

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

**LIST OF BUSINESS**

FOR FOURTH SITTING ON FRIDAY, THE 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023  
(Time 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

**QUESTIONS**

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

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

2. \* **Resolutions**

**LALHMAHRUAIA ZOTE**  
Commissioner & Secretary

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\* Please see Bulletin Part-II No. 268, dated the 7th February 2023 for relative precedence of Private Members' Resolutions to be moved.

**SPEAKER** : *Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody.*

*-Romans 12: 17*

### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

We will start *question and answer* hour. Let us call upon both Pu Ramthanmawia and Pu Zodintluanga Ralte to ask starred question number. 41.

**PU RAMTHANMAWIA:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) How many store keeper and PE have been recruited during this ministry?
- b) Any plan to recruit more?

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the hon. Minister Pu K. Lalrinliana.

**PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) 9 store keepers were recruited in 2019-2020 and 2 PE were recruited in 2022-2023.
- b) We plan to recruit more in the future.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question - Dr. ZR. Thiamsanga.*

**DR. ZR. THIAMSENGA :** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- i) What is fortified rice? How is it distributed among the public?
- ii) Is there any remaining Hill State Transport Subsidy Bill?
- iii) What is the reason for the sudden influx of cooking gas in Mizoram?
- iv) What does Supply Department do to help refugees?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question – Pu C. Lalsawivunga.*

**PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA:** Pu Speaker, thank you. When will work start on IOCL and NEF Railways as they already have detailed feasibility study. Is there any way to utilize Vairengte Oil Depot other than for indents and for load changing?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question – Pu Ramthanmawia.*

**PU RAMTHANMAWIA :** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- i) How many store houses have been built during this ministry? Any plan to construct new store houses?
- ii) Who are Food Commission Chairman and their members?

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

**PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. In answer to Dr. Thiamsanga. Fortified rice is those rice where iron, folic acid and vitamin B12 were added to enhance the level of vitamins and minerals. Under public distribution system, since Mamit District is an aspirational district, they were first distributed there on June, 2022.

₹54,27,37,471 is the amount left in Hill State Transport Subsidy. ₹25,53,69,563 were rejected and the balance left is ₹11,09,52,327.

On the lower floors of the VC House, a few of them have available rooms for us. Similarly, we have allocated 75 places to start with. In these Fair Price shops, 5 kg of packed rice and other items would be sold. Things are currently processed for the benefit of everyone at a fair price.

On the question of – “How come LPG gas is now sufficient?”. When we started this government in 2019, we often discussed this, as our hon. Member, Pu Zodintluanga also pointed out. Some people assumed it mainly is between the distributor and the company; it is, to some extent. We thought we would find alternate ways to do it. In October 2019, with the Chef Minister’s approval, we went to meet the Petroleum Union Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan. We told him the difficulties that we were having at that time and how the other states were able to do it efficiently, and he then assured us. Later, he even mentioned in his Instagram post that he promised to help us.

The gas cylinders used to be 310 per truck trip, at that time we used to receive 15 trips per day. We thought that if we received 20 trips daily, it should be sufficient for us. That day, the Union Minister promised us, “Since the State Minister is here, you will receive 23 trips daily on average” and that is how our needs are met. Currently, we assume that 23 to 24 trips are received daily.

Even though our state has gone through various difficulties like COVID-19 and its effects, landslides, border clash with Assam, and various other issues, God gifted our CM with impressive decision-making skills and we can reach today. I am very glad with that.

Regarding refugees, as per the records, 950 quintals of rice were handed out to various districts as per request. In addition, some rice bags that had been distributed by the DCs of various districts prior to the maintenance of official records were included. That is how the government extends its help to our brethren from Burma who flee as refugees.

Responding to hon. member Pu C. Lalsawivunga’s question about the rail-fed oil depot and Vairengte oil depot, let us know that the Vairengte oil depot gives out only four to five trips. It is only used to divert challans. Since we need the rail-fed oil depot, I requested the Union Minister in 2019 to bring it for us through trains. He said that if

everything was ready he would love to inaugurate during the Christmas season as he wanted to see how the people of Mizoram prepared for Christmas. Certain requirements were needed such as a plain area that can drag a full rack wagon that can occupy 60 metres within a stretch of 1 km. I along with the Chief Minister and the IOCL heads inspected the place and thought it would be suitable. However, there was a survey of railway engineers who opined that the areas are not suitable to have set up railways.

They even mentioned that there is a rail-fed oil depot at Dharmanagar and Ramnagar (close to Silchar), so they opted for an area which is a bit close for us. After continuous surveys, we thought Sihmui would be a good spot, and they even agreed to that. We held a committee many times and even visited the proposed area. The railway engineers and the IOCL officials also inspected the area. We plan to establish not far from the Sihmui Cricket Stadium, close to the terminal building. Only a half-rack, which is 21 wagons would be able to enter that place. As the wagon enters, the rail head will exit again, and with the tracks that would load the items, the place would just be enough according to their calculations. We even thought of buying the land through direct purchase. It is currently being processed by the Revenue Department and with the fast request from the Chief Minister, we hope to settle it soon. Let those be my reply.

Next, regarding hon. member Pu Ramthanmawia's question, "Are there any plans to construct storage centres (kudam)?" We have permission to construct 23 storage facilities, AA was already prepared and the whole thing is ongoing. From the *Grant-in-aid*, we have received funds to construct 10 storage facilities, 21 from NABARD and these are completed already. NABARD plans to give us more funds to construct 12 storage facilities for next year.

Pu Speaker, regarding Food Commission members, Pu HL Rochungnunga is the Chairman, the members are- Pi Remliani, Pu C. Zasanga, Pu Vanlalrawna and the Member Secretary is Pi Vanlalchhuangi, Joint Secretary, Food & Civil Supplies Department. Pu Speaker, thank you.

**SPEAKER** : I call upon hon. member, Pu C. Ngunlianchunga to ask *Starred Question No.42*.

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, before I ask the question, let me state that today the papers laid before us have not been replied to at all and it is taking up the space. Pu Speaker, my question is Starred No. 42-

"Does the state government intend to give away five kilograms of rice each month, as the Central government does?"

**SPEAKER** : Will the hon. Minister, Pu K. Lalrinliana be pleased to state the *Starred Question No. 42*.

**PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. My answer is – “5 kg of free ration given out by the Central government every month is called the PHH, and 35 kg is given per AAY family. This will be given from January to February. We have started giving out.”

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question-* Dr. K. Pachhunga.

**DR. K. PACHHUNGA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. My question is- Lunglei District Godown is located on the outskirts of Luangmual Veng, it is a huge facility. The entrance is muddy and it is becoming a problem for the residents and the drivers. Are there any plans to repair the roads?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question-* Dr. Vanlalhlana.

**DR. VANLALTHLANA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. My questions are- Are there any plans to purchase local rice produce? If so, how much for a quintal?

I want to add some points here. If there are any plans to buy and if the people know the rates, it might drive them to produce more and more. If we plan on continuing this, I suggest that we also inform the rates to the people.

Regarding LPG home delivery, last year, in November 2022, the Secretary, FCS & CS issued that from 1.12.2022 onwards, Gas shall be home delivered. In December, due to some excuses, the agents could not go ahead with it and so it was shifted to January. Marketing Discipline Guidelines 2022 mentions that home delivery is compulsory, so we must have realised that the home delivery system is just a fraud. I want to ask how the minister is going to deal with this. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question –* Pu C. Ngunlianchunga.

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, as per the Minister’s reply the central government gives 5 kg of PHH; it seems that no extra kg will be given. I am asking this since I want to know if the central-state government would be able to give 3 more kg of rice.

*Secondly*, I spoke about this often in the House and even directly used to request our Supply Minister, but no results were seen. Back in those days, the MLAs, ex-MLAs, MDCs and ex-MDCs used to have ration quotas but it stopped already. Is there any possibility of bringing it back again? We all have different financial conditions; some ex-MLAs and ex-MDCs did not have any stable source of income and it is such a pity for some of them. For them to get 2 quintals of rice at a slightly lower price of ₹ 1,500/- from the government would be of great ease. Now that we have received PHH of 5 kg for free from the Central, there is no need for the state government to pay extra. My question is, “Is there any possible way to help them?”. Pu Speaker, thank you.

**SPEAKER** : I call upon hon. Minister, Pu K. Lalrinliana.

**PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. I shall start answering Pu Ngunlianchunga's question first.

The special quota for the MLAs, ex-MLAs, MDCs and ex-MDCs was terminated by the previous government and not this government.

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, today, our colleagues are starving. Some MLAs use to host around 30 to 40 guests; it's a pity for the Opposition MLAs like Pu Nihar and Pu Rokhaw as well. The Ex-MDCs only take ₹20,000/- as their pension, and sometimes their children won't be working government jobs; so, we must all show our concerns.

**PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, many people have said that already. But as we calculate the difficulties that we encountered due to COVID-19, it is hard to manage many things; we shall try it in the next term.

Regarding the Priority Household (PHH) ration card in which each household is entitled to 5kg of food grains per person per month, the Central recommended starting in December 2022. With all our preparations, we started giving out the next year i.e., January, however, it was insufficient. Since the PHH were not sufficient for their rations, the 3 kg/person that we used to add would have a price, which means it shall be sold out. It had a cost associated with it before that also. So, my reply is, "We are going to do that."

In response to Dr. Vanlalhlana's *Supplementary question*, "Are there any plans to purchase local rice produce? If so, how much for a quintal?" Yes, there is, and it is often purchased as well. The OMP rate at this time is ₹27.50/- however, this is becoming a problem now since the rates of rice bags have gone up all over India and the agencies even mentioned that cannot afford the rates anymore. I believe we shall be able to set the price based on the OMP rates that we get. At the start of this Ministry, our CM said that we would buy it and this has continued till today. Nevertheless, only in Bilkhawthlir, did we purchase 23 quintals of rice. Let's hope that we find more to buy.

Regarding home delivery of LPG Gas, the act requires to do so. It must be done in 29 AMC localities. As a pilot project, it is currently practised in 4 localities and we see that it's effective. Let me elaborate further on this for every household.

The home delivery system is not only for convenience but also for our safety against fire breakouts. Recently, a fire broke out in one place and the question was, "How many gas cylinders do they have?" We are usually concerned about that since we are scared to put down the fires unless all the cylinders finish blasting. Yes, it is quite terrifying. If we keep too many cylinders, in case of accidents, it can cause greater harm.

All the delivery boys were given training. They will bring it outside your doorstep, the cylinder will be weighed using a spring balance, only if we (the consumers) accept it, they bring it inside our house. They will check all the regulators, check if the gas is leaking or not and if it is old or not since this is important to prevent accidental fire breakouts. Once this pilot project is a success, we shall do kit in the other AMC areas as well as district headquarters. As hon. MLA, Pu Thlantea mentioned, that some YMA and Local Council representatives signed a letter which requested to wait for home delivery and in some cases, they were busy with their Christmas preparation. So, delivery point and home delivery go hand in hand as of now. That is the state we are in right now.

In reply to Dr. K. Pachhunga's *Supplementary question*, "Are there any plans to repair the roads that connect the Lunglei district Godown?" Yes, we are planning to fix it during this dry season. We shall start using whatever funds we have for minor works. Those are my responses. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : I call upon hon. member Dr. Vanlalţanpuia.

**DR. VANLALTANPUIA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Minister, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department be pleased to reply to *Starred Question* No. 43-

- a) Are the Myanmar refugees provided with rice and gas supplies?
- b) How does the government provide aid to refugees?

**SPEAKER** : I call upon hon. Minister, Pu K. Lalrinliana.

**PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. My answers are-

- a) Rice supplies are given to Myanmar refugees excluding gas supplies.
- b) The FCS & CA Department initially took the initiative when the Myanmar refugees first sought assistance. With the direction of the DC and DCSO in different districts, a total of 950.06 quintals of rice were distributed.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question*- Dr. Vanlalţanpuia.

**DR. VANLALTANPUIA** : Pu Speaker, thank you.

Based on Unstarred Question No.5, posed by Pu Vanlalhlana on 7.1.2023, government records said that there are 31,508 refugees but the Supply Department records only 15,981 refugees. As replied by the hon. Minister, assistance was given in the form of 950.06 quintals of rice, there are quite a lot of dissimilarities and the government's record was way more than the Supply Department's records. After that, there were incoming refugees from Bangladesh as well. So, my question is, "How does the government plan to administer them, and how are supplies managed for them?" and "Why are the records not the same?"

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question-* hon. member, Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng.

**PU LAWMAWMA TOCHHAWNG:** Pu Speaker, thank you.  
My question is- “Do we have sufficient stock of rice?”

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question-* hon. member, Pu K. Laldawngliana.

**PU K. LALDAWNGLIANA:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

My question is- As we see a constant supply of gas, we hardly talk about it. The Mualkhang LPG bottling plant which was initially revoked is now restored by the government and the necessary works have been done. “When will the work commence?” The other one is, “How much rice has the Mizoram government purchased in addition? How are the people going to get by during this difficult time if they can't afford to buy more?”

Currently, there has been no issue with oil; only in the case of border issues, we can't stock for more than two or three days. A land has been bought at Sairang, Sihhmui, so, my other question is, “Can we commence the work as early as possible?” Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : I call upon hon. Minister, Pu K. Lalrinliana.

**PU K. LALRINLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

Question raised by Dr. Vanlaltanpui regarding record of the government and Supply Department. The record maintain by the Supply Department were recorded according to report we received. Government record released from the Home Department is thought to be accurate than us. The government also make a definite plan to continue lending hand to refugees. Regarding monsoon stock, this has been run by the department every year. However, this year we decided to decrease the stock due to weather condition.

Hon. Member Pu Dawngtea's question regarding Mualkhang Bottling Plant, the plant need renovation as directed by the engineer. We are purchasing land for renovation and expansion the plant. They intend to start the work three month after the handover. Also, we are going to purchase foodgrain.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the hon. Member Pu Vanlalhlana to ask *Starred Question* No. 44.

**PU VANLALHLANA** : Pu Speaker, *Starred Question* No. 44 for the hon. Concern Minister to reply –



Is there an intention to have common uniform in school.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the hon. Minister Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to reply.

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, answer to hon. Member question is –

Yes, in the new academic year ie, 2023-24, a new common uniform will be introduce.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* for Pu Vanlalhlana.

**PU VANLALHLANA** : Pu Speaker, my question is - what is the reason for introduction of this new uniform. Will it brings profit and will be beneficial in education quality. Are there any other state that follow this and source of this idea.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* for Dr. Vanlalhlana.

**DR. VANLALHLANA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. My questions are -

Regarding the construction of MICE school building at Tuikual –

- i) Is inspection been perform?
- ii) Is there any intention to reconstruct, added and renovate?

Regarding construction of school building under NABAR DRIDF –

- i) Who made the DPR?
- ii) Why the contractor bid the tender where GST was omitted?
- iii) Is the Minister intend to set up an enquiry committee. What step will the Minister take to set right the wrong doing?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* for Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte.

**PU LALRINSANGA RALTE:** Pu Speaker, thank you. My *Supplementary questions* are -

- i) No. of student in government and private school.
- ii) Who select the common school uniform. Will the government distribute or to be bought.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the hon. Concern Minister Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to reply.

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, answers to hon. Members questions are as follows - Common uniform was introduced because we hope that there will be an equality among the student and we can differentiate P/S, M/S, H/S and HSS. Besides, we hope it will alleviate problem for transfer student. The colour will be like this -

- P/S level - pant and frock (navy blue), white shirt (short sleeves), and black shoe.
- M/S level - pant and frock (light grey), white shirt (short sleeves)
- H/S level - pant and frock (black), white shirt (full sleeves)
- HSS level - same and H/S level. They will have freedom in choosing like t-shirt, school bag, neck-tie, and badge.

This idea was formed by the Human Resources Development Board under SEDP Board. While viewing this official from the concern department and representative of different association such as Primary, Middle, High School and Higher Secondary School were invited to participate in the meeting. It was agreed to be introduced in 2023-24 session. After all selection for the uniform was done, official order was released by the Secretary on 24.6.2022.

As raised by some hon. members, the no. of students under the government are in P/S - 58,886, M/S - 44,607, H/S and HSS - 25434. This mean the total no. of students in the government school are 128,927. No. of student under Church and Private are 126,314. Therefore, the total no. of students in the present are 255,341.

Regarding the construction of MICE school building, this building was tendered for construction under NEDP fund in 2016-2017. When we became into power we continue the work. As such there are three different workers in this building such as

- i) The bidder when we float the tender
- ii) The worker who works under the last ministry
- iii) Workers under SMC. Therefore, it may be confusing for many regarding the works and as such there are many complaint. In some newspaper we read that Lab. building disappear and no toilet in every room/floor. However, it was build according to the drawing and in the drawing there is no lab. building and toilet in every room/floor. But we will monitor the construction and find a way to improve.

**SPEAKER** : Our time for question and answer is over. Will he continue, okay continue.

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER:** As we warned the contractor that they will not draw their bills if the work in not up to par regarding school building constructed under NABARD. Engineer are doing spot verification and bills are given out to only who are certified by them.

**PU LALDUHOMA** : Pu Speaker, are they ready for challenge in this regard. Many contractor construct without seeing the DPR. We know that half the fund is not used for construction.

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER:** I express my thanks. We have also noted how we all are committed to what we do. Some group leaders pointed out various areas of criticism and improvement, which were immediately fixed. Overall, we have tried our best.

We must remember that the tender amounts cannot be fully utilised. For example, suppose 10 lakhs were given as tender. In that case, 18% must go as GST, some percentage would go for labour cess and monitoring and in total, around 23% of the tender amount is usually deducted. It is manipulative to say that the final amount would be around half the total tender amount after calculating the contractor's profit. It is time, to tell the truth to people since they have questioned us and doubted that the contract is for 70 lakhs when we are working for 50 lakhs. They are all aware of the GST deductions, so I kindly encourage those on your left not to employ deceptive strategies like rumours. Pu Speaker, thank you.

#### **PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

**SPEAKER** : The *Private Member Business* may commence.

As mentioned by No. 27 of our Rules, we are supposed to conduct a *Private Member's Resolution* today, Friday. For this, 7 resolutions were picked through ballot which was done on 7.2.2023 (Tuesday), 12 P.M. at the office of the Commissioner & Secretary. The Bulletin already mentioned the sequencing, and we informed you all on the same day.

Let us begin with Resolution No. 1, "*The Mizoram government's excellent success in developing sports facilities is noteworthy*". May I request the hon. Member, Pu Zothantluanga to move his Resolution.

**PU ZOTHANTLUANGA:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

With your permission, I request the introduction and discussion of my Resolution, "*The Mizoram government's excellent success in developing sports facilities is noteworthy*" in the House. (**Speaker:** You may move it as well.)

Pu Speaker, when this MNF Party led by Pu Zoramthanga formed the government, we wanted to improve sports right from the start. The 'Mizoram Sports Policy 2019' was passed for the first time. The progress in sports led to the Sports Policy which was the initiative of our hon. Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga and hon. Sports Minister, Pu Robert Romawia.

With this, in every Group D, C and B non-contractual posts under the government, there is a 5% quota reserved for sportspersons. This was issued by DP & AR's order on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2019. A special promotion has been made not only for

the sportspersons but the current government employees who achieve excellence in sports.

Additionally, just like the Tourism Department has been assigned as an Industry, so is the Sports Industry that falls under the industry policy. Wherever there exists a sports infrastructure, the banking companies, businesses and private companies can now get a grip on doing business here. It is also a great improvement in Sports that the Mizoram Sports Council has been given the Technical Authority. Some rules demand the inspection of race tracks and sports facilities and that will help in the overall progress of Sports.

Our Sportspersons who achieve excellence at zonal, national and international levels came to be gifted with cash incentives. Between 2018 and 2019, weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga was given ₹15,00,000/- for bagging the Gold Medal. Similarly, hockey player Lalremsiami was given ₹10,00,000/- for earning a silver medal at the Asian Games and Youth Olympics. In the 2022 Commonwealth Games, Jeremy Lalrinnunga bagged a Gold medal and Lalremsiami bagged a Bronze medal playing in the India Hockey Team. As appreciation and to motivate other youths to try harder, Jeremy was gifted ₹25,00,000 and Lalremsiami was gifted ₹7,50,000/-.

Additionally, our government heads led by hon. Chief Minister decided to gift Remsiami a plot of land at Kolasib and Jeremy was also given a plot of land at the government's property located at Ainawn Veng, Aizawl. Both the youths show great potential and have great future. Our Governor even recommended a DSP post to our Chief Minister.

With excellent sports infrastructure and meaningful mentorship, our youths can shine at both the national and international levels. Sports is important that our youths refrain from drugs and alcohol and if the practice of sports is done rightly from the grassroots level itself, then there is hope for our youths to achieve success.

Ever since the 'Mizoram State Sports Council, Management of Assets Regulation, 2022' has been introduced, significant actions have been taken. As a provision made by the Sports Council in 2002, there has been a proper maintenance of sports assets like indoor stadiums, sports complexes and playgrounds. It was the first-ever regulation passed for the development of sports. This also opens the opportunity to work with the help of the District Administration to improve sports at the district level.

From 2019 till date, we have received Rs. 571.77 crores from the state, central and the CSR. Using the funds, we are currently installing 28 artificial turfs, 10 were completed, and 18 an ongoing work. These will be completed shortly.

From the Central and the PMKVK scheme, funds have been allotted for the construction of District Sports Complex for three districts namely Mamit (₹4,496.48 lakhs), Lawngtlai (₹5,109.43 lakhs) and Lunglei (₹4,919.31 lakhs). Different facilities came along with this such as synthetic football turf, pavilion, synthetic athletic track, multi-sports indoor and indoor shooting range etc. We know that there is an ongoing work for all these.

Not only this, a Residential Sports School has been constructed in Mamit, West Phaileng, Kawrthah, Lawngtlai and Lunglei in which ₹16,751.70 lakhs was allotted. ₹3,286.34 lakhs both for Mamit and West Phaileng and ₹3,000 lakhs were allotted for the Kawrthah, Lawngtlai and Lunglei. These schools will consist of facilities such as academic buildings, boys' and girls' hostels, multipurpose halls, table tennis, boxing, badminton and weight-lifting areas. Besides these, there will also be synthetic football turfs, RCC water reservoirs, a Principal Quarter, 8 units of teacher staff quarters, a basketball court and volleyball courts. Let me include that work has been done actively.

With the help of the Sports Department, 28 basketball courts are currently under construction and some of the courts are ready to be used. Besides these, Pu Speaker, 28 volleyball courts are also currently under construction.

In various places of Mizoram, Multipurpose Community Centres are currently under construction, 4 out of these are almost ready. On average, ₹236 lakhs were spent per community hall. Girls' hostel is also under construction at Mamit, Kawrthah, Lunglei, West Phaileng and Lawngtlai. The construction of hostels is vital since it would be useful for low-income earning families. ₹282.80 lakhs were used for the construction of these five hostels.

A good cooperation is seen between the Sports Department and our Chief Minister. Besides the department, the material components are done by the UD & PA and the RD Department. As a government, we are putting our best foot forward so that our youths would witness the developments in Sports and that they would stay away from substance use.

Today, my respect goes to our Sports Minister, Pu Robert Romawia. I also thank our Chief Minister for his effort and the other MLAs for using their MLA funds to develop various sports disciplines.

With the Chief Minister's leadership, we continue to receive funds from the state, central and CSR funds. The MMSC-REC race track, the first ever race track to be in Northeast India is an ongoing project at Lengpui using ₹ 750 lakhs. The ₹ 750 lakhs we received was not enough so we had to add some from the Chief Minister's SASCI. Soon, we'll have a motorsports race track. I sympathize with the youths who participated in competitions without practising in a good race track; now this would prove to be very beneficial for the enthusiastic youths. So, we'll see the names of our

youths on the charts winning competitions. It is a great achievement that the smallest and the youngest state in the northeast of India gets to witness this.

Additionally, the Tata Trust started the Tata Trust Grassroots Football Academy which is taken care of by our government, ₹ 50 lakhs was already given by them.

As mentioned before, healthy cooperation is seen among the different departments of the government. Currently at Vaipuanpho, Mamit District, the government is constructing the Sports Training Centre for Adventure Sports. ₹ 80 lakhs was received from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs which is currently utilised for the construction of the centre.

Now that we have the *Mizoram Rivers Drafting Rules, 2021* and the *Mizoram Aero-Sports Rules, 2021*, I believe these would surely elevate sports discipline for the youths. ₹40 lakhs have been sanctioned by the government to organise Adventure Sports Festival which is expected to increase the youths' ability in adventure sports. We can expect guests from other states if this is organized.

The 'Fit Mizoram Programme' was also held by the Sports Department with the theme of, "Healthy people make a healthy state". It was started in 2019. The Fit Mizoram Run was organised wherein various schools and college students did a marathon run and ended together at AR Ground.

Pu Speaker, it is important to have indoor and outdoor gyms. Outdoor gyms were made at MINECO and the other near R. Dengthuma Stadium. Many people make use of those. We are fortunate to have gyms that can be publicly used without spending money. Indoor gyms have been installed at Zemabawk and Dawrpui; we keep on improving in terms of gyms as well.

After attaining Statehood, we finally organized the Mizoram State Games in 2019 which was a remarkable step. That time, we competed in constituency-wise. With various indigenous games, more than 7000 youths participated. The CM's constituency was the winner and my constituency, Aizawl West –I was the runner-up, we bagged many gold medals as well. Today, many of the youths wish to have that again. It was sad that we were unable to continue that event due to Covid-19, my sympathy goes to the youths as well. They are longing to have that so they keep on maintaining their fitness as well.

Pu Speaker, this government has done a lot to develop sports infrastructure such as Khelo India, Centre of Excellence both in the state and districts. Not just the Sports Department, but the UD & PA have also made various sports infrastructure such as the Sports Stadium at Serkawn (Lunglei), Serchhip and Kolasib; basketball court at Mission Vengthlang and Mualvawm Playground at Khawzawl. Under the same department, various initiatives like, 'Construction of artificial grass volleyball court with fencing

and lighting facilities at Khawzawl', the 'Construction of multipurpose hall, including badminton and TT hall at MINECO', 'Improving of playground and laying of Astro-turf at Meisatla playground, Siaha' and 'Construction of outdoor volleyball court using Astro-turf at Khawzawl. Other initiatives included, 'Construction of gallery for the playground at Mamit' which was around ₹300 lakhs, 'Providing and laying of Astro-turf at Thosai field, Siaha', 'Extension of Chawnpui Sports Centre' that cost ₹300 lakhs, 'Outdoor Youth recreation Gym' that cost ₹ 100 lakhs, 'Construction of Playground at Edenthar' that costs ₹700 lakhs, 'Construction of Indoor Stadium at Zuangtui' that cost ₹1,400 lakhs and 'Construction of playground at Hlimen' that cost ₹690 lakhs. Besides all these, at my constituency, Zuangtui, the 'Artificial grass turf Football Ground' that cost almost ₹700 lakhs is an ongoing work. The youths are eagerly waiting for the completion.

In addition, 'Futsal ground at Mitlamual, Zemabawk', 'Multipurpose Ground High Field, Zarkawt' that cost ₹1,500 lakhs, 'Playground at Chite', 'Playground at Durtlang', 'Sports Multipurpose Hall' etc are the 24 projects that are worked on by the UD & PA led by our Dy. Chief Minister, from the State fund, from the NEC and the Smart City projects.

It is impressive that the government takes great initiatives; there would be many tasks involved from laying the foundation to the inauguration. We did not criticise the previous government had installed artificial turfs at Rajiv Gandhi Stadium, Mualpui, Kolasib, Champhai and various other places. But as time went by, the ground wore off. Similarly, the artificial turfs installed at Thumluaia Ground, Lunglei faded off and was not functional for a while. Later, our government took note of it and replaced it with a new synthetic turf. That pleased the people of Lunglei as well.

The new EAP devised the Central earmarks ₹1,250 crores for the Sports Department and ₹1,000 crores for the Tourism Department. Even though we are eagerly waiting to utilise these funds soon, it is up to the Central to hand out the funds. It is fortunate to have a strategist as a Sports Minister with the great leadership of our Chief Minister. If the same government is formed again in the next term, there will be a bright future for the youths. It is also important that the youths decisively think about choosing this government that brings a bright future and the one that paves the way for the improvement of sports.

Pu Speaker, let me end here and I request the House to support and pass this. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : 10 minutes each shall be given per person. Let me invite hon. Member, Pu Zodintluanga Ralte.

**PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

Today, we are going to discuss a Resolution. Resolutions come from the government and it is usually regarding appraisal and developments seen during their term. According to me, it must be something that would prove beneficial for all of us. For example, it would be better if we look into what's going on with our airport that is planned to be labelled as the 'cutest airport', the poor quality of construction and the number of unusable trolleys. Besides, near the border, the farmers have to get permits to work on their land at Aitlang. However, things didn't go this way.

Pu Speaker, we have an efficient Sports Minister. He would be greater than this had he not been a part of the MNF. I used to be a Sports Minister in the Congress government. Every year, we used to receive more than ₹ 1 crore from the planned budget. Now that he held the post of Minister for around 4 years, the funds he received from the government are hardly sufficient. I recently requested the Sports Minister to give us some sports balls for our constituency as there was an upcoming sports tournament. When the Director assured me that they didn't have it, I wondered how poor our government must have been. In other years, the members of the House used to issues among each other, but now there is nothing to share. Other states use funds from the District Council Affairs to help the less privileged people and to elevate education and health infrastructure. On that note, I compliment him because even without the state's support, he can drag in around 90% of PMJVK.

Unfortunately, no state support is found. In projects such as 'Aizawl Smart City', initially 50:50 was supposed to be the share but now it is 90:10 shares. The said project is about revamping the city giving it a new look and installing new developments. But, as our mover said, our Sports Minister can pull the funds for the making of fields, football grounds etc which is a great thing. Let me also mention that he has been working hard for the sportspersons and the department.

If we look at yesterday's question, we can see the number of initiatives taken for sports infrastructure under the PMJVK scheme. Pu Speaker, as take a look at the list, I think he neglects the 'Hnam Run' (MNF Office). I have also seen the part where the junior consultancy like Pu Vanlalhuma Ralte of Dinthar-I, Class-III Contractor is included. I wonder if the Hnam Run is satisfied with this or not. Nevertheless, let's expect them to perform good work.

Pu Speaker, our mover was very detailed in his speech. As there is a 5% direct recruitment for sportspersons, I would be happy to know how many staff were directly recruited under Groups B, C and D in the year 2019. I assume that it must be due to Covid-19, our government is doing a good job by theory. Sports became an Industry; rules have been amended. Despite all these, I wonder if there is a decrease in the quality of sportspersons among our youths during these four years. Before, we boasted when Mizoram was the Champion at Santosh Trophy Football. Our current Sports Minister owned the Aizawl Football Club during the time while the Congress was in power, and they were able to be the champion all over India. This time, there have been no



champions. The reason might be that we are so engaged in the infrastructure part and the contract that we overlooked the sportspersons' skills.

We recently became the champion at North East Olympic football but it was just a region; it's not all over India. While the Congress was in power, we had Rajiv Gandhi Stadium for the Aizawl Football Club as they would have no home ground. We also constructed stadiums suitable for our topography at Lunglei, Zotlang, Kolasib, Serchhip and Champhai. In some places, athletic tracks were made, some were adjusted according to the land features, and some were not up to the hopes of the scheme and the association since we live in a hilly place and we had to adjust to the surroundings.

Pu Speaker, we may call Jeremy and Lalremsiami 'the reputations of our government'. All thanks to the previous government's 'Catch them Young' policy that proved to be the lead.

Lastly, I am happy with the Ruling party bringing up this kind of resolution which highlights the development in the field of sports. Next week, our House Leader shall present the budget; it is my advice to leave a considerable amount for the Sports Department. If not for this, the share of PMJVK for District Councils that must be utilised for education, health, the uplifting of the poor people etc might be used again for Sports. So, I request the House Leader to be considerate towards the Sports Department. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Zodintluanga Ralte may kindly be permitted to leave as he has to attend a funeral service.

Now, I invite hon. Member, Dr. L. Thangmawia.

**PU L. THANGMAWIA** : Pu Speaker, it is great to hear that the MLA of Aizawl West-I, Pu Zothantluanga moved a resolution, "The Mizoram government's excellent success in developing sports facilities is noteworthy".

Mizo people love sports. When we were young, we had no good facilities unlike today; we would make footballs out of whichever plastic covers and materials that we could find, bind them all and tie them with threads from jute bags. Today, the government has heard the voice of the youth and has been performing its best. There are volleyball courts in almost all the districts and villages, even the previous MLAs and the current ones also pave the way for the establishment of playing grounds. I believe this is the first time the state has witnessed a 'revival' or the 'renaissance' in sports. The MNF government under the leadership of Pu Zoramthanga gives great importance for sports infrastructure not only from the Sports department, but also from the various departments and also from SASCI. The MLA funds seemed to be the least contributor among these.

Let me also praise the previous Sports Minister. During the initial days when the artificial turf was installed, the whole people of Mizoram and the youths in particular could not contain their happiness. It was because of that development; that we were able to compete in the I-League and Aizawl FC was able to be the champion all over India. Similarly, a new government brought a new Sports Minister....

*(Hon. Dy. Speaker takes the Chair...)*

Just like we heard the lines from the Bible, “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands,” we are now uneasy about publishing about installing artificial turfs on the news.

On the other hand, I am excited to have the first-ever race track in North East. There were times when we had to stop the car on our way from our trips since we used to meet bike racers. There are also times when they meet with accidents. Once the race track is done, they will be able to freely practice in that place. Once our officials are fine with it, I would love to visit the site.

I also want to highlight in brief the initiatives taken by the Sports department under Pu Robert Romawia Royte. During the previous government, he started by installing artificial turfs in Saitual and Hnathial. On 7.5.2018, Pu Ram Muivah, the then NEC Secretary issued an order to terminate the project and not to use the first instalment. As soon as the new government came into power, we requested the government to consider the case. Then, a letter that allows for the continuation of the remaining work was issued via the NEC Letter No. HRD SPORT/137/2017, dated 21.10.2019.

When the measurements were taken in Champhai, the in charge told us that the ground did not fully qualify as a race track. Since we somehow assumed that the measurements were not fully right, our Minister asked if they could redo it since we needed it. If there are sufficient funds later, it shall be renovated so that athletic people can make use of it.

Now that SASCI has come, our Chief Minister has also given his consent to make use of SASCI to make a futsal ground at Kawlkulh. The Central has already approved of this and we hope that the Sports Department will help us in whichever way possible. We plan to install grass and lights so it can be used at night also. Fortunately, DDL Company which is currently settled in Puilo village is excavating Kawlkulh Field No.2 for us and it is free of cost. Once it is done, we hope to install artificial turfs there. Personally, I do not support installing artificial turfs when there is only one playground. Since it will be their second playground, we shall keep thinking if funds will come from SASCI or the Sports Department. I hope the authorities take note of this.

A futsal ground will be established in Ngopa as well. Since Ngopa village is famous for Tennis, we aim to set up a court that has a quality like the ones in Aizawl,

another one shall be set up in NE Khawdungsei as well. We shall look for good spots in Teikhang village as well. I am mentioning all these since the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs (FD & ADB Division) has approved \$6.25 million for our state. It all started with the Mizoram Sports Policy of 2019 and with Sports becoming an industry, we were able to get principle approval from the EAP.

I would like to remind our leaders to take note of the details that the MLAs shall send later for further additions regarding infrastructure developments. 72% of the ₹2,250 crores (the said principle approval) shall be free and this is the advantage. Besides, 5 central ministries and NITI Aayog approved the EAP project so today I brought copies of their comments and recommendations. So, I hope that the youths remember what the government has done for their welfare.

The sports incentive was started by Pu ZH Ropuia, the Sports Minister under the previous MNF government. It remained stagnant once a new government started and when we came back to power, we resumed and even increased the amount as well. If I were to read out all the projects and initiatives taken for the development of sports infrastructure and other developments, it would take too much time. Education and sports cannot be ignored especially for our youths. We have the potential to reach greater heights. At the same time, we have to perform our best, with determination and self-control.

Overall, I support all these as developments are coming up. I also invite the other members to approve and support the resolution as well. Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : I invite hon. Member, Prof. F. Lalnunmawia.

**DR. F. LALNUNMAWIA:** Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you.

It is with great enthusiasm that I am standing here to talk about the various developments seen in the Sports Department. In our manifesto and SEDP, we mentioned that we shall take enormous steps for the improvement of Sports and the setting up of infrastructures. It is great that our Sports Minister took great initiative with the leadership of our Chief Minister. We have also received word of thanks for the progress that they have achieved. We recently went to Kawrthah and Tuidam to attend the inauguration of artificial turfs. In remembrance of the Father of the Mizo people, Pu Laldenga, a football ground was recently opened there. I still remember how everyone was so excited and happy to witness such an important milestone; it was followed by a local feast as well.

Pu Dy. Speaker, during our tenure, 10 artificial synthetic turfs have been installed while the other 18 are ongoing. Even though some people may criticize these developments, I can see the zeal of the youths. In my constituency Hmuifang, our Sports Minister helped us in the excavation of land to make a playground, known as 'Operation

Mualzavata'. They are constantly working and the local people are very happy about it. Followed by these, the villages of Chawilung and Lungsei are now going to have a proper playground for the first time, they are eager about it as well. The work was started with the help of MLA funds and other funds. The Zone Football Association even thanked the government recently for what we did for them. All these are remarkable achievements.

From the said football grounds, Muallungthu football ground was completed with the help of the Khelo India Scheme, and a hockey ground next to it is also on the verge of completion. Let's hope for their completion as soon as possible as it would prove beneficial for the local people.

Similarly, using the Smart City Project, a football ground is an ongoing construction at Hlimen. We are excited because not only the Aizawl South-III people will make use of it, but also the residents of Aizawl.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I have also heard that other than infrastructure, more than 100 Mizo boys are currently engaged with football clubs and are training in sports academies in various parts of India. Many Mizo youths have been using football as their main source of livelihood and I hope they will continue to do so. These days, getting high degrees and getting a job is not easy, so sports will continue to be one discipline that provides income for many. Besides football, the government of Mizoram is currently preparing a space for talented youths in the field of sports such as boxing, judo, weight-lifting and hockey. Let me assure you that there is a bright future for the youths.

Under Khelo India, there are plans to establish a 'Centre of Excellence' in Aizawl. So, the government will arrange training classes for youths interested in boxing, judo and weight-lifting. That will pave the way for the young determined youths to earn their living.

Pu Speaker, I am glad that 5 Residential Sports Schools will be established in various parts of Mizoram. Staying in hostels to concentrate on their selected sports discipline is favourable for them. I believe this will bring out more passion among the youth.

Pu Dy. Speaker, when sports infrastructures of central schemes, a sizeable amount of GST is poured into the state government. Receipts also came from football playgrounds and other playgrounds. Even during the COVID-19, these GSTs proved useful in times of trouble.

I am excited about our first-ever racing track in the Northeast which is ongoing at Lengpui. As we heard earlier, some people have an interest in driving. Since we do not have racing tracks, they tend to race with each other on main roads and that is not

safe at all, especially on weekends. For that reason, I am eagerly waiting to have a bike racing track at Lengpui.

Pu Speaker, during our term at the office, many Mizo youths have received gold, silver, and bronze medals in various sports disciplines. A bit of a downturn was experienced during the Covid-19, but even during 2022, more than 200 medals were bagged by the Mizo youths engaged in various sports disciplines. I hope that we will receive medals at the national and international levels.

For all these reasons, this Resolution is worth the pass and I hope the people of Mizoram also support this. I request the House to pass this Resolution. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : I invite hon. member Pu Nihar Kanti Chakma.

**NIHAR KANTI CHAKMA:** Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you.

Today, I want to start by saying that I was the one who randomly selected this Resolution.

It is great that the past and current governments make great efforts to elevate the position of sports. As mentioned earlier by one of the members, we have seen a great improvement in sports all over Mizoram.

With this Pu Dy. Speaker, let me talk about the PMGSY Scheme today in the House. Allow me to read a little passage from the Governor's speech. "The Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India, has approved ₹18,858.49 lakhs under the PMGSY Scheme for the implementation of projects in minority-concentrated areas in the state." Pu Dy. Speaker as much as that part was good to hear, it did not sit well with me when I think about my constituency, the 35 West Tuipui. All over Mizoram, there are 84 ongoing projects under the PMGSY. The mover also clearly mentioned how residential Sports Schemes were done well in 5 districts. However, no developmental projects were seen in West Tuipui Constituency. I wonder if Tlabung was ever a part of Mizoram. Even though it is a minority-concentrated area, I am thrilled that no actions have been taken to promote sports. We have talented and capable athletes, but not even a single basketball court is managed for us. In the meantime, the government has established community service centres in various places and basketball courts. I empathise with my constituency today.

Pu Speaker, Tlabung is the oldest village in Mizoram, we celebrated our 150<sup>th</sup> - year last year. It is hard to accept that even after our 150<sup>th</sup> year, we still fall short of sports infrastructure. So, I highly doubt the support of the resolution. Even though the mover has elaborated well, if there seems to be no advantage left for our constituency, then I can't be at ease as an MLA. Since this is the last year of this government, there needs to be a clarification on why these kinds of things still happen.

Certainly, the budgetary allocation for Sports is too low. I guess our hon. Minister played a trick on me once. He asked me to visit him and that I'll be given some freebies, but as I visited him, it seemed he had forgotten already. I got the opportunity so I am saying that today. As the hon. Governor mentioned in his speech, we have achieved remarkable achievements especially as we witnessed Jeremy and Lalremsiami's victory.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : 6 more minutes left. Let me invite hon. Minister, Pu C. Lalsawivunga.

**PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA:** Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. I have a limited time, so I hope you understand. Let me talk about some points concerning the Resolution.

Firstly, I was glad to hear the names of our two sportspersons in the Governor's speech. The Mizoram government adopted the Sports Policy on 15.11.2019 and 4.6.2020, it was announced as an Industry with a Junior Engineer as a technical authority, and the PWD also posted an Executive Engineer for the Industry as well. Under their leadership, a project that costs around ₹1,000 lakhs is ongoing. The Incentive Cash Award was also approved by the Council of Ministers on 22.8.2022.

The District Council and Minority Affairs and the North East Consultancy Services also signed a Deed of Agreement on 17.6.2022 and I believe they are going to work under PMJVK, I am not thoroughly sure about this yet. I am not sure if the funds that came from the PMJVK which is utilised for Sports are a part of the Deed of Agreement. If it were a part of it, that would be regarded as extreme prejudice.

Accordingly, on 22.9.2022, our Sports Minister submitted a request to the Union Minister to be enlisted in the Concurrent List. Then I went through some papers from the Assembly and prepared myself. From the various appears I went through, I came to know that ₹273.11 lakhs were received from the Khelo India Scheme and NEC Scheme, ₹200,899.41 lakhs were received from the State funds, and ₹42,203.67 lakhs were received from the PMJVK Scheme. Besides, ₹176.84 lakhs were received from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as mentioned in Article 275 (1), ₹3174.66 lakhs were received from the UD & PA Department, Govt. of Mizoram, ₹9801.120 lakhs were received from Aizawl Smart City and the total is ₹6,998.89 lakhs. These are funds that we received out of our budget. 84 projects are currently under the PMJVK and it seemed that works were finished within a span of two to four years. The others were 90%, 50% and 20%, most of it would be around 1%.

From what I found, regarding the Lunglei District, only around 1% of the work is done for the construction of Futsal Ground in Venghlun, Lunglei, Ramthar Veng, Lunglei Futsal Ground, Salem Veng, artificial turfs installed in Lunglei Hockey Ground, Electric Veng Football Field, laying of artificial turfs in Lunglei, Community Service (Lunglei), Lunglawn and District Sports Complex (Lunglei). Why don't we

execute the projects as they were meant to be during the past four years? It is almost the fifth year and why do we have only two completed projects? (**Dy. Speaker:** The time is up. But you may wind up quickly.) Thank you, I shall do it quickly. All I wanted to say is the work progress is really slow.

Why is it that big companies from outside Mizoram are doing these works while we have many who can do the same job here in Mizoram? They need the work more than them.

Sports Department has generated crores outside of their budget. Will this generate employment and help the economy of Mizoram? Farmers and other workers are begging for our help with the government citing the pandemic as an excuse. Wouldn't it be more practical to use these funds to aid farmers and other workers? Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : We will have recess and continue with the Session at 2:00 PM.

*(Recess)*

**2:00 P.M.**

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Let us call upon Dr. K. Pachhunga to start the discussion.

**DR. K. PACHHUNGA** : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. It is fortunate that sports have been declared as an industry. This will surely generate more employment for the youths. The hon. Minister for Sports Department has generate funds under sports development infrastructure and we are fortunate to have such a capable minister. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Pu VL. Zaithanzama.

**PU VL. ZAITHANZAMA:** Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. I would be discussing this resolution from another angle as I felt that there are many things that warrant unsatisfactory performance from this department.

Looking at the outcome of Northeast Olympic Games, Mizoram ranks seventh among Northeast States. This should serve as a wakeup call as I believe that even though we are ploughing more funds in sports and infrastructure, we seem to neglect the actual sportspersons. Our target should always be humans rather than money or infrastructure.

Another important point is that we need equality in every field of sports. Every discipline should be given equal importance. There is severe shortage of promotional fund and this needs to be rectified. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Dr. ZR. Thiamsanga.

**DR. Z.R. THIAMSSANGA:** Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. I am fortunate to be able to participate in the discussion for this resolution.

We have an efficient Sports Minister where; under his leadership we have seen remarkable progress in the field of sports. This includes introduction of Sports Policy in 2019, declaration of sports as an industry, better sports promotion and better sports infrastructure.

We have seen more sportspersons making name for themselves on an international stage and this undoubtedly is the benefit we reaped from having a capable sports minister. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Pu BD. Chakma.

**PU B.D. CHAKMA** : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. We have a remarkable sports minister and under his leadership we have seen many developments in the field of sports. I personally thank the hon. Sports Minister for his part in this.  
(*Pu L. Thangmawia at the Chair*)

As mentioned above, we have seen many developments in sports and have seen the birth of many sports' infrastructure. However, in the south, almost all these developments and expansion has happened in the constituency of the ruling party. I plead the hon. Sports Minister to take note and take these developments at our doorsteps.

Undoubtedly, we see development in the field of sports. However, all these funds are from PMJVK scheme which prioritize education and health. I suggest that these funds be utilized in the actual field that they intended and not only on sports. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN** : Pu Lawmawma Tochwawng.

**PU LAWMAWMA TOCHHAWNG:** Pu Chairman, I am grateful to be able to take part in the discussion of this resolution.

We are quite pleased with the sports activities, especially in the south and Lunglei District residents are quite grateful. Sport trails can be seen in every constituency and it is impressive to have the opportunity to achieve and continue to achieve development. We welcome the rapid progress in sport infrastructure as it is an important initiative for



Mizoram which belongs to the Mizo people and I am looking forward to this. The new generations will look after Mizoram when we are gone and sport is an important part of the development for our children to become mature adults.

Humans need to be mature spiritually, mentally and physically in order to live according to the purpose for which we are created. We are not perfect but we can prepare ourselves and learn to become a mature person. Sport is a useful tool for learning and it is the source of education and skills. Therefore, it is impressive that the government is taking active steps to promote sports.

The world is developing and so should our tools and resources and therefore, we need to improve our equipments as required. The government's efforts to do so are visible and tangible and we are quite impressed. Mizoram government led by the MNF party has introduced better, more advanced and international standard equipment for the youths and sportsmen and the Central funds for sports development are used to improve the state's budget.

This has stimulated the minds and bodies of our young athletes and they earn money by reputing individuals, families and the country. These are all the things that the government has provided them with equipment and sports in spite of the difficult times.

However, there is one thing that pains me. Zobawk Sports Academy in Lunglei which we have been looking forward to for a long time is about to be completed but we faced some difficulties. This could be of great value for Lunglei and it will be a source of inspiration for young people. So, I want this issue to be solved as soon as possible.

The government's efforts in sports are encouraging and the youths are mentally awake and physically stronger. Lalremsiami and Jeremy Lalrinnunga won gold at the international level and Lallianzuala Chhangte is also a prominent footballer in India. So, I hope that Mizoram will produce more talented sportsmen in the future.

In addition, the athletes are not coming home empty-handed like in the past and the government's efforts to develop youth sports facilities and other infrastructure facilities are commendable. Therefore, the progress we have seen in our government and the development we are making for the future generation increases our joy.

The MNF led government took extreme measures for the sportsmen within the year 2019-2022 and let me mention the popular achievements- Anything we want to do requires a proper plan, a proper goal, a proper step and policy is needed for this purpose. The 'Sports Policy, 2019' shows that the government has a long-term vision for Mizo people and the reservation of 5% of the government jobs for those who need and deserve is also a motivation for athletes. MSSC has been given technical authority to make sports grounds, stadiums and race tracks adequate.

Jeremy Lalrinnunga, Weight Lifting Gold Medalist was awarded ₹40,00,000 and Lalremsiami, India Hockey Team was awarded ₹17,50,000 under the Revision of Cash Incentive Award Scheme for Sportsperson on 5th September and this has inspired young athletes and shown the value and usefulness of sports.

Football, volleyball, motor sports, outdoor and indoor gym, futsal etc. worth ₹55.04 crore are also being implemented in 108 places. Pu Chairman, these things are for the benefit of Mizo sportsmen, the future generation and the people of Mizoram. We need to be grateful to the Sports department, its Minister, the Chief Minister and the state government for all these developments and we should all work cheerfully.

If the COVID-19 pandemic had not affected us for two and a half years, we would have made more developments. This government has provided us with good and useful things for sportsmen and I request you all to support this resolution. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN** : Dr. Vanlalhlana

**DR. VANLALTHLANA** : Thank you, Pu Chairman. Pu Zothantluanga, MLA's resolution – "We appreciate that Mizoram Government has made great progress in sports infrastructure development" maybe delight for the ruling party. The Sport Minister has the ability to divert more than ₹120 crore from other departments to Sports Department. While we are trying to develop ourselves, the Sports Department is allotted twice its budget amount and this makes me wonder if we are implementing equal developments. So, with such a view, this Resolution is not acceptable. Our minister is strong and intelligent but I would like to mention the weaknesses.

Firstly, our Resolution and our state's situation are incompatible. Sports infrastructure has increased, but we have to think whether our athletes are promoted and improved and whether we have won more medals.

I would like to get into the sports promotion fund because, Sports & Youth Services Department and Mizoram State Sports Council (MSSC) cannot do everything, they need a helping hand and sports associations are needed to bring together athletes and take many initiatives. We have 33 associations and ₹211 lakhs a year is spent on sports promotion fund and this is about half the cost of artificial turf. We might say that the state government does not pay the whole amount and that the Central also pays for it. However, we must think about how much we spend on state matching share in PMJVK and how much we received in SEDP. Considering this, the promotional fund is quite less. Sports associations applied for funds but received them late and there are many who have a debt of more than ₹1 lakh. So, how do we expose all these? Infrastructure maybe strong but development cannot be balanced if we ignore those who uphold from below.

We need to consider if the amount we spent on promotion is balanced with the amount we spent on infrastructure. Instead of spreading congratulatory messages on someone's success, we should think of the associations and promoters. The medal winners in sports are known to be neglected and how much have we spent on them (as we build more football fields)? What measures are taken for their treatment and training? Is it equal and balanced? Infrastructure alone is not enough.

Secondly, we have an international standard swimming pool recently and we did not win any medals at the North East Games since the association does not have the money. Trainings are required, management is required and many things are required. As I said, the infrastructure and the athletes' welfare should go hand in hand. We are obsessed with contracts and make consultancy firms where their DPRs are all the same. We have to see whether the restricted tender violates the Competition Commission rules and there might be some self explanation to do later again. Such is our approach.

We are still waiting for the measures to be taken on Ramhlun Sports Complex as promised by the Minister in 2019. MLA fund is used to repair the basketball court and now the boxing hall gym is damaged. The punching bag is said to be too hard and we provide 2 new punching bags. We paid for the painting of the tennis court floor and the mat for the wrestlers and now, the weightlifters have problems. That is our current situation. So, while we cannot manage what we have now, how can we manage what we have added? We need to think about the maintenance and the costs. Ramhlun Sports Complex is the largest sports complex in Mizoram and there is a locality below who suffers landslide often. It is also dangerous for the people who dwell near this complex and there are several cracks on the buildings. So, we need to think how measures should be taken.

Mizoram Badminton Association and TATA Trust have previously taken measures at Ramhlun Indoor Stadium. They established an Academy and it was attended by many Aizawl residents and people from various districts. They abandoned their schools and studied at the academy in the afternoon. They do not have a proper allotment anymore and we need to take measures here.

We all know what PMJVK and Smart City Project are. PMJVK 2020-2023 has new planning guidelines. Previously, sports was not included, but 'sports' is written separately in the new guidelines (the Minister will explain it as we have little time) According to PMJVK 1.2.5, it can be used separately on sports as well because we insert ourselves in between. It is also the same in Smart City Project and this is quite unfortunate since we need it more for development. Education, public development, public health care, skill development entrepreneurship etc are not the most important thing in this government but sports infrastructure is the most important thing in this government and we need to evaluate ourselves.

I have something to say and ask in advance for the concern Minister- Is there a proposal to increase Promotional Fund? Are measures taken for our residential schools? How will the Ramhlun Sports Complex be looked after and do we have DPR? Lalremsiami and Jeremy were welcomed on 20.8.2021 and the Chief Minister said that not only one hockey ground, but two or three hockey grounds will be built in Aizawl. So, is there any measure taken for this? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN** : I request hon. member Er. H. Lalzirliana.

**ER. H. LALZIRLIANA** : Thank you, Pu Chairman. Pu Zothantluanga's resolution is a 'thanksgiving' resolution, not a demand and I will be appreciative. What we are talking about today is the hardware part (infrastructure). We have to include the software if we are to talk about the hardware and they have to complement each other. The achievement we have seen in all of what we are talking about today comes into existence by having to design its own software first, and then the hardware we are talking about today has emerged. Mizoram Sports Policy, 2019 and the declaration of sports as an industry have made today's infrastructure an important outcome. It is difficult to take projects from the central government if there is no proper software for consideration. The scheme is being implemented in accordance with the PMJVK rules and Mizoram received the fund according to the rules. There is no fund limit in PMJVK and be it education or health sector, there are many things that can be drawn out under this PMJVK. The departments also submitted their projects and there is 1 project that is unsuccessful. We have submitted many projects to the Ministry of Minorities, school and health sector under this PMJVK and we are currently working on the hardware. The 'Sports Promotional Program' mentioned by our members today cannot be ignored which is also a software. Assam and Manipur have had good infrastructure for a long time and SAI, a mature stadium has been around for a long time. Therefore, the infrastructure we are building today is something that our children and grandchildren will make use in the future and the youths of today will develop with it.

It is a blessing to get used to artificial turf and sports infrastructure is the most important thing that is mentioned and requested when visiting our constituency and the infrastructures are required to be provided even with MLA funds. So, we are doing a lot of hardware today since it is what the people wants and need and there will be a time when we will work on the software. Therefore, the government's efforts to establish sports infrastructure for the future generation is not wrong at all and I believe the people of our constituencies are more than happy.

The Sports Department organized the State Games in 2019 and the competition was MLA constituency-wise. Everything was new and we had to buy and borrow something. So, if we are to do these things again, the fruits of our labor today will be seen and I believe we will have a lot of progress in each constituency. Therefore, we need to be grateful on the sports infrastructure.

There are many benefits due to this Policy and also after becoming an industry. As the mover of the resolution had said, incentives for sportsmen, reservation of Group-B and below, new rules and regulations are a pleasure for sportspersons. The New Education Policy gives extreme importance to sports and it includes sports in curricular activities. According to the policy, every school should have a playground/playfield but it is difficult here in Mizoram. It wants four or five schools to share a playfield and we need to use it to improve our education.

Therefore, Pu Dy. Speaker, I support Pu Zothantluanga's resolution. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : I request Pu Lalchhuanthanga.

**PU LALCHHUANTHANGA:** Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. The mover of this resolution moved a resolution on June 21, 2019 and the resolution was - "We are pleased that the MNF ministry repaired the bad roads along Zoram within a short period of time". We discussed it and we support it. However, less than a month later, our roads were completely damaged till today.

Earlier, the hon. Chief Minister said that we could repair the damage roads within this dry season but will this resolution truly help us achieve reality? (*interruption*) The roads are damaged and even the Chief Minister does not deny it. We have excellent fields for sports but it seems that the previous and present governments are competing on laying artificial turfs. Mizo sportsmen have won medals in combat and contact sports, but today we don't have a contact sports center for them. Mizo sportsmen usually won medals in combat and contact sports and it is disappointing that we still do not have contact sports center for them.

We should keep in mind if there is a warranty for our artificial turfs and if we have a maintenance agreement with the contractor because these things are expensive and they can get damaged easily if there is no proper caregiver. Is anyone from Sports Department appointed to manage these turfs because the huge amount of money we spent will only be wasted? As mentioned by Dr. Vanlalhlana, a huge amount under PMGVK has been diverted. There are 70 projects under PMGVK, of which 63 are in the field of sports. This scheme is used by neighboring states for education, health and clean water supply. So, we may be developed in sports but could we utilize this scheme for the state's wellbeing as well?

The Sports Department diverted ₹3174 lakhs under UD&PA and the fund for our locality development is diverted to a great extent. ₹9,801 lakhs was also diverted from Aizawl Smart City for sports. A huge amount of our budget is spent for sports and while our budget is ₹14,000 crore, sports is ₹24.22 crore. Why do we spend more money on sports infrastructure than on large departments and what is the point of diverting from other sources?

An international-standard swimming pool at Lawibuai, ITI in my constituency was built at a cost ₹4 crore during the Congress government. However, the site is not being decorated and renovated properly and it is now abandoned. I am surprised that we do not want to pursue this and it is wrong to abandon it since a lot of fund was already spent on this. The government is again spending a lot of fund on futsal these days and while futsal is not a bad sport, there is no medal for it. So, it would be wise not to spend a lot of money on those sports that do not come with a medal. Less than 10% of our youth are involved in sports in every neighborhood and village. So, what do we do with the rest of the youths because they also wanted to work and earn a living? What is the government's effort for the development program? If we care about the future generations, can we help those who are not interested in sports and provide them with their own interests, careers and training?

We have excellent sport facilities but we are like a fancy kitchen that is nothing but empty. It is important that we promote our sportsmen, athletes and individuals. We do not criticize sports but other things such as employment opportunities for the youth should be considered as well and we should be aware of the interests of the youth in various fields.

That will be all and thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : I request Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo

**PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO:** Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker and I appreciate the resolution moved by Pu Zothantluanga. First of all, I would like to say that we are misunderstanding things and the reason is that member Pu Zodintluanga said that “Catch-them-Young” was implemented by the previous government. However, Catch them Young was launched in 2005 when Dr R. Lalthangliana was the Education Minister and the current Sports Minister was working in the Education Department. Pu Lalchhuanthanga commented that there is no medal in futsal and I would like to apologize to the Futsal Association of Mizoram on his behalf.

Pu Zothantluanga's Private Resolution is a very important matter for sports-lovers and I am afraid that the 40 elected representatives of the state will act in a way that is not the opinion of sports-lovers. 20 years ago, I was involved in MFA which is Mizoram's largest sports-discipline football governing body and we did not have good infrastructure in those days. We would often face difficulties when we held national-level, North-East-level and State-level sports tournaments in the field. We would carry balu from Sairang and volunteers donated money to prevent too much dust. Today, Pu Zoramthanga's government has taken extreme steps in sports infrastructure development for the youths.

In addition to the many initiatives of the Sports Minister, members in their respective constituencies have done their utmost in this infrastructure development. Pu

Dy. Speaker, with your approval, the Rural Development Department spent ₹1,618.7 lakhs on sports infrastructure projects for Construction of Field at Vengthar Champhai and Construction of Playground at S. Chawngtui. I also prepared futsal grounds in Ailawng, Kanghmun and Darlung under Reiek RD Block, which are not covered by PMJVK and volleyball ground was also constructed at Bawngthah. Thus we worked in various ways.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I think the people on your left misunderstood the guidelines of PMJVK. This was launched by the Central government under the name 'MSDP' (Multi-Sector of Development Project) 10 years ago and sports were all possible there. However, because of the difference in our interpretation with the Central Government, the Sports Minister of this government took the initiative and asked the exact definition of 'minority' and he was told that it meant "religious minority". Therefore, we could use it only at W. Phaileng RD Block, but not at Reiek. Similarly, the MSDP was introduced in Lunglei and Lawngtlai, but as the definition has changed, it has been implemented throughout Mizoram recently. What was impossible in the past is now possible and many other areas that PMJVK does not cover are not covered. So, I would like to point out here in this honorable House that projects can all be made.

Pu Dy. Speaker, the budget of the Sports Ministry was spent on several sports-disciplines and we did not have good infrastructures. Today, this government has taken enthusiastic steps to establish sports infrastructure. For example, we only deal with football artificial turf at some places and State Training Center for Adventure Sports is established at Vaipuanpho in my constituency which is also made use by other States as well. Mizoram Government is planning to hold an Adventure Sports Festival for which ₹40 lakhs has been sanctioned from Central. Thus, this government has taken active steps to recognize the thirst of our youths. Covid-19 has ravaged the world for all those years and churches have not been able to attend meetings, all schools were closed and development programs cannot be implemented as the government wishes. However, since its inception, the government has taken visible steps in the fields of daily food and essential commodities, power and electricity, PHE, education, health, food security, national security and border issues.

Therefore it is wrong to assume that we took measures only on sports and that we abandon other developments. This government is implementing fair governance in the establishment of sports infrastructure and does not differentiate a ruling and opposing constituencies. For example, artificial turfs were laid at Tuidam and Kawrthah recently and Volleyball and basketball pavilions are also under construction at Zawlnuam.

Therefore, I support today's resolution moved by hon. member Pu Zothantluanga and I am confident that this will improve the future of our youth. Thank you.

**PU K.T. ROKHAW** : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. The members sitting on the left side are not saying that they do not agree with the resolution, they simply mention what they feel dissatisfied. I agree with this resolution and I believe my friends feel the same way.

Sports infrastructure development is due to the fact that the previous Congress government established many infrastructures. Since then, our present strong minister has done his utmost and today we are making progress in sports. The Congress government did its utmost between 2008 and 2018 to build a lot of infrastructure. So, it would be impressive if the ruling members and Pu Zothantluanga agree to the resolution as- “Mizoram government has made great progress in sports infrastructure development under the current government and the previous government”. However, that is the mover’s decision.

Pu Dy. Speaker, the truth is that it was the Congress government that set up a lot of infrastructures. Several Training centers were established for various sports disciplines and athletes made great progresses. Rajiv Gandhi Stadium-Mualpui, Zotlang Sports Stadium-Champhai, Lena Sports Stadium-Lunglei, Sports Stadium-Kolasib, Sports Stadium-Serchhip, Hockey Astro Turf-Thenzawl and other stadiums were also built by the previous government. It is difficult to mention all of the works. Similarly, measures were also taken in Lawngtlai and Siahia districts. Artificial grass at Lammual, Thuamluaia Mual in Lunglei and Chhangphut Field in Champhai were also carried out and it is impressive that the present Minister continues to take extreme measures. Football playgrounds were excavated in 125 places by the then Congress government. Not only these, special time and training facilities are provided for sports disciplines under MSMSS like- Boxing Hall-Ramhlun Sports Complex, TT Hall-Mission Veng, Taekwondo and Power Lifting Hall-Republic Veng, Judo Hall-Zemabawk, Hockey Astro Turf-Kawnpui, Outdoor Artificial Climbing Ground II-Lunglei, Hawla Indoor Stadium-Republic Veng, Semi Indoor Stadium-Aizawl and Aizawl Cricket Stadium-Sihhmui. Measures were also taken on Indoor Stadium Hostel and Mini Sports Center Complex, Dengthuama Indoor Stadium- Saidan, Kolasib, Ramhlun Indoor Stadium-Saron Veng, Aizawl, Multi-Purpose Hall- Lunglei, Multi-Sports Centre- Muallungthu, Sports Center- Phulpui, Multi-Purpose Center for Northern Region- Darlawn, Mini-Sports Complex-Lengpui, Sports Hostel-Mualpui, and many others.

The reason why I am saying this is that the Congress government did its utmost in sports as well. Our CLP Leader, Pu Zodintluanga was the Sports Minister at the time and we are proud of our leaders’ efforts. The MNF government is formed today and I praise our Minister for his efforts and progresses. However, we should not forget the initiatives taken by the previous government. Elections will be held in December 2023 and should the MNF party falls and another party forms a new government, they would be heartbroken if the new government does not appreciate their works. So, we would be much obliged if the words ‘previous government’ is added to the resolution.



On July 15, 2011, Catch-them-Young program was inaugurated in Kolasib and this has helped talented youngsters to pursue various sport disciplines. They are identified and trained to go deeper in sports and Jeremy Lalrinnunga, a weight-lifter, who won gold medal in Commonwealth games, 2022 was also sought from Catch-them-Young. Lalremsiami also represented India at the 2018 Hockey World Cup and she also won a bronze medal for India in the Asian Games. Mizoram's reputation is the result of this Catch-them-Young initiative and I do not want this to be forgotten.

In conclusion, regarding the 'Scheme for Implementation of Projects in Minority Concentration Areas in the State' Siaha is excluded and this pains us. We have an autonomous district council since we are a minority and we were hoping to be included. On the other hand, Lawngtlai, Lunglei and Mamit districts are included and Futsal, volleyball court, artificial grass field, community hall, sports complex and many others are available here. Therefore, I urge the Government to take equal steps in Sports, Health and Education. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : I request Pu K. Laldawngliana

**PU K. LALDAWNGLIANA:** Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. Mizoram is a small state and 60% of the voters are the youths. Therefore, it is great that the government and departments are aware of the needs of the youths and it is pleasing to have the opportunity to discuss the infrastructure development. This resolution is prepared by the current government and we did not say that the measures took by the previous government are bad. We are all pleased with the works carried by the current government.

The majority of the people from my constituency requested playground fields and Kawnpui field –II is currently under construction. Several measures are taken on Kawnpui Chhim Veng futsal ground and Hortoki volleyball court. Sports infrastructure is needed by the youth and young sports-lovers and sportspersons want more infrastructures. We always try to be successful and win gold medals right away but the success of this infrastructure will be determined in the future. We should be thankful that we received a lot of fund from the central apart from our budget and we should be grateful to have a Sport Minister and Chief Minister who take extreme measures to achieve this. Sports policy is also being implemented and I would like to congratulate Jeremy Lalrinnunga and Lalremsiami on their outstanding achievements and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

I am pleased with the fact that we have made tremendous progress in the establishment of sport infrastructure today. Therefore, I support this resolution to be passed. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : It is already 4:00 pm and there are still many members who want to share their opinions. So, should we continue the discussion or should we let him windup?

**PU LALCHAMLIANA, MINISTER:** Private Member Resolutions are analyzed until 4 pm unless it is necessary. So, arrangements are made with the concerned minister and the Opposition Leader for this purpose and it is inappropriate to cross the time limit every time. So, we should make arrangements to end the session at 4:00 pm when we are discussing the Private Member Resolution.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Do you all want to continue? I request hon. member Pu Lalrindika Ralte.

**PU LALRINDIKA RALTE:** Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I will not show my appreciation today. If I were the Sports Minister and NECS is managed by my close family, it makes me wonder if the members who are thankful today would be thankful if they knew everything that went into the selection process.

The developmental works in my constituency is used as a weapon to form MNF party and MNF VC and this is quite inappropriate. These are the reasons why I cannot support it and it is not right for the state leaders to use public money to strengthen and expand ones party. I would like them to change their minds if there are such leaders. So, I would like to say that I cannot support today's Private Members Resolution. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER** : Dr. Vanlaltanpuia

**DR. VANLALTANPUIA** : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker and I would like to support the Private Members Resolution of Pu Zothantluanga. I would like to commend Pu Zoramthanga, Chief Minister of Mizoram for being such a great leader and Pu Robert Romawia Royte, Sports & Youth Services Minister is a minister whom Mizoram needs. Capital expenditure is low every year especially in the North East States and Mizoram received a large fund to start new developments because of the enthusiasm and the knowledge of Pu Robert Romawia, who is worthy of praise.

As Chairman of the Mizoram Youth Commission, I would like to express my gratitude on behalf of the youth and it is impressive that young people have access to world-class facilities. Lunglei North has been given several development projects like Laldenga Futsal Ground in Pukpui and 2 Semi-Indoor Stadiums at Serkawn and Zotlang.

Sports & Youth Services Department is among the most commendable departments in this resolution and measures are also taken under UD&PA and RD. District Council & Minorities Affairs is among the commendable departments. It is

remarkable that around ₹800 crore has been spent on infrastructure for youth development and it is impressive that we could collect this much fund from PMJVK, Khelo India, NEC, SASCI, CSR, SEDP and GIA. So, I would like to thank the Minister in charge for these initiatives.

Infrastructure can be classified as physical and non-physical- Physical is something we can usually see and this is also what we all targeted the most. The physical infrastructure development carried out by this government includes - New playground, new stadium, new pavilion, viewing gallery, volleyball court, new basketball court, Motor Sports-racing track, futsal ground, multi-purpose hall/complex, recreation centre, Sports Residential School, District Sports Complex, community service centre, Girls Hostel for Sports School, hockey ground, tennis centre, outdoor gyms in several places, artificial turf in football grounds, hockey grounds and futsal grounds. So, the achievements of this government are quite impressive.

Next is the 'non-physical' infrastructure. The physical assets I have mentioned above are possible due to the non physical infrastructure. Mizoram Sports Policy, 2019 has been revised to give 5% reservation to sportsmen in government jobs (below Group B). Therefore, sport is also designed to be used as a real employment in the industry. Mizoram State Sports Council is given technical authority status and it is ideal that they can punish and inspect contractors who did terrible works. Incentive for athletes is also revised and I am pleased that the Sports department has made such reforms under the leadership of the Sports Minister. District Sports Committee regulations revision, aero-sports rules, river rafting rules, etc. are also being implemented and it is clear that Mizoram Sports Department is committed to development.

*(Hon. Speaker at the Chair)*

Pu Speaker, the physical and non-physical development of the state has begun to yield promising results. Jeremy Lalrinnunga won a gold medal in the Commonwealth Games and Lalremsiami won a bronze medal in hockey and a silver medal in the Asian Games. Jeho Himnakulhpuia is a promising TT player and we have Lalrinsanga, NT Lalbiakkima, John Kenty and Lalawmpuia who are professional fighters in boxing.

Lallianzuala Chhangte, one of the hottest players in the ISL, is currently playing for Mumbai FC and he is extremely well paid. Pu Jeje Lalpekhlua, Jerry and many of our young footballers also played well. Pu David Zohmangaiha climbed the Himalayas and Lalruattluanga of ITI Veng won the Arm-wrestling Championship. It is clear that we will soon be the fastest bike and motorcycle riders in India when we give our young riders a race-track. Therefore, I think that the immense contribution of Sports department is commendable and I support this resolution. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Private members resolution debate always ends at 4:00 pm and we should continue to do so. It is also not pleasant to hear repeated words again and again. I request Pu Ngunlianchunga.

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Thank you, Pu Speaker. I believe the practice in this House is flawed and looking at this ruling's resolution, it is a self-praise resolution. This House is a place where resolutions are passed for the betterment of the state and the people. However, we are busy with our own praise and this is not the way to proceed in the coming future.

Pu Speaker, extreme measures are taken on sports infrastructure and projects are also being implemented in my constituency as well. However, the English-proverb says, "Buy what you need, not what you want" and ordinary families and ordinary people maintain and live by that. There is no great family that buys what it wants and not what it needs.

Is sports infrastructure the most important thing for Mizoram today? This government once said that we will eat and buy our own produce but the Supply Minister earlier said that there is nothing to buy. Lawngtlai West has a lot of potential areas for agriculture at Tuichawng and Balesora and there are also many in Tlabung and Chawngte. However, there are too many infrastructures in Lawngtlai district alone and this is not the answer to our needs.

It is impressive that measures are taken in Lawngtlai but it will only be a huge burden if there is no one to take care of it. Residential School at Lawngtlai is currently implemented with ₹3461.07 lakhs at Lawngtlai College veng and measures are taken on College veng field which was excavated by the previous Congress government. However, there is no more space to establish Basketball and volleyball courts and then a separate volleyball court was built in the nearby village of Chawnhu. Its building is currently constructed and the buildings are supervised by various people. Is there a post created for instructors, principals, coaches, quarter construction workers? A sports complex at Lungleng was built during the Congress party government and large buildings were built. However, there was no one to occupy and take care of the buildings and I am afraid it will only end up like this.

District Sports Complex at Mampui worth ₹5,019.43 lakhs is currently under construction. The scheme is good but can we implement it for real? Polytechnic buildings were built in various districts during the Congress government but those buildings are now in ruins due to lack of manpower and it is turning into a forest with no inhabitant. Pu Speaker, does the state needs this initiative if there are no caretakers to look after these big projects?

In case of handing jobs, MS Junior Consultancy Service will work on 55 projects regarding basketball and volleyball courts. So, it would be great if House Committee is

established or if ACB do investigations. M/S Decor India, GS Road, Guwahati is a company that is involved in all kinds of big projects and this is quite suspicious as well.

If we put all these in Agriculture & Allied, we will become self-sufficient in food and livelihood as we need food security today. Artificial turfs were laid in several district headquarters during the Congress government and there were also some projects we have not yet completed. Today, artificial turfs will be laid on Lawngtlai Central YLA field and Lawngtlai Vengpui field. Lawngtlai district has less than 20,000 inhabitants. Malsawmtluanga and Jeje are national players because they are special and not because of artificial turfs.

So, artificial turfs are good as long as our state is developed with good roads and we are self sufficient. However, we are not and we could not even pay salaries to the government employees.

In the meantime, this project is not 100% free as 10% is to be paid by the state and this project is a continuation of MSDP's previous work. According to the PMJVK guidelines, Lawngtlai, Lunglei and Mamit districts were selected for 'minority concentration area' where the minority stands for 'religious minority'. (Speaker: you have reached the time limit) Pu Speaker, this is important. Pu KT Rokhaw made a request today and we will include Siaha and Tlabung in the next term when we form a new government. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Vanlalhlana

**PU VANLALHLANA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Given this 'relative precedence of private members resolution', the resolution on sports infrastructure was moved by four members. Therefore, it is clear that this department is very important and the minister of the department is worthy of praise. The minister in charge is a powerful person and the House Leader even said that we have no regrets having him. So, he is likely to be a notable man.

It is a common saying that Mizoram government is in financial difficulty. However, it is quite abundant in the fields where it is abundant. ₹609 crore is sanctioned in the Sports Department for the year 2019-2020 where Khelo India, State fund, KMJVK scheme, UDPA-Aizawl Smart City etc are the fund sources.

If we look at the Unstarred Question - 184 works are available under PMJVK, 29 works for volleyball court alone and 29 works for basketball court. Volleyball court construction is ₹31.2 crore per court and basketball court construction is ₹102.59 crore per court. Junior Consultancy Service has taken over 58 works and we have no idea who they are. So, I hope our Minister knows about this and tells us.

If we look at the answer to the Unstarred Question, Chaltlang Sports Multi-purpose Hall, which is to be built under Aizawl-Smart City is scheduled to start work on Monday (September 22, 2022). However, the work has not yet started. Our Minister also promised us a futsal ground before the Local Council election but it is not yet constructed and I want to use this time to remind him.

I am proud of our Minister as he is strong and he knows his way. PMJVKY guideline states that 80% of the budget should be used for education, health and scheme development while 30% should be used for women's development. However, Mizoram has invested a lot in sports infrastructure development and I am amazed how he did it. There are many health and other departments that do not have enough funds and how did the Sports department pull this off?

On the positive side, we have a proper Sports Policy and sport infrastructure thanks to our powerful Sports Minister. However, infrastructure alone is not enough. Sports promotion and sports infrastructure maintenance are also as important as infrastructure. We are very weak in sports promotion and sports disciplines are not getting the fund they deserve and they do not have good coaches which caused problems.

Jeremy Lalrinuanga and Lalremsiami are also mentioned a lot. However, sports promotion is not given enough importance and it is not taken seriously enough by the Mizoram government. It is the Governor who wrote to the Chief Minister to appoint Jeremy Lalrinuanga as DSP. It is the government's responsibility to honor such achievers if we value sports. Sports infrastructure is a good thing but we also need to maintain it as it is the sportsmen who will make use of it. Our sportsmen also need good coaches to train them and to care for them. The current approach is not enough where trainings and sport promotions should also be given priority along with good infrastructure. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Lalduhoma

**PU LALDUHOMA** : Pu Speaker, the budget for Sports & Youth Service Department was 0.17% which is ₹24 crore but it has increased to ₹ 800 crore today. We need extra fund in Agriculture & Allied, Power, Health and Education but most of it is diverted to the Sports Department and we could not even pay salaries to our police, government employees, ASHAs & wildlife preservation employees, pensioners and sick people are unhappy. We are not unhappy with sport infrastructure and we are not criticizing it, we are saying that the way we set our priority is wrong. This much fund is diverted from NEC scheme, State fund, PMJVK, Article 2.75(1) Ministry of Tribal Affairs, UD&PA and Aizawl-Smart City for Sports Department and I have taken this data from the 2019-2020 SYS achievements made by their own Department.

The department received around ₹7 crore under SEDP from the 2019-2020 State Fund and there is also a question asking how much money is spent on sports from PMJVK. 84 works have been provided under PMJVK and ₹436.22 crore has been spent on sports from PMJVK alone and ₹963 lakhs was also received from 2020-2021 SEDP Capital. People expected ₹3 lakhs under SEDP but only ₹25,000/- is released today. So, we have diverted a huge amount to Sports Department and could this be the reasons why we could not give more SEDP to the people. ₹37 crore from SASCI, ₹7.5 crore from CSR & REC and ₹8 crore from Mizoram government are also operated. PMVJK guidelines state that 80% should be spent on health, education and skill development which are the top-3 priority. Many funds are spent on the least important things and funds are diverted in contrast to the central's guidelines.

The Sports department tries to make sports relevant to health on their DPR and if this is the case, food and water are much more important for health and we should provide the funds to the Supply department and PHE as well. The empowered committee also gave advice to allot more funds on skill development. We are all aware of the bad situations of our schools and we need more funds for Health Department. So, we are saying that it is wrong to allot this much fund to the department that is not a top priority while the priority departments receive nothing.

Pu Thangmawia said that sport renaissance has taken place and it is almost shameful when PR on artificial turf was released. So, it seems that the ruling MLAs and Ministers are also agreeing that it is too much. PMJVK agreement was signed with NECS and new contractors and consultative firms which are unheard of have emerged under NECS. It is said that they charge 5% and this is too much. Our funds are used for Sports but not for the state's development and needs. The DPR and its format are said to be one man's work and the way we set out priority is not balanced at all.

Kawrtethawveng Basketball court was completed with ₹15 lakhs but it is ₹102.15 lakhs according to the estimate. So, where did the rest of the money go? ₹ 211.7 lakhs is allocated for promotional fund and the total promotional fund is not even equal to the amount of one sports project. Funds are not fully received in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 and this year's financial year is coming to an end. Therefore, the 33 associations are looking for sponsors and they would ask the MLAs and the rich for help when there is a tournament. The MLAs welcomed them when they came to Aizawl and we have to take care of their travels and food during their stay here. So, MLA fund also suffers a lot.

Miriam Lalnunsiami was injured in the North East Olympic Women's team match and she was admitted to a hospital where MFA donated ₹20000 and her friends donated the rest. The total bill amount is ₹60,119 and they were able to cover it barely. We only think about the infrastructure and we neglect the actual sports. We are currently in short supply of kits and equipments like jerseys and footballs. For example, in my constituency Serchhip, we have no District Sports & Youth Service Officer and no staff

and they could not give us a chowkidar in our Sports Complex. Carpets for taekwondo and karate are not available and there are no proper venues for Contact Sports. Coaches used to travel at rural areas to give trainings but what are our coaches doing today? 60 academies are opened but we have to be sure which is more important- Quality or quantity and how do we maintain it? What is the point of having a good school building but bad teachers? Lawipu has an international standard swimming pool but the swimmers are not of international standard. So, it is the human that we need to promote.

Sports Associations are not taken seriously by the current government. Lalremsiami's medal celebration was held at Vanapa Hall but the Hockey Association was not given any important role. MFA officials were also invited as guests of honor at the inauguration of Thuamluaia Mual at Lunglei but they were excluded from the program saying they have nothing to do in government functions. So, they tried to storm off but Lunglei people begged them not to go home. Para-gliding World Cup was held in my area and MASA was in charge of everything. However when the day came, we only saw the Sports Minister and his friends while the workers were not even included in the program. Therefore, it seems that we do not know how to cooperate with associations since we dissociate with them. They look after the association and the MSSC should give more powers and responsibilities to them. TATA Trust and MSSC are currently working together where TATA Trust contributed ₹50 lakhs and MSSC contributed ₹30 lakhs. They are paying more than what we used to pay the MFA. MSSC is currently handling grassroots football which was previously handled by the Association.

I will praise the 2018 Congress government. In collaboration with TATA Trust, Mualpui Police 3rd Bn Complex was established as one of the best Center of Excellence in India. However, this has stopped and this is worth investigating. It is inappropriate to be disinterested in others works just because we are not prominent. This is also one reason why our sports are going downhill. We were ranked sixth out of the eight states in the Shillong Olympics held on November, last year and there are only two below us. That is how low we have gotten.

District Sports Committee is reformed and Sports Policy, 2019 is initiated. Most of the District Sports Associations did not support this and resolutions were passed. However, they refused to listen and they appoint DC as Chairman. Secretary and Treasurer are appointed and block leaders are casually appointed for these in some places. Therefore, the District Sports Committee should be re-established as it was in the past.

Therefore, I would like to conclude that the government should use this resolution to examine oneself and set priorities from here. This resolution is a good thing to revive the government. Therefore, we cannot pass this resolution as it is.

**SPEAKER** : Dy. Chief Minister Pu Tawnluia



**PU TAWNLUIA, DY. CHIEF MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, our Honorable House Leader has to attend another important committee today. I think we are all interested in this Resolution and despite the words of enthusiasm, today's resolution is worthy of being put forward and discussed. Mizoram Government's various initiatives for the welfare of the youth were heard and Government initiatives in sports sector in particular were appreciated. So, it is inappropriate not to be thankful and I agree to this resolution.

It is impressive that Mizoram has Sports policy, 2019 and it seems that we are among the first in India to have this policy. 5% reservation for sportspersons in Group B of government jobs is impressive and the government has also taken steps for the development and progress of the youth. Mizoram Government's efforts in the field of sports for the youth are also appreciated. Apart from the Sports Department, the RD and UD&PA also take many initiatives for the youth.

Artificial turf which is used in international level football is now available in various parts of Mizoram and state games was held for sports development. It is a pleasure to see our young sportspersons making great progress at State, national and international levels and I am pleased that we have made rapid progress as team members in international level competition teams. The Sports Minister has taken extreme steps and our Chief Minister also plans the State share for the future of the youth.

I would like to say that UD&PA has never taken the initiative in sports, especially playground and indoor stadium. We came to know each other through DPR and we work with the Sports Department on technicalities and standards. The Sports Department is consulted on their concerns in the Smart City initiatives and there are many youth concerns, not necessarily sports, and everything is done with the concerns department. These infrastructures are developed with the cooperation of various departments and the concern ministers and that is why we are able to fulfill these achievements. Therefore, I request every member to unanimously pass this resolution. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Hon. Sports Minister, Pu Robert Romawia.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** Thank you, Pu Speaker. Private Member Resolution on sports infrastructure development was moved today and I would like to thank Pu Zothantluanga, Aizawl West-I MLA for moving this resolution. I would also like to thank the MNF party for drafting and sponsoring the resolution.

First of all - I think this is the first session on sports since our sportspersons like Jeremy Lalrinnunga, Commonwealth Games gold medalist, Lalremsiami, our hockey star and many others have had success. Recently, Mizos have many famous names in the world and we now have world champion in boxing. Therefore, I wonder if they are the reason that this sports resolution idea came about and I want to show my appreciation today.

I was a newcomer to this House and I was appointed as the Sport Minister on my first entry. The funds allocated for Sports department was so less during the 2019 budget session and some members even made fun of it. However, it is said to be too much today. On the other hand, the reason for our success is due to the contributions made by our Ministers Pu Tawnluia, Pu Lalrindika and a good cooperation under the leadership of our Chief Minister.

I would like to say that the sports budget in Mizoram Annual Plan is still decreasing and I understand the lack of sports promotion mentioned by the members. However, increasing Mizoram budget is not easy and COVID-19 was also spreading. I would like to say that everything that our honorable members have said today is noted by us.

I would like to react to Pu Lalduhoma before I forget. It is a misunderstanding when he said that funds are diverted for sports when it should be used for education and skill development which is in contrary to PMJVK guidelines. So, this makes me wonder if he read the guidelines carefully. It said that at least 80% of PMJVK resources should be used for education, skill development and others meaning the fields we have created will be used by college students under education, the halls we have built will be used for skill development (**Pu Lalduhoma:** Pu Speaker, it clearly says that 80% is for education, health and skill development. While the majority of the fund is to be used for education, health and skill development, it is not right that most of the fund goes to sports). What it actually means is that at least 80% should be utilized for education, sports, health. Anyway, I know what you mean and the resources are halls, football fields etc. The newer scheme includes sports and tourism as well. The Government of India will not plan PMJVK to be sanctioned illegally.

**PU LALDUHOMA** : Pu Speaker, you said that Mizoram has IT-3 and 1000 seats during the 36th Empowered Committee meeting. However, IT related proposals are limited in your scheme and that is why you are advised to promote LESDE and ITI related proposals from now on. We all have your last proposal too and we know that you are exaggerating than before.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** We should respect the House and stop saying incomplete words. (**Pu Lalduhoma:** If you think that I make this up ... Shall I read his minutes? Pu Speaker, it is written here) I did not say you make up, many things are written beside that. The minutes of 36th Executive Committee were known to the implementing department. (**Pu Lalduhoma:** Yes, I have the copy of the 37th meeting minutes and the implementing board meeting as well) We would all have it since it is on the website for everyone. (**Speaker:** address the Chair when you argue and do not speak direct to each other)

Therefore, Pu Speaker, why are some things said and some things are not fully said? I'm afraid that this will be a new system because people can have wrong ideas and

unhealthy opinions when people know only half the truth. I know the minutes of the 36th meeting, the dates of the meeting and the discussions. Nothing can be done in Mizoram due to Covid-19 and the finance department cannot provide funds to us.

In conclusion, funds cannot be spent against the guidelines whether it is PMJVK or Aizawl Smart City and funds that are sanctioned cannot be received instantly. Officials will not like it and the ministers also do not like it. Therefore, according to the guidelines, we are a State government and have the same powers as the 'central government' according to the 7th schedule of the Indian Constitution. We are not to follow the central government's orders like a servant Whether it is PMJVK, Aizawl-Smart City or Khelo India, the appraisal system, verification system, screening system and sanctioning system are carefully developed by many departments and ministries. The Empower Committee which includes representatives of various ministries approved all the 84 projects as legal. In short - 100% of the resources we have created from PMJVK can also be used for education and skill development.

I think it is a good idea to talk about 'NECS'. I named this NECS which I found it while I was working under the government. It went through many difficulties but there has never been such a thing about suspicions. NECS in Lawngtlai was mentioned and I am afraid the contractors and monitoring teams will feel hurt. I will clarify the agreement made between NECS and PMJVK (**Pu C. Ngunlianchunga**: those who knew spoke of it and the monitors also knew about it. We did not make this up) The agreement between NECS and DCMA for the PMJVK project was signed in 2022. I want the departments to receive ₹500 crore and ₹ 600 crore in PMJVK as other states receive at once and likewise the DCMA also took extreme measures. There are some departments who cannot prepare the DPR from their own departments and thus agreement was signed for them to consult. The fees are 1% or 1.5% depending on the amount issued by the Finance Department. They will not take wages if they do not release the money and they are not hired the same way as other consultants. It is my son's firm, not mine.

Please forgive me for feeling a bit sentimental in some way today. NECS motors have not been running for the past two years and I was heartbroken when I visit the place where they put together. 20 trippers and 7 JCBs or so, have been out of order for a while. They would want to work and they would want to earn a living but they have not found a job yet. I do not want them to work under my department since this will create scandal and they agreed as well. The agreement signed did not include any employment. DCMA wants them to release funds from central and that is why it was signed. They will not have any power even when the money is released. It is like the agreement we had with Nagaland. (*..interruption..*)

**SPEAKER** : We will talk about the demands later.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** I will talk about MASA first. MASA para-gliding is often said as 'a thing done without us' and the issues are often mentioned in the bye-election campaign. But, it is essential for our hon. members to know that Mizoram government has contributed a lot of money. There are many associations whom we have worked with and none have proclaimed us as being authoritative (*..interruption..*)

**PU LALDUHOMA :** We are aware that the State Government provided the fund for the landing ground and it is not that we are unappreciative.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** The State Government did not provide the fund and it is the Tourism department that bought the landing ground. We simply cannot pay for the NGOs. (*..interruption..*)

**PU LALDUHOMA :** They have a landing ground because you bought it. It is not that they feel unappreciative but the association who has been working hard since the beginning was unhappy that you did not give importance during the program. Apart from this, PMJVK is 80% for education, health and skill development and we are simply requesting that some of the percentage be distributed. That is all we are saying and there is nothing to hate.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** It is not that I hate it there is nothing I can do. Many proposals have come in from education department which have stringent criteria but the Ministry of Education cannot just simply pass it. Many projects came in from Health as well but they do not want to talk about these things either. Therefore, it is wrong to assume that we think we could deceive the people and I want to express that in a transparent manner.

TATA Trust football started while I was working under it and I was a senior consultant at TATA Trust. We often let the academy borrow the completed buildings before we handover but it saddens me that there are some people who wants to gossip due to party affiliation in football. MNF has done well on TATA Trust and so did the previous government. However, the agreement signed in 2017 functioned only in 2018 during the previous government and it did not function for long since 2019 was the end of their term. I went to Mumbai myself and the CEO came to see me. We now have 60 centers that are sanctioned and I was told that it will be continued. We are also quite pleased with them. So, it is inappropriate for the state leaders to argue despite the Mizo youths training under proper caches.

It is not true that the State Associations are unhappy with the District Sports Committee. All State Associations want District Sports Committees to be established under the Chairmanship of District DCs. They made a resolution and they all signed their names. The people of Pu Lalduhoma's constituency are also quite excited (*..interruption..*)

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Isn't the MOU signed with TATA Trust during the Congress government valid till 2024? It is unlikely to be invalid in 2019. Congress party press release on June 29, 2013 said that it ended because MNF party has been asking for money and have not paid any attention to it.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** You only know the Congress party press release. Let me clarify what he was saying. There is only one agreement between TATA Trust Mizoram government and MFA which expired in 2019. However, in 2018, the Tenancy Agreement was signed again where TATA Trust and Mizoram government were no longer involved. Someone purposely stirred up confusion. The Tenancy Agreement with TATA Trust to run the Center of Excellence is a different thing. The tenancy agreement is only to continue occupying the building which was signed. That was not an agreement with TATA Trust, TATA Trust did not sign it and Mizoram government did not sign it either. The MFA, Police Department and 1 firm signed it.

Looking at the Assembly question and answer, it was said that Kawrtethawveng basketball court was completed with ₹15 lakhs while the sanctioned amount was ₹100 lakhs. Let us assume that it was ₹15 lakhs from the state fund at the beginning of our ministry and they must have done it if there is such a question-answer. However, we will be making ₹100 lakhs from PMJVK since they requested that it should be used as a futsal ground as well. They need a futsal ground and they are quite impressed. It will soon be called 'basketball court-cum-futsal ground' and we will provide additional funds if necessary. Therefore, the said ₹15 lakh was used for construction near tennis court while the other one is currently undertaken through PMJVK.

Members have expressed their concerns and we have taken notes of them. Astro-turf football ground is built in Pu BD Chakma's constituency and the people are also quite impressed. He said that the whole area ignites and I actually went to see it. However, we are accused of hijacking the fund of health and education and the word 'hijack' is not appropriate. The Sports Department did not divert a single rupee from PMJVK fund and the sanctioning authority favorably sanctioned for the Sports Department. The same thing is also said about Aizawl Smart City fund

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** In the process, the block level will made the scheme and then reach the district level for screening which shall make screening recommendations at the state level. No one is included at the district level and they are only asked to sign their names. According to the process, the meeting shall know and the State shall do so. (...interruption...) the system is incorrect. (...audio failure..) We know the guidelines and we know the process. However, this is wrong and now that they are sanctioned by the central government, what happened then?

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** The PMJVK guidelines contain many lines and behind the guidelines are circulars, office memoranda and many other things. (interruption)

**SPEAKER** : Continue what Pu Ngunlianchunga just said. Do not direct at each other.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** Therefore, PMJVK will be inspected recently. Expedite measures could not be taken when the Finance Department could not provide funds due to financial difficulties. However, we now carry out the works and the progresses are quite satisfactory. The 84 projects worth many lakh rupees are still available and there are no comments from anywhere in the community saying that the works are bad.

It is said that only 2 out of 84 projects have been completed and since the project has many components let me talk about Kwrthah. Kawrthah project was recently inaugurated by the Chief Minister but we could not include this among the 2 completed projects because the buildings and other constructions are not yet completed. According to the engineers of our department, 70-80% of the work is expected to be completed within the current year.

Some members said that someone is getting too much projects and they do not know who the proprietor is. There is a list of empanelled firms in the Finance Department and we can see who the proprietor is and who the partner is. So, it seems that they do a poor research and they expect to be told. The proprietor of Junior Consultancy Services is Pu Lalsangpuia who is a prominent Secretary of the MNF party. Their works are impeccable.

Regarding the 58 projects, Volleyball court and basketball court are sanctioned together because the department and ministry did not want to divide like the old style. Therefore, the works belonging to the same UC is done in one work order and they also expect to complete the project within three months. One person cannot do all the works at several places and we will look after it skillfully and smartly.

Pu Speaker, Sihtlangpui light system is quite amazing and I believe it is a part of Pu Ngunlianchunga's constituency. Volleyball can now be played at night at Sihtlangpui but we have not yet report it among the completed projects.

Regarding laying the foundation, the old PMJVK guidelines state that foundations should be laid especially if the project is large so that there is transparency and the area residents know the sanctioned amount. However, we still have more than 50 foundations to be laid.

I want to talk briefly about the racing track. The Chief Minister said that racing tracks for car and bike racing facilities should be established and thanks to him the Rural Electrification Corporation has sanctioned ₹ 750 lakhs for the project. The REC experts who came yesterday said that the staffs are performing impressive work and they are eager to give us more. This is a new experience for us and it is quite exciting. \

Opposition Group Leader Pu Lalduhoma mentioned about ₹ 800 lakhs and I would like to say that is not Mizoram. We have made provision for an additional ₹800 lakhs from the SASCI scheme hoping to save more money.

For conclusion, in case of sports, we usually prioritize medals and championships even in the Assembly House and it is also important to take care of the disabled and the sick. Mizoram Sports Policy 2013-2014 is not only about medals but also about fitness, happiness, leisure time, selection and many other things. When Japan launched the Health for All Movement 115 years ago, the Japanese government thought a lot about it. Series of consultations was held at various levels and their experts were also quite useful. Their findings and conclusions were that in order to make the Japanese a long-lived, healthy and a happy nation in the world their no. 1 priority is to promote stadiums, football grounds, open gyms and other sporting activities. Therefore, we should also popularize exercise, fitness activities etc especially by the elderly and this will also decrease our health expenditures.

What I mean to say is that artificial grass in sports is not only for Santosh Trophy championship or I-League championship and more people should be involved in sporting activities. According to the National Education Policy 2020 vision, more children and students should have the opportunity to do physical activity and physical education.

Finally, I am grateful to you all for your support on the Sports promotional fund.

It is quite difficult to take measures especially through the state fund. If sports promotional funds should be released, the Sports Associations should have a proper program and an acceptable program because and the release is also based on this. There are some associations that do not use and cannot use the fund. However, smart associations and strong associations spend it within a week and we could not provide more. So, not all associations are the same.

Not all the things said about ITI - swimming pool are true. It is not useful enough and I talked to the association leaders. It is complicating not to have a professional swimmer and a coach and North East champion is still beyond our reach. However, I would like to say that we will continue to do our best despite facing many difficulties.

We simply covered some districts and we are said to be excessive while Assam allotted ₹1,000 crore from their state budget for the construction of stadium alone. So, I request all the members to be happy with us on any funds we receive from CSR, PMJVK or any other source for sports.

I was impressed with what Pu Nihar *said.... (interruption)*

**PU LALDUHOMA** : Can't you give some amount for promotional fund?  
There is a lot from SEDP

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** You always criticize the funds received for sports but not other departments. I don't care if you insult me but do not insult sports because sport lovers are feeling hurt.

Pu Lalchhuanthanga often mentioned funds being diverted and I want to ask him if he wants it to be expunged from the Assembly proceedings because I want to. Pu Speaker, he said that Sports diverted fund from UD&PA and if I were his wife, I would let him expunge it because we did not divert a single rupee. UD&PA is the infrastructure developer and sport is a major component of urban infrastructure in America, Asia and India as well. Therefore, UD&PA's sports infrastructure is not diverted by sports and we are glad that the department did the right thing.

Similarly, we try to accuse sports department of diverting Aizawl Smart City fund while Aizawl Smart City is a private company with UD&PA as its nodal department. They are also responsible for the development of the city based on the needs and demand-base of the citizens. Therefore, we are very pleased with the sports infrastructure built by the Dy. Chief Minister and the sports department did not divert any money.

**DR. VANLALTHLANA** : Smart City guidelines do not mention any 'Sports Infrastructure' but it mentions 'Youth on Open Spaces'. It is another matter if a gym is built. The department and the SDP have not been able to tell us how such a large amount of money was spent on sports infrastructure. However, it is odd that the Sports Minister who is not the concern Minister was able to provide answers.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** I have many things to say and I applaud our Dy. CM and CM in regards to Aizawl Smart City. No State is willing to do whatever the Central Government wants or does and Mizoram does not want to do that either.

Sports Infrastructure is an urban infrastructure

**PU LALDUHOMA** : Pu Speaker, please Point of Order. Member Pu Lalchhuanthanga's use of 'divert' is appropriate because the Sports Department itself wrote on its achievement 'during 2019-2020' that ₹3,174.66 lakhs was diverted from UD&PA to Sports.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** Did it say 'divert'? This is the sports infrastructure made by UD&PA themselves.



**PU LALDUHOMA** : You would divert it. The money was given to you and you spent it and yet you still said that you are not given a single rupee. Education Minister is a good man and he should take care of the schools. Why do you have to build the school buildings? There are many schools in your project.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** Let me explain Pu Speaker. An agreement was signed with the School Education Department for the construction of five sports schools. They do not have their own construction agency and so Kawrthah and ... (*..interruption..*)

**PU LALDUHOMA** : Why did the Education Minister consult the Sports Minister on school constructions?

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE, MINISTER:** We are not consulted on school construction. Most of the sports infrastructure items are sports related. As Pu Zothantluanga has said some of the items are Kawrthah field and this has been opened but the project is under unopened projects because we still have unfinished business. The agreement between the two departments is that- those that are still running as schools should be supervised by the School Education Department but Lawngtlai, Lunglei and Mamit sports schools should be managed by the Sports Department. The Chief Minister and the central government also approved of this plan.

Member Pu Lalchhuanthanga's word 'divert' should not be used anymore as we are all adults. Educational related funds are not diverted and UD&PA did the right thing. The Allocation of Business Rules mandates it and our department also did the right thing. I have already thanked the Minister and the Director for what the department has done in sports. My request today is that departments should help us since we still have too many gaps in sports infrastructure.

Sports promotion is done extensively by our excellent associations. Covid-19 has affected us for a long time and this effected our development. However, the leaders of our associations, especially the state level association leaders, are great leaders and thanks to them the promotional activities are going well than the past.

That will be all, thank you Pu Speaker.

**PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, I would like to speak briefly. Smart City fund under UD&PA for playground construction was not diverted and we did the right thing. Measures were taken after the proposal for the playground was approved by the central government. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : I request the resolution holder Pu Zothantluanga to wind up and adopt the resolution.

**PU ZOTHANTLUANGA :** Thank you, Pu Speaker. Today's resolution is very well discussed and I do not think it is necessary to wind-up. There are many new infrastructures and this will be made useful by the youth. The results may not be visible today but we will rise nationally and internationally in the future.

Twenty-three members including Dy. CM and Minister shared their discussions. Saitual and Hnahthial projects which could not be continued due to NEC's fund cut are continued by the current government.

Our resolution is quite successful and the Dy.CM and our Minister have also wind-up well. So, I believe there is nothing to say anymore.

Pu Speaker, I beg the House to pass my Resolution.

**SPEAKER :** The resolution owner has begged the House to pass his resolution and all those members in favor may say 'yes' and those members not in favor may say 'no'.

The House has adopted Pu Zothantluanga's resolution. (**Pu Zothantluanga:** Thank you Pu Speaker.)

Our business for today is over and we will continue our business on 13.02.2023 (Monday) at 10:30 AM

*Sitting is adjourned (5:54 P.M.)*