

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR THIRD SITTING ON FRIDAY, THE 14th JUNE, 2019
(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**

S.R. ZOKHUMA
Commissioner & Secretary

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* Please see Bulletin Part-II No. 58, dated the 12th June, 2019 for relative precedence of Private Members' Resolutions to be moved.

SPEAKER : For judgment is without mercy to him who has shown no mercy.

Jacob 2:13

Today hon. Chief Minister is in Delhi to attend important meeting. So, hon. Minister, Dr. R. Lalthangliana will be the House Leader during his absent. And, hon. Member, Pu Ngunlianchunga also is granted leave of absent.

We will now take up Question and Answer. To ask starred Question No. 16, let us call Pu F.Lalnunmawia.

Prof. F. LALNUNMAWIA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Minister School Education be pleased to state:-

If there is any proposal to upgrade Primary, Middle and High School buildings?

SPEAKER : To answer the question, let us call hon. Minister, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer to hon. member Pu F. Lalnunmawia's question is -

Yes, there is a proposal to upgrade Primary, Middle and High School buildings.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu F. Lalnunmawia.

Prof. F. LALNUNMAWIA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Not only in my constituency but everywhere in other parts of the state as well, Institutional buildings have been neglected for many years. I request the hon. Minister to take steps in this regard. Pu Speaker, thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu K.T. Rokhaw

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Pu Speaker, Supplementary question. Zawngling Govt. High School is surviving with one teacher and 2 retired teachers are requested by NGO and VC to continue their service without pay. I request the hon. Minister to allocate teachers as soon as possible.

SPEAKER : For information of the House, the designation of members like 'Doctor' and 'Professor' will be prefixed in their name from now on. Next is, Dr. Vanlaltanpuia.

Dr. VANLALTANPUIA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Pupil, teacher ratio is varied in different institution as there are institution with just one teacher. My question is, if there is any proposal to amalgamate some institutions. Plus, there are Schools their status which has been upgraded. So, if there is any proposal to convert such schools into a model school? Also, is there any proposal to have the likes of National Accreditation Council to make assessment of accreditation of the institution?

Lastly, we have adopted the conventional system in our education. So, I would like to ask if we can adopt the job-oriented system. Thank you.

SPEAKER : To answer the questions, let us call the hon. Minister.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, to answer the question of the hon. Member, Pu KT Rokhaw, since model of conduct has barred posting and transfer, we are now in helpless. Some teachers of Zawngling Govt. High School are now retired and local arrangement cannot be conducted as well where as Siaha High School is facing the same problem. We have submitted proposal for 164 contract teachers; and if approved, we are expecting to solve these problems.

Regarding amalgamation of schools as asked by Dr. Vanlaltanpuia, initiative has been made as few schools were amalgamated. As for model school, there is no such proposal. Regarding accreditation assessment, I personally am keen and the department thus set a programme for colleges and visited various districts which show satisfying result; we have discussed for the implementation of schools for the same as well. Pu Speaker, in regard to job vocational oriented, we have implemented as far as possible. Pu Speaker, thank you.

SPEAKER : To ask starred Question No. 17, let us call hon. Member, Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, will the hon. School Education Minister be please to state –

If the govt. is aware that the Mizo language is not allowed to practice from Nursery? What is the opinion of the government in this regard?

SPEAKER : To answer the question, let us call hon. Minister, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer to the question of hon. member Pu Lalduhoma is as follow-

The case of prohibiting usage of Mizo language at Nursery is unknown except in some Govt. schools which have been converted to English Medium School. We are waiting for the Govt. of India's policy.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, my question is, if there is any proposal to take up three languages formula which includes English, mother-tongue (Mizo) and Hindi?

SPEAKER : Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo.

PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO: Pu Speaker, thank you. My question is –

If the Minister is aware that there are 8 substitute teachers within DAMPA MLA constituency due to language barrier. I would like to ask if the hon. Minister could give a teacher who is able to teach Mizo in the said Chakma area.

SPEAKER : Dr. B.D. Chakma.

Dr B.D. CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, thank you. My first question is - If there is any proposal to reappoint Hindi teachers who have been terminated in previous ministry. Secondly, I have written to hon. Minister regarding a Mathematics teacher in Borapansuri who is applying for voluntary retirement. What is the present status? Pu Speaker, thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us now call hon. Minister, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to answer the question

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer to hon. member Pu Lalduhoma's question is - English language is emphasized in any of the Private Institutions. Three languages formula is being applied and the result is yet to be seen. HR Ministry has issued a draft stage of Nation Education Policy, 2019.

In regard to what hon. member Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo has mentioned, I am not aware officially, but I have heard of the problem regarding communication barrier which compels to take substitute teachers. As for teacher to teach in Mizo, we will look into the matter.

Regarding the question of the hon. Member, Pu BD Chakma, the previous ministry terminated Hindi teachers due to expire of the policy of contract. As soon as the present ministry was formed, we came to learn that 40% of the strength of Hindi teachers was lost. Thus, hon. Chief Minister and the senior Minister, Dr. R. Lalthangliana approached HRD ministry. I have also written DO letter to HRD Minister in regard to this matter.

Regarding objection of the application submitted by Mathematics teacher for voluntary pension, the file has not reached my table as yet; I will remember when the said matter comes across. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : We will move to next question. Let us call hon. Member, Pu KT Rokhaw to ask starred Question No. 18.

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Pu Speaker, starred Question No. 18 - Will the hon. GAD Minister be pleased to state –

Is it possible to replace SDO (Civil) of Tipa with SDO (Sadar)?

SPEAKER : We will now call hon. Minister, Dr. R. Lalthangliana to answer on behalf of the hon. Chief Minister who is on abroad.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the post of SDO (Sadar) is at DC Office, Siaha where as SDO (Civil) post should be a sub-Division Office. At present, we have MCS Senior Grade Officer posted as SDO (Civil) Tipa.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu K.T. Rokhaw.

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Pu Speaker, Tipa sub-Division was declared in 1998. We have this status only for a year from 2002-2003 in which Pu LR Zawna, BDO Tipa was allotted a dual charge of SDO. So, I would like to ask if a separate SDO (Civil) be given for Tipa.

SPEAKER : Pu H. Biakzaua to ask Supplementary Question.

PU H. BIAKZAUA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I would like to ask if SDO (Civil) could be posted at Sangau to relief the BDO who is taking a dual charge. It is the same case with Pu KT Rokhaw.

SPEAKER : It may be noted that it is our practice in the previous sessions that no supplementary question is taken if concerned Minister is absent. Next is Pu Zodintluanga.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE: Pu Speaker, thank you. Even in the absence of the hon. Chief Minister, my question concerns matter which I believe the authorized Minister too has well knowledge of. That is –

If the govt. has completed demarcation of the district boundaries; if not, what is the time bound for its completion?

SPEAKER : Let us now call hon. Minister Dr. R. Lalthangliana to answer whatever as he can answer.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer to hon. Member Pu K.T. Rokhaw's question is, it is true that for BDO, it is inappropriate to take the work of SDO (Sadar) as dual charge. But, as we are aware, this is only the beginning of this new ministry and priority will be given in regard to this problem. My answer is the same to hon. Member, Pu Biakzaaua.

As for the question of hon. Member, Pu Zodintluanga, no decision has yet been made in this regard. We going take up private member resolution on this subject and anything relating to this issue may be discussed.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE: My question is regarding steps to be taken for the newly districts boundary. If no step is taken, then I understand.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: The govt. is taking steps toward demarcation of the district boundaries; however, I cannot make the specific details.

SPEAKER : To ask starred question No. 19, let us call Pu Vanlalhlana.

PU VANLALHLANA : Will the hon. School Education Minister be pleased to state-

Out of 946 Nos. teacher's appointment to be made, what is the percentage of reservation for PwD?

SPEAKER : Let us call hon. Minister, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to answer the question.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer is – 4% is reserved for PwD.

SPEAKER : Let us call hon. Member, Pu H. Thangliana to ask supplementary question.

PU ANDREW H. THANGLIANA: Pu Speaker, thank you. My question is – If there is a route for teachers under RMSA and SSA integrated to apply for the said post of teacher and if there is a way to incorporate?

SPEAKER : Dr. ZR. Thiamsanga.

Dr. ZR. THIAM SANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. The previous govt. has proclaimed provision of a world class education in Mizoram but majority of our School buildings have deteriorated during these ten years, as we are all aware. This new Ministry, by prioritizing improvement of our education system has taken initiative to appoint 946 Nos. of MR teachers. Pu Speaker, my question is, if it will be possible to make the appointment within this year.

SPEAKER : Pu C. Lalsawivunga.

PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. In regard to appointment of new teachers, will the policy of prioritizing any local applicant be taken into consideration? I would also like to ask if mathematics subject teacher of Govt. High School, Bethlehem Vengthlang who has been attached to the office be placed back to his post.

SPEAKER : To answer the questions, let us call hon. Minister, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. Answer to hon. Member Pu Andrew's question is, it will be an open advertisement without any reservation. Thus, there is no chance for SSA teachers for incorporation.

Pu Speaker, the department is taking its steps to appoint these 946 Nos. of MR teachers within this year.

In regard to selection of appointment, it will be centralized at Aizawl on district wise. There is a proposal for the applicants to make their choice of district.

Regarding a mathematics teacher as mentioned by hon. Member, we will look into the matter.

SPEAKER : We will move on to the next starred Question. Let us call hon. Member, Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma to ask starred Question No. 20.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: Pu Speaker, will the hon. School Education Minister be pleased to state-

- a) When Tlabung Higher Secondary School will be upgraded?
- b) If there is any proposal.

SPEAKER : To answer the question, let us call hon. Minister, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. The answer the question of hon. Member, Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma, there is no proposal in condition to upgrade Tlabung Higher Secondary School.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma.

PU NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA: Pu Speaker, thank you. My constituency is educationally very backward; yet, the result of this school is 100%. Thus, I request the government even if up-gradation is impossible, to at least allocate lump sum grant fund for this school.

SPEAKER : Pu Dr. K. Pachhunga, Supplementary question.

Dr. K. PACHHUNGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I would like to suggest having teachers' quality maintain policy and to preserve the Mizo Culture & Tradition and that activity should be conducted on such basis.

Secondly, most of the School buildings in rural area need improvement. Thus, I request the hon. Minister to take the step in this regard. And in regard to posting and transfer of teacher, there should be rules of restriction to any teachers not to move out of the same post before completion of three years. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : Dr. Vanlalhlana.

Dr. VANLATHLANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. According to the study conducted by the National Achievement Survey, 2017, Class-III and below could score the average standard in the national level whereas Class-V and upwards are not, especially in mathematics. Is the government aware of this problem and what step is taken to tackle the problem?

I would also insist the hon. Minister to stop 'Hnam Run' list or district, block and unit list for the appointment of MR teachers.

SPEAKER : Let us now call hon. Member from South-II, Pu Lalchhuanthanga.

PU LALCHHUANTHANGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. It is learned that Sikulsen and Sikulpuikawn have been handed over to Synod. On what condition have it been handed over? Will the government continue to provide free text book and free education?

SPEAKER : To answer the question, let us call the hon. Minister.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I thank the hon. Members on their interesting questions which concern education.

First, on the question from hon. Member, Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma, Higher Secondary School in question has already been upgraded last year. As of lump sum grant, it is allocated to private school where as the next stage will be of adhoc. The amount of lump sums grant is increased from this year to 3 lakhs.

Regarding suggestions made by Dr. K. Pachhunga, we have a discussion with the academic authority to include it in text books and programme, we will see to it. As for Transfer & Posting rules, it is kept in abeyance.

As of the National Achievement Survey of India, as mentioned by Dr. Vanlalhlana, we have discussed the matter with teacher's association and the department officials and came up with a conclusion that CCE is the main reason. Therefore, it is decided that CCE modified form will be introduced with exam system which is the ongoing step being taken.

Coming to appointment of teachers, I would like to state that we are intending to conduct the proceedings as far as possible.

As of the question of hon. member from Aizawl South-II, Pu Lalchhuanthanga, the said it will be handed back to Mizoram Synod for the year 2020-2021, and service of teachers of such school will be taken care of by Govt. of Mizoram. Pu Speaker, thank you.

SPEAKER : We will move on to the next list of business which is Private Members Resolution from the final ballot. Today's resolution is - "We are grateful that this government is making an effective step in the implementation of three new districts i.e. Khawzawl, Saitual and Hnahthial District which was initiated by the previous MNF ministry but being neglected during the previous ministry of 10 years." Let us now call hon. Member, Pu C. Lalmuanpuia to move his resolution.

PU C. LALMUANPUIA : Pu Speaker, thank you. The decision to divide Mizoram into various districts came into existence since 1996. The GAD Secretary, Pu Vanhela Pachuau then submitted the following proposals to Council of Ministers.

There were dual opinions regarding separation of Aizawl District such as 3 divisions and 4 divisions which as per the government are flag A and B. Flag-A comprises Aizawl, Mamit and Khawzawl with Aizawl as the district headquarters and Flag-B comprises Lengpui, Saitual and Aizawl, with Aizawl as the district headquarters. This proposal from GAD Secretary was considered satisfactory from administrative point of view. There was another proposal by Lalbiakthanga (IAS rtd) to divide Aizawl District into four such as Aizawl, Kolasib, Champhai and Thenzawl, with Thenzawl as the district headquarters. However, this proposal leaked out before it came into being, thus was withdrawn by the hon. Chief Minister and even wrote in the note sheet that "Even before some Ministers could see the proposal being circulated for their opinions, some irresponsible Ministers indulged the proposal to the people. It was quite possible that some Minister may not agree to the proposal and may even want to do verbally. Therefore, the final decision is issued as early as convenient". After this incident of one year, under the Chief Secretary, Pu Lalfakzuala and seven

Govt. officials held a meeting to divide Aizawl District the result that led some people rejoicing while to some as of Khawzawl were left in anger.

As time passes, the Committee of the Chief Secretary and the officials received various reactions as damaging the government's assets within Khawzawl. The damages as shown in the note sheet 2 are: – The building of PWD, P&E, PHE, Soil & Water Conservation, BDO Office, Horticulture building, Dispensary of AH&Vety and Forest Range Office. This damages report is submitted to the Chief Minister by the Chief Secretary. In order to have an efficient administration, Govt. Notification was released on 11th March, 1998 dividing Aizawl District into three zones such as Aizawl District, Aizawl East District and Aizawl West District. Whereas Aizawl is headquarters of Aizawl District, Champhai is Aizawl East District and Mamit is Aizawl West District. Besides, the government released another notification stating that Aizawl is divided into three districts along with Chhimtuipui district which is divided into two which means we have eight districts in total.

The new government under the leadership of our Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga changes the name of these new districts. As these new districts came into being, unrest evolves among the people in other areas demanding a separate district such as Hnahthial, Khawzawl and Saitual. The new government then fulfilled their demands. During the previous term of Pu Lal Thanhawla's ministry, no step was taken to implement these new districts. As the new government under Pu Zoramthanga came into being, these three districts were implemented and put to function. Pu Speaker, we are thankful that after being neglected for ten years, we now have these districts. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Now, that resolution is moved. Let us begin the discussion. What will be out time line? There are different suggestions. Let each member to have 10 minutes. Now we will begin the discussion and invite Dr. Z.R. Thiamsanga.

Dr. ZR. THIAM SANGA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I am thankful that today we have a resolution concerning the three new districts which were neglected for ten years and now will be implemented by this government. We all know that Mizoram is a hilly area where communication is not at its best. Therefore, it is welcoming to know that we are going to have eleven districts including the three new districts. If we look into our neighboring States, many districts are there despite the areas and population. It is heartening to know that after being neglected by the previous ministry for ten

years, this ministry, knowing the limited time they came into power is going to implement three new districts to fully function.

Being fully functional districts, there will be funds going towards them from the Central. Besides, the need of the people will be met by opening District Hospital which will automatically affect improvement of Healthcare System. Likewise, in education, agriculture and in power, there will be new development to be seen. It will also relieve their travelling expenses. The people spend a great amount of their money and time for conveyances as they need to call upon many offices in Aizawl. It is a blessing for them to have a new district where they can settle their demand locally. Pu Speaker, I think it is very welcoming.

SPEAKER : Now, we will invite hon. member, Pu KT Rokhaw.

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Pu Speaker, thank you for giving me time to participate in the discussion. I am happy for the people of the new districts and am anticipating for them to demarcate the district boundary. I supposed that demarcation has already been made when the announcement was made. At the same time, it is grateful that arrangement has been made for Deputy Commissioner Office of such newly districts. The question is how they will function without a clear-cut boundary line being made.

When five newly districts were implemented back in 1998, all the boundaries were set before hand. As of these new districts, it is unknown which MLA constituencies a particular district will cover. As we discuss this resolution, I keep in mind of Darlawn which is also in demand of a new district. I opine they also deserve one as it is a long way from Aizawl. So, if it is claimed the neighboring as having numbers of districts, why not give Darlawn a district as well. Pu Speaker, thank you.

SPEAKER : The hon. Member, Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo.

PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO: Pu Speaker, thank you. Today, I want to convey my thanks to hon. member, Pu C. Lalmuanpuia for moving this resolution. I am grateful for the people of the three newly districts which will soon be opened. The hon. member has pointed out the boundary which has not yet been finalized. It may be noted that some developments are being taken up already. Even in my constituency, five Village Councils remain in function without having clear boundary for 20 years. Therefore, the boundary issue should not cause problem for opening of a new district.

Pu Speaker, I am thankful that under the leadership of Pu Zoramthanga, step is taken to implement new districts of Khawzawl, Hnahthial and Saitual. Likewise, in 2008, the Govt. under Pu Zoramthanga as Chief Minister declared three new districts which received much criticism as well as praises; it completely changed the political scenario of our state at that time. As the hon. member Dr. Thiamsanga has said, considering our neighbouring State like Arunachal with a population of 13.8 lakh as per 2011 census with 25 Districts and 99 Nos. Rural Development Block, ours is much less. So, to narrow down the communication gap between urban and rural areas, I opine having more districts is a must. I find myself fortunate enough to follow a great leader with great vision as every political party function as directed by its leader. Thus, we are fortunate to have such a great leader.

Pu Speaker, I attended the launching of PAHOSS at Vanapa Hall yesterday the scheme with an objective to alleviate our traffic problem. Likewise, implementation of these three districts also concern for reduction traffic jam within Aizawl and other major townships. As I express my appreciation to our House Leader for the new districts, I convey my regards to the people in the three Districts as well. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us invite the hon. Member, Pu L. Thangmawia.

PU L. THANGMAWIA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I am thankful that the hon. Member from Aizawl North-III, Pu C. Lalmuanpuia has moved the resolution regarding the implementation of three Districts such as Khawzawl, Saitual and Hnahthial which had been neglected for 10 years. I hope that members from the opposition bench will also be thankful and support us in passing this resolution.

It is reassuring to see the wording 'take the step strongly' instead of merely stating 'take the step'. I am sure the concerned people will be mostly grateful for this resolution. This ministry takes immediate step for the implementation of the new districts from early stage where as implementation of new districts in the previous ministry in 1998 was in name only. Nothing was provided where as this ministry immediately posted a Deputy Commissioner in each newly declared Districts. As known to us all, in 2008, new districts such as Hnahthial, Saitual and Khawzawl were declared by the MNF ministry but were neglected for a decade by the next ministry for ten years. My question is if the previous ministry during its 10 years term takes any step to clear up the boundary issue of such new districts. As for this new ministry, it's been only six months since it holds the power and is too soon to take up boundary issue. So, let us hope it is done within another six months.

If we consider the consequence of declaration of 5 newly districts, we have learned that the people chose the party they believe to be able to fulfill their demand. Thus, it will be much welcoming for them to see their demands being achieved in the new ministry. As of the criteria of setting up a new district, total number of populations is not an issue. As we have learned, Dibang District of Arunachal is a population of only 7849 where as one district of Maharashtra is with a population of 1.11 crore. Thus, there is no harm in setting up more districts as demanded. Likewise, the existing RD Block in our state is less than our neighbouring States.

(Dy. Speaker at the Chair.)

I appreciate step taken up for Deputy Commissioner of the newly districts where as site verification is in progress for posting of SP. Let us hope that we will have more and more districts in the future. As for these new districts, the concerned people are backing up any initiative of the government so that their districts are functioning accordingly.

Lastly, Pu Deputy Speaker, as I express my support to this motion, I appeal to all members of the opposition to vote for the same with us. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : 13 minutes remains and let us invite Pu Vanlalhlana.

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. I think this resolution is quite appreciative. Yet, I think it is necessary for the government to demarcate the boundary of such new districts as soon as possible.

During UT, we were having three districts namely Aizawl, Lunglei and Chhimtuipui and the government follows the same pattern as we become a State. Then, 2 new districts were born and we have five districts in total. Considering the neighbouring States, it would not be wrong to have more districts. The demand of a new district for Saitual, Khawzawl and Hnahthial has a long story which takes many efforts and the demand for it was intensive before notification of 2008. In the present case, I opine the government needs to stand in its commitment made to the people in finalizing the boundary. There are many roads to construct so as put such districts into function accordingly. Thus, enough funds should be put. Most of all, it is important for the government to make clear demarcation of the boundary of such districts. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next is Pu VL Zaithanzama.

PU VL. ZAITHANZAMA: Pu Deputy Speaker, I, first of all congratulate the people of three new districts for this achievement yet regretted for waiting so long. Pu Speaker, what concern me is the names we have given to our new districts. Most of the names of MLA constituency are changed by the names of our rivers and mountains instead of its concerned villages or township. I suggest for the future to give only name of the concerned village/township if we ever have more new districts and if possible, to change the existing name as suggested. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us invite Pu Biakzaua.

PU H. BIAKZAUA : Pu Deputy Speaker, today I am very thankful for the opportunity to discuss this important resolution. I thank Pu C. Lalmuanpuia for moving this resolution. This government though newly formed has laid down various development works to its credit. I applaud for the aims and objectives which have been defined clearly. It is clear that more districts mean less problem for the concerned people and less district gives more problems. As a representative of the people, we the members have to ensure the welfare and future of our people. For example, in order to deliver the monthly ration supply, one needs to travel a long distance. Thus, it is obvious that communication will be easier with the opening of more districts and the same with administration. It will be of a great benefit for the people in all walks of life. I support this resolution as I opine it is one deserving credit. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Prof. F. Lalnunmawia.

Prof. F. LALNUNMAWIA: Pu Deputy Speaker, I first of all have to praise the mover for his work ethics and beliefs. The concern people struggle and fight with all efforts to achieve a new district. As such, we have many reasons to be thankful to the hon. Chief Minister and the government. I congratulate the hon. Ministers and members from Hnahthial and Saitual constituency especially to Pu R. Lalzirliana knowing what he has fights for the people which is now becoming reality. At the same time, I congratulate the people of Hnahthial for achieving their demand. Pu Dy. Speaker, a new district means decentralization of power and functions; power of administration will be divided and communication gap will become narrower; transportation will be easier and travelling expenses will decrease. I believe the people of Mizoram and this House is happy for this achievement. So, I support to pass the resolution. Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Pu H. Lalzirliana.

Er. H. LALZIRLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you, and I give my support to this resolution. In this generation of IT, the world becomes a global village even for USA to Tongkolong. Having new districts has its merits and demerits. To discuss its merits, it will narrow down the gap between the rural and urban community relating to economic and political condition. Particularly in politics, decentralization of power will improve our system of administration providing with a better government and systematic administration. I do not think it is necessary for us to worry on the boundary issue as of now; before that, we need to globalize our mindset first. In Mizoram, we are fortunate that the living standard of the people in rural and urban areas is not much different. Therefore, we need to globalize our mind set and believe in our leaders to deal with demarcation of our district boundary. I congratulate concerned members and the people of new districts. And, I give my support to this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have 6 minutes more. Let us invite Pu Lawmawma.

PU LAWMAWMA TOCHHAWNG: Pu Deputy Speaker, I am thankful to the government for implementing three new districts such as Saitual, Hnahthial and Khawzawl after long delay of ten years. We should be thankful as it is the result of intensive efforts of our Chief Minister, House Leader, Pu Zoramthanga; he truly deserves credit for the achievement. Unlike five districts in the previous ministry which were left unattended even after implemented, these are equipped with funds and materials from the beginning. The policy of decentralization of power propagated by the MNF can now be seen in practical which is truly appreciated.

2:00 PM

DEPUTY SPEAKER : To continue from where we have left of, let us hear from hon. Minister Pu R. Lalzirliana.

PU R. LALZIRLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Deputy Speaker, I am very thankful today for the resolution of a private member, Pu C. Lalmuanpuian regards to three new districts such as Hnahthial, Khawzawl and Saitual. During the ministry of Congress Party, the implementation had been ignored despite all the works we had done to achieve the goal; I must say that I personally did all I could to make it happen. Fortunately, in this MNF ministry, we can finally have three more new districts and I am truly grateful to the officials and I even consider this as my greatest achievement as a politician.

Implementation of new district is a very important step for over all development of the state. If Aizawl district alone grows, there would be no point in having rural development as our manifesto. We should widen our horizon so as to grow, evolve and progress. For instance, the hon. Minister of Education mentioned about district-wise job recruitment. In such cases, rural people too have the same opportunity. The govt. of India has even introduced Act East Policy which focuses on the eastern region. With all that being said, I give my support to this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now hear from Pu Zothantluanga of Aizawl West-I constituency.

PU ZOTHANTLUANGA: Pu Deputy Speaker, before getting into the resolution, I, with your permission has to convey my sincere gratitude to the people of Aizawl West-I for giving me this opportunity. Several admirable people have taken care of this constituency and there have been so many worth-remembering projects especially under the ex-MLA, Pu K. Sangthuama. I feel honour to walk in the footstep of my predecessors.

To make a quick mention, the Mizoram University though located within my constituency has not enough of feeders' College or Higher Secondary School. I am grateful that we have heard about the vision and future of our education system and its significance. In this connection, we have to keep in mind that youth today hardly have things in which to focus their time and energy. Thus, many ended up under the influence of drugs for lack of job opportunity. The people of Rangvamual and Phunchawng need special attention in this regard and uplifting their economic status thus is important. The best remedy is improvement of our education system and healthcare scheme for development is bound to stop without these two.

With that being said, I am very pleased to hear the implementation of the three districts. The implementation had been delayed for ten long years and I can only imagine the frustration of the people in these three districts. Thanks to the effort of the hon. CM, several districts will begin to see the benefits of decentralization of power. With that note, I give my support to this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : As it is the first time that he delivers a speech in this house I am lenient to Pu Zothantluanga by giving him more time. Now, let us invite Pu Lalrindika Ralte.

PU LALRINDIKA RALTE: Pu Deputy Speaker, it is unlikely that any of us will oppose this resolution, but at the same time, the most important question on this issue is whether or not this implementation should be the first step taken for the development of the state and its people.

As a democratic nation, we will continuously need the support from the masses but we should be careful not to step outside our boundary and misuse the authority for the benefit of certain political party.

Lastly, I am truly happy for the concern officials. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next is, Pu Lalchhuanthanga.

PU LALCHHUANTHANGA: Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. Regarding this resolution, what we have listened so far are of expression of our gratitude but as for me, I have nothing much to appreciate as I find this resolution miss the goal. I therefore find it to be more appropriate if we call it ‘a new district hqrs.’ As we applaud for the three new districts, there are many in the same districts who are frustrated with this decision. It is therefore wise for the members not to mention much of our appreciation in this House. If such is the situation, it may be more appropriate for the government to also fulfil the demand for district hqrs. by the neighbouring towns by giving them a separate district and the new district hqrs. will then be in line in this particular zone.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us invite Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte.

PU LALRINSANGA RALTE: Pu Deputy Speaker, I am truly gratified with the resolution of Pu C. Lalmuanpuia of Aizawl North-III constituency. We are all aware of how long this issue had been delayed. We are fortunate that the MNF party decided to resume which has been initiated by the Congress ministry.

Considering the population of other states, ours may be small in number but we should keep in mind the difference in our geographical conditions. It is much worthy that these new districts stems out of the three major districts namely, Aizawl District with a population 400,000, 3,500 sq. kms, 5 RD Blocks and 508 villages, Champhai District with a population of 120,000, 3,185 sq.kms, 5 RD Blocks and 94 villages and Lunglei District with a population 161,428, the largest in area of 4,536 sq. kms, 4 RD Blocks and 198 villages.

The need for more districts lies on the fact that most of the centrally sanctioned schemes are based on district wise distribution. Thus, more districts will obviously bring more people to benefit any development schemes of the central or state government. With that being said, I support this resolution.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Pu Ramthanmawia.

PU RAMTHANMAWIA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. I feel that this resolution truly deserves our consent and as there is nothing wrong in it but for the better. It is our duty as a politician to determine what is good for our state which is the objective of the MNF ministry headed by our hon. CM. Apart from these three districts, there are other five which had been implemented during the Congress party ministry. Comparing our condition before and after having new districts, development is running at a fast pace. Keeping in mind all of this, we are hoping to see the same from these new districts.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us invite Pu C. Lalsawivunga.

PU C. LALSAWIVUNG A: Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. It is truly grateful to witness the implementation of three newly districts the case which had been ignored for the past ten years. At the same time, I feel that the budget sanction to this respect is less sufficient. In order to make a successful implementation, there are various matters to be sorted out. For a starter, the district boundaries should be demarcated beforehand and the entire project should be carefully planned and produced. Only after that, we should celebrate our new districts wholeheartedly.

It has been thirty years since our statehood and if we consider the pace of our development, it is very disappointing. Through this resolution, I want to remind the House and its members to make careful and efficient steps in the implementation. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : You Now, Pu Lalruatkima, hon. Minister.

PU LALRUATKIMA, MINISTER: Pu Deputy Speaker, it gives me great pleasure for being able to support this important resolution; this achievement truly shows the efficiency of the MNF ministry compare to others.

As we all know, Mizoram started with three districts as UT, then on 31st August, 1972, the name Lunglei sub-Division had been changed to Lunglei District

and the same for Chhimtuipui with Saihaas the headquarters. On 1st September, 1972 Aizawl District was successfully implemented so on and so forth up till the MNF ministry working from scratch for the functioning of other five districts. Under the Congress party of the previous ministry, no work was done for the growth and development of districts or sub-Division despite the existence District Reorganisation Committee. In compare, the MNF Ministry straight away work for the functioning of the three new districts for we chose prioritizing the welfare of rural people which may be obtained through new districts.

There are various perks of being a district and it is obvious that development will take place with all the projects we have in store for the people. To conclude, I agree to pass this resolution. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us invite Dr. Vanlaltanpuia

Dr. VANLALTANPUIA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. I want to convey my thanks to Pu C. Lalmuanpuia for his resolution. I would also like to praise his work ethics and beliefs which concern the welfare of the people. It is truly commendable.

I also congratulate the people of the three newly districts for achieving their dreams for long. This achievement proves that we have a responsive ministry headed by a powerful leader who is willing to stand for the people in times of need. As of this resolution, it is the actual need of our states which concern development in communication, administration, job opportunity and various other perks as well.

With the implementation of Hnahthial District, Pu Dy. Speaker, I belief that Lunglei North Constituency will be the most affected areas. I therefore urge the ministry to be lenient with our needs and demands; and, at the same time I also request the concerned citizen to support the government for our development. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us invite Dr. Vanlalhlana.

Dr. VANLALTHLANA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Various committees such as Cornwall Commission, Hanumantha Rao Commission, GCK Rao Committee etc had been working on the implementation and development of districts in the past. There are 725 districts in India and ours happened to be of the smaller category.

Pu Dy. Speaker, let me indicate the six impacts of implementation of a new district –

- 1) Establishment of various offices such as SPs, DCs, and DTOs etc. will create lots of employment.
- 2) There will be a change in infrastructure with the increasing capital expenditure and revenue.
- 3) Problems will obviously arise on boundary issue.
- 4) Demand for more districts.
- 5) The existing strength of the departments will not be enough to work on multiple projects.
- 6) District-wise sanction provision will increase and the rate of development will highly depend on how the people utilize the fund. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Now, let us now invite the Opposition Group Leader, hon. Member, Pu Zodintluanga.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE: Pu Speaker, thank you. It is clear that the mover had a good preparation for this resolution, but in opinion, it is too early to express our appreciation for the new districts. Even on the question of demarcation of the boundary, it is regretted that the officials failed to furnish appropriate answer. Thus, I opine it is too early to have this resolution.

When the Congress ministry implemented five districts in 1998, demarcation of the district boundary was completed beforehand which in my opinion is how it should be done. Therefore, in order to avoid all possible problems, the government should carefully execute the process and we may later applaud for it after demarcation of the district boundary is cleared. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu B.D. Chakma.

PU B.D. CHAKMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I express my support in passing this resolution and at the same time, I want to stress on a few points.

Mizoram has the least number of districts in India. With the establishment of 3 more new districts, we will have only 8 districts. In Mizoram, as we have heard it from certain members as well, we wish to have more than 3 new districts for more financial involvements and better administration. If we have more RD Blocks and sub-Divisions as suggested, we will no doubt witness a great improvement not only in the administration and at the same time, job opportunity will also increase.

Pu Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I will read out list of the proposed Districts:- Kamalanagar, Aizawl 'E' and Aizawl 'W', Darlawn, Tlabung and West Phaileng; I believe Chawngte has also been proposed. I think it is wise to establish Civil Districts within the Autonomous District Councils by including Lai, Chakma and Mara Community for their own convenience. The area of Mamit district also is very wide and thus is suggestive to form another district with West Phaileng as the headquarters. If we could establish at least 15 districts, 30 sub-Divisions and a minimum of 50 Blocks, I am sure this will have a successful flagship program which concern achievement of permanent sustainable livelihood.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalduhoma, the concerned MLA of Serchhip Constituency.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, I congratulate the District Demand Committee of Khawzawl, Hnahthial and Saitual. The concerned people votes for the ruling MNF party with the hope of a new district and thus is the right move of the ministry also to return the favor. However, I opine demarcation of such district boundary should be cleared beforehand; otherwise, it is possible for a district to have more than one SP, DC, BDO or SDPO which may cause confusion to the concerned people and also in dealing of the officials.

I suggest for the future, it is not a good idea to promise our people of a new district for votes; and the people, at the same time should not entertain such promises that will not bear a positive outcome.

Considering devaluation of our next year's budget under the 14th Finance Commission, obviously we will face financial crisis for having many districts to maintain. Anyway, let us believe in the words of the hon. Chief Minister of the overflowing funds to come. In my opinion, it is better for us state to have more RD Blocks than having more districts for more efficiency in the administration system.

Pu Speaker, the opening words of this resolution stating 'MNF government', the very term in my opinion is stressful as it indicates the party favors only its party workers which is a serious matter since it evolves political discrimination among the people. There are also instances where party workers urge some leaders for work tenders and as appointment being made on political fitness. So, the term 'MNF Government' is best definition of this ministry. I think our nation will not be rehabilitated under this Ministry. Even so, I hesitantly give my support this resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister, Dr. R. Lalthangliana.

Dr R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. There may be some words which may be difficult to understand, but I am sure we are all clear about the message of the resolution. I congratulate the three concerned MLA's and their people respectively; I appreciate the efforts of the officials, our Chief Secretary, Finance Department, DP & AR and my fellow Legislators in supporting this resolution.

The people elect their representatives to form this ministry and, it is sometime necessary to point out the name of the party forming such ministry.

In the previous ministry of Congress party, 5 new districts were established and we have given our best support so that each will be implemented efficiently. And, this time with these 3 new districts, we will have 8 functioning districts. The hon. Chief Minister is giving much interest in taking measure for development of the infrastructures.

A Medical College was established in August and it is obvious that there are various official matters which need to be attended. There are criteria like the number of faculties etc but we are fortunate that the hon. Chief Minister in very persistent not only in this matter, but also in other areas where our State needs improvement.

If we look into our budget, we are fortunate that ₹855 lakh will be sanctioned for development of our new districts. From January, initiative on roads has already been made and with the need to alleviate the burdern of tax on vehicle owners, lifetime vehicle tax will also be terminated. Let me also add Pu Speaker that with the initiative of the hon. Chief Minister, salary of MR employees is increased. By God's grace and with the support of the people, it is hopeful that our new districts will function efficiently. I am glad that hon. Ministers are planning to take necessary steps on which I suggest we should be more optimistic in our views. I hope these new districts will be able to function efficiently within the next five years.

We expect DP&AR will approve creation of 3 posts of DCs, Additional DCs, SDOs, Election officers and other staffs. It is important that decentralization of powers should be observed for more efficiency in development. I also want to point out that our hon. Chief Minister already has chalked out the plan on demarcation of the district's boundary. Establishing new Districts will obviously create employment opportunity and any of uncompleted works in some district headquarters may also be

resumed. So, having new districts means taking steps towards development of our socio-economic status and infrastructure. So, I will conclude by saying that I support this resolution moved by my fellow member, Pu Lalmuanpuia. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu C. Lalmuanpuia.

PU C. LALMUANPUIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I express my gratitude to all my fellow members for their support and encouragement on my resolution. I also thank this Ministry for taking immediate steps for the implementation new districts in our state; I request all my fellow members to support my resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The mover has appealed to the House to adopt his resolution that, “We are grateful that this government is taking effective steps on implementing three new districts i.e. Khawzawl, Saitual and Hnahthial District which was initiated by the previous MNF ministry but being neglected in the upcoming ministry of 10 years.” All in favour of adopting this resolution may say, ‘Aye’ and those who oppose may say, ‘No’. Since there is no objection, the private resolution of the hon. Member, Pu C. Lalmuanpuia is unanimously passed by the House.

PU C. LALMUANPUIA: Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : We have finished our business for today. We will resume our session on Monday at 10:30 AM.

Sitting is adjourned (4:27 PM.)