

**NINTH MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
(SECOND SESSION CUM BUDGET SESSION)**

**LIST OF BUSINESS**

FOR ELEVENTH SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, THE 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2024  
(Time 10:30 A.M to 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

**QUESTIONS**

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

**FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS**

2. **PU VANLALHLANA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>	<i><b>Demand for Grants Page No.</b></i>
<b>12</b>	Parliamentary Affairs	1,03,70,000.00	76-78
<b>42</b>	Transport	44,73,93,000.00	443-451
<b>45</b>	Public Works	7,32,71,22,000.00	459-484
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,78,48,85,000.00</b>	

3. **PU F. RODINGLIANA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>	<i><b>Demand for Grants Page No.</b></i>
<b>18</b>	Printing & Stationery	13,19,72,000.00	174-177
<b>39</b>	Power & Electricity	9,43,51,96,000.00	411-421
<b>40</b>	Commerce & Industries	60,44,11,000.00	422-437
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10,17,15,79,000.00</b>	

4. **PROF. LALNILAWMA**, Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>	<i><b>Demand for Grants Page No.</b></i>
<b>25</b>	Public Health Engineering	2,87,60,16,000.00	271-280
<b>32</b>	Horticulture	1,22,83,85,000.00	355-361
<b>38</b>	Rural Development	4,56,51,65,000.00	400-410
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8,66,95,66,000.00</b>	

VANLALTHANTLINGI  
Commissioner & Secretary

**SPEAKER** : *Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.*

-Proverbs 16: 3

Pu Lalthansanga and Pu Lalchhuanthanga will not be able to grace us with their presence due to ill-health.

### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

We will start with question and answer hour. Starred question number 161 was supposed to be asked by Pu Lalchhuanthanga. He has given authority to Pu VL. Zaithanzama to ask in his stead. Pu VL. Zaithanzama.

**PU VL. ZAITHANZAMA:** Will the hon. Minister for Power & Electricity Department be pleased to state-

- a) Is there any plan to develop hydel project?
- b) If there is, which places?
- c) Where will the first project be placed at?

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the hon. Minister Pu F. Rodingliana to answer.

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) We do have plans to develop hydel projects.
- b) Tuivai HEP (150 mW, near Ngopa), Tlawng HEP (120 mW, near Lungleng) and Tuirini, HEP (24 mW, near Sesawng) are currently in the process of starting development work.
- c) There is no specific place.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question from Pu VL. Zaithanzama.*

**PU VL. ZAITHANZAMA:** An agreement was made with a private company by the previous ministry, what is the length of that agreement?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary from Pu C. Ngunlianchunga.*

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, thank you. My *Supplementary questions* are-

- i) Lunglei and other southern villages are always without power supply whenever it rains? What is the reason for this?
- ii) Is there any plan to address this issue?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question from Pu K. Hrahmo.*

**PU K. HRAHMO** : Pu Speaker, experts have declared after researching for 4/5 years that Chhimtuipui hydel project can give out 460 megawatt. Is there any plan to continue the construction of Kawlchaw Hydel Project?

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

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. In answer to Pu Zaithanzama, after inspecting the MoU between several companies and the government, the time limit of some agreement were 99 years. Hence, we decided to cancel some of the agreements.

In answer to Pu Ngunlianchunga, 133-line from Hnahthial is in development. We are doing our best to address this issue.

In regards to Pu Hrahmo, an agreement was signed with NEEPCO. However, due to some issues, this agreement was cancelled. Currently, we are planning for a better project.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon Pu C. Ngunlianchunga to ask *Starred Question number 162.*

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister for District Council & Minority Affairs Department be pleased to state-

- a) Has DC&MA raised any question to the Autonomous District Council regarding employment of substitutes by government workers?
- b) If so, will they take action on their own without considering the authority of Autonomous District Council?

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

**PU C. LALSAWIVUNGA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) District Council & Minority Affairs Department did make an enquiry to the Autonomous District Councils regarding employment of substitutes by government workers.
- b) District Council & Minority Affairs Department will not take action on this issue.

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

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, thank you. For information, I would like to mention that Autonomous District Councils have separate rules and conduct business

rules. Especially Autonomous District Councils from other states have complete authority within their areas.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu Lalmuanpuia Punte.

**PU LALMUANPUIA PUNTE:** Pu Speaker, is there any plan to increase salary and allowance of the three Autonomous District Councils?

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

**PU LALSAWIVUNGA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. In regards to the question raised by Pu Ngunlianchunga, I give my assurance that enquiries are made all over Mizoram regarding employing substitute workers. We do not, in any way planning to sidestep their authority.

Regarding salary and allowance of the three Autonomous Councils, notification has already been sent out.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon Dr. K. Beichhua to ask starred question number 163.

**DR. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Minister in charge of Horticulture Department be pleased to state how many bamboo link roads do we have currently. If we do, in which places and what is the amount spent to construct these link roads?

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

**PROF. LALNILAWMA, MINISTER:** Construction of bamboo link road under Horticulture Department is ongoing at Hmunpui, Saiphal and near Hmunpui. The amount spent is ₹1,05,00,000.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Dr. K. Beichhua.

**DR. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, my supplementary questions are-

- i) Currently, what are the uses of bamboo?
- ii) Does the government intend to utilize local bamboos?
- iii) Is there any plan to produce ethanol from bamboo?
- iv) Do we still export bamboos to other states? Or is it prohibited?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu V. Malsawmtluanga.

**PU V. MALSAWMTLUANGA:** Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister for Horticulture Department be pleased to state-

- i) How many species of bamboo has been supplied by National Bamboo Mission?
- ii) What is the total expenditure of the government for this project?
- iii) Are those bamboo seeds breedable?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu Robert Romawia Royte.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE:** Pu Speaker, thank you. Is bamboo link road the purview of only Horticulture Department? If I am not mistaken ₹100 crore was set aside by PM-DeVINE under Union Budget. Will these funds be utilized for bamboo link roads?

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

**PROF. LALNILAWMA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. In answer to the questions posed by Dr. K. Beichhua.

- i) Bamboos are used to make furniture and handicraft.
- ii) Several projects are in the pipeline so that we can utilize bamboo.
- iii) There is a proposal for making bio-ethanol from bamboo with some interested in investment of this project.

In answer to Pu V. Malsawmtluanga and Pu Robert Romawia Royte-

- i) Under National Bamboo Mission 910725 bamboos were planted. In Hmunpui about 70% of bamboos have a healthy and natural growth.
- ii) ₹64,816,750 were spent for bamboo seeds.
- iii) Bamboo link roads were constructed under SASCI Scheme. However, we have no internal knowledge of their scheme. My answers are from the department's viewpoint.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi to ask *Starred Question No. 164*.

**PI BARYL VANNEIHSANGI:** Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Minister for Power & Electricity Department be pleased to state-

- a) Is it possible to increase the megawatt produced by Tlawng Hydro Project near Lungleng from 54 megawatt?
- b) If possible, how many megawatts can be produced?
- c) When will this project be started?

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

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) It is possible to increase the megawatt to more than 54.
- b) It can produce 120 megawatts.
- c) Detailed Project Report is expected to be completed within the year.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi.

**PI BARYL VANNEIHSANGI:** Pu Speaker, what is the exact location of this hydel project?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu H. Lalzirliana.

**PU H. LALZIRLIANA** : Pu Speaker, when can Bairabi to West Phaileng via Mamit 32 kV Line be commissioned?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu V. Malsawmtluanga.

**PU V. MALSAWMTLUANGA:** Pu Speaker, there are several areas in Mizoram without power supply. Is there any plan to provide these places with power supply?

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

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, in answer to Pi Baryl, the exact location of the hydel project is about 8 kms from Lungleng.

In regards to Pu Lalzirliana's question, we have encountered some issues with Forest Department. As soon as this issue is resolved, work can be started.

In answer to Pu Malsawmtluanga, we do plan to provide power supply to all areas under Central Scheme RDSS.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon Pu W. Chhunawma to ask *Starred Question No. 165*.

**PU W. CHHUANAWMA** : Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister in charge of Agriculture Department be pleased to state-  
What is the extend of farm mechanization used in agriculture?

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

**PU PC. VANLALRUATA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, farm mechanization was carried out sporadically since long ago. Since 2014-2015, under Ministry of Agriculture- Mechanization & Technology Division, mission mode was carried out. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SWAM) scheme was introduced and

under this scheme subsidies on farm machineries were given and annual action plan was introduced.

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu W. Chhuanawma.

**PU W. CHHUANAWMA** : Pu Speaker, what percentage can be given as subsidy for Custom Hand Centres?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu H. Ginzalala.

**PU H. GINZALALA** : Pu Speaker, since rice is our staple food, will it be easier to grow produce that can be used to buy rice?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu Robert Romawia Royte.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE**: Pu Speaker, will it be possible to employ drones for agricultural purposes?

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

**PU PC. VANLALRUATA, MINISTER**: Pu Speaker, thank you. In answer to Pu Ginzalala, the ministry gives priority to every produce and we will do our best in order to realize this.

In regards to use of drone for agricultural purposes, other countries have used drones.

We will look into this and see schemes available.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon Pu C. Ngunlianchunga to ask *Starred Question No. 166*.

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA**: Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister in charge of Sports & Youth Services Department be pleased to state-

- a) What is the extend of work completed at Lawngtlai Residential Sports School?
- b) When will it be completed?
- c) Who is the contractor?
- d) What is the physical and financial achievement?

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

**PU LALNGHINGLOVA HMAR, MINISTER**: Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) 85% is completed for Lawngtlai Residential Sports School.
- b) It is expected to be completed by 8.9.2024.

- c) The contractors for this school are M/S DJ Comsultancy Services, Mission Veng and M/S Décor India, GS Road, Guwahati.
- d) Physical achievement is 85% and financial achievement is Rs. 2206.90 lakhs.

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

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- i) This project us under PMJVK Scheme, have the second installment being received?
- ii) Who will reside in this building after completion?
- iii) Who will attend to this building after completion?
- iv) Is there any work going at Chawnhu Field under Mizoram State Sports Council?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu Jeje Lalpekhlua.

**PU JEJE LALPEKHLUA:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

- i) How many playground with artificial turf being laid in Mizoram is there who do not meet the required size?
- ii) Is it possible to appoint sports coaches for villages around Mizoram?
- iii) I believe there is shortage of coaches in Sports Department. Is there any plan to recruit more coaches?

**SPEAKER** : *Supplementary question* from Pu TBC. Lalvenchhunga.

**PU TBC. LALVENCHHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, during the previous ministry, there was several developments in sports infrastructure. Will this ministry continue with this or will it give priority to capacity building?

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

**PU LALNGHINGLOVA HMAR, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, in regards to Lawngtlai Residential Sports Schools, I have received consent from the hon. Chief Minister to arrange and select those who give interest in residing in these buildings.

Chawnhu Field is not under the jurisdiction of Mizoram State Sports Council and no written agreement is there. They have not received the second installment from PMJVK. There is no written agreement with the government. (...*interruption*...)

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, point of clarification, the previous minister has employed several workers from YLA and I have also spoken to AE from Sports Department. They have not been paid yet. Can the hon. Minister solve this issue?



**PU LALNGHINGLOVA HMAR, MINISTER:** I have no knowledge of the owner of this project as there is no written agreement with the government. I will look into this issue; however, I regret to say that I cannot give assurance.

There are several measurements in regards to the standard size. In accordance with the smallest international standard, there are several fields that did not meet the required standard size. We will enlarge those fields that have space. However, there are some that cannot be enlarge due to space constraints.

In regards to appointment of coaches in villages, we did and plan to give coaches to villages that have asked for them. Currently, there is no plan to employ more coaches due to financial constraints.

Even though we would like to, we might not be able to do more in terms of sports infrastructure due to financial constraints.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon Pu H. Ginzalala to ask *Starred Question No. 167*.

**PU H. GINZALALA** : Pu Speaker, will the hon. Minister for Power & Electricity Department be pleased to state if the government is aware that Civil Wing staff and officers were not utilized in accordance with their posts and status?

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

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, Civil Wing officers and staff under Power & Electricity Department are assigned to their concerned projects and works such as civil wing, circle and division and hydel projects. (**Speaker:** Question and answer hour has ended. Shall we let him continue? (House agrees) Please continue.) They are extremely busy this year. Thank you.

### **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**SPEAKER** : We will move on to *financial business*. Let us call upon the hon. minister Pu Vanlalhlana to submit his demands-

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>12</b>	Parliamentary Affairs	1,03,70,000.00
<b>42</b>	Transport	44,73,93,000.00
<b>45</b>	Public Works	7,32,71,22,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,78,48,85,000.00</b>

**PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, with your permission and the permission of the House, I submit the following demands-

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>12</b>	Parliamentary Affairs	1,03,70,000.00
<b>42</b>	Transport	44,73,93,000.00
<b>45</b>	Public Works	7,32,71,22,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,78,48,85,000.00</b>

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the hon. minister Pu F. Rodingliana to submit his demands-

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>18</b>	Printing & Stationery	13,19,72,000.00
<b>39</b>	Power & Electricity	9,43,51,96,000.00
<b>40</b>	Commerce & Industries	60,44,11,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10,17,15,79,000.00</b>

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, with your permission and the permission of the House, I submit the following demands-

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<b>40</b>	Commerce & Industries	60,44,11,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10,17,15,79,000.00</b>

**SPEAKER:** Let us call upon the hon. minister Prof. Lalnilawma to submit his demands-

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>25</b>	Public Health Engineering	2,87,60,16,000.00
<b>32</b>	Horticulture	1,22,83,85,000.00
<b>38</b>	Rural Development	4,56,51,65,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8,66,95,66,000.00</b>

**PROF. LALNILAWMA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, with your permission and the permission of the House, I submit the following demands-

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>25</b>	Public Health Engineering	2,87,60,16,000.00
<b>32</b>	Horticulture	1,22,83,85,000.00
<b>38</b>	Rural Development	4,56,51,65,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8,66,95,66,000.00</b>

**SPEAKER** : The hon. Ministers has submitted their demands. we will start discussion on their demands with 10 minutes assigned to each member. Let us call upon Pu Ramthanmawia to start the discussion.

**PU RAMTHANMAWIA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. I will start with Demand No.39 Public Works Department. It is undeniably an important department for Mizoram. With heavy rainfall during rainy season, our roads are easily damaged. I would like to suggest prompt repair of road before large and formidable damage occurred. This will help prevent spending large sum for repair works we do every now and then.

In my constituency, roads constructed under PMGSY needs repair. Patch repair will do for these roads. I kindly request the hon. Minister to take note. Khuangleng- Leisenzo road under PMGSY needs repair as maintenance period by the contractor has expired. Horticulture (Demand No. 32) is our lifeline in Mizoram. There is immense improvement in vegetable production since the previous ministry. I hope the new ministry will continue to support farmers and cultivators for continual increase of our input. In my constituent village of Samthang, Khanpui and adjoining areas, there is no scale market for their produce and cold storage is acutely needed for this area.

Rural Development (Demand No. 39) is a department on which the villagers depend and many developmental works were done under BADP. This was specifically sanctioned by the central government for village development. If BADP is terminated, another developmental fund is required.

Under Demand No. 39, Power & Electricity, wiring material used for 11 KV Line which covers Samthang, Vaphai, S. Khawbung etc is old and rustic. These villages are without power supply whenever there is rainfall. I kindly request the hon. Minister to take necessary measures for replacement of the old cable.

Control panel of Khawbung and Farkawn also needs to be replaced. Extension of LT line is also needed. I also request installation of transformer each for Vanzau, Zawngtetui, Leisenzo, Lianpui, Vangchhia, Buang, Thekpui and Thekte.

Pu Speaker, I support the passing of the demands. thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu T. Lalhlimpaia.

**PU T. LALHLIMPUA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. There is acute shortage of staff in Transport Department (Demand No.42) at Lunglei. Also, there is only one government bus service between Lunglei and Aizawl and no regular bus service. I request the hon. Minister to take note and take necessary action.

There is no license, vehicle registration and smart card printer in Lunglei. It is all centralized from Aizawl. This creates problems for many especially those from far-flung places.

MCS officer is usually posted for DTO. Is there no departmental staff to hold DTO post in Lunglei?

Under Demand No. 45 PWD, I am pleased to see that tender for Lunglei-Buarpui road under PMGSY initiated back in 2008 is floated under the new government.

Maintenance of Aizawl-Thenzawl-Lunglei road invites many issues. There are two contractors. A little more than half of the work is completed at the cost of Rs. 6.5 crores. According to the assessment of PWD, another Rs. 36,500,000 will be required for completion of the work.

Under Demand No.18, Printing and Stationery Department, I would like to inform the House that Lunglei government press has not been maintained for a long time now.

Demand No.39, Power & Electricity. Lunglei and its surrounding villages have acute power problem. Lunglei Civil Hospital is also no exception. The best option is to increase the capacity of Sazaikawn Sub-station or bifurcation of Lunglei Town cable.

Under Demand No.25, PHE Department, the department has not been able to provide new connection.

I support the demands moved by the hon. Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Lt. Col. Lalhmingthanga.

**LT. COL. CLEMENT LALHMINGTHANGA:** Pu Speaker, thank you. Due to time constraints, I will concentrate on PWD, Power & Electricity and PHE.

In my constituency, Champhai South, construction of four lane in NH-6 is ongoing under NHIDCL. This shortens the duration of journey to Aizawl resulting in development of many fields. However, Tuipui and Chhungte are cut off from this lane which creates immense problem and even threatens their livelihood. If construction of road for this 2/3 kms is done, then they will be connected as well. I request the hon. Minister to take note of this issue.

Moving on to PHE Department, due to work done by NHIDCL, the main water source for Champhai District has become muddy. Also Tuipui, which is the main source is not sufficient. I would like the hon. Minister to take necessary action regarding this issue. Under Power & Electricity Department, the whole of Champhai District is powered by 132 KV from Khawzawl with several sub-stations with a single transformer. I kindly

request a spare transformer for each station. I also request for the increase of transformer from 2.5 mVa to 6.3 mVa at Champhai-Keifang.

Lastly, I pledge my support to the demands submitted by the hon. Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu Rasik Mohan Chakma.

**PU RASIK MOHAN CHAKMA:** Pu Speaker, thank you. Under Demand No.42 Transport Department, we have no traffic jams at Chawngte, Tlabung and other surrounding areas. I request that in those areas, permits be given to commercial taxis and two wheelers.

Under Demand No.45- Public Works Department, there is no connecting road between Longpuighat – Vaseitlang. I kindly request that this road be link as soon as possible.

In 2004, Chawngte- Ajasora road was developed under PMGSY scheme. Black topping was done in 2019. However, the four bridges along this road were never repaired or were never built. I kindly request the hon. Minister to solve this issue as soon as possible.

Moving on to Demand No. 39 Power & Electricity, augmentation of electricity line within Chawngte and Borapansury is ongoing. I kindly suggest that this project be completed soon. Also, there are several areas still uncovered by electricity. I also request that these areas be provided with power supply sooner rather than later.

32 kV line was installed through Borapansury under border fencing scheme. However, the villagers were not allowed to enjoy this facility even though the land was given by them. Can this issue be solved? Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Pu H. Ginzalala.

**PU H. GINZALALA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. I will start with Public Works Department. The roads within my constituency are all in need of repair. I cannot give specifics because almost all of them are in need of repair. Not only roads, but side drain repair and beautification are also required.

The main reason of the condition of our roads is due to the absence of schedule maintenance. Pu Speaker, I suggest it will be wise to outsource MST buses to our youths for employment generation. I prioritize to generate sustainable income for our youths, Electric vehicle is also a good means to generate income which is also environment friendly. I want to state this fact as an information to the Power Minister that we can produce solar power in a megawatt scale in my constituency. I also believe we can make use of Civil Wing – P& E Department more resourcefully.

We have IIDC in my constituency under Industry Department which is utilized by Law Deptt. So, I urge the concern minister to make it operational. Reviewing 'The Mizoram State Purchase Rules' will definitely open doors to create sustainable income for many. I also request the concern Minister of Power Deptt. to upgrade the 11 KV line into 33 KV. I also believe it is high time to pursue Greater Water Supply Scheme. Champhai District elevation is high which makes it a great potential for Horticulture department and I request for a better implementation of VVP under BADP and our constituency is also in dire need of horticulture link road. Is there a possibility of convergence of PHE and P&E to promote hydro power?

Pu Speaker, I will conclude by expressing my support in passing our demands, Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : The concern MLA of Lunglei South constituency, Pu Lalramliana Papuia.

**PU LALRAMLIANA PAPUIA:** Thank you, Pu Speaker. Starting with PWD, in the West area, construction of highways and roads are very inadequate and we have faced many problems before, there were landslide and cracks in the road the and the connecting roads to Lunglei needs to be avoided and take a longer route through Lawngtlai., So, in order to avoid such circumstances, construction of Vaisam – Zehtet, via – Sialen is very crucial and it will prove to be an economic road for residents in these rural areas. If Sialen – Zehtet is constructed, it could create a bypass to Chawngte cutting the distance by 5 kms.

In Mualthum South, there are about 50 nos of families whose electric connection are disconnected due to unpaid bills, these are mainly due to the high amount of inaccurate bill and due to the connecting road problems, they are unable to file a complaint resulting in the disconnection of their power. So, I request the concern minister to provide us with a meter reader. Tawipui area, Lawngtlai road are also in dire need of SDO or JE. Mualcheng which is under my constituency is located on the top of a mountain which makes it a great potential for solar power harvesting. So, I request the concern minister to take note of this as it is a good potential for establishing solar plant. With the implementation of JJM, we are now in the process of moving one village to another region, since they are dismayed by the prospect of water scarcity in their village. There are areas in Hrangchawkawn and others where water connection is not available and I hope these areas could be covered under SASCI.

Under Rural Development, requirement of communal gathering space is indispensable in every rural village, so, under my constituency Chawngte 'L' are in need of a community hall and I hope funds could be allocated from ₹ 456 crores from RD funds. With this, I will conclude by stating my support in passing the Demands of our hon.ble Minister Pu Vanlalhlana and Pu F.Rodingliana. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : We have come to the end of our morning session and we will resume our afternoon session at 2:00 PM.

*(Recess)*

**2:00 PM**

**SPEAKER** : We will continue our discussion, starting with the hon.ble member Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte.

**PU LALRINSANGA RALTE:** Thank you, Pu Speaker. Starting with Demand No.45, I am glad that Mizoram Project Monitoring Committee has been established but is there a necessity to establish Road protection squad if Monitoring Committee is already established? When will mobile network to submit complains regarding deplorable road conditions be created?

The former ministry had constructed North Hlimen to Builum road and we have submitted an application to the government to hand this to PWD, so, I request the concern minister to take heed of this concern and also the road between Vairengte – Phaisen. When will the construction of Rengtekawn Zero Point – Bawktlang Sub- station be completed? We will be grateful if resurfacing of Saipum – Hlimen be initiated soon.

Under Demand No.39, ZPM Party gave a guarantee that if a ministry were established by them, they will construct Tlawng Hydro Project, Mat – Sekawi and Tuivai Phase – I, and we are looking forward to the completion of these projects during this ministry. I request the concern minister to give priority to the installation of new towers for Mizoram power supply line coming in from Assam, Vairengte to Bawktlang, project regarding this matter had also been initiated by the former Ministry as this is the main line used by the whole state. Pu Speaker, Serlui Dam could provide 12 m W and it belongs to the government of Mizoram. I request that the area be renovated and staff quarter be constructed. I also request the ministry to increase our manpower in P & E Department, and also to establish a bill paying station near Saiphai Sub- Station. Under Demand No. 18, Printing & Stationery, can the department print Mizoram calender and study materials for schools? I suggest all Mizoram departments should execute printing and stationery task in Printing & Stationery Department in order to generate more revenue for our state.

Implementation of 100 days of labor under Rural Department has been very successful for rural residents and in the former ministry, payments have always been done on time, so I hope this ministry could continue to implement this scheme since many families have been depending on their livelihood. Developing border villages are one important step to protect our areas, so, I request the hon. minister to construct a Community Hall at Saihapui – V in convergence where ₹ 10 lakhs will be provided from MLA fund. I

also request for more Rurban cluster in order to achieve better development in rural areas. Under Demand No.25, I request for rapid tempo of work regarding solar pumping under JJM which is an essential for every rural community. Project for sufficient supply of water at Vairengte had been submitted, I request the concern minister to give priority in this matter. With that I will conclude by stating my support in passing the Demands of our three hon.ble Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : I will now call upon the concern MLA of Mamit, Pu H. Lalzirliana.

**PU H. LALZIRLIANA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. On this 9<sup>th</sup> Mizoram Legislative Assembly Budget Demand, I would like to make a suggestion. I believe it is high time to adopt a corporate culture in the government. Starting with Demand No.39 – P & E, I request the concern minister to pursue Bairabi – West Phaileng via Mamit which is 132 kv for commissioning. Under RDSS I request for better service and to initiate a project under my constituency and also to reconstruct our market building. Under PWD, I request the concern minister to pursue the ongoing efforts of the previous ministry for the construction of NH 145 and NH 108 which are to be connected and also to complete at least the majority of construction of Mamit – Bairabi road before monsoon as this serves as an economic door for us. I also request to speed up the process to construct NH 44A 108 and also to give attention to Hmunpui – Phaizau Road and also Nalzawl road, also known as Rajiv Nagar – Kawnpui phase – I.

Pu Speaker, Mamit Constituency is divided into 5 RD Blocks but none of them are under Mamit Constituency which makes co-ordination very complicated. So, I request the concern minister to set up an RD Block for us in Mamit. Insufficient water supply has always been our problem at Mamit, with the replacement process of 2 km high pressure line under Amrut – II, I request the concern Minister to pursue with pressure regarding this matter. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Hon. member Pu C.Ngunlianchunga.

**PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA**: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I will start with Demand No.18 Printing & Stationery, this department can generate substantial revenues for the government and under Power & Electricity, we, the people in the South have faced many complications regarding inefficient power transmission and distribution and we are also in dire need of linesman and I request the concern Minister to tackle this problem with urgency and also to take necessary steps to provide power supply at about four villages near Tuichawng area.

Under Demand No.42, Transport Department, I request to provide bus services in Lawngtlai area to promote sustainable transportation. I also suggest that issuance of



permits for two-wheeler taxis and auto rickshaws should be proportionate to the demographic density of population of a particular area and also on requirement basis. Under PWD, I request the concern minister to construct roads beyond Damlui which is about 5 kms only, I believe this could be taken care of from funds under SASCI and also the connecting road between Lungpher – Phalhrang along with Hmawngbu – Sabualtlang. I hope the concern minister could put SASCI funds for maximum utilization for the betterment of the public.

On Demand No.39, I request to prioritize Chhimtuipui Kolodyne Hydel Project as this could be a surplus power generation for us. I also request for a review of Combined Water Supply Scheme under PHE, which covers Rulkual, Vanhna, Phaithar and Saikah area.

There are many low-income households unable to purchase sintex and we have distributed 500 litre sintex from MLA funds but it was not sufficient. So, I urge the concern minister to look into this issue and take necessary measures.

We have constructed a cold storage building but there are no professionals to manage and maintain cold storage facilities, so I urge the concern minister to take swift action to make the building operational. I also request for the effective utilization of NREGS funds for the betterment of public welfare. I suggest that the concern MLA should not only be contacted to make an approval regarding Border Area Development Projects, as it is important to involve them in matters related to their constituency to achieve better development as this will also enhance socio – economic growth and human development. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : The concern MLA of Thorang, Pu Rohmingliana.

**PU R.ROHMINGLIANA** : Thank you, Pu Speaker. I will start with Demand No.42, Transport Department, where tax revenue is always more than their target, which is very gratifying. I suggest they should continue to search for tax dodgers in order to generate more revenue streams. Additionally, I propose that they should continue to drive development and growth by capitalizing on the potential of ropeways and inland waterways.

Under PWD and PHE, while I applaud our engineers for their outstanding contributions, I am concerned our lack of technical acumen as those in control at a higher level may lead to unintended consequences, such as overburdening their work and stifling their creativity. I hope development could be achieved in such a way that every area experience proportional growth and improvement. Pu Speaker, we have a situation where PWD declines to provide the work process. We also need a PCC pavement for the roads to our school, I also request to release the pending bill under SASCI where agreement had already been signed.

Under Demand No.39, Power & Electricity, I suggest technicians should be stationed for maintenance and repair duties. Solar roof toppings are highlighted in the budget and I hope the concern minister will continue to pursue this on a larger scale, leading to a successful outcome. I hope smart – meter could continue to be initiated and if pre-paid policies could be implemented, this will prevent a great percentage of power loss. There are many areas in my constituency where power supply, LT line have not reached, and there are many unauthorised villages where access to water supply remain elusive, some supply areas received a restricted supply of ration, water and power, while some are left without these essentials. So, I request the hon. Minister to take note of this.

Pu Speaker, solar water pumping has yielded significant advantage for us, enhancing our water security and sustainability, so I hope an eligible contractor could be selected for the purpose for our overall benefits. On Demand No.38, RD, I urge the concern Minister, to pursue the pending 2<sup>nd</sup> instalments under PMAY. I also request that projects under Horticulture Department started by the former ministry could be continued as this could facilitate a productive harvest.

On Demand No.45, PWD, the Eastern and Western parts of our state require a marked increase in road infrastructure development to enhance overall connectivity and development. I will conclude by expressing my support in passing the Demands of our hon.ble Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Hon. Member Pu V.L Zaithanzama.

**PU VL. ZAITHANZAMA:** Thank you, Pu Speaker. I shall start by focusing on Demand No.25, PHE where there are only Phase – I and II to provide water supply for Aizawl city and phase – III is still not operational, so, I urge the concern minister to prioritize the commissioning of Phase – III, to facilitate an enhancement of water supply in Aizawl City. Regarding Horticulture Department, I suggest, PWD, Co-operation and Horticulture should work together to optimize marketing of harvest in Aizawl city since it is the primary marketing hub. On PWD, the poor state of the roads will have far reaching consequences for transportation, deliveries and other related services, making it imperative that we conduct a thorough renovation works to avert potential problems. Pu Speaker, has steps been taken regarding the reconstruction of DC office which was estimated to be an amount of ₹ 49.71 crores. I also request for the construction of Maubawk – Damveng connecting road within my constituency.

Regarding Power & Electricity, I am glad that roof top solar installation will be introduced, at the same time, my constituency need a new transformer since the existing one is inadequate to meet the growing demand for electricity and is consequently leading to frequent power outages and disruptions.

Under Commerce & Industries, it will be wise to increase the tempo of work on the construction of Aizawl Bazaar, New Market which was estimated to be completed between October, 2018 – October, 2019. With that I express my support in passing the demands of our three hon.ble Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Hon. Member Pu Lalmuanpuia Punte.

**PU LALMUANPUIA PUNTE:** Pu Speaker, I will start with Demand No. 45, the renovation of roads should be undertaken with the greatest urgency in order to prevent further deteriorating of roads and the presence of roadside quarries often results in the detrimental effects on the road conditions leading to defects such as cracks, potholes etc.

As mentioned by the concern MLA Of Champhai North, I am positive that our engineers can design roads with a greater degree of straightness and precision exceeding the standard of the present road network. Proper maintenance of side drains is crucial for ensuring the optimal condition of roads as clogged or poorly maintained drains can lead to water accumulation, erosion and subsequent damage of road infrastructure.

Is there a possibility of continuing the construction of Tuivai bridge? Under Transport Department, I suggest that vehicle pollution test should be outsourced for more efficiency and I urge the concern minister to enhance transportation options for Lamka by issuing more Maxi cab permits as this will surely be very beneficial for our brothers and sisters of Manipur.

Under P & E Department, I suggest we should have careful consideration on the agreement of Hydel Projects so that the state could assume complete ownership after a couple of years since possession of only 12 % of the stake is unsatisfactory. Harnessing of solar energy was mentioned, personally I believe utilizing wastelands like Reiek cliff or Durtlang cliff for solar power accumulation systems is a prudent and effective strategy as it leverages unproductive areas to generate renewable energy instead of utilizing a thriving land at Vankal which could be utilized to produce crops or other resources.

We have Maicham Hydel Project at North Vanlaiphai, where phase I and II cannot run due to scarcity of water and one machine needs to be repaired. So, I request the concern minister to look into this matter before the coming monsoon. I suggest utilizing a prepaid method is a sensible and prudent approach.

Pu Speaker, an old transformer was recently installed at Chekawn, but the transportation costs was covered by the Village Council, is this standard procedure or a specific protocol followed by the department? Under PHE, I request the hon. minister to note that the amount of water pumped to feed Khawlailung, Bungtlang and their nearby areas are not sufficient. I also request for an urgent completion of Multi Village Water Supply Scheme at East Lungdar since Pavalai Convention is upcoming very soon.

We have about 60 blacksmiths in Aizawl and the products crafted by them have garnered immense popularity among the Assam regiments. In light of this success, it would be wise to promote our blacksmiths and their products under Industries Department thereby providing them with the necessary support and resources to scale up their production. Pu Speaker, I will conclude by expressing my support in passing the Demands of our three hon.ble Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : The concern MLA of Tuichang, Pu W. Chhuanawma.

**PU W. CHHUANAWMA** : Pu Speaker, commencing on Demand No.40, with the rapid growth and expansion of textile industries under Industries Department, integrating handloom, handicrafts and sericulture would be a strategic move as it would harness their collective strength without incurring any additional costs.

Our newly formed district is currently devoid of necessary resources, resembling a shop without products to sell. On Demand No.39, Sialhawk Sub-Station, there are two water pump panel which needs to be replaced, so I request the concern minister to provide new ones for us. Construction of PMGSY road at Rianglei was started in 2017 and completed in 2019 and was discontinued and become impassable during the monsoon season, I request the concern minister to initiate necessary steps in this regard. I also request for a PCC or black topping of link road connecting Khawzawl Water Supply Scheme, which is only 6-7 kms and also the connecting road of Kawhai -Ngentiang – Lungpho. It will also be gratifying if funds could be allocated for the construction of Lungva bridge and also to complete the construction of bridge which was started in 2002. I also request for the completion of Bungzung road. With that as my conclusion, I express my support in passing the Demands of our three hon.ble Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : The concern MLA of Lunglei North, Pu V. Malsawmtluanga.

**PU V. MALSAWMTLUANGA**: Thank you, Pu Speaker. Starting with Demand No.45, on behalf of Lunglei, MADC, LADC and CADC, I thank the concern minister for giving attention to ATL Road and their commitment to delivering infrastructure development. I appeal to give more focus on the refurbishing of roads and highways in the Southern region specially from Kangmun area. I also urge the concern minister to complete the construction of Hmuntlang connecting roads. We are in dire need to construct Mat bridge driven by both economic and political considerations. I also request the concern minister to consider the construction of ring road within Lunglei city area.

The Haulawng village, in my constituency is as big as a town area. PWD IB was constructed in 1987 which is in a dilapidated state. If this is renovated, it would be of great use for all.

Pu Speaker, the PWD has done a great job in the sphere of youth development. Regarding the invitation of tenders, due to a lack in credentials, our aspirational and visionary youths does not have a chance in the face of outsiders. A remedy would be instituting a joint venture system in place, wherein our young contractors and consultancy firms could learn and attain more credentials and in the future they will work for the state without the dependency of outside firms.

Additionally, I would like to thank our Minister for the 70-meter Steel Truss Bridge, Hnahthial – Haulawng via Zotui which is provisioned to be started soon. This will inevitably foster connections between villages and districts.

Regarding *Demand No. 42*, the State Transport Authority sits in Aizawl without any other branches in other districts. This causes many problems for the southern region especially the goods carrier-public transportation. This issue was raised by the *Chhim Bial Chhantu-te* to the previous government. I would request our Transport Minister to establish a Regional Transport Authority for ease of administration.

Under *Demand No. 39, Power & Electricity*, I want to highlight to our Minister that one of the most important feeders of Lunglei is the Saizakawn – Rahsi feeder. This feeds the DC office, Chanmari, Ramthar AOC – petrol pump, hospitals and commercial areas. However, there has been a lot of issues with this feeder which causes immense problems to almost half of the city.

Moving to *Demand No. 18, Printing & Stationery*, our Printing & Stationery Department is crumbling down especially during the monsoon season. The machines could not be operated due to intense moisture. A copy printer is needed, and the store room also requires renovation. Along the Tlawng river, there are almost 100 families depending for survival but without electricity. A solar plant could be installed, and it could be elevated even as a farm village with proper electrifications.

The Khawiva – mini hydel project which is currently being utilized by 5 departments need restoration as the check dam is leaking and due to excessive deposition of muds, water could not be stored in its full capacity. With proper maintenance, this site could be harnessed for tourist spot, water-sports, tracking and for fisheries department.

There has been a shortage of linesman in Lunglei with a total of 8 duty linesmen today. The Ramlaitui duty covers Kanghmun, Chhipphir duty covers Bualpui V, Zotuithiang duty covers Chengpui, and Haulawng duty covers Mausen. There is no linesman in Lungmawi. I would request the Minister to look into this matter.

Lastly, with regards to *Demand No. 32*, dragon fruit has been harvested in great amounts in my constituency especially in the valley of Hualawng. I request the Minister to make proper provisions for cold storages which would help the harvesters in a long way.

Under the *Demand No. 25*, as stated by our Chief Minister yesterday, SASCI has provisioned ₹55 crores for the Lunglei Greater Water Supply Scheme phase-I. I am glad for this initiative and renovations are being under taken for ₹477 lakhs as of today. Moreover, I would be very happy if the Mat pump, which is of great use could be looked into for the greater good of the society.

As Aizawl is the most populated city in the state which depends on the Tlawng river, one of the main issues is the leakage in the water connections. This cause numerous problems for everyone. Pu Speaker, I thereby request everyone to support the demands brought forward by our Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : We have 2 minutes before 4 p.m., and there are Members that are yet to discuss on the demands. Should we take a recess and resume at 5:00 PM?

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER:** I suggest that we continue the discussion till 5:00 PM and take a recess and then resume to wind-up.

**SPEAKER** : What is the opinion of our House Leader?

**PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER:** That is a great suggestion. We shall carry on with the discussion till 5:30 and recess for dinner. Then we can resume the discussion till around 10 P.M.

**SPEAKER** : Let me invite the South Tuipui MLA, Pu Jeje Lalpekhlua to discuss on the demands.

**PU JEJE LALPEKHLUA:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

I would like to first talk about *Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity*. In my constituency, Hnahthial have been seeing inconsistent electric supply especially during the monsoon season. I would like to thank the SDO and its Staff for their hard work in this regard as they work tirelessly for better electric supply through rain and shine.

Power supply has been erratic during monsoon season. The 132 kV Sub Station was a beacon of light for better electricity. However, there are no updates on the project which is very unfortunate as it would be highly beneficial for Hnahthial village and even for Mamit district. Our Minister, the P&E and Forest Department have worked hard in this area, and it would be great if 132 kV Sub Station could be urgently taken care of.

Pu Speaker, I would like to highlight the grave issue of forest clearances. Due to this, many projects were delayed in which the public suffers the most. As it is good to follow the rules and regulations, all the Departments should discuss with the Forest Department

before the start of any projects in order to save time and work together for better administration and thus we can eliminate this issue in this way.

Pu Speaker, 20 hectares have been given for the installation of a solar plant (10 Mw) at the periphery of Denlung village. All necessary paper work have been completed and the forms have been submitted. This plant will be easily linkable from NH 54, 33 kV Sub-Station and 132 kV Sub-Station. I request the concerned Minister to look into this matter so that we can have a prosperous solar plant as soon as possible.

The Hnahthial Sub-Division covers 8 villages under Lawngtlai District (Sangau Civil Sub-Division). 6 villages including Thingsai and Cherhlun under Hnahthial District is covered under North Vanlaiphai Sub-Division. This leads to numerous problems in civil administration such as providing electricity to refugees in our district which comes under N. Vanlaiphai SDO. Also, I would request that the Hnahthial P&E Sub-Division, which is one of the oldest divisions to be upgraded as a full-fledged Division for the interest of administration as it covers three MLA constituency.

As previously mentioned by Pu V. Malsawmtluanga, my constituency also has a deficiency in linesmen. However, the works and collaboration of NGOs in this regard is commendable. I would request the Minister to fill the gaps in vacancy as soon as possible.

As seen in the *Demand No. 45 – PWD*, good roads are the lifeline of any developed countries. Last year, on 23.06.2023, the then PWD Minister and Chief Minister inaugurate the Hnahthial PWD Division. However, this has not been functioning properly today. I request the Minister to look into it and to upgrade it into a full-fledged Division.

The NHIDCI works of NH-54 which is now renamed as NH-02 (Keitum – Serchhip) have not been satisfactory. Along this, the works of BRTF regarding the construction of Tuipui ‘D’ bridge should be accelerated as it is an important economic road not only for my district but also for Lawngtlai and Siaha district. As of now, there is a PWD Suspension bridge which cannot support heavy loads thus causing many problems.

Pu Speaker, there is Denlung village just 3kms from Hnahthial which is popular for having the tomb of *Lalnu Ropuilianni*. However, the roads leading to this village are extremely in dire need of restoration. This causes problems to our tourists and visitors and I urge the Minister to look into this issue.

The South Lungleng village was desired for a tourist destination by our Tourism Minister. However, these roads are merely seasonal roads. The Hnahthial – Tuichang connecting roads are also extremely bad and the works are unsatisfactory. Are there ways to give more funds since that is one of the main problem areas?

As of today, the Tuichang bridge cannot endure large vehicles. This is the main connecting road for Thingsai, Cherhlun and the adjoining areas. I would like the Minister to be aware on this issue and take the necessary actions. Additionally, the roads in Thingsai and Tiaubung villages are of extreme importance for trade with Myanmar, and they also serve as a crucial agriculture link road. In 2019, under NEDP, the road had been constructed yet black toppings are not initiated until today despite the estimations being completed.

Pu Speaker, speaking on the matter of *Demand No. 25 – PHE*, providing clean drinking water is an important facet of *Six basic needs* under the new government. I received a call from Bualpui ‘H’ regarding the impoverished situation of potable water supply. Under the JJM, only pump no. 1 could function as pump no. 2 collapsed. I promptly requested the concerned Minister, Pu Prof. Lalnilarwma to look into the matter and I thank him through this House for his prompt actions as today, we have a clean water supply in the district.

As a new district, I would like all the Ministers to take crucial care for the development of the district. Water storage have been a concerning issue for New Kawnpui village constituting of merely 15 houses in total. This should be urgently look into by the Minister.

Lastly, Pu Speaker, with regards to *Demand No. 38 – Rural Development*, there are many community halls in the area of South Tuipui but none of them function as it should be. It seems like the previous government built these halls just for name’s sake. The Muallianpui Hall does not even have a window and is in a deteriorated state. I would request the concerned Minister to look into this matter.

Thus, I support the demand put forth by the three Ministers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Let the Tuirial MLA, Pu K. Laldawngliana be invited.

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

I would like to first talk about Pu Vanlalhlana’s *Demand No 42 – Transport Department*. We cannot live without vehicles anymore. The Transport Department used to come under a lot of criticisms, but today they are one of the most efficient Departments. Vehicle taxes are also increasing today. To reinforce this, DDOs should be instituted in all the districts which will be beneficial for the public.

One of the main contending areas under the Transport Department is the management of Buses and their services. Privatization should be considered for better efficiency.

Pu Speaker, with regards to *Demand 45 – PWD*, good roads and infrastructures are an important yardstick for development of a state. The Vairengte – Sairang road is an



important road for everyday commodities. This should be carefully look into as an urgent matter. Please help me in noting that the Mualkhang National Highway is not constructed. Also, the Kawnpui – Hortoki road should be look into. In Thingdawl, we have stuffed the PWD Department with their EE in the Polytechnic building. There are already estimates and approved funds for the construction of buildings, thus, this should be done as soon as possible. I wanted to re-iterate that roads should be constructed on time and effectively maintained for better growth and development.

With respect to *Demand No. 18 – Printing & Stationery*, I find it a great step that the department head is our Minister as it is crucial for resource mobilization. We find ₹200 lakhs as a revolving fund to satisfy the needs of all the departments, which is double the amount from last year. This should be efficiently utilized and must be in coordination with the Resource Mobilization Committee.

*Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity* is an important one. I would like to apologize for the wrong information issue at Sentlang a few months ago. It was due to communication gap and it has been resolved in a very short time span.

Under the Rural Development Scheme, Lungdai, Hortoki and Kawnpui electric line must be revamped. The main line assembled in 1974 is of no use. Adding on, the New Khamrang village, despite being in the main road does not have good power supply. If possible, new connections should be given to all. Under NABARD, Saiphai Zau electrification is under way and the Bawktlang and Sihhmui 132 Kv that is an on-going work should be completed speedily.

The *Demand No. 40 – Commerce & Industries Department*, concerns with the business landscape of the state. This is the third time I have talked about this issue – I urge that the places in Zuangtui, Chite and Luangmual should be given to the people who really need it for their business and not to people who are trying to make profit from it. Under this department, we have KVI, ZIDCO, ZOHANCO, MAMCO, and MIFCO which should be carefully supervised as they are important for the state's development.

Commenting on the *National Handloom Development Programme*, handloom is the second biggest sector after agriculture in India. Thus, the previous SEDP helped 468 families engaged in handloom industry. There are sufficient markets for it and the on-going construction of New Market building and project under SASCI at Zokhawthar should be given importance with border trade. I would also want to highlight the fact that there have been shortages of staff which hamper effective administration.

*Demand No. 25 – PHE Department* put forth by Pro. Lalnilawma is vitally important for life on earth. I see that the Minister and his Departments are very sincere in this regard. Under JJM, 780 connections have been installed in 621 villages and there are

places which are yet to be installed. I plea to the Minister to give primacy to this regard as it is extremely vital for our survival.

We are very fortunate to see the on-going installation of solar pumps at Zanolawn and Serkhan. I request the Minister to install a DG set at Lungdai which will help in the regularity of water supply in case of power outage.

*The Demand No. 32 – Horticulture Department* is an important demand especially for the rural areas. Our Minister have also been to Taiwan to study for better systems. Better link roads, water tanks, pipelines, irrigations, and distribution of seeds are the need of the hour and requires more money in this regard.

Lastly, *Demand No. 38 – Rural Development* which is an important demand for the rural villages. The Thingdawl BDO has tirelessly work for rural development in my areas and is commendable for his work regarding NREGA scheme. One issue in this Department is the overlapping of responsibilities in rural and urban administration which is apparent during meetings at the Central level. Therefore, we have to demarcate the urban and rural system in a stringent manner.

Therefore, I urge the people and our Ministers to work diligently and honestly for better growth and development. Thus, I support the demands put forth by our three ministers today. Pu Speaker, thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Let the West Tuipui MLA, Pi Prova Chakma be invited.

**PI PROVA CHAKMA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. There has been a lot of discussions on this year being the *Year of Consolidation*. However, we still have to speak of the demands since they are necessary.

Firstly, coming to *Demand No. 45 – PWD* – It is very unfortunate to see that the area of West Tuipui has a village which is not connected by roads. This village is the Saidailui village. To reach to the village, one must walk 8kms from Chawngte and Lungrang or by boat from Thanzamsora during floods. It made me question what the previous governments have done in this matter. Not only this, to reach to Nunsuri, one must rent a motorboat which costs up to ₹2000/- for a single use. I request the Minister to look into this issue at his earliest disposal.

The Khawthlang Tuipui – Tlabung bridge needs to be constructed so as to boost the agricultural market as vibrant transport activities are a pre-requisite to a developed economy. It is because of the pathetic conditions of my constituency that the whole picture of Mizoram is tainted and thrown into a bad light. It is for this reason that I criticize the funds kept for *Road and Bridge* in this year's Budget.

Moving on to *Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity Department*, the Tlabung circle is kept under *red-zone* and I urge the Minister to upgrade it to 33 kV line to solve this issue. Additionally, there are villages without any electricity and I want the Minister to note down these villages such as – Hmundo, Tlabung Dinthar, Gurusora and Saisen. Without power supply, it affects the overall lifestyle of the people especially the school students. It is for this reason that this circle comes under the ‘*Educationally Backward Block*’ in the gazette notifications.

The same story applies for Prof. Lalnilawma’s *Demand No. 25 – PHE*, the above-mentioned villages without electricity also does not have water supply. This was due to the fact that these villages were declared ‘*unauthorized*’. However, it has now been declared ‘*authorized*’, therefore, I urge the for a speedy installation of PHE connections. With regards to *Demand No. 38 – Rural Development*, the MNF government had established a RD Block. However, these does not function despite all the budgetary allocations. There are villages without community halls and that causes great inconveniences during election campaigns. I also want to highlight the necessity of cold storages for our cultivators. Without it, many harvested crops go to waste which affects the income of the farmers. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : I now invite the Aizawl South MLA, Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi to discuss on the demands.

**PI BARYL VANNEIHSANGI:** Pu Speaker, thank you. I am glad to be able to discuss on these demands and I hope to use these 10 minutes of my time in an effective manner. Firstly, I want to focus on the *Demand No. 25 – PHE*. My constituency have numerous water supply problems. I believe there are solutions to every problem and as the saying goes ‘*when there is a will, there is a way*,’ I want to highlight some solutions to these issues.

The Changte river, near the Sumsuih village was provisioned to be a source of water in the previous term. However, due to monetary constraints and other issues, it could not be implemented. I request the resumption of this project as it will fix the water shortages of Thiak, Maubuang and Lungsai in Phase I of the project. Consequently, in the Phase II of the project, water could be pumped up to the Hmuifang village and with the help of gravity, the neighboring villages like Chamring, Lamchhip and Chawilung could be a beneficiary of this phase.

I wanted to call attention on the deteriorating steel tank near the Middle School in Sumsuih village. It is highly corroded and extremely unsafe for the passersby. However, we could not demolish it as there are no alternatives for storing water in the area. I hope the concerned Minister take the necessary actions in an urgent manner.

Not to speak in a degraded manner, the Maubuang village face serious water shortages. To solve this issue, there is Tuirivang river near the village which could be pumped for

water. There have been research and concept proposals for this project. If this could be implemented, it will solve this graving issue of water shortages.

The Samlukhai and Sialsuk villages are given under a combined scheme. As they are big villages and are increasing in population, they start facing water shortages. This could be easily fixed by pumping water from Tuivarung river and Pawi river. Water is a necessary element for survival; thus, I have stressed on this topic.

We have look forward to the effective implementation of the JJM Scheme as this will bring us to the path of development. I encourage the staff and workers to buckle their belt and work harder for its speedy implementation. It is appalling to see that there are households with no tap water in 2024. I suggest that all the Departments work together in order to fulfill the vision of providing accessible water supply to all.

To combine *Demand No. 32 and 38 – Horticulture and Rural development*, there is a ‘*Hliappui Plain*’ in Lungleng-I. However, there are no connecting roads leading to it. If 1km of road is constructed, we could pave way for better water supply and will benefit by more than 200 families. Not only this, it would be utilized by Aizawl city as it will create better agricultural link roads.

Moving on to *Demand No. 45*, my constituency belongs to the Aizawl district with the roads being used frequently. We have provisioned for widening and SMBT (Soiling, metaling and black-topping) for our roads. The Lungtian- Aibawk approach road and Phulpui road needs SMBT reconstruction. Adding on, widening for the Stall – Leirekawn road at Sateek is on-going but needs SMBT. The Muallungthu Playground approach road and ATL road also need to be noted for reconstruction. Widening and PCC flooring are required for Hualngohmun grave through Samtlang main road. There has been a concept paper for it. Thus, I request the concerned Minister to look into this matter.

The Falkawn Community Hall – ATL Road via Primary School also need urgent attention. Also, 16 kms for the Chawilung – Baktawng has been constructed under NABARD Scheme, yet metaling has not been initiated which makes it not utilized as intended. The Baktawng village, as we all know manufactured valuable commodities for the state. However, the connecting roads are in a pathetic state and gets even worse during the monsoon season.

I do not know how many Members have visited the Lungsei village. I want to underline the deteriorating conditions of the road. During the rainy season, only four-wheelers could enter the village. There has been 60-meters provision of work but the rest are unassured.

In a nutshell, the *Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity* is an important demand. The Saikhamakawn locality is a big one and it is believed that the transformer is too small for the size of the locality which causes frequent power outage. Different places in my

area requires regular electricity for cattle rearing and prosperous economy. A 132 kV line Sub-Station have been instituted at Melriat which could be utilized by the adjoining areas as well. The Mualkawi village also face the same problem as I have stated above. Lastly, Pu Speaker, I want to announce that the successful implementations of all these developmental works lies in the collaboration of each and every Members of the House. I request the Minister to ask for a lending hand when required and we shall work together for the development of all. As an unmarried woman fully dedicating myself for the service of the people, I ask the Ministers to look into my plea as a paramount matter. Thank you for the valuable time.

**SPEAKER** : I hope the Ministers hear your plea. Let the Siaha MLA, Dr. K. Beichhua be invited.

**DR. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, thank you.

It is too early to make judgments on the work of the new government. Whether it is a state or a nation, people compare the current situation with that of the past. The Budget Estimate that has been published today will also be scrutinized by the public and compare it with the past Estimates.

If we look at *Demand No. 12 – Parliamentary Affairs Department*, the Budget Estimate for 2023-2024 was ₹106.86 lakhs while it is ₹103.70 lakhs in 2024-2025. It decreases by ₹3.16 lakhs which is minimal and understandable. In Demand No. 42 – Transport Department, the estimate in 2023-2024 was ₹6459.98 lakhs and in 2024-2025, it is ₹4473.93, a sharp decline of ₹1986.05.

If we examine the Transport Department in other states, they constitute a big chunk of revenues for the state. When i visited Karnataka as a PSU/PAC, I found that 12% of the revenue comes from their bus service. With the development in roads and infrastructure, we have to initiate more bus services wherein the state could harness more revenues from it. I would request the Minister to react to my question – how many revenues did the transport department received in the previous year? What is the target for the new estimate?

Looking at *Demand No. 45 – Public Works Department*, in the year 2023-24, ₹133820 lakhs was estimated while in 2024-25, it comes down to ₹7371.22 lakhs. Theres was a decline by over ₹60548.8 lakhs despite the numerous demands for more works. I believe this was a calculated move by the government but even in the year of consolidation, this a bit too much.

Regarding *Demand No. 18 – Printing & Stationery*, ₹1513.11 lakhs was estimated in 2023-24 while in 2024-25, ₹1119.72 lakhs is the estimation. It decreased by ₹393.39 lakhs when compared to the previous year. I wonder the rationality behind this decline as if done correctly, this Department could be a great tool for austerity measure.

When Pu Ngunlianchunga was a Minister, he coupled the Printing & Stationery, Veterinary and Disaster Management Department all at once. We see that the Veterinary and Disaster Management Department does not make use of the Printing & Stationery Department in its full capacity. Thus, if we are undertaking austerity measures, we have to make use of this Department.

With respect to *Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity Department*, in the year 2023-24, ₹94,351.96 lakhs were estimated while in the new estimate it comes down to ₹90,958.73 lakhs, with a whopping decline in more than ₹3000 lakhs. I find it hard to understand the reason behind this decline as the current government pledged to not increase the electric bill...

**SPEAKER** : Since we have decided to take a recess by 5:00 PM, it is now the time. However, our Minister is still in the middle of his discussion. (**Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo**: Let our House Leader and Leader of Opposition discuss after the recess) Alright then, let us target 5:30 PM, you shall continue.

**DR. K. BEICHHUA** : Pu Speaker, thank you. I wanted to request for better electrification in my area but the budget estimate is too limited due to extreme consolidation. This makes me cower and reserved for any requests. I want the concerned Minister to tell us if the electric bill will be increased in the future, or will it be blamed on the actions of the JERC later on.

Pu Speaker, commenting on *Demand No. 40 – Commerce & Industries Department* – in 2023-24, ₹6869.62 lakhs were estimated while in 2024-25, ₹6044.11 lakhs is seen in the Budget Estimate and is on a declining trend. My query is that since we have an international border, how many *border fencing*, *border haat*, *custom hiring* and *border trade* have been instituted? In which place have they been established? What are the future provisions?

In *Demand No. 25 – Public Health Engineering*, we also see a decrease in estimates as in 2023-24, the estimate was ₹65174.40 and in 2024-25 it stands at ₹28760.16, which means that it decreases by ₹35414.45/-

The Siaha water pump is in a miserable state of condition. I find it discouraging to ask for help with such consolidation in estimates. However, I request the Minister to look into this matter as soon as possible.

Furthermore, in *Demand No. 32 – Horticulture Department*, ₹13846.10 lakhs were estimated in 2023-24, and ₹12283.85 lakhs are the estimated amount for the year 2024-25, which means that it decreases by ₹1562.25 lakhs. Horticulture is one of the main hand-holders for the new Policy, and brooms, turmeric, ginger and chilies are all under

this Department. Thus, I want to be aware on what are the future plans for this Department with such extreme decrease in budget estimates.

This trend is also true for *Demand No. 38 – Rural Development Department*. In 2023-24, the estimated amount was ₹58759.81 lakhs and in 2024-25, it is ₹45,651.65 lakhs which means that it decreases by ₹13108.16 lakhs. I find it appalling to see this downward trend as RD Department is one of the most important Departments for the rural people. I hope the Minister have made this move after immense deliberations and I expect a rational explanation for it.

Pu Speaker, I would like to mention that despite having such intense consolidation and limited funds, we can achieve great heights if we carry on administration without corruption. I have confidence in the Ministers and I extent my support for the demands. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Let the Dampa MLA, Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo be invited.

**PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO:** Pu Speaker, before I comment on the demands, I would like to speak on behalf of the Chalfilh and Kolasib MLA Constituency with your permission.

In a democracy like India, as a general practice, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker does not have a chance in commenting on the demands for their constituencies. I believe that there are many demands for these two constituencies, and I request the Members to earmark the opinions of our Speaker and Deputy Speaker as they do not have a space to voice out their demands.

By observing *Demand No. 12 – Parliamentary Affairs*, we see an estimated amount of ₹137 lakhs for this year which I consider it insufficient as the administration of a constitutional body- the Govt. Dy. Chief Whip comes under this Department. They are treated just like the Ministers in terms of pay, discretionary, staffing, drivers etc. When I was a Dy. Chief Whip for 5 years, I visited UP and West Bengal where I see good administration of the Cabinet. Till today, I could not receive my medical reimbursement. Thus, Pu Speaker, the importance of Parliamentary Affairs Department should be realized as they are the biggest helping hand during Assembly Sessions with the Printing & Stationery Department. I hope our House Leader also recognize their efforts and be more generous with fundings in this Department.

It is to be noted that all important letters and documents should be ‘*copy to*’ the Dy. Chief Whip along with the Minister of State. Their powers and functions cannot be undermined and even their salary comes under a different head altogether.

Moving forward, *Demand No. 2 – Commerce & Industries* is extremely crucial for our state. We have an agreement for border trade between India and Bangladesh. On 22<sup>nd</sup>

April, 2022, I met with the Bangladesh Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi who visited Mizoram for a night. We inspected areas for *border haat* and places of trade such as Kawpuichhuah which is the main center, Tuipuibari, Silsury, Marpara and Nunsuri. On Bangladesh side, we have Zopui, Mahmuam, Lawaghar and an on-going proposal for the opposite side of Nunsuri.

Pu Speaker, with your permission, I would like to hand-in to the House, the joint press statement from the Ministers who met the Bangladeshi counterparts. Through Silchar, we can increase our border trade which will boost our economy. As for Bangladesh, their main requirement and demand is stone as they even use bricks for constructing roads.

The southern side of Phuldungsei is abundant with stone quarries. The Khawthlangtuipui river flows near Silsury and on the opposite side, Bangladesh had constructed a two-lane road with great black-toppings. Villages have been sprouted around the area. I would like to bring notice to our House Leader that our main bottleneck is the 18 km Pukzing-Silsuri (via Hnahva) road where it is very difficult to get forest clearances. Border fencing road has passed through this area but the work is not satisfactory. I would request our House Leader to note this as it is extremely important for our economy.

Pu Speaker, I believe it is the need of the hour to institute powerloom as separate industry along side handlooms. As I have noticed, most of us are wearing powerloom products today which we bought it for a hefty price from other producers outside the state.

With regards to *Demand No. 3 – Rural Development*, I am of the opinion that we have to increase the number of RD Blocks in Mizoram. We have the lowest number as compared to other Northeastern states. Assam have 290, Meghalaya have 47, Manipur have 33, Nagaland have 74, Tripura have 58, Arunachal have 40 and even Sikkim have 40. Mizoram have 28 RD Blocks which is way too less as many developmental projects from the Center comes through these RD Blocks.

The PMKSY Scheme is administered under the Dept. Of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India. Under the *Guidelines for New Generation Watershed Development Project*, it appears that party-workers are the true beneficiaries which is suspicious. The Watershed Committee is an elected body with an elected leader among themselves. All projects come through this Committee and I want the Minister to be aware on this regard.

On discussing *Demand No. 25 – Public Health Engineering*, I want to disclose that JJM have been introduced in 33 villages. However, we have made some mistakes with regards to Pukzing Vengthar and Hruiduk wherein the lower area of PWD road could get tap water whereas the upper area could not receive tap water till today. Before



elections, we have advised the EE to propose a project under NABARD which should be implemented as soon as possible.

As for *Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity*, we have yet to start the 132 kV and 11 kV at West Phaileng to Bairabi, wherein we won a court case at the High court against the issue of Riverine reserved Area of the Forest Department. This kV line is the longest in Mizoram stretching up to 182 kms and even feed the border fencing road area. We have discussed with NEEPCO power-grid to start commissioning before Christmas but due to the court case, it has been delayed till today. I urge the Minister to start establishing these stations at the earliest.

On the subject of *Demand No. 42*, Transport Ministry have worked a lot in the previous term. In my area, we have introduced an Inland Waterway which costs ₹2.4 crores. Tender had been invited for Khawthlangtuipui river, and this is important as it connects to Tlabung by boats. I would be glad if the Minister in-charge could look into the furtherance of this project. (**Speaker:** 3 minutes have passed.) Pu Speaker, I am almost done. Please understand me as I stand here on behalf of three constituencies.

I want to speak on *Demand No. 45 – Public Works Department*, as stated earlier, there are several villages where vehicles have not entered and the situation is bleak. Zopui, a place of Sailo legacy, is worked under SASCI. Lianbuang is worked under BADP and MLA funds. Fortunately for Sialsuri, a village with around 3000 voters, border fencing road covers this area.

Pu Speaker, I am happy that tenders have been invited for Rawpuichhip – Buarpu (77.27 kms) at the cost of ₹75.83 crores. (**Speaker:** 5 Minutes) Pu Speaker, please excuse me. We have to make use of BRO like the Mamit MLA. Regarding the Tut – Phaileng – Rajiv Nagar Road, the Chief Engineer Brig. General have been called and I have met with the Defense Minister for the same. After much deliberations, ₹16 crores have been sanctioned today and work has started. Likewise, the Silsuri road is constructed under the BRO, which is on halt as the Ministry is discontinued.

As of *Demand No. 8*, in the Horticulture Department, we have produced a large number of dragon-fruits, and the Thingdawl village has done an exemplary work in this regard. Lastly, for *Demand No. 39*, I am glad to see ₹20.13 crores being provisioned for the replacement of our old transformers in the Budget speech by our Finance Minister. Thus, Pu Speaker, I support the demands that have been put forth by the three Ministers.

**SPEAKER** : Let the Lawngtlai ‘E’ MLA, Dr. Lorrain Lalpeklia be invited.

**DR LORRAIN LALPEKLIANA CHINZAH:** Pu Speaker, thank you.

**PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO:** Pu Speaker, please excuse me. I forgot to mention that our BJP member have distributed some pens to the Members, which is a normal practice. It has been done by our RD Minister in the past in which he distributed silpaulin to all.

**DR. LORRAIN LALPEKLIANA CHINZAH:** Firstly, let me start with *Demand No. 12*. The *Construction of playground pavilion* have been on-going in Lungtian, Sangau, Bualpui 'NG', Lawngtlai 'W', Tuichawngtlang and T. Dumzau villages under SASCI scheme. Additionally, there are numerous projects under NEC and NABARD and I urge the Minister to look into it so that they can finish it in time.

Completion report and application of extension for the Multimodal project division – *Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project (KMTTP)* under State Accelerated Board Development Project, Northeast Phase-A is submitted on July, 2023 at the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways. However, it has not been approved till today. The project commenced on August, 2010. Between 2011-19, a total of 202 compensations have been awarded yet as per the High Court report, 138 *genuine land owners* have not received their compensations.

I request the Ministers and our Chief Minister to disburse compensations to landowners especially those in Lawngtlai West and Lawngtlai East. Also, the conditions of the roads are extremely bad such as in the Sangau – Thaltlang, Lungtian – Vartekakai, Saichangkawn – Vawmbuk, Vawmbuk – Archhuang, and Vawmbuk – Tialdawnlung. (**Speaker:** It is now 5:30 PM. We shall let the Minister finish his discussion. Please continue.) I would be grateful if resurfacing and black-topping could be initiated with the mentioned places.

Under NHIDCL, widening of NH-54 Hrangchalkawn – Lawngtlai and Lawngtlai – Zero Point have been an on-going project which should be supervised thoroughly so they they can complete it in time. Additionally, construction of connecting bridges in Tuipui Ferry and Maurawpkai is a necessity which our Chief Ministers also mentioned during his campaigns.

The 17 kms Phalrang – South Lungpher which have been mentioned by our Lawngtlai West MLA is an important connecting road. It connects Lawngtlai to Lungpher and Mara District. However, during monsoon season, it could not be utilized. I request the Minister to propose a project for widening and black – toppings of these roads.

Moving on to *Demand No. 42*, there are no buses and MST services in Lawngtlai West and East. My area consists of poor and underprivileged populations and thus we are in need of MST services for Lawngtlai – Sangau, Lawngtlai – Chawngte and Vaseikai. It will also be of immense importance if MVI could be established in these border areas.

As of *Demand No. 39*, I want to re-iterate on the fact that the Southern region of our state is extremely deficient in regular power supply with 3 days of power outage on some occasions. This is mainly due to repair and maintenance work. To elaborate on this issue, our main power source is the 132 kV Line with 3 kV charged which was installed in 1995. Initially, vibration temper was not installed which deteriorates the conductors. Also, the jumpering clap (PG Clamp) is extremely old. Maintenance works have been taken during shut downs for jumpering repair and jungle clearances. However, we are understaffed and needs complete line improvements. There have been estimates for the replacement of conductors and power system development funds have been submitted. I urge the Minister to take efforts for the successful completion of these works.

It is thus necessary to have more incoming lines to solve our power issues. As of now, one-line feeds Lawngtlai and Siaha and whenever there is a line fault, the two districts suffer from it. Like the on-going SASCI funded 132 kV sub-station at Chawnhu, the same could be established at Siaha. The 132 kV Lawngtlai – Siaha is already estimated with vetting of 10% GBS by the Center. If this could be implemented, our sources of power will be increasing and will solve the perennial issue of irregular power supply in these areas.

To add on, we also need distribution in system improvement. Under Lawngtlai Division, we have the Lawngtlai Sub-Division and Bungtlang South Power Sub-Division with total count of 11,609 consumers. We also face serious administrative challenges posed by scarcity in staffs and workers. Moreover, the electric wires are antiquated which can be a threat to the public. I hope the Minister note down on these issues for further actions and improvements in this area.

Under the Rural Development Department, as per the report I received from DRDO Lawngtlai District, in 2024, 2084 – 1501 beneficiaries have received their 1<sup>st</sup> Instalment. However, 583 families have not received even their 1<sup>st</sup> Instalment and I request the government to understand the importance of PMAY-G scheme and work for its effective implementation.

With regard to PHE Department, the Greater Lawngtlai Water Supply Scheme is working on 1 electric motor set and 1 diesel engine set which can pump water for only 11 hours in a day due to insufficient voltage. However, under the P&E Department, 132 kV sub-station is under construction and will be commissioned in the near future. This will provide higher voltage and we will be able to pump more water in a day. I request for an additional electric motor pump as a *stand by* machine, so that if one is defective, the other could compensate for it. Also, water supplier used to be employed on MR basis which was changed to PE basis and this cause administrative issues. Let the Minister be aware of these issues.

Pu Speaker, I am almost done. Lawngtlai district is increasing day by day and due to this reason, the Thingkah IR Battalion Headquarters and Mampui village are in short of

water supply. I have heard that the Department have made a separate estimate for ₹119 crores and are in search of funding today. The Sangau Water Supply Scheme is insufficient for the Sangau village and the Sangau-II functional house-tap connection scheme has not been implemented. I would be happy if the Minister could note down these issues and take necessary actions in his earliest disposal.

Therefore, Pu Speaker, I support the demands put forth by the three Ministers today.

**SPEAKER** : We shall have a recess for 1 hour and come back by 6:40 PM.

(*Recess*)

**6:40 PM**

**SPEAKER** : We shall continue our discussions. Let the Aizawl West-1 MLA, Pu TBC Lalvenchhunga be invited.

**PU TBC LALVENCHHUNGA:** Pu Speaker, thank you. I am glad to have such vivacious discussions on these great demands. There have been comments on the decreasing trend of fundings in some Departments. However, if we deeply examine the demands, we see that more works have been proposed than the previous year. I am also glad to see the embodiment of *sustainable development* in the Budget even in the *year of consolidation*.

We have seen a different situation in this year's Budget wherein we do not see any '*transfer from other departments*' work under PWD. We have gradually eliminated other unnecessary work departments because every department now have their own engineers and staffs to suffice their needs. We have heard that in the P&E department, the Engineers concerned with civil side are unoccupied and just like this, the electrical staffs in the PWD are like foster kids with no work. The restructuring and reorientation of these Departments will be one of the biggest agendas in our administrative forums. With regard to *Demand No. 42 – Transport Department*, in lines with the central *Scrapping policy*, several vehicles have been scrapped last year in January which reflects in the ₹700 lakhs Supplementary Demand. I believe this is a move in the right direction.

As for *Demand No. 45 – PWD*, we see more fundings and capital under *works, road and bridges* which was not found last year. Under PMGSY-3, ₹300 crores have been received and our state-matching share have also been put into place. I want to highlight to the public that despite having ₹200 crores by the concerned departments, PMGSY-2 have not been completed. There have been allegations against the contactors and the concerned Departments for delaying of bills which is a big room for improvement in administration.

Adding on, my constituency, Aizawl West-I comprises of both rural and urban areas. I am glad to see better roads being built in such a short time. The Luangmual Gan Sabra and Phunchawng school road have been revamped with boulders and PCC flooring, I thank the concerned Minister for his prompt actions. For the work of 'Chawlhmun Urban' which connects PHC to Rangvamual started by the previous government, ₹20 crores have been estimated which will be beneficial for all.

Next, I would like to discuss on *Demand No 18, 39 and 40*. Coming to P&E, our actual power purchase last year was ₹605.38 crores which was revised to ₹450 crores. Some attributed to the reduction in power purchase rate because of the installation of Tlungvel and Vankal solar plant of 20 MW and 2 MW respectively. One reason is the provision of ₹7 crores for installation of roof top solar system in our Budget. Moreover, certain places in Ainawn locality and Chawlhmun area near the old-age home does not have electric poles which causes server power outage in the area. I thank the Minister in advance for looking into this matter. Despite this, I find it concerning to see the rising trend in power subsidy which is almost at ₹211 crores, doubling the amount from last year.

With regards to Printing & Stationery, ₹315 lakhs have been estimated for book printing in the on-going financial year, which was scrapped in the new Budget. Although not falling under this Department, the School Department has a concerning issue of not being able to supply books to the students even in September. I would like to be aware on the future plan of the government in this regard.

We have to take certain measures for the people who have been working hard and risking their lives in the workplace. We have 949 of such workers who have been upgraded to Provisional Employees from Muster Roll. Since they do not have any benefits or immunities in their capacity, we have to think about certain provisions to safeguard their positions.

Moving on to *Demand No. 40 – Commerce & Industries*, we see Sustainable Investment Policy 2020-2024. Under the Mizoram Industrial Policy 2012 and Draft Policy 2021, ₹42 lakhs have been given out as an MSME incentive subsidy which could be incorporated as a hand-holding policy in the future. Pu Speaker, we have seen a declining trend in this Department from ₹97 crores to ₹68 crores to ₹60 crores this year. Although they would be very beneficial for our hand-holding and intervention schemes, the Budget did not specifically talk about the graving issues faced by Champhai and its adjoining areas in term of border trade. I would request the Minister to address this matter.

To talk on *Demand No. 25, 32 and 38 – PHE, Horticulture and Rural Development*, Capital Expenditure for economic services in Agriculture and Horticulture was ₹1 lakhs in the previous Budget and even in the Revised Estimates. However, I am glad to see ₹7000 lakhs in Agriculture and ₹127 lakhs in Horticulture this year. In the Rural Development Department, we have one institute which is the State Institute of Rural

Development (SIRD) with an estimate of ₹414.78 lakhs along with its extensions. We should look for ways to amalgamate SIRD with Administrative Training Institute under PAR which have an estimated amount of ₹414 lakhs. Combining the two fundings, we can have more than ₹800 lakhs for training purposes which could lead us to the real path of development.

Lastly, Pu Speaker, since JJM is coming to an end, I applaud the numerous capital works that have been on-going and completed under the scheme. It is because of the increase in cost of pumping that the estimates have been high. I want to highlight to the dire situation of the people of Aizawl West – I constituency such as the Sairang, Sihhmui, and Sairang Dinthar areas. They do not have sufficient clean drinking water and I hope that the AMRUT scheme fixes this problem and also ensure regular supply of potable water even in times of power failure. To further resolve this issue, water could be harnessed from the confluence of Tan river and Daldawk river at Reiek and Chungtlang for the people of Sairang and its adjoining area. I would request the Minister to be noticed on this issue and react to it.

Therefore, even with the pronouncement of *year of consolidation*, we can achieve great heights and I extent my full support to the demands. Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Let the Hachhek MLA, Pu Robert Romawia Royte be invited to discuss on the demands.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE:** Pu Speaker, thank you. I would like to thank the previous government and the then RD Minister for their prompt actions in establishing a new BDO in at Kawtethawveng RD Block. I hope the new government also utilize it and maintain it well and sort out the staffing issue as soon as possible. The Kawrtethawveng BDO is a bit far from the town and thus power lines have not entered the area which causes many problems. Despite the strengthening of ICT in the office, it could not be fully utilized due to deficiency in power supply. Notwithstanding this, I appreciate the officers in RD Blocks who have achieve great things and set many records in the past as compared to other northeastern states.

Secondly, regarding Commerce and Industry, we have the *Industrial Investment Policy* which was initiated by the previous government and I hope the new government strengthen this policy so that it could be implemented in a swift manner. *Sports, music* and *tourism* have been elevated to the status of an industry under this policy which have a lot of important projects for the development of the state. I suggest and advise the government to take-care of these industries with utmost considerations.

Moreover, in my area, Kanhmun is an important village as it lies Assam and Tripura junction. The Kanhmun market is utilized by the people in the area and is considered to be the main hub of economy. During our time, we have proposed the construction of a

market building but it could not be implemented. I believe it would be of great investment for the government if a market building could be constructed under SASCI, which will be of great use for the western parts of Mizoram.

Commenting on the matter of Horticulture Department, areca nut comes under the purview of this Department. On October, we have issues in the cultivation of areca nut at Kawrthah and Zamuang. When I enquire the concerned department, the Land Resource, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Betel nut should be in the purview of the Horticulture Department. When I enquire other Northeast State, they all put betel nut under Horticulture. There are experts in the department and I would like to suggest that betel nut be put under this department by the new government.

Next, I would like to briefly discuss about Power & Electricity Department. Linemen shortage is very serious in rural areas and it was done mostly by YMA and other volunteers. Experts were required as these volunteers are not skilled. Trained are required or to be trained are needed. I think we need to rationalized and change our way of working. I want to give my support to what hon. member Er. H. Lalzirliana's mentioned about 132 KV line commission. Bairabi-West Phaileng-Mamit 132 KV lines need commission as it will solve a lot of our problem in Mamit – Tuidam – Zawlnuam. There is one matter that I take it seriously and that is subsidy. How to implement subsidy in Power Department is a matter of concern. Power tariff will not be increased for five years is what we said. Is it possible that subsidy will be increased to substitute for the power price.

Pu Speaker, there are many development in PHE Department. The previous government's effort to reach every household with drinkable water is still continue. Ministers who know the characteristic of the previous government do not criticize them, but continue their good work. I think our PHE Minister with enthusiasm continue the good work and I am grateful to him.

Pu Speaker, one of the most important is PWD and their Budget Estimate is 732,71,00,000 while in supplementary Demand for Grants we passed 7833.44 lakh. We may think that Supplementary Demands are old budget, but it is not so as there are many fund left to use. We do not know how much the hon. PWD Minister will raise in the new year. PWD still had 708.33 crore in Supplementary Demand in the capital head. It is thankful that the department work out many in the supplementary Demand and central transfer are a lot. In addition to the budget pass, we will have a lot of Supplementary Demand which will increase the Revised Estimate. I believe we can achieve the development we have been watching.

I praise the CM and House Leader and this government for forming State Monitoring Committee. It appears that department to department monitoring is not enough now. I think it is a pleasure to see that all parties and important organizations are involved in

the transparency process. The first that came to my mind when I heard this was that they were looking at the performance of the contractors, and whether the concern departments pay the bill in time. The Contractor and the concern department are important and this Committee offered a win-win situation to contractors and their employers, I believe work can go in balance. Besides, it is important to discuss about PWD Schedule of Rate today. It was issued on 2013 and 2019 respectively. In CPW is adjusted according to cost index even if a new SoR is not issued. In Mizoram we are without such a schedule of rate while it is very important. All our projects base of measurement is the SoR as well as the DPR. Is there a way to revised the SOR according to the time. What I give important I want to discuss is will it be good if Taxation Department, Finance Department and PWD work together to prepare SoR. There is also CPW SoR, can they consult each other. I want to ask the hon. Minister about work order. The work order is subject to administrative approval from the Finance Department. While PWD issued work order in accordance with the law, is it not wholly released in time. Because there is a rumor that instruction was given to work only 53% in verbal. This need explanation in the House. The contractor will use work order as a tool for the contract work. If the contractor was invited, would it be proper to do it in writing.

In conclusion, I support this 9 demands and wish the Minister under the leadership of our House Leader and CM, use for development. As the budget presentation was a pleasure for me, I hope it would be for my friends. I congratulate them for having this opportunity and wish them all the best, thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Let us call upon the Opposition Leader.

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. I am thankful that we have the opportunity to discuss three Ministers demand, 9 departments. The atmosphere of the discussion was pleasant, personal struggles, nothing unpleasant to hear about the past, hope for the future, and suggestion we share. This House is a true *august House*.

On Demand No. 45 – PWD, they are a major department and are the mirror of our country. There are times when we have high hopes from them and sometimes the roads are not good and are not what we expected and the people grumbled. While the department employees dedication is good the government should give them priority. Because, the roads are our source of transporting our needs and food. While we give important to roads, we should give priority to inter-state roads.

NHIDCL take over our important roads and that is not good. When the concern Minister and department makes complain they often shows obstinacy. I think our House Leader, Chief Minister need to intervene sometime. Our main road Silchar is in a very poor condition as we do not have enough dry season to do patchwork. Buichali areas was visited by our Minister, they are trying their best. However, heavy load motors run here.



While they are not under the control of PWD, they are managed by the PWD. Similarly, the inter-state roads like Kanhmun (Tripura) side, Manipur side and Ngopa roads should be given priority as well as our main roads.

At the same time, we need to find other inter-state road. We can construct other in the northern side. New Vervek-Bagha roads are ready for excavation and was named 'National Highway 306A'. It goes through Saipum, Saiphai and Tuirial. The remain is between Tuirial and New Vervek where survey is underway. MORTH (Ministry of Road Transport and Highway) had already allocated funds for reconstruction of our existing roads such as Mauchar-Tuirial road, New Vervek-Zohmun road. Before the construction of road, it is a useful road for many traders and resident of these areas.

The Union Minister for Road Transport & Highway, Pu Nitin Gadkari announced that 1500 crore will be allocated for the construction of National Highway 150 from Zero Point, Seling to Manipur following Tuivai River. Road survey is being carried out and the government need to give attention. The previous ministry do repairing works on New Vervek - Tuivai 9/10 km and the Manipur side also do the same. For construction of bailey bridge tender was issued twice. No response was received due to covid. The Union Minister announcement of the bridge as a major road turns the condition. Instead of a bailey bridge it should be constructed in concrete bridge. I spoke with the CM recently, although it is the area where we have refugee problems with our neighbor, construction of bailey bridge was decided by the previous ministry. I want the PWD Minister to know that we give important to this road. It is not only for the nation unity but also a closer inter-state connectivity road. It is important to give our attention to roads managed by NHIDCL and BRO under Govt. of Mizoram.

On Demand No. 42 – Transport Department, they are a useful department, however, half of the sanction posts are not filled up. At the same time their collection of revenue is still good and expected to earn 5000 lakh this year. In our budget we see that State Own Tax Revenue was increased by 21%. It appears that the Transport Department will be the largest contributor. I want the Minister to answer my question on whether there is an intention to increase tax. There is one thing I take seriously in this department, while the department requires garage certificate in motor registration. It would be welcome if review was made in the roadside heavy parking still at large. Traffic Management Committee meeting should be held in collaboration with the Home Department. Otherwise, in emergency cases such as fire at night, large motor cannot move properly.

As population increase, vehicles increases but our roads stay the same. Is it time to fix no. of motor a family should own. If the family has more needs, motor taxes should be paid in addition, it will also mean mobilization of resource for the government. I would like to mention these issues as they are important for the mobilization of resources.

Ropeway was also mentioned for Durtlang – Chaltlang, Bazar – Zemabawk. Is this stopped because of some rumour. They are being used in many places in the mountainous areas and it will be very useful for us as well. Is there any plan to continue the project? Do we have a new DPR?

Regarding Inland Waterway, the previous ministry give important especially at Tlawng and Western River. A lot of fund was allocated as it was important for our economic road. Is there any new news in our efforts?. We have to give important.

The Finance Minister should be generous in allocation of fund to strengthen Transport Department's MVI Wing and Enforcement Wing. Besides the Districts, mobile should be available to rural areas. It is common in the rural areas driving without license, no vehicles registration. For public safety we have give more attention.

On Demand No. 12 Parliamentary Affairs, they are the department that oversees our activities. At the parliament, the concern Minister often host All party meeting whenever there is a major issue relating to Government Bill. It would be good for us all if we meet together during and after the session. It would bring us together in issue relating to nation and a peaceful discussion will prevails.

On Demand No. 18 – Printing & Stationery Department, they are the stone at the corner. They work through the night during session. Only half of the sanctioned post was filled up and they need special attention. Under the supervision of the law, all printing of government departments was done by them. Order was issued to collect stationery items only from them. Does the department under the new government follow the order properly? I convey my congratulation to them for receiving 100,00,000/- under this new government. It will be a useful tool for the government to get more revenue.

On Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity, in this changing world the need for power increases. After 50 year we still do not have a single large power project. We only have mini hydel project. I think the new the new government has plan. We need to have project about 330-400 megawatt in order to provide us for a long time. We need to have a bigger project while 10-20 megawatt and solar projects are good. We have to take opportunity on economically viable areas. There should be a way to do it from State funds or external aided project. If it is a good revenue source, we should take loan if it is going to be good for the country.

Rural areas have a large shortage of employees. Linesman are understaff as one had to cover 3 to 4 villages. The V/C hired electrician who do not have license as the need of the people is high. I, myself have hired linesman from my MLA fund. The Finance Department should find a way for the Electric Department to hire MR linesman from some special scheme. The electric lines in our area are very old and whenever there is rain we have no power. We received power from Saitual and they in turn received from

Zuangtui, the pattern of the power line is very complicated for us. Our land near Tuirial are destroyed by building of dam. Some lost their live and some drowns. Is there a way to supply the power generated to power sub-station like Darlawn or Sakawrdai? It came to Aizawl and then to Saitual, it goes around like that. We sacrifice our livelihood for this when we surrender our fertile land. Can you think of these in particular?

One thing that come to my mind is that our new government insisted on not raising power tariffs. While they think for the people they raises taxes. Depending on the value of money, the people will not be afraid the money if they receive good power supply. JERC will set a rate and the government had to buy it according to the tax paid by people. It will reduces Capital Investment and Expenditure. The victims are indirectly the people. I think the people will not be reluctant to pay if up small in the beginning. You may have a discussion in this issue, however, in the end we will have to wrung dry the people in order to mobilize resources.

Pu Speaker, for the last I will go to Demand No. 25 – Public Health Engineering. Our demand for water increases while our water resources becomes scarce, we have to work together. Water management laws have been passed and we have to work hard in its enforcement especially with the growth of urbanization. When will Greater Aizawl Water Supply Scheme Phase -III for the use of University function?

When can water from Tawitlang arrive, can we commission it? When will we be able to provide abundant water to the city and its surrounding areas such as Sihphir, Tanhril and Falkawn. As JJM scheme is coming to an end we have to hurry to complete the remaining areas.

On Demand No. 32 -Horticulture Department, they are the most improved department and acquire many achievement. We have to make them into a major department. Self sufficiency which play a major role in our country development comes from them. We are doing well in fruit production from the previous ministry. Vegetables production is common and lit increase rapidly and they import other good variety, it would be good to give them important. We need to think about marketing and processing fresh vegetables. I would like to ask whether we are able to do ginger processing?

On Demand No. 38 – Rural Development. We rely on this department. As mentioned by the Dy. Leader we feel restraint to create a new RD Block. In order to achieve simultaneous development we need to open more RD Block. My constituency have a smaller government due to the peace agreement between Mizoram Government and HPC. We expect Rurban. We are unfortunate because there is no Special Development Scheme and BADP. Therefore, our need iv very high.

Pu Speaker, I forgot to mention Demand No. 40 – Commerce & Industries Department. This is an important department. We announce Year of Consolidation. In this regard

Govt. undertakings such as – MIFCO, ZOHANDCO, ZIDCO, and MAMCO, some almost died. What do we expect from them by giving them assignment? While we expect them to work, what will do they? Is there anything that can be given more effectively in amalgamation? For example – We are going to produce dragon fruit abundantly in the future. Should not the juice concentrator in Chhingchhip continue to be used? Does the government gives thought in that way? Can we still continue under handholding policy subsidize mistiri equipments, clothing machine?did the Commerce Minister try to strengthen trade relation with our neighboring countries? The Commerce Minister has to urge the Union Ministry to strengthen trade points with Myanmar and Bangladesh. If Kawrpuichhuah or Zorinpui or, Zokhawthar trade point is not strengthen it may bounce back to the government. If we pave a way to export our production to Myanmar and Bangladesh it would be a blessing for our farmers.

I am eager to have a discussion with three Minister's demand. We wish them to fulfill their department allocation under the new government and support to pass, thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Now, let us call upon our House Leader to have a discussion.

**PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, our Ministers prepared well. They will react from the members discussion. I will not take long.

SASCI issue has been discussed several times in this session. If I am going to discuss I want to begin from the beginning. The previous Chief Minister said “Congress and ZPM will campaign by taking loan, while we have many MLAs with their fund. Besides, we are going to have SASCI fund of 2, 3, 5, and up to 10 crore. In the new SEDP, we will be able to cover a family at 50,000/0. As they used to watch NLUP with hunger, now they are going to watch us”. That is the definition of SASCI, it concentrates in the party.

When we come in to power, we said, “work orders that have already been issued and works already started will not be disturbed. We are not blaming the contractor as their name was used. The real worker are the party worker”. I will mention one concrete example – Patient Lodge at Shillong was constructed using a contractor name, of which we know but will not mention. The work is poorly done and we have to beaten down the whole foundation. I request the real contractor to continue the construction. He is reluctant as there no profit to make. However, when I visited the spot NEC officials are present and they promised to look if there is a chance to increase the amount to 10%. The contractor was not responsible, it is the party worker who worked in his name were the ones behind SASCI. If the work is not good there is no relief.

As mentioned our fund is small. However, after reducing loan and debt we are going to take, our plan out lay for development increases. It is our pride to present the budget while reducing fund we increase our plan out lay.

The Congress Government stopped some of the PSUs. The MNF Government revived it and we have to continue it. We give small salary and motor for the Chairman and does not upped their rank and status. With thought of whether we can make it alive, we are running it for the time being. Among this ZIDCO is the most important. They are given guarantee by the government. As the previous government promised them to clear their debt which they failed. We negotiate with the financial institution where they borrowed the money to reduce as much as possible. We are trying to revive ZIDCO and invited Pu Ch.K-a to volunteer. As he is a senior his salary is very high. We hired him in deputation in hope of reviving under his supervision. In handholding policy we will continue to do distribution according to the need of our people. Fund will be increases according to the need.

The prime Minister advise me to make concept note on handholding policy for discussion when we meet again. I do not know if we will succeed or not. I would like to share our situation with the House member. If they can give us a special package for this, we will have a lot of money.

Pu Speaker, today we are talking about the bad road and interrupted power supply. We cannot improve our road and power supply only in three month. We cannot drive away roadside parking in one night as we are not a magic government, we are a group of imperfect. The Opposition leader himself said that he has half vacant vacancy in his own department. We cannot fill that within three months.

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER:** Pu Speaker, Pu Speaker, point of clarification – As I mentioned in yesterday budget discussion. Unfortunately, our government was disrupted by covid 19 and we passed a regular budget only one time. We said that you are lucky you are starting to go on a normal budget. We could not do many things we had to do, and that is it. Mizoram knows that we cannot do many of the things we want to do, even the world knows. Therefore, let us think what the House Leader as a joke.

**PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER:** Okay, then let us not mention about fund we received because of covid. Maybe the round about way of our power supply is the cause of covid. Many of the things we complaint about is we inherited from the past ministry. Let us hope we can see improvement after one year.

We heard about the ropeway issue and the lawsuits. They called back all the tourist circuit because of this. We as PAC members busy with this issue in the previous ministry. Because of our dishonesty our country lost a lot of money.

Therefore, we are not in a position to revive that now. However, we have a new project on ropeway under Planning Department for Vantawng Khawthla. A boat from the falls to Turihiau has been paid with MLA fund. I think Buangpui Branch YMA has the best source in Mizoram. They earn 1000/- per day from the boat service.

Pu Robert's suggestion on betel nut to be included in Horticulture need follow-up. We used to sat cultivate betel nut as it never dies down simultaneously. We have to work hard to prevent this simultaneous dying with our experts. I would like to say that we are taking steps to export in a semi process manner from next year.

In PHE, especially in JJM we have done very well. We are second in India and received award. It is the fruits we reap from the previous government, especially the Dy. Chief Minister Pu Tawnluia. In spite of his old age and health issue, he answered all my questions without looking.

About powerloom, in India it is the largest producer of job. It started with mahatma Gandhi's struggle for self reliance and the burning of foreign goods. When they try to mechanize, it was strongly opposed by the Trade Union as it will replace the livelihood of many people. We also have to think about this. We have to tread this carefully. Among eight selected in India Thenzawl is selected as one of the handloom district in India. 'Burma loom' is the most popular in this industry and they changed it into 'Zo loom'. We need to popularize it.

Expansion of RD Block was mentioned by the Opposition Leader and member from Dampa constituency. I agree with them as I used to suggest it in the past. Instead of new District, our people need RD Block. If there are 40 RD Blocks, one in each MLA constituency it would be better is what I believe. We will think about this according to the position of our fund.

The Opposition Leader has taken the road to Manipur seriously and we discussed it together. Since the beginning of our government, we have taken it seriously as already said. Regarding border trade at Silsuri mentioned by member from Dampa constituency, we are also giving important. I have visited and Bangladesh constructed a road and used it as a tourist center and is very beautiful. Our side of the road is very bad. We give important because if the border road is passed, we will get everything from Bangladesh at a lower price. Therefore, we allocate a fund of 109 crore for this road. We will begin work shortly along with approach road to Manipur.

Regarding power subsidy, we collect stamp duty, and they said 'tax increase in not good'. Then we discuss about power subsidy, and then they said 'tax collection is good'. Pu Speaker, I do not know what we will do. (Interruption)

**PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER:** Pu Speaker, what we say is the increase rate of stamp duty is too high from 1% to 3%. It will be in the House record. We do not object increase of tax, we know that our country needs it.

**PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER :** Pu Speaker, the people are never in debt with power tariff, but the government is. If we paid the bill in time and less than the due, they can forgive us, and that is called 'rebate'. If not paid in time we have to pay the penalty and that is called 'surcharge'. We paid crore in a year and the surcharge. Therefore, we are trying to pay the bill in time to receive 'rebate'. *(interruption)*

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE:** Pu Speaker, please point of clarification – I thin it is an opportunity for the hon. House Leader to clarify – 'the people have no debt, but the government does. Therefore, we have to paid heavily with the interest'. Does the contribution of the people cover the power tariff or not?.

**PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER:** The government subsidize the rate of power tariff to the people. The people fulfill their responsibility, but the government does not. In this new government we try to pay the tariff in time to avoid the problems faced by the previous ministry. JERC will definitely propose increase and will have a meeting with them. The government will fill the gap with subsidy and that is the nature of power subsidy. A low tariff means the government will pay more subsidy.

The previous government recommended a higher power bill rate than the JERC recommendation. They opened time for complaint and hearing are held. One time our representative opposed saying the MNF proposed rate was too high for the people. Because of this, the people pay less than what was proposed in electric bill. As it is, we decided to exempt the people and fill the increase rate if necessary with subsidy.

Pu Speaker, today, I want to convey my thanks. We call it 'Austerity Measures' or 'year of consolidation', and we all take part in it. We all reduces what we used to get in the past. Therefore, we reduces it to 12.86 crore when the MLAs reduces what they used to receives in the past. Therefore, we all step forward knowing the problems of our country. We do not want to distinguish between ruling and opposition. Therefore, copy of government letters should be given to MLAs and think it will be followed by the departments. MLAS should have a clean competition to know who watch their constituency best. I would like to ask the MLAs to submit their wishes in writing to me. Maybe there is not much we can do; however, it would be useful to have a readymade.

During session it is easy to have a meeting in my recess room. It is an opportunity to meet them especially the opposition members. Meet me during lunch break and will discuss about your constituency. Let us try this opportunity together. Therefore, I beg you to pass the demand of the these three Ministers unanimously.

**SPEAKER** : Now, we will conclude our discussion and call upon the hon. Minister Pu Vanlalhlana to wind-up and beg the House to pass his demands.

**PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, Pu Speaker, thank you. We had a good discussion on my demand and I thank the member who participated in the discussion. It is my first time sitting in this side and my mind was not adjusted yet. But in time I will be able to do that.

I am sincerely grateful to the opposition as they participate well and the concluding sentence of the Opposition Leader was memorable. I will try my best to make it short as I know how boring it can get.

First I will go to Parliamentary Affairs Department. I do not used to know how important this department was in the past. When I take over I only know their important. It is their purview to Summoning and prorogation of Legislative Assembly. In Sl. No. 17 we see that – Matters relating to Legislative Assembly and under this there are many points like - Welfare of Ex-Legislators and their families, Salaries and Allowances of Pension of standing MLAs/Ministers. PAD is the link between the Government and the Assembly. Therefore, even if we do not know how important it is, I think we will all know it now.

Next on Demand No. 42 – Transport Department. The department separated from Supply & Transport Department on 20, 1988. Under Transport Department, there are Director, Jt. Director and District Transport Authority in 9 Districts. We are preparing to establish three more. They are one of the big revenue collectors in Mizoram. In the ongoing financial year the government set a target of 5000 crore. As of February this year 4163.1793 crore has been collected. The government set a target of 6000 crore in the New Year. Our source of income I want you to know is petrol pump at Chaltlang, where we hope to supply a better and quality petrol and diesel.

The department has taken step to install PP Mode Weight Bridge at four places such as Vairengte, Phunchanwg, Kanmhmun and Champhai with permission from the Govt. of Mizoram. Vairengte was functioning now.

Inland Water Transport Wing was allocated to Transport Department from PWD. Initiative of Inland Water Transport Wing – Development of Inland Water Transport Project in River West Tuipui, with this the Inland Water Transport announced Tlawng as National Waterways from Sairang to Gharmura. Ministry of Transports & Waterways allowed us to make West Tuipui to Tuichawng navigable. The project is 23 km long and total project cost is 2294 lakh. Sanctioned was approved for 1<sup>st</sup> phase. The Ministry also approved for Chhintuipui River Hydrolytically Survey Techno-Economic Preservative Study from Tuipui D to Lawngmasu. The report was submitted to the Ministry.



On Motor Vehicle Wing we have District Transport Office in 9 Districts. They are responsible for enforcing the Motor Vehicle Act and Rules. They are the highest contributor of revenue. Their initiatives are – One day carrying, Monitoring Centre set-up, Automated Inspection & Certification Centre set-up, opening of new District Transport Office. Due to shortage of staff we cannot open DTO office in 3 districts such as – Saitual, Khawzawl, and Hnahthial. The government approved the recruitment of STO staff. Once recruited the new DTO office will be opened.

Thirdly, we have State Transport Authority, which is an important revenue collector for the department. They are the issuer of public and private sectors. The various activities carried out during the current year are –

1. Review of fare of passenger vehicles. It will not be long before we use the new rate. It is designed to be suitable for the owners and the passengers.
2. Passenger vehicles found to be higher than the government rate are punished according to the existing laws.
3. Step was taken to install fare meter on auto-rickshaw and other vehicles to ensure fare is collected properly.
4. Step was taken to introduce online cab and two wheeler booking system as done in other Indian cities.
5. The new government and STA will issue vehicles permit after careful study according to the public needs not like in the past.

The Mizoram State Transport Wing main works is to maintain 26 MST Buses and other vehicles, Crane Recovery Van and Tanker. It is the largest Wing under Transport Department. Right now we have 26 buses and services in different part of the country. While the rate is very low, it also gives concession in cancer patient, disabled persons, mentally disabled person and women over 60 years at 100% and 50% for men over 65 years of age.

Railway Out Agency is the most famous agency of the Transport Department. It is the leading provider of tickets and reservation for anywhere in India.

On Allocation of Business Ropeway is to be under the purview of Transport Department. As mentioned by the Leader of Opposition, staff sanctioned post is 684 and the current existing staff is 386 with 295 vacant posts. The strength of the staff is decreasing due to retirement and death.

Let us try to react on hon. members question briefly. To answer Pu T. Lalhlimpuia regarding Lungeli – Aizawl MST Bus. Lunglei is the only District headquarters where MST serviced. While we have 26 buses our current situation is not good and cannot service elsewhere. 2 town buses services in Lunglei currently. Regarding stationing more Enforcement Staff in Lunglei, we have a shortage in staff. From 20 MVI posts 10

are vacant and from 48 Enforcement Sub-Inspector 28 are vacant. Therefore, we cannot post any Enforcement Staff in Lunglei right now.

Smart Card is currently outsourced to M.Tech Innovation, which will expire this year. Next year step will be taken to print Smart Card in every BDO Office. MCS occupied BDO office and handle with other works. As there is an inconvenience it was handed over to DP&AR to make arrangement.

Pu RM Chakma request - Auto-Rickshaw permit be issued in Chawngte and in other part of big cities. It is under the State Transport Authority purview. They will consider the issuance of new permits according to the needs of the people. Pu Ginzalala mentioned about out sourcing of MST Buses. The Administrative Reform Committee formed by the Govt. of Mizoram has decided to reduce the no. of MST Buses. After having more than 100 we have only 26 and there is no fund to purchase a new Bus. Therefore, the STA is issuing permit to individuals wherever the public need.

Lastly, to answer Pu Lalchhandama Ralte's question, right now there is no intention to increase vehicles tax. We are all supposed to have garages and with no garage registration cannot be done. Transport Department has no knowledge if there is no certificate.

Let us go to PWD. Mizoram PWD is headed by Engineer-in-Chief, 4 Chief Engineer and Chief Architect. Under Chief Engineer there are 9 Working Circle, Working Division 30 and Sub-Division 78. PWD Organization has 620 staffs and non-technical staff 1460, totaling 2083. In Technical Staff, there is Engineer-in-Chief – 1, Chief Engineer – 4, Chief Architect – 1, Superintendent Engineer – 16, Superintendent Architect – 2, Executive Engineer – 66 and Architect -2, totaling 169.

Their main responsibilities are construction and maintenance of building, road construction and maintenance of road. It currently managed 7015 km of roads of which 34km per 100 sq. At National Level, it is only 142x68 per sq.km. This shows how poor we are in terms of India level. Our roads are NH, State Highway, Major District Road, Other Dist. Road, Village Road, City Road and Satellite Town Road. It also maintained 134 bridges, Residential Building – 2976, Quarters – 2006, Non-residential Building – 970. PWD has worked with various Ministry and Funding Agencies to build roads and houses. Under SASCI (Special Assistance to State Capital Investment) 104 projects underwent. Under Central Road & infrastructure Fund 466.75 km and 2 bridges are being implemented. 441.10 km of roads and 21 buildings are being constructed under Ministry of DoNER also 2 bamboo link roads worth 100 crore. Aizawl by-pass western side (Sihhmui-Muallungthu) has also been sanctioned. 210 km of 15 roads, 8 bridges and 7 buildings are under construction under NABARD. Recently, 2 roads and 2 bridges were added and tender is underway.

There are 42 projects under PMGSY and from PMGSY – II, 17 roads was sanctioned. 26 contract and packages were tendered. The Ministry of Rural Road Development which provided the fund re-tendered the contract for each road. As we do not aiming for big contract, we split the contract so that our youth can have a chance to work the contract. However, the Central immediately asked us to cancel it. We will re-tender and cancel the previous tender.

Under Ministry of Road Transport & Highway 3137 km of road construction underwent. 96% of National Highway 108 was finished. As the contract was terminated, the remaining balance was put for tender. 78% of Tlawng Bridge/R. Bridge on Airport road was constructed and erection underway. Plan was made to finish in the month of April. The bridge was constructed near the Bailey bridge using England Technology. It would be the only one in the northeast. (interruption)

**PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO:** Pu Speaker, can the Minister visit the site of Aizawl-Reiek Bridge constructed for 8 years. It has been a long time when it was started. The contractor is very stubborn. I want to request the Minister to visit at the spot.

**PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER:** Yes, we will visit. Under Ministry of Road Transport & Highway, survey was conducted for double lane road for mamit-Bairabi, Seling-Tuivai. Our current proposal for Bridge over to Tuipui on Lawngtlai – Saiha via Tuipui Ferry Road DPR was prepared. Under Ministry of DoNER, DPR for 4 roads at 250 crore underwent. 7 DPR for Bridge to be sanctioned under PMGSY-III second phase was sent to NIC Silchar for design proof set. Under Ministry of Road Transport & Highway, NRIDCL Highway Construction Development Limited is constructing the double lane road. These are the work and step taken by the department.

We will try to react to what was said in the discussion. First, Pu Ramthanmawia mentioned about PMGSY road such as –

1. East Tuipui – Khuangleng, Khuangleng – Bungzung is maintained by Contractor Lalthanthuami, and will be maintain till 2026 under PMGSY.
2. Khuangleng – Vangchhia is maintained by Contractor F. Lalnghakliana and will be maintain till 2027.
3. Zawlse – Khuangthing is no longer under PMGSY maintenance BLT. It is going to need maintenance from State fund, and will be done according to the availability of the fund.
4. Mualkawi – Hruaikawn is FC only as it was completed under PMGSY – I scheme. There is an intention to propose pavement under PMGSY – IV scheme.
5. Phullen – Leisenzo is no longer under BLT and will be managed from State Maintenance Fund. It will be maintain according to RFP fund allocation.

Pu Lalhlipua, hon. member answers to his questions is as follows –

- i) Lunglei – Buarpu Road is 66 km and under PMGSY – III FBR technology it was sanctioned and tender is underway.

- ii) Aizawl – Thenzawl – Lunglei Road is intended to include in SASCI –II, 2024-25.
- iii) Venglai – Sazaikawn repair is to be done from maintenance fund and will be given important during 2024-25.

Regarding Lt. Col. Lalhmingthanga's pointed out, Tuipui – Chhungte road NHIDCL will be inform to do one time improvement surfacing after Aizawl – Champhai road is finish. We will make verification whether Tuipui – National Highway –VI, 2PM is PWD road.

Pu RM Chakma's points are as follows – In order to have a suitable approach road, the PWD hired DPR Consultant for construction of Bridges. Sanction will be done one at a time. Sanction will be taken from PMGSY-IV project and any other scheme.

To answer Pu Ginzalala, hon member, beside Champhai and Khawzawl District, 40 crore was allocated to cover all of Mizoram during 2024-25. We cannot follow MORTH norms which is 280 crore for 6287 km. With this fund we intend to maintain road as good as we can. The Engineers trained to do potholes repairing, black-topping, crack repairing on time. This is imperative for maintenance and money saving as the saying 'A stitch in time saves nine'.

Regarding Pu Lalramliana Papuia's point – Chawngte road is being constructed using new technology solution advised by World Bank expert. As the rock is not good enough ANT technology was used. There are many reasons why the roads are damaged such as soft areas, land not solid enough and landslide. Over-all damaged roads currently are 10-15 according to our Engineers. Contractor Malsawmsangzela was paid maintenance worth 261 lakh for repair and permanent repair of these roads. In addition, 135 lakh from the main contractor's performance security is being allocated for road repair.

ATL Road model road is PWD's wish. It is currently the No.1 State Highway and the nearest and best connectivity between Aizawl and Lunglei.

Regarding Pu V.L. Zaithanzama's point – regarding Aizawl DC Office, 20 crore was allocated under SASCI in 2023-24. The fund was deposited in K-Deposit thrice. Buannel Geo Solution proposed that the DC Office be renovated and the existing hill be lowered and vacate two floor for parking. To the level of the old one new building be build. That was discussed with the previous DC. In accordance with this PWD has revised the drawing. It was estimated to build a new office building between the old District Court buildings. The amount is 49.71 crore. Meanwhile INTAC came forward and suggested that the DC Office be rebuilt as the old office. The matter was sent to the Chief Minister for comment.

Pu Speaker that is all I can react to now. If it is necessary we will answer in writing. **(Pu Lalmuanpui Punte:** Pu Speaker, please can the Minister react to Tuivai Lei Manipur)

Pu Speaker, I think it is the same as the Opposition Leader said about the road with Manipur should be connected. I asked him to take necessary action and he calls the officers and takes action. The bridge is being prepared and hopes to finish before rainy season.

**PU LALRINSANGA RALTE:** Pu Speaker, can he please react to my question regarding Rengtekawn – Bawktlang, New Builum Internal Road, I think 25 lakh was allocated during the previous ministry and the department does some patch work. Is there an intention to continue the work? Beside this, North Hlimen – Saipum road, I think fund was allocated for this. When can they continue the work? Also, North Hlimen – Builum River, they excavated north range for easy communication to the District Capital. We asked the PWD to include in their road, can priority be given?

**PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, we give priority. All the roads mentioned by him are planned to be implemented under SASCI. Therefore, if we received fund from SASCI, we will continue the work.

Pu Speaker, I beg the House to pass my demands –

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>12</b>	Parliamentary Affairs	1,03,70,000.00
<b>42</b>	Transports	44,73,93,000.00
<b>45</b>	Public Works	7,32,71,22,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,78,48,85,000.00</b>

Thank you.

**SPEAKER** : Now, the hon. Minister Pu Vanlalhlana's demands –

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>12</b>	Parliamentary Affairs	1,03,70,000.00
<b>42</b>	Transports	44,73,93,000.00
<b>45</b>	Public Works	7,32,71,22,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,78,48,85,000.00</b>

He beg the House to pass his demands. Those who agree say 'agree' and those who do not say 'no'. (Members agreed)

It is thankful that the hon. Minister Pu Vanlalhlana's demands were passed by the House unanimously. (**Pu Vanlalhlana, Minister:** Pu Speaker, thank you)

Now we will call upon the hon. Minister Pu F.Rodingliana to wind-up and make clarification as needed and beg the House to pass his demands.

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. As it is going to be my first time presenting demand in this House, I feel very nervous. First, I would like to convey my thanks to hon. members for participating in the discussion of my demands.

Before I go to my demands, I would like to say a few words. Those who have never been involved in politics sit here in the country august House. I am thankful to the people of Mizoram for giving the opportunity to sit here. However, it means we have a lot of responsibilities. I invite you to pray and guide me and stand with me.

Pu Speaker, we are very fortunate for having an opposition who guided us and taught us many things. Instead of 'opposition' they should be called 'Leader'

On Demand No. 8 – Printing & Stationery. This department is not big but very important. One thing that is very important I want to highlight is – as per the Guidelines of Excavation of Printing Works in the Mizoram Government, 2018, all publication done under the Govt. Of Mizoram must go through the department. Mizoram Govt. Press is expected to do all printing and as such they are the most advanced printing press in Mizoram. These year text books are printed here and hope to collect much revenue. This new government intends to provide as much printing materials at a lower price. We invite departments to collect their materials from us. If we are not satisfied in the answer, we can provide the detail in writing.

On Demand No. 39 – Power & Electricity. Pu Speaker, I think we give important in this department. P&E Department separated from PWD in 1983 and reach 41 years of age. The new government is taking step to become self-sufficient. Mizoram has a huge potential to generate power, currently we have more than 3000 megawatts of power to generate from our rivers. Yet, we are currently generating 38.55 megawatts. Our requirement of power at its peak is 163.10 megawatts. At the same time, the state's generation including Tuirial was 54.55 megawatts. Solar is not mention as it is only during daylight. Imports from outside state are very high. The most important thing is to develop in power, we have to concentrate on Hydel and we have selected rivers for this purpose. This is a plan to make the most of our natural resources and rivers. However, CWC and departments have not been able to go as planned but will try to take step this year. In addition, we intend to develop solar more than before. We also intend to implement battery system, pump storage system for peak hour and make a selection to study further in other state.

Pu Speaker, in order to have abundant supply of power in Mizoram, our largest machines and equipment are – Hydel Station -15, 38.55 megawatt, Solar Station 622.35 megawatt. Besides this, transmission line of 132 KV and 66 V of 1128 km are being maintained. The insulation and cables are also required to be replaced. We are trying to meet government budget and Central fund. Distribution line of 33 KV to 11 LT we maintained id also very long. In order to meet our basic need this government allocated

70 lakh for purchase of new transformer. The current no. of transformer in Mizoram is 2385. The price of transformer is very expensive. Pu Speaker, the people need to be sincere in this issue. When we counted the load, we reported it as little as possible. And accordingly we set transformers in each neighborhood. When in reality we used more than we report and that causes problems in the transformer.

Transmission loss and AT loss are the issues we are dealing and it appears that we are the highest in India. To abolish this issue, RDSS scheme is being implemented. We hope this will reduce our problems to some extent. I also want to mention about smart meter. As mentioned smart meter was used by many States and we are planning to do the same. We expect this pre-paid smart meter to cover all our incorrect bills. We are installing 2x10 MVA 33, 11 KV sub-station at Cite to mitigate this transmission loss. In addition, 132, 133 KV line up-gradations are being carried out at five locations in Mizoram. Once these are prepared, the problems submitted in the bills will be reduced.

Pu Speaker, I would like to discuss about subsidy issue. Our government has planned to introduce more rooftop solar. For this 4 crore was allocated for this. The Central will cover 60% from MNRE, only 20% will be covered by the public. Central will contribute 60% and the State will contribute 20%. We will try to produce more than 4000 kilowatt from this. While it appears that the government will spend 4 crore, but at JERC rate, we will get back 30, 20, 89,630/- per annum from this rooftop solar.

The previous government installed many solar plates on the offices. After careful study, we submitted to the Council of Ministers and they transferred the project to P&E Department. This government allocated 3 crore for this purpose and we are thankful. The government revenue is expected to be 104 lakh. I would like to reiterate that the government intent to use this funds effectively. Solar initiatives are currently underway. 10 mw projects at Thenzawl is expected to be completed this year. 20 mw in Sumsuih and 5 mw at Vanlaiphai, and 10 mw at Keifang, these are implemented vigorously. Solar policy is being reviewed to encourage Private Entrepreneurs to enter. Without our policy these initiatives cannot move forward and that is why it is being reviewed.

There is a lot of talk about power tariff. In 2022-2023, the total expenditure on power purchase was 535.39. In the same year revenue was 661.45 crore. I would like to tell the House that the government earned 120 crore from the public collection. The previous government signed MoU with various companies. We have cancelled from nine companies as we feel that the MoU are not safe for our country. The expected power generation is 2392 megawatts. We negotiate the companies so that the country can use this as a source of income. The government is waiting for a better solution. Last week we reviewed the agreements. The Central are excited about Tuivai and Tuirial. We are trying to take action at Tuirini. Pu Speaker, after we finish DPR for Tlawng and Tuichang, we intend to implement it with the State funds as much as possible. Power generation is carefully calculated by our engineers and they think that it will not be too

hard to generate. We have an intention to damn up the many rivers like Serlui B. I think I have answered the members' question in my speech. If it not to their wished we can deliver the answer more details in writing.

**PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO:** Pu Speaker, I want the Minister to react to 132 kv and 11 kv at West Phaileng and Marpara. If the Forest Department is defeated in the High Court, will they be able to continued its work?

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, while it is alright in verbal, paperwork is not. We could not work 1<sup>12</sup> of the distance. We do not know how to do this yet, but we are trying our best.

On Demand No. 40 – Commerce & Industries. Members take interest in the department. There is no large scale industry in the country, but small scale industries have been established. From this establishment many jobs were given. We are trying agriculture base industry to implement according to our policy. For this purpose, we have approached the Central Authorities and reviewed our policies to bring them into line with our policies. There are many issues involved in the policy review, and consulted with other departments. In addition, the Planning Department introduced Investment Policy. We reviewed so that it will be in line with the hand-holding policy. There are many youth who cannot make progress. At the same time there are many who already established industries but cannot expand due to lack of land. Zuangtui, Leite and Luangmual are the most populous industries areas in the country. While in paper in was all fill-up, in reality there are many spaces. Thousands of scholars are graduating every year, not all of them will get government jobs. The government is committed to providing land so that they can establish a stable employment through their own skill.

Pu Speaker, we are busy with MES Cell nowadays. There are many things we need in MES Cell. It will be established under the Industry Department to help the youth and those who want to establish industries in rural areas. The Central will provide us 20 people to help us. They will help them in many of the things that this policy entails. When government approval is obtained we will open it.

Pu Speaker, border fencing was discussed by many. As of now, there are proper personnel to speak to. Therefore, we ignore them right now and turn to Bangladesh. We have a talked with their Ambassador on export of ginger and turmeric. Regarding construction of bridge, the Bangladesh side has not yet issued NOC. They told us that 'your CM should discuss these issues with the Ministry of Home Affairs and we will take action'. As they have a policy of their own, it is not possible to do whatever we want. The Ambassador told us, 'every day from Meghalaya we take 300 to 400 trips daily. Since it is closer it is preferable'.



Pu Speaker, we the Mizos need to realise that just because it is locally made, it is of a poor quality. We should appreciate our local products as we can manufacture it in the same way too, with similar quality or else our industries will face downfalls.

Other than that, Geology & Mining falls under the demand. The department was promoted to directorate and it began to serve as an important department.

The only problem has to do with shortage of staff. In that regard, the Power & Electricity department face the same problem. We are currently outsourcing two feeders from Suangpuilawn and Phaibuang. 5 villages are covered in Suangpuilawn in which ₹5,76,400 were already earned. We also outsourced in three places in our current project: Teirei, Kau- Tlabung and Maicham - II; we had to outsource these due to staff shortage as well. The government attempts to work out on all these areas including the promotion of industries with the strength of the central government and MSMEs, through the hand-holding policy, we shall help farmers to process their produce and so forth. In all the districts and constituencies, processing centres will be established under the hand-holding policy.

If there's any more clarification, we shall study and sit together with the concerned departments and give replies again.

**PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO:** Pu Speaker, please- Luangmual Industrial Growth Centre was established around the year 1999 to 2000. Compensation was given to those who possessed legal passes and the border was fenced using concrete during that time. However, there have been many false possessions of those lands over the years. Are we scared of individuals now is my question.

Pu Speaker, I have been a VC for four consecutive years and I remember that in 1974, those were dense forests while they claimed that their VC pass was in 1974. In the old minute, the VC didn't issue anything. Is the government aware that an individual construction is being undertaken and what steps are they planning to take?

**SPEAKER** : The Minister may give replies.

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, we shall coordinate with the Revenue Deptt. and we shall take action. We shall reserve those areas for people who want to establish industries and no voices shall interfere.

**PU ROBERT ROMAWIA RALTE:** Pu Speaker, Point of Clarification, please. The BDO office is ready except for the installation of powerlines. Will the Power Minister give assurance and give power supply as soon as possible? That is my kind request.

**SPEAKER** : Kindly note that this is not the time for supplementary questions. As the Budget Discussion is going on, let's kindly listen to whoever presents their speech today. (**Pu Lalduhoma, Chief Minister:** Pu Speaker, give me some time). Let's invite our House Leader.

**PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, we used to go crabbing in the IGT areas and I am familiar with that place. Now that the population increased, anganwadis, schools, Churches etc. are required. We might have to hand it over to the Local Council soon and what kind of passes people possess must be studied. If it were an industrial area, there would be civilians, NGOs would be set up, and YMA might be formed. So, we must look into this carefully.

The most important one is that people having a pass to set up industries but are unsure about the location of their lands are the problem. If possible, a grace period may be given to ensure that people who needed those lands may be given access.

**PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER** : Pu Speaker, I request the House to kindly agree to pass my Demands-

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>18</b>	Printing & Stationery	13,19,72,000.00
<b>39</b>	Power & Electricity	9,43,51,96,000.00
<b>40</b>	Commerce & Industries	60,44,11,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10,17,15,79,000.00</b>

**SPEAKER** : Hon. Minister, Pu F. Rodingliana has requested the House to pass to pass his demands. Those who agree may say 'Agreed'. (**Members:** Agreed). Those who disagree may say 'Disagreed'. (*Everyone agrees*)

The House unanimously passed hon. Minister, Pu F. Rodingliana's Demands. (**Pu F. Rodingliana:** Pu Speaker, thank you.)

Hon. Minister Prof. Lalnilawma may wind-up, give clarifications and request the House to pass his Demands.

**PROF. LALNILAWMA, MINISTER:** Pu Speaker, thank you. Even though I have around 11 pages, I'll make it short since it is getting late. There could be some disadvantages for the demand movers since we have to keep listening and I want to inform the people of our constituency that this is also for the Tawi people as well.

I made a mistake while answering Dr. K. Beichhua's question when I said, "There has been no use of bamboo", let me correct that by saying that bamboo can be used for different purposes like furniture, handicrafts etc. and our department shall keep thinking

of the best possible ways to use it. At the same time, the Horticulture deptt. They take care of the Bamboo Cultivation & Development and haven't considered exporting.

Replying to Pu T. Lalhlimpuia, Lunglei West, the Greater Water Supply Scheme, designed for 66,000 people reached 79,000 already and so water is not sufficient anymore. Additional water connections for people already having connections cannot be given now.

Replying to Pu RM Chakma reading solar pump at Chawngte under JJM. The plan is to finish before March 2024 and we might have test pumping. Overall, by April 2024, it shall be completed. Water is given thrice a week at Chawngte 'L', twice a week at Chawngte 'P' and once a month at Chawngte 'C'.

Replying to Pu Lalramliana Papua, Thangpui JJM solar pumping work was completed and a trial pump was conducted, the impeller was not working properly and the contractor is currently putting in a new pump. The commission work is expected to be done by March.

Replying to Pu C. Ngunlianchunga, since 2019, the combined Rulkual-Saikah-Vanhne-Paithar Water Supply Scheme has been used. Since four villages are dependent on this, the solar pump is not sufficient for them during the dry winter seasons. The department acknowledges the fact that the water source close to the village area is insufficient to provide for four villages.

In the meantime, the village authorities told us that there is a good source of solar pumps near Rulkual village and we shall look into this next month. **(Pu C. Ngunlianchunga:** It is around 1 km far from the village, so please check on that soon.)

Replying to Pu Clement, recently, through the NABARD funding, administrative approval was received and we shall take initiatives soon. Since Pi Baryl is absent today, I shall give replies in a written format.

Replying to Pi Prova, when the JJM was submitted to the central, the said villages were unauthorized so they could not be included. Now that they are included among the authorized villages, JJM has ended but we shall take care of these seven villages.

Regarding water pumping at Siaha, as asked by Dr. K. Beichhua, recently, along with our E-in-C, we visited Siaha and found the machine was not working properly. Till 7.2.2024, it was inspected and on 9.2.2024, the necessary equipment was ordered from ABB Pune. It takes 45 days to set up the machine and 15 days to reach Mizoram, in total of 60 days. So, we need to be excused for the duration.

80 families in Sangau were not provided with a permanent water connection since they were not yet settled while the JJM DPR was prepared.

Last year (2023), tremendous work was done under JJM and the state-matching share was kept for JJM; now it is almost done. **(Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo:** Pu Speaker, Hruiduk is also included). Pu Speaker, JJM work in Hruiduk is done. But there is a broomstick plantation at the opening of the river so the water level subsided which causes it to be around 20 lpcd only. On the other hand, the broomstick cultivation is also for earning. **(Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo:** Pu Speaker, the main reason is that they chose the irregular water source. I went there and saw that.) We have to check on that.

Replying to Pu VL Zaithanzama, Aizawl West-III, DP&AR has been submitted and we have high hopes for that as well.

I shall talk about Horticulture and RD in brief. Cold storage is the need of the hour now. Under the post-harvest management scheme, we shall take steps provided that it shall be done according to our financial conditions. Pu Lalrinsanga, Serlui constituency proposed the ‘convergence’ and that would be useful if we could combine it with the MLA funds. We are planning to combine both in our constituency to set up cold storage. If we do that, we might save money to buy two to three cold storage machines. Let’s utilise our MLA funds for the good of the community.

Regarding the link roads, there is a question about whether this will be done through the horticulture scheme, through Agriculture or through the ‘100 days labour’ programme. We need to work and take action together.

Let’s expect dragon fruits are not disposed of just because they do not belong to MNF party people! We told ourselves that we shall not keep our party people as our number 1 priority. However, if their performance is exceptional, then only we shall show them favour.

NABARD Collection Centre was constructed so I thought we could somehow manage with ₹736.35 lakhs. ₹54,00,000 from SEDP is not included now so I was expecting to hear that the budget decreases due to that. Besides, Rurban has ended on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and there will be no more.

Community Halls are also in high demand. I used to work under the Rural Deptt. and we used to have a ‘Social Education Scheme’ in which Community Halls can be constructed. Since that scheme is no more, we shall check and see with the department officers if we could do something about it.

Moving on to demands, Demand No.25- PHE in which our main slogan has been ‘*Clean and sufficient water for consumption*’. We have the Secretariat and the E-in-C Office at

the State level; it has 4 CEs, 2 headquarters (Zone 1 & 2), Director (PMU), SE Circle - 5, Divisions- 16, Sub-Divisions- 35 and with all these, we take care of the whole state. The JJM will come to an end on March 2024. 1,33,0060 families have been provided water connection. 554 villages out of 778 have been covered and pipe connections are completed. Our CM even tweeted on that.

As we said our problems in the House, we immediately took action with the E-in-C and Field Officers through virtual meetings; progress reports were given by each of them. We keep trying our best.

We are currently working on the 'Alternate Gravity Water Supply Scheme of Aizawl' under NESIDS. ₹ 176.79 crores worth of work. A small correction on what I said the other day, "...the water diverted from Tawi tlang" must be replaced with 'Hualtu Lake'. My apologies to the people of Hualtu village.

So, 92.50% is completed. The pipes have reached Muallungthu and the pipe fitting has reached Tuirini. Here, testing is required to prevent the bursting of pipes. Now, we shall have these funds through SASCI and not NESIDS. Let's hope the people of Lunglei are happy to hear this.

AMRUT project (20 projects) has been worked on under the UD&PA with ₹145 crores. Besides that, under NABARD, we are working on 6 projects worth ₹41 crores. 2 projects worth ₹12 crores under SASCI (Special Assistant to States for Capital), we have also received administrative approval for 4 projects worth ₹2550.91 lakhs under NABARD RIDF-19. One problem is that as much as we try to work based on the *Mizoram Right to Public Services Act 2015*, but do not meet the required standards. An incentive reward of ₹75 crores is available for states performing the best in payment of bills and processing of bills under SASCI Part-IV, Milestone 3- *User Charges Reform*. In this case, we try our best with our PHE Minister to receive this kind of reward. Department of Expenditure, The Ministry of Finance sanctioned us on 15<sup>th</sup> February.

Regarding leakages of water, I immediately informed our E-in-C who took action. We also plan to have a 'water audit' to ensure we provide the best for people. Let me also mention that we have composed pits in 284 villages under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Regarding public health, our concern while we emphasised that a person must receive 55 litres per day is about the quality of the water. For that, we have the Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Programme. Under that there are 18 Sub-Division Laboratory, and District Laboratory in 8 districts and the State Referral Institute has authority over them. Collected water samples are tested daily and if the water quality is poor, we deal with it as soon as possible.

Regarding revenue collection at PHE, our target is ₹7,200 and up to January, we collected ₹6,528.255 lakhs. By the end of March, we expect to have at least ₹7,800 lakhs.

The biggest issue for the PHE deptt. is the degrading water source. While surveying for JJM, those areas with good water sources were now insufficient after two to three years. The department needs to ensure these with full potential.

Demand No 32- The horticulture department plays an important role in our economy. There is a Directorate and Secretariat at the state level with horticulture offices in 11 districts. In 2021, there was a proposal to designate it as a rural development area. However, only nine districts were filled up. Our lack of funds prevented us from employing heavy manpower.

Under the Horticulture Department, the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and the National Bamboo Mission are ongoing. Through the 'Per Drop, More Crop' scheme, we mainly focus on water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation (Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation System).

Under the MIDH, seasonal crops such as ginger, chilli and turmeric are grown. Besides farming, training for the farmers, field visits, exhibitions and fairs are organised from time to time. Serchhip District performs well among many and through greenhouses, they were able to earn a lot of money.

Progress is seen in the cultivation of cabbages which are also possible to grow in monsoon and not only during winter season. The farmers are now engaged in growing good-quality vegetables. Good quality seeds are also important. processed ginger is more profitable rather than raw ones. We also have to think about what kind of ginger oil is the best and which kind of trees can be used to extract oil, what are the requirements from the manufacturers etc. Similarly, with turmeric, we have to think about what kinds of turmeric have high curcumin levels and categorise them. The Horticulture deptt. give importance to quality seeds and all our initiatives will be based on result-oriented.

Regarding Rural Development, our main aim is to ensure development reaches the rural areas and villages. We also make sure that the economy, establishment of settlements and the creation of good connectivity roads must be the important focus areas. Here is a Secretariat and Directorate in RD, Rural development offices in 11 districts and 28 RD blocks. If possible, we want to have at least 40 blocks due to an increase in needs but if the DR&AR and Finance do not approve, then there's nothing we can do about it. We propose to have a block office at Saitual for the next one.

The RD deptt. also follows the UN- Sustainable Development Goal that focuses on 'thematic village development'. These are:

*Women Friendly Village* – Leng village of East Lungdar Block.

*Child Friendly Village* – Sawleng village of Darlawn RD Block.

*Healthy Village* – Lungdai.

*Clean and Green Village* – Sailam, Aibawk Block.

*Village with Good Governance* – Lengpui, Tlangnuam RD Block.

*Water Sufficient Village* – Maubuang.

*Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihood* – It might not be completely possible but we try our best. Aibawk Block is selected.

A documentary film was made about the initiatives taken in these villages. You can watch these on SIRD & Panchayat Raj. According to us, all our initiatives should be result-oriented. For example, the sustainable goal no. 1 – No Poverty in which the RD scheme shall be utilized as much as possible. NITI Aayog also gives importance and calls it the ‘Core of the Core’. SDG No.5- Gender equality, SDG No.8- Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG No.10- Reduce inequality etc. are what we shall give importance to.

Through the 100-day labour programme in 874 villages, we expect to elevate the condition of families. It appears that this programme is degrading our morals at times. The minimum wage as fixed by the state government with the approval of the central government is ₹249/- per day and our work done must be equivalent to the wage that we earn and not simply expecting wages without work.

I expect all the MLAs to support our initiatives. Convergence Guidelines made by the department are almost released. For these, a *Model Project for Sustainable Development* will be used as a tool to achieve our target.

Since the Ministry of Rural Development expects us to pay attention to *Natural Resource Management* works, we shall take action through MGNREGS and other schemes. We already informed the Project Director and the BDO to prepare the labour budget and annual work plan by next year.

In MNGREGS, our labour project for this year is around 75 days. We have achieved 98 days in 7 districts, 87 days in one district, 85 days in one district, and 81 days in two districts, and if they give us an addition, we expect to reach 100 days. In one scheme, we received ₹506.42 crores this year. I want to talk about the 100-day labour program and its outcomes.

Under the PMAY- Gramin, 1.3 lakhs each were given to build a house but we heard that some people haven’t started building their houses. It was a mistake to cover many beneficiaries for the 1<sup>st</sup> instalment under the previous ministry. Right now, there are still pending files from 2018 to 2019, and if these are not sorted out soon, it might disrupt the State achievement records.

There might be available work for the party workers under the PMKSY water-shed component. My response to the MLA of Dampa is that we won’t reserve all the work for our party workers.

We also have the National Rural Livelihood Mission and under that, there is MzSRLM which was started on 22 April 2023. It is categorized into farm-related and non-farm-related. Recently, ‘Ropuiliani – Women Farmer Producer Company Limited’ was established under the MKSP -Value Chain in which 912 women signed up as shareholders. They bought 18 metric tons of ginger and 10 metric tons of chillies. They sent it out to sell out of the state on 29 February 2024 from Ch. Saprawnga truck terminal. A start-up entrepreneurship in which an individual can borrow up to ₹ 5 lakhs is also available. Besides the DDU GKY, there are skill training schemes to help the farmers.

Unfortunately, the BADP is coming to an end. The new scheme will cover more and there are 33 approved works till today. The discussions are ongoing. There are 674 identified works under BADP right now. There is also an initiative to start the Vibrant Village programme.

Lastly, the main work of the State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj is to conduct Training & Research Evaluation Studies. We also conduct vehicle outsourcing. Within eight years, we can save ₹47,19,273/- and that means in one vehicle we can save ₹58,999/- in a year. This practice was started by the RD deptt. is recommended to be practiced by other departments also.

Lastly, I thank our department officers for their cooperation and following their derailments.

I request the House to pass my demands-

<i><b>Demand No.</b></i>	<i><b>Purpose</b></i>	<i><b>Amount (in ₹)</b></i>
<b>25</b>	Public Health Engineering	2,87,60,16,000.00
<b>32</b>	Horticulture	1,22,83,85,000.00
<b>38</b>	Rural Development	4,56,51,65,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8,66,95,66,000.00</b>

**SPEAKER** : Hon. Minister Prof. Lalnilawma has requested the House to pass his demands. Those who agree may say ‘Agreed’. (**Members:** Agreed). Those who disagree may say ‘Disagreed’. (*Everyone agrees*)

The House unanimously passed hon. Minister, Prof. Lalnilawma’s Demands. (**Prof. Lalnilawma** : Pu Speaker, thank you.)

Today, I want to say the importance of obedience that I have noticed during our Session and how our seniors stayed up till this time along with us. Keeping our Opposition Leader aside, Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo took the longest time while Pi Prova Chakma maintained the time limit; I appreciate her obedience. Although I and the Dy. Speaker wants to talk about our constituencies, we cannot do that. But we remember them and we shall try our best for them.



I request the PWD deptt. to take up the challenge since we heard a lot about poor maintenance of roads, they may renew the Mizoram Road Fund Board as well if it is for the good of the people. Overall, it is a long way to go. Some of the roads were like that for a long time, so, we should not just blame our engineers for almost all the faults. We have finished our business for today. We shall come back tomorrow at 10:30 A.M.

*Sitting is adjourned. (10:14 P.M.)*