried over on 4,000 hectares. Also, it is proposed to strengthen the Wild Life Wing of the Mizoram Forest. In addition to the existing Dampa Wild Life Game Sanctuary, it is proposed to create another Wild Life Sanctuary at Tawi. On the training side, 21 Foresters have successfully completed their training and 28 persons are under training at present including two officers.

10. My Government has also laid great emphasis on development of communication in the Union Territory. It is an essential pre-requisite for economic progress. Much headway has been made during the year 1978-79 for construction of roads. Mamit-Sub-Divisional Headquarters having been connected with Aizawl during the year, all Districts and Sub-Divisional headquarters as well as Block headquarters excepting two, now stand connected with roads. Formation cutting of 150 Kms and black topping of 20 Kms were achieved during the year against the target of 172 Kms for formation cutting and 27 Kms for black topping.

Also 70% of work against the target for metalling 100 Kms. has been done. Until a few years ago there were hardly any road in this territory but today we have more than 800 Kms. of unsurfaced and 56 Kms. of surfaced road constructed by our own PWD leaving aside the achievement of the BRTF in Mizoram. As regards BRTF within a short span of about 12 years, it has been able to establish a network of good all-weather motorable road extending from Aizawl to all corners of the State, from Silchar in the north to Tuipang in the south, from Champhai in the east to Demagiri in the west, with a coverage of more than 1700 Kms. of road.

11. Creation of one more Circle with four Divisions in the Plan sector and one Division in the Non-Plan Sector has been proposed during the year for strengthening the Department of Public Works. In the Sixth Five Year Plan special emphasis has been laid on linking undeveloped areas by a network of dependable roads. Within the outlay of Rs 24 crores the Sixth Five Year Plan targets at achieving 618 Kms. of formation cutting 452 Kms of metalling and 434 Kms of black topping. It is intended that all villages having a minimum population of 1500 are linked by road during the Sixth Plan. Upgrading Aizawl-Silchar road to National Highway and taking up of a number of roads of strategic, economic and Inter-State importance has been recommended by a working group set up by the Central Government. This will be pursued further. There is a plan to cover 100 Kms. of Mecadamised road every year.

12. To provide proper accommodation to the officers and staff, formalities like design, sanction etc. for construction of 177 units of residential buildings in Luangual complex have been completed. Beside completing the Mizoram House at Silchar the formalities for handing over of construction of Mizoram House at Delhi and Calcutta to CPWD have been completed. A plan outlay of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made for the year for construction of Mizoram House in Delhi, quarters at Luangual and Secretariat complex against the total outlay of Rs. 232.50 lakhs made in the Sixth Five Year Plan.

13. Power is an essential component of the basic infrastructure required for economic progress. In addition to power available from the diesel generations, we are receiving about 1 M.W. of grid power through the 66 KV Transmission Line. Another 2 MW is expected after June, 1979 as Mizoram's share from Kardam-Kalai Power Station. An outlay of Rs.210 lakhs

in the Annual Plan of 1979-80, excluding Rs. 37.15 lakhs transferred to Non-Plan sector from plan sector as committed liabilities as against Rs. 180 lakhs in 1978-79 provides for generation of additional derated capacity of 2325 K.W. of diesel generation and electrification of 25 villages including spill-over works of 1978-79 Annual Plan. New Power Stations are proposed to be installed at Biate and Chawngte. With an outlay of Rs. 13.10 crores in the 6th Five Year Plan, we anticipate electrification of 88 villages covering about 40% of the total villages and 62% of the rural population. During the 6th Five Year Plan it is expected that the total additional rates installed capacity of electricity will be to the tune of 3800 KW of diesel generation and deficit in power requirement will be met by obtaining more grid power from the on-going regional power projects in the north-eastern region. A significant feature of the 6th Plan is to start construction of 132 KV Transmission Line from Aizawl to Lunglei which is likely to be completed early in the 7th Five Year Plan. The NEC has already approved construction of 132 KV Transmission Line from Jeribai to Aizawl during the 6th Five Year Plan of NEC and the work on this Line is expected to start during the current year. For attaining self-reliance on power emphasis has been given to investigation of hydro-electric potential of Mizoram rivers. The NEC have already been persuaded to agree to make preliminary investigation of Tuivai River for major Hydel project. The PWD has already taken up the preliminary investigation of Dhaleswari for medium project. We are already in contact with the organizations like Central Electricity Authority, Central Water Commission and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. etc for getting expert teams for survey of micro-hydel potential of our rivers. It will be the utmost endeavour of my Government, during the coming years to explore the potentials of our rivers through detailed survey and investigations, for maximum generation of hydel power, so essential not only for agro-industrial development, but in other fields of economic development.

14. Water supply scheme in Mizoram is a very important aspect of developmental programmes. My Government attaches very high priority to the task of providing drinking water to the people. The very fact that the President of India during his visit to Aizawl in February last laid the foundation stone of the Aizawl Water Supply Augmentation Scheme at Tuikhuahtlab reveals that my Government attaches a very high priority to the task of providing drinking water to the people. The above scheme which will provide water to the present population of Aizawl town and suburbs of more than 60,000 with additional facilities of augmentation of the capacity to provide water

supply to the population of nearly 1.12 lakhs, is estimated to cost Rs. 158 lakhs and is scheduled for completion by end of 1981. Similarly, substantial progress has been made on another 47 on going water supply scheme. As against an outlay of Rs. 120 lakhs in the Annual Plan of 1978-79, the rolling Plan for 1979-80 provides an outlay of Rs. 250 lakhs excluding Rs. 40 lakhs transferred to Non-Plan sector as committed liabilities. The Annual Plan for the current year provides for completion of 15 schemes and continuation of works in another 32 on-going schemes. Above all, during the current year we propose to start work on 28 new schemes. To strengthen organisational set up, there is a likelihood of having one Circle and 2 more Divisions for the above purpose.

15. In the field of industry in Mizoram our main objective has been to develop small and village industries, as also to make all the preparatory arrangements with regard to medium and major industries, so that valuable time is not lost in setting-up such industries when the power problem is eased. To encourage Small Industries, loans and grants-in-aid to entrepreneurs and artisans were distributed. 20 Weaving Centres have been organised and another 10 such Centres are proposed to be added during the current year. In the field of handicrafts, 3 more Centres have been sanctioned during 1978-79 to be located at Aizawl, Champhai and Hnahthial. The Mizoram Small Industries Development Corporation have so far processed eight loan cases with an investment of Rs. 37.7 lakhs. The Corporation have also recently been declared Refinancing Institute under the Industrial Development Bank of India Act. It is expected that the Pilot mechanical ginger dehydration plant at Sairang will be commissioned during the current financial year. The Central Food Technological Research Institute at Mysore has been entrusted with the preparation of the detailed project report for manufacture of oleoresin and ginger oil in Mizoram. The two District Industries Centres which have been sanctioned by the Government of India will be functioning soon. There is a proposal to set up a Saw Mill-cum-Wood Seasoning Plant and the M.S.I.D.C. has been entrusted with the execution of the works. The proposal for setting up of a paper mill in Mizoram is also under consideration. In the 6th Five Year Plan, an outlay of Rs. 3.35 crores have been provided and the annual plan provision for the current year is Rs. 53 lakhs.

16. In the field of education there has been improvement / qualitatively / as well as quantitatively. The number of students on roll has gone up. With a view to achieve Universalization of Elementary Education during the Sixth Plan, 100 new posts of Primary School Teachers were sanctioned during the year 1978-79, 133 new Pre-Primary School Teachers were recruited to look after the Pre-Primary classes attached to the Primary Schools. 20 Middle Schools and 10 High Schools were brought under the Deficit system of grants-in-aid. Further, 3 High Schools and 5 Middle Schools were also provincialised. One Private College, viz. Champai College was also upgraded to the status of a deficit aided institution. One ICDS Centre was opened at Lungdar and another has been sanctioned by the Govt. of India for Hnahthial and Lunglei Block combined excluding the town area. A significant step was taken in the development of higher education for the fulfilment of the aspiration of the people by upgradation of the Pachhunga College to status of University College under NEHU with effect from April last.

17. The Sixth Plan outlay on general education including technical education, art and culture approved by the Planning Commission is Rs. 6 crores as against the total outlay of Rs. 2 crores in the 5th Five Year Plan. The approved outlay of Social Welfare is Rs. 70 lakhs as against Rs. 30.96 lakhs for the Fifth Plan. The outlay for the annual rolling plan of 1979-80 for General Education is Rs. 80 lakhs and in addition an amount of Rs. 67.75 lakhs has been transferred from the plan side as committed expenditure of the previous years to the Non-Plan budget of the Department. Thus, the net amount available to the Department as a whole will be Rs. 147.75 lakhs during the year 1979-80. During the current year, it is proposed to give the scheme of Universalization of Elementary Education a further thrust by providing additional 100 posts of Primary School Teachers and it is expected that 25 Middle Schools will be opened and given Government-grant-in-aid for the same purpose. 25 Non-Formal Education Centres are expected to be opened for the children of the age group of 9 to 14 years. About 10 High Schools and about 20 Middle Schools are likely to be upgraded to the status of deficit aided schools in the current year. Supply of free text books and uniform to poor students and book bank is proposed to be increased to benefit 5,000 more children. The NEHU is expected to open post-graduate classes in English, Education and Economics with effect from July next. University campus under NEHU is also expected to be opened during this year. It is proposed to open 10 Creche/Day Care Centre for children of the age group of 0 to 5 in places where there is a concentration of poor women and casual workers.

A training-cum-production centre is being opened at Aizawl for the training of 40 poor women. To mark the International Year of the Child, it is proposed to organize children's competition, baby shows, etc. at the Block, District and State level. In this connection, a children rally was organised at Aizawl on 19th January, 1979. Two new Children's Homes were organized by Voluntary organization under Centrally sponsored scheme at Mualpui and Electric Veng. For the welfare of the children during the International Year of the Child attempts are being made to bring about improvements in terms of equipments, buildings and teaching aids etc. for the pre-primary stage of education for the children below 6 years. The Mizoram Board of School Education successfully conducted all examinations at the School level, viz. Primary School Leaving, Middle School Leaving etc. Introduction of new and enriched curriculum for all stages of School Education is being pursued so as to make it effective from the academic year commencing in January, 1980.

18. In a backward area like ours, Health Services are generally inadequate. My Government have, therefore, been making strenuous efforts to improve medical facilities. The Sixth Five Year Plan outlay for Health and Family Welfare is Rs 5.35 crores while the outlay of the rolling plan for the current year is Rs 90 lakhs and in addition a sum of Rs 32.25 lakhs have been transferred to Non-Plan sector as committed expenditure out of the Plan provision of 1978-79. During the current year construction of buildings for opening of Public Health Centres will be taken up at Sialsuk, Lungpher, Reiek, Thenzawl, Mamit and Khawbung. In addition 92 Sub-Centres are likely to be opened during the current year. Besides, an additional 140 bedded ward at Aizawl Civil Hospital including other items of improvement like X-Ray building, Incinerator, extension of Eye and Gyneacological Wards, Gas-Plant etc are also expected during the current year. The Public Health Laboratory attached to Aizawl Civil Hospital was expanded during the year 1978-79 to undertake all major investigation like Culture Media, Blood Biochemistry in addition to routine investigation including blood examination etc. A department of Cardiology has been opened with E.C.G. and monitoring pace maker facilities and the long waited blood bank has since been opened and functioning in the Civil Hospital. A separate X-Ray building is under construction and expected to be completed soon. The department of X-Ray is placed under a Specialist. Construction of building for dispensaries and for subsidiaries Centres at Bualpui and Parva will be taken up this year. The programme for the current

year also included setting up of a new S.T.D. Clinic at Saiha, a new 20 bedded T.B. Hospital with a District T.B. Centre at Lunglei; Organization of a new programme of Prevention of Visual Impairment and Blindness; and introduction of expanded programme of Immunization. During 1978-79, 20 Doctors were newly appointed and posted in outlying institutions. One Dental Surgeon is also appointed and posted at Saiha. A new X-Ray apparatus with 150 MA has been installed at Zemabawk T.B. Hospital and one with 100 MA at Civil Hospital at Lunglei. Number of Reserved seats for M.B.B.S. have been raised from 10 to 15 and the seats allotted have been availed of. During the year 1978-79, 40 Dispensary-cum-Staff Quarter and 77 Staff Quarters for the Sub-Centres in various interior places in Mizoram have been constructed. A leprosy Control Unit and a 20 bedded Leprosy Hospital has been constructed at Tlabung. In the administrative sphere also, there has been improvement. Aizawl Civil Hospital which was hitherto under a Civil Surgeon, is now headed by a Medical Superintendent having his separate establishment. 2 Doctors after completing post-graduation (MD) in Radiology and Laboratory have returned and are manning the Department in Civil Hospital, Aizawl. One doctor has been deputed for post-graduate (MD) in Micro-biology. 5 doctors have been deputed for house jobs in various specialities such as surgery, ENT, Paediatrics and Orthopedics. Possibilities for providing specialized training in post-graduate course in various institutions in India is also being explored. The objective is to provide a certain minimum level of medical and health services in each village.

19. Under the Community Development, the Sixth Five Year Plan outlay under normal programme is that of Rs 130 lakhs and during the current year it is estimated to spend Rs 26 lakhs under the Plan. During the last financial year 7 kms of jeepable road, 165 kms of inter-village path, 14 playgrounds, 20 Community Halls and 104 cemented water supply points were constructed. During the current year it is proposed to construct 10 kms of jeepable road, 100 kms. of inter-village paths, 25 playgrounds and 25 Community Halls. Over and above, 6500 metres of wire rope will be procured and issued for construction of suspension bridges over river which intercepts the jeep road and inter-village path as against 5,843 metres of wire rope provided last year. Musical instruments, sports goods, petromaxes, tarpaulins and other materials required for social services will be obtained and supplied to deserving groups at 75% subsidy.

20. During the year 1978-79 we had a budget provision of Rs 30 lakhs of which Rs 20 lakhs was for village Housing Project

Scheme and Rs 8 lakhs as loans to LIGH and MIG and Rs 2 lakhs was for development and land acquisition. In addition to further allotment of Rs. 23 lakhs was made available for loans to LIG and MIG and in all on the Housing Scheme we had Rs.31 lakhs for loan and Rs.3 lakhs for land development. My Govt. could secure 310 MTs of C.G.I. sheet from SAIL, and could issue loan to 152 individuals under both L.I.G.H. and M.I.G.H. Schemes. In the Sixth Five Year Plan outlay there is a provision of Rs. 7 lakhs for Urban Development and Rs. 141 lakhs in Housing. During the current year there is a provision of Rs. 10 lakhs for Urban Development and Rs. 28 lakhs under Housing of which Rs. 20 lakhs is for Village Housing Project Scheme and Rs.6 lakhs for loan to L.I.G.H. and M.I.G.H. A Committee is being constituted to examine the Ashoka Mehta Committee Report and Panchayati Raj Institution, in the context of the existing Village Council system prevailing in Mizoram. A Committee has been entrusted with the task of selection of Group Centres and individuals thereof to receive grants-in-aid in the form of C.G.I. sheets under Village Housing Project Scheme. During the current year construction of 20 Clusters Demonstration Houses at Falkawn under National Building Organisation Scheme will be taken up. My Government also proposes to establish Municipalities in Aizawl and Lunglei. A housing Plan for 700 houses under financial assistance from the HUDCO is also under examination.

21. So far as the land tenure system is concerned, our records of land revenue and land records are yet to be built up on the permanent basis. During the year 1978-79 out of the provisions of Rs. 4 lakhs, a sum of Rs.3.95 lakhs could be spent in the shape of printing forms, survey of agricultural land, purchase of survey materials and training instruments etc. Arrangement are also in hand for cadastral survey of agricultural land. During the current year a similar amount of Rs. 4 lakhs have been provided for updating of land records, survey training and cadastral survey. The Sixth Five Year Plan outlay for land reforms and survey in Mizoram is that of Rs. 30 lakhs, as approved by the Planning Commission.

22. Efforts are also in hand to develop certain parts of Mizoram as Tourist Resorts. To this extent there is an outlay of Rs. 60 lakhs in the Sixth Five Year Plan and Rs. 17 lakhs in the rolling Plan of 1979-80. While giving due emphasis on the economic development of the Union Territory of Mizoram, my Government is also laying sufficient emphasis on the cultural activities and cultural exchanges with an ultimate view to foster integration.

23. As regard road transportation, out of an allocation of Rs. 1.65 crores for the year 1978-79 for improvement of transportation services, a sum of Rs. 26.83 lakhs was made available for purchase of 17 buses, for construction of three Bus Stations, one Booking Office and one Bus Depot including plants and machinery for Central Workshop. In the non-plan side, Rs. 56.82 lakhs was available for maintenance of vehicles and to defray establishment charges including improvement of the existing workshop. In the budget for current year there is a provision for Rs. 68.80 lakhs in the Non-Plan for maintenance of vehicles etc. The Plan provision for the current year is Rs. 45 lakhs and it is proposed to purchase 22 Buses, 2 Jeeps, and equipment for workshop. I am happy to mention that Government State Transport Buses will provide services, by the end of the current year, on about 3885 Kms. of road, on 27 different routes, against 3,000 Kms. on 20 routes at present. It is expected that Railway Out Agency may be extended upto Lunglei this year. This measure may mitigate undue hardship to some extent.

24. In Mizoram, Cooperative movement has been well accepted by the people and in the current year it is proposed to establish 5 new Service Cooperative Societies and to continue 45 Services Societies and one Cooperative Apex Bank at an expenditure of Rs. 15.60 lakhs. Creation of as many as 4 large sized Agricultural Multipurpose Cooperative Societies is envisaged involving an amount of Rs. 3.72 lakhs. Enhancement of the activities of the Apex Marketing Society which presently deals with procurement of ginger is also envisaged.

25. The three District Councils of Chhimituipui District were allocated fund as grants-in-aid for administrative expenses as well as for the plan Schemes of the Councils. During 1978-79, Rs. 27.66 lakhs have been allocated to the Councils and finally by way of supplementary grants an additional amount of Rs. 10.77 lakhs was made available to the three District Councils raising the total grant to Rs. 38.43 lakhs. In the Sixth Five Year Plan a total outlay of Rs. 45 lakhs has been made available by the Planning Commission and a total provision of Rs. 13 lakhs was made available to the three District Councils during 1978-79 under Plan Schemes. In addition, an allocation of Rs. 8.26 lakhs was made available to the Councils towards special development schemes. Important achievements during the year 1978-79 are, construction of 80 Kms of inter-village paths, construction of 13 wooden bridges, construction of 1 Km of jeepable road and 49 water tanks. During the current financial year a sum of Rs. 7 lakhs has been allocated by the Planning Commission

and in addition Rs. 4.11 lakhs are transferred to Non-Plan sector as committed expenditure. It is proposed to construct 42 Kms of jeepable road, 84 Kms of inter-village path, 15 wooden bridges and 48 water tanks.

26. The foregoing paragraphs broadly cover various aspects of economic development in Mizoram which my Government is making an effort to achieve. My Government is equally aware of the limitations under which it is working specially in respect of technical hands, resources and basic infrastructures required for an accelerated development. In future all the developmental activities will be undertaken through a time-bound programme so that funds available are well-utilized for the benefit of the people and in the larger interest of Mizoram. Equal emphasis will be made for monitoring the activities to enable the Departments to take corrective measure in time.

27. It may not be out of place to mention that during 1978-79 when this very Ministry had just assumed it had to face a challenging task to tackle the situation arising out of 'Thingtam'. It is a matter of great satisfaction to all of us that the situation was tackled with courage and success. Its achievement can be measured from the fact that not a single case of starvation took place. When a large part of our territory reeled under acute shortage of food caused by destruction of standing crops by rodents and the people did not have sufficient purchasing power, with the financial assistance from the Central Govt. both food and work were provided to each and every person in distress in the affected areas. Schemes under E.G.S. and Agricultural Loan proved timely and most effective in combating the after-math of Thingtam.

28. My Government is also wedded to the policy of prohibition. During the year my Government propose to bring a comprehensive bill for prohibition in the entire Union Territory. In Mizoram we have an excellent social tradition and we must preserve it. However, certain evils particularly the one of drinking have crept into the society and needs to be eradicated. The evils of excessive drinking has done much harm to our society, particularly to our younger generation. I am happy to note that the public well succeed here.

29. Members may be aware that since December, 1978 there was influx of Bangladesh nationals into Indian territory along south-western parts of Mizoram bordering Bangladesh. I am happy to mention that over 5,000 Bangladesh nationals, who infiltrated in our territory were sent back by Security Forces in January/February, 1979. Unfortunately another spurt of influx of such Bangladesh nationals started in early April. By 3rd of May, more than 2,500 Bangladesh nationals had been handed over to the Bangladesh authorities, after Flag Meetings. In order to stop such influx in future a flag meeting was held between the District authorities of Mizoram and Bangladesh. In any case we are firm in our policy to send back foreign nationals in case they infiltrate by crossing the border.

30. Lastly, the progress and the prosperity of Mizoram is uppermost in our mind. The size of the Sixth Plan and the special visits of the President of India, the Prime Minister of India, the Union Finance Minister and the Union Home Minister to this Territory are sufficient indications that the Central Government is keen on a speedy development of this part of the Country.

JAI HIND.

SPEAKER: The Lt.Governor has delivered a speech. It will now be laid on the table of the House.

(Laying of Lt.Governor's Address on the Table of the House.)

Now, Pu Thenphunga, Chief Minister will introduce Ministers of his cabinet.

PU THENPHUNGA SAILO CHIEF MINISTER. Pu Speaker, I am pleased to introduce Ministers of my Cabinet. They are -
Pu Lalhmingthanga, Pu Zairemthanga,
Pu Rosanga and Pu F.Malsawma.

SPEAKER: Pu Ngurdawla has given notice of a Motion of Thanks on the Lt.Governor's Address which was seconded by Pu J.Thankunga. Pu Ngurdawla may be called upon to move his motion of thanks.

PU JOE NGURDAWLA: Pu Speaker, I beg to move the following motion of thanks that the members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the Lt.Governor (Administrator) for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the Assembly on the 28th May, 1979.

SPEAKER: Now, Pu J.Thankunga.

PU J.THANKUNGA: Pu Speaker, I second the motion.

SPEAKER: As we are aware, there is motion of thanks on Lt.Governor's Address moved by Pu Joe Ngurdawla which was seconded by Pu J.Thankunga. The motion will therefore be discussed on 29th & 30th May, 1979. House leader, members both from Opposition Group and Ruling Party who wish to make a speech on the Address may submit their names to me today before 1:00 P.M.(Noon) so that I may know the number of members who wish to make a speech tomorrow when the Address is brought up for discussion.

We will now proceed to our next item which is election of members of Public Accounts Committee. Hon'ble Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs will move this motion.

PU ZAIREMTHANGA: Pu Speaker, I beg to move that "this MINISTER. House do proceed to elect members of the Public Accounts Committee consisting of nine members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote for a period of 30 (thirty) months".

SPEAKER: Is there any member who wish to make a speech in regard to the election of members of Public Accounts Committee? Our member from Sairang Constituency, Pu C.Vulluaia may do so.

PU C.VULLUAIA: Pu Speaker, I agree to the proposal made by the hon'ble Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs for the election of the members of P.A.C.

SPEAKER: Yes, our member from Ratu Constituency.

PU J.THANKUNGA: Pu Speaker, I second the motion.

SPEAKER: As agreed upon, E.A.C. will be constituted. The date for election will be announced later. Our next item is motion to be moved by hon'ble Minister i/c Parliamentary Affairs for election of members of Estimates Committee.

PU ZAIREMPHANGA: Pu Speaker, I beg to move that "this
MINISTER. House do proceed to elect members of the Estimates Committee consisting of nine members according to the principle of proportional by means of the single transferable vote for a period of 30 (thirty) months".

SPEAKER: Any member who wishes to make a speech on this motion ?

PU JOE NGURDAWLA: Pu Speaker, I second motions for election of members of Estimates and Public Accounts Committees. However, I feel that great care should be taken in selecting members as these are two important Committees where members have to be alert and active to execute the works involved.

SPEAKER: Our member from Khawbung Constituency, Pu Joe Ngurdawla seconded the motions. If there is no other member to make a speech in this regard, Committees will be constituted as proposed. Our members will be informed the date for the election.

There is no more business for today. But, before the meeting is adjourned, I want to make announcement.

Under Rules 216 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Mizoram Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to be members of the Business Advisory Committee for a period of one year or till a new Committee is constituted under the provisions of the Rules.

They are -

- 1) Pu Joe Ngurdawla
- 2) Pu Ellis Saidenga
- 3) Pu Saikapthianga
- 4) Pu Sneha Kumar Chakma
- 5) Pu K.Lalsanga.

The name of members I called out may come to my Chamber after adjournment of today's sitting for a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

Today's sitting will now be adjourned. We will re-assemble here at 10:30 A.M. on 29th May, 1979.

Sitting adjourned 11:52 A.M.

D.N.GADHOK
SECRETARY.

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