

**SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MIZORAM  
(EIGHTH SESSION)**

**LIST OF BUSINESS**

FOR FIFTH SITTING ON MONDAY, THE 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2016  
(Time 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

**QUESTIONS**

1. **Questions** entered in separate list to be asked and oral answers given.

**LAYING OF PAPERS**

2. **PU LAL THANHAWLA**, Hon'ble Chief Minister to lay on the Table of the House the Annual Report 2014-2015 of the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram.
3. **PU LALSAWTA**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House the Report of the First State Finance Commission Mizoram (2015-20).

**FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

4. **DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR THE YEAR 2015-2016 AND GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2016-2017.**
  - (1) Discussion and Voting on Supplementary Demands for the year 2015-2016.
  - (2) General Discussion on the Budget for the year 2016-2017.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

5. **PU LALSAWTA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2016".

**ALSO**

**to introduce the Bill  
to move that the Bill be taken into consideration  
AND  
to move that the Bill be passed.**

NGURTHANZUALA  
Secretary

.....

**SPEAKER** : Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.

1 Corinthians 14:20

Before taking the questions, the main interest of the people is the Questions and Answers. So, we should provide them as much as possible and we should not linger too long on 1 particular question. I request Pu Lalruatkima to ask Starred Question No. 41.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Will the Minister of UD & PA be pleased to state:-

- a) Whether Aizawl is chosen for a Smart City. If so, the details of steps taken to that effect;
- b) If fund is granted for Smart City and the total amount has already been received.

**SPEAKER** : The concerned Minister Pu Zodintluanga to answer the question.

**PU ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, my answer to the questions are: -

- a) Aizawl is among the 100 cities chosen for a Smart City. Smart Cities are selected through a competition and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase is currently being conducted. Measure will be taken if we got through this round and projects will then be determined.
- b) ₹180 lakhs is granted for the preparation of Smart City and the entire amount will be granted when Aizawl is selected for a Smart City.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary question from Pu Lalruatkima.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, it is appreciating that Aizawl is selected for a Smart City and questions are as follows: -

- i) Who are the consultants for making DPR proposals and if it is readied?
- ii) Among the selected cities, which state's city already has finalized their proposal?
- ii) Is it true that DPR has not been received by us as our consultants have no idea on how to prepare the proposal?

**SPEAKER** : The hon. Minister to answer the question.

**PU ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the Central Govt. has an Empanel Consultancy Firm for Smart City project and we floated a tender from the empanelled consultants. The lowest bidder is Accri-Techno Consultant Private Ltd. with only ₹13 lakhs.

We send all the requirements demanded by the Central Govt. for Smart City project. Though we were not included among the 20 states in the previous selection, we are among the 40 states selected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round competition. So, it is wrong to say that the department as having no knowledge of how to make DPR.

**SPEAKER** : Dr. K. Beichhua to ask Starred question No. 42.

**Dr. K. BEICHHUA** : Thank you Pu Speaker. Will the Minister of Health & Family Welfare Department be pleased to state: -

- a) If there is a proposal to upgrade National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer (NPCDCS), Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke;
- b) If so, from which source it will be funded and how much?

**SPEAKER** : Minister Pu Lal Thanzara, hon. Minister to answer the question.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, my answer is: -

- a) Yes;
- b) It will be funded by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (Cancer Research Section) Govt. of India with a funding pattern of 90:10.
- c) The amount to be received is ₹44.27 crore.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary question from Dr. K. Beichhua.

**Dr. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, Mizoram has the highest incidence of cancer in the world and the Tertiary Cancer Center, Govt. of India thus sanctioned ₹6 crore to the Mizoram State Cancer Institute for purchase of 12 machines. My questions are: -

- i) Why did we purchase only 4 machines?
- ii) We bought a wild CT-Scan and a stimulator but the latter cannot be put to

function till today. Is there a way to repair and, why is the Govt. not buying a new one?

iii) There is a statement that ₹1.16518 crore is left unused; may I know the whereabouts of that sanction fund?

**SPEAKER** : Hon. Minister, Pu Lal Thanzara to answer the question.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the materials of Cancer Hospital generally are more delicate than that of others and so we bought some only. I cannot explain it more clearly; yet, measures are taken to upgrade Cancer Hospital of Zemabawk with 100 beds and DPR is all setup for expediting construction of the buildings. The Project Coordinator is also assigned to get on with the works. I will try to give a clear answer to all the questions after this session.

**SPEAKER** : The hon. Chief Minister.

**PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER:** Since Cancer has taken the lives of many mizo people, we are proposing to upgrade Cancer Hospital. Apart from receiving grants from the Govt. the British Medical Council will be visiting to reduce the cancer rates and we hope that this will produce a positive outcome.

**SPEAKER** : Starred Question No. 43 to be asked by Pu Lalrinliana Sailo.

**PU LALRINLIANA SAILO:** Will the hon. Minister of UD & PA is pleased to state measures taken by the UD & PA for development of Khawzawl.

**SPEAKER** : Minister to answer the question.

**PU ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the answer is: - The works on dumping ground and approach road are completed in 2015-2016 with ₹1 lakh from Swachh Bharat Scheme. Since the proposed dumping ground is too close to the National Highway, it is deemed inappropriate. So, ₹1 lakh granted for dumping ground is planned for Dumping Ground No.1, a 180 meter away from the main road at Khawzawl South area and Dumping ground No. 2, a 145 meter away from the main road at Khawzawl North area. We hope that Khawzawl Dumping Ground-I will be

enough for 60% of khawzawl people and 45% by Dumping Ground-II.

The road alignment for excavating dumping ground is good and measure is taken for a concrete pavement. Estimate has also been made and will be taken up by the Directorate. We made a proposal of ₹13,93,000 for excavating the two roads.

Since the road to Helipad needs resurfacing, ₹3.50 lakhs is granted in the annual plan, 2015-2016 and the works will be started after the sanction is ready. There is also a proposal to make the road a 3 meters wide and 107.5 meters long.

UD & PA obtained financial sanction of ₹2,497 lakhs from the Ministry of Urban Development for Greater Khawzawl Water Supply of 10% Lump sum Grants for North-East including Sikkim and the work is handed over to PHE whereas 47% is completed.

DPR of ₹1,295.93 lakhs for Development Scheme for Khawzawl town is submitted to the Ministry of Housing & Poverty Alleviation to be sanctioned under 10% Lumpsum Grants for North-East including Sikkim. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Dr. K. Beichhua to ask Starred Question No. 44.

**Dr. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, Will the Minister of Tourism Department be pleased to state:-

- a) For what purpose the sanctioned amount of ₹437.75 lakhs for Palak Dil Tourism destination is utilized?
- b) Whether the work is completed.

**SPEAKER** : The concerned Minister, Pu John Rotluangliana is absent today; I request the authorized Minister to answer on his behalf.

**PU LALRINMAWIA RALTE, MINISTER:** My answer is:-

- a) ₹413.75 lakh from the sanctioned amount of ₹437.75 lakh for Palak Dil Tourism Destination is transferred to PWD for construction of building at Phura, Lomasu and New Laty and the remaining ₹24 lakhs is used for furniture and furnishing.
- b) The work is not completed as yet.

**SPEAKER** : Starred Question No. 45, Pu K. Sangthuama.

**PU K. SANGTHUAMA** : Thank you Pu Speaker. Pu Speaker, Starred Question No.45. Will the Hon. Minister for Social Welfare be pleased to state: -

- a) How many blind schools are there in Mizoram?
- b) Up to which standard the institution covers?
- c) How does the Government look after it?
- d) Is there a proposal for establishment of hostel for blinds?

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the Minister concerned to answer.

**PU P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, my answer is: -

- a) There is one Blind School, i.e. Special Blind School at Durtlang.
- b) It covers Class I - Class X.
- c) The government appointed 10 teachers and one Grade-IV at Special Blind School by funding their salary.
- d) The Special Blind School is residential which means there is a hostel.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary Question from Pu K. Sangthuama.

**PU K. SANGTHUAMA** : Pu Speaker, I would like to ask:

- i) Whether the Blind School could be upgraded up to class XII.
- ii) How many students are there at the Blind School?
- iii) How many blinds are there in Mizoram?
- iv) Is it possible to improve the facilities of the blind school?

**SPEAKER** : Pu Lalruatkima.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, how long the Commissioner of PWD has not been appointed?

**SPEAKER** : The Minister concerned may now answer.

**PU P. C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER:** For our kind information, Pu Speaker, in addition to the blind school run by the government, there is one under the Salvation

Army at Kolasib. The one at Durtlang is run by the Samaritans Association and grants are received from the Ministry of Social Justice & empowerment. There are 11 teachers, 12 students in Primary School, 13 students in Middle section and 4 students in High School section. I would like to mention that 9 boys and 11 girls had passed HSLC from this school; and, there is no proposal for upgradation of this school at the moment. However, keeping in view the availability of grants from the central government, it may be considered in the future. I am sorry that I could not give the exact number blinds in Mizoram at the moment.

There is a proposal of appointment of the PWD Commissioner with improved R.R. which is now in process. Thus, it is impossible at the moment.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, the former PWD Commissioner remains holding MR employee allotted to her. Do we wait for her to surrender it? On what basis does she hold such MR?

**PU P. C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER:** We shall look in to the matter.

**PU K. SANGTHUAMA** : Pu Speaker, how many blinds are employed by the government at present?

**SPEAKER** : Could the Minister answer that?

**PU P. C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER :** There are 44 blind employees on the 3% of posts reserved by PWD Act. However, such employees are generally of physically handicap or having problems of sight where as some are completely blind. Regarding identification reservation, it was of long time ago as its revision is being proposed by the DP & AR.

**SPEAKER** : Er. Lalrinawma to ask Starred Question No. 46.

**Er. LALRINAWMA:** Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 46. Will the Hon. Minister for Health & Family Welfare Department be pleased to state: -

- a) The sum owed by RSBY Insurer Company towards Empanelled Hospital?
- b) How much in Civil Hospital, Aizawl?
- c) How much in Synod Hospital, Durtlang?
- d) Is there any empanelled Hospital in which RSBY is not applicable?

e) If so, what is the reason?

**SPEAKER** : The Minister concerned, Pu Lal Thanzara may answer.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the answer is as follows: -

- a) The sum owed by RSBY Insurer Company towards Empanelled Hospital is ₹20,07,27,170/-;
- b) The amount owed to Civil Hospital, Aizawl is ₹53,28,940/-;
- c) The amount owed to Synod Hospital, Durtlang is ₹33,32,890/-;
- d) No, there is no such hospital.
- e) Not applicable.

Pu Speaker, before we move on to Supplementary Question, I would like to state that there are other hospitals against which money was owed such as Lunglei Civil Hospital and Bethesda Hospital. The Finance Deptt. is now processing the case as a result of our request; and, the insurer companies are trying to pay all the due within this month.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary Question from Er. Lalrinawma.

**ER. LALRINAWMA** : Pu speaker, I am thankful for what the Hon. Minister has stated. Anyway, there are things to be enquired regarding this matter.

As per notification of Durtlang Hospital on the 25<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2016, smart card could not be processed with effect from 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 till a new agreement was signed as the amount owed by the insurer companies is too much. We need to take necessary steps to resolve the problems as the actual victims are of rural people. I therefore, kindly request that necessary steps to be taken to resolve the problem. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : That is a request; the Hon. Minister concerned may answer it if deem necessary.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, there are no empanelled hospital in which RSBY Scheme is not adopted. The said problem of Durtlang Hospital is being pursued and may be resolved within this month.



**SPEAKER** : Dr. K. Beichhua.

**Dr. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, whether our Private Hospitals are fully registered under the Medical Council of India Regulations and the Mizoram Clinical Establishment Rules? Which Hospitals in Mizoram are not empanelled hospitals?

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the Minister concerned.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** I was not prepared for all the questions. However, the hospitals which I remember are not empanelled are Care Hospital and Aizawl Hospital.

**SPEAKER** : We can go to another question. Pu R.L. Pianmawia may ask Starred Question No. 47.

**PU R. L. PIANMAWIA** : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 47. Will the Hon. Minister for Health & Family Welfare Department be please to state: -

- a) If there is proposal for recruitment of new doctors;
- b) If there is proposal for recruitment of new health workers;
- c) Whether there is a proposal for reconstruction of Darlawn PHC.

**SPEAKER** : The Minister concerned, Pu Lal Thanzara.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the answer to Starred Question No. 47 is as follows:

- a) Approval for recruitment of 6 Nos. specialists has already been obtained and for 4 Nos. MOs, it is under process.
- b) Recruitment of 232 Health Workers is under process.
- c) The reconstruction of Darlawn PHC is impossible at the moment due to lack of funds.

**SPEAKER** : It is a satisfying answer. Is there any supplementary question? Pu K. Sangthuama.

**PU K. SANGTHUAMA** : Pu Speaker, whether reconstruction of Sairang Hospital building being done?

**SPEAKER** : Concerned Minister.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, we have availed the fund and the work will be started soon.

**SPEAKER** : That is more satisfying. Let us now call upon Pu Lalruatkima to ask Starred Question No. 48.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 48. Will the Hon. Minister for Home Department may please to state:

- a) Whether there is any proposal for stationing 4<sup>th</sup> IR Battalion Headquarters at Rengdil? If so, when will it be implemented?
- b) What is its present status and reason for the delay?

**SPEAKER** : The Minister concerned, Pu R. Lalzirliana may answer.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the answer is as follows: -

- a) The 4<sup>th</sup> IR Battalion Headquarters is set to be stationed at Rengdil. The time is not yet fixed.
- b) It is not implemented as yet due to financial shortage.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary Question from Pu Ruatkima.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, will it be possible to expedite this plan as it will cover the sensitive area?

**SPEAKER** : The Hon. Minister to answer.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, it is necessary to produce land lease in order to avail funds for construction of its buildings at Rengdil which has been processed and NOC are also availed. We have already submitted the NOC to Revenue Department for availing land lease on 25.5.2015 but we still do not receive any reply. The foundation stone was already laid in 2013. There are other ongoing works such as ₹15 crore for PHQ, ₹30 crore for Thingkah, ₹14 crore for Central Jail, ₹5 crore for SP office and Rengdil which will be included in the next phase. Thank you.

**PU R. ROMAWIA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, I have never heard of that subject; we will look into it as soon as possible.

**SPEAKER** : Let us now take Starred Question No. 49 from Hon. MLA Pu K. Sangthuama.

**PU K. SANGTHUAMA** : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 49. Will the Hon. Minister for Social welfare department be pleased to state: -

- a) The minimum age to avail old age pension and the criteria to that effect;
- b) Number of persons in Mizoram availing old age pension grant; the amount granted per head and the total expenditure every month.
- c) At what an interval such grant is given?

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the Hon. Minister concerned, Pu P.C. Lalthanliana.

**PU P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER** : Pu Speaker, the answer is:

- a) 60 years and the criteria are:
  - 1) Above 60 years;
  - 2) Member of BPL family.

Pu Speaker, as per the latest guidelines, a woman of at least 60 years of age and is infected by AIDS may also be granted old age pension regardless of her BPL status. There is also a provision that one who may be selected should not own four wheeler vehicle and a land wider than 5 acres.
- b) There are 25,469 Nos. availing old age pension grants in Mizoram; the amount is ₹250/- (₹200 from central and ₹50 from state) per head between 60 to 79 years of age; ₹550/- (₹500 from central and ₹50 from state) to 80 years old and above. The total amount of expenditure is ₹76,47,350 (₹63,73,900 central and ₹12,73,450 state).
- c) It is distributed at an interval of 3 or 6 months as per availability of funds.

Pu Speaker, I would like to add that the grant has not been issued for a long time; it is paid up to September, 2015 and is now being unpaid for 6 months. So, it is set to be distributed within this month.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Lalthanliana.

**PU LALTHANLIANA** : Pu Speaker, I would like to ask if there is any proposal to increase old age pension grant.

**PU P.C. LALTHANLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the State Level Committee has made a recommendation to increase the amount but is not implemented as yet due to financial limitations.

**SPEAKER** : Starred Question No. 50 from Pu Chalrosanga Ralte.

**PU CHALROSANGA RALTE:** Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 50, will the Hon. Minister for Health & Family Welfare Department may please to state:

- a) The funding source of salary and emolument of Health Workers; whether the central or state.
- b) Number of vacant posts of health Worker at present.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Lal Thanzara, the Hon. Minister to give the answer.

**PU LAL THANZARA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the answer is as follows:

- a) The Salary of 302 Nos. female Health Workers is paid from centrally sponsored scheme (CSS) and 227 Nos. male Health Workers from state plan and non plan fund. The reason that the female Health Workers are paid from CSS is, the Govt. of India want to provide it through maintenance of Swap Scheme since 2003. As a result, the state could make large amount of savings and have more funds for other means also. They often experience late payments of salary due to delay of sanction from the central Govt. So, it is the desired of concerned Govt. servants to draw their salary from the state plan and non plan fund and the case is now under process.
- b) There is a proposal for filling up 232 Nos. vacant posts of Health Worker. Since recruitment of Health Worker has not been done since 2000, we are able to have this much of vacant posts which result from retirements and promotions.

**SPEAKER** : If there is no Supplementary Question, let us call upon Pu R. Vanlalvena to ask Starred Question No. 51.

**PU R. VANLALVENA** : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 51. Will the Hon. Minister for Home Department may please to state:

- a) Whether tax is collected at Vairengte Check Gate;
- b) If so, how much is collected from vehicle?
- c) What is the annual collection since 2011 - 2015?

Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : The Minister concerned may answer.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the answer is: No tax is collected by the Police Department at Vairengte Check Gate.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary Question from Pu Lalruatkima.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : It is true that tax is not collected at the said. However, money is paid in the form of bribe not only at the police check gate but also at excise check gate at Vairengte. I wonder how this could be done and under which revenue head it is collected. I kindly request the Hon. Minister to look into the matter and I also request him to clarify it.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the Hon. Minister concerned.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, it is a fact that the Police Department does not collect any tax at Vairengte and the department is not aware of anything about taking bribe as alleged stated by Pu Ruatkima. However, it is a common practice not only in Mizoram, but also in other states as well. We tried our level best to make system as clean as possible.

**SPEAKER** : Let us now call upon Dr. K. Beichhua to ask Starred Question no. 52.

**Dr. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 52. Will the Hon. Minister for UD & PA Minister may please to state:

- a) Whether Aizawl is included in the Non-Motorized Mobility scheme to transform it to a motor-less city;
- b) If yes, the present status.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Zodintluanga, the Minister concerned may answer.

**PU ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the answer to Starred Question No. 52 is as follows:

- a) Efforts have been made to make Aizawl a livable city; initiatives are also made to implement Non-Motorized Mobility.
- b) Non-Motorized Mobility plan is of central Govt. where as its monitoring under the State Govt. It will be adopted as per availability of schemes.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary Question from Dr. K. Beichhua.

**Dr. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, I do appreciate such efforts. I would like to ask if this is submitted as a separate scheme to the central government. Secondly, what is the expected time to complete the work? Thirdly, does this scheme include construction of tunnels, ropeways, etc.?

**SPEAKER** : The Minister concerned may answer.

**PU ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, it is the desire of the central Govt. to set up the city a non motorized transport city with specific plan. However, no fund is made available but the need compels us to organize seminars on how it shall be implemented. We also take initiatives to adopt smart city scheme as well as Kamrup. If we could pass through round 2 of smart city scheme, non motorized transport and other programmes will be made available.

Pu Speaker, we are taking necessary steps for construction of ropeways as feasibility reports are prepared as proposal is set to be submitted.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary Question from Pu Lalruatkima.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, Starred Question No. 53. Will the Hon. Minister for Home Department be pleased to state:-

- i) Whether liquor shops are opened in the premise of the Police Battalion compounds etc.;
- ii) If so, name of the proprietors and the locations of such shops;
- iii) The reason for opening liquor shop in the premise of the Police Battalion

compounds.

**SPEAKER** : The Minister concerned Pu R. Lalzirliana may answer.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, Liquor shops are opened in the premise of Police Battalion compounds. Initially permission was given to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Armed Veng as the following availed the item as per requirements such as:

- 1) 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion MAP, Lunglei;
- 2) 1<sup>st</sup> IR Battalion, Mualvum, Kawnpui;
- 3) 2<sup>nd</sup> IR Battalion, Khawzawl;
- 4) 4<sup>th</sup> IR Battalion, Luangpawl;
- 5) 5<sup>th</sup> IR Battalion, Lungverh.

The main objective is to provide fine quality liquor. Before a supplementary question is asked, I would like to add that the battalion having the said permit is 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion MAP. However, as other battalions in other places demanded the same, permits are issued to them as well.

**SPEAKER** : Supplementary Question from Pu Lalruatkima.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, it is a fact that only the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion MAP is having permit to sell liquor; it means that the other five battalions are selling it illegally. It is against MLPC Act that liquor is sold without permit. It is also very unfortunate that liquor is sold in police stations while there is a huge shortage of personnel. In this connection, I would like to know if the said is accessible to civilians as well; and, if the revenues collected from such sources are submitted to the govt. or it is spent by such battalion.

**SPEAKER** : The Hon. Minister may answer.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, we do not consider it inappropriate to sell liquor in our police stations as one who drinks continues to drink even if it on sold legally or illegally. We consider it is better if we could provide better quality liquor; the same with CRPF, BSF, Pioneer, etc. The revenue from liquor is credited to Police Welfare Fund as the purpose is not for revenue income. We are just collecting taxes and excise duty as it is necessary legally.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, the revenue collected by all other public enterprises is credited to govt. revenue. Why is the revenue collected by police department credited to the Police Welfare Fund? It is apparent that the other public undertakings would also like to credit it in their welfare fund.

Besides, we have seen in the Office Order dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2015 that more than 100 police personnel were died of alcohol related cases and thus make an appeal to all the police concern to refrain from drinking. Could this be the effect of the government in selling liquor at several police stations?

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, not less than 100 police personnel dies every year even before selling of liquor. So, it is not because of this selling of liquor at the police stations.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, the Office Order I have mentioned stated that it is alcoholic related death; such kind of order has never been issued before.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the Police Department had never issue Office Order regarding use of liquor.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Pu Speaker, DIG issued it on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2015.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Even if it is issued by DIG, it might have been a PR as the department does not issue such kind of office order. Regarding the profit being credited to the welfare fund, the amount is ₹15,56,770.

**SPEAKER** : The House Leader, if he has something to say in this regard.

**PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the Police Department must pay excise duty to the government and I believe they did; the amount being credited to Police Welfare fund may be from the profit they made.

Regarding liquor shop within the premise of police stations, any armed forces, whether it is of other states in which total prohibition is in effect are permitted to sell



liquor. In Mizoram also, permission is issued to BSF, CRPF, Border Road, etc. despite total prohibition. Therefore, forces like MAP or IR Battalion has the right to sell if it is deem necessary.

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, any vendors have the revenue submitted to the government and the profit which may be made is of their own profit, the same with other PSUs like MAMCO etc. They have their own portion of income out of it.

**SPEAKER** : Question Hour is over. The Hon. Members Pu John Rotluangliana, Minister, Pu P.C. Zoram Sangliana, MLA and Pu T.T. Zothansanga, Parliamentary Secretary are granted leave to attend the inaugural function of railway line.

Let us now call upon the Hon. Chief Minister, Pu Lal Thanhawla to lay in the House “The Annual Report 2014-2015 of the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram.”

**PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER:** Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission and and of this august House, I lay “The Annual Report 2014-2015 of the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram.” Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Lat the copy be distributed. Let us now call upon Pu Lalsawta, Hon. Finance Minister to lay on the table of the House “The Report of The First State Finance Commission Mizoram (2015-20).”

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, with your permission and of this august House, I lay “The Report of The First State Finance Commission Mizoram (2015-20).” Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Lat the copy be distributed. Now we shall take a short time for something which is not included in the List of Business. Pu R. Romawia, Hon. Minister for Revenue Department asked for permission to clarify the allegation that a plot of land in Falkawn Referral Hospital as being given to private owner. I permit him as the Rules authorize me. Let us call upon him to take his time.

**PU R. ROMAWIA, MINISTER:** Thank you, Pu Speaker. I would like to clarify

the allegation made by Hon. MLA Pu Ruatkima on 18.3.2016 about giving LSC within Referral Hospital area to two persons. The land in the premise of Referral Hospital, Falkawn is measured when a cadastral survey was held in 2005-2006. The said Lalrinchhana had some land disputes with that survey report and as a result, LSC was not issued. A new survey was done in 2013 after which the lands claimed by Pu Lalrinchhana and Pu Seventh-a are outside the boundary of Referral Hospital, Falkawn; this was accepted by Health Department. After an acceptance was signed by Health Secretary on 9.7.2013, LSC were issued to the said two persons. LSC No. 883 of 2015 was issued to Pu Lalrinchhana covering an area of 130.34 sq. mts. and LSC No. 882 of 2015 to Pu Seventh-a covering an area of 273.52 sq.mts.

Pu Speaker, I have here the blueprint copy of Referral Hospital Area. With your permission, Sir, may this blueprint be distributed to clear confusion of my fellow members.

**SPEAKER** : The map may be given to Pu Ruatkima if needed and no more discussions are allowed for such statement.

We shall now go to financial business. Let us call upon the Hon. Finance Minister, Pu Lalsawta to submit in this House, the Supplementary Demands for the year 2015-2016.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, on the recommendation of the Governor and with your permission, Sir, I hereby submit “The Mizoram Appropriation (No. 1) Bill, 2016.”

**SPEAKER** : You are allowed to introduce and also beg the House to pass as no further discussion is necessary.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, I, hereby introduce the Supplementary Demand for grants for the ongoing financial year 2015-2016 amounting to ₹1126.9946 crore. I also beg this House to pass the same.

**SPEAKER** : Anyone who agrees may say, ‘aye’ and those who oppose may say, ‘nay’. Since no one who opposed it, I declare the Supplementary Demand for grants for the year 2015-2016 is passed by the House.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Thank you, Pu Speaker.

**SPEAKER** : We will now have general discussion on budget for the year 2016-2017. Each member will have 10 minutes. Who will be the first? Pu H. Zothangliana.

**PU H. ZOTHANGLIANA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. First of all, I would like to mention that we have made a number of records in this budget; the Hon. Finance Minister has also mentioned in his statement about this. I think that this is the first time that we have regular budget at the exact time.

**SPEAKER** : Please allow us to change the chair.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : You may continue.

**PU H. ZOTHANGLIANA** : I perceive that it is a very well prepared budget which signifies the efforts made by not only the Hon. Finance Minister but also the Parliamentary Secretary, Finance Commissioner and other secretaries as well. It is not a populist budget which aims at merely pleasing someone but is a real budget to bring development for the state. It shows an effort to continue the ongoing process of reconstruction. As a matter of fact, this budget is not a vote oriented budget for the ruling party. I would like to remind the people of Mizoram that this government is not aiming to please them only for a short time. Its main intention is to bring sustainable development which has been clearly depicted by this budget.

On the other hand, it can be seen that the government is ready to borrow any amount if it is meant for infrastructural development of the state. It does not aim at borrowing merely because it is possible. I believed that the Hon. Finance Minister would lead us in a very systematic manner. It is obvious that it is a mammoth task to eliminate the present debt of the state. It is great that we still could witness development in roads, power generation, water supply and a new prospect for the youth despite such difficulties. I, therefore, am really grateful for this budget and I am supporting it to be passed. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Pu John Siamkunga.

**PU JOHN SIAMKUNGA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The budget speech of

the Hon. Finance Minister is very precise and well prepared; he could also make another great presentation during the press meet afterwards also. The people of Mizoram are not much aware of Budgets before. It is our desire that we could have the budget in our own mother tongue so that we could pay more attention to it. This budget has now fulfilled that desire and I am really grateful for that.

We can see that the amount of taxes we collected from our state is around ₹610 crore which is very little in proportion to the whole budget amount of more than ₹8,000 crore. It is apparent that the people of Mizoram need to know that payment of taxes is vital for the state. I have learned that around 15% tax was paid in the US; it means that they are paying a very high percentage of tax. Looking at our expected amount of tax to be collected, it is very little for a population of more than 10 lakh population.

The salary components comprise 38.74% of the whole budget. In this regard, the professional tax is to be paid by every government employee. The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has recommended that government employees should pay up to ₹12000. However, in order to implement that recommendation, Article 276 of Indian Constitution has to be amended. Through this recommendation, government employees could contribute a huge amount to the state. We need to find a way that more amounts could be collected from the salary component.

We have also seen that around ₹80 crore was kept for MR Bill of Govt. employees. It is very desirable that the government employees are willing to sacrifice certain amount of their salary for health care schemes in return for it will become a great contribution for the needy and also for the consolidation of the state finance.

I am also very grateful that ₹250 crore is kept for NLUP and NEDP as we have witnessed many successful beneficiaries of NLUP under different trades. As often mentioned by the Hon. House Leader, it is important to prepare ourselves for market economy as the production will increase from the successful beneficiaries under NLUP. The amount of ₹50 crore allotted to NLUP indicates the Hon. Finance Minister is truly concern about this and also to bring sustainable development.

An attempt has been made to maintain the fiscal deficit at 0.5 percent indicating this government made an immense achievement in fiscal management. This budget further shows that the Hon. Finance Minister aims at improving the financial

position of the state rather than borrowing huge amounts from financial institutions. Again, the budget speech indicates that the government has made immense efforts regarding resource mobilization also which can be witnessed from the Cabinet Committee on Economic Measures as well and how plan is made to generate revenue for the state. As a result, we can see from the budget that ₹15 crore will be collected from motor vehicle taxes during this year.

Besides, we are expecting more than ₹43 crore from state excise, around ₹80 crore from Power & Electricity Department and ₹35 crore from Mizoram Water supply under a new act. All these are the result of the efforts made by the Hon. Finance Minister to create more revenues and less expenditure. It is really notable that the state debt is decreased to 46% of the state GSDP where as at the beginning of this ministry, the amount is as high as 87% d. It is indeed a great achievement for we are able to reduce the amount at 46% at present. The allotment of ₹159 crore for Lok Ayukta during 2016-2017 shows the government moves in an effort to eradicate corruption in the state. It also shows that the government itself is free from corruption and malpractices.

Stress is also laid towards co-operative societies through this budget. It is notable that ₹11.25 crore has been allotted for ICDP scheme.

Lastly, the closing of certain PSUs shows sincerity of the government for proper financial management of the state. I am overwhelmed by the efficiency of the Hon. Chief Minister as well as the Hon. Finance Minister for the cause of the state. Thus, I do support this budget presented by the Hon. Finance Minister. Thank you.

**PU K. SANGTHUAMA** : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. First of all, I would like to express my gratitude that we have a regular budget within the month of March. I would also like to thank the Hon. House Leader and the Hon. Finance Minister for their efforts.

On Demand No. 44, there is a proposal to terminate some of our PSUs such as ZENICS, ZOHANDCO and MAMCO and I am grateful for this kind of economic measures made by the government. We also have a plan to privatize ZIDCO and MIFCO; I hope that this will bring improvement in the financial condition of the state also.

On Demand No. 47, we have seen that the amount of MR Bill exceeded ₹80 crore and I am glad to hear about efforts made by the government to reduce this kind of expenditure. I also opined that we could save some sorts by cautiously maintaining our financial system.

Regarding Power & Electricity Department, I opine the increase of electric bill by 8.21% is too much though it is a must to revise the rate from time to time. However, we have to consider the burden it may cause to the people if the rate is suddenly hiked. So, I request concerned authority to re-examine the case.

I am happy to see the work program which is properly arranged. A huge amount of fund is kept for Agriculture component. However, it seems that the amount of rice production as mentioned was often incorrect even in the last year. I request the department to provide correct and reliable data in this regard.

I think we do not have enough awareness of the important of Horticulture Department. However, the system of distribution of seeds under this department is not up to the mark. It is generally distributed during the month of June to August which in Mizoram is not the sowing season. I opine our progress may not reach up to the mark unless the system is changed. Regarding supply of seeds of banana, pineapple and orange, it is often of low quality seeds as only 20% to 30% are survived. I opine huge improvement could be made if the quality of such supplies is improved.

We have an enormous funds being allotted to Rural Development Department. I opined we have to be more careful in dealing with this department as most of the work performances in rural areas are par-below. Unless careful measure is taken in this regard, we may waste huge amount of fund every year; we must be more vigilant with the works performance of the department concerned.

Regarding fisheries, I think that the production is not in proportion with the number of fish pond we have in Mizoram. I opine it may be more productive if we provide bigger size seedlings to the concerned farmers as only around 30% of fish seeds survive if they are too small. I suggest that bigger fish seeds are provided even if a little expensive.

I opine we are not that successful in Trade & Commerce Department as expected. The foreign trades seem not up to the mark despite huge amounts of

investment. We therefore need to find a new way to make improvement.

We have seen a sufficient amount of funds being allotted in PWD. However, construction of Saitual - Maite Road is not seen in the work schedule. I hope there is an alternative means for blacktopping of this road. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Lt. Col. Z.S. Zuala.

**Lt. Col. Z.S. ZUALA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am glad to hear the Finance Minister's speech in Mizo. We can see from the budget that it is a bold move made by the government. Some departments are given priority while some are restricted with some new taxes to be collected. I regarded this as a characteristic of a good government. I appreciate the works done by the Hon. Finance Minister and his team of officials.

It is true that the journalists nowadays are very keen towards the budget through which the general public could aware of the budget better than before. Collection of revenue is increasing and I am also glad that we can collect duty from liquor also. I think that increasing sales tax, motor vehicle tax and power tax are necessary. This will further act as awareness for the need of conventional uses of electricity.

Proposal for privatization of ZENICS, ZOHANDCO and MAMCO also is a great achievement where as formation of committee to check expenditure on MR Bill and introduction of Food Security also are quite notable as it will save the state finance even if there are some problems in the beginning. I support increase of land revenue in order to stop ownership of huge area of uncultivated lands by the rich.

Besides, I appreciate that the members and officers have surrendered their ration cards due to the influence of the Hon. Finance Minister; it set an example for the general public. The efficiency of the ministry as well as department officials could be seen from the fact that we have won first position in good governance in PAC recently. I regarded the Finance minister's speech as outstanding. We have also witnessed improvement under his guidance for the past two or three years. Thus, I support this budget. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Pu R. Vanlalvena.

**PU R. VANLALVENA** : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. It is appreciating that the Finance Minister has laid the Finance Speech in Mizo language.

As mentioned by the previous members, a Press Conference was called by the media and it is appreciating that the people are starting to give importance on finance. The more knowledge the people have on finance, we will be able to control corruptions and the people need to pay more attention to this.

The current 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommendation has altered the process of our state finance from tied fund to untied fund and the Govt. thus needs to be more careful on our financial management.

We all know how our state pay less taxes, and as seen on the Finance Speech, other states will be paying ₹90 if we pay ₹10, and in some cases, they will pay ₹80 if we pay ₹20. It is clear that the amount of our collected taxes will be large and we therefore need to increase our taxes bit by bit. We also need to give awareness to the people and the Parties so that we can become economically a rich state. We will be focusing on the ₹610.25 crore which is quite less compared to the amount that the Central Govt. is giving. So, the people need to be active in paying taxes knowing the fact that the majority of our contribution will return.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommends that we can borrow money from OMB (Open Market Borrowing) if the Fiscal deficit is less than 3% but we have not gives the thought in borrowing for we already had a lot of debts in the past years. We are hoping to have ₹1,283.91 crore on revenue surplus and around 0.15 Fiscal Deficit. Even though it is possible to borrow money for unnecessary means, the Finance Minister has no plan to do so and I was wondering if this will be a great idea. Governments around the world borrow large amount of money for infrastructure, necessities and for development as the major states in the country does the same and deposited more on K-Deposit compared to us; those that have better infrastructure have many debts. It is learned from the financial speech that money may be borrowed as necessary and after thorough examination; I find the budget impressive and I believe it is a good starting point for the state's development. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Er. Lalrinawma.

**Er. LALRINAWMA** : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I find our Budget



Speech is quite assertive as we are making a lot of progress. Even though some objections were raised, we do notice quite an effort has been put. The responsibility becomes heavy after the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission handed over the financial authority to the Govt. and since the untied fund share of tax and post devolution revenue deficit grant come with the untied fund, the state needs to be more careful on financial discipline. If not, we will be facing serious problems later.

Earlier, we had laid Supplementary Demand for Grant 2015-2016 which need to be given a deep thought. When we made budgets, we laid and passed them but we need to decrease the Supplementary Demand for Grant as much as possible.

According to my calculation, the Supplementary Demand for Grant from Demand for Grant was 18.15% in 2012-2013, 49.25% in 2013-2014, 31% in 2014-2015 and a little improvement is seen in 2015-2016 with 15.97%. I mention this because it is important for our financial discipline and development; it would be appreciating if the House is given an explanatory note on the Supplementary Demand for Grant in the future.

The decrease/increase of our debts from GSDP are clearly mentioned on the liability of state government, page-13 and on the next page is underlines, “Thus, over the past year, our liabilities diminishes from 65.60% to 52.40% of our GSDP which is indeed an achievement”. However, the Finance officials need to focus on which GSDP should be used for 2014-2015.

Looking at the Macro-economic frame work statement 2016-2017, page 6, Para 14, the GSDP of 2014-2015 is ₹94,428 crore and ₹11,457.99 crore as the current price but the Speech indicates the sum as ₹12,496 crore which it is quite difficult to understand since it is laid for approval of the House. So, while the Ruling Ministry declares its great achievement, the liabilities of the states in respect of GSDP on the other hand increased from 65.06% to 69.47% and we can clearly mention this as a bad performance. Therefore, the Finance officials need to focus on this issue and claim which GSDP should be used. The Macro-economic frame work of statement, Para-28 also shows that the estimate of Mizoram GSDP calculated by Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India for 2014-2015 is ₹9805 crore. So, we have too many GSDP for 2014-2015 and it would be appreciated if the Finance Minister clarifies this.

The Fiscal policy strategy statement of 2016-2017 indicated the ₹17.49 crore

received by the Excise & Narcotic Department which is the same as last year. The budgets we laid this year and last year indicate the same entry data and would be much appreciated if it is updated with new documents being a new budget.

66 Nos. Central schemes are shown here with matching share of 90:10, however, 80:20 seems to be difficult to achieve. There are many schemes that the state will benefit from such schemes and thus inappropriate not to entertain for its matching share.

As we are now being given more free hands, we need to be very careful on how we spend our finances. It is appreciating that the State Finance Commission Report is laid in consideration of the situation of our V/Cs. The expenditure for V/Cs of different districts is shown separately and it would be much impressive if it is implemented sooner. We need to enhance the position of our V/Cs by providing with more funds for the day to day managements. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : It is now 1:00 PM. We will take a break and continue at 2:00 PM

### **2:00 PM**

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Before we continue with our discussion, the following members, Pu N.K. Chakma, Pu Chalrosanga Ralte, Pi Vanlalawmpui and Pu S. Laldingliana are granted leave of absence from the House to attend a funeral.

To continue with our discussion, 6 members had shared their opinions in the morning session; I now request Dr. Ngurdngliana to take his time.

**Dr. NGURDINGLIANA** : Pu Dy. Speaker, there are many things to be grateful on this budget laid by the Finance Minister and it is appreciating that we are able to enter a new economic development policy. In regard to the mentioned key sector such as Agriculture & Allied sector and Industry Infrastructure development service sector, agriculture is inevitably a reliable source for the people for now but the contribution on GSDP from this department is comparatively less.

Our productions decrease while the number of laborers is increasing. Andhra

Pradesh passed a Land Reform and Acquisition Act due to their shortage of productions and it is appreciating that the Revenue Minister is taking measures in that aspect. The Speech also highlights the productions like onions, spices, squash, fruits etc. and the objective of MAMCO, ZENICS and MIFCO though great but unsuccessful on implementation and monitoring and it is quite reasonable that PSE was abolished. So, I wonder how the selected departments under New Academic Development Committee will be conducted.

There are many entrepreneur aids from the Ministry of Micro-department where over 3000 people from Mizoram also received. So, the Govt. needs to make more business opportunity rather than aiming only on jobs under the Govt.

It would be impressive if we change our systems on industry manufacture, forest, state industry Bamboo handloom handicraft and agro-based food processing. I even have a strong wish that the New Economic Policy is continued as our population at present is around 12 lakhs and we need to increase more. So, the leaders ought to focus on how we will increase our population rather than focusing on family planning.

Lastly, Pu Speaker, I would like to point out that this budget gets attention of the media a lot for it concern our future. And, I give my support wholeheartedly, Pu Dy. Speaker. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Dr. K. Beichhua.

**Dr. K. BEICHHUA** : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Minister for laying the budget on time. We will be having a wide range of fiscal framework design on the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission and I hope the freedom will be regarded as a blessing.

On the other hand, the Govt. needs to be careful on economizing our finances since the amount we are to be granted is fixed and there will be no more supplementary demand for grants. It seems that the state will have to implement the 7<sup>th</sup> Pay and the finances will extremely flow to the salary of the Govt. employees.

Pu Dy. Speaker, since other states are proceeding without Parliamentary Secretaries for years, I opine we need to terminate the same posts with the declaration

of this year as a year of consolidation. At the same time, it is regretted as many retired Govt. services are being reemployed and facilitated in various Commissions. So, in the year of consolidation, we need to make the best use of our experts in service in order to minimize our expenditure. Pu Dy. Speaker, I believe the flagship programmes of certain political parties covers number of family but only a few comes up with good result. So, I opine we need to stop the system whether it is of the Congress or MNF Ministry.

Again, Pu Dy. Speaker, I opine there are too many Govt. employees keeping the Govt. vehicle which is quite incompatible with a year of consolidation. So, we need to reduce it and we also need to restrict ourselves on luxuries. Everyone is against corruption and we need to take extra measures in tackling such practices and make the punishments more severe. In the case of medical, our expenditure on MR is excessively high for many patients are being referred to other states. So, we need to buy advanced equipments and upgrade our basic infrastructure to minimize refer cases.

In regard to Own Non-tax Revenue and Own Tax GSDP ratio, the Taxation Department needs to be more functional and recruit more staffs if necessary so that the efficiency is maintained in the process of our tax collections. The tax collected from liquor is the highest revenue source in Mizoram as we have even exceeded our target yet, I have no idea whether it is to be regarded as a blessing. Though we are making a large sum income on liquor tax, the people incurs a lot of expenditures on unnecessary means and I am afraid such traits may affect our work efficiency and decrease our productivity relatively.

We need to increase our agricultural products by making some reliable marketing prospects. Being in the international border, we can use this as an advantage. For example, if we take extra measures on production of gingers and passion fruits, we have a prospect of exporting it in large quantity. So, in order to have better resources, we need to undertake extra measures on inter-state infrastructure scheme as the local-made Zo-cooker is widely used in the neighboring states like Nagaland and Manipur. **(DEPUTY SPEAKER : *Your time is up.*)** Our state productivity will then be increased if we put more efforts on our Oil and gas explorations as well.

We need to have new mindsets by emphasizing on setting up tourists

attraction. This 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, though great and highly regarded, we may be able to determine if it is good or bad on the next budget. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Pu Lalthanliana.

**PU LALTHANLIANA** : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. It is appreciating that a full-fledged budget is laid and I find our Finance Minister is praiseworthy for achieving this. I believe it is also appreciated by the departments as a whole and I want to thank the minister for his efforts.

First off, I asked myself if it is necessary to decrease our budget by 15% just because the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission reduced our share of tax by 15%; and, why we are so afraid of having debts for development. (*Dr. Ngurdingliana at the Speaker's Chair*). Looking at our budget, I find it is carefully manipulated, but I am not supporting debts that are impetuous. So, is it really matter to have debts that the people can truly benefit? The share of tax and post-devolution revenue deficit grant are now on the untied fund which provides us more free hands. However, we need to make more efforts on our financial management in order to deal with around ₹4,000 crore. At the same time, our expenditure on MR Bill in a year is quite high and it is impressive that there are measures to reduce it. I consider the New Economic Development Policy to be acceptable and I hope we will know the results.

Regarding the rising of tax on Power & electricity to 8.21%, it would be appreciated if it is increased by 5% at first then we may increase it again later as we cannot afford the rapid increase.

It is appreciating that ₹159.34 lakhs is granted for setting up Lok Ayukta in Mizoram and I believe this is for our development. It is impressive that National Food Security is practically implemented and we will have savings of around ₹2 crore. Anyhow, I praise our Finance Minister for putting his sincere efforts on this and though we may try to achieve all good things yet difficult entirely.

At the same time, I would like to mention that the Govt. employees find it quite difficult to withdraw their GPF probably due to our financial problems. So, if our financial status is improving, withdrawal of GPF will be easy. Thus, I sincerely support this budget. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN** : Pu Lalrobiaka.

**PU LALROBIAKA** : Pu Chairman, it is a privilege to have a budget discussion today and I admire our Finance Minister for his sincerity and activeness. It is impressive that it is presented in Mizo language as it is published in various newspapers. It is a reiterated topic that our finance is limited but it is used for development purposes as we often make new discoveries.

With the declaration of a year of consolidation, it is appreciating that we determine measures to increase our income sources as also to improve our financial management. Our income which may be acquired from Mizoram Liquor Control Prohibition, Taxation, Motor Vehicle, Water Supply and Power & Electricity are also all chalked out. However, we need to restrict ourselves from squandering our funds as it is difficult to improve our financial situation unless our budget is economized.

It is appreciating that we will be able to contribute 7.95% from the Revenue receipt. Apart from this, it is impressive that a large sum of fund is put on laborers. Whenever my Party forms a Ministry, large amount of fund is allocated on Agriculture & Allied Sector which is often passed through. Likewise, it is impressive that Economic Development Policy is launched and ₹174.06 crore allotted for Agriculture & Allied Sector. So, if the Govt. achieved with its economy measures, we will be saving ₹2 crore every year due to the National Food Security, 2013. Therefore, I truly support this budget. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN** : Pu Lalruatkima.

**PU LALRUATKIMA** : Thank you, Pu Chairman. It is a privilege to have Mizoram budget discussion today and I would like to thank our Finance Minister for his dedication.

As the 14th Finance Commission changed the sharing pattern, the Planning Commission is replaced by NITI AAYOG and our main funding sources will be of share of taxes and post-devolution revenue deficit grant. We need to be very careful on our expenses since we will own some shares and I hope that we will have a proper planning and management.

The budget we laid is ₹8,065.93 crore out of which ₹838.38 crore is the

estimated expenditure. Though declaring a year a consolidation is great for clearing our debts, our hopes on developments from the Finance Commission can be in ruined if we are too hesitant of having debts. We are expecting ₹331.19 crore on state own tax revenue which was ₹326.56 crore last year. So, we need to make more efforts here as well as on our capital receipts and we need to mobilize our resources without causing burden to the people. It seems that Power & Electricity increases power tariff every year and some members have even proposed to increase it to 8.21%. In this regard, we should consider the burden it may cause to the people as a result of the sudden increase.

Regarding MLPC Act, the Governor has stated that ₹47 crore is collected from liquor tax till January and the increase indicates we are consuming a lot of liquor than expected. In this connection, we should also concern of the money we wasted out of excessive consumption of liquor and our expenses which flows out to other states.

The Taxation Department proposed to raise tax on tobacco by 30% from 20% last year and with that, we expect ₹165 crore this year.

I assume that we revised POL tax with a hope to receive ₹60 crore from motor spirits and lubricants. In this regard, we need to proceed without causing any burden the people. We should remember that we implemented the Mizoram Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Act, 2015 to mobilize our resources but is such a burden for the vehicles owners.

Pu Chairman, most of our expenditure last year was on rice, water tariff and electricity bills last year but we are now progressing. However, we should also concern the interest of the people on the contrary as I am absolutely against anything which may cause suffering to our own people.

We also need proper maintenance of ration cards with correct details and step should be taken in this regard. On abolition of ZOHANDCO and MAHCO, it is regretted that LDCs had to be demoted to IV grade.

Despite our debt which is estimated as ₹7290.17 crore, there is a progress on GSDP and I believe this should be maintained. Regarding Implementation on Review Committee on Memorandum on Settlement on Peace Accord, 1986 on the 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2015, I request the Minister to provide us the details on how far it has been

achieved.

Lastly, we are taking up economic measures and we need to start from the leaders; we will yield the results of this budget next year and the people will be the judge. So, we need to be very careful on how we proceed. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN** : So far, 11 members had shared their opinions and I now request Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte to take his time.

**PU HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE:** Pu Chairman, I would like to thank our Finance Minister for laying an excellent budget. No member has yet mentioned about the change of sharing pattern in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme from 90:10 to 50:50 by the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission. It is appreciated that we are able to adapt with the new pattern of 90:10 thanks to the efforts of the hon. House Leader.

It is impressive that our state, though economically poor has ₹600 crore to contribute. In this relation, the people need to know that it is our duty to contribute tax to the Govt. Contribution made by Mizoram is very less compared to other states and increase of tax on Power & Electricity is due to our failure in producing 60 mega watts from Tuirial Hydel Project. The Govt. also made a wise decision to abolish ZENICS, ZOHANDCO and MAMCO since no profit is made. At the same time, it is impressive that some tourist lodges are privatized for not being able to gain profits.

We will also save ₹2 crore every month as a result of Food Security. Our debt has decreased to 52.41 of GSDP from 65.06 during the previous year and the debt for 2016-2017 is estimated as 46.93%. So, we are quite fortunate that our Finance Minister put his serious thoughts to this concern.

It is best for us not to entertain liquor business but is unavoidable since large amount of the item are imported from Silchar, Tripura and Burma as large sum of money flows outside. Hence, the Government has no choice but legalize liquors on which I support the decision.

Pu Speaker, our Finance Minister came up with economy measures and a separate committee is being set up for Medical-Reimbursement. It is a wise decision that all employees under the Govt. of Mizoram who are permissive of claiming MR bills should contribute ₹5/- every month.



Lastly, it is also appreciative that our budget is laid in Mizo language as the media are also quite interested in this. I, therefore, support this budget. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu T. Sangkunga.

**PU T. SANGKUNGA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. It is appreciating that the Finance Minister is able to lay an excellent budget on time.

Since Planning Commission is replaced with NITI AAYOG, the hon. Minister, out of concern for any possible mistake decided not to lay a complete budget at the beginning of the year. Last year, the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, after scrutinizing any funds which may be granted to us and the tax to be collected by the Central Govt., we were supposed to be granted ₹2,670 crore which happened to be of less than 15%. Hence, the Finance Minister, with due care reduced our sources of tax and non-plan revenue grant.

It is indicated in the Budget statement that the Finance Commission does not discriminate any party as the estimated net expenditure of consolidated fund is ₹838.39 crore which is quite a lot. It is impressive that ₹250 crore is granted for New Economic Policy, ₹20 crore for NABARD and ₹30 crore for NLUP. It is also pleasing to see that UD & PA is granted ₹42 crore for the project II & III of SIPMIU; it is much desirable that drainage system of Civil Hospital is prioritized. It is also pleasing to learn that ₹1,565.18 crore is granted for plan sector and the Planning and Finance distributed funds equally for the works. Our budget is quite impressive as it will be widely benefitted for our development. Thank you.

**PU VANLALZAWMA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Since the majority of the members find our budget to be impressive, I assume it is for I am not an expert. The Finance Minister seems to put his best effort into this budget for we have laid an incomplete budget the year before last year and I believe we did not have much problem along the way.

It is much desirable that we proceed with it without causing burden to the people on electric bills, water bills and lifetime taxes. Though we often said that other states have higher electricity bills, the costs of essential commodities like rice and vegetables are much cheaper compared to us; the people had even suffered when we

increased rate of taxi, petrol and lifetime tax. Thus, it is necessary to carefully evaluate the taxes since the majority is of non-Govt. employees who have no stable income sources.

In regard to Health Care, MR bill of the Govt. employees is excessively high and so is important to consider the situation of the general people as well. I have learned from a reliable source that there are some patients who are billing MR by other name which I supposed as the reason for mounting of our MR Bills.

In Healthcare Scheme, registration is easy. When we have a meeting not long ago, I was informed that 40% benefitted the scheme. If this is true, I opine it is wise to change the system and register only those who benefitting the scheme. The problem is that most of the members have in their respective constituency, people who are not registered themselves under the scheme but also need medical treatment like others.

There is one thing which I do not understand is the amount of revenue collected by the Govt. from selling of liquor as stated by the Governor is differ from the report of the hon. Finance Minister where as the target amount being stated are differs as well. I asked myself if it is wrong or right to exceed the target.

As already mentioned, it is a wise decision of the Govt. to terminate ZENICS and ZOHANDCO; I truly appreciate this bold decision to improve our economy. Yet, I suppose we all are willing to hear from the words of the hon. Finance Minister, the prospect of this decision as to how it will become profitable.

Coming to the Youth Commission, it is great to learn its performance though it is not 100% successful. I am amaze that this performance has not been highlighted here in our budget speech.

I am thankful to have an opportunity to express my opinions on various demands here in the House. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

**SPEAKER** : I now invite the hon. Minister to wind-up the discussion and also beg the House to introduce and pass the Appropriation Bill.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, today in of general discussion on the budget; 14 members have participated which brings about an interesting

discussion on certain Demands. Despite receiving many praises, I think i do not deserve that as a Finance Minister; I would rather say that we are able to lay a good budget thanks to the efficiency of the hon. Chief Minister; apart from this, a good cooperation brings us to this condition. I am glad that I have been provided with K.S. Thanga, an efficient member as Parliamentary Secretary as my support. The Finance Deptt., Planning and the Planning Board Officers too have rendered their valuable opinion and knowledge for the success of this budget on which they all truly deserves credit. I am glad that they have provided the most significant points to make a precise decision.

As we are discussing about borrowing money, it is seen in the budget that one of the main objectives of the Govt. is reducing our debt. However, we do not hesitate to do so when necessity arises such as on potential investment, opportunity for the youth concern and for setting up the capital asset; it will not be determined from our financial standing.

Regarding Supplementary Demand for Grant, as mentioned by Er. Lalrinawma, I support his opinion to a certain extents because in the past, the Planning Commission had often been the reason behind. Normally, the budget had been released at the end of March and we had to examine in haste what will be placed under the Supplementary Demands. However, we are fortunate this year as there is nothing much to add in the Supplementary Demand which makes the Supplementary Demand more attractive than that of the previous years.

Coming back to borrowing money, I would like to stress that it is sometimes necessary so as to keep up with a sustainable economic apparatus and we therefore should not hesitate to do so. Our budget should bring forth our collective responsibility towards the people.

Regarding our GSDP as stated by the hon. Members, It is not determined by us but the Central Ministry. However, there may be some conflicting figures as it is determined by several individual experts. We only exhibit what we receive from our main source regardless of which is best. Regarding the report of the State Finance Commission which has been submitted to the House, I convey my thanks to the Committee for their hard works and dedications. I would further like to mention that the wording of the report had been altered so that it is understood more clearly by all the members concern.

On Public Sector Enterprises as mentioned by the Group Leader, I often said that the potentiality of some Public Sectors could not be generated at best due to unfulfilled scheme of our state; the hon. Chief Minister thus advises an intensive study of the case. We offer to any concerned staff a continuous employment and Early Retirement Recruitment (ERR); it is not in our thought of taking advice from the Board for the Board itself is under the Chairmanship of the Minister and the Secretary who regularly communicate with us in dealing with anything.

Pu Speaker, I am happy to see each member enthusiastically participated in the discussion on this budget. One thing which deserved to be noted is the context of this budget which carries a package of success in life for ones as the New Economic Development Policy covers means to achieve development. Pu Speaker, since it is anyone desires to become successful, we introduce in this budget the New Economic Development Policy (NEDP) for its tools. With the help of our flagship programme that is NLUP, CSS and DoNER, we hope to quench the thirst of our people which happened to be the main objective of this budget.. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Now, let us invite Leader of the House to deliver whatever he has in mind from the light of our discussion and from the minister's wound-up speech.

**PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, I have not much point to add on our discussion except my appreciation to all the members who are actively participated in the discussion; we have even heard appreciations from the Opposition Bench which is a rare occurrence even in the Parliament. This is how we should conduct our discussion in the House; we should appreciate what is good and voice out negative criticism. As a whole, our discussion shows the efficiency of the Finance Minister, Finance Department and the Planning Department. In the discussion of the Parliament, we often see that the Opposition members making so much noise that the House could not proceed any further. It is thankful that in our House, the Opposition members are the ones who make this House dignified.

Regarding the context of the budget statement prepared by the hon. Finance Minister, we can see that it is simple enough for ordinary people to understand. It is the first time that our budget is prepared like this. In the past, after presentation of the budget, a Press Conference was held in which the details of the budget were explained to be flashed in the newspapers. I convey my thanks to the Finance Minister and his

co-workers; I hope that the media people would also learn a new thing from this budget statement.

Pu Speaker, it is the Finance Minister who should explain about borrowing money. As we already heard, it is a common practice in the past in an effort to develop our state; if we confine only in our budget, we cannot do much works. However, I am happy to hear that we will do anything that is necessary as long as it concerns development to our State. Regarding points raised by some members, we will try to react on discussion in demand-wise. The Finance Minister had explained regarding our budget already and I will not go there again. Likewise, there are various achievements under the Youth Commission; however, we will not go there today.

I think it is imperative to mention regarding medical reimbursement as numbers of faults are found in the process. Though it is not difficult to find out such fault, it is hard to process it as per strict rules that bind. Thus, to a certain extents, it is difficult for the government to penetrate illegal activities.

There are people ignorantly expressing their opinion as having no knowledge of separation of the judicial and the executive. Often a time, it is difficult for concerned authority to take disciplinary action against certain officials who are allegedly involves in corruption; yet, it does not restrain us from taking the step for improvement of our administration.

I supposed concerned leaders will later explain the detail of our economic policy. This ministry has its own New Economic Development Policy (NEDP); we have been proceeding with NLUP almost for 5 years as we are now at the concluding chapter. The main objective of the Govt. is to determine as to how to consolidate our economic policy which has been taken up and how it will be utilized at it best. In reality, it is a comprehensive broad strategy which aims at developing the developed ones more so that it is alternately benefitted by the state as well.

It is the will of our state to achieve self-sufficiency and I daresay this can be done if the manual laborers are provided with an efficient guidance. Our future is blink if we determine only of the negative approach but our condition today is by far better than that of other states; we should therefore proceed with confidence for a better economic status. Keeping this in mind, the government after determining as to whether intrusive growth strategy, comprehensive growth strategy or market economy

strategy should be applied in our system, we came to the conclusion that a new economic development i.e. comprehensive growth strategy may be applied. The policy concerns for alleviating the economic status of the poor as well as the people as a whole. Involvement of UNO in the process may be criticized by many but is a renowned organization worldwide; it has already 4 agencies entering our state without our demand. The senior officials of the MZU with prior-knowledge of performance of the UNO had even signed MoU and are now maintaining a good working relationship. In addition, we also give our thought as to how we are going to equip the farmers, our VIPs so that they are able to continue with their occupations. Whether or not NLUP has comes to an end, we determine to stabilize their conditions by any means.

Regarding medical reimbursement in which huge amount of our budget funds is wasted, most all the members participated in the discussion. A Review Committee is formed under the chairmanship of our Chief Secretary. The committee submitted its recommendation and the government will examine its finding and will decide whether it will be adopted. With this, we will then be able to apprehend any illegal activities.

Pu Speaker, I am deeply touched by seeing all the members today with one mind on this issue. I hope that we will be able to stand in unity for the cause of prosperity and development of our state and also for the glory of the Almighty. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : It is now almost 4 PM and we will conclude our business for today. It is a must that the Finance Minister to move the House to introduce the Appropriation Bill so that we are able to spend the Supplementary Demands we have passed.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** With the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your consent, Pu Speaker, I beg to introduce ‘The Mizoram Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2015-2016’ in this august House.

**SPEAKER** : The Minister has begs the House for introduction, as we all agree, let him introduce the Bill.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, I introduce ‘The Mizoram Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2015-2016’ in this august House.

**SPEAKER** : Let the copy be distributed.

Now, the hon. Minister needs to move the bill; and, while moving the bill, it would be appropriate if he can read out the details of the demands. Let us invite him.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, 'The Mizoram Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2015-2016' concerns the Supplementary Demands for 2015-2016 for the following departments: -

<b>Demand Nos.</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount required (in Lakh)</b>
Demand No. 1	Legislative Assembly	₹31.30
Demand No. 3	Council of Ministers	₹29.36
Demand No. 4	Law & Judicial	₹218.39
Demand No. 6	Land Revenue & Reforms	₹307.14
Demand No. 7	Excise & Narcotics	₹30.63
Demand No. 8	Taxation	₹32.35
Demand No. 9	Finance	₹154.53
Demand No. 11	Secretariat Administration	₹165.00
Demand No. 13	Personnel & Adm. Reforms	₹5.60
Demand No. 14	Planning & Prog. Implementation	₹618.55
Demand No. 15	GAD	₹1,226.55
Demand No. 16	Home Department	₹2,308.43
Demand No. 17	FCS & CA	₹7,495.09
Demand No. 18	Printing & Stationery	213.18
Demand No. 19	LAD	₹411.17
Demand No. 20	School Education	₹7,492.82
Demand No. 21	Higher & Tech. Education	₹5,964.86
Demand No. 22	Sports & Youth Services	₹1,016.74
Demand No. 23	Art & Culture	₹503.77
Demand No. 24	Medical & Public Health Services	₹14,644.49
Demand No. 25	Water Supply & Sanitation	₹5,634.84
Demand No. 26	Information & Public Relations	₹205.04
Demand No. 27	District Councils	₹3015.45
Demand No. 28	Labour & Employment	₹78.35
Demand No. 29	Social Welfare	₹4,755.48
Demand No. 30	Disaster Management & Rehabilitation	₹88.24
Demand No. 31	Agriculture	₹732.05

Demand No. 32	Horticulture	₹523.74
Demand No. 33	Soil & Water Conservation	₹193.55
Demand No. 34	Animal Husbandry & Veterinary	₹489.53
Demand No. 35	Fisheries	₹842.65
Demand No. 36	Environment & Forests	₹956.44
Demand No. 37	Cooperation	₹77.20
Demand No. 38	Rural Development	₹1659.95
Demand No. 39	Power & Electricity	₹8,814.26
Demand No. 40	Industries	₹1,469.58
Demand No. 41	Sericulture	₹301.83
Demand No. 42	Transport	₹359.77
Demand No. 43	Tourism	₹1,200.35
Demand No. 44	Trade & Commerce	893.95
Demand No. 45	Public Works	6009.03
Demand No. 46	Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation	4391.85
Demand No. 47	Minor Irrigation	98.98
Demand No. 48	Information & Communication Technology	482.06
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>₹8,61,44,12,000.00</b>

Pu Speaker, I beg the august House to consider this Supplementary Demand for the year 2015-2016.

**SPEAKER** : Usually we never have discussion on Appropriation Bill; so, I now invite the hon. Minister to move the House for passing of this bill.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, the Demands which we have read out are of 'voted', they all needs the members' vote. And, since such demands are for appropriation, we have some demands under 'charged' as well which may be passed by the House, such as: -

<b>Demand Nos.</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount required (in Lakh)</b>
Demand No. 2	Governor	₹37.00
Demand No. 4	Revenue Expenditure (Charged)	₹57.70



Demand No. 10	MPSC	₹67.41
Demand No. 49	Public Deptt. Revenue	₹15.18
	<b>Capital</b>	<b>₹26,383.05</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>₹26,555.34</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>₹1,12,699.46</b>

**SPEAKER** : The Minister has begs the House to pass the Appropriation Bill (No.1). Those who agree may say, 'agree', (Members: agree). Is there any objection? If not, I announce that Appropriation Bill (No.1) is unanimously passed by the House.

**PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Our business for today is done. We will meet again tomorrow, the 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2016 at 10:30 AM. Sitting adjourned.

*(Sitting is adjourned at 4:15 PM.)*