

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR FOURTH SITTING ON FRIDAY, THE 26th FEBRUARY, 2021
(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.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

2. * Resolutions

H. LALRINAWMA
Commissioner & Secretary

* Please see Bulletin Part-II No. 154, dated the 23rd February, 2021 for relative precedence of Private Members' Resolutions to be moved.

SPEAKER : *The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.*

- Psalms 37:29

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

We will take up Question & Answer. Let us invite Pu Lalchhuanthanga to ask *Starred Question* no. 41.

PU LALCHHHUANTHANGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Minister for GAD be pleased to state –

- a) Is there any plan to frame a special scheme for martyrs and those who have fought for our land? If so, what will be the framework?
- b) It was stated in the MNF election manifesto in 2018 that special scheme will be prepared for martyrs and freedom fighters. Has this been accomplished?
- c) Will it be possible to explain the special schemes that have been framed and the implementation process of the schemes thereof?
- d) Is assistance being given to MNF returnees, families of martyrs and freedom fighters during the period of 2019-2021 (January)?

SPEAKER : Let us call the hon. Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga to answer.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, to answer Pu Lalchhuanthanga and Pu C. Lalsawivunga's questions, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Board is established for the following purposes -

- a) Measures were taken to provide a special scheme for martyrs and freedom fighters.
- b) Two special schemes were made.
- c) Special Scheme for Peace Accord MNF Returnees: This scheme was implemented and several government posts had also been filled up under this scheme.
- d) Special Package for Recruitment of Peace Accord MNF Returnees (PAMRA) members/family, 2018: Under this scheme, 13 nos. govt. posts were filled up.
- e) Support was not given during 2019-2021.

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Pu Lalsawivunga and Pu Zodintluanga.

PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. There are many freedom fighters and families of martyrs who needs our support. Will the government be able to identify them and give the support?

SPEAKER : Pu Zodintluanga Ralte, hon. Member is next.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE: Pu Speaker, thank you. 14 nos. Board Vice-Chairmen were appointed by GAD with a separate office of 2 nos. LDC, 2 nos. Grade-IV and some with Personal Assistant who does not have any official work to deal with as no files go through them. We can imagine the cost of running such offices. While this the case, the hon. House Leader has reiterated our financial constraints. Thus, it is wise for the government to denudate such offices as it only causes unnecessary source of expenditure. Or, if it is possible for the Board Vice-Chairmen to function without such personnel?

SPEAKER : The hon. Member Pu Vanlalhlana.

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. May the government endow pension grant to our returnees and martyrs and exempt them from tax? Also, housing assistance for returnees and martyrs was facilitated at the Central Home Ministry during the previous ministry under PAMRA, will it be possible to resume such assistance?

Lastly, sanction of financial assistance was made for returnees and martyrs whereas full payment had not been made. May a full payment be made by the government?

SPEAKER : The hon. Chief Minister to answer the questions.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. Regarding the question of Pu Sawivunga, all returnees of 1986 were provided with plots of land. During the last financial year, ₹500 lakhs was allotted for their rehabilitation with additional fund from the central Govt. as well as the state own budget.

There is a plan to allot plot of land to returnees (MURA) at Tuivamit area which is now in process.

In response to Pu Zodintluanga, we have benefitted a great deal from the Board members and their assistance is deeply appreciated. In order to function, they need a separate office with certain staffs. So, a minimum number of staff is allotted to each office.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE: My point is of reducing office expenditure.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: We do have a special scheme for returnees and martyrs as asked by Pu Hlana. Several government posts have been filled up by returnees and families of martyrs. We require a legitimate and applicable list of returnees to provide pension and revenue exemption. I regret that this is next to impossible.

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, it is our duty to provide them in any possible way.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, we have already submitted projects to the Central government so that we are able to accommodate those returnees and martyr's families with their needs.

SPEAKER : Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma to ask *Starred Question* No.42.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: Pu Speaker, may the hon. Minister for School Education Deptt. allot Higher Secondary School of Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan at West Tuipui Constituency?

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to give the answer.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, to answer the question of Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma, it is possible if the proposed school meets the norms and requirements laid down by Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: Pu Speaker, we do not have any higher secondary school within my constituency except one private school. So, may Higher Secondary School be set up at Tlabung? Secondly, I would like to know how many of higher secondary schools being established under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Pu Zothantluanga.

PU ZOTHANTLUANGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Is there any proposal to fill up vacant posts of HSS Principal? May the government comply with the suggestion made by HISLAM to revise RR?

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte.

PU LALRINSANGA RALTE: Pu Speaker, thank you. Is there any plan to renovate the proposed school buildings during this financial year? Also, may construction of Vairengte HSS building be started? Lastly, we are all aware of our shortage of HS teachers in Mizoram. When will recruitment of HS teachers be implemented through SEDP?

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister Pu Lalchhandama to answer the questions.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. Regarding the question of Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma, SSA has its own rules and norms to be followed. If we conform such norms, then it is possible to set up the said school. So far, 6 schools are established under SSA and 15 nos. under process.

Vacant posts of Principal HSS principal will be filled up as soon as the court case is cleared. The government will comply with their demands and promotion will be based on seniority instead of 50% limited departmental exam.

As asked by Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte, renovation and repairing of school buildings is in process. A systematic arrangement will be carried by means of loan from Samagra and NABARD. As of construction of Vairengte HSS, it will be started as soon as the 2nd installment is received from the Central government during this financial year.

In regards to shortage of school teachers, the hon. CM had given us permission to do so prior to the pandemic but was revoked due to financial constraint. Since the necessity compels, the hon. CM allow us to proceed for recruitment 157 nos. school teachers on muster roll basis. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Dr. Vanlalhlana to ask *Starred Question* No. 43.

DR. VANLALTHLANA : Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister for Agriculture Department be pleased to state-

- a) What is the reason for the absence of survey record for Agriculture Link Roads?
- b) Is the survey and inspection executed by another department?
- c) Is there any plan to privatize the cold storage at Vairengte and Champhai?
- d) Do we have the service of Seed Bank?

SPEAKER : Now, the hon. Minister for Agriculture Department, Pu C. Lalrinsanga to answer the question.

PU C. LALRINSANGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. My answer is as follows: - Reconnaissance survey is first undertaken before commencing of agriculture link road. Since my department does not have a surveyor, detailed technical survey is not maintained.

- a) Inspection or survey is not carried out by another departments.
- b) Privatization of cold storage at Vairengte and Champhai was approved by Council of Ministers on 29.12.2020 and tender for leasing out of this storage is at the development stage.
- c) We do not have service of Seed Bank.

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Dr. Vanlalhlana.

DR. VANLALTHLANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Firstly, the detailed survey copy was not available from the department when it was requested by the former member, Pu Lalduhoma. Whereas maintenance of link roads is essential and I believe it has been ignored.

It was a mention during last year session that Marketing Policy will be introduced. When will this be possible?

Lastly, ₹65,000 was allotted for SEDP during 2019-2020 in which the share of Agriculture Deptt. is not even 1%. If allocation to Agriculture Department decreases as the demand becoming lesser?

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Dr. ZR. Thiamsanga.

DR. ZR. THIAMSSANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I would like to mention that despite the pandemic, the progress and development made by Agriculture and Horticulture are massive. Do the government have a plan for improvement of rice cultivation? If, so, in which places and if Champhai District be included?

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Pu VL Zaithanzama.

PU V.L. ZAITHANZAMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. My questions are as follows-

- i) What is the square area of cultivable land for rice in Mizoram?
- ii) How many areas of these lands are developed?
- iii) How many quintals of rice are produced from one hectare?
- iv) How many quintals of rice were produced during 2019-2020?
- v) How many quintals of rice does Mizoram require?

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister to answer the questions.

PU C. LALRINSANGA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, thank you. To answer the question of Dr. Vanlalhlana at the outset, it is our vision and objective to provide link roads and rigid pavements with proper maintenance for our farmers. We are doing our best and development is ongoing to realize this vision.

As for the Marketing Policy, the APLM is in its development stage and I regret that we could not hand out to the members during this Session.

I would like to mention that ₹5 crores is set aside for Agriculture Department during this financial year which is a tremendous blessings for us.

Land development as asked by Dr. ZR Thiamsanga, we are in the process of developing 484.62 hectares of land under NABARD.

To answer Pu Zaithanzama's question, the area of cultivable land that has been developed is 17,302 hectares according to 2015-16 record from MIRSAC Report. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Now, Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo to ask *Starred Question* No. 44.

PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Chief Minister be pleased to state: -

- a) If there is any proposal for changing the autonomous status enjoyed by various departments within Dampa-II constituency and integrate them with the divisions within Mamit District?
- b) If not, what is the reason?
- c) If there is no plan as yet, when will this be possible?

SPEAKER : The hon. Chief Minister to answer the questions.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. To answer the question of Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo, we do have plans to integrate the different departments within Dampa-II constituency with other divisions inside Mamit District. This will be carried out in terms of need and necessity basis.

SPEAKER : *Supplementary Question:* Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo.

PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO: Pu Speaker, thank you. I am grateful for the plan as we have been having issues with PWD, PHE and School Education as they are under the administration of other districts.

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

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. We are aware of the issues laid out by Pu Lalrintluanga as the areas within Mizoram are segregated according to the specific requirements of the department. An area or division of area suitable for one department may not be suitable for another department, and as such, this has been a prominent issue even in the division of constituencies. We are doing our utmost possibility to solve this issue.

STATEMENT RE. FOREST FIRE AT KEPRAN

SPEAKER : Time for *Questions & Answers* is over. The hon. Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change has requested to make a statement in regards to forest fire at Kepran and the subsequent death of Upa Zamawia. Let us now invite the hon. Minister, Pu TJ Lalnuntluanga to deliver his statement.

PU T.J. LALNUNTLUANGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. A fire broke out yesterday the 25.2.2021 near YMA Park, Kepran and unfortunately, Upa Zamawia of 87 years lost his life while fighting to put out the fire.

Upa Zamawia is a farmer by trade and is an honorable and respected citizen of Kepran and we are deeply saddened by his death. A sum of ₹5,000/- was given to his family as condolence by Darlawn Forest Division. Condolence in the form of cash will also be given to his family which will be decided by Mizoram State Fire Prevention Committee.

Frontline staffs of Forest Department will be present wearing their uniforms at his funeral today the 26.2.2021 at Kepran Church to pay their respects. Thank you.

RESOLUTION RE. APPRECIATION ON SPORTS ENHANCEMENT

SPEAKER : We will move on to *Resolution*. Let us call upon Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng to move his resolution that -

“We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities required by our youth and that it be continued at a faster pace”.

PU LAWMAWMA TOCHHAWNG: Pu Speaker, thank you. The advancement made in the field of sports under the leadership of our hon. Chief Minister is enormous and I will highlight few of the achievements made so far.

For the first time in Mizoram, ‘The Mizoram Sports Policy, 2019’ was developed and approved by the ministry on 15th November, 2019. The vision and objectives of this sports policy are-

1. Infrastructural Development;
2. Improvement of Private-Public partnership;
3. Integration with industry;
4. Incentive for promotion of sportspersons;
5. Development of sports tourism;
6. Establishment of Asset Management System;
7. Sports talent identification and development;
8. Improvement of co-ordination with stakeholders;
9. Good governance.

The government is doing its utmost to materialize the State Sports Policy and one of its ventures is the establishment of Mixed Battalion National Cadet Corps (NCC) at Lunglei which will include Siaha, Lawngtlai, Lunglei, Hnahthial and Serchhip Districts.

5% of governmental posts from Group-B, C and D will be reserved for high achieving sportspersons. Cash award has been given and will continue to be given to high achieving sportspersons under Mizoram Cash Incentive Scheme for Sportspersons.

Plan for the establishment of Sports Authority of India, Sports Training Centre at Saidan at Kolasib is ongoing project. The development of District Sports Complex at Mamit, Lunglei and Lawngtlai Districts under PMKVK Scheme is in progress. Also, Residential Sports School will be established in five districts under PMJVK Scheme such as Mamit, West Phaileng, Kawrthah, Lunglei and Lawngtlai. Khelo India, *Centre of Excellence* will be established in Aizawl at the cost of ₹204.75 lakhs which has been sanctioned already.

Sports as a whole have been elevated as an industry and will incorporate technical sport, skill development and entrepreneurship training. Under the initiative of MNF ministry, Mizoram State Games was held for the first time in 2019 with participation from all 40 constituencies. Mizoram government has received funds under *Khelo India* Scheme, State Fund, PMJVK and Ministry of Tribal Affairs since 2019 for the development of sports and sports infrastructure. MNF ministry has received ₹47,779.92 lakhs within two years of its ministry for the development of sports and sports infrastructure.

There is an ongoing proposal for the establishment of State Training Centre for Adventure Sports at Vaipuanpho, Mamit District. ‘The Mizoram River Rafting Rules, 2021’ and ‘The Mizoram Aero-Sports Rules, 2021’ have been introduced to promote sports tourism.

‘Fit Mizoram Programme’ has been initiated since March, 2019 to promote health and fitness to the people of Mizoram with construction of indoor and outdoor gym, introduction of trekking expedition, health club, community fitness and aerobic plans.

To accelerate sports promotion and youth development, Allocation of Business Rules, 2019 has been revised. ‘The Mizoram State Sports Council Amendment Act, 2021’ have been passed by this House to alleviate and develop sports, and giving technical authority to Mizoram State Sports Council.

Also, several sports projects are there under UD&PA, Smart City project, Social Welfare Department and Rural Development Department.

Pu Speaker, in spite of the pandemic and only in two years of their term, the achievement made by MNF ministry is commendable. I would like to request the members of this House to do their part in the development of sports by supporting my resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The resolution is now moved. We will start the discussion with 10 minutes assigned for each member. Let us call upon Pu L. Thangmawia to start the discussion.

PU L. THANGMAWIA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I am glad to announce that this is also my resolution as you may have seen from the bulletin. I would like to request the members to look at this resolution in its true and pure form.

Incentive for promotion of sportspersons, introduction of ‘The Mizoram Sports Policy, 2019’, elevation of sports as an industry were approved and introduced within the span of four months since the commencement of this ministry. It is undeniable that this ministry is earnest and determined in its quest for development of sports and infrastructure. This development will cover all areas of Mizoram and not only ruling party areas. It will also encourage both education and sports.

Lastly, I pledge my support to the resolution “*We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youth and this be continued at a faster pace*”. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call the hon. Dy. Chief Minister.

PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. It is a pleasure and a step in the right direction that the hon. Member, Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng has moved and introduced his resolution that “*We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youth and this be continued at a faster pace*”.

The advancement and achievement made by this ministry in such a short span of time is commendable and would greatly benefit not only our youth, but the whole of Mizoram. I would like to highlight the advancement made by my department UD&PA for development of sports and infrastructure which includes laying of Astro-turf at Siaha Meisatlah Field, Khawzawl Mualveng Field, Mamit Football Ground; construction of Table Tennis Training-cum-Basketball court at Mission Vengthlang and Serchhip Athletic Track. Also, ₹98 crore has been allotted for Smart City where priority will be given to development of infrastructure for youth.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I am excited and moved that this ministry is doing its utmost to develop sports and infrastructure and, I give my support to this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Member, Pu BD Chakma.

PU B.D. CHAKMA : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. It is my pleasure to convey my support for the resolution introduced by the hon. Member, Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng.

During my 7 years as an MLA, I have the privilege to observe the past and current ministry and I have been especially grateful to our current Sports Minister for his efforts and contribution in the field of sports. Even though it is a new experience for him, his resourcefulness, especially in dealing with the central government is deeply appreciated. I am deeply grateful to him for giving us consent to lay artificial grass at Chawngte football field which could not be accomplished during the previous ministry. Chawngte is in dire need of a new Indoor Stadium and I would be grateful if this could be accomplished as well.

Lastly, I pledge my support for this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us invite Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte.

PU LALRINSANGA RALTE: Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. It is a privilege to take part in the discussion of the resolution submitted by Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng that “*We highly*

appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youths and this be continued at a faster pace”.

We are all aware of the hardships we faced due to the pandemic. In spite of that, MNF ministry has pulled through and has several development plans in the field of sports and infrastructure. As indicated in the election manifesto, the ministry kept their promise and introduced Sports Policy with a vision to promote and develop sports and infrastructure. It includes the establishment of SAI Training Centre at Kolasib Saidan, District Sports Complex under PMKVK Scheme at Lunglei, Lawngtlai and Mamit, and for the formation and establishment of Residential Sports School.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I would like to mention the cash incentives provided to high achieving sportspersons. It is undeniable that this will pave the way for our youth and for better development of sports in our State. Also, several sports projects are in progress in various part of Mizoram under EAP, among which Vairengte is one of them. We are deeply grateful for it and hope that this project will be realized soon.

Lastly, I give my support to the resolution that *“We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youths and this be continued at a faster pace”*. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have 1 minute left; we will have lunch break and continue with our discussion at 2PM.

2:00 PM

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will continue with our discussion and I call upon Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo.

PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO: Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. It is a pleasure that the hon. member Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng has introduced his resolution that *“We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youths and this be continued at a faster pace”*. I hope that this House will agree to pass this resolution.

We are fortunate to have a leader as well as a sports minister who are astute enough to declare and elevate sports as an industry. I can vouch that the hon. Chief Minister is a fitness fanatic and have no doubt that we will thrive in the field of sports under his leadership.

My constituency is especially grateful for the proposal to establish Residential Sports School at Phaileng. I am also ecstatic that plans for the construction of *Pu Laldenga Stadium* at Tuidam and for the establishment of State Adventure Sports Training Centre at Vaipuanpho.

I am certain that equal treatment will be given to all discipline in sports for better development. Lastly, I give my support to the resolution that “*We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youths and this be continued at a faster pace*”. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now invite Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. It is a pleasure that the hon. Member Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng has introduced his resolution that “*We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youths and this be continued at a faster pace*”. This is undoubtedly good news for Mizoram as a whole.

There is nothing to be happy about as the representative of 35 west Tuipui Constituency mentioned. The present ministry has been running for two and a half years now and a number of infrastructures had been created. However, there is no single project for Tlabung among such projects and the negligence for Tlabung thus, is simply lamentable.

It has to be noted that Tlabung is one of the oldest villages of Mizoram. Yet, it has no good facilities, it has no indoor stadium nor other sports infrastructure. It is obvious that, development projects could be undertaken for infrastructure development if sincere consideration is made. I will give full support for this resolution if it is meant for West Tuipui. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call upon Dr. K. Pachhunga.

DR. K. PACHHUNGA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. Today’s resolution moved by Pu Lawma is an interesting resolution. In this connection, I am overwhelmed to hear that huge amount of funds is availed outside the general budget of the state for sport development.

The organization of Mizoram State Games was a great achievement of this ministry. It strengthens the bond between sport lovers from different corners of the state.

The introduction of sport policy is also worth mentioning. We became one of the first states to introduce sport policy. It may be due to the notable step taken by the hon. Sport Minister and the hon. Chief Minister that, the importance of sport industry keeps increasing. The reservation of 5% direct recruitment of government jobs for sportspersons contained in the Sport Policy is also worth mentioning.

We are witnessing several developments in the field of sport under this ministry. There are several ongoing projects as well as approved projects for infrastructure development. This will surely pose a positive challenge for the youth of our state. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now let us call upon hon. Member Pu Lalrindika Ralte.

PU LALRINDIKA RALTE : Thank you, Pu Speaker. From today's discussion, what struck my mind is that, some subject may not be right or correct as it may seem to be. It will be necessary to mend ways if we lead the state with no target and ambitions. Development is obviously the objective of every ministry. However, there are some subjects which needed to be attended first. Besides, I would like to mention that we will make ourselves a public enemy if we spend public money for the advantage of some individuals or political parties.

It is correct that infrastructure development is important. However, it should also be considered that infrastructure alone will not bring success. The most important is right mentality for success. Therefore, it is necessary to provide livelihood to the people first. For this purpose, developments in departments like Education, Agriculture, etc. should not be neglected.

It should also be asked that if we, the elected representatives, hear the voice of the people. If we are using the trust of the people for our personal advantage, it will mean that the time has come for the people to change their representatives. The first thing in which we should give priority should be the need and the voices of the people. Considering all these, I have no choice but to oppose this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu C. Lalsawivunga.

PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA: Thank you, Pu Speaker. It is my opinion that there is not much about to be thankful about connection of this resolution. There is no a completed project or achievements as yet and thus is too early to pass this resolution.

There are several proposals for sports infrastructure projects mentioned during AMC Election campaign within my constituency also. However, there is no such project pursued after the election which I found unfortunate.

We have also found several proposed sport projects contained in the Governor's Speech. I am thankful for all these proposals. But all of them are just proposals and ongoing projects. There is only a very little physical or financial achievement till today.

It seems the ministry is proud to declare sports as an industry. In this connection, the amount of state own revenue earned by Sports Department during 2020-2021 Financial Year is only ₹3.70 lakh. Regarding 5% reservation for sportspersons in government job is questionable if, anyone had been recruited based on this reservation?

Thus, more detail studies of the so-called 'development' under this ministry seems to be somehow lame. For example, it will be very inappropriate to have huge sports infrastructures while we are still economically very backward. It is necessary to work

tirelessly towards all round sustainable development for the state, instead of prioritizing a single department. Thank you.

(Pu NK Chakma at the Chair.)

CHAIRMAN : Let us now call hon. Member Er. H. Lalzirliana.

ER. H. LALZIRLIANA : Thank you, Pu Chairman. I would like to repeat that this resolution is about the ongoing projects regarding sports infrastructure. I do believe we may have another resolution about the achievements in this connection.

While discussing this resolution, I would like to give credit to the hon. Dy. Chief Minister for his contribution through Smart City project, hon. District Council & Minority Affairs (DCMA) Minister, hon. Sports Minister and hon. Social Welfare Minister for their contribution regarding this resolution we are discussing.

We have two types of budgets viz. the state budget and the central budget. We have received a huge amount of central budget for sports development as the amount received through PMJVK is ₹42,203 lakh. The availability of these funds is greatly due to the assignment of sports infrastructure development at the hands of MSSC through the MSSC Act.

Another notable move of this ministry is consideration of sports as an industry. This is a state subject. We are the first state to consider sports as an industry. This is an important step with the approval of sports activities as curricular activities instead of extra-curricular activities under new education policy. This will increase development in sports infrastructures in the near future.

It seems only agriculture base industries is considered important. It has to be noted that sports industry is an important sphere where we can have a lot of earnings. There is also a good opportunity for sportspersons to be recruited in big corporations like ONGC, Oil India, Bharat Petroleum, etc.

Therefore, I would like to support this resolution as it is not only for the MNF Ministry, but for the people of Mizoram. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member Pu Zothantluanga is next.

PU ZOTHANTLUANGA : Thank you, Pu Chairman. I am happy to discuss this resolution today. Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude regarding the introduction of Sport Policy. I do believe we will make several great achievements through this sport policy.

Secondly, I am very happy that a NCC Battalion is established at Lunglei. This will surely provide better opportunities to the youth in their future. It is not only for Lunglei district but also other districts in the south.

Provision for better incentives to sportspersons is a great achievement. I believe that more achievements and success are yet to come. The contribution and leadership of hon. Chief Minister in this regard is really notable. (Dy. Speaker in the Chair)

The proposal for District Sports Complex at three places under EM, KVK is also really notable. Besides, sports projects at different places like Lunglei, Lawngtlai, Mamit, West Phaileng, Kawrte and Kawrthah will also give better opportunities to the youth of Mizoram. I believe that they will be pleased with all the developments, achievements and projects under this ministry. I support this resolution to be passed. Thank you.

(Hon. Dy. Speaker at the Chair)

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now call upon Dr. Vanlaltanpuia.

DR. VANLALTANPUIA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I would like to support the resolution moved by Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng. Firstly, I would like to state that this ministry led by the hon. Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga is taking huge steps for the welfare of the youth in the state. The Mizoram Youth Commission was established in 2008 during the former MNF Ministry. Giving Pu Robert Romawia Royte the portfolio of Sports Department is defiantly the right decision.

During the budget discussion, there are opinion that, Sport Department is given least budget allocation. However, under the leadership of the able Minister, they have discovered several sources of funds which lead to the achievements we have today. I really appreciated his efforts in this regard.

In fact, he should rightly be called trend-setter and a change maker. There are several mega projects under this department which we never knew before. Sport is also now considered an industry so as to make income through sport for the state. The organization of State Games in 2019 and 2019 and 5% reservation for sportspersons in government job are also a great initiative made by the hon. Sports Minister.

Under the guidance of the hon. Chief Minister all these achievements is valuable. It is under his guidance and scrutiny that all the mega projects under Sports Department are undertaken. Several new projects are also proposed under *Khelo India* Scheme, State Fund and PMJVK. I would like to thank him on behalf of the people of Lunglei District for the proposed 16 projects in this connection.

It is correct that infrastructure development is not the only important thing to achieve success. It is important to develop the person under proper policy. These needs are set to be

met under well prepared Sports Policy. I am overwhelmed for all these moves as it is apparent that we are moving towards greater success.

Considering all these, Pu Dy. Speaker, I am supporting this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now call upon Pu VL Zaithanzama.

PU VL. ZAITHANZAMA: Thank you, Pu Speaker. The mover of the resolution convinced me a lot. Majority of the speakers are also in support of the resolution.

The introduction of Sport Policy is an important step taken by the government. Besides, several infrastructures to be established through Ministry of Minority Affairs is also a notable.

On the negative side, a table tennis training center cum basketball court was constructed at Mission Vengthlang. However, it is not functional till today. I urge that steps being taken for its function as soon as possible.

A new indoor stadium is proposed to be constructed near the exist of Hawla Indoor Stadium if I am not mistaken. I oppose to this proposal. Many areas of Aizawl are in need of indoor stadium. Constructing at the same place where there already exist seems inappropriate.

Even though I do not oppose the resolution, I felt that more serious consideration should be made in the future. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now call Pu Vanlalhlana, Opposition Group Leader.

PU VANLALHLANA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. There are three major subjects regarding Sports Department during this Ministry, viz. introduction of sport policy, revival of State Games and declaration of sports as an industry. Meanwhile, there is no practical change or improvement till today.

Sports Department used to be a small Department. However, perhaps it may be due to the Minister concerned, it became an important department in this ministry. The Department is considered more important than some major departments in the Additional Supplementary Memorandum submitted by this Ministry to the 15th Finance Commission. It surpasses departments like PWD, Agriculture, and Power & Electricity. In addition, it is again included in the memorandum submitted to Finance Commission on 20th July. However, it was not included in the economic survey, 2020-2021.

Huge amount has been received through PMJVK from the central government. This is meant for minorities areas which included Mamit, Lawngtlai and Lunglei

Districts. It needs to be considered that if it will be the best to construct several sports infrastructures within these less populated areas. It is desirable that, it may be constructed in urban areas as well.

The most important thing being for human being is food, shelter and clothing. Sports and other things are its by-products. It is necessary to put the basic necessities first. All other things are valued only if the people are in a position to use them. I would like to stress the importance of human development while we look forward to infrastructure development, Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Zodintluanga Ralte, Group Leader is next.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE: I decided to pass my allotted time to Pu C. Ngunlianchuanga.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. I support the work done in this department through Khelo India, State Fund, Article 275, UD&PA Department and Smart City projects. However, I oppose the utilization of funds from PMJVK Scheme for Sports projects as it is not meant for this purpose.

The Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) Scheme is the continuation of the former MSDP. It is meant for Minority Concentration Block, Minority Concentration Town and Minority Concentration Cluster or Villages. It was granted by the 14th Finance Commission. As per the guideline, 80% of grants should be spent on education, health and skill development. This could clearly be seen in Guideline 2(9) of the scheme. Guideline 33 and 40 also stated that it is to be spent for preparing asset facilities for women. It also provided that the Block Committee should scrutinize any works to be done within such majority concentration areas.

We do not say that the minority areas are not in need of this kind of infrastructures. We are just saying that this scheme is not meant for that. There are also some other field to be given importance than sports. Besides, it is against the guidelines of the scheme. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now call upon the hon. Minister Pu Robert Romawia Royte.

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I am glad to learn that there is a resolution moved concerning my department. Regarding Pu C. Ngunlianchunga's allegation that it is against the guideline, there is nothing done against the guidelines. Nothing wrong can be done at our end because all the selection procedure and scrutiny had been done by the central government. It will not be granted if there is anything inappropriate.

Being a member of this august House, it is imperative to understand that there are different sanction processes. We also need to understand how the guideline is interpreted. To what extent does the term 'skill development' covers should also be considered. By doing so, I believe it will be understood that there is no breach of guideline in its implementation.

Regarding the nodal department, it is correct that DC & MA is the nodal department. Sports Department submitted DPR and other necessary documents through DC&MA Department. They do not have the required manpower to pursue the projects and thus, it was pursued by the department concerned. DC&MA Department is still the nodal department.

Regarding the places proposed for sport projects to be undertaken, it does not mean that several projects will be done in the same town or village. The names given is the Block Headquarters. It means that such projects will be implemented at different villages and towns within that particular RD Block. Besides, it is our desire to cover the whole of Mizoram which we cannot at the moment. We do hope it will be possible in the future.

Regarding Pu BD Chakma's question, Chawngte Indoor Stadium, I will take note of that even though I cannot give any assurance. I am also aware of the matter mentioned by Pu Rinsanga Ralte. It is included in the project list but no sanction had been availed till today. Regarding Pu NK Chakma's question, I would like to inform him that there are proposed projects for Tlabung. However, it will be in the name of Lungsen Block as Tlabung is not a Block Headquarters.

I would like to add that all these developments could take shape only as a result of the guidance and leadership of the hon. Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga. His vision, hard work and dedication are invaluable for the development of the state. I would also like to thank the other departments concerned like UD&PA Department, Social Welfare Department, RD Department and the ministers concerned for their cooperation in every related project with Sports Department.

We are all aware how we are facing difficulties financially due to Covid 19 pandemic from the State Fund. Meanwhile, we are very thankful to avail this amount outside the state budget from central scheme.

We respect all the hard work and achievements of the previous ministry. We have seen the former Sports Minister various achievements for the state. There are some projects which are not yet completed. We are trying our best to continue such ongoing projects.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the hon. Members who had participated in the discussion of this resolution. Their suggestions and recommendations will prove fruitful in the development of the state. Thank you.

(Hon. Speaker at the Chair)

SPEAKER : Let us now call upon Pu Zoramthanga, hon. Chief Minister.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am very grateful to learn that such a huge amount has been availed for infrastructure development projects under Sports Development. I believe the people will also be pleased with such development.

I opined that the hon. Members should be more familiar with financial matters of the government. We need to know how funds under different schemes are sanctioned from the central government. These projects under PMJVK are approved by the central ministry and nothing wrong can be done at our part. In case there is anything against the guideline, the central ministry will certainly reject the proposal. It should also be remembered that this is meant for a particular project and will come with a separate head of account.

The State Matching Share used to stand at 10% generally. It remains the same even though there are proposals to increase the amount. There are times we face difficulties matching that amount. However, the central ministry helped us in meeting such amount. The Central government helps us so that we may have development. The central budget used to be around 20-30 lakh crore. A huge amount of that is reserved for North Eastern states. It is not correct to say that there is a huge fund to be availed from the central government if we do not know the source. We should also understand that the central budget is for all of the states. The nation is formed by the states and UTs and all the central budget is also meant for these states and UTs.

Pu speaker, what I would like to stress is that, we need to be familiar with our financing system as members of this august House. There are funds availed by a particular Department which is not allowed to be spent on other department or other areas. There are guidelines how the funds should be utilized. There is a chance that problems may arise if we are not clear enough of the funding system and financial system.

In this connection, we have advised the departments and Boards to prepare projects so as to avail funds from the central government. This is necessary for the development of the state. However, all these are halted by Covid 19 pandemic to a great extent. We believe that it will soon be a success for the state. Therefore, Pu Speaker, I am glad that we have such resolution for discussion today. I found it to be youth oriented, targeting the development of the youth and thus, I am supporting the resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us now call upon the mover of resolution Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng to wind up the discussion and to beg the House for adoption.

PU LAWMAWMA TOCHHAWNG: Thank you, Pu Speaker. 18 hon. Members have participated in the discussion of my resolution. Most of them are expressing their gratitude towards the work of the department.

As already stated, this resolution is about the ongoing works within Sports Department. I consider this resolution as gospel for the Mizo youth and sportspersons. Being one of the leaders of sports associations in Lunglei for a long time, I wish the works done by this ministry could happen during our time. It is also great to learn how this ministry continues the ongoing work by the previous ministry.

We are not saying that Sports Department is for the development of the state alone. It is inappropriate to speak in such manner. Every sphere should be considered in balance so as to achieve sustainable development. In fact, sport is also an important field in which development is needed. Therefore, I beg this House to adopt the resolution, “That the House is deeply grateful for the committed efforts made by the government in the field of sport for the youth, and we are looking forward for its continuation.” Thank you.

SPEAKER : The mover of the resolution has now begged the House for adoption of the resolution. Anyone who agree to adopt may now say, “Aye” (**Members:** Aye). Anyone who oppose may also say, “Nay”.

After we have taken vote on the resolution, the House has adopted the resolution that – “*We highly appreciate the strenuous efforts made by the government to enhance sports facilities much required by our youths and this be continued at a faster pace*” as moved by Pu Lawmawma Tochohawnng.

PU LAWMAWMA TOCHHAWNG: Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : The House will now stand adjourned till the next sitting commence on 1.3.2021 at 10:30 AM.

Sitting is Adjourned. (4:58 PM)