

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

LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR TWELFTH SITTING ON THURSDAY, THE 10th MARCH, 2022
(Time 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

WELCOME ADDRESS

1. **Welcome Address** by the hon. Speaker.

VICE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

2. **M. VENKAI AH NAIDU**, Hon'ble Vice President of India to address the House.

VOTE OF THANKS

3. **PU ZORAMTHANGA**, hon. Chief Minister to propose a Vote of Thanks on the Vice President's Address.

QUESTIONS

4. **QUESTIONS** entered in separate list to be asked and oral answers given.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

5. **PU VANLALHLANA** to present to the House:

Ninth Report on the Report of Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year 2015-2016 relating to Agriculture Department.
Tenth Report on Appropriation Accounts for the year 2016- 2017, 2017-2018 and 2019-2020 (Excess Expenditure)

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bill for introduction, consideration and passing

6. **DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA**, hon. Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022'.

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

7. **DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA**, hon. Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce 'The Mizoram Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022'.

ALSO
to introduce the Bill
to move that the Bill be taken into consideration
AND
to move that the Bill be passed.

8. **PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE**, hon'ble Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce 'Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022'.

ALSO
to introduce the Bill
to move that the Bill be taken into consideration
AND
to move that the Bill be passed.

H. LALRINAWMA
Commissioner & Secretary

SPEAKER : Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

-Matthew 5:9

WELCOME ADDRESS:

It is a great privilege and honor for me to be with the hon' Vice President of India and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu here in this August House. Sir, I, on behalf of this House and on behalf of the Mizoram welcomes you here.

The Hon' Vice President of India, Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu is a visionary leader who has rendered tireless service to the nation. Now, may I invite the Hon' Vice President of India, Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu to address this House.

VICE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:

SHRI. M. VENKAI AH NAIDU, VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA: Ka unau duhtak te u, chibai vek ule. In bulah ka awm ve hi ka lawm em em a ni.

Hon. Governor, Hari Babu Kambhampati, Shri. Lalrinliana Sailo hon. Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Shri. Pu Zoramthanga hon. Chief Minister of Mizoram, leaders of various parties, hon. Members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly; I am really delighted to be here in this beautiful State, this beautiful Assembly to meet and address you in this August House. This is the highest lawmaking body and truly it epitomizes about democratic principles and ethos. I being not only as the Vice President, but as the Chairman of the Upper House of India, I feel happy whenever I go to any State to meet the Legislators, and particularly to address a State Assembly.

I would like to thank the hon. Speaker, hon. Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, Ministers and all the Members and party leaders of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly for giving me this opportunity. At the outset, I convey my greetings and my best wishes to the people of Mizoram. I was told that this year is the 50th Anniversary of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly with the Golden Jubilee celebrations slated to be held in May.

I congratulate all the Members – the past and the present of this august House on this historic occasion. It is a happy coincidence that this year we are also celebrating the 75 years of Independence as an independent nation. Your Assembly's Swarna Mahotsav and the country's Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrate India's remarkable progress on its democratic journey. 50 years ago, Mizoram became a separate entity and started its journey as a Union Territory and later became a full-fledged state of the Union of India on 20th February 1987 becoming the 23rd State in India.

I am specially pleased at the way Mizoram has deepened our country's democratic roots by peaceful electoral processes, graceful conduct of Legislators in the Assembly and sustained inclusive development endeavor over the last five decades. We need to recognize the exalted place that law making bodies occupy in the public perception. It is, indeed, the sacred place where people's voices are articulated and heard, where their hopes and fears are debated, where laws that protect them, foster their growth and enable fast-tracked national development are formulated.

It is gratifying to note that the sessions of the House, or this House is conducted with utmost discipline, diligence and decorum. You have, indeed, upheld the trust, hopes and aspirations that people have reposed in you as their representatives. I was going through the different phases and also enquiring about the functioning of the Legislature. I am really very happy about the performance of Mizoram Legislature. I congratulate all of you in setting a high benchmark that other State Legislatures and even the Parliament can emulate. As I told you, being the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, I preside over the Upper House but sometimes, unfortunately, when things go out of the way and there is too much disruption we feel unhappy. I feel pained as the Chairman of the Upper House when disturbances takes place. In democracy, Legislatures are meant for debate, discussion and decision not for disruption. In Parliament, in Assembly you have an opportunity to articulate your views, to discuss the proposals made by the Government, differ with the Government and have a meaningful debate so that the Government can also benefitted, the bureaucracy can be guided by the valuable suggestions that are made by Legislators from this side or that side. So that's why I tell my Parliamentarians and Legislators in different parts of the country because when I see disturbances in certain Legislature happening even during Governor's Address or during presentation of budget. And when disturbances occur it pains me. I tell the people please if you want to articulate your views there are two ways: to talk out or walk out. Do not make a break out because it will break all out of democracy. I am saying this not just for the Legislators of Mizoram, I am saying this for the Legislators of the entire country. When i say something as the Vice President, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, it goes and reaches people in different regions. That's why I always maintained that let the Government proposed, that let the opposition opposed and that let the House disposed. That should be the approach. Then the peoples' aspirations are heard, respected and decisions be taken by the Legislatures. That is why I congratulate all of you in setting a high benchmark that other state legislatures and even the Parliament can emulate.

Mizoram has demonstrated the power of dialogue and peaceful settlement of disputes so essential in a democracy. The signing of the historic Memorandum of Settlement between the Government of India, the Government of Mizoram and the Mizo National Front in 1986 ended more than two decades of unrest and strife and ushered in peace and progress. Peace is the prerequisite for progress. If you have tension you cannot pay attention. This has to be understood by one and all. All of us who are parts of this great country must all work for peace. Peace brings prosperity and also happiness. The Peace Accord has served as an example upon which similar peace agreements have become a reality in other parts of the North Eastern region. You must be proud that Mizoram today is not only counted as one of the most peaceful states in the country but has embarked upon the developmental journey with a rare earnestness. This is ultimately what our constitution makers had dreamt of. They wanted our country's governance to be responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people and resolve differences through peaceful, democratic conversation.

I must congratulate the people of Mizoram for their total involvement which gave an extra-ordinary momentum to the political process, as a result of which the State witnessed the restoration of peace and order. It is quite remarkable that your state has had peaceful elections right from the first State Assembly elections in 1987 to the recent

2018 election. Significantly, I am told that there has never been a single instance of coercion or booth capturing in the history of Mizoram.

I am very happy to note that your state has taken the laudable initiative of strengthening grassroot level democracy as well. The Hon'ble Governor Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati has informed me that regular elections have been held in the State at local levels in a peaceful, harmonious environment with the active involvement of the Church, the non-governmental organizations and the civil society. This is truly a tribute to the character of the people determined to enhance the quality of our country's democratic ethos.

Mizoram occupies a special place in my heart - its rich history and splendid cultural diversity, its rolling hills, lakes and rivers, and breath-taking scenic beauty, have always held enduring appeal for me. It is indeed commendable that you have carefully nurtured and preserved this fascinating mosaic of ethnic and cultural traditions over centuries. Warmth, generosity, gentleness, kindness and compassion are defining and endearing attributes of the Mizo people.

I feel greatly enthused and inspired when I visit the North Eastern region. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has often spoken about the strengths and possibilities of the region and the immense collective potential it possesses. Truly, the eight states - Ashta Lakshmi as some have called them - are the pride of our great nation. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, while pronouncing the Act East Policy in 2014 underlined that the North-Eastern Region would be its fulcrum under which this region would emerge as an effective growth engine for shared benefits. He further stressed that Culture, Commerce, Connectivity and Capacity Building would propel this Policy. I always say, and I believe, that we must respect the nature. Nature and culture together for better future. That should be our approach.

Mizoram occupies an area of strategic importance in the north-eastern corner of our great nation by virtue of being sandwiched between Myanmar in the east and south and Bangladesh in the west. Within the renewed Act East Policy of the Government of India, Mizoram is set to occupy the centre stage as it will serve as the all-important gateway of South East Asian economies into the region as well as into the country. I am confident that in the coming years Mizoram will become a fulcrum in the region's growth and development through the important Kaladan Multi Modal Project, which when completed will transform the economy of not just Mizoram but the entire North Eastern region and help accelerate economic growth and development.

Even though Mizoram was a late starter in the developmental process as compared to other North Eastern states, I am extremely pleased to note the rapid strides being made by this important state towards socio-economic development with completion of several infrastructure projects. This kind of transformation is clear evidence of resurgence, what I had earlier called 'NER in NER' which means 'The New Era of Resurgence in the North-Eastern Region'.

The Covid-19 pandemic has tested our nation's strength and resilience. I am told that Mizoram continues to be amongst the hardest hit states. I am happy to note that Mizoram has been able to fight the pandemic effectively due to the untiring efforts of

communities, churches and community-based organizations. This unique model based on Tlawmngaihna' - the Mizo code of ethics and life as the guiding principle has been the mantra of Mizoram's fight against the pandemic. The synergy of collective efforts has apparently contributed to low mortality and low hospitalization rates.

Mizoram has exemplified the essential dimension of democracy in its recognition of making development people-centric and empowering people to become active agents of positive change.

The truest measure of a progressive State is the welfare of its people and their development. It should be the effort of the government to ensure that the benefits of growth reach all sections of the society. The poorest of the poor should feel happy that they are becoming partners in the developmental story of their states and country. I am happy to learn about the State Government's flagship programme, the Socio-Economic Development Programme (SEDP), which seeks to bring about socio economic development that is inclusive and people-centric.

It is heartening that in the latest Sustainable Development Goals- SDG India Index 2021, Mizoram has improved its ranking from the 21st position in the 2019-20 Index to the 12th position in 2020-21 Index. It is a remarkable progress. I congratulate the Government and all of you for this remarkable progress. The resources and assets, whether they are - agro-forestry based resources, particularly the bamboo rich resources of the state, the river resources, the congenial weather must be harnessed in all possible ways to make sustainable development a reality. Under the leadership of the able Chief Minister, I am sure that the state government will achieve its SDGs.

Mizoram's impressive track record has enabled it to draw upon a substantial support from the Union Government and various agencies for its developmental endeavours. Centre and State must always work together. State and the local bodies must all work together because this unity, in regard to development will really help to accelerate the developmental process. This is evident in the allocation of funds to the tune of Rs. 600 crores in the Union Budget this year for two projects under the newly announced Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East (PM DevINE) Scheme. These two projects Construction of Aizawl By-Pass on the Western Side (from Sihmui to Muallungthu) for Rs. 500 crores and Rs. 100 crores for the Pilot Project for Construction of Bamboo Link Roads at different locations in various districts in the State will go a long way in boosting the State's economy and securing livelihoods for many people.

I would like to emphasize the crucial importance of physical infrastructure, particularly transport infrastructure, as a key prerequisite for economic development. I am aware that the State Government is focusing on this and I would encourage them to continue their efforts. I am happy that certain projects like Champhai - Zokhawthar road, Tlabung - Kawrpuichhuah and Chhumkhum - Chawngte road constructed with World Bank fund and Serchhip -Buarpui road constructed under Asian Development Bank were completed last year. I am told that the construction of the broad gauge line: from Bairabi to Sihmui, near Aizawl is making good progress. I had the occasion to see while coming also. Once it is completed, it will open up new growth avenues and usher a new era of progress and development.

Along with infrastructure development, you are quite appropriately focusing your attention on agriculture and allied activities like horticulture and floriculture. In Mizoram, like in many parts of the country, agriculture is the main occupation and some of the major festivals like Mim Kut, Chapchar Kut and Pawl Kut in Mizoram are connected with agricultural activities. Agriculture is our basic culture and has to be strengthened. Development of agriculture is essential for bringing about overall prosperity and for attaining food security. Sustainable agricultural practices must be promoted and encouraged.

In addition, Mizoram has a great potential for expanding horticulture and floriculture. Orchids and Anthuriums, for example, can not only generate additional income to farmers but also make Mizoram a favourite tourist destination. The Anthurium Festival and the traditional festival of Chapchar Kut which you celebrated just last week can also help in the promotion of tourism.

Mizoram is blessed with rich forest resources which need to be preserved and protected. We have inherited a beautiful planet and it is our moral duty to leave enough resources for our future generations. This requires an attitude of caring for nature, avoiding wasteful consumption and increasing the use of renewable sources of energy namely hydroelectricity, solar, wind and biomass. We should for more and more on this area.

Mizoram has great scope for small scale industries based on bamboo and timber products, agro-industry, handloom and handicrafts, as well as medicinal and aromatic plants. The beautiful Mizo shawls and Puan of different designs reflect the weaving skill of the Mizo women. Your state is, indeed, richly endowed with natural resources and you are nurturing human resources well through education and health.

I am happy to note that Mizoram attained a literacy rate, second only to Kerala among the states. With their high literacy levels and English language skills, the youth of Mizoram enjoy a distinct advantage. This talented large pool of human resources is, today, scripting Mizoram's development journey and of the nation as well. I always feel that we must promote our mother tongue. You will be able to articulate better, our children will think and articulate better in their mother tongue. I always say mother tongue is like our eyesight and other languages are like spectacles. With our eyesight and spectacles will work effectively. Learning English is good and will be useful. I suggest to the children first promote your mother tongue, learn English, learn Hindi and as many language as possible. Because the world is open up and opportunities are many in number of places. So, when we move out we must be able to understand and also speak their language. But here, at home, we can ourselves converse in our mother tongue. That is my appeal, not only to Mizo people but also to the entire country.

While you have steadily strengthened our country's democratic fabric and have set a shining example of ideal democratic traditions, I thought there are a few areas of further improvement that you may like to take note of. Two days ago, on the 8th of March, the world celebrated the International Women's Day. It was an occasion to recognize that our development strategy must fully involve women. Their participation in all walks of life can accelerate development and make our development process more inclusive because they constitute 50% of the population. This is also in keeping with

the central principle of a vibrant democracy where each person has equitable opportunities to grow and contribute to the growth of the country. An issue that I would like to flag is representation of women in the Legislatures of our country. It is generally perceived that the women enjoy a better position in the socio-cultural and political matrix of this region given its cultural ethos. But I find representation of women in the Legislative Assemblies of the North-Eastern States is on the lower side. While the Assemblies of Mizoram and Nagaland do not have any women Members, it ranged from two in case of Manipur to five in the Tripura Legislative Assembly. Of the total 498 Members in the eight Legislative Assemblies of the region, there are only 20 women Members constituting only 4%. There is a strong case for involving more women Members in the law making in the region. Even in the Parliament women constitute only about 11%. There is scope for increasing and improving it. I sincerely hope that in the years to come, women will get elected in considerable strength to this Assembly.

You may also like to examine if the Assembly sessions should also be planned over a reasonable period of time so that there is enough time to deliberate, discuss, debate and finally, decide. You need more in comparison to some other States. I hope that all State Legislatures, all across the country and also in the Parliament to meet more often to discuss issues and to take decisions. So, more sitting of Legislatures and more constructive debates are very useful. We must have more sittings of legislatures and more constructive debates in each session. The legislatures, including that of North-East States need to meet more often and for longer duration and devote themselves to law making, ensuring accountability of the executive and discussing issues of larger public interest.

With ample natural resources and a conducive atmosphere, the close-knit Mizo society can aspire to become one of the most prosperous states in the country. I am touched by the warm welcome and colorful reception you have accorded me today. I would like to thank the Hon'ble Governor, the hon. Chief Minister, the hon. Speaker, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Ministers and MLAs, the Legislative Parties and the Government of Mizoram. Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram has been a long-time friend, right from our student days and colleague having worked together in public life. I am happy to visit Mizoram while he is here.

I once again convey my greetings and good wishes to each one of you, Hon'ble Members of this august House, and all the people of Mizoram for your dedication, hard work and your untiring efforts to make your beautiful state into one of the most prosperous and peaceful states in our country.

Let us continue to work as Team India, capitalizing on each other's strengths with the ultimate aim of transforming the lives of our people in this region as well as the country as a whole. We should not only make people prosperous, we must make them happy. Happiness, that is very important as we celebrate 75 years of development in independent India, Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava, we must resolve, take a Maha Sankalp, to strengthen the grand democratic tradition of our nation. We must ensure that our State Assemblies and the Parliament become effective instruments for shaping the new India, we all are dreaming of. We want a strong, stable, peaceful, prosperous and a happy nation where there is no illiteracy, where there is no poverty, where there

is no social, regional and gender discrimination. We would like to see and work for such a strong nation, a stable and happy India. Our democracy is one of the oldest and the largest democracies in the world. Let us make it the best.

Jai Hind!
K A L A W M E

SPEAKER : Thank you, Sir, for the inspiring message. The two good friends will work together for the betterment of our state. Now, may I request Pu Zoramthanga, Hon' Chief Minister of Mizoram and the Leader of the House to propose vote of thanks.

VOTE OF THANKS:

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: His Excellency the Vice President of India, Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu and His Excellency the Governor of Mizoram and the Hon' Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Mizoram, today it is my great privilege and I am proud to be here to welcome the Vice President of India because here, in one of the most corner state in India, it is a very difficult timing, let me say that for the people living there in Delhi coming to Mizoram and spend more time, even to stay for a day is quite a big problem. Despite all these things we understand that His Excellency, apart from your office burden days as a Vice president of India but even as a Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, you have been burdened with a lot of problems here and there and a busy time that you shall be having, in spite of all these things you can come to Mizoram and it is a great privilege for the people of Mizoram to welcome you and today when you made an address here in the Assembly we are really delighted.

As you, your-self have said, Your Excellency, here in the state of Mizoram we have a very lovable Governor of Mizoram from your state, from the Andhra Pradesh. As people jokingly made a comment that in the Shakespeare's drama there are two gentlemen of Verona, here we are having two gentlemen from Andhra, Vice President and the Governor. I wonder what if people believe that all the people coming from Andhra Pradesh have a high altitude.

Nevertheless, with all these things we really welcome you and despite our busy schedule of the budget session, we are really pleased when we see your program. Therefore, I believe that since you have come to Mizoram before that really shows that you really care for the Mizoram. Apart, from this vote of thanks, I would like to mention one or two points in my vote of thanks.

One is that as you yourself have said, the session that you have there in the Rajya Sabha and even in the Lok Sabha, we witnessed there through the television etc. Comparing with our session it really is different, here the session that we are having, some people jokingly use to say that it's like a meeting of a religious organization. Here, there is no problem, we share our views together, sometimes argue together and it is with peaceful and exemplary atmosphere that we use to have a session here and we are addicted to that. We are really happy to have a kind of this beautiful atmosphere in the session. We also like to make it contagious to the neighboring states and to the two Parliament Houses of India also.

Secondly, here, as we have rightly said that Mizoram used to be the most disturbed state but since 1986 when peace came, it become the most peaceful state. Remembering this, with the Central government giving us and which was never been given before, very beautiful coining word which we called 'Peace bonus' which other states never know. So, now long time ago in the beginning of 2000, you have given us the Peace Bonus which we are really grateful. And now we are intending to expose the peace to the neighboring states. As your Excellency knows, here we are surrounded in the East by Myanmar and the west by Bangladesh, in the northwest we are surrounded by the North Eastern states. Full of insurgency, look at Manipur, look at Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland and there in the Chittagong hill tracks, there in Arakan and now comes Myanmar. There is a big conflagration of fire of insurgency surrounding us here.

But Mizoram being the meeting point of the three countries, this triangular junction point, we are trying to show how peace can be attained from the disturbed state to the most peaceful state.

A decade ago, even the Myanmar military government requested Mizoram and the Govt. of India to make peace for which, together with the National Security Advisor, Mr. Doval, we went to meet the Myanmar representatives and we were about to embark on the peace mission but because of the election things could not go on as we wish. But now we understand, the Myanmar Govt. is embarking on requesting the Govt. of India to make peace in our neighbor. Therefore, it is my belief that the greatest things Mizoram can do, the Mizo people can do is export peace to the neighboring states. As much as we are exporting the type of the Assembly session atmosphere which we are exporting, therefore, exporting peace to our neighbors, which we have been doing it for quite a long time we shall be able to achieve a lot. And with this, Mizoram being the symbol of peace in India, the most successful peace accord ever signed by the Govt. of India, I believe that, as our Speaker had read out, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God' I believe that India will play a very important role in making peace with Myanmar and the neighboring states.

With your coming, His Excellency, the Vice President of India, we hope that you will have the habit of coming often here. The only thing that we can offer here is a fresh beautiful air, unpolluted air that we have which is a rare commodity down there in Delhi. Without charging any price we can give you this beautiful unpolluted air. Apart from that Mizoram people and the Legislative Assembly are ready to serve the nation in the field of economy, peacemaking and social disturbances in the present catastrophic world.

I hope that we shall achieve quite a lot and I hope that your visit will give a big impact to the Legislative Assembly and to the people of Mizoram. So, in the name of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Mizoram and in the name of the people of Mizoram, we welcome you and give a lot of thanks for your visit. Thank you very much His Excellency.

SPEAKER : Thank you, Sir Zoramthanga, the House Leader. Now the proceedings of this session with the Hon' Vice President of India and Chairman of the Upper House of our great country is now conclude.

All members and Hon' Vice President of India are requested to proceed for group photo session.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

We will proceed to question and answer. Pu Lalsawivunga could not attend the session due to health issue and I request Dr. Vanlalhlana to ask Starred Question No. 181.

DR. VANLALHLANA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Will The Taxation Minister be pleased to state -

- a) The amount of way bills (including e-way bill) issued (item wise) between Champhai to Kolasib Districts since 2019.
- b) The amount of taxes received by the government (item wise) from the e-way bill between Champhai to Kolasib Districts since 2018.
- c) The amount of VAT collected from POL from 2019-2020 to date.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalchamlia to answer the question.

PU LALCHAMLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. My answer is-

- a) E-way bill system under GST is fully functional but the Management Information System (MIS) which is prepared by the GST Central is not yet ready for State Level viewing. So, it is impossible to determine the way bills (including e-way bill) issued (item wise) between Champhai to Kolasib Districts since 2019.
 - b) E-way bill is an important tool for tax evasion between traders. E-way bill records are not necessarily tax revenue as tax is only applicable when goods are sold. Therefore, the numbers cannot be determined.
 - c) VAT collection from POL from 2019-2020 to date (Jan 2022) is Rs. 3,75,65,38,346. Here is the breakup-
- | | | |
|--------------|----------|---------------------------|
| 2019-2020 | - | ₹1,17,75,83,217.00 |
| 2020-2021 | - | ₹1,13,11,05,874.00 |
| 22021-2022 | - | ₹1,44,78,49,255.00 |
| TOTAL | - | ₹3,75,65,38,346.00 |

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Dr. Vanlalhlana.

DR. VANLALHLANA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Is there a proposal to open Taxation offices in the three new districts? Secondly, there are several vacant posts for Taxation officers if we look at the list of employees and so, is there any proposal to fill these posts soon?

SPEAKER : Pu Lalchamlia, Minister to answer the question.

PU LALCHAMLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, there are no proposals to open Taxation offices in the three new districts for now.

Secondly, we are trying to fill up the posts but as we all know, austerity measures have required separate applications. Therefore, we have not succeeded yet.

SPEAKER : Dr. Vanlaltanpuia to ask Starred Question No. 182

DR. VANLALTANPUIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Will The General Administration Department Minister be pleased to state-

- a) The amount of fund allocated for Lengpui airport renovation for the financial year 2021-2022
- b) If there are any intention to hand over Lengpui Airport to the Airport Authority of India (AAI)?
- c) If not, why?

SPEAKER : I request The Hon' Chief Minister Pu Zoramthanga who is also the GAD Minister to answer the question

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer to the question from Dr. Vanlaltanpuia is as follows-

- a) The state budget is not allocated separately for Lengpui Airport renovation project for the Financial Year 2021-2022
- b) There is no intension to hand over Lengpui Airport to the Airport Authority of India (AAI) for now
- c) AAI and Mizoram Government have not yet reached an agreement on terms and conditions acceptable to both parties

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Dr. Vanlaltanpuia

DR. VANLALTANPUIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I would like to add that I am quite pleased with the Lengpui airport renovation since airports are the face of the country. My supplementary question is- Kawmzawl helicopter terminal in Lunglei does not have a proper sanitation facility and the passengers are mostly patients. So, is it possible to provide a proper sanitation facility? Thank you.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Dr. ZR. Thiamsanga.

DR. ZR. THIAMSAंगा : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Helicopter service is a necessity. Champhai is quite far from Aizawl and it is difficult for the sick patients to get tickets. The services are available on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and while it services thrice on Saturday, it serviced only once on Tuesday and Thursday. So, is it possible to extend the services for the sick and needy?

Apart from Lengpui airport, I believe airports are surveyed in Lunglei and Champhai Districts. So, is there any plan to achieve this?

There are around 70 RD Blocks in Nagaland and around 26 in Mizoram if I am not mistaken. So, is there a way to increase RD Blocks and if so, will it be possible at Hnahlan? Thank you.

SPEAKER : The Hon' Chief Minister Pu Zoramthanga to answer the questions.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, in response to Dr. Vanlaltanpuia regarding the sanitation facility, it will not be expensive and you can count on the special assistant fund. Regarding the intention to hand over the airport to the AAI, they are pressuring us but the fact is that they are trying to privatize it to others. If we handed our airport, it will not develop just like the airports in Silchar and Imphal. So, our airport could be the best airport in the northeast if we put our best efforts in the renovation.

In response to Dr. ZR. Thiamsanga, we will look into providing a bigger helicopter and extending the services. Regarding the arrangement of another airport, it is quite expensive to even have one airport. However, the Air Force officials said that Lunglei Saitluk is considerable for Air Force airport and useful for the southern areas but, they could not take measures due to the pandemic. Otherwise, it is too expensive for the state to have another airport and we do not dare to have the project. We will see to it according to our circumstances.

SPEAKER : Starred Question No. 183 to be asked by the Hon' member Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, will the PHE Minister be pleased to state-

- a) The name of the contractor of Alternate Gravity Water Supply Scheme and if I could be provided with the agreement copy.
- b) The estimated amount
- c) The commencement date
- d) The completion date
- e) Physical and financial achievement in percentage
- f) The number of people it can provide.
- g) The area to be covered.

SPEAKER : The Hon' PHE Minister and also the Dy. Chief Minister Pu Tawnluia to answer the questions.

PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answers are as follows-

- a) The contractor is- M/S Kram Infracon Pvt. Ltd and Vikas & Associates (JV), Noida. The agreement copy is attached.
- b) The estimated amount is ₹11,900 lakhs and this includes State GST of ₹480.35 lakhs. The central government sanctioned Rs. 11,419.65 lakhs excluding state GST on 4.12.2008. The work is fully tendered and this contractor responded with a tender of ₹11250 lakhs. The State government exempted the state GST here as requested by the contractors to exempt it. The total cost of the project is estimated at ₹11,250 lakhs.
- c) Work commencement date is 12th September, 2019
- d) Completion date is 30th June, 2022
- e) Works completed- Physical 60, 10%, Financial- ₹80,59,07,000.00 (72%)
- f) 2,14,000 people, 70 liters (70lpcd) of water per person during the rainy season.
- g) The area to be covered shall be-

Aizawl: Mualpui, Mission Veng, Mission Vengthlang, ITI, Model Veng, College Veng etc.

Southern areas: Muallungthu, Falkawn, Melriat, Kelsih, Hualngohmun, Samtlang, N.Lungleng and Lungleng-I

Pu Speaker, water from Tawih Tlang will be gravitationally transported to Muallungthu Tlang where there is a large reservoir with a capacity of 15 lakhs and from there it will be distributed to various parts of Aizawl. The surrounding area 'chhimphei' will cover from Muallungthu Tlang. Another large tanky will be built near Trinity Hospital where it will not pass through Muallungthu and it will go from Trinity Hospital to Mualpui. We will pump a few so that Mission veng and the western part of the area will be covered. Rain water storage facility is designed to feed these areas. The scheme is usually implemented for six months during the rainy season and the engineers expect it to feed Muallungthu area even during the rainy season. That is the calculation and plan of our engineers.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Lalduhoma

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, do we have anything else to carry out by gravity? Will we be taking the river water for intake or will we be pumping the river water from the west to Tawi tlang and then transport it by gravity? If there is a hill where it is possible to pump up the nearby river, we could feed Aizawl by gravity and so I am asking if we have any reserves? We know the capacity during the rainy season but we need it most during the dry season. What could be the capacity during the dry season and will Aizawl and Muallungthu make use of it if the nearby river is pumped?

Will it be possible to construct a bridge at Tuirial and Tuirini river-crossing so that the farmers can make use of it?

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu KT Rokhaw.

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Thank you, Pu Speaker and my question is- Saikao (Serkawr) is the home of our missionaries and the water supply comes from Tipa. There is extreme water scarcity during dry seasons and so will it be possible to pump the waters through water pumping. There is Kawlchaw river under this town.

SPEAKER : Dy. Chief Minister Pu Tawnluia to answer the questions.

PU TAWNLUIA, DY. CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the funding for this project is PM-Kusum scheme and fortunately, it is 100% funded. This is the plan of the PHE Ministers since the previous government and we are following up. The water is to be drawn from the land surrounding Tawih hill and our department along with the Forest department officials did their best together. There is a good spot where the water does not run dry and the catchment area will be widened during the rainy season. We will build a large dam and the water which is stored will flow down. The pipe is 18 inches and is buried a long way.

The process is just like rain-water harvesting and if it could feed the neighborhoods in southern Aizawl without using the water pumps, the cost of diesel and electricity would reduce. For the intake, a dam is designed to receive rainwater from the vast area of the forest and our engineers also think it will be good enough. Building a bridge for Tuitial and Tuirini crossing can be unsafe from floods and we are looking for ways to avoid them. We know that Tuikum source is not drying up even during the dry season. However, the member's question 'is it possible?' should be followed up by our engineers. Pu Speaker, I remember our Chief Minister saying 'Mizoram has abundant rain water and it flows from high to lower places and then flows into the river. Therefore, we have to think of a dam before it reaches the river'. I believe that Tawih Tlang's catchment area can collect the rain water in this way. In addition, our engineers are researching if a large reservoir and catchment can be built at Reiek Tlang, which will flow down to Aizawl till Dihmunzawl by gravitation or rainwater harvesting. The project is expected to be completed next year.

There are some difficulties in the construction of the large water tank. However, the work will be carried out carefully this month and this is our general situation.

Pu Speaker, regarding Serkawr, is the source safe or not (**Pu K.T. Rokhaw:** Kawlawh river and Kawlchaw river are under Serkawr village and there is good amount for solar pumping). We will have a survey and if there is a source, the others can be programmed slowly.

SPEAKER : Starred Question no. 184 to be asked by Pu Vanlalhlana.

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, I would like to congratulate Serchhip Govt. College for being accredited with an A grade by NAAC. Will the Higher & Technical Education Minister be pleased to state

- a) If there is a women's hostel in Serchhip Govt. College
- b) If not, why?

SPEAKER : Hon. Minister Dr. R. Lalthangliana to answer the question

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer is-

- a) Yes, there is a women's hostel in Serchhip Govt. College
- b) There is.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Vanlalhlana

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, is it occupied?

SPEAKER : Earlier, the Vice President asked why we said 'vote of thanks' and he advised us to say 'words of thanks'.

Supplementary question from Pu Lalduhoma

PU LALDUHOMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. It is impressive that we are accredited with 'A' grade. They said that grade 'A' carries many benefits which we have never heard of. They said that it also contains skill-based course diploma and post-graduate course. So, we need additional teachers for this and will it be possible to initiate skill-based course diploma and post-graduate course?

SPEAKER : Hon. Minister Dr. R. Lalthangliana to answer the question.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I believe it is the only Govt. College outside of Aizawl to be accredited with 'A' grade. Govt. Serchhip College women's hostel is funded by UGC, Govt. of India and the total project cost is ₹59.73 lakhs, including state matching share. UGC, Govt. of India's share is ₹40 lakhs and the state matching share is ₹19.73 lakhs. The total amount is ₹59.73 lakhs, of which ₹40 lakhs was already spent for the construction of the women's hostel. However, it is important to know why the construction work is not completed. We have not been able to receive our state matching share yet and I believe it is currently in K-Deposit. So, we are planning to continue the work as soon as possible and being an A grade, it is desirable to occupy this soon.

In response to Pu Hlana and Pu Duha, it is a bit different for A Grade and they are eligible for preferential treatment under RUSA. Many colleges do not meet the requirements and did not succeed even though they did their best. So, it is impressive that Serchhip College is qualified and I believe their chances of benefit are high.

In addition regarding 'PG Class', the Govt. of India has not made a final decision on how to implement RUSA-3 and so, it is difficult to predict how the PG class will be conducted. I believe Pu Duha question is about skill development and there may be a way to implement it, which we will explore. However, we have conducted PG class in 1 or 2 colleges and we cannot afford it. We have 'upgradation of existing college should be a model degree college' and here, Govt. Hnahthial College, Siaha College, Mamit College and J.Thankima College were granted. These 4 colleges were granted 4 crores for infrastructure and other purposes while other colleges were granted 2 crores. These components are to be received by colleges in aspiration districts.

There is a special preferential treatment for the Northeast state and the Himalayan state when they received 'A' grade by NAAC. So, there is an effective chance if our colleges have a high grading by NAAC. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Starred question no. 185 to be asked by the hon. member Pu Zodintluanga Ralte.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE : Thank you Pu Speaker. Will the Taxation Minister be pleased to state-

- a) The amount of additional revenue received by the Mizoram government after the increase in petrol tax (VAT) by 5% and diesel tax by 2.5% since June 2020.
- b) The amount of total revenue received by the Mizoram government after the increase in petrol tax (VAT) and diesel tax since June 2020.

SPEAKER : The hon. Taxation Minister Pu Lalchamliana to answer the question.

PU LALCHAMLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. My answer is-

- a) The exact figure of the additional revenue is not known. However, the revenue was ₹84.43 crore in June 2019-March 2020 (before the tax increase) and the revenue was ₹84.56 crore in June 2020- March 2021 (after the tax increase). It has increased by ₹13.02 lakhs.
- b) Mizoram government's total revenue from petrol and diesel since June 2020 to January, 2022 is as follows-

June 2020 - March 2021	-	₹ 84,54,41,098
April 2021 - January 2022	-	₹1,44,78,49,254
June 2020 - January 2022	-	₹2,29,34,90352

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Zodintluanga.

PU ZODINTLUANGA RALTE : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Taxes of various kinds are being levied to improve the government's budget and petrol and diesel taxes are increased without considering the poor and the needy. On the other hand, austerity measures on electric bills are also being implemented and drinking water bottles are also not to be used in meetings. Pu Speaker, when taxes were levied on the poorest of the poor, some of our Ministers are not reasonable and bought 1 piglet for RS. 2 lakhs. So, my question is- if the other ministers are not reasonable, could the taxation minister reduce petrol and diesel taxes to help the poor?

Secondly, petrol pumps are running out of petrol and they are hardly supplied. Many people are wondering whether petrol is reserved for higher prices. So, can this be clarified and then take action? Thank you.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu Ramthanmawia.

PU RAMTHANMAWIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Has the government reduced diesel and petrol prices recently? Is so, how much does it reduce?

SPEAKER : The questions are very interesting and I request the Hon Minister Pu Lalchamliana to answer the question

PU LALCHAMLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the concern minister said that is it a pig and not a piglet and it is the central government's fund.

In response to Pu Zodintluanga regarding whether petrol is reserved for higher prices, Taxation department is not aware of petrol situations and I believe it is the Supply Department's concern. Our duty is to collect VAT and I have no idea if it is sold or not.

In response to Pu Papuaia, VAT rates on petrol and diesel have been reduced significantly in the recent years. As per the order released on 4th November last year,

petrol and diesel prices were reduced by Rs. 7/- and I am glad I had the opportunity to talk about it today.

SPEAKER : Starred question No. 186 to be asked by Dr. Vanlaltanpuia. Does he authorize someone else?

PU L. THANGMAWIA : Pu Speaker, I was authorized and shall I go for it if you approve? (Approved by the Speaker) Thank you.

Pu Speaker, Will the PHE Minister be pleased to state-

- a) If Solar Water Pumping Project tenders under JJM scheme are issued in accordance with Central (scheme) guidelines
- b) The number of registered firms in Mizoram that can bid solar work tender.

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

PU TAWNLUIA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, my answer is-

- a) There is no specific JJM guidelines for tendering Solar Water Pumping Project under JJM Scheme
- b) Solar work tender is open to PHE and PWD empanelled firms approved by the Finance Department, registered under the Central PWD etc. The exact number of firms is unknown. There are 1st class- 8, 2nd class- 2, 3rd class-1 and 4th class-140 registered contractors in the PHE Department. We have several solar pumping schemes currently and more than 100 of which have been tendered. The Central government has not issued any guidelines for tendering solar pumping and the tender was issued according to the usual rules. Any registered contractor of any department can bid the tender.

SPEAKER : Supplementary question from Pu C. Ngunlianchunga.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Thank you, Pu Speaker. Paithar, Rulkual, Vanhne and Saikah areas were not surveyed under the previous government's combined solar pumping. There is severe water shortage during dry season since it is shared by 4 villages. Kurung river is located 300 meters from the intake and will it be possible to pump it under JJM Scheme? Diltlang is also having water shortage and I believe tender has been issued but no one had bid it. So, has it been retendered and what measures have been taken?

SPEAKER : Hon. Dy. CM Pu Tawnluia to answer the question.

PU TAWNLUIA, DY. CHIEF MINISTER : Pu Speaker, we have not abandoned the matter mentioned by Pu Ngunlianchunga and we are still taking care of it as needed. The PHE department will seek the best solution for the water supply and we believe the funding will not be too difficult for us now (**Speaker** : Question and answer hour is now over and you may finish the answer) It is a pleasure to be able to accomplish such a difficult task in the JJM Scheme.

The solar pumping scheme is not available to all the 1st class contractors because of the technicalities of the tender. Hundreds of tenders can be answered in the name of

any registered contractor but we allowed them to cooperate with those who have experience in solar pumping and do this in a joint venture even if they are non-Mizo because we want to carry out the works. Retender cannot be done immediately and we have to follow the rules. We are in a hurry and we will try to retender as soon as possible.

PU LALCHHUANTHANGA: Pu Speaker, I have 20 questions in this Assembly session, 10 starred questions and 10 unstarred questions. None of the starred questions are released while 3 unstarred questions are released. This is also my starred question.

SPEAKER : The questions are always drawn and I believe they are not drawn unfortunately. I was infected with Covid-19 and we have a question that is a little late. However, if members do not receive the questions and procedures, we will provide you.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS:

We will proceed to Presentation of Reports and I request Pu Vanlalhlana to present-

- i) Ninth Report on the Report of Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year 2015-2016 relating to Agriculture Department.
- ii) Tenth Report on Appropriation Accounts for the year 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 excess expenditure

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, with your permission I present-

- i) Ninth Report on the Report of Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year 2015-2016 relating to Agriculture Department.
- ii) Tenth Report on Appropriation Accounts for the year 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 excess expenditure.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS:

SPEAKER : Let the copies be distributed. We have 3 government bills and the copies are already given to the members. We will proceed to 'Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022' and I request Dr. R. Lalthangliana, Hon' Minister to beg the House to introduce the Bill.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission, I beg the House to introduce 'Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022'

SPEAKER : The Minister has begged the House for introduction and do we all agree? (Members: Yes) I request the Minister to introduce and move the Bill.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. It is appreciating that we will be discussing 'The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022' today. The world has suffered from Covid-19 and Mizoram is no exception. That is why it is important to introduce this Bill. This Bill should have been introduced in 2020 if there was no Covid-19 and even though we held sessions in the midst of the pandemic, it was difficult to do anything. However, I am pleased that we are able to consider this on the last day of today's session.

In addition, I would like to thank the Assembly staffs for their efforts in this regard. There are few things we need to know on ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’.

Firstly, Commerce & Industries is given the duty and responsibility under ‘The Mizoram Allocation of Business Rule, 2019’ schedule 3. Under this Allocation of Business Rules, regulated market, market yard, village market, price regulation of meats, vegetables and cereals are included and we do not have much operation on these subjects. The public did not understand this even when Covid-19 came out. So, we need to regulate the market and we need to work on fixing the prices on vegetables, fruits, meat etc.

Secondly, we do not have a proper market management system when the market management was handed over to the Commerce & industries Department in 2000. Pu Speaker, we need to alter the Mizoram Market Regulation Amendment Act, 1996 and 2008 according to this day and age and so I prepare this Bill for amendment.

Thirdly, it is necessary to generate a reasonable price between the producers and the consumers and the grocers will now be registered under the government. Once we have a proper market, we can think of ways to introduce these products in a proper manner and I hope this will lead to better hygiene as well. This Bill will also be able to carry out the seat allocation process as well. Pu Speaker, our market is different from other states due to the lack of proper market management. It is difficult to have a proper standard for price control and sometimes weighing machines are necessary.

This Bill will ensure that the burden on farmers and grocers is minimized. A study group was formed to draft this Bill by Commerce, Horticulture, Agriculture and Supply Departments including DC and it was carefully considered. So, if this Bill is a success, revenues can also be received by the government as well. That will be all and thank you Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : The Minister had introduced the Bill for discussion and each member will be given 5 minutes. I request Pu K. Laldawngliana.

PU K. LALDAWNGLIANA: Thank you, Pu Speaker and it is appreciating that we will be discussing ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’ today.

As we all know, the pandemic hit the world in 2020 and total lockdown was imposed even in our state. We were in turmoil but our Chief Minister made haste and established Vegetable and Fruits Supply Chain where meat was also included.

We are sufficient in fruits and vegetables but the reason we need this Bill so much is that the Mizoram government did not fix the rates. The reason why this bill needs to be passed is because the vegetables should be purchased on the basis of their weight. Clothes are sold under Ac while our vegetables are sold outside under the rain/sun with air pollution. So, this bill should be properly drafted where the vegetables can be sold in market places.

The sellers bought in cheap prices from the producers and then sold in high prices to the consumers and this cause huge problem for the poor. So, these could all be resolved with this Bill and I support it to be passed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Dr. K. Pachhungaa

DR. K. PACHHUNGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’ is an important Bill that affects us all and this Bill is designed to enable our farmers to sell their produce and livestock more profitably and to ensure that the consumers are satisfied. The productions should be sold on weigh base and they should be sold under a roof. This is a development bill and I support it to be passed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. Member Dr. Vanlalhlana.

DR. VANLALTHLANA : Thank you Pu Speaker. It is impressive that ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’ exists and it contains the MRP and weigh base. It also states that no person or any agency shall, without prior approval of the Government start any new market and I believe the government can receive revenues under these registrations.

Sec-IV (6) states that the weights should be measured and this might be confusing at first but it will get better in time. There are many street vendors in Aizawl and I would like to mention that there is a market in my locality but all the vendors gathered at the ground floor of the market. Vegetables are sold in place of meat and there are tea stalls. Flowers are sold at the top floor and there was a classroom on top of it which is now evacuated. So, this needs development and I believe we can make progress in a meaningful manner if we implement this Act. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu C. Lalmuanpuia

PU C. LALMUANPUIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker and ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’ introduced by our Minister is an excellent bill for the benefit of the people. Under The Mizoram Allocation of Business Rules, 2019’ Schedule-3, Commerce & Industries Department need adjustment in their responsibilities and duties and thus, this Bill is born.

Things can get chaotic if they are not handled properly and this can be seen during the pandemic where unfix rates caused problems for the people. I believe this Bill is reliable since it was studied by the Commerce, Horticulture, Agriculture, ah & Vety, Fisheries and Supply Departments including District Administration. It is impressive that this Bill will place most of the street vendors in the market. Aizawl Municipal Corporation (AMC) has also made arrangements for vendors and they sell their items by the Horticulture office on every Saturday. However, we still need to fix the rates and the weights and measures. The markets prepared by the VCs and NGOs will also be registered under the government and it is important that they should cooperate as well. Therefore, we will have fresh and healthy meat, vegetables and fruits if this bill is implemented. I support this Bill to be passed. Thank you.

SPRAKER : We will take a break and we will continue at 2:00 PM

2:00 P.M.

SPEAKER : I request Pu BD. Chakma

PU BD. CHAKMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. Is license required for private vendors who sell their items inside their compound?

SPEAKER : I request Pu Lalduhoma

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, I was expecting to hear the reason for ordinance but it was not explained well enough. It is said that there is no particular act in this regard. So, is 'The Market Regulation Act, 1996' still valid or repealed? If so, when was it repealed?

If a rule is repealed, it is replaced by a new rule and I want to know which rule repealed it because, the website does not show that it was repealed. Likewise, the Agricultural Products (Prohibition of Movement) Order, 1999 is not a good rule that prohibited the movement of products and here, there was no free market for ginger because they only respond to the tender of a Bagha man and all those without the permit were restricted. There was no prohibition for imports while there was a prohibition for our exports. So, are all these still valid?

Our Minister said that 'Agricultural Produce Development and Regulation Act, 2008' was repealed but I did not see a repeal column while looking at the Ordinance. So, we need to be sure if this is still valid or not. If it is still, it would mean we have 4 rules for the same subject matter and this will be confusing. According to the Rule 2008, sec 18, all the regulations are placed under the power of the market committee while in this present bill, the authority will be taken by the Director or the appointed authority. So, it will mean that there will be 2 authorities on the same products, commodity and market.

Therefore, it is difficult to understand which is better for the state since we never lay a budget nor formed a government. It is not good to have many rules on the same thing. However, I support this Bill to be passed.

SPEAKER : I request the Hon' Minister Dr. R. Lalthangliana to windup the discussion and beg the House to pass the Bill.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker and it is impressive that 6 members shared their discussion. In response to Dr. BD regarding vendor license, I hope it is not difficult to carry out and I believe their registration is 'as prescribed by the government' as seen on section-iv. In response to Pu Duha, ordinance was issued at the end of last year and the Gazette date is also 3.12.2021. Things cannot be done accordingly since it is a new year and that is why it comes to the Assembly. It is easy to confuse this Bill with the APMC Act. However, Mizoram State Agriculture Produce Development & Regulation Act, 2008 and Rules 2010 were prepared based on

the Central Model Act, 2003 but since this rule should only regulate the notified selected-crops we handed it to the Agriculture Department in 2019.

We are building a big market in Aizawl city and we also have another Smart city project. So, we should think in a proper manner and not in conflict with others.

Agriculture department and its alliances formed a study team and they were very sincere in their field of education. I am glad to be able to pass this Bill today (**Speaker** : if you could answer the question by Pu Duha regarding the repeal) ‘The Mizoram Market Regulation Amendment Act, 1996’ was repealed in 2008. The market management was handed over to the Commerce & Industry Dept. in 2000 and here, we did not have the proper market management system and we needed laws to govern our local market (**Speaker** : Maybe so but I might be mistaken. I believe the regulation we made was repealed by the Central Home Minister, Mr. LK Advani.)

Pu Speaker, it was a long time ago. (**Pu Lalduhoma** : The ordinance was passed in December and it was clear that we will have a session in February. It makes no sense to pass an ordinance only for the month of January. So, it would have been better if a normal bill was made and not an ordinance. An ordinance for a month is not at all appropriate.) It is true, but, the ordinance was considered in early December. Let me explain it this way- ‘The Agriculture Produce Development and Regulation marketing, 2008’ was repealed by the APMC. Pu Speaker, I beg the House to pass ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’

SPEAKER : The Minister has begged the House to pass ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’ and all those in favor may say ‘yes’ (Members : Yes) and all those not in favor may say ‘no’

The House has unanimously passed ‘The Mizoram Market (Regulation and Facilitation) Bill, 2022’ (**Dr. R. Lalthangliana, Minister**: Thank you, Pu Speaker)

We will proceed to the 2nd Bill and I request Dr. R. Lalthangliana, Minister to beg the House to introduce ‘The Mizoram Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022’

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I beg the House to introduce ‘The Mizoram Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022’.

SPEAKER : The Minister has begged the House and do we all agree? I request him to introduce and move his Bill

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker and somehow it feels like a memorable day for me and it is a pleasure that my bills are introduced twice in a row. The world is developing and technologies are growing fast today. So, the World Bank produces Ease of Doing Business rankings from analyzes of world conditions based on various criteria that are more selective for investment and India was ranked 100th among the 190 countries in the world in 2017. The government is doing its utmost to improve the country’s ranking and it improved by being ranked the 63rd in the year 2020. India’s ranking is low due to many formalities of rules and clearances and this is time consuming. Therefore, the government of India has taken

steps to improve the clearance system in a faster, more efficient and transparent manner. State Ranking is based on the ease of doing business in the states and the quality of the system. Every year, states have drawn up State Business Reform Action Plan called BRAP and the states have taken steps to implement this. Our state also hired consultants and we are doing our utmost best.

Pu Speaker, 'The World's Ease of Doing Business' ranked by the World Bank in 2020 is as follows-

1. New Zealand
2. Singapore
3. Hong Kong
4. Denmark
5. South Korea
6. USA
7. Georgia
8. United Kingdom
9. Norway
10. Sweden
63. India (out of 190 countries)

India's growth rate is quite fast and it was ranked 142nd in 2004, 130th in 2016, 77th in 2018 and 63rd in 2020. North Eastern states are the mountainous states of India and out of the 8 NE states, Mizoram is ranked 2nd and Assam is ranked 1st.

Just as states have different circumstances, we have different approaches to Ease of Doing Business. We do not have proper procedures and the departments involved are not properly organized and that is why the businessmen faced many problems. Ease of Doing Business is not only about business and it also refers to the convenience of the government in providing the daily necessities of the people. Example- Payment of electricity and water bills.

With the advancement of technology, the internet and modern technologies should be used to create a system that is easier and faster for the public and businesses to access their needs in various ways. So, this Bill aims to make things easier.

Larger states of India have implemented the Single Window System but since we do not yet have this, we face difficulties in many ways. To alleviate all these problems, Single Window System will be used to issue clearances to individuals and businesses, license renewals etc. Therefore, if this Bill is passed and implemented, it will make it easier for the public to do things online.

Under this Single Window System, departments will be brought together through the Single Window Portal and clearance can be obtained through this portal to ensure that physical contact is minimized.

I would like to highlight some of the important keys under this act as we move this Bill today-

1. Single Window Clearance Authority will be established and Joint Secretary rank or Chief Executive Officer rank will be appointed. Instead of creating

new jobs, posting should be made from the existing government employees. The SWA will monitor clearance approvals and license applications through the Single Window Portal and whether the clearance authority has issued clearances on time.

2. Online Single Window Portal is an internet portal that will connect departments and through this portal, all clearances and licenses required under various departments can be applied through a common application. Business clearance requirements can be applied online.
3. This bill include a grievances redressal mechanism for Single Window Clearance
4. Investor Facilitation Center (helpline) will be setup to help investors get their information from one place without having to go to several places. Investors will be guided and assisted as needed.
5. This Act will be in conjunction with 'The Mizoram Right to Public Services Act, 2015' and other acts. When implemented, clearances under this Act will be issued transparently and easily, and the process will be completed within the stipulated time frame.

Therefore, we believe that this bill will be quite useful. World Bank has adopted 'ease of Doing business' as an important measure of countries and so, I am introducing this Bill today for consideration.

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has introduced his Bill and why he has introduced it. Each member will be given 5 minutes and I request Pu Lalduhoma.

PU LALDUHOMA : Pu Speaker, India is one of the most difficult countries in the world when appealing to the government. However, simplification and single window system are the things that ZPM party has taken seriously and they are included in our manifesto. We are pleased to hear that you have introduces a Bill to achieve this and we will support you 100%. So, this single window system is a new approach and we must change the bad practices.

There will be no physical contact and corruption will disappear. How well is 'The Right to Public Service Act' implemented and how useful is it in Mizoram? So, it would be appreciated if the Minister explained it during the windup.

Finally, the Investor Facilitator Center will be established and the existing Joint Secretary ranks will be appointed. The financial memorandum said that the existing staff will handle the project and there will be no extra expenditure. However, I am not entirely sure about this because the center will have to be run by several people and the existing staffs could have their own main tasks and they could care less about this centre. We will need a fulltime supervisor in the future since the public will appeal more and more in the coming future. We support this Bill.

SPEAKER : Hon. member Dr. BD. Chakma

PU BD. CHAKMA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. 'The Mizoram Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022' is an excellent Bill and business is the only way to develop a country.

However, the preliminary Short Title & Commencement Article 1 (d) states that 'it extends to the whole of the state of Mizoram'. We are a state with 3 autonomous district councils and we have a separate trading regulation. Pu Speaker, trade license is also issued by the ADC and this Bill does not mention the sentence 'except autonomous district councils'. So, there can be a dilution of power here in ADCs who are under the 6th Schedule. The previous Bill 'The Mizoram Market (Regulation and facilitation) bill, 2022 clearly stated that it shall extend to the whole of the state except the 3 autonomous district council of Mara, Lai and Chakma. Therefore, the wording should be included in this Bill to avoid problems.

Article 2 (b) of the Act states that applicant means a person who is eligible for obtaining services schedule under the single window clearance authority established under the provision of this Act. Mizoram is an ILP state and the autonomous district councils do the same. We have a double gate in Mizoram where ILP is demanded to enter the state and another ILP is demanded if they want to run a business in the autonomous district council. So, will the non-indigenous people be able to easily run a business through this portal or will they not be able to apply if they are non-indigenous people?

The rest if excellent and as we have mentioned, a country cannot develop without business. Therefore, I request the Minister to kindly add the words 'except autonomous district councils' to this Bill and it would be appreciated if a clarification can be made about the applicants. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : Hon. member Pu KT. Rokhaw

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Thank you, Pu Speaker. As Pu BD Chakma had mentioned, the autonomous district councils' autonomy should be respected and it would be pleasant if the wordings 'it shall extent to the full of the state except the three Autonomous District Council of Mara, Lai and Chakma.' are added. The rest are excellent.

SPEAKER : I request the hon. member Pu F. Lalnunmawia.

DR. F. LALNUNMAWIA : Thank you Pu Speaker. I am pleased that the Minister has introduced this Bill today and that the government is implementing its promises in the SEDP policy.

According to SEDP guideline A(2), 'information and communication technology will be used more effectively for the government' and B-2(page 18) states 'we will create a favorable business environment for trade and investment'. Therefore, I would like to that the Minister for introducing this Bill.

This Bill is a good plan to facilitate trade. As we are aware, business permits and licenses were issued by letters in the past but it will be possible to apply for online permits through the portal if this bill is passed. Funds will not be required and the work will be carried out using existing employees without creating new jobs. Businessmen and those interested can apply for permits, electricity connection, water connection permits through online from their location and they will be able to see the progress of

their requests and track their application status from their address. Applications can be submitted through this Single Window System without having to go to various departments. Therefore, I truly support the Bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. member Pu Vanlalhlana

PU VANLALHLANA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. When describing 'Ease of Doing Business Bill' I was thinking about a bill that will make it easier for the public to visit the government. However, the other members described it as a bill where business can be conducted easily. So I am not sure which one is more accurate. The words 'a native person/ native of state' came to my mind when reading the sentence 'applicant means a person who is eligible' or 'ordinary resident' if the Bill points towards business.

However, this Bill is for the benefit of the people and we will support it as mentioned by our leader. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : Hon. member Dr. Vanlaltanpuia

DR. VANLALTANPUIA : Thank you, Pu Speaker and it is impressive that our Hon' Minister had introduced 'The Mizoram Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022'. The youths are eager for this Bill and I want to support it.

I translated the sentence 'ease of doing business' as 'preparing opportunities for starting businesses' and I am pleased that the government is taking steps for these purposes.

Faridabad and Gurugram are growing rapidly and most of our online orders came from these places. There are more than 500 business companies in Haryana and MSME-216115 is currently based in this state. India Today's survey shows that Haryana is the best performing state in India in terms of entrepreneurship.

The state was also awarded 3rd prize by Commerce & Industries in 2017-2018. 75% of the reservation is for those youth entrepreneurs who earn less than Rs. 10000 per month and this is how they are taking extreme measures. Delhi is also growing rapidly and Paytm, Zomato, Makemytrip.com etc are all based here and this city has a great business start-up program. Delhi's startup program turnover is US 46-56 billion dollars currently and I would like to mention that other states are really making progresses.

West Bengal is also improving a lot and Mamata Banerjee's government has established a lot of business companies. UP has done the same and various foreign companies are currently investing in UP namely- Japan-7 Nos, US-5 Nos, Germany-4 Nos, South Korea-4 Nos, UK-3Nos, Canada-2 Nos, Singapore-1 no and Hongkong-1 no. Thus, large companies are investing heavily in one state alone.

Sikkim is among the fastest growing state in India with more than 50 pharmaceuticals industries. Therefore, I am pleased that 'Ease of Doing Business' is introduced and I support it to be passed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Hon. member Dr. Vanlalhlana

DR. VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, ‘The Mizoram ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022’ is an excellent Bill and here Mizoram was ranked 28th in 2015, 30th in 2017 and 25th in 2019. We ranked 2nd among the Northeast states and Mizoram is one of the best entrepreneurs among the small states. So, I am looking forward to the implementation. Water bills, electricity bills, phone bills etc. can now be paid from home through this Bill and this is quite impressive.

Regarding Investor Facility Centre, Section-15, this is something that needs to be considered. I am afraid we will wait in line without any purpose because the internet can't fix it. So, I believe we should pay attention to this and increase the number of employees. Thank you and I support this Bill.

SPEAKER : I request the Hon’ Minister to windup his Bill and beg the House to pass his Bill.

DR. R. LALTHANGLIANA, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker and it is a pleasure to be able to come together in a unified way. Ease of Doing Business is a well-known concept but it is not easy. The World Bank has selected 10 important criteria for business for example, in ‘starting a business’ dealing with a construction permit, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investor, paying taxes, trading across border, enforcing contract, resolving insolvency etc are all thought through carefully.

Dr. BD Chakma’s enthusiasm is similar to Pu KT Rokhaw and this Bill will introduce a proper system for clearance requirements. At the same time, the authority to issue permits for clearance requirements will remain the same and this Bill will not take the powers of the departments and the district councils. The word ‘it shall extend’ is required in this Bill and let us hope that it can be reviewed if necessary. Anyway, the concerns of our 2 members will be kept in mind.

It is impressive that this Bill is appreciated by all the members and I am pleased that as legislators, we are taking measures for the benefit of all the citizens of the state. I thank all the members for supporting this Bill and I beg the House to pass ‘Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022’. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has begged the House to pass ‘The Mizoram Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022’ and all those members in favor may say ‘yes’ (Members: Yes) and those members not in favor may say ‘no’.

The House has unanimously passed ‘The Mizoram Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2022’ (**Dr. R. Lalthangliana, Minister** : Thank you Pu Speaker.)

SPEAKER : We will proceed to our 3rd Bill and I request the Hon’ Minister Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to beg the House to introduce ‘Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022’

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission, I beg the House to introduce 'Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022'

SPEAKER : The Minister has begged the House to introduce his Bill and do we all agree? I request the Minister to introduce and move his Bill

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker and with your permission I hereby introduce 'Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022'.

Pu Speaker, today's Bill is a bill that Mizoram writers, Academy of letters, literature enthusiasts and Mizo language scholars have been hoping for a long time and the initiative is going on as per the SEDP. The MNF party and this Bill are quite suitable as this party have worked tremendously for Mizoram and its nation.

Pu Speaker, our Chief Minister has established 14 SEDP Boards to work more effectively for the Mizo people in various fields. Among them, the Human Resources Development Board was established under the Education Department and the first meeting of the HRD Board was held on 13.08.2019 at the Chief Minister's office. The first thing that matters when he explains the term of reference is the establishment of Mizoram Language Development Board and then we followed up accordingly. HRD Board meeting was held in my room on 11.02.2002 where Pu L. Thangmawia, MLA is the Board Vice Chairman, Pu VL. Kroshnehzova is the Secretary and 6 other members are appointed as well. They invited various groups to have a study and those groups include- Mizo Writers Association, Academy of Letters, University and Colleges and students. Initially, they looked at whether it could be implemented under MBSE who has a Mizo Language Committee under it. However, we are dissatisfied since its powers and purview are not in line with the Chief Minister's home assignment and it doesn't have enough authority. At the same time, we looked and learn the process of Mizoram Publication Board under the Art & Culture Department and we are still not satisfied. Hence, 'Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022' is born.

Pu Speaker, we have designed this Bill to the best of our ability and the Board's contents include the establishment of the Board, its duties, powers and functions, the responsibilities of the Board, term of offices, their rewards and so on. This is how we planned and implemented in various ways. Our biggest wish and hope is to nurture, maintain and promote our language to the world and used it in a more accurate and meaningful manner.

Countless of people said that Mizo language should be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and the previous government also took measures to do so. Pu Speaker, we have to be discreet when it comes to 8th Schedule because our state, nation and language might not be safe if we do not develop them.

There will come a day when the Indian government will include our language on the 8th Schedule and the youths can take their All India Service exam papers in our own language. Many of our people settle in different parts of the world and we need to develop our language so as to unite ourselves.

Pu Speaker, this Bill is written in English and there will come a day when we will present our Bills in Mizo Language. Therefore, I request all the members to support my Bill to be passed.

SPEAKER : The Minister has moved his Bill and each member will be given 5 minutes for the discussion. I request Dr. ZR Thiamsanga.

DR. ZR. THIAMSANGA : Thank you, Pu Speaker. It is impressive that this Bill is presented and the early leaders also tried their best to preserve the Mizo language. In 1975 during the UT, the Mizoram Legislative Assembly passed 'The Mizoram Official Act, 1974' then the Govt. of Union Territory Act 1963 (Section-34) stated that Mizo language should be the official language of Mizoram State and an official gazette was published to implement this from 15th August, 1987.

There are many reasons why the Mizo language Development Board should be established. Mizo language is the most commonly spoken language among the Mizo tribes and the Mizo Language Board is required to develop the language. There is a great reluctance to use Mizo language among the younger generation when they are outside the state and some of them have husbands abroad whose children do not even speak Mizo language. One of the biggest reasons for this is that we have different opinions.

The Board will decide which foreign words should be included and excluded in the Mizo language. The establishment of the Board does not mean that it will suppress all other ethnic languages and its main objective is to preserve the Mizo language and unite all the Mizo ethnic tribes. We are all aware that Mizo language is the most widely spoken language among the Mizo tribes and this Board will be one of the best tools for the development of the Mizo culture. England does not have a Language Development Board but they have Cambridge and Oxford Universities to develop the English. Likewise, we can do the same if we have this Board. UNESCO has studied the true status of Mizo language and it is being destroyed by other languages. The languages of Lusei, Paite, Hmar, Lai, Mara etc are all included in the Mizo language.

If this Board is established, it will be used for research purposes by foreign universities in India and abroad. Therefore, I would like to thank the Minister and his colleagues and also our CM for taking this Bill seriously. Thank you, Pu Speaker.

SPEAKER : I request Pu Vanlalhlana.

PU VANLALHLANA : Pu Speaker, I would like to talk about point-2 'it shall extend to the whole of Mizoram'. Autonomous District Council areas have different culture and hence have the Autonomous District Council and here, culture includes languages. Therefore, I believe it is inappropriate to include the Autonomous District Councils and I was thinking if it could be amended. It would be impressive if there is a clear definition of Mizo and what does Mizo language actually mean. Mizo language is an endangered language and it is necessary to develop and preserve it. Therefore, I support this Bill and thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalrindika Ralte

PU LALRINDIKA RALTE: Thank you, Pu Speaker and I truly support this Bill. However, it would be appreciated if our Bills are drafted in Mizo language. Language is the proof of national identity and that is why language is quite important. The government should also publish notification/orders in Mizo language. If we do not preserve and promote our own language, no one will protect and speak for us. So, I support this bill to be passed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Dr. BD Chakma

PU B.D. CHAKMA : Pu Speaker, this is a special Bill for Chakma people and I truly support it. Language can be a barrier and also a helpful tool and the main reason why we do not understand one another is because of the language barrier. As our Vice President had mentioned earlier, we need to preserve our mother language. Meanwhile, we Chakma people need to be taught Mizo language for unity. Therefore, I truly support this Bill and thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu L. Thangmawia.

PU L. THANGMAWIA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. It is appreciating that this Bill is introduced and I would also like to thank our Chief Minister on behalf of the Mizo tribes.

Pu Vanlalhlana requested to exclude district councils. However, this Bill should cover the whole world but our authority is limited to Mizoram government only. There is no authority in this bill to suppress the district councils and they will use it or not use it in their area as they wish. Before the formation of Mizo Union in 1946 Mizo was known as 'Lushai' (Lusei) and Young Mizo Association was first established as Young Lushai Association on June 15, 1935. We were also known as Lushai (Lusei) to the English people but the term 'Mizo' was used in 1946.

Language can divide and unite us. As our Vice President had said earlier, we should all value the languages of Hmar, Paite, Lai and Mara but the common language that God gave us should be used effectively to become a more united nation. If not for the common language in this House, there will be a lot of misunderstanding and confusion.

I believe that funding for the enrichment of Lai language, Mara Language etc. can be done through this Board and I request the authority holders to make contribution for the development of all Mizo ethnic languages as well. I support this Bill to be passed. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request the Hon' House Leader.

PU ZORAMTHANGA, CHIEF MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. I have pursued this matter since my college days in 1962 but it is unfortunate that we could not achieve it beforehand. This Bill does not aim to impose a particular language but aims for unity. The language will be developed and improved so that it can be used extensively. Therefore, it will not be a burden for the District Councils or anyone for

that matter. In fact, we will be able to communicate with each other if we learn our common language.

Pu BD Chakma and his constituency are eager to learn Mizo language and we could provide a Mizo teacher earning Rs.10000/20000 a month. This is the way to unity. The Language Development Board should firstly commit to promoting the language extensively and then increase the users.

The previous government did not implement it for some reason but we have done it this time even though the pandemic delayed many things. Pu L. Thangmawia, Pu Chhantea and others proposed the project and the members of the Bill should be appointed soon if we are to pass this Bill. Translation sector, music sector, film sector, innovation and research sectors should also be involved in this development and they should have a proper office. I am willing to be quite generous in providing the fund for this Board if it means to help us in our literature, music, film and so on.

I am excited to pass this Bill and then establish the Board with its office at the earliest since I have been waiting for this moment for a very long time. So, Pu Speaker, I truly support this bill to be passed. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Our Chief Minister is quite excited and he does not even think about the time

PU K.T. ROKHAW : Pu Speaker, it would have been impressive if the Bill is presented in Mizo language but it's all good.

The School Education Minister was a former MZP President and he is an educated person and this 'The Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022' is a great achievement. I would like to mention that during his time as the MZP President, he took steps to unite all the Mizo tribes and Zofest was held many times which strengthens the unity of all the Mizo tribes. He is quite lucky that this Bill will be passed during his tenure as the School Education Minister and I think it is an important milestone for him and Mizoram.

The Board Chairman's qualification is post graduate while the Secretary's qualification is not mentioned. The Secretary's salary will be lower than that of LDC and I hope this is reviewed. I support this Bill and thank you.

SPEAKER : I request the Minister to windup and beg the House to pass his Bill.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I wonder if this session is the most enjoyable session during the Eighth Legislative Assembly Budget Session, 2022 and the ending is quite pleasing. Everyone is in support of this Bill especially Pu BD Chakma, whose opinion really matters to me and this support doubles the value of this Bill. Our Chief Minister is also fixated since the year 1962 but I feel sorry that it could not happen soon due to the pandemic.

We had discussions in various ways for this Bill to come into being and online discussions were held during the pandemic under the guidance of the Mizoram Board of School Education (MBSE). Many literary enthusiasts participated and the Mizo Departments of Pachhunga University College and Saitual College conducted webinar for this purpose as well. The study group also invited Mizo language experts, linguistic experts etc. from Tripura, Manipur, Delhi etc. and Mizo writers, Academy of Letters, Mizo literature and poetry enthusiasts and Mizo language development activists also gathered together at the end. Thus, we are excited and happy in everything we do.

The sentence ‘it shall extend the whole of Mizoram’ was mentioned by some members and I would like to make clarification. When the MBSE Act, 1975 was established, there were no problems in the field of education and the 6th Schedule to the Constitution gives the ADCs the power to control the elementary stage especially in education. There is nothing in contradiction with the language development and I believe they are among the most welcoming people. I am quite pleased that there are no problems mentioned by them.

Our Chief Minister also gives importance to Pu BD Chakma when he said that Chakma people are interested in learning Mizo language. So, I would like to mention that the department will take expedite measures in this regard.

So, if the Mizo Language Development Board is established, we will be able to preserve and develop the Mizo language in the coming future. The only way we can become brothers is by sharing and understanding the same language. This will be an important starting point.

We will be included in the 8th Schedule some day and we will have Mizo language as an optional paper in UPSC exam. Our Mizo MPs will one day debate in Mizo language at the Parliament and that is why it is important to develop our language.

Pu Speaker, I beg the House to unanimously pass ‘The Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022’. Thank you.

SPEAKER : The Minister has begged the House to pass ‘The Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022’ and all those members in favor may say yes and those who are not in favor may say no. (Members: Yes)

The House has unanimously passed ‘The Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022’ (**Pu Lalchandama Ralte, Minister:** Thank you, Pu Speaker.

It is impressive that we passed this Bill and people who reside inside and outside India are also interested in having a common language. We have completed our business of the Ninth session and let us listen to the ‘Summary of Business Transaction during Ninth Session of Eight Legislative Assembly of Mizoram’. This session is the ninth session of the Eighth Legislative Assembly and it is also the Budget session. Business Advisory Committee meeting on 8.2.2022 (Monday) resolved that the session should last for 17 days with 12 sittings. So, in general, our business during this session is as follows-

SUMMARY:***Governor's Address :***

His Excellency, the Governor addressed a speech on 22.2.2022 on the first day of the session and the Motion of Thanks moved by Pu K. Laldawngliana which was seconded by Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte was unanimously agreed by the House on 23.2.2022

4 Reports were presented in this House during this session, namely-

- i) 8th Report of the Business Advisory Committee.
- ii) 7th Report on Action taken by the Government against the Recommendation of the Committee on Government Assurances contained in its 6th Report of the 8th Legislative Assembly of Mizoram.
- iii) 9th Report on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 2015-2016 relating to Agriculture Department.
- iv) 10th Report on Appropriation Account for the year 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2019-2020 excess expenditure.

Panel of Chairman :

The Panel of Chairmen includes the Hon' members- Pu KT Rokhaw, Dr. K. Pachhunga, Prof. F. Lalnunmawia and Dr. Vanlaltanpuia.

Obituary :

Obituary Reference was observed in respect of the departed members- Pu Saitlawma Sailo, Pu C. Ramhluna, Pu Hrangthanga Colney and Pu KM Biaksailova. Pu Zoramthanga, Hon Chief Minister gave a brief eulogy followed by the following members-

- i) Dr. R. lalthangliana
- ii) Dr. K. Pachhunga
- iii) Pu H. Biakzaua
- iv) Dr. ZR. Thiamsanga
- v) Pu Tawnluia
- vi) Pu Vanlalhlana
- vii) Pu C. Lalmuanpuia.

A minute of silence was observed.

The number of question and answers received in this session is as follows-

Starred question :

No of question received - 569
 No of questions admitted - 562
 No of questions rejected - 2
 No questions moved to list of business -200
 No of questions answered - 47
 No. of questions unanswered due to limited time - 153

Unstarred question:

No of question received - 283
 No of questions admitted - 282
 No of questions rejected - 1
 No of questions changed from Starred question - 323

Laying of Papers:

The following 16 Papers were laid in this House-

- i) 30th Annual Report of the Mizoram Public Service Commission MPSC for the year 2020-2021
- ii) Audit Report of the Joint Electricity regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram for the year 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017
- iii) Annual Report of the Office of the Commissioner Persons with disabilities Mizoram for the year 2020-2021
- iv) Economic Survey of Mizoram, 2021-2022
- v) 15th Annual Report of the Mizoram Information Commission
- vi) The Mizoram Epidemic Diseases Covid-19 Regulation, 2022
- vii) Notification issued under the Mizoram Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017 w.e.f 10.07.2021-17.01.2022
- viii) Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India Performance Audit of Select District Hospitals in Mizoram for the year ended 31st March, 2019
- ix) Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on Social, General, Economic and Revenue Sectors for the year ended 31st March, 2019
- x) State Finance Audit Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2020
- xi) The Second Annual Report 2020-2021 of Mizoram Lok Ayukta
- xii) Mizoram Private Security Agencies (Private Security to cash Transportation Activity Rules, 2022)
- xiii) Statement of Action Taken on the Further Recommendation of Public Accounts Committee contained in the 8th Action Taken Report, 2020 relating to Labor, Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department
- xiv) Statement of Action Taken on the Further Recommendation of Committee on Government Assurances contained in the 5th Report 2021 relating to Public Works Department.
- xv) Statement of Action Taken on the Further Recommendation of Committee on Government Assurances contained in the 5th Report 2021 relating to Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department
- xvi) Correction of reply to Unstarred question no. 231, Ballot No. 193 asked by Pu Zodintluanga Ralte, MLA on 01.03.2022

Bills :

7 government Bills were presented and all were passed during this session. The Bills are as follows-

- i) The Mizoram Appropriation (Supplementary Demand for Grants 2021-2022) Bill, 2022
- ii) The Mizoram Road Fund Amendment Bill, 2022, a bill further to amend the Mizoram Road Fund Act, 2007
- iii) The Mizoram Fisheries 2nd Amendment Bill, 2022
- iv) The Mizoram Appropriation (Demand for Grants 2022-2023) Bill, 2022
- v) Mizo Language Development Board Bill, 2022
- vi) The Mizoram Ease of Doing Busing Bill, 2022
- vii) The Mizoram market (regulation and facilitation) Bill, 2022

Private Member's Bill:

The Mizoram Private Transport Workers Welfare Bill, 2022 was presented by Dr. Vanlalhlana and it was rejected after a discussion.

Resolutions:

65 private member resolutions were received and they were all admitted. Resolution was not discussed as the private member bills were discussed first. Chapchar Kut festival fell in between the sessions as well.

Presentation of Budget:

The Hon' Chief Minister, Pu Zoramthanga presented the following in this House-

- i) The Annual Budget for the year, 2022-2023 (with allied papers)
- ii) Supplementary demand for grants for the year 2021-2022

(They were unanimously passed by the House)

Vice President's Address:

The Hon' Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu addressed the House on 10.03.2022 (Wednesday) and the Hon' Chief Minister delivered a Vote of Thanks.

The last day of our session came smoothly and we had successfully performed our Lists of Business. I hope the cooperation of all the members throughout the session will be fruitful. I would like to thank the staffs of various departments for making the session a success. We appreciate the efforts of our Police Department in the field of security and I would also like to thank the Health & family Welfare Department, Parliamentary Affairs Department and the Assembly Secretariat for their efforts and cooperation. I would also like to thank the Commissioner and his colleagues for their sincerity. There was a mistake on distribution on 28th and we are sorry for the inconvenience.

E-Vidhan was implemented but it might be difficult to be all paper-less. However, Mr. Hardip Singh Puri sanctioned us Rs. 8 crore 70 lakhs for E-Vidhan and we are moving towards development.

I would like to mention that we did not serve dinner due to the pandemic. We have now concluded our session and the House is adjourned *sine dine* (4:39 PM)