

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR TENTH SITTING ON MONDAY, THE 26th MARCH, 2018
(Time 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

QUESTIONS

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

LAYING OF PAPER

2. **PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA**, Minister to lay on the table of the House The Mizoram (Regulation and Control of Vehicles Parking) (Amendment) Rules, 2018.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS

3. **PU LALSAWTA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.
4. **PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

S.R. ZOKHUMA
Commissioner & Secretary

....

SPEAKER : Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12

I request Pu T.T. Zothansanga to ask Starred Question No.129.

PU T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, the Hon. Minister has not arrived yet; my question is: -

- a) From where do we purchase Dragon fruit seeds;
- b) Number of rooted cutting Dragon fruit supplied during 2017-2018;
- c) Supply rate per root cutting.

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister authorized Pu Zodintluanga to give the answer on his behalf and no Supplementary Question will be taken.

PU ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the Hon. Minister has to attend death of a family member to Haulawng; and, the answer for Starred Question No. 129 is: -

- a) Horticulture Department bought Dragon fruit seeds from the Departmental Purchase Advisory Board (DPAB) approved nursery, Horticulture Center and Center of Excellence.
- b) 194800 Nos.
- c) ₹150/- which is determined on freight on road destination.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question will not be taken. Now, I request Er. Lalrinawma to ask Starred Question No. 130.

ER. LALRINAWMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Starred Question No. 130. Will the Labor, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Department Minister be pleased to state-

- a) If Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 being implemented presently. If so, how many of the beneficiaries are registered under ESI Scheme?
- b) If the Govt. of Mizoram allocate fund for ESI Scheme. If so, how much is allocated for the year 2017-2018?

SPEAKER : Hon. Minister, Pu H. Rohluna to answer the question.

PU H. ROHLUNA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer is as follows: -

- a) Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 is of ESCI and functioning under the Ministry of Labor & Employment. It already has its office in Mizoram and the act has already been implemented. As per the official report of ESI, there are 52 establishments and 1072 beneficiaries registered under ESI Act.
- b) Since ESI Scheme is of the Central Scheme, there is no fund allocation under the state Govt. nor prepare for the same.

SPEAKER : Supplementary Question from Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. ESI is quite important especially for private firms. My supplementary question is: - What is the eligible amount of income per month for the beneficiary to obtain registration? What is the amount of contribution to be made by the concerned employee? I was informed that the state Govt. does not allot fund but the provision underlines that the Govt. should contribute 12.5% on medical care for ESI beneficiaries. So, how will this be handled if no fund is allotted?

SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister, Pu H. Rohluna to answer the Question.

PU H. ROHLUNA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, ₹21,000/- is the amount of income for registration as ESI beneficiary and 4.75% of the employee's income should be contributed by the employer.

SPEAKER : Supplementary Question from Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, the answer is not completed. I asked the amount of contribution of both the employee and the employer. Also, as mentioned earlier, 12.5% should be contributed by the Govt. but since no fund is allotted, how will it be maintained? Should 4.75% of the income be contributed every month or year?

SPEAKER : Minister Pu H. Rohluna to answer the question.

PU H. ROHLUNA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, contribution to be made by the employee is 1.75% and the total including contribution of employer is 6.50%. Regarding medical care, I believe the state Govt. does not need to contribute anything. The ESI has also opened the Dispensary at Zodin Square, Aizawl with 1 Doctor and supporting staffs.

The Central Govt. is willing to construct a 100 bedded hospital but could not for having only 1072 members. ESI opened its Branch office at Zodin Square and I urge the employees to put more efforts on members drive so as to avail free medical care.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalruatkima, MLA to ask Starred Question no. 131.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Pu Speaker, Starred Question no. 131. Will the District Council & Minority Affairs Department Minister be pleased to state: -

- a) If the ADCs received NEDP Fund provisions. If so, how much each does received?
- b) What is the purpose of this fund?
- c) If CADC utilized etc fund provision of NEDP for advance payment of its staff salary? Who utilized such fund and how much was spent by each person?
- d) When was a notification for recovery issued and if the amount repaid in full?

SPEAKER : Hon. Chief Minister, Pu Lal Thanhawla to

answer the question.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the answer is: -

- a) Only LADC received NEDP Fund provision and the amount received is ₹290 lakhs.
- b) The purpose of this fund are as follows: - i) Land Development of WRC ii) Construction of Common Cemetery iii) Construction of Playground at Vawmbuk iv) Construction of Playground at Diltlang 'S'
- c) The following are MDC's who utilized the said fund provisions and the amount spent respectively: -

1. Adi Kanta tongchangya	-	₹31,29,410.00
2. Susen Chakma	-	₹13,74,431.00
3. Taraninsen Chakma	-	₹13,43,874.00
4. Sushil Kumar Chakma	-	₹10,37,646.00
5. Mohan Chakma	-	₹7,60,510.00
6. Chitra Kumar Chakma	-	₹8,75,276.00
7. Ajay Kumar Chakma	-	₹11,78,605.00
8. Parimal Chakma	-	₹5,92,278.00
9. Amar Smriti Chakma	-	₹2,11,000.00
10. Amit Kumar Chakma	-	₹30,000.00
GRAND TOTAL	-	₹10,533,030.00

Notification of repayment was issued on 11.7.2017 and 22.9.2017 and all the debts were cleared on 20.11.2017.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalruatkima.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Pu Speaker, it is learned that CADC withdrawn ₹1.70 crore just before the general election and consequently the Governor's Rule was declared in the district. What is the reason? If the Govt. compensated a Chakma student who was shot dead by the Police on Aug., 2015 during the protest; and, if so, how much? Is Kamalanagar town modernization work of ₹19.88 crore under NACPR being completed? If so, why did an MLA from Assam being selected as its contractor?

My next question is, why is the debt figure given by CADC is different from the Minister's answer; and, if the debts recovered on installment?

SPEAKER : Dr. K. Beichhua.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Pu Speaker, why is the rushing need to issue transfer order before 12:00 on the next day Governor's Rule was declared on CADC?

SPEAKER : NEDP Fund.... (*Dr. K. BEICHHUA: I believe it is relevant with CADC*) But the question is of NEDP Fund. Anyway, I request Hon. Chief Minister to answer the question.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the figure being given might have been a mistake but the notification for repayment was firstly issued on 11.7.2017 and then on 20.11.2017. The payments are also done on installments in between these dates and that is why the previous figure and of the final is varied. We opposed the action and we have even enquired the persons responsible.

The NEDP Fund of ₹290 lakhs was received by LADC only on 14.3.2018 and I believe it remain unused. CADC borrows money since the MDC's and the employees have not drawn their salary on time and it is clearly recorded by the Executive Secretary, who is also the DDO at CADC. There are times when the state Govt. could not allotted funds on time which is a problem for them.

The state Govt. and the Governor became aware of the sum borrowed by the MDC's is huge and that financial procedure has not been followed, the District Council & Minority Affairs Department issued a notification for repayment twice. As a result, the Executive Secretary of CADC notified the department and the state Govt. that the debt had been cleared and the matter is handed over to ACB on the Governor's recommendation.

The Governor issued an order to DC Lawngtlai to prevail an enquiry on financial mismanagement and anomaly which consequently caused suspension of the District Council Administration. As per order, it is the Governor who ruled over this Council after suspension.

Financial mismanagement is found on realization of Kamalanagar town and the modernization work could not be carried out since the case is handed over to ACB. The Govt. seems to be unaware of the student who was shot dead and I am not sure how the case goes.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Pu Speaker, I heard that the Governor appoints DC to establish Enquiry Committee. Is there any action being taken on the report of devastation of 16 buildings of DC?

PU LAL THAN HAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, we are not involved unless there is a recommendation from the District Administration. The state Govt. deals any issue of the autonomy very carefully and we do not involve ourselves in every issue since the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution preserves the autonomy well enough.

The people of this constituency prefer a Mizo DC and our leaders thus took the chance by appointing the person who is commonly accepted by the Lai, Mara and Chakma.

SPEAKER : Pu T. Sangkunga to ask Starred Question No.132.

PU T. SANGKUNGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Starred Question No. 132. Will the hon. Minister for Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department be pleased to state: -

- a) Is it true that increase of Mithun which is served on important occasions such as on festivals is due to NLUP?
- b) If the Govt. has any proposal to provide barbed wires fencing for grazing grounds.

SPEAKER : Pu C. Ngunlianchunga to answer the question.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer is as follows: -

- a) We can say that NLUP is behind the increasing of Mithun as there are number of NLUP beneficiaries who chose rearing of Mithun and a lot of progresses are seen especially at Tuichangral and Tuipui Chhak.
- b) There is a plan for procurement of 3,500 Nos. rolls barbed wire during this 2017-2018 and quotation has also been issued. We hope to make a supply during this dry season. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Supplementary Question from Pu T.T. Zothansanga.

PU T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Veterinary Department has a vast area of land at Zawlnghak and intensive measure has also been taken during the previous term so that we are able to domesticate Mithun once again. It is worth mentioning that the then Minister had even spot-visited the area where as the present concerned Minister too helped us a lot in excavating road from Rabung but remain incomplete. Is there any plan to renovate this road? If so, what is the actual plan; and if not, is there a way to make a plan?

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Pu Speaker, why do so many piglets under NLUP die? Also, the people of my constituency are afraid to eat pork due to swain flu. Did the disease spread before piglets are supplied under NLUP?

PU T. SANGKUNGA : As mentioned by Pu T.T. Zothansanga, the land at Zawlnghak is quite extensive with good source of water and so is enviable for renovation. What plan does the hon. Minister have in mind in this regard?

SPEAKER : Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. My Supplementary question is: - How many grazing grounds are there in Mizoram? My constituency also has at Khawbel and Hmawngkawn with fencing problems. So, is there a plan for supply of barbed wires in every grazing ground; and if so, how many for each grazing ground is proposed?

SPEAKER : Pu Lalruatkima.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Pu Speaker, how much does the Department spends for setting up Zawlnghak Veterinary Farm? Who contract construction work of the approach road and how much was spent for the construction? How many Mithuns are there at Veterinary farm? How many cows died from FMD and the amount of compensation so far?

SPEAKER : Minister to answer the question.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, efforts had been made on Zawlnghak as much as possible but is a difficult task with limited fund; and, the Department could not give full interest in it since it is a vast land. There is no plan to renovate as yet though we are willing to do so.

Death of piglets under NLUP brings a lot of questions and we also are regretted of the cause. As known to us all, the Govt. with NLUP as a Flagship Program has number of beneficiaries who opts piggery trade. Piglets dying of diseases had already occurred even before implementing NLUP. As per the department report, 8505 pigs have died from PRRS since 2013 and the Govt. spent ₹30 lakhs on compensation.

Fortunately, Mamit District and Kolasib District are free from PRRS. It should be noted that piglets also die from disease even before implementation of NLUP. As mentioned earlier, PRRS spreads suddenly in Mizoram in 2013 and 2016 but this flu is not the cause of death of piglets under NLUP though it spreads all over India. Every Ministry determines to have self-sufficiency in supply of pigs as so is this Ministry as the Govt. is taking measure through RKVY and restricted imports of piglets. PMC is established at Mampui Farm of Lawngtlai with 70 pigs and we have produced 400-500 piglets this year. Measure is taken also at Lunglei starting from Lungpuizawl with 100 piglets; Thingsulthliah also has started with 200 piglets since last year and NLUP piglets are given to number of families this year. There is also a proposal to domesticate the same at Thingdawl with 50 piglets.

Most of the imported piglets become exhausted and hungry for a long journey and usually after reaching the destination, they often die from diarrhea for overeating. So, the Govt. is taking measures on piglet production of healthy ones within the state. Pu Speaker, I would like the questioners to know that we really want to supply healthy domestic animals but something often comes up beyond our control and there is not much prevention from such diseases.

Regarding number of grazing grounds as asked by Er. Lalrinawma, the record has not been maintained but it is expected that 3,500 rolls of barbed wires will cover it. Some villages demanded 250, 200, 150 rolls etc. The location of grazing ground in Pu T. Sangkunga's constituency needs to be shifted for excessive demand of barbed wires. However, we plan to supply it in every grazing ground though we may not be able to fulfill each and every demand. Pu Speaker, the department is well aware of the locations of grazing ground of the constituency of Pu T. Sangkunga and Er. Lalrinawma; and, the one at Zawlnghak is quite a convenient location. In collaboration with ICAR, the gov. is planning to establish Mithun farming through NEDP and IRDF of NABARD having in mind to produce healthier and better quality.

PU T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Pu Speaker, it is indeed an excellent area and we should not be ignored. Can we at least be given a notice to prepare the DPR and that the department would pursue the rest?

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister to answer the question.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, they can prepare the DPR on their own's accord for it is our aim to improve the status of Mizoram; and, the department is ready to give its support to the extent of its capacity.

SPEAKER : Dr. K. Beichhua to ask Starred Question No. 133

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the District Council & Minority Affairs Department Minister be pleased to state:-

- a) Percentage of the Salary from Plan and non-Plan fund allocation of the 3 ADCs;
- b) Percentage for Development and Other Charges;
- c) May the concerned staff draws their salary on regular basis?

SPEAKER : Hon. Chief Minister to answer the question.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer is as follows:-

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| a) LADC | - | 82.46% |
| MADC | - | 92.92% |
| CADC | - | 90.90% |
| b) LADC: | | |
| i) Development | - | 6.15% |
| ii) Pension | - | 11.39% |
| MADC: | | |
| Development | - | 7.08% |
| CADC: | | |
| Development | - | 9.10% |

- c) The 3 ADCs of Mizoram can draw a regular salary.

The state Govt. provides fund as Grant-in-aid to the 3 ADCs. The Plan and non-Plan fund are now combined starting from 2017-2018 financial year and that is why there is no separate fund as to Plan and non-Plan fund. The funds to be received by the ADCs as per recommendation of the Mizoram State Finance Recommendation are fixed till 2019-2020 and the amount thus cannot be more or less unless there is a discretionary fund.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Dr. K. Beichhua.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Pu Speaker, 92.92% is for salary and only 7.08% is for Development despite other needs like office expenditure, vehicle maintenance etc and the govt. does not seems like the people's Govt. as often claimed. It is regretted that number of posts are created without advertisements and a memorandum to create more posts being submitted to the Governor. It is sad that the entire fund provision is spent on salary and nothing much remains for the people. So, what measure will be taken in this regard?

SPEAKER : Pu Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Pu Speaker, my supplementary question is: - We spend 92.92% for Salaries on MADC and CADC and only 7.8% for Development. If there is no fund separately allocated for development under MADC and CADC.

SPEAKER : Chief Minister to answer the question.

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the salary percentage is really high and we often try to increase the development percentage which always failed. We all know how much is spent on salary component but CADC continues with creation of new posts despite our instruction not to so. It may be noted that such districts have a very high autonomy and nothing much can be done even if our instruction is not followed. On the other hand, the Governor has discretionary power which cannot be used anytime and we stopped the practice of post creation to reduce the amount spent on salary. However, there is some financial mismanagement and the service of some officials needs to be suspended. Not all posts were filled up through Employment Exchange as some were recruited directly as they please for knowing their autonomy status.

The Govt. allocates fund as Grant-in-aid to these 3 ADCs and as mentioned earlier, Plan and non-Plan funds are combined since 2017-2018 financial year and we have no right to involve ourselves on how they spent. CADC disagree Governor's approval on appointments which happened to be one of the reasons for suspension of their Council. We could not make restriction on their expenditure and they have the executive power under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. However, we still continue to provide funds as needed.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalruatkima to ask Starred Question No. 134

PU LALRUATKIMA : Pu Speaker, will the Social Welfare Minister be pleased to state my Questions such as a) b) and c)?

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister is absent today and he authorized Pu Zodintluanga, the hon. Minister to give the answer on his behalf.

PU ZODINTLUANGA, MINISTER : Pu Speaker, my answer is as follows:-

- a) Yes, Social Welfare Department should be renamed Social Welfare & Tribal Affairs Department. The new Department will be Women & Child Development Department.
- b) There are 8 Nos. Observation Home: - Aizawl, Lunglei, Champhai, Mamit, Kolasib, Serchhip, Lawngtlai, Siaha.
- c) There are 11 Nos. De-addiction/Rehabilitation Center: - Aizawl, Kolasib, Zawnuam, Lunglei, Chhiahtlang, Champhai and Thingsulthiah.

SPEAKER : Dr. K. Beichhua to ask Starred Question No. 135.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Will the District Council & Minority Affairs Department Minister be pleased to state the number of employees recruited after issue of a standing order not to make any recruitment? If so, how many are recruited at each District Council?

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

PU LAL THANHAWLA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer is as follows: -

Recruitment is done in every ADCs such as: -

LADC - 136 Nos.
MADC - 45 Nos.
CADC - 153 Nos.

Pu Speaker, the ADCs have the power to create Recruitment Rules under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India and the posts were filled through advertisements and competitive exams.

As demanded by the Constitution of Facilitation and Conduct of Business Rules, the Governor's approval is sought for in the case of Gazetted posts and Fix Pay, Muster Roll and contract employees are recruited without advertisement and with the approval of the Executives.

SPEAKER : Pu R. Lalzirliana and Pu Thanliana who are absent due to health and Pu Lalrinsanga, Pu S. Laldingliana, Pu B.D. Chakma and Pu Joseph Lalhimpua are granted leave of absence from the House. A leave is also granted to Pu H. Rohluna after this Question Hour.

We will proceed to Laying of Papers and I request Pu John Rotluangliana, hon. Minister to lay the Papers.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I lay "The Mizoram Regulation and Control of Vehicle Parking Amendment Rules, 2018" on the Table of the House.

SPEAKER : Let the copies be distributed.

We will proceed to Financial Business. I request Pu Lalsawta, hon. Minister to submit his Demand Nos. 4, 8, 9 and 14. As permitted by the House, we will combine the Demands of the two Ministers.

PU LALSAWTA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. On the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission, Sir, I move the Demand Nos. 4, 8, 9 and 14 for ₹24,91,2842,000.00 for meeting the expenses during 2018-2019 in respect of the following Departments-

Demand No.	Department	Amount
4	Law & Judicial	₹21,75,14,000
8	Taxation	₹15,84,48,000

9	Finance	₹23,35,75,23,000
14	Planning & Program Implementation	₹1,17,93,57,000
TOTAL		₹24,91,28,42,000

SPEAKER : Pu John Rotluangliana, the Hon. Minister to submit his Demand Nos. 17, 42 and 43.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you Pu Speaker. On the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram and with your permission Sir, I move the Demand Nos. 17, 42 and 43 for ₹3,07,02,35,000 for meeting expenses during 2018-2019 in respect of the following Departments-

Demand No.	Department	Amount
17	Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs	₹2,49,10,97,000
42	Transport	₹45,02,31,000
43	Tourism	₹12,89,07,000
TOTAL		₹3,07,02,35,000

SPEAKER : The 2 Ministers have submitted their Demands and each member will be given 10 minutes. I request Pu T.T. Zothansanga to open the discussion.

PU T.T. ZOTHANSANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. The preparation of our Finance Minister is impressive. However, the Govt. gets the blame on social media without knowing the facts about our debts. Our debt has decreased from 54.46 crore to 40.87 crore and it would be appreciated if our Minister made a clarification.

Pu Speaker, the CAG seems to have a false report regarding lottery. The gross sale value was ₹1,93,781.71 lakh in 2006-2007 and the amount we received in 2006-2007 was only ₹3,31,59,200 lakh. Only ₹3 crore from ₹1,90,000 crore was received by the state. We should know that a large sum of money is spent on the preparations, organizers and salaries when preparing a lottery ticket. The gross share value is not supposed to be earned by the state and a large amount was spent on the judge, tickets and other activities.

Regarding Law & Judicial, the High Court Judge provide Addl. Session Judge at Champhai and we are now able to perform major cases and this alleviates lots of our burden.

However, we still do not have proper Court building and the Law Department rents the Industry Department building which was vacant and not in used. This building will be quite suitable for Session Court and it would be appreciated if the Law & Judicial Department had a discussion with the Industry Department before buildings and staff quarters are constructed. Our Session Court is not well equipped and it would be appreciated if one more peon is appointed. We have 3 Govt. Lawyers and they do not have any LDC, computer operator and peon and our immediate need therefore is staff recruitment before constructing its buildings. It would also be appreciated if a staff vehicle is provided as auto-rickshaw and taxi rates are really high. It is important that the Govt. lawyers and Session Judge have its own staff.

Regarding Planning, it would be appreciated if Rabung - Saitual road is made closer to each other. If the road between Hliappui and Rabung passes through, the distance between Hnahhlan and Aizawl will be much shortened by 90 - 100 kms.

Regarding Food & Civil Supplies, it is appreciating that our Minister also provides food to those who are not covered by Food Security.

Regarding Transport Department, it would be appreciated if our Minister provides us another bus in my constituency. I support the Demands of our Ministers. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Col. Z.S. Zuala.

Lt. Col. Z.S. ZUALA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker and I would like to start with Taxation Department.

The Department is engaged with VAT and then Goods & Services Tax and it is impressive that the Department carries their works without any problems.

Regarding Finance, our debt was increasing constantly during the previous Ministry but is now decreasing remarkably since this Ministry is formed and it is impressive that we are among the small states that performed well. We have relaxed withdrawal of GPF which is quite useful for the Govt. employees. It is impressive that pension defined contribution pension scheme is processed as pensioners still have Govt. liabilities. I believe that measure has been taken on pay revision and I am afraid that the oppositions will have nothing to say if this pay revision is done before the election.

Regarding Law & Judicial Department, we have a Gauhati High Court Bench and a court building under construction. Two Mizo Judges are appointed at High Court and it would be impressive if a Mizo Judge conducted the Chief Minister swearing in.

I support Lok Adalat and it would be appreciated if this is encouraged. It is appreciative that TA/DA is increasing since it is one of the problems that the court faced and is further expected to resolve many problems for the Magistrate.

Regarding Planning Department, it is appreciative that the process of our businesses is simplified. The MLA Development Fund is quite useful for solving immediate problems. Local Development is mostly known by the representative MLA and it is good that more powers, materials and more funds are handed to them.

Regarding Food & Civil Supplies, it is impressive that rice is available at cheaper rates due to Food Security. It is learned bags of rice which have been delivered from FCI go-down are sometimes underweight when the assigned retailers re-measured. So, it would be appreciated if this problem is resolved immediately. It is impressive that we no longer have to stand in queue to receive cooking gas as the local NGOs assisted the Department with the dealing. For the convenience of the public, I opine it is important to shift FCI go-down from Ramrikawn as soon as

possible. It is great that large amount of fund is saved when rice are bought from local agencies.

Next is Transport Department. The hon. Minister has introduced Two-wheeler taxi which is of a great help in Aizawl city yet the fare should be checked. Our traffic problem increases with the increase of vehicles as development is growing fast. I believe Transport Department should restrict issue of permits and should maintain coordination with traffic authority.

Pu Dy. Speaker, it is also worth-mentioning that Railway Out Agency initiated by Pu Lal Thanhawla during the previous Congress Ministry is greatly benefitted especially by the soldiers, CRP, Arm forces etc.

Lastly, inauguration of Rural Home Stay under Tourism Department is truly appreciative as so is the proposal of ropeway from Durtlang - Chaltlang. However, we need to be careful with its construction to evade accident. I support the Demands of our Ministers. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Ngurdingliana

Dr. NGURDINGLIANA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I will combine the Demands of Finance Department and Planning & Program Implementation.

I thank the Finance Minister, the Department and the officials for putting Mizoram on the same level with Gujarat, Jharkhand and Tripura on economy. They are also the reason that our debt has decreased and according to GSDP, we only need to borrow 1.40% for meeting our needs.

NEDP aims to lead laborers to market economy and ₹750 crore is allotted for the year 2017-2018 and ₹1,000 crore for 2018-2019. There is a great hope for the sincere laborers.

As mentioned by the Governor, last year was the longest monsoon and the Finance, Planning and PWD allotted ₹85640.25 lakhs in total where only ₹32,757.07 lakh was spent due to bad weather. Here comes the pleasant season and the PWD is currently taking measures across the state with the remaining balance of ₹52,883,15 lakh. It is also impressive that the Finance Department allotted ₹100 lakh for resurfacing damage roads within this year.

Apart from this, ₹20 crore is allotted for Aizawl city drainage system and ₹80 crore is allotted under UD & PA measure has also been taken at several districts.

₹6 crore is also allotted for Rural Housing Scheme for the year 2017-2018 and ₹10 crore for the year 2018-2019; ₹10 crore is also allotted for constructing MBSE buildings. The Finance and Program Implementation Department are taking extreme measures across the state through Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) of NABARD and it is appreciating that ₹9,82,00,000 is allotted through the same agency for construction of Tuivawl bridge in my constituency which is now in progress.

₹1,01,400 is allotted for Thanglailung Water Supply Scheme and ₹214 crore for solar pumping under Vanbawng Water Supply Scheme.

It is truly appreciative that intensive measure is taken by PWD for reconstruction of Tuirini Bridge in my constituency which was collapsed and for excavation of 7 kms long Sailuikawn - Buhban road.

Next is Demand No. 17, Food, Civil, Supplies Department. Open Market Sale has now been implemented and we now have saved ₹10,12,000 crore every year; this truly is a remarkable achievement. There are 17 go-downs to be commissioned as proposal is made for construction of 27 go-downs with ₹32 crore under NABARD. It is also appreciating that our Minister made a proposal to supply rice at various places.

Coming now to Demand No. 43, several measures are taken by Tourism Department but I do not agree with Anthurium and Thal Favang Kut being held at Tuirial as the weather is too hot.

Next is Transport Department. I appreciate several measures taken by the hon. Minister and the Department yet, I believe issue of two-wheeler license for Aizawl is more than enough. We should also have a clear inspection for Lunglei, Siaha and other district headquarters when license is issued. I support the demands of our Ministers. Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker.

DEPUY SPEAKER : Pu T. Sangkunga.

PU T. SANGKUNGA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker and I would like to start with the demands of our Finance Minister.

It is impressive that ₹1,000 crore is allotted under New Economic Policy as it can be used for the relief of landslides, sudden disasters and also for power supply and road etc. Our leaders are expert when it comes to financial management as we have made a progress on RBI balance. When Planning Commission was terminated, our leaders wisely utilized Planning Department and as I have heard, Planning will be a nodal department for the New Economic Policy. The contribution made by the department for the state is a lot and the officials are quite expert on their particular subject.

Next is Transport Department. Thanks to the effort of the hon. Minister, we now have the service of two-wheeler taxis; yet, it is appreciative if the fare is examined carefully. Our economy is rising rapidly as Aizawl is developing at a fast pace thanks to the idea of Finance Minister on relaxing GP Fund withdrawal. It may be noted that GP Fund cannot be released regularly in a poor economy.

Next is Tourism Department. It plays an important role in uplifting the India's economy and the India Govt. received 15.24 crore last year from Tourism and further contributed 9.40% on GDP. There are 41.622 million employees under Tourism and we had 10 million tourists visited India last year. It is remarkable that Our Tourism Minister has completed construction of Serchhip Tourist Lodge which could not be

done during the previous Ministry and is impressive that Kawlkulh Tourist Lodge also is inaugurated.

Rural Home Stay is placed at 3 villages within my constituency and is impressive that approach road to Vanzau Guest House is in process. It may be noted that we have a prospect of Tourist attraction if we set up information KIOSK and we need to put more efforts on promotion of tourism. It is also impressive that the Golf course at Thenzawl is almost completed. I support the Demands of our Ministers as I make a request to provide a well constructed go-down at Khawbung in my constituency. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Hmingdailova Khiangte.

PU HMINGDAILOVA KHIANGTE: Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I would like to start with Law & Judicial Department.

I often wonder why private firms defeated the Govt. in any of the court case. We all speak Duhlian language and I believe there are no miscommunications.

Combining Finance and Planning & Program Implementation Department, the previous Ministry before the 2008 general election established IR Battalion headquarters at 3 places which seems to be of the election campaign motive. Besides, 337 schools were upgraded on Oct, 2009 to supplement our financial problem. Thus, financial management for the term 2008-2013 was quite difficult for the next Ministry formed by Congress party. It may be noted that such financial problem inherited from the previous ministry compels us a year of consolidation.

It is truly appreciated that the hon. Minister, due to his excellent financial management is able to make surplus budget last year and it would be impressive if he addressed the public as to how he made surplus budget.

Moving to Planning Department, it is important to increase fund allocation to MLA LAD for it is the only development source for the MLA to look after our respective constituency.

Next is Demand No. 17, Food, Civil Supply Department. It is appreciating that the Minister provides the needs of the people despite bad weathers during these two successive terms. Introduction of Local purchase is quite impressive as we are able to save more than ₹10 crore every year. I personally thank to the department that my constituency is provided with enough rice stocks and we do not face any problem throughout monsoon season.

Moving to Demand No. 42, I am really glad to see how the Hon. Ministers performs their duties under the leadership of the Hon. House Leader, Pu Lal Thanhawla. Especially in Transport Department, I really appreciated the efforts made to reduce traffic jam in Aizawl city; introduction of two wheeler taxi is a wise move in this regard. Besides, another DTO is located at the outskirts of Aizawl which creates a huge convenience for the people.

Regarding Demand No. 43, Tourism Department, I opine arrangement as proposed by the Hon. Members should be taken into consideration. Pu Deputy Speaker, it is great to learn that skywalk is set to be constructed at Sakawrhmutuai. I would also like to request the Hon. Minister concern to elaborate this proposal. I am also overwhelmed that additional fund is available for construction of Kawnpui Tourist Lodge. Thus, I support the Demands under Hon. Ministers Pu John Rotluangliana and Pu Lalsawta, Thank you.

PU K. SANGTHUAMA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. First of all, I would like to praise the works done by the Hon. Finance minister.

Starting from Demand No. 9, it seems there are some lapses regarding GPF. While it is quite easy to withdraw GPF for some, it is not so for others; this differences need to be fixed. Regarding 7th Pay Revision, it is already being implemented in the central government; it is desirable we may follow suit. The pay revision is the right of government servants and is supposed to be done every ten years. It has remained unchanged for three years after the proposed period. Therefore, it is important that this is given importance.

Regarding Law & Judicial Department, Demand No. 4, there are some difficulties in court process due to appearance of witnesses before the court. It is difficult for people living in villages to appear before the court as witness. This may be solved by providing more amount of TA/DA. This is an important subject for better judicial system.

To increase the amount of MLA fund is also an important subject as the prevailing amount of only ₹100 lakh is not enough. It is desirable that it is increased to ₹200 lakh or ₹300 lakh at least since it is the only fund we can use at our own discretion as per the needs of the localities of our constituencies.

Regarding Demand No. 42, Transport Department, MST Bus Service is an important means of transportation to the people in remote places; I hope it may be continued in the future. The introduction of two wheeler taxi is also an important initiative; yet, it seems there are some irregularities regarding the rate. It is necessary that we have fixed rate for two wheeler taxis.

On Demand No. 17, it is good that food security act has been introduced. The scheme is funded from central government and around 7 lakhs of the state's population benefited food security. It will be greater still if some of the population who may afford rice at a higher rate may also enjoy the subsidized rate so as to save a huge amount of public money.

Regarding Tourism Department, it is a fact that our state has a great potential for eco-tourism. We have a pleasant weather and beautiful landscapes. Therefore, we need to make larger efforts for developing tourism.

Regarding Food & Civil Supply, there is poor quality rice distributed in some places. This problem may be inevitable due to some circumstances; yet, I may be prevented to some extents. I beg the Hon. Minister to continue his efforts for

providing better quality rice to the people. Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us now take a break till 2:00 PM.

2:00 PM

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now continue with our discussion. Let us call upon Pu Robiaka.

PU LALROBIAKA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. I am really glad to participate in today's discussion. Starting from Tourism Department, I would like to suggest that Anthurium Festival to be held at Reiek. The place is an important tourist spot and also suitable for this kind of festivities.

It is pleasing to know that construction of skywalk is proposed and foundation stone being laid for ropeway. Mizoram has the capacity to become an important eco-tourism hub. I thank the Hon. Minister for construction of Convention Centre at Reiek which is within my constituency. ₹9,490 lakh is sanctioned for development of eco-tourism at Reiek, Zote and Thenzawl. The efforts made for development of adventure activity is also noteworthy.

Regarding Demand No. 42, Transport Department, I am happy to see improvements in the service of drivers and conductors of state transport buses and introduction of two wheeler taxis is also worth mentioning. The Department's income from fare collected from bus service, road tax and registration fee amounts to ₹191.1 lacs during 2016-2017. I would like to encourage them to continue their efforts and to remember that they belong to the public.

Moving to food & Civil Supply Department, we had faced the longest rainy season ever last year as many roads were damaged due to heavy rain but the department managed to provide the needs of the people despite such problems. It is obvious that it is the result of tireless efforts made by the Hon. Minister concerned; I express my gratitude in this regard.

Thus, Pu Deputy Speaker, I fully support the Demands under the Hon. two Ministers to be passed. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu John Siamkunga.

PU JOHN SIAMKUNGA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. I am really happy to take part in the discussion of these two demands. Firstly regarding Finance Department, we have to have a proper yardstick in order to consider any budget and we need to consider the ideas and priorities of the government. It is the same regarding this budget we are discussing today. Measuring the budget with yardstick of state debt, the amount of state debt decreases drastically during the past few years in comparison to the period around 2009. It has now decreased to a low of 40%. Regarding fiscal deficit also, while the 14th Finance Commission recommended that the fiscal deficit should be not more than 3%, the fiscal deficit in this budget is placed at only 1.14%. Considering all these yardsticks, it could be concluded that this budget is a good one.

Under Planning Department, I would like to mention about the connecting road of Lunglei and Champhai. These two are the biggest towns next to Aizawl but there is no direct road connecting in between. It seems easy to construct a direct link between these two towns in view of the prevailing roads already constructed.

On Demand No. 17, Food, Civil Supply & Consumer Affairs Department, the supply go-down shared by villages like Tarpho, Aithur and Khawhri remain in a very poor condition and eventually collapsed recently. Therefore, rice is stocked at the community hall. This is thus the immediate need of the people. I beg the Hon. Minister concerned go give priority in this regard.

Besides, Denlung is a sub-village of Hnahthial with 28 ration cards holders. They used to get their ration from Hnahthial which is around 5 kms away. It is quite desirable that separate fair price shop could be opened at Denlung. I kindly request the Hon. Minister to look into the matter.

Regarding Demand No. 42, Transport Department, traffic jam is a huge problem we are facing nowadays. ₹500 lakh is kept under NEDP for the solution of traffic jam. Besides, 400 days dateline notice is given to those people without their own garage. I request the Hon. Minister to state the present status of that initiative.

Regarding Demand No. 47, Tourism Department, it is true that we have a great potential for tourism industry. Most of the visiting tourists are very fond of our weather and the landscape itself. We have potentials in different aspects of tourism like adventure tourism, cultural tourism, ecotourism, wildlife tourism and community based rural tourism etc. In this connection, the recently launched community based tourism called home-stay is also an important initiative. We can also promote tourism based on our rich culture and history also. There is a great potential of this kind at Denlung as it is the old village ruled by a great Mizo Chieftain Ropuiliani. It is desirable that this place could be promoted for tourist destination.

I am supporting the Demands under Pu John Rotluangliana and Pu Lalsawta. Thank you.

PU CHALROSANGA RALTE: Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. Starting from Pu John Rotluangliana's Demand for Food & Civil Supplies Department, I appreciate all the good works done by the officials as well as the Hon. Minister. It is a great achievement at their part that they could provide sufficient supply during the long and harsh monsoon last year.

It is quite unfortunate that malpractices still prevail on domestic gas. I suggest monetary fine for this kind of practice and that such collection be spent as remuneration to NGOs and civil societies who help the government in fighting the problem.

Moving to Transport Department, introduction of two wheeler taxi is quite creative and noteworthy. At the beginning, only a few applications for such permit are received. But after realizing the significance and advantage of two wheeler taxis, quite lot applications are received later on and many people now get employment through it.

Regarding Tourism Department, I appreciate all the good works and improvements made by the department. Meanwhile, I think that what we need is platform or advertisement to make our state globally known so that they may want to visit our beautiful state. This will serve as good revenue source for the state and also a good prospect of employment for the youths as well.

Speaking of GST Pu Deputy Speaker, the Hon. Minister stated in his budget speech that it is a new system. Under it, a new system of e-way bill is introduced which will be beneficial for the state if cash memos and invoices are availed correctly. However, if it is not done correctly, there is a chance that the state may suffer a loss. It is important to do trading outside the state carefully.

It is a fact that we have no natural resources and industries as other states. I opine it will be better for our state to concentrate on power generation as it is in which we have a huge potential. Our state spends a huge amount on power supply from other states. Thus, it will be very beneficial if we could save this. Besides, we may even sell to other states if we can produce more and more electric power within our state. With these words, I express my support on these demands. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Lalthanliana.

PU LALTHANLIANA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. Starting from Law & Judicial Department, it is learned that only 2% of the construction of the office Building being completed. I think it is necessary to expedite the work as the need is quite immense. It is also pleasing to know that the department will now have its building separately.

Regarding Lok Ayukta, we have learned that certain steps have been taken for its inauguration and around 35 new posts to be created for its implementation. I found this to be a good employment opportunity for the youth. I am very pleased for that also.

Regarding Taxation Department, it is also learned that there are five vacant posts in the department and I hope it will soon be filled.

On Demand No. 9, I am pleased to hear that ₹150 crore is available for state matching share. However, the amount for SMS according to the answer given for Starred Question is ₹175.59 crore. I hope the Hon. Minister could clarify this decrease. Does it mean that the amount expected from CSS decreases this year?

Pu Deputy Speaker, circulation of money within Mizoram is depending to a great extent on the salary of the government servants. Therefore, it is necessary to pay more attention towards salary of government servants. The Government also needs to check the price hike due to increase in salary.

In Planning & Programme Implementation Department, it is said that three vacant posts is said to be filled and I am pleased for that as well.

Regarding Law & Judicial Department, the amount of court witness fee is very

low and should be increased.

On Demand No. 7, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, I am pleased how Food Security Act is implemented in our state; I praise the Hon. Minister for his efforts in this regard. Transportation cost paid for petrol and diesel tankers seems too low; I hope the government would examine the case and approach IOC to increase the rate.

In transport Department, introduction of auto-rickshaw and two wheeler taxis at the outskirts of Aizawl seems to create problems for taxi owners. Besides, the taxi owners need to enter the heart of Aizawl more than before. This increases traffic jam within the city. Thus, the permit for two wheeler taxis and auto-rickshaw needs to be given carefully.

I opine the number of state transport bus service which decreased immensely should again be increased; it is very important for people living in villages as it provides reliable transportation at lower cost. At the same time, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of the present status of the Aizawl Traffic Jam Free Project. What are its effects and, does it have any positive effects within the city? ₹550 lacs is kept for NEDP core committee and I am a little curious how the amount is spent.

Regarding Tourism Department, I consider Rural Home Stay project to be an important one as it is an innovative method of encouraging tourism in rural areas. Yet, I consider privatization of tourist lodges is better for the state. So, I do not suggest construction of more of it. Those are the points I would like to say while supporting the Demands. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. K. Beichhua.

Dr. K. BEICHHUA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. Firstly, on Demand No. 4, Law & Judicial Department, I am very pleased with the works done by the Hon. Minister. There is an undergoing work of construction of court building at Siaha; I hope this could be completed very soon as we are eagerly waiting for it. Besides, the approach road also needs to be constructed. We will be very pleased if it is done as well. Likewise, implementation of Session Court is also important for Siaha District.

On Demand No. 8, Taxation Department, it is the nodal for the newly introduced GST system and thus need improvements in staffs, facilities and infrastructure also. Meanwhile, it is unfortunate that the budget allocation for the department is decreased from the previous budget. I hope the Hon. Minister concerned may clarify this matter.

We have a good plot of land for office complex of Taxation Department at Saiha but there is no building till today, I beg the Hon. Minister so that necessary steps is taken for construction of the office complex at the site.

On Demand No. 9, Finance Department, we can see that this budget is relatively larger than the previous year. Allocation of funds for some departments increased a lot while some others are decreased from last year's budget. While

implementing the Year of Consolidation on our financial management, the irregularities regarding withdrawal of GPF is an important subject. It is very difficult for some people while it is quite easy for some others. It is even said that some people used to apply for withdrawal for others and make a profit which is quite unfortunate practice. This needs to be enquired immediately. We have our own GPF rules in this regard and it is desirable that we simply follow the rules; practices beyond the rules tend to attract malpractices.

Pu Dy. Speaker, huge amount of expenditure on Medical Reimbursement during last year i.e. ₹116.7277 also is doubtful; we need to find a way to reduce it. We are now having medical college in our own state and I opine we should develop it so that we may avoid referring patients to other states. I also believe that improvement of District Hospitals in infrastructure, staff and better equipments may help in avoiding refer cases. We can see in the budget that no grant is allocated for creation of capital assets. I hope the Hon. Minister concerned may clarify this point also.

Regarding Planning & Programme Implementation Department, there is a shorter rout for Siaha to Aizawl by a distant of 90 kms shorter than the present one. It is through Tuipui Ferry to to Aizawl road via Darzokai. It is desirable if this road is improved and I beg the department to consider this proposal.

I used to think of the main problem for tourism development in our state. I believe we all have responsibility including the general people; we need to change our mindset not to be too conservative. If we manage to realize the exact problems and needs regarding tourism, it is obvious that we are having the potential to develop tourism in our state. In doing so, better advertisement and platform is also necessary.

Pu Deputy Speaker, on Demand No 17, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, many go-downs are in poor condition which causes huge damage in stockpile of rice during monsoon. It is very important to reconstruct such go-downs as soon as possible. The stoppage of ration of sugar as well is very unfortunate especially for rural people. I sincerely beg that it is continued.

Speaking about Tourism Department, Karnataka contributes 12% of the state revenue from their state transport bus services. It is obvious that we can also generate more incomes from transport buses if we improve the service and its maintenance.

Regarding Vehicle lifetime tax, it is set for 15 years and should be paid at a single payment which I believe as too long considering our road conditions; even a vehicle may not last that long. Thus, I suggest reducing the duration. Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Er. Lalrinawma.

Er. LALRINAWMA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. To start from Finance Department, I have a question if the department follows the Allocation of Business Rules, 2014 No. 20, General Insurance & Insurance Scheme of Government Servants. I consider no allocation of fund on POL head of Finance Deptt. is very unlikely as it obvious that some amounts of petrol and diesel is spent as in other

departments. This is quite inappropriate while the Finance Department is considered as a model for other departments.

Secondly, I opine allocation of fund for medical treatment i.e. ₹40 crore is too much for it is meant for only the government servants. On the other hand, the amount kept for the common people during 2015-2016 is only ₹12 crore. I opine the government needs to reduce its expenditure on medical reimbursement. As already stated by other members, the irregularity of GPF withdrawal is quite unfortunate and should be examined on immediate effect.

Regarding Supply Department, we have the Operational of Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007 which concern functioning and maintenance of warehouse. I consider damage of rice at different occasions to be the result of lapse in implementation of the said act. Provision for proper maintenance of goods stored in warehouses is included in the act. I opine that damage of goods could be evaded if this act is properly implemented.

Regarding Taxation Department, one of the most concerns is Professional Tax. It is collected the same amount from all government employees, irrespective of their designations and pay. It is desirable if it is reexamined.

There are some problems regarding the newly introduced CGST system. While ILP is necessitated in case of GST, there is no such regulation in case of CGST as the Central Board of Excise & Custom does not make any demand of ILP in case of trading within our state. If businessmen from outside the states came in without any regulation through CGST system, it may impose a thread for the business owners from Mizoram and it may also be a kind of assimilation for the state. This needs to be attended soon and as far as possible.

Regarding NEDP Scheme, I do not oppose the implementation but it seems too many lapses in its expenditure and monitoring of works under the scheme. I suggest that better monitoring should be made for the works and expenditure.

Regarding Law & Judicial Department, I would also like to mention that preparation of rules for any bill which may be passed in the House usually takes too long which results in mounting bills pending. I urge the concerned authority to expedite the process.

Regarding Tourism Department, I believe it will be better to development tourism in cooperation with cooperation department as we have good prospect of tourism based on history and arts.

Coming now to Transport Department, I think that some sorts of adjustment are needed for replacement of commercial vehicles. In doing so, it may be better to concentrate on fitness of vehicle than to condemn old vehicles for old vehicle could still be in a good condition if the owner gives proper maintenance.

Pu Speaker, I would also like to draw your attention that furniture traders of Baktawng often faced problem due to restriction of height on goods transport vehicle as most of vehicle engaged by them tent to exceed the limit due to irregular size of

their furniture. So, I beg the Hon. Minister to give special consideration for them. Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Lalrinliana Sailo.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO: Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. Looking at the financial statement and the budget speech, we can see actual improvement in the GSDP. This is the result of efforts made by the Hon. House Leader and Finance Minister. I am really happy that this government is truly concern for the welfare of poor and the needy. The revenue receipt during 2018-2019 is expected to reach to ₹999.43 crore indicating the tireless efforts made by the Hon. Minister and the department officials.

Regarding Law & Judicial Department, it is a remarkable achievement that the department has its own buildings in various district headquarters as we can see immense improvement in the department. Besides, efforts made for protection of the rights of the indigenous people is also noteworthy. Apart from this, many posts in the department have been filled which relatively serves employment opportunity to many of the jobless educated youth.

As already stated by other Members, I also opine the amount of professional tax paid by government servants needs to be revised.

Pu Speaker, I was informed by the Bank staff of the impossibility to withdraw the sum exceeding ₹2 lakhs as the bank does not have enough money which I found really unfortunate. It seems to be a kind of capital flight as termed by experts. I hope this could be fixed as soon as possible.

Regarding Food & Civil Supply, I was a little doubtful of the implication of Food Security Act in the beginning but I was wrong as no problem is faced in the application. This is obviously the result of immense efforts made by the Hon. Minister. There was no problem even in the long lasting monsoon season last year also.

In Demand No. 42, Transport Department, I think it is important to have direct transportation link for Aizawl - Kolkata. I found potential in the ability of the Hon. Minister and the department officials to achieve this immediate need of the people. As we have connection road only through Assam, it often creates problem for our state. I think it is possible to have a direct connection with Kolkata through Bangladesh and Tripura.

Regarding Demand No. 43, Tourism Department, we have seen many improvements in this department as the initiative for development of tourism in rural areas. Introduction of Rural home Stay under the Department is really beneficial for people living in rural areas. The people living in Champhai District, in particular, are very happy with the department as there are many historical sites within Champhai District which the government developed for tourist sites.

In this connection, I have one suggestion for tourist attraction. We had faced insurgency in 1966 as many lives were lost and the state suffers a lot. I think we can

develop such affected places of the insurgency as a tourist attraction as it is practiced in Vietnam; they developed the places of war within their country as tourist spots. I suggest that the same is followed in our state also. I support the Demands of the two Hon. Ministers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Lalruatkima.

PU LALRUATKIMA : Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. Starting from Finance Department, we have often spoken about GP fund. It is a kind of investment of the government using the money of government employees. I think the regulation of GPF is too harsh for the government servants. The government has created commission to study the expenditure regarding medical reimbursement. In this regard, it is vital to strengthen the State Health Care Society in order to implement the recommendations made by the commission.

Regarding allotment of ₹50 crore for the year 2017-2018, I am a little doubtful as to how the amount is spent. Monitoring is necessary in regard to several empanelled farm under NEDP. If such farms execute the work without monitoring and evaluation, there is a chance that we have poor quality works which will be a problem for the state in the future.

The central government has now implemented 7th pay revision and I think it is better for the state also to implement the same. I found this possible considering our financial condition.

The MLA Fund is a kind of ACR for the MLAs as we can spend the amount at our own discretion. It is very desirable that MLA fund may be given in a single sanction. While this is the case, the State Lottery which is an important source of revenue is nowhere to be found in this budget.

Regarding Demand No. 4, Law & Judicial Department, I opine establishment of Lok Ayukta is an immediate need of the state. Also, the TA/DA for court witness is very low. It is often complaint especially by witnesses from the remote villages when the need to appear before the court. However, setting up of a separate court is neglected despite it necessity.

On Demand No. 8, Taxation Department, the department needs special consideration with the introduction of GST and IGST. More staff is also needed as the workload is increasing. It is also necessary to improve the equipments and other facilities.

Regarding Planning Department, a huge amount of ₹188 crore is allocated under the head of critical projects but the meaning of critical projects is not defined, clear definition should be given as to how it will be utilized. This is quite questionable and I have a doubt that this allocation is election oriented.

Again under NEDP, it is regretted that we are facing a problem for failing to notify nodal department of NLUP. At the time of C&AG Audit, it is kept under Planning Department but C&AG said it is not its purview. Thus, measure should be

taken to resolve this confusion so that it is not repeated in the future.

Regarding Birth & Death Registration, our population has immensely increases within these five years. This need to be enquired as it affects our safety.

On Demand No. 17, Food, Civil Supply & Consumer Affairs Department, it is pleasing to hear that the government provide better quality rice. Meanwhile, it seems improper that the retailers pay for the bag used for its packing; this practice needs to be stopped. Besides, separation of Legal Metrology Department as a full-fledged department is necessary. It is also quite desirable that ration sugar could be continued.

On Transport Department, special consideration on replacement of vehicle is necessary for those engage on commercial vehicles to earn their livelihood.

On Tourism Department, allegedly there is irregularity which needs to be clarified in the process of compensation under the plan for construction site of ropeway at Sakawrhmutuui. Lastly, Pu Deputy Speaker, I opine we need to have new innovation to promote tourism in our state so that our tourist spots are developed to its full potential. Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker.

PU P.C. ZORAM SANGLIANA: Thank you, Pu Deputy Speaker. On Demand No. 9, Agriculture, the budget estimate is increased at a huge percent of 40% which I consider as the result of our humble suggestion in the consultative committee; I am really glad for this and the reason for the increase will be seen in the future. I also opined that more importance should be given in agriculture and its allied service; I hope the Hon. Minister will consider it when distribution of funds is made.

It is a privilege that we are able to discuss surplus budget today. Financial management is comment able. I do hope the 7th pay will be implemented with this budget. Pu Deputy Speaker, it is appreciative withdrawal of GPF is controlled by the Govt. and for a huge fund allocation for state matching share in various projects.

In regard to Law & Judicial, I opine site of the office which is in the heart of the New Secretariat complex is inappropriate as most of the visitors of high court obviously are of criminals. Anyway, it is my desire that it is completed as per memorandum of understanding.

Demand No. 8, Taxation Department, the achievement of this Department which has been made so far is worth-mentioning.

Coming to the Demands of Pu John Rotluangliana, it is noteworthy that stock of rice even in the remote areas is sufficient; the officers and staffs are praiseworthy for their efficiency. At the same time, immense efforts have been made to check embezzlement with cooking gas cylinders; yet, it is desirable if the department checked the process on regular basis.

It is commendable for the tax collection of Transport on Goods & Passenger and on Vehicles in spite of the department being treated as inefficient. There are so many points that I would like to highlight but will end here due to limit of time. I give

my support for passing of the Demands of the hon. Ministers, Pu John Rotluangliana and Pu Lalsawta. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu H. Zothangliana.

PU H. ZOTHANGLIANA : Pu Deputy Speaker, let me start from Demand No. 4, Law & Judicial Department.

The separation of Law & Judicial was declared towards the end of 2008 but without actual functioning. It is fortunate that Pu Lalthanhawla's Ministry, without any hesitation took up the ongoing projects and decisions made in the previous ministry.

Demand No. 8, Taxation Department. There is one point I would like to highlight, i.e. talking of the advantage of GST seems to ignore the existence of ILP. This is a serious matter and the govt., therefore should look into the matter.

Demand No. 9. Finance & Planning Department, I applaud the performance of the officers and staff of the Department. Pu Deputy Speaker, rural areas are facing problem in regard to Aadhaar processing as it is demanded for various projects and schemes. It takes quite a long time deliver it. If possible, I suggest furnishing EPIC in such period and may also be accepted as ID proof.

It is learned from the source of social media reviews that the liability of the Govt. is increasing. However, what we should know is GSDP is the matter to diagnose our liabilities. Thus, if we calculate through GSDP, the liability is decreasing. I request the hon. Minister to clarify this matter in his wound up.

Regarding Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, the department deserved so much appreciation for providing sufficient amount of food grains even in the remote areas of the state.

I would also like to request the hon. Minister to lift off ban on Auto Rickshaws permit for Lunglei, Lawngtlai and Saiha which had been initiated 3 years back. Also, we need Transport Bus Service ply to Lawngtlai.

To promote Tourism Department, the Govt. organized Chhawkhlei Kut at Sentetfiang Village which is at the base of Phawngpui Tlang which I opine as a significant move to attract tourist. That is all I can say, Pu Deputy Speaker. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu Zawma.

PU VANLALZAWMA : Pu Deputy Speaker, thank you. To start with, there is one point I would like to highlight regarding the performance of Tourism Department.

I truly appreciate introduction of Rural Home Stay. Yet, I suggest implementing the same in urban areas for it is needed as well.

Pu Deputy Speaker, I am not sure if it is the purview of Tourism, preservation of river fishes in Reiek Kai by joint forces of YMA and PHE Deptt. I opine it is wise for Tourism department to undertake its improvement so that it is transformed into tourist attraction.

Coming to Finance, many of Hindi teachers were terminated last year and I wonder if Central Govt. is unable to continue with the project. I opine the State Govt. should re-employ such teachers from its own fund since the service of such teachers is the needs of today's education. It is the same case as recruitment of IR recruitment. Besides, Pu Speaker, there is no budget highlighted for up-gradation of the three districts. By the Grace of God and the people, my party will assume the Ministry next year and it will definitely be highlighted in the budget; it will be our priority. Thank you, Pu Speaker (*Hon. Speaker takes the Chair.*)

SPEAKER : Our discussion is over. Let us call the Hon. Minister, Pu Lalsawta to wind up the discussion of his demands.

PU LALSAWTA MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. Out of the 17 members who participated in the discussion, only one or two members did not mention my demands due to time constrain and I am very grateful for it. This will be the last budget session for this Ministry and will thus be appropriate to highlight the efficiency of this Govt. I request our understanding beforehand if I take times.

Finance Department is working hard in preparing the budget even on Sundays and so are Taxation Department due to GST, Law & Judicial and Planning Department. This favorable outcome is due to the hon. Chief Minster's visions for Mizoram and carried out by the Ministers and the officials.

Pu Speaker, Niti Aayog is a blessing in disguise for the State, as State Priority Projects could be carried out accordingly and the Court case percentage has gone up to 78%. Pu Speaker, please understand that I am mixing up my points.

Hon. Members mentioned about Revenue surplus and it is fortunate that we are able to have Revenue surplus.

To clarify the pointed raised by certain Members on withdrawal of GPF, Financial year is divided into 4 quarters in which all the departments are allotted 30/35 crore for GPF for one quarter. And, for the further convenience of the Govt. servants, few officers of Finance Department are authorized to disburse 100 lakhs each quarter; yet, this does not serve the whole demands. As for the alleged existence of middle man for withdrawal of GPF, it will be much appreciated if a report that one received a commission from the govt. servant for withdrawal of his/her GPF. Regarding closing of GPF withdrawal for the time being, it is done so as most of the officials are busy preparing for this budget session.

In regard to the Seventh Pay, the sub-Committee is given six months period to submit the report but it has not yet been fulfilled. Once the report is submitted, it will be discussed in the cabinet meeting. The hon. Chief Minster has assured the 7th pay will be implemented.

In regard to GSDP, what the hon. Members have claimed is true as our liability decreased by 40.87% and has gone subsequently.

Pu Speaker, it is our desire to have High Court as soon as possible. As for the construction of Saiha Court building, we have to act according to our resource.

Coming to Medical reimbursement, if Healthcare Society submits the report of the strength of its staff to the government, feels that it is under staff, the Govt. will take action accordingly.

As for work monitoring in Planning Department, we also feel the need and we will take note of this for necessary action.

The Revenue collected till the 26th March is ₹1165 lakhs and income tax collected from lottery is ₹30 crores. If you permit, Pu Speaker, tomorrow I would like to distribute the details of lottery during the year 1998-1999 to hon. members for information.

Since the hon. Members are concerned of TA/DA rate, we will look into the matter. As for Professional tax, it is the central subject of the India Constitution Article 76 and thus is not the state subject.

Pu Speaker, lastly, if the Opposition members say, "We will carry out any task if we form the Govt.", then, I give my assurance that even my party can carry out what ever task on hands. Thank you.

SPEAKER : You may now move the House to pass your Demands.

PU LALSAWTA MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I move this august House to pass the following demands under my concern such as: -

Demand Nos.	Purpose	Budget Amount
4	Law & Judicial	21,75,14,000.00
8	Taxation	15,84,48,000.00
9	Finance	23,35,75,23,000.00
14	Planning & Programme Implementation	1,17,93,57,000.00
TOTAL		24,91,28,42,000.00

SPEAKER : Now that the hon. Finance Minister have seek the permission of the House to pass his Demand totally ₹24,91,28,42,000/-; those who agree may say, 'Yes' and those who disagree say, 'No'. The House has unanimously passed Demands of the hon. Finance Minister, Pu Lalsawta.

PU LALSAWTA MINISTER: Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us call hon. Minister, Pu John Rotluangliana to wind up discussion of his demands and also move the House to pass it.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. Most of the members participated in the discussion spoke about Supply and Transport; only Pu Ruatkima spoke about Legal Metrology.

Pu Speaker, this department is of independent with independent budget but functioning indirectly under Transport Department. We are verifying placement of an Extension Officer at Hunthar Veng. There is the ongoing construction of a building for the office of Asst. Controller Legal Metrology with the estimate amount of ₹40 lakhs and sanction has already been received from Central Govt. for setting up Secondary Standard Laboratory amounting to ₹125 lakhs. The work will soon be implemented. The Govt. approval has already been obtained for filling up 5 posts of Inspectors and we are waiting for MPSC to conduct exam and interview.

During 2017-2018, the department verifies and conducts measurement of various departments and companies of 12,334 Nos. and fee collected for such amounting to ₹6,11,905/-. The total number of verified water meter so far is 6,565, electric shops - 85, motor parts - 161, cement and rod - 280 and Govt. retailer – 329 and also illegal cigarettes of 6,570 cartoons from 92 shops. Pu Speaker, 2629 Nos. tank lorry and 1552 Nos. LPG trucks were checked by weighing up gas cylinders of 474,912 Nos. in which of underweight cylinders of 1145 Nos. were found. The Transporters were fined by IOC and the legal Metrology on compound fine. It may be noted that the department is taking all possible steps.

16 Members spoke about Food & Civil Supplies and I truly appreciate their concern for this department. Pu Speaker, as monsoon is arriving, we are busy with carrying monsoon stock out of which 75% is completed.

To answer the question of Pu John Siamkunga, proposal for up-gradation of our go-downs has already been submitted to the central and it will be started as soon as we receive the sanction.

As for the point mentioned by Er. Rinawma, we are unable to fulfill with our existing resources. (**Er. LALRINAWMA:** Pu Speaker, but it is underlines in the Allocation of Business, the warehouse manual.) Even FCI is unable to adopt the manual as so is impossible for us to adopt. As for approach road of Go-down, we are receiving 10 crores loan from NABARD and estimate and drawings are ready. Thus, work will be implemented soon.

Thanks to the implementation of Food Security, we are able to function effectively. The requirement per month is 70,000/- in which 3,310/- is spent for purchase from FCI and 2,750/- for direct purchase from MIZOFED. Thus, we are able to save ₹4.9484 crore every month. As for Sugar, we are not in a condition to continue as our Govt. is unable to fulfill matching shared fixed by the Central Govt.

As for POL, we have a talk with IOC for the site and step will be taken for its construction as soon as a decision is made. As for shifting of FCI Go-down at Dinthar Sairang, a decision is made for the site thus construction work will be started soon. Pu Speaker, that is all for supply department.

Pu Speaker, coming to Transport, two-wheeler taxi services is introduced only in 2 states such as Goa and Mizoram as we already have flagged off the programme for awareness. All members were allotted a quota of 5 Nos. permits but none fulfilled entirely. So far, 200 Nos. permits were issued. But soon after the common people become aware of the profits made by the two wheeler taxis, a mounting application for the same is received. However, under the guidance of the hon. Chief-Minister, it was decided that the permit should not exceed 500. Therefore, I would like to inform the people of Mizoram through this august House that permit for two wheeler taxis is closed for the time being. Pu Speaker, decision has also been made for introduction of Auto-rickshaw in the out skirt of the city.

PU R. VANLALVENA : It was due to Law that we refuse to submit. Now, two wheeler taxis are servicing with excessive rate. Is there any plan to alter the rate?

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the rate is fixed for only once and without any ceiling or floor for the rate.

PU R. VANLALVENA : But two-wheelers are in service without following the rate fixed by the authority.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA: Two wheeler taxis were given a strict warning that if they charge higher than the given rate, their permit will be cancelled. Till date, we have not received any complain as of the charge. At the time of allotting 5 quotas to each member, the rate was not fixed. Pu Speaker, it is appreciative that we are witnessing the benefit of Auto-rickshaw as well. The limited quota of 50 permits for each area is now fulfilled.

Various achievements have also been made in Transport Department like a new Directorate building. The area of DTO Aizawl is too vast and so is decided to be divided into DTO Aizawl (Rural) and DTO Aizawl (Urban).

Pu Speaker, 5 crores that we received from NEDP is utilized for the following projects: -

- i) ₹70 lakhs for Awareness and Publication;
- ii) ₹20 lakhs for capacity training building;
- iii) ₹100 lakhs for purchase and installation of Traffic Police equipment;
- iv) ₹110 for purchase of towing truck and improvement of enforcement;
- v) ₹60 lakhs for purchase and installation of vehicle smoke analyzer
- vi) ₹ 90 lakhs for garage numbering and side preparation;
- vii) ₹50 lakhs for Public parking at DTO Complex, Chaltlang.

Total - ₹500 lakhs.

Apart from these, we have on-going project in Melthum, South Hlimen for Automated Inspection & Certification Centre. The fund is sponsored by Ministry of Road and Highway and the estimate is ₹15.50 crores.

The Department is utilizing Information Technology under which all driving license and motor registration are computerized. The term is SARAHI and VAAHAN. Pu Speaker, we now have DTO Office in Lunglei whereas construction for DTO Office Saiha and Lawngtlai are in progress. Also, there is a proposal to privatize Silchar MST bus station. As for the demand of MST bus service, I regret to state that we are unable to fulfill at present due to shortage of bus. We have made an approach to Finance Department for purchase of new bus and if we are permitted, then we can cover more routes.

Pu Speaker, MST bus fare is quite low; yet, we still make concession to cancer patient, physically handicap, blind and HIV positive which is free. Also, we also provide 50% concession to old age citizen and free travel to female passenger of above 60 years. Pu Speaker, there are so many points to highlight, however I will end my speech on transport here.

I am grateful that the hon. Members have shown interest on Tourism Department. Many have spoken of Home-stay as well and we are fortunate to be the first in the NE to adopt the policy. We started home-stay with the fund received from NEDP and is amazing to witness the success story. We now have 35 units. As hon. Members have mentioned, it is intended for tourist attraction to our state. There is a proposal to introduce Home-stay in Mamit as well. It is a privilege that the Hon. Group Leader, Pu Zawma too has the same view regarding Urban Home-stay as it is under process.

Tourism Department has various on-going projects such as the integrated development project of New Tourist Destination under Swadesh Darshan, North East Circuit at Thenzawl, South Zote and Reiek. Pu Ruatkima mentioned that no action as being taken at South Zote, but Pu Speaker, the project is shifted to Thenzawl and is now in full swing.

Under Development of Eco-Adventure Circuit and Eco-Circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan, ₹99.07 crore is received and the work will be implemented soon. Pu Ruatkima stated that Tuipuibari being covered under the project of Aizawl Destination. It may be noted that it is only the term used to that effect otherwise it will cover a wider destination.

As for setting up rope way to Sakawrhmutuai Tlang, there was a clashed between VCs of Sihphir and Lungdai but is now being settled without any claim of compensation. Likewise, ropeway project is being proposed in between Durtlang and Tourist Lodge, Chaltlang and if these two are achieved; the previous one will be the first and the second one the highest in the country.

Regarding festival, we regularly organize Thalfavang Kut, Anthurium festival at Reiek and a clubbed festival of our various Kut called Winter Festival at Tuirial Airfield. The reason being that Reiek could no longer hold the crowd and there are some who stuck in the traffic jam the whole day without reaching the Venue. Thus, it is shifted for the convenient of everyone. Pu Speaker, we receive ₹25 lakhs from the Central Govt. for the celebration of each festival and thereby to attract the tourists. We now have fund allocation of ₹96 lakhs for marketing and Publicity. Pu Speaker, I am grateful that hon. Members have shown keen interest in Tourism; yet, I would like to point out that we do face hurdles as well. That is all I can highlight on tourism. Thank you.

Now, I request this august House to pass the demands of the following departments under my concern, such as: -

Demand Nos.	Purpose	Amount
17	Food, Civil Supply Consumers Affairs	2,49,10,97,000.00
42	Transport	45,02,31,000.00
43	Tourism	12,89,07,000.00
TOTAL		3,07,02,35,000.00

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has moved the House to pass his demands totally ₹3,07,02,35,000.00. Those in favour may say, 'Yes' and those who do not may say, 'No'. The house has unanimously passed the Demands of the hon. Minister, Pu John Rotluangliana.

PU JOHN ROTLUANGLIANA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir.

SPEAKER : We have come to the end of our business for today. We will resume our meeting tomorrow at 10:30 AM.

The sitting is adjourned. (5:55 PM)