

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR THIRD SITTING ON THURSDAY, THE 21st NOVEMBER, 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.

LAYING OF PAPERS

2. **PU ZORAMTHANGA**, hon. Chief Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy each of the following :
 - i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Social, General, Economic and Revenue Sectors for the year ended March 2018 Government of Mizoram.
 - ii) State Finances Audit Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2018 Government of Mizoram.
 - iii) Annual Technical Inspection Report on Rural Local Bodies and Urban Local Body for the year ended 31st March, 2017 Government of Mizoram.
 - iv) 13th Annual Report 2018-2019 (1st April 2018 – 31st March, 2019) Right to Information Mizoram Information Commission.
3. **PU LALCHAMLIANA**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the Mizoram Fire & Emergency Services (Superintendence & Control of the Fire Force & Fire Safety & Prevention) Rules, 2019.
4. **PU K. LALRINLIANA**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy the Mizoram Fisheries Rules, 2019 Department of Fisheries, Government of Mizoram.
5. **PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE**, Minister to lay on the Table of the House a copy the Mizoram Sports Policy, 2019 Department of Sports & Youth Services, Government of Mizoram.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bills for introduction, consideration and passing

6. **PU TAWNLUIA**, hon. Deputy Chief Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019.”

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

7. **PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019.”

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

8. **PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019.”

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

9. **PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019.”

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

10. **PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.”

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

S.R. ZOKHUMA
Commissioner & Secretary

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SPEAKER : *'Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established.'*

Proverbs 24:3

We will start with Questions & Answers and I invite Pu C. Lalsawivunga to ask starred question No. 41.

PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Minister for Land Revenue & Settlement be pleased to state-

- a) Nos. of landholders surrendering their LSC within the Assam Rifles occupation?
- b) Do these private LSC holders pay their tax to the government?
- c) If the state government has taken measures to have an official map of Mizoram on the basis of Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation and as accepted by the Cabinet meeting of 8.7.2019?
- d) It was stated by our hon. Chief Minister at Chapchar Kut festival that AR Ground and its surrounding areas will belong to the people of Mizoram after May, 2019. Has this happened now?

SPEAKER : Let us now invite our hon. Minister to answer the questions.

PU LALRUATKIMA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. The answer is: -

- a) Nine land holders have surrendered their LSC, namely –
 - 1) Lalnunmawii, Baktawng
 - 2) Lalzarliana, Bawngkawn South
 - 3) Thanpari, Khatla
 - 4) Dr. Sangzuala, Zarkawt
 - 5) Rochhunga Ralte, Electric Veng
 - 6) Lalhuthanga, DawrpuiVengthar
 - 7) Lalbiakliana, ChhingaVeng
 - 8) K. Sangnghaki, Bethlehem
 - 9) V. Thlanga, Bethlehem
- b) A few of them paid tax whereas majority of them did not.
- c) At present, the government do not have any plans to produce an official map based on 1875.
- d) The Assam Rifles has not yet handed over AR ground and its surrounding areas to the State government as the contractor has not completed their proposed settlement at Zokhawsang area.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : In response to Pu Zodintluanga's question, the hon. Home Minister mentioned two definitions of our boundaries; one is based on 1875 and one is based on 1933. If we accepted 1875 regulation, the other cannot be accepted anymore. What is the stand of our government in this issue?

Is our Revenue Minister aware of the secret plans possessed by our hon. Chief Minister to solve our boundary issue since our hon. Home Minister has stated in this House that he is not privy to the secret plan?

Thirdly, when do our hon. Chief Minister is planning to execute this secret plan to solve our boundary issue as I believe this is the time to apply and execute his plans.

SPEAKER : Hon. Member, Dr. Vanlaltanpuia.

Dr. VANLALTANPUIA : Pu Speaker, Indian Air Force plans to acquire the area at Pukpui which was once occupied by the army and was vacated in 1986. There was objection from the surrounding people and a Contempt of Court was filed. This is a serious issue. What is the stand of the government in regards to this issue?

SPEAKER : Pu C. Lalsawivunga.

PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Is there any plan to solve the issue regarding possession of LSC by private citizens? Also, is there any plan to conduct land survey in collaboration with Land Survey of India to have an official map of Mizoram?

SPEAKER : Let us now invite our hon. Minister to answer the questions.

PU LALRUATKIMA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the two notifications of boundary stated by Pu Duhoma were a bit confusing. Mizoram-Assam boundary is of notification on 20th August, 1875 on the basis of NEFR, 1873. And, on 9th March, 1933, another notification was issued for Tripura, Manipur, Myanmar and Bangladesh based on 1875 notification. We should not get confused about Mizoram-Cachar boundary with that of our neighbouring states. The two notifications we have for our boundary are of different year and date.

As for the secret plans for resolving the boundary issue, our hon. Chief Minister is taking all measures strongly as he could and under his leadership and we are pursuing the matter actively.

In regards to occupation of Pukpui area by Air Force, the area has been occupied by the army for a long time and there was some issue regarding payment of compensation. The court had ordered acquisition of the required land on the basis of Land Acquisition Act. Whereas the government has to act according to the court's direction, land owners are there to consider. So, we are at this juncture and I request the hon. Members to understand our situation.

The present Assam Rifles area is planned for public purposes only due to which LSC of private land owners were cancelled. I believe they will be able to move out in the near future.

Regarding our boundary dispute with Cachar, the matter is actively pursued by our government jointly with the Assam government to find a solution to the problem. It is truly imperative that we stand in one accord in this area.

The previous government had set up a boundary committee, yet, no concrete report is found. It can be presumed that the present government is the only government so far to take up this boundary issue actively. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us now invite Pu Lalduhoma to ask Starred Question No. 42.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister for Vigilance Department be pleased to state –

- a) Nos. of complaint cases being registered since the inception of Lok Ayukta?
- b) Nos. of staffs in the establishment and their official rank respectively?
- c) If Lok Ayukta has its own investigating and prosecution staff?

SPEAKER : Let us now invite our hon. Chief Minister to answer the questions.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. The answer is:

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- a) 8 complaints have been received since the inception of Lok Ayukta.
- b) There are 13 staffs in the establishment, such as –
- c) Chairperson - 1
 - 1) Secretary (Addl. Charge held by Jt. Secretary, Law & Judicial Deptt.) - 1
 - 2) Superintendent - 1
 - 3) Stenographer Grade I - 1
 - 4) Assistant - 1
 - 5) Stenographer Grade II - 1

- 6) LDC (MR) - 1
- 7) Driver (MR) - 2
- 8) Group D (MR) - 4
- 9) Currently we do not have our own investigating and prosecution staff.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, the inception of Lok Ayukta is greatly welcomed. What is the intention of the government in this regard since it does not have its own investigating and prosecution team? If the government is taking measures to set the establishment in function by its own?

SPEAKER : Let us invite our hon. Chief Minister to answer the questions.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, till the month of May, there was not much we could do as we were bound by election code of conducts. Initiative could be taken only from June onwards which then coincides with formation of a new government at central level.

At present, required personnel are dropped in from ACB and the police under Home Department. Yet, there are still many things to be done.

SPEAKER : We were expected by the central government to have a non-mizo at the head of Lok Ayukta when it was started. But our hon. Chief Minister insisted otherwise and this enabled us to have a Mizo head.

Let us now invite Pu Vanlalhlana to ask Starred Question No. 43.

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister for Higher & Technical Education Department be pleased to state –

- 1) How many teachers are there at ICFAI?
- 2) How many departments are there in it?
- 3) How many students does it has?

SPEAKER : Let us invite our hon. Minister to answer the question

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) ICFAI (Institute of Chartered Financial Analyst of India) has 24 regular teachers and 23 visiting faculty.

- b) There are 12 departments.
- c) There are 431 students.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Vanlalhlana.

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, ICFAI was first inaugurated in 2006 and the bill for its inception was passed by this House. According to some sources, there are several issues such as accommodation, teaching-aid facilities, non-payment of teachers as UGC norms to name a few. Is the government aware of the problems? Also, is there any plan for alleviating the problems faced by SSA and RMSA teachers?

SPEAKER : Let us invite our hon. Minister to answer the questions.

Dr. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. We are taking every possible measure to alleviate the problems faced by ICFAI. A committee consisting of members from its headquarter in Hyderabad, Mizoram University and officials was formed with the Chief Secretary at its head.

Not only Mizoram, other states also seem to have the same issues. It seems the ICFAI society have problems in setting up university in other states.

The issues concerning the teachers under SSA and RMSA started long before the present government was formed. Late payment of salary and their service matters needed to be addressed. It is not even a year since the current ministry is formed and we will do our best to find a solution to their problems. The Minister in charge may like to take this question also.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, for information of the House, teachers under SSA and RMSA are collaborated under FEMSA on 8th of this month. As it is newly formed, we have limited knowledge about its functions, aims and objectives. They are well-educated and efficient; however, it seems they are overweight by their enthusiasm. (*Pu ZODINTLUANGA: Pu Speaker, the hon. Member asked about their salary*). Some resolutions were passed at the meeting and one was for increment of their salary and the other was reservation of 70% of their own whenever the government makes new appointment of teachers.

The incident is a very unfortunate. Besides, it is also inappropriate to undertake strike before formal information to the government. I opine prior information of their grievances should be given to the government. Therefore, we decided to implement

‘no work, no pay’ system on this issue.

It's been only less than a year since this ministry is in function. Yet, during this short period, there are many achievements under Education Department under the leadership of the hon. Chief Minister. It is not only for introducing better system but also for the welfare of the prevailing staff that the hon. Chief Minister has worked upon. The salary of CSS employees has been paid from the state finance even if the central government does not release fund for their salary. However, it is unfortunate that the CSS teachers went to court regarding their service. This is partly due to ignorance of their case in the previous ministry. Moreover, it is impossible for the government to take any further steps for the betterment of their service because it has become sub-judice.

SPEAKER : Pu Zodintluanga Ralte, hon. Member may now ask Starred Question No. 44.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Starred Question No. 44. Will the Hon. Minister for Rural Development Department be pleased to state:

- a) The amount sanctioned for Rural Development Department from the portion of the budget which the hon. Chief Minister called it, ‘the seed?’
- b) For what purpose it is utilized?
- c) The name of such projects and their locations?

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister, Pu Lalruatkima to give answer.

PU LALRUATKIMA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer is as follows:

- a) There is no separate plan allotted under the budget of Rural Development Department. However, it has been received for the Department during 2019-2020 by way of State's Matching Share (SMS):

Sl. No.	Name of Schemes	Amounts of SMS received (₹in lakh)
1.	MGNREGS	2472.464
2.	DRDA (Admn)	201.21
3.	NRLM	703.39
4.	SIRD & PR	91.26377
5.	SPMRM	45.00
6.	PMAY-G	324.869
7.	PMKSY	257.11
8.	NLCPR	46.19
TOTAL		4,141.49677

- b) It is used for implementation of schemes.
- c) The name and location of projects are:
 - i) MGNREGS covers all of the districts.
 - ii) DRDA (Admn.) is for every district. NRLM is also for every district. SIRD & PR for Aizawl, Lunglei and Kolasib District. SPMRM is for Aibawk, Thingsulthliah, Khawzawl and East Lungdar RD Block. PMAY Gramin for every District. PMKSY for every District. NLCPR is for Thingsulthliah, East Lungdar, Khawbung and Aibawk RD Block.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte to ask Supplementary Question.

PU LALRINSANGA RALTE: Pu Speaker, my Supplementary Questions are as follows.

- i) How much is spent for MGNREGA?
- ii) What is the reason for the delay of fund sanction to job card holders till date? When will it be sanctioned?
- iii) To how many beneficiaries PMAY Gramin is given till date?
- iv) Is it possible to provide roofing materials again in the future?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu C. Ngunlianchunga.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Thank you, Pu Speaker. Who select beneficiaries under PMAY Gramin? Who select the villages for this scheme? It seems Gram Sabha is selected only from the villages supporting the ruling party. Is this legal? Several registered lists of beneficiaries were again deleted which is quite unfortunate in view of establishing good government.

Secondly, if VC House constructed at Darlawn Chhim Veng? If so, what is the estimate size of the building? Besides, what is the reason of the works under material component at Tinghmun, North Khawdungsei and Mauchar being taken up by MNF Unit while it is supposed to be done by the department or the VC concerned?

SPEAKER : Pu Zodintluanga Ralte to ask his Supplementary Questions.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The hon. Chief Minister is quite efficient and he had recently visited Delhi to pursue various projects for Mizoram. During the Budget discussion also, he had stated that a huge amount will be availed outside the Budget Estimate. However, the answer to most of my questions on utilization of such funds is nil. It is very unfortunate that huge amount was left untouched even if it is available which I opine to be a sign of mismanagement and

negligence. I have no further question as such. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : I am a little liberal today even if you had spoken as if it is general discussion. Let us now call upon Pu Lalruatkima, hon. Minister concerned to answer as far as possible.

PU LALRUATKIMA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. Regarding the question asked by Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte, total Nos. of working days under MGNREGA throughout Mizoram is 57. Yet, there are some districts in which works up to 72 days had been finished. The wages under this scheme is a kind of wage components which falls solely under the responsibility of central government. The wages are distributed by way of direct benefit transfer scheme which means the wages of job card holders are directly deposited to their respective account by the central government. Wages for MGNREGA for September is not deposited as yet and is expected during this week.

Regarding PMAY Gramin, it is done as per the SECC Data, 2011 which comprises 26,599 beneficiaries. 2405 beneficiaries were selected for the year 2016-17. The second installment for these beneficiaries had been withheld for a very long time allegedly due the nodal department is urged to convert the sum for Sharing Account. After doing so, the second installment is sanctioned recently and is being distributed. There are many mistakes in SECC Data. After further scrutiny, the Gram Sabha decided that 15,275 beneficiaries were not eligible for the scheme. Besides, we are facing certain difficulties regarding PMAY selection since it is the selection done in the previous ministry. There are many beneficiaries who are not eligible under the scheme. Here, I would like to point out that the selection of beneficiaries under this scheme is not the responsibility of the present ministry.

It is notable that roofing materials are provided at the initiative of the hon. Chief Minister and is expected to be continued in the future also. Regarding Pu C. Ngunlianchung's question, the Govt. of Mizoram had done everything on its part and the amount has already been sanctioned. The only problem is that the actual amount is not yet deposited in the account of the beneficiaries which no longer is responsibility of the state government but the central.

Regarding construction of Darlawn VC House, it is the purview of LAD. Regarding Material component, the implementation is done through State Employment Guarantee Council under which BEC, DEC and VEC may be selected as the implementing agency. We have no knowledge with which agency the VEC implemented the work in the mentioned villages like Tingmun, North Khawdungsei and Mauchar.

Regarding selection of beneficiaries under PMAY Gramin, The Central Ministry of Rural Development take the census of Socio-Economic Class. Only those included in the census are eligible under the scheme. From that census, auto-generated list of eligible for the selection is again created. The Gram Sabha then selected the beneficiaries from that auto-generated list.

SPEAKER : Question hour is now over. Today, we have four Ministers to lay their Papers on the table of the House. Let us first call upon the hon. Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga to lay the following Papers:

- 1) Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on Social, General, Economic and Revenue Sectors for the year ended March, 2018, Govt. of Mizoram.
- 2) State Finances Audit Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2018, Govt. of Mizoram.
- 3) Annual Technical Inspection Report on Rural Local Bodies and Urban Local Bodies for the year ended 31st March, 2017, Govt. of Mizoram.
- 4) The 13th Annual Report 2018-2019 (1st April, 2018 - 31st March, 2019) Right to Information, Mizoram Information Commission.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER : With your kind permission, Pu Speaker, I hereby lay the following Papers on the table of the House:

- 1) Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on Social, General, Economic and Revenue Sectors for the year ended March, 2018, Govt. of Mizoram.
- 2) State Finances Audit Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2018, Govt. of Mizoram.
- 3) Annual Technical Inspection Report on Rural Local Bodies and Urban Local Bodies for the year ended 31st March, 2017, Govt. of Mizoram.
- 4) The 13th Annual Report 2018-2019 (1st April, 2018 - 31st March, 2019) Right to Information, Mizoram Information Commission.

SPEAKER : Let the copy be distributed. Let us call Pu Lalchamliana, hon. Minister to lay 'The Mizoram Fire & Emergency Services (Superintendence & Control of the Fire Force & Fire Safety & Prevention) Rules, 2019 on the table of the House.

PU LALCHAMLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your kind permission and approval of the House, I hereby lay 'The Mizoram Fire & Emergency Services (Superintendence & Control of the Fire Force & Fire Safety & Prevention) Rules, 2019' on the table of the House. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let the copy be distributed. We shall now call upon Hon. Minister, Pu K. Lalrinliana to lay ‘The Mizoram Fisheries Rules, 2019, Department of Fisheries, Govt. of Mizoram’ on the table of the House.

PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. With your kind permission and the approval of the House, I hereby lay ‘The Mizoram Fisheries Rules, 2019, Department of Fisheries, Govt. of Mizoram’ on the table of the House. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let the copy be distributed. The hon. Minister, Pu Robert Romawia Royte may now lay ‘The Mizoram Sports Policy, 2019 Department of Sports & Youth Services, Govt. of Mizoram’ on the table of the House.

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission and the approval of the House, I hereby lay ‘The Mizoram Sports Policy, 2019 Department of Sports & Youth Services, Govt. of Mizoram’ on the table of the House. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let the copy be distributed. Moving to our next business, let us call Pu Tawnluia, Dy. Chief Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019.’

PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I beg leave of the House to introduce ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019.’

SPEAKER : Pu Tawnluia, hon. Chief Minister has begged leave of the House for introduction of ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019.’ Do we approve? If so, he may now introduce the Bill and also move the same for discussion.

PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I hereby introduce ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019.’ Before moving the Bill for discussion, I would like to speak about the background as well as the amendments made in this bill.

Aizawl Development Authority was established in 2006 for the better management of Aizawl city. In the same year, UD & PA Department was also formed. As a result, ‘The Mizoram Municipality Act’ was passed in 2007 and amendment of the Act had been made in 2015.

In November 2010, the first AMC election was held after which the Aizawl Municipal Council started functioning with Chairman, Vice Chairman and Executive Council. The ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019’ was later amended in the year 2015 according to which the post of Executive Council in the Aizawl Municipal Council was done away with. All the executive functions of the Council were carried by the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor. A new post of Chief Executive Officer was also created. As per this amendment, the Board of Councilors consisted of the Councilors plus Chief Executive Officer.

One of the biggest impacts of this Bill is reinstatement of Executive Council in Aizawl Municipal Authority. The Executive Council will consist of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Executive Councilors. This implies that there will be three Executive Councilors in the Municipal Board and four Executive Councilors in the Municipal Corporation.

Another change is seen in Article 15 (a) in which “Power of Chairman” is contained. The power of Members of Executive Council is stated as per assigned by the Chairman. Section 20 which had been done away by the 2015 Amendment was reinstated. Similarly, Section 21 about the “Terms of Office of Members of Executive Council” is also restored.

An important subject of the Bill is filling of vacancy in the Council. There is no rule for this purpose before. The Bill proposed that bye-election for such vacancy will be held within 6 months of such vacancy. Section 55 is also slightly changed by the Bill. It is stated that “The Councilor of Municipal area including the members of the Executive Council” in which the term ‘Executive Council’ is added.

In the Amendment of Section 3072, it is added that the regulations made by the Board of Councilors should be approved by the state government within 90 days. If the state government does not make any response within this period, it will be deemed approved.

With these words, Pu Speaker, I hereby move ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019 for discussion in the House. Thank you.

SPEAKER : We shall now discuss the Bill. Lest us call upon Pu C. Lalmuanpuia to start the discussion.

PU C. LALMUANPUIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am glad that the hon. Dy. Chief Minister had moved ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019’ in this House. This matter is contained in the 12th Schedule of the Constitution of India

itself. I do hope this Amendment will result to better administration of Aizawl City.

This act is very important since the Aizawl Municipal Corporation is responsible for the administration of Aizawl to a large extent. Matters like building, parking, hoarding, birth and death, licensing regulation, street light, waste management, etc. are under its purview. I hope this amendment will be very decisive for the better functioning of AMC.

Re-inclusion of Section 19, 20 and 21 under Chapter 3 of the principal act is very notable. Besides, Election of Council under Chapter 4, Section 26 is also a vital part for its smooth functioning. There are two wards lying vacant at present also but bye-election could not be held as there is no provision in the rules. This amendment will suffice the need in such cases in the future.

The provision that requires the state government to give approval for the rules made by AMC within 90 days is quite phenomenal. This will uphold the independency of the Council. This amendment is also quite important for various boards and council which will come into being in the future in other districts also. Therefore, I support this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us call hon. Member Pu C. Lalsawivunga.

PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am happy that ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019’ is introduced today. I also hope that much development will be achieved through it.

Meanwhile, I opined it will be more suitable to change the terms like Chairman to Mayor and Vice Chairman into Deputy Mayor as the Aizawl Municipal Council has become Aizawl Municipal Corporation. I support the proposal for creation of four posts of Executive Councilors with a little concern about financial involved.

Pu Speaker, as we may aware, I was also elected as Councilor for AMC for two terms. As I was elected as MLA while being a Councilor, the vacated post lies vacant till today as there is no rule for by-election. I hope this type of problem will also be solved by the discussed amendment. Besides, I think the monthly remuneration of the councilors is still ₹12,000; I opine this is really meagre and should be increased.

Regarding the power and function of the Chief Executive Officer, there used to be some clashes of power between CEO and the Mayor. I think the elected member should be given more authority as we are living in a democratic country. It is appreciated that Chief Executive Officer which function as Commissioner is now

clearly specified in the amendment of Section 144.

Amendment regarding Section 372 is also very important. The Elected Councilors used to make laws in view of the need of the people of Aizawl City. However, such laws could not be implemented unless it is approved by the state government. There were times when such laws were kept pending for a long time which often hinders the functioning of the Corporation. I hope this amendment will help a lot to prevent this kind of problems. Therefore, I stand in support of the Bill. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

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

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER : Pu speaker, I have not much to say about this Bill which is obviously needed for the better functioning of Aizawl Municipal Corporation. Regarding designations as mentioned by Pu C. Lalsawivunga, it is stated in the bill as, ‘Chairman/Vice Chairman (Mayor/Dy. Mayor as in Corporation)’ which I consider more than sufficient.

The inclusion of provision for conducting by-election is another important feature of this Bill. It is rather unfortunate and inappropriate that this provision is not included in the principal act also. Besides, provision for approval of laws made by the corporation within 90 days is also very important. It will also serve as an effective means to exercise decentralization of power.

A little concern I have had regarding the Bill is about reserved seat for women which is to be made in different wards on ‘by-turn basis.’ It seems there is possibility that the women members may not function well considering themselves elected for the present term only. In fact, it is the view of next election that often keeps us efficient. However, I hope this may not happen regarding this matter.

With that being said, Pu Speaker. I support the Bill with the hope of passing it unanimously in this House. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us now call upon Pu Tawnluia, hon. Dy. Chief Minister to wind up the discussion and to beg the House to pass the Bill.

PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. There are some clarifications to be made regarding remuneration of the councilors mentioned Pu C. Lalsawivunga. The amount is not fixed by this act. The State Government is authorized through this act to appoint another body who may fix the

amount. If I am not mistaken, the latest remunerations are fixed by The Facilities to Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman Vice Chairman & Councilor Rules, 2018. I think it is much higher now than that of the aforesaid amount. Besides, additional expenditure which may be incurred due to creation of Executive Council is expected to be around ₹50 lakhs.

Regarding reserved seat for women, the concern of the hon. Chief Minister is quite valid. After the coming AMC election, the turn for it will be just completed in every ward except one. Considerations for this matter may be made at that time.

Pu Speaker, I would like to inform the House about the strength of AMC at present. There are currently 130 employees under Aizawl Municipal Council including deputations. The Government has created 98 new posts at different levels for AMC. Recruitment Rules for these posts were then created for this purpose and recruitment is expected to be started soon. The Cabinet gives immense importance towards this Bill. In fact, it was included in the Cabinet agenda for three times and I am really happy to move this Bill today. I do hope and beg the House to pass this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Now we shall take votes from the members. Anyone who approve the Bill may say “Aye” and anyone who oppose the bill may say “Nay”. It seems we all agree to pass the Bill. Therefore, I hereby declare ‘The Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019’ passed.

PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : We are still having three Bills to consider such as:

- 1) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 3) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 4) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

Even though these are four different Bills, they are all related and intertwined. It seems better to introduced together if the House approve. Do we approve to do so? If so, let us call upon Pu TJ Lalnuntluanga, hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs to beg leave of the House to introduce the following four bills:

- 1) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019
- 3) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 4) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission, I beg the House to introduce-

- 1) The Mizoram Salaries, allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 3) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 4) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

SPEAKER : Do we all agree? We all agree and I request the Minister to pass and move his Bills.

PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker and I hereby introduce-

- 1) The Mizoram Salaries, allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 3) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 4) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

Pu Speaker, the members and former members of this House had taken extreme measures for many years so as to have development in every aspect without any discrimination and make Rules accordingly. However, our cost of living is getting higher and it is fortunate that we have to present a Bill that benefits the House members. Pu Speaker, there is a patent error on 'The Mizoram Salaries, allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019' page-2, Amendment of Section-14 which should be written as 'Clause 'A' of sub-section I of the section 14'; I beg the House for an amendment as well. (**SPEAKER** : *Are you asking to fix the patent error?*) Yes, Pu Speaker; all the members have the copy and I believe we are also aware of the sections of our amendments.

Pu Speaker, the Constitution of India gives power to the state Legislators concerning salary of the Council of Ministers, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Members and this is also the reason why the salary differs in every state. The salary of Mizoram MLAs was revised in 2010 and the responsibilities and cost of living had increased a lot since then. It is quite expensive for our MLAs and ex-MLAs to dispatch corpse in their constituency, visit the sick patients and having non-stop house guests. Therefore, the former legislative assembly members submitted a proposal to General Purpose Committee (GPC) and the salary raise was then agreed after much consideration.

Pu Speaker, the Council of Ministers respects the decisions of GPC and had approved this subject to be presented in the Assembly. I would like to remind everyone that the MLAs salary revision was done frequently. Regarding Salary, MLAs salary was ₹1,000 during 1987 and was increased to ₹15,000 in 1991, ₹10,000 in 1999 and ₹40,000 in 2010. Today, we proposed it to ₹80,000. In case of Salary & Allowances, it was ₹3,500 in 1987, ₹8,000 in 1991 and ₹26,500 in 1999 amendment. It was revised again after 11 years (2010) and the total had increased to ₹65,000. Today on this 2019 amendment proposal, it will increase to ₹150,000.

Pu Speaker, the salary of the Chief Minister, Speaker, Dy. Speaker, Ministers, Leaders of Opposition and Dy. Govt. Chief Whip are proposed as follows-

I. Chief Minister:	
Salary	: ₹80,000
Sumptuary allowance	: ₹40,000
Family allowance	: ₹27,000
Entertainment allowance	: ₹25,000
Residence allowance	: ₹12,000
	Total : ₹1,84,000
II. Speaker:	
Salary	: ₹80,000
Sumptuary allowance	: ₹40,000
Family allowance	: ₹21,000
Entertainment allowance	: ₹20,000
Residence allowance	: ₹12,000
	Total : ₹1,73,000
III. Minister:	
Salary	: ₹80,000
Sumptuary allowance	: ₹40,000
Family allowance	: ₹18,000
Entertainment allowance	: ₹18,000
Residence allowance	: ₹12,000

Total : ₹168,000

IV. Leader of Opposition:

Salary	: ₹80,000
Sumptuary allowance	: ₹40,000
Family allowance	: ₹18,000
Entertainment allowance	: ₹18,000
Residence allowance	: ₹12,000

Total : ₹168,000

V. Deputy Speaker:

Salary	: ₹80,000
Sumptuary allowance	: ₹40,000
Family allowance	: ₹16,000
Entertainment allowance	: ₹13,000
Residence allowance	: ₹12,000

Total : ₹161,000

VI. Minister of state:

Salary	: ₹80,000
Sumptuary allowance	: ₹40,000
Family allowance	: ₹15,000
Entertainment allowance	: ₹10,000
Residence allowance	: ₹12,000

Total : ₹157,000

VII. Deputy Govt. Chief Whip:

Salary	: ₹80,000
Sumptuary allowance	: ₹40,000
Family allowance	: ₹15,000
Entertainment allowance	: ₹10,000
Residence allowance	: ₹12,000

Total : ₹157,000

VIII. MLA:

Salary	: ₹80,000
Constituency allowances	: ₹40,000
Contingency allowance	: ₹14,000
Family allowances	: ₹8,000
Residence allowance	: ₹8,000

Total : ₹150,000

Apart from this, MLA fund, ex-MLA pension & family pension are also enhanced as follows-

- 1) Daily allowance (inside the state) : ₹1,000
- 2) Daily allowance (outside the state): ₹2,000

- 3) House furnishing : ₹2,00,000
 4) Death Gratuity : ₹15,00,000
 5) Ex-MLA pension : ₹40,000.

And, those elected for more than one term would receive an additional pension of ₹5,000 per month. However, the pension amount would not exceed ₹70,000 per month.

- 6) MLA House Building advance : ₹20,00,000

Pu Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I move the following Bills for discussion: -

- 1) The Mizoram Salaries, allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019;
- 2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019;
- 3) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019;
- 4) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

Thank you.

SPEAKER : We will start the discussion and each member will be given 5 minutes. I request Pu Lalduhoma to have his time.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, we said that we would make a decision only after GPC established a sub-committee to study the recommendation. However, we were not present during the discussion. There are always 2 sides to every story especially on today's topic.

Looking at the salary of MLAs across India, the salary of Mizoram MLAs is among the lowest and this introduced Bill is neither low nor high. 7th Pay is now implemented and it is clear that MLA salary also require a revision. People who personally know us could tell how much it costs us for everything. It is FLAM members who made this proposal which is quite respectful.

On the other hand, we the candidates made a solemn promise in front of the *Val Upa Council* and they request us not to pass the Bill. (**SPEAKER**: Your time is up). They are the reason that we are here today and we have a high moral obligation towards them. Also, passing this Bill is indecent at a time when the state Govt. is grappling with financial crisis. So, I was thinking that we first need to upraise the situation of our people and disbursed the ₹3 lakhs to every family. Therefore, our opinion is to safe keep this Bill and opposed it for now. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. Member, Pu Lalrindika Ralte.

PU LALRINDIKA RALTE: Thank you, Pu Speaker. The Bill we are discussing today is important on one hand while we also need to regard our commitment to the people. We need to carefully consider their situation. I hope that this Bill acts as a tool to show our commitment towards the people. I support the Bill and thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. Member, Dr. ZR Thiamsanga.

Dr. ZR. THIAM SANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. GPC reviewed this Bill and established a Sub-Committee after carefully studied the situation of the state and its finance. So, we made a recommendation and GPC was held again. Earlier, one member claimed they did not attend the meeting and I believe it was because he was unavailable. Most of the MLAs quit their Govt. jobs and prepare to face poverty for the state.

As we all know, 7th Pay is implemented and there are many employees who earn ₹2 lakhs. As mentioned by the previous member, the people rely on the MLAs for everything whether it is about their health, food or dispatching corpse. Many MLAs continue to face hardship and we also feel guilty to increase our salary when looking at our situation.

However, we work for the people and our salary is also for them. FLAM made a proposal to increase the basic at least to ₹1,00,000 but is reduced to ₹80,000. Since the cost of living also getting higher, I support this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. Member, Pu Zodintluanga.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am a part of GPC and I attended the meeting when the recommendation was discussed. A study team was established and I was also present when the sub-committee was established. Pu Speaker, this Bill was discussed carefully by the members during the committees and I support this Bill to be passed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. Minister, Pu Robert Romawia Royte

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. There is some guilt when discussing about increase of our salary but I believe most of us also think that the larger sum will be spent on the people who are in need and this will also act as a tool to serve the people.

Pu Duhoma mentioned that he does not support this Bill since *Val Upa Council* opposed it. Pu Speaker, I opine we should have power over ourselves and our ideas being the members of this House and we clash the democracy principle if we let the outsiders control us. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. Member, Pu B.D. Chakma

PU B. D. CHAKMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. There is not much to be excited about this Bill especially for the MLAs whose constituency consists of many villages. Our salary will be spent mostly on our people and the medical expenses are immense. Dispatching 1 corpse also costs me ₹35,000 and there are 83 villages in my constituency. So, I support this Bill.

One thing I would like to mention is that the electrical and water connection in my room are not repaired till today even though I sent my PA multiple times to make a complaint. The fans and bathrooms are also quite damaged and it would be appreciated if PWD looked into this since it is their concern. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The hon. Dy. Speaker is the House Committee Chairman and he will look into it. I now request Pu Lalchhuanthanga.

PU LALCHHUANTHANGA: Thank you, Pu Speaker. We are talking about salary increment despite financial crisis in our state. We passed a budget earlier and around 80% of our total budget was spent on the salary and pension of Govt. employees while only around 20% was spared for Capital expenditure. Besides, I disagree that the fund for development is drawn bit by bit despite little budget. We have 3 District Headquarters and it would be appreciated if they are upgraded. The MLA Development Fund also needs to be in sufficient amount before increasing our salary. So, my opinion is to not increase our salary for now.

SPEAKER : MLA salary and MLA Fund are irrelevant. The works performed by the Planning Department is impressive because the development fund can be misused if it is instantly disbursed in a huge amount. The works should be firstly inspected carefully by the BDOs and then disburse the fund. Next is Pu KT Rokhaw.

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Thank you, Pu Speaker and I support the recommendation made by GPC regarding the MLA salary. The average salary of other state's MLA is ₹1,50,000-₹2,00,000 and the Mizoram MLAs have huge responsibilities especially we the MLAs of village constituencies. The people from our constituency came to Aizawl for medical purpose and their corpses need to be

dispatched to their home town when they die. Earlier, 3 corpses were dispatched to my constituency by ambulance in one month and I used up all my salary. Siaha District has Dr. K. Beichhua, a Minister and he helped us a lot when someone from my constituency dies. We are the leaders of the state and there can be corruption if the MLAs are too poor. So, GPC recommendation makes sense and I support it. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. Chief Minister.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker and I do not have much to say. There are a lot of things to figure being the Finance Minister and our Salaries & Allowances are also carefully studied. I would like to mention that 80% of our budget was not spent on salaries. However, we are in desperate need to increase our salaries because we need to upgrade ourselves in order to develop and help our people. FLAM also proposed this increment and GPC established a study team. This study team made the recommendation which was approved by GPC and then studied and approved by the Cabinet. It gives us no pleasure but we need this for carrying out works as mentioned before. The amount is not excessive compared to other states and it is quite moderate. So, this Bill is presented today in order to lead the people towards development and help them without much trouble. I hope we all support and pass this Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER : We will end our discussion and I request the Minister to windup and beg the House to pass the Bill.

PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA, MINISTER: Thank you Pu Speaker and I would like to say that this Bill is quite important. As mentioned earlier, it's been rather unpleasant but it is necessary for our development, everyday needs, cost of living etc. and our leaders also studied the state's difficult situation and its finance before making the proposal. This Bill is presented so that we can have more development. 9 members shared their discussion out of which 7 members showed their approval but this does not mean that the 2 members had completely disapproved because they also agreed to it but they suggest not to be passed for now. I assume we all agree to this Bill and this is wonderful.

GPC meeting has always been followed respectfully and I would like to thank our Chief Minister for being aware of our difficulties and making arrangements despite our financial situation. Therefore, I beg the House to pass the following Bills

- 1) The Mizoram Salaries, allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

- 3) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- 4) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

SPEAKER : The Minister had wound up the discussion and begged the House to pass the Bills-

All those in favor may say 'Yes' (**MEMBERS:** *Yes.*) All those not in favor may say, 'No'. The House has passed the following Bills-

- 1) The Mizoram Salaries, allowances and Pension of Member of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2019
- 2) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2019
- 3) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2019
- 4) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

PU TJ. LALNUNTLUANGA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : I suggest we all take the increment and it seems that Pu Duha is a bit nervous. I made a mistake by calling Dr. Vanlaltanpuia when it should be Pu C. Lalmuanpuia, and Secretary General Council when it should be *Val Upa Council*.

This is the 4th session of the 8th Legislative Assembly and the session should last for 3 days according to the Business Advisory Committee. Today is the 3rd day and the following businesses are taken up during this session: -

Obituary on Pu Thankima, former MLA and Pu Zoramthanga, House Leader delivered a eulogy followed by Pu Zodintluanga Ralte, MLA, Pu Tawnluia, Dy. Chief Minister and Pu Lalduhoma, MLA. A minute of silence was observed in honor of the departed leaders and 9 Reports were presented during this session.

Pu Vanlalhlana, Pu KT Rokhaw, Dr. ZR Thiamsanga and Pu C. Lalmuanpuia are the Panel of Chairmen.

207 Starred Questions were submitted out of which 201 questions were admitted and 6 questions were rejected. 60 questions were transferred to List of Business and 13 questions were answered. 47 questions were unanswered and 5 questions were unanswered by Departments

22 Unstarred questions were submitted and no questions were rejected. 133 were converted from Starred question and there are 4 unanswered questions by departments.

17 Papers were laid; 8 Govt. bills were submitted and they were all passed.

An Official resolution was presented by Dr. K. Beichhua, the hon. Minister and the following members shared their discussions- hon. Members, Pu Lalduhoma, Dr. F. Lalnunmawia, Dr. BD Chakma, Pu Tawnluia, hon. Dy. CM, Pu Robert Romawia Royte, hon. Minister and Pu Zoramthanga, hon. Chief Minister. This Official Resolution was approved by voice vote.

Pu Lalduhoma called attention concerning imported domestic animals.

We successfully held our last session without any inconvenience and I suggest we continue to do so. I hope that you all succeed in the works you achieve and undertake for the state and I would like to thank all the department officials for their contributions. I would like to express my special gratitude to Parliamentary Affairs Department and Assembly Secretariat for their extreme hard work. I wish you all the best in the coming future and best wishes for you this Christmas and New Year.

The House is adjourned Sine die.