

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

REVISED LIST OF BUSINESS

FOR SIXTEENTH SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, THE 13th 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.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bill for introduction, consideration and passing

2. **PU VANLALHLANA**, Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce the following Bills –
 - (i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
 - (ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
 - (iii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Government Chief Whip & the Deputy Government Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
 - (iv) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

ALSO

to introduce the Bills

to move that the Bills be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bills be passed.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS

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

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount in (₹)</i> | <i>Demand For Grants Page No.</i> |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| 7 | Excise & Narcotics | 54,56,93,000.00 | 46-49 |
| 22 | Sports & Youth Services | 25,71,20,000.00 | 218-228 |
| 28 | Labour, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship | 31,75,42,000.00 | 293-299 |
| TOTAL | | 1,12,03,55,000.00 | |

4. **PU LALDUHOMA**, hon. Chief Minister to submit to the vote of the House various Demands under his charge.

| Demand No. | Purpose | Amount in (₹) | Demand For Grants Page No. |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Legislative Assembly | 47,44,15,000.00 | 1-6 |
| 2 | Governor | 30,60,000.00 | 7-11 |
| 3 | Council of Ministers | 7,37,45,000.00 | 12-17 |
| 4 | Law & Judicial | 47,73,44,000.00 | 18-33 |
| 5 | Vigilance | 7,11,46,000.00 | 34-39 |
| 9 | Finance | 34,38,13,62,000.00 | 54-69 |
| 11 | Secretariat Administration | 1,20,32,60,000.00 | 73-75 |
| 14 | Planning & Programme Implementation | 1,20,27,41,000.00 | 84-96 |
| 15 | General Administration | 1,05,30,67,000.00 | 97-129 |
| TOTAL | | 38,94,01,40,000.00 | |

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bill for introduction, consideration and passing

5. **PU LALDUHOMA**, hon. Chief Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce “The Mizoram Appropriation (Demand for Grants 2024-2025) Bill, 2024.”

ALSO

to introduce the Bill

to move that the Bill be taken into consideration

AND

to move that the Bill be passed.

VANLALTHANTLINGI
Commissioner & Secretary

SPEAKER : “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.”

-Ephesians 6:10

Today, I regret to inform the House that Lt. Col. Clement Lalhmingthanga, Tuichawng MLA, Pu RM Chakma, and Siaha MLA, Dr. K. Beichhua will not be joining us in this session due to health issues and other important engagements.

The *List of Business* have been revised and I hope everyone receive the revised copy. As today is the last day of our session, I request all the Minister to join us in the *Speaker's Dinner* programme.

Additionally, Governor requested everyone to join him for lunch tomorrow at 12:30 PM. In the evening, Chief Minister invites all the Ministers, their partners and acquaintances to join him for dinner at 5 PM.

PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I have informed the Governor that due to important meetings of different parties, the lunch programme might not be successful. Information will be given when we receive a response.

SPEAKER : Let us hope we get a confirmation by this evening.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

Let me call upon Aizawl South-II MLA, Pu Lalchhuanthanga to ask *Starred Question No. 216*.

PU LALCHHUANTHANGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. My question to the Power & Electricity Department Minister is-

“How much debts do the Department have?”

SPEAKER : I call upon Power & Electricity Department Minister Pu. F. Rodingliana to answer the question.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: As on 16.02.2024, the debt incurred from the purchase of power is mentioned below:

| <i>Firm</i> | <i>Total Outstanding Dues</i> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Generating Company | ₹127,08,09,493/- |
| Transmission Company | ₹16,67,16,173/- |
| North east load Dispatch Centre (NERLDC) | ₹49,83,094/- |
| Total | ₹ 144,25,08,760/- |

Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu Lalchhuanthanga may be called upon to ask supplementary questions.

PU LALCHHUANTHANGA: Pu Speaker, my supplementary questions are –

- i) “Are there any plans to convert the Department as a Corporation?”
- ii) “Are there plans to change the old power lines?” Thank you.

SPEAKER : I call upon Hrangturzo MLA, Pu Lalmuanpuia Punte to ask *supplementary questions*.

PU LALMUANPUIA PUNTE: Pu Speaker, thank you. My questions are-

- i) “Are there plans to pay electric bills as a per-paid method?”
- ii) “The Chekkawn transformer which was established as an emergency matter before Christmas is not functioning properly. Could this be replaced?”

Thank you.

SPEAKER : I call upon Lawngtlai West MLA, Pu C. Ngunlianchunga to ask *supplementary questions*.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. As mentioned, we have ₹14 crores of electric bill debts. “When will this be repaid by the government?”

SPEAKER : I call upon the Palak MLA, Pu K. Hrahmo to ask supplementary questions.

PU K. HRAHMO : Pu Speaker, thank you. Lawngtlai and Siaha have extreme power irregularities. The issue is with the Khawiva line and I ask the Minister if the connection between Siaha and Lawngtlai could be repaired?

SPEAKER : I call upon the concerned Minister to answer to the questions.

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

With regards to corporation, we firstly want to be sustainable but all our actions point towards corporation. Around 20km old lines in the urban areas have been changed with RDA with Center assistance. I will look into the issue of Chekkawn transformers and try to find a solution. As seen in our policy, we are trying to pay all our debts by March and I believe this is a great initiative. The Southern region have very old lines and there are cracks in the *dish* system. We are locating the cracks and trying to replace them before monsoon.

SPEAKER : I may call upon the Thorang MLA, Pu R. Rohmingliana to ask *Starred Question No. 262*.

PU R. ROHMINGLIANA: Pu Speaker, thank you. My question is –

“Can the government give compensations for the defective machines due to electrical issues?”

SPEAKER : I call upon the concerned Minister Pu F. Rodingliana to answer the question.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. My answer is ‘Yes’. However, there are certain conditionalities with it.

SPEAKER : I call upon Pu R. Rohimngliana to ask supplementary questions.

PU R. ROHMINGLIANA: Pu Speaker, my questions are-

- i) Is there a time period for lodging complaints? Can past incidents be complained today?
- ii) What are the conditionalities?

SPEAKER : I call upon the East Tuipui MLA, Pu Ramthanmawia to ask supplementary questions.

PU RAMTHANMAWIA : Pu Speaker, thank you. My questions are-

- i) In Vaphai, we have 4 transformers – two 100 KVA and two 25 KVA. One of the 100 KVA is extremely old and needs constant repair. The 25KVA is also not sufficient for the area and needs regular load-shedding during peak hours. Can we replace the 100KVA and swap the 25KVA with a 63KVA?
- ii) Can the Minister look into the abrupt increase of electric bill in Vaphai this year? Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let the Lunglei South MLA, Pu Lalramliana Papuia be called upon to ask supplementary questions.

PU LALRAMLIANA PAPUIA: Pu Speaker, my question is –

There are many old electrical lines in Lunglei town area. This poses grave threat to the public wherein we lost one person last year in an unfortunate turn of events. Can the old lines be replaced with ABC (Aerial Bunched Cable) and are there any plans in this regard? Thank you.

SPEAKER : I now call upon the concerned Minister Pu F. Rodingliana to answer the questions.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, to answer Pu Rohmingthanga’s question, complaints can be submitted for any date and time, however, it will be thoroughly scrutinized by the Consumer Committee for its validity and eligibility of the

claim. On the issue of transformers, 68% of our machines are more than 20 years old which is way past its lifetime. We have put ₹7 crores to purchase new transformers which will be of great relief for many areas. I suggest that MLA funds could also be used to buy new transformers. The issue of an increase in bills abruptly was due to a faulty system which is now being identified and addressed. As for the old aluminum wires in Lunglei, we have submitted project proposals under the Central RDSS Modernization Scheme and we hope to see further updates in this regard.

PU R. ROHMINGLIANA : Pu Speaker, my second question on how much percentage of compensation is provisioned has not been addressed.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu speaker, there are not set percentages and as mentioned, a redressal committee will have the final say in this matter.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Tuivawl MLA, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to ask *Starred Question No. 263*.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER: Pu Speaker, my questions for the Power & Electricity Department Minister are –

- a) “Are there any new developments on the 54 Mw Tlawng Hydro project located near Lungleng village?”
- b) How much have been completed?

SPEAKER : I call upon the concerned Minister, Pu F. Rodingliana to answer the questions.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: My answers are –

- a) Yes, works have been started.
- b) The CWC upgraded the project from 54 mW to 120 mW and the new government started a 24 Mw HEP as well.

SPEAKER : I call upon Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to ask *Supplementary questions*.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER: Pu Speaker, I would like the Minister to explain the downgrade from 54 Mw, which was initially intended to 24 mW. Secondly, if this could be constructed, are we going to finance it from state funds or other funding agencies. How much compensations are required in the catchment area? Lastly, how much differences in power generation will we see on its full capacity as compared to other days?

SPEAKER : I call upon the Serlui MLA, Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte to ask *Supplementary questions*.

PU LALRINSANGA RALTE: Pu Speaker, my questions are –

- i) The 12 mega-watt Serlui ‘B’ dam is wholly owned by the state. Two out of three machines are working. Are there any plans for renovation?
- ii) Under SDRP, three dams were planned to be constructed. When will the 120 mega-watts at Matsekawi and the 100 mega-watts Tuivai Phase-I will be started?
- iii) To carry on these constructions, how much power does the government give to P&E Department? How much money is kept for the projects?

SPEAKER : I call upon the Aizawl South-III MLA, Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi to ask Supplementary questions.

PI BARYL VANNEIHSANGI : Pu Speaker, thank you. When will the DPR for these projects will be completed? Could you tell me the life-time of solar batteries? Will we be benefitting from these solar installations?

SPEAKER : I call upon Pu C. Ngunlianchunga to ask Supplementary questions.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. My questions are –

- i) Why is the electric bill on an increasing trend despite the government pledges not to increase it?
- ii) After complaints of high electric bills, it decreases significantly., What is the reason?
- iii) Are there any plans to replace small transformers with one 500 Kv transformers?
- iv) Lastly, can we pay our electric bills as a pre-paid? This will reduce many hurles for the government. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I call upon the concerned Minister, Pu F. Rodingliana to answer to the questions.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, firstly, to address the question of Pu Lalchhandama – we have made adjustments due to the alterations made by CWC which upgraded the project from 54 MW to 120 MW. Our policy was to construct a multipurpose dense and collect as much water as possible during monsoons and even develop it for tourist attraction and we will try our best to complete it even with the state funds. However, DPR has not been made and thus I cannot comment on the specifications.

To answer to Pu Lalrinsanga’s question – we have given importance to Serlui “B” and ₹15 lakhs is provisioned for its renovation. Technicians are called to make all the three machines running and we hope to see more developments in this area. Tuivai dam is downgraded from 210 mega-watt to 150 mega-watt as it is more financially viable for the state. For this, we have been in contact with Delhi and they area also excited for the same. I

hope to hear good news in the future. There were 2 DPRs for Mat River for a 120 mega-watt project. ₹7 crores is provisioned for further investigations and re-making of DPRs.

Coming to Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi's question – DPR have been worked on by 2 companies and one will be selected for the project. With regards to solar panel installations, we are taking prompt actions as it is extremely important for the state.

To address Pu Ngunlianchunga's question – we do not increase the electric bill as the multiplying factor will remain constant. If we use more of it, we shall pay more...
(*interruption*)

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Pu Speaker, with the same power usage, we see an increase in the Bills and we don't not understand the rationality behind this increase.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, that regard is a bit technical so I would request the Department to further investigate on the issue. We are working on installing smart meters which will enable pre-paid system and request the Central for the same. Also, installing 500 kv is a good move however in case of defective machines, it would affect the whole area. Thus, having more transformers is the decision of our technicians.

SPEAKER : I call upon the Champhai North MLA, Pu H. Ginzalala to ask *Starred Question No. 264*.

PU H. GINZALALA : Pu Speaker, thank you.

Pu Speaker, my questions for the Power & Electricity Department Minister is –

The Tualpui village in Champhai North area has 11 kV line which goes through the forested area. This causes many line faults. Can we replace this with a 33 kv line along the main road?

SPEAKER : I call upon the concerned Minister, Pu F. Rodingliana to answer the question.

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. My answer is – if the funds are available, re-alignment can be done. However, upgradation to 33kv line would be hard as it would require the installation of 33/11kv sub-station in the area which is not a necessity looking at the electrical load. The problem is with the faulty line which was installed along the abandoned road. This road is now being reconditioned under the Central RDSS Scheme.

SPEAKER : The same issue is seen in Suangpuilawn area. I request the Minister to further look into it.

I call upon Pu H. Ginzalala to ask *Supplementary questions*.

PU H. GINZALALA : Pu Speaker, thank you.

I agree with the statement made by our Minister. However, we see numerous lost lines with 11 kv and I request the installation of 33 kv line for the future as well. Pu Speaker, can steel port be replaced by towers as they will require less maintenance and will be more sustainable.

Secondly, can torrent line be introduced for Champhai District?

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

PU H. LALZIRLIANA : Pu Speaker, thank you.

Can Rawpuichhip – Lengpui power line be rerouted? Also, my constituency has only one linesman, can we have more linesmen?

SPEAKER : *Supplementary question* from Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER: Pu Speaker, thank you.

Can Saitual – Tuivawl power line be rerouted? Also, as mentioned before, we are also in need of linesmen.

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

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE: Pu Speaker, thank you. Is there any plan to improve Zamuang – Chuhvel power lines under RDSS?

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

PU F. RODINGLIANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. We are planning to install solar plant at Pamtul ram - North Vanlaiphai (20mW), Dilkhan – Sumsuih (5mW) and Keifang – Saitual (10mW).

Tower for power line is not feasible at the moment due to financial constraints. Replacement of old power lines will be done according to requirement. There are almost 1000 vacant posts for linesmen, recruitment for these posts will be done as soon as possible. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu TBC Lalvenchhunga to ask *Starred Question No. 265*.

PU TBC LALVENCHHUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Will the hon. Minister for Social Welfare, Tribal Affairs, Women & Child Development be pleased to state-

- a) How many Eklavya Model Residential School has been constructed in Mizoram?
Where are they?
- b) How many are functional?
- c) How many more will be constructed? Where will they be constructed?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the hon. minister to answer.

PI LALRINPUH, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you.

- a) 11 Eklavya Model Residential School has been constructed in Mizoram. Out of these, 6 are functional. They are-
 - i) EMRS, Lunglei,
 - ii) EMRS, Serchhip,
 - iii) EMRS, Lawngtlai,
 - iv) EMRS, Chawngte (Lawngtlai District),
 - v) EMRS, Tuipang (Siaha District),
 - vi) EMRSA, Ngopa (Saitual District) te an ni.
 There are 5 buildings that are still under construction. They are-
 - i) EMRS, Tlangnuam (Aizawl District),
 - ii) EMRS, Zawlnuam (Mamit District),
 - iii) EMRS, Bilkhawthlir (Kolasib District),
 - iv) EMRS, Tlungvel (Aizawl District),
 - v) EMRS, Niawhtlang (Siaha District) te an ni.
- b) There are 6 functional EMRS building.
- c) 6 EMRS buildings will be constructed. They will be placed at-
 - i) EMRS, Tlangnuam (Aizawl District)
 - ii) EMRS, Hnahthial,
 - iii) EMRS, Lungsen (Lunglei District)
 - iv) EMRS, West Phaileng,
 - v) EMRS, Khawzawl,
 - vi) EMRS, Darlawn (Aizawl District)
 - vii) EMRS, Khawbung (Champhai District) te an ni.

SPEAKER : *Supplementary question* from Pu TBC Lalvenchhunga.

PU TBC LALVENCHHUNGA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Taking from the established EMRS-

- i) Is there any improvement among the students as well as the management of the school?
- ii) Is there any bias towards vulnerable tribal groups?
- iii) Will EMRS be established at Champhai?

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

PU H. GINZALALA : Can Eklavya Model Residential School be established at Champhai North? Thank you.

SPEAKER : *Supplementary question* from Pu Ramthanmawia.

PU RAMTHANMAWIA : When will construction of EMRS be started at Khawbung?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the hon. minister to answer.

PI LALRINPUIL, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. Permission was given in 2021 to establish EMRS at Aibawk, Thingdawl, East Lungdar, Reiek, Bunghmun, Sangau, Phullen, Champhai and Bungtlang South.

EMRS was established by Ministry of Tribal Affairs to promote education among tribals free of cost. Entrance test is held to help in admission.

SPEAKER : Let us call upon Pu Robert Romawia Royte to ask *Starred Question No. 266*.

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE: Pu Speaker, will the hon. minister for Agriculture Department be pleased to state whether areca nut was included or not among the vegetables that the government planned to buy?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the hon. minister to answer.

PU PC. VANLALRUATA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, areca nut is not included among the vegetables that the government planned to buy.

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

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE: Pu Speaker, can areca nut be included in the list of vegetables that the government planned to buy in the next financial year?

SPEAKER : *Supplementary question* from Pu Lalmuanpuia Punte.

PU LALMUANPUIA PUNTE: Pu Speaker, respected member in charge of Hachhek has stated that his constituency were disappointed that areca nut was not included in the list of vegetables that the government planned to buy. The list which includes 4 vegetables were released before the election. Will the hon. minister be pleased to state whether Hachhek constituency were really disappointed or not?

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the hon. minister to answer.

Question hour has ended. Shall we let him continue? (*Members agree*) Please continue.

PU PC. VANLALRUATA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the government has introduced minimum price support for farmers. While areca nut is not included, it will be placed under hand holding policy.

In answer to Pu Lalmuanpuia, I have no reason to believe that Hachhek constituency is disappointed in regards to areca nut being excluded from the list of vegetables that the government planned to buy.

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE: Pu Speaker, point of clarification. Several families growing areca nut were selected under SEDP. Can these families be included using capital set aside for SEDP?

PU PC. VANLALRUATA, MINISTER: Under the new ministry, SEDP was discontinued and will be replaced with our own policy. Thank you.

SPEAKER : *Question and answer hour* has ended.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

We will move on to legislative business. 5 bills will be discussed today. Let us call upon Pu Vanlalhlana to ask the permission of the House to introduce the following bills-

- i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iv) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission and the permission of the House, I ask to introduce the following bills-

- i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iv) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

SPEAKER : The hon. minister has ask the permission of the House to introduce his bill, are we in agreement? (*Members agree*). Let us call upon the hon. minister to introduce his bills.

PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission and the permission of the House, I introduce the following bills-
following bills-

- i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iv) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

Pu Speaker, in conformity with our manifesto, GPC meeting was held where facilities enjoyed by the Chief Minister, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Cabinet Ministers, Leader of Opposition, Chief Whip, Deputy Chief Whip and members were revised. It was agreed that household attendant for Chief Minister, Speaker and Ministers will be reduced. Cars for MLA's will not be purchased, instead a loan system will be made available to them. All members of the parties were represented at the GPC meeting and these bills were born in conformity to the meeting.

SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has introduced his bills. Who will start the discussion? Let us call upon Pu Lalthandama Ralte.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER: Pu Speaker, these bills were formed in conformity with the decision made at the GPC meeting. It was agreed by all those concerned and I, on behalf of the opposition give my support to these bills. I also ask that the hon. minister ask to adopt these bills.

SPEAKER : Are we in agreement? (*Members agree*). Let us call the hon. minister to ask the House to pass his bills.

PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I ask the permission of the House to pass my bills-

- i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iv) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

SPEAKER : The hon. minister has asked the permission of the House to pass his bills. Are we in agreement? (*Members agree*).

- i) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and Deputy Speaker (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

- ii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Government Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- iv) The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

PU VANLALHLANA, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the hon. Minister Pu Lalnghinglova Hmar to submit and move his demand.

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount (in ₹)</i> |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 7 | Excise & Narcotics | 54,56,93,000.00 |
| 22 | Sports & Youth Services | 25,71,20,000.00 |
| 28 | Labour, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship | 31,75,42,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 1,12,03,55,000.00 |

PU LALNGHINGLOVA HMAR, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission and the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram, I submit and move my demands.

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount (in ₹)</i> |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 7 | Excise & Narcotics | 54,56,93,000.00 |
| 22 | Sports & Youth Services | 25,71,20,000.00 |
| 28 | Labour, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship | 31,75,42,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 1,12,03,55,000.00 |

SPEAKER : Let us call upon the hon. Chief Minister to submit and move his demands.

PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission and the recommendation of the Governor of Mizoram, I submit and move my demands.

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount (in ₹)</i> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Legislative Assembly | 47,44,15,000.00 |
| 2 | Governor | 30,60,000.00 |
| 3 | Council of Ministers | 7,37,45,000.00 |
| 4 | Law & Judicial | 47,73,44,000.00 |
| 5 | Vigilance | 7,11,46,000.00 |
| 9 | Finance | 34,38,13,62,000.00 |
| 11 | Secretariat Administration | 1,20,32,60,000.00 |
| 14 | Planning & Programme Implementation | 1,20,27,41,000.00 |
| 15 | General Administration | 1,05,30,67,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 38,94,01,40,000.00 |

SPEAKER : We will start discussion for the demands with ten minutes allotted to each member. Let us call upon Pu Lalramliana Papua to start the discussion.

PU LALRAMLIANA PAPUA: Pu Speaker, thank you. Excise & Narcotics Department (Demand No. 7) has several developments to combat drugs and narcotics. In order to be effective, they need good coordination with NGO's.

Sports & Youth Services Department has been declared as an industry. In order to succeed we need to start with coaching from the grassroot level. We have many sports infrastructure around Mizoram. However, currently these infrastructures are mainly used for entertainment and for practice. These places should have regular coaching classes.

This might be the purview of Youth Services or LESDE, there are many youths who would like to work overseas but have no means. Can help be provided to these youths? Under LESDE, we have three ITI institutes in Mizoram. We need to develop these institutes to produce better results. There are hardly and instructors in Lunglei while Aizawl have about 27.

Under Demand No. 1 Legislative Assembly, legislators' home is in need of renovation. Pu Speaker, I support the demands submitted by the hon. Ministers. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu Ramthanmawia.

PU RAMTHANMAWIA : Pu Speaker, thank you. Excise & Narcotics Department (Demand No.7) is a small but important department. In order for their work to be effective, we need to strengthen this department. Better coordination with NGO's is also a must to succeed.

Under Demand No.22 Sports & Youth Services Department, my constituency lacks sports infrastructure and is in dire need of sports infrastructure. Hruaikawn and Vangchhia have no playground and I urge the hon. minister to take note.

I applaud the hon. Minister of LESDE for his ability as the center has sanctioned 31 crores for a special project. I request that skill development is given a priority in this age where government job is a scarcity.

Under Demand No.15 GAD, there is one thing I feel that is very important. We have mentioned this in the previous ministry as well. Issues have arisen due to the slow file system. I am certain that with better management, this can be improved.

Moving on to Finance Department (Demand No. 9), why is that the budget estimate for the department is much higher than the previous years. the ministry has, in previous

years mentioned the cons of having too much within this department. Have they changed their stance?

Pu Speaker, I support the demands submitted by the hon. Ministers. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Pu T. Lalhlimpuia.

PU T. LALHLIMPUIA : Pu Speaker, thank you. I will start with Sports & Youth Department. I request that District Sports Committee be reviewed and revised. The sitting DC is the chairman of the committee and I believe that this is not applicable. Also, DSYO was appointed as secretary which is inconvenient due to the fact that sometimes we do not have DSYO.

(Hon. Dy. Speaker at the Chair)

Buarpui basketball court with viewing gallery was constructed under PMJVK with a cost of 107.11 lakhs. It needs to be reviewed as the floor does not even have plaster on it. Also, Rahsi Veng Sports Complex was also partly constructed under SASCI. This also needs to be reviewed by the concerned authority.

Regular funding needs to be given to NCC and NSS for their activities as this would help a great deal in the development of youths.

Excise Department and LESDE needs to cooperate, coordinate and work together for youth development. There are several projects that can be introduced.

Under Demand No. 1 Legislative Assembly, we need a new MLA hostel as the current hostel is in a bad state and in need of repair.

Lastly, Pu Dy. Speaker, I support the demands submitted by the hon. Ministers. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu TBC. Lalvenchhunga.

PU TBC. LALVENCHHUNGA: Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. I will start with Excise & narcotics Department as I feel that it is the most important. They are an important department who are very understaffed. The department needs to be strengthened for them to be effective.

The number of narcotics confiscated since the start of this ministry is staggering. It is apparent that the holders of these narcotics are not the actual owners. How is it that we cannot apprehend the real perpetrators till now? Is it because the higher ups are involved? Why is it that we cannot prosecute even the holders of these narcotics? We need to apprehend the owners from the root level.

In LESDE, priority should be given to skill development and entrepreneurship to encourage our youths.

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

DEPUTY SPEAKER : Pu C. Ngunlianchunga.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you. It is encouraging to see that the budget estimate for Excise & Narcotics Department has increased considerably. It is important to enhance the manpower and capabilities of the department. To some extent, they play an important role in the future of our youths.

Under Demand No. 22 Sports & Youth Services Department, during the previous ministry, the hon. Minister of Sports & Youth Services Department have given consent for a project costing 10 lakhs on 4.5.2023. However, till date they were not paid. The department claimed to have no knowledge of this project and as such, the contractors have not been paid till now. Can the hon. minister react and give reason for this issue? Under Demand No. 28 Labour, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Department, there are only 2 IV Grade staff at Lawngtlai LESDE office. Can more staff be posted at the office since it is a district office.

Moving on to Finance Department, why is it that some budgets are all under the control of Finance Department? Also, budget allocation for healthcare is under Finance Department. Can the hon. minister for Finance explain the reason for this decision? Why not put it under Health Department?

Many new expenditures and budget allocations have come up that was not there in previous budgets. Can the hon. minister for Finance Department explain these allocations.

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

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We still have 3 minutes left till our session ends. Shall we break for lunch? (Members agree). We will continue with our discussion at 2:00 PM.

(Recess)

2:00 PM

SPEAKER : I may call upon the Dampa MLA, Pu Lalrintluanga Sailo.

PU LALRINTLUANGA SAILO: Pu Speaker, thank you.

I am glad to see the increase in budget estimation for Sports & Youth Services Department by ₹34 lakhs. However, we have lagged behind in individual items like shotput, javelin throw, discus throw, swimming etc. Our Minister talked about out-

sourcing our sports infrastructures for better administration and maintenances. I suggest that we collaborate and tie up with religious institutions and the church in aiding these sports schools and infrastructures.

Pu Speaker, with your permission I want to read out the Govt. Notification for the appointment of Pi. C. Lalchhandami as a Chairperson, Mizoram State Commission for Women –

“The Mizoram State Commission for Women Rules, 2018 for a period of three years or till she attains the age of 65 years whichever is earlier.” I want to re-iterate that she is above 65 years of age as documented which reads ‘born on 31st March, 1956’. The previous government also receives the resignation of Pu Zothantluanga as a Youth Commission Chairman on the same issue. This matter should be looked into it.

We have 5th IR Battalions and 3rd MAP Battalions under the state government. However, our manpower is extremely pathetic in this regard. We have to take complete ownership of these IR Battalions and not stuck in the web of financial pressures from the Center as we share 50-50 with regard to their salary. Additionally, I would also suggest to delete our Chief Ministers wrong wordings from the previous sessions.

Regarding Demand No. 1 – Legislative Assembly, I am elated to see the hard work of the Speaker, Commissioner and staffs in bringing order to the sessions and its administration. All Departments should learn from them in terms of efficiency and dedication to service. On Demand No. 15 – General Administration, I believe that we should re-examine the administration of Mizoram Houses at different places which is extremely beneficial for the people. It seems to me that the staff gives more favorable pleasantries towards the ruling members as compared to the opposition members. With regards to Demand No. 7 – Excise & Narcotics, with the current manpower, this Department faced many challenges in tackling the rising drugs and alcohol addictions.

My constituency, West Phaileng also grapples with this menace. It is not just the East but we also have to give considerable efforts on Tripura, Assam and Bangladesh areas.

Therefore, I recommend and support the passing of these demands in this august House today.

SPEAKER : I may call upon the Champhai North MLA, Pu Ginzalala to speak on the demands.

PU H. GINZALALA : Pu Speaker, thank you.

To see further growth in our Horticulture Department, we have to process our produce into fruit beers and juices with less alcohol content which is more marketable. I request

the excise minister to also open his mind in this regard. We have to tackle the menace of increasing drugs and alcohol abuse in our state. Firstly, I believe that under-employment and low economic growth are the main issues. Secondly, it is due to tribal culture and tribalism that we are prone to addictions. Thus, we have to stress on our economic conditions and divert our youths into better economic opportunities and generate more employments. We also have to implement convergence between labor, employment, skill and development. We need 'early intervention' as this will have a long-term effect on our youths. We also need to incorporate professional counselling in our school education. We have to go back to the Bible and understand the values that are inscribed in it and act upon those values.

Another reason for the popularity of addiction is that we grew up in an environment where these things surround us everywhere we go. Our social life promotes tobacco use which later leads to drugs and alcohol abuse. Professional counsellors should be deployed in every village to tackle this problem.

I believe we have to relook at the overall administration of Planning & Programme Implementation. I opined that it should be renamed as 'Planning & Co-ordination Department'. The need of the hour is good planning and co-ordination at the village, block and district levels. I am glad to see the focus on convergence and the formation of development committees. The government needs to identify priority sectors and take necessary efforts in these areas so as to see effective governance in the state. The MLAs have little involvement at the planning level which hampers smooth co-ordination for developmental activities.

We also have to consider having 'Village Clustering Policy' so as to efficiently use our funds for better service delivery to the public. Lastly, the rate of urbanization in Mizoram is 56% which will be the true enabler of development in our state.

Urbanization has a spillover effect into other sectors and this will also be beneficial for the Forest department as there will be a decrease in farming and jhum cultivations and our economy will move towards service sector.

Therefore, I support the demands put forth by our Ministers today. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I call upon the Aizawl West-III MLA, Pu VL Zaithanzama.

PU VL ZAITHANZAMA : Pu Speaker, thank you.

Until 8th February, Excise & Narcotics Department have submitted ₹2 crores to the government which they receive from confiscation of alcohol and drugs. I want to applaud their hard work and enthusiasm in this regard. However, this does not decrease the problems of drugs and alcohol prevalence in the state. When I visited Champhai jail,

I saw that most of the cases were due to alcohol and drugs problem. This shows that the roots of addiction have deeply penetrated in our society. We need stronger collaborations between NGOs, police and Excise Department. It is not just Rangvamlu that is the concern area anymore, it also spread wide especially towards the Reiek side. We have to take care of the people and mere protection of border will not defend us from all our problems. The declining population and increasing drugs use will be the death of our society. Protecting our borders should be coupled with socio-economic development of the people of the state.

As of the horticulture sector, we should widen our scope to manufacture juices from banana, ginger, pineapple, gooseberry and dragon-fruit and not just concentrate on grape juices.

With regards to Demand No. 22 – Sports & Youth Services, we have the Sports Authority of India Training Center (SAI) at Mission Veng which needs strengthening and revamping since they are hardly being used by 4 disciplines as of today. The distance between the hostel and training center is around 2kms which is way too much for the youths as they have to attend school after trainings. We have to focus on ‘youth services’ and not just ‘sports’ under this department. I am glad to see that meals are now prepared for the trainees and that the administration will come under Guwahati which I feel will foster growth and development. We also need a mature training center in Mizoram as SAI is now only available for youth below 18 years of age. I request the Minister to aware us on this regard. Additionally, I do not support having DC as the Chairman in the Disport Sports Committee. The successful implementation of sports related schemes highly depends on the DC which I suggest should be changed.

We have constructed a field from MLA funds at Lawipu with the help of YMA and Local council. Unlike other places, we will not install artificial grass and the field will be available for use by different sport disciplines. Lastly, we have to focus on the health of the public as we see an increase in non-communicable diseases. We have to construct more pathways for people to walk and reap its health benefits.

Therefore, I extend my support for the demands. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I may call upon the Serlui MLA, Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte.

PU LALRINSANGA RALTE: Pu Speaker, thank you.

Firstly, Demand No. 1 – Legislative Assembly, I applaud the hard work of our Dy Speaker, Commissioner and all the staffs in the smooth functioning of our Assembly sessions. I believe every other Departments should strive to match their efficiency and dedications. Commenting on Demand No. 9 – Finance Department, I hope that it is for the good of the society that the Finance Ministry comes under our Chief Minister. The government,

during their campaigns assured the government employees that they will ease the process of taking out GPF which is the entitlements of every employee. I hope to see more developments in this area. My constituency has an extensive border with Assam and with the support of the previous Chief minister, we have developed the border areas and the fruits of these projects could be seen in the 2021 clash with the Assam state. I request the finance minister to consider any projects that are made for the bordering areas.

Our Home Minister is also aware of the impoverished conditions of roads and bridges at Saihapui-V and the adjoining areas. I request the Finance Department to also consider this matter as soon as possible. The best way to protect our border is to have more developments in the bordering areas. Moving on, I find it unfortunate to hear the comments of our Chief Minister on the issue of IR. We should not condemn the everyone just because of some rotten apples in the basket.

I think we should re-examine the estimates for implementing the Hand-Holding Scheme which is ₹200 crores. This is too less as compared to the pervious flagship programmes and seems to be insufficient for true development and growth. I also want to highlight the issue of support price for brooms. I suggest providing support price for the fresh brooms rather than dried brooms as they are more marketable. 3kgs of fresh brooms make 1 kg of dried brooms. We also have to establish more processing plants to process our fresh brooms.

With regards to Demand No. 7 – Excise Department, there is an extreme shortage of staffs which causes impediments in its overall functioning. I also want the government to tell us their stance on liquor prohibition. On Demand No. 22 – Sports & Youth Services, I want to applaud the initiatives of the previous government in formulating the first sports policy for the state. I hope ZPM, under the SDRP will further strengthen this policy. We have conducted the State Games during the previous government, and it was a successful event. I am glad to see the future plan of conducting ‘Zofa Olympics’ which would be truly worthwhile for our youths.

Lastly, to speak on Demand No. 28 – LESDE, it was a dying department and was revived by Pu Lalchhandama Ralte during the previous government. The ‘Workers Welfare Board’ serves as an important machinery in assisting our youths and workers and prevent them from falling into the pit of drugs and alcohol abuse.

Pu Speaker, I therefore support these demands. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I may call upon the Siaha MLA, Pu Dr. K. Beichhua.

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

I am glad to see the increase in budget for Excise & Narcotics Department as compared to the previous Budget. I also want to highlight that we have to take the approach of – supply

reduction, demand reduction and harm reduction. We have to strengthen our Enforcement to tackle this growing menace. The previous term planned to recruit 50 Enforcement but due to the pandemic, it was not accomplished. There are few districts which do not even have an Excise Office. We also need to have Enforcement in sensitive areas.

Moving on to Demand No. 22 – Sports & Youth Services, we need to see holistic and inclusive sports services. We see that all our good boxers are from the rural areas. This department is extremely important for our youths and it is great that the budget estimation increased significantly which will further strengthen the manpower unit and will also help in tackling addiction issues of our youths.

Demand No. 28 – LESDE concerns with skill development which is an important driver of development. We have to revamp our Industrial Training Institutes and take adequate of them. IAS Coaching Centers under MYC is funded by MLA funds. I request the department to take ownership and fund these institutions in the coming future. I also want to highlight the efficiency and punctuality of the Legislative Assembly staffs and if every department could follow their footsteps, Mizoram could be a ‘Model state of India’.

The administration of Law & Judicial department must be re-examined and I request the department to study more carefully of the law submitted for vetting by other departments. To add on, our finance minister, on 11.3.2024 have said that there are ₹25 crores under UD & PA. I request the finance minister to update on the progress on this regard. Has the signatory signed for the approval of the other ₹26 crores? We also look forward for more development in easing the process of taking out GPF for government employees. I also appeal for the speedy disposal of medical reimbursements, pension benefits and TA-DA which are the rights of the workers.

I wanted to ask the Minister on the plans for utilizing the ₹12 lakhs under Civil Aviation – Polls on Road which was seen in the State-own Non-Tax Revenue of 2024-25. We expect to receive ₹620 lakhs from good tax as seen in the ‘Other Taxes on Good and Service Centers’ under the State-own Tax revenue. I wonder the rationality behind the twice fold increase in estimations as for last year, we received ₹396 lakhs.

Under Demand No. 14 – GAD, Pu Speaker, during the Congress government, we have done ariel surveys for the airport at New Latawh and the Mara Autonomous District Council have constructed a jeepable road for ₹68 lakhs. Airport preliminary survey have also been completed with the help of Wing Commander who unfortunately passed away. However, there were no new developments during the MNF government. I request the government to please look into it.

Lastly, I find Demand No. 11 – Secretariat Administration very important and I would like to see new way of administration in the new government. The road from Under

Secretary to Secretary is extremely long and this creates the problem of red-tapism. With the rise in technological advancements, I believe we can solve this issue. Therefore, I support the demands of the Minister. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I may call upon the Tuichawng MLA, Pu RM Chakma.

PU RASIK MOHAN CHAKMA: Pu Speaker, thank you.

Firstly, coming to Demand No. 28- LESDE, the Sub-Divisional Employment Exchange Office at Chawngte stopped functioning from 1994. The building is in a dilapidate state and is unsafe for the people around it. I wanted to ask the future plan for this office. If it is not utilized, they could be surrendered and use it for other important things. I am glad to receive the answers from the Minister of State in writing for the questions I have asked during the Question Hour. We require Industrial Training Institute in Chawngte which have 3 District Councils.

With regard to the Finance Department, as per the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission, we see the decreasing trend in post-devolution revenue deficit grant. Is this a normal process? If not, can the government push for higher grants in the 16th Financial Commission. The previous Finance Minister was really efficient in handling in this Department even after the limitations posed by the pandemic. Under the 15th Financial Commission, the Excluded Area grants have not been received. Can requisition be done? Why have we not received this grant?

Under the Planning & Programme Implementation Department, a lot of planning occurs on the table which leads to mismatch in amount and estimation and cause problems for the contractors. We need to set up planning committee at the block and district level for better work quality and precise work estimations. There was a worder issued by the DC for the construction of Health sub-center without the notice of the Health Department. Likewise, elementary education is a subject left to the District Councils. Works have been started without noticing the District Council and this is not the right way of administration. The department concerned should at least be informed of these projects. Planning Board should be set up under the District Council who will look into the projects and work with the departments in its successful implementations.

Coming to Demand No. 15 – General Administration, as mentioned, the Chawngte town is a Sub-Divisional Headquarter, Block Headquarter and District Council Headquarter. However, the roads are extremely bad especially during the monsoon season. Apart from the efforts taken by the PWD, we need additional resources from the UD & PA Department. As it has been declared as a Notified town, I am sure many developmental funds could be provisioned for it. Census is approaching and town declaration must be done as soon as possible and it is the subject of GAD. I request our House Leader to look into this matter.

Therefore, I extend my support to these demands. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I now call upon the Aizawl South-II MLA, Pu Lalchhuanthanga.

PU LALCHHUANTHANGA: Pu Speaker, thank you.

Firstly, coming to Demand No. 22 – Sports & Youth Services, we talk about the RG Stadium, R. Dengthuama Hall and the Aquatic area and swimming pool at Lawibual in every demand from the previous year. However, no developments have been seen in this regard. The swimming pool is of international standard and it might be the best in Northeast. The roads leading to RG Stadium and R. Dengthuama Hall is too narrow which causes traffic problems. Thus, these infrastructures should be strengthened and utilized in an efficient manner. Our abled Sports Minister is also aware of them and I am glad to see his enthusiasm for his department.

Moving on to Demand No. 28 – LESDE, the ITI at my area have good compounds and the Minister also know about this. However, the buildings are deteriorating and without proper maintenance. With suitable care and focus on skill developmental schemes of different trades, I see huge potential and it would be truly beneficial for the people of Aizawl South-II.

We see the increase in Local Area Development Fund from ₹150 lakhs to ₹200 crores which is a step in the right direction. With these funds, MLAs could carry on developmental works for their own constituencies. I request our finance minister for the speedy sanctioning of these funds. To comment on Demand No. 15 – GAD, I noticed that the government house and infrastructures are crumbling down everywhere and they should be re-furnished and revamped. Additionally, the SAD is the foundation of our secretariat and with the increase in budget estimation, I hope to see better infrastructures and administration in this regard.

Therefore, I support the demands as with its effective implementation, I believe we would see immense growth and development in the state. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I call upon the Thorang MLA, Pu R. Rohmingliana to speak on the demands.

PU R. ROHMINGLIANA: Pu Speaker, thank you.

I am pleased to see that the Budget focus on rural development and inclusivity in every sphere. This government plans to work on research based however we have failed in certain issues as evident in the case of brooms. With regards to Demand No, we hardly hear of the Excise enforcement in Thorang. Is Thorang free of drugs and alcohol

problems? Drinking alcohol was apart of our culture but it has now led to the pit of addictions. This requires the collaborated efforts of the government, NGOs, churches and civil societies. I believe that we should examine the root cause of the rise in alcohol and drugs abuse. Is it increasing because we are in the way of illegal drugs trade or is it because of high consumption of drugs within the state? The high number of seizures and arrests by the Excise Department is commendable.

With regards to sports, we have to be strategic in selecting which disciplines of sports are to be promoted. Our sports infrastructure should also be in tune with our prioritized sport disciplines. I applaud the efforts of Mizoram Football Association and Aizawl FC for their active promotion of football in Mizoram which is a great success. It is great to see that incentive cash awards are given to encourage promising players.

To briefly talk about Demand No. 1 – Legislative Assembly, I saw the hard work and dedication of the Assembly Secretariat who even works on holidays for the smooth functioning of the sessions. I extol their commitments to service. Next, we should keep in mind the speech of our honorable Governor in this august House. He said that the development in rural and urban areas should go hand in hand. The MLA funds for the urban and rural areas are exactly the same. However, rural areas do have ward funds as in the cities. For this reason, we should focus on rural development. Additionally, we also have to re-examine the necessity of projects that were planned by the Planning & Implementation department. More involvement by the MLAs and better coordination at the block and district level will be more fruitful for any plans and projects. We also require stringent and effective quality control mechanisms. With the birth of more districts in the state and the coming of delimitation, we have to make sure that our areas are firmly and clearly demarcated which comes under the GAD.

It is great to see the increasing trend of Budget, however we have to also look at the intensity of public debts. Thus, we have to make judicious use of our state budget and resources. We started having discussions on Revised Estimate Supplementary Bills in the House which is a great thing and must be continued in the future as well.

Therefore, I extend my support to the demands. Thank you.

SPEAKER : I may call upon the South Tuipui MLA, Pu Jeje Lalpekhlua.

PU JEJE LALPEKHLUA: Pu Speaker, thank you.

Firstly, coming to Demand No. 14 – Planning & Programme Implementation, there is an increase in funds for the MLA – Local Area Development Scheme from ₹6000 lakhs to ₹8000 lakhs. This is a great step for our development. Next, I want to focus on Demand No. 22 – Sports & Youth Services, as a sportsperson myself, I would like to applaud the efforts and enthusiasm of our Minister in his work. Today, Mizos are known

by many outsiders and we are doing very well in the on-going Santosh Trophy. We have been on the national newspaper headline because of sports and Aizawl FC had won the I-League as well. With the initiative of the government and MFA, many youths are trained and grassroot developments are the need of the hour. Football Academy at Kolasib - Saidan and SYS at Lunglei have trained many ISL players in the past. We have to further strengthen these academies and centers for more players at the national level.

We have established 'Jeje 12 – Football Academy', for under 14 and under 12 at Hnahthial. We received many questions on how to enroll in the academy as there are very less developed academies in India as well. (Hon. Dy. Speaker takes the Chair) The Saidan Football Academy have a very large area for further developments. If we cannot support these through the state funds, we can also outsource it. I believe that there are many companies which will want to invest in these areas. The best example is the Mizoram Football Academy established by TATA Trust Football Academy in 2018 which is a great success. Additionally, we have to take care of our coaches as much as we focus on the infrastructures. As most players are from the rural areas, we have to devise programmes in different sports disciplines to reach to every corner of the state. There should also be good collaboration between the associations and the government. With better establishment of academy by the Mizoram Badminton Association, we have seen the rise of Thazuala who become one of the best under-19 players in India. There are numerous professional boxers after the establishment of 'Setea Boxing Academy'. This shows the importance of good academy along with good infrastructures.

The department should make efficient use of our resources and infrastructures and allot more time for sports. I have retired from playing sports due to my knee injury and what I have found out is that we need good Rehabilitation Centers. Under the Mizoram State Sports Council, the Center for Sports Science should be strengthened for this purpose. We also need moral reformation and guidance for our young sportsperson. Lastly, Hnahthial district has a great potential for hockey sport. We do not have a good area for hockey ground yet we have 3 players in the Indian Senior Women National Championship, Pune. I request the concerned Minister to take note of our situations. Thus, I extend my full support for the demands today. Thank you.

DEPUTYN SPEAKER : I may call upon the 35-West Tuipui MLA, Pi Prova Chakma.

PI PROVA CHAKMA : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you.

We do not have any playground at Tlabung and I have request to the Minister for at least one ground but I have not received any good news from him. This makes me sad. At 35-West Tuipui area, we have one futsal ground which have not been completed. We do not even have any grounds to celebrate Independence Day and other important days. I want the Planning & Programme Implementation to keep this in mind. I want to suggest

that for every project, the PHE and PWD should work in tandem so that it will be more efficient and cost-effective. We are now staying at the MLA Hostel and I find that it needs a lot of renovations. The dormitory does not even have beds and the condition incise the hostel is pathetic. Apart from the health sector, I hardly find developmental projects for my constituency specially Tlabung. As per the Governor's speech, we should have development which is inclusive and all-encompassing.

Therefore, I support the demands put forth by our Ministers. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I may call upon the Aizawl South-III MLA, Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi.

PI BARYL VANNEIHSANGI : Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you.

I want to extend my appreciation for the inclusion of Gender Budget Statement by our finance minister in his budget speech in the year when we have 3 women MLAs in this august House. I applaud the government for announcing the Year of Consolidation to improve our state of economy as India have seen the failure of 35-Years Plan have failed and we have plan-holiday between 1966-69. As we all know, the Finace Department and Planning & Implementation Department are central to an efficient administration. To remove the bottleneck of red-tapism, Arunachal have combined these two departments and I hope we can also follow the same system in our state. The erstwhile Planning Commission is replaced by NITI Aayog for better governance. By revamping our state planning board to 'State Planning & Finance Board', we can achieve better governance system.

Departmental process such as 'concurrence', 'approval', and 'permission' have created a long chain of command which delays many developmental works. Inter-departmental problems have to be addressed by running around to many departments which is unfortunate as we are already living in a digital age. With effective implementation of these reforms, we will reach new heights in governance and see a true 'timely completion of project' reports. I also believe we require proper and stringent demarcation of roles between the planning, implementing and monitoring personnels. Spillover of roles creates confusion and proves to be inefficient for any projects. I also believe that we should set up a dedicated board or agency to monitor and evaluate the various state flagship programmes.

Coming to Demand No. 22 – Sports & Youth Services, I would like the Minister to mention the on-going construction of playground (if I am not wrong) at Hlimen for ₹6.59 crores. I believe this field does not qualify as a standard size. I request for the revision of the project. Speaking on behalf of our Dy. Speaker, I believe he have donated the 'Pu PC Zoramsangliana Football Playground' and 'Nula Remsiami Hockey Playground'. I want to ask the concerned Minister to give us an update on these grounds.

Moving on to Demand No. 7 – Excise & Narcotics, I applaud the efforts of this department in tackling the menace of drugs and alcohol abuse. Although a young department, Excise & Narcotic is a small department but it enforces the ND & PS Act and MLP Act. There are 599 enforcement staff where 431 posts are filled and 128 posts are vacant. District offices and stations are located in districts except for Khawzawl, Saitual and Hnathial. The offices in Aizawl, Mamit and Lawngtlai are rented and it would be appreciated if measures are taken in this regard. Staff shortages should also be addressed as soon as possible. Their vehicles are old and we need to equip them since they are the pursuers of drug smugglers and they are in a position to be injured or killed. The ND & PS Act was notified by Mizoram in 1992 as a nodal department and the Rules, 2022, which govern the seizure, storage and sampling & disposal of drugs are also in force. NGOs are taking steps to fight drugs and if we do not take action in this regard within the law, I am afraid that in the future, someone who is in the wrong and knows the law will accuse the NGOs and the NGOs will have to be punished by the law. Therefore, NGOs should also take action in this regard through the NDPS - Seizure, Storage, Sampling & Disposal Rules. If ND&PS disposes cases in a fair and efficient manner, our jails would also be not so crowded anymore.

Demand No. 28 - Skills Development should be promoted more intensively. The government of other states set up skill-development funds and it would be appreciated if we do the same when our government's finances are better. The Government of India launched a technical-intern training programme and it would be appreciated if IELTS is implemented. I support the Demands of our Ministers. Thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request Pu V. Malsawmtluanga.

PU V. MALSAWMTLUANGA: Pu Dy. Speaker, I would like to start with Demand No. 22. I would like to ask the Minister if there is any replacement for Zobawk Sports Complex artificial turf. SYS Football Academy was established on April 10, 2015 but since there are no proper Govt. approval, various difficulties are faced. It is the main practice ground for professional football players and I would like to ask the Minister to take this issue seriously. Individual games should be given as much importance as major games Chhipphir Badminton Hall is currently under construction and the court line and the wall is so close to one another. So, I would like our Sports Minister to inspect these infrastructure projects. Most of the players have left their studies and given their time and energy to sports and the government should provide jobs for them according to their education. It would also be appreciated if compensation is provided to the victims of sports injury. There is no football field at Zohnuai and it would be appreciated if this is prioritized and this is the hometown of footballer Lallianzuala Chhangte.

Regarding Demand No.7, Dragon fruits are widely grown in my constituency but they are facing problems on selling. So, it would be appreciated if there is a consent to process it as wine.

Moving to Demand No. 28, we have a District Employment office under LESDE, which is 30 years old. So, it would be appreciated if the Minister inspect the building and consider the renovation.

Regarding Demand No. 14, I would like to thank the Chief Minister and House Leader on behalf of the people for allotting ₹2 crore for Lunglei High Power Committee.

Moving to Demand No. 1, Assembly staffs are punctual and they always provide our needs. I applaud their service and they set a great example.

Thank you Pu Dy. Speaker and I support the Demands of our Ministers to be passed.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request Pu K. Laldawngliana.

PU K. LALDAWNGLIANA: Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. Our cooperation is quite pleasant and I would like to start with Demand No. 7 - Excise Department. Excise Department is an important department that is responsible for the fight against drugs. The department faces staff shortage and it is impressive that ₹ 375.49 lakhs has been allocated for the recruitment of employees. At the same time, we do not have enough check-gates and we need to have more. I would also like to say that the punishment should be more severe.

Moving to Demand 22 - Sports & Youth Services Department, it is a department that promotes employment opportunities for young sportsmen and works closely with Mizoram State Sports Council. It also looks after Youth Adventure, Scout & Guide, NCC, NSS etc. Incentive cash awards are also given to sports persons and this should be emphasized even more. Training Academy should be promoted so that we can keep up with other states. Thingdawl has no Futsal ground yet and I hope that we can achieve it soon.

As of November 10, 2023, Mizoram has won only 2 medals at international level, 47 at national level, 65 at regional level totalling only 114 medals and we are lagging behind. Therefore, sport persons' development and welfare should be considered. In addition, we should also prioritize the Association leaders.

Moving to Demand 28 - Labour, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, sending more young and trained men to work abroad is our priority and our Minister should continue to make effort.

Regarding Demand No. 9 – Finance, we need to have a big budget on this department in order to achieve development. The Finance Minister's budget presentation showed that the total government debt is ₹14,034.76 crore. In 2023-2024 BE, the department's GSDP ratio was 37.84% and the GSDP ratio is expected to decline by 29.22% this year which is a great achievement. The government has borrowed ₹193.12 crore from December 18, 2023 to February 14, 2024.

Moving to Demand 4 - Law & Judicial, the budget has increased by ₹2041.49 lakhs compared to last year and this is quite impressive.

Moving to Demand No. 11 – SAD, SAD budget for 2013-14 is ₹516.69 lakhs for vehicle maintenance and other expenses.

Regarding Demand No. 15 - GAD, progress can be seen and it has increased by ₹1,180.74 lakhs. One thing I would like to say is that Women Commission Chairman's age should be investigated.

Moving to Demand No.1 - Legislative Assembly, I sincerely commend our Assembly Staffs and I am pleased and proud of their sincerity in everything they do. I would like to thank them for providing us with everything we needed even in the middle of the night.

Pu Dy. Speaker, I support the Demands of our Ministers and thank you.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request Pu Lalmuanpuia

PU LALMUANPUIA PUNTE: Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. The Vigilance department has made great progress since we took over the government and the Lok Ayukta has a new chairman. It is also impressive that prosecution department will be a directorate.

Regarding GAD, Pu Dy. Speaker, Speaker Bungalow is located at Tuikhuahtlang and there are 3 Minister Bungalows and 3 MLA quarters at Khatla Shivaji Tillah. So, we do not have enough quarters this term and it would be appreciated if more quarters are constructed.

In case of Aviation, I believe there is a proposal to service a bigger helicopter and it would be appreciated if this is expedited. It would also be impressive to have another reliable helicopter service besides Pawan Hans since Pawan Hans' helicopter is becoming old.

Moving to Demand No. 7 - Excise Department, the department has a shortage of staff, manpower and police vehicles. Therefore, they need to be equipped and we also need to take extreme measures on drugs and liquor. When drugs are seized, it is clear that the persons they arrested are not Drug-lords but just the transporters and it would be impressive if the main culprits could be investigated. So, we need to be more active in the fight against drugs. It would be impressive if wines are made from other fruits and

not just grapes and beers should also be made to develop the labourers. I heard that beer is made from sugarcane in my constituency and it will be a great development for our constituency if this is available. Therefore, wineries should be promoted and so that the work of our labourers will not be in vain.

Pu Dy. Speaker, thank you and I support the Demands of our Ministers to be passed.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I now request Pu H. Lalzirliana.

PU H. LALZIRLIANA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. On 11.3.2024, Pi Lallawmchhungi, 36 w/o Pu Lalramhmachhuana, Mamit died of childbirth at Civil Hospital. Pi Laltanpuui, 42, w/o Pu Chanchinmawia of Lengpui was also admitted to ZMC yesterday for childbirth and she was referred to Ebenezer Hospital due to complications. However, by the time they reached Ebenezer hospital, she was dead. It is unfortunate that this is happening in today's world, in our city and in the best medical facilities. The victims are not planning to take legal cases but it would be great if the incident is explained more clearly so that they themselves can understand the tragedy they have suffered.

Moving to Sports Department, Mizoram Volleyball Association (MVA) does not have a place of their own even though they are the most active associations. They are preparing for the NEC Olympics and they are camping at TNT. So, it would be appreciated if they are provided a place of their own. 'Zofa-Olympic is to be held every three years and Adventure Sports development is also discussed. There is also a proposal to develop Dapchhuah to Phaizau road for water sports and it would be appreciated if the Minister look into this. District Sports School and Residential Sports Centre are currently constructed and it would be appreciated if these are well looked after.

The Finance Department has been allotted ₹34,38,13,62,000/- and it would be appreciated if the Minister sanctioned the purchase of broomsticks from here.

Moving to Excise Department, manpower strengthening is important today. It is very important to occupy our youths so that they will not indulge in alcohol and drugs and the development of sports infrastructure is the key to this. Private entrepreneur, job-creation, manpower development, human resource development are all involved here as well.

Moving to LESDE, we currently have 3 ITI centres – Aizawl, Lunglei and Siaha Districts and the demand is high in other districts as well. Mamit polytechnic building has staff and principal quarters but it is unoccupied till today. I do not think we will ever run this polytechnic and so, our Minister should transform this into ITI Centre and do convergence with Higher & Technical. It is important to enable our youth to work and for that we need to increase the ITI level.

Moving to GAD, MLA hostel is not well furnished and it would be appreciated if it is more equipped.

Lastly, I applaud the Assembly Secretariat for their welcome and hard work. Thank you and I support the Demands of our Ministers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I now request Pu Robert Romawia Royte.

PU ROBET ROMAWIA ROYTE: Pu Dy. Speaker, today is the end of the first Budget Session of the new Government and I am quite pleased with the guidance of our Speaker, Dy. Speaker and Panel of Chairman. I would like to thank the Assembly staffs for their hard work and their warm welcome.

I would like to start with Demand No. 7 - Excise & Narcotics Department. Drugs are abundant in Mizoram and we are on the drug-infested border. The efforts of Central YMA and Churches on drugs should be recognized by the government.

Moving to Demand No. 28 – LESDE, many initiatives were taken by the previous Government and the youth's mindset is also re-oriented. It is important that we run our business on a skill-base and that our youths seek employment on a skill-base.

Moving to Sports & Youth Services Department. Sports is mentioned thirty times in the National Educational Policy and so, it is not to be underestimated and it should be integrated with education. Infrastructural gaps are still so many and the Sports Minister should be given more budget. Therefore, the finance minister should also be more active in the field of sports promotion for the development of the youth.

Moving to Planning Department, line department should be given importance and it is impressive that investment policy is a success.

Regarding GAD, we need more helicopter service. Chawngte is divided into three districts and it is wrong to deny their claims just because of the separation.

Moving to Finance Department (Hon. Dy. Speaker at the chair) We need to find out who owns our IR Battalion. I asked a senior IPS officer working in the central government and he said that if they are Mizoram 3rd IR battalion, they belong to the Mizoram government.

Pu Speaker, thank you and I support the Demands of our 2 Ministers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I now request Pu W. Chhuanawma.

PU W. CHHUANAWMA : Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker and I would like to talk about Demand No. 28. Many job seekers registered under this department but there is

not enough government jobs. So, how do we exactly define jobs? Pu Speaker, the salaries of private teachers, maids and shopkeepers are very low and is there any way for the government to control the wage rate?

Pu Speaker, thank you and I support the demands of our Ministers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I now request the Leader of the Opposition.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER: Pu Dy Speaker, the budget session was held for 20 days under the guidance of the Speaker and we have spent our time happily under the leadership of our House Leader. Starting with Labor Employment, a lot of funds were given to ITI train graduates for startups and we did our best to motivate and encourage Mizo entrepreneurs. We also took measures to ensure that the labourers have their rights and facilities and Cess collection also increased to ₹40-50 crore. Even during the Covid-19 crisis, the Welfare Board under LESDE alone was able to provide ₹ 25-26 crore to the hungry and needy.

Moving to Demand No. 22 - Sports & Youth Services, the budget has increased by ₹33.97 lakhs and our former Minister successfully managed the infrastructure development during the previous ministry. He also greatly encouraged the hearts of our youth. I often wonder how our youngsters could win better medals at national level, Asian level or world level. The new Sports Minister said that infrastructure development will not be the top priority but developing manpower, skills and better coaching will be prioritized. Infrastructure development was extremely carried out in the previous government but we were unable to cover the various parts of the state due to Covid and its related issues. Tender is being issued for artificial turf at Darlawn and we allocated 200 in the initial token and I would like to inform the House Leader that 400 is expected to be added and I hope he will continue this in the new SASCI. The Congress government started the mini-sport complex at Sakawrdai and it was completed during our Ministry. However, we were unable to inaugurate it due to some court cases. So, it would be appreciated if this is looked into. As a Youth Services, NSS and NCC are under this and since there is a useful possibility of promoting NCC teachers under this to ensure good self-discipline, I would like to see it expanded to more institutions.

Moving to Demand No. 7 - Excise & Narcotics, we have a lot of problems with drugs and the Chief Minister's budget speech mentioned that the government will involve itself more in this issue. So, it is necessary for the church, NGOs and legislators to have one voice in this regard. Law & order enforcers should be well equipped and I hope that the recruitment of 7 Excise Sub-Inspectors is done soon. Our finance minister should also provide more constables and we should work harder to target our youth.

Moving to the Demands of our House Leader, under the GAD, we have very few designated quarters for our legislators, Ministers, MLAs and government officers and it

would be appreciated if more quarters are constructed from SASCI or other funds. According to the SDRP, the Sustainable Development and Reforms Policy states that Village Development Committees (VDCs) will be established in every rural village and it was also said that Town Development Committee shall be established in the notified town where there is no municipality. So, so, is there a plan to implement these in the new financial year?

Recently, the Government has established various committees and monitoring boards like- Mizoram State Project Monitoring Committee, Mizoram State Planning Board, State Policy Coordination Committee, Mizoram Education Reform Committee and Mizoram Resource Mobilization Committee. However, it seems that we are neglecting the government department officials. For example, Mizoram Education Reform Committee has no department officials for ex-officio and all the members are from outside the department. Similarly, no government department officials are present in other committees and there are no provisions for ex-officio status. So, is it possible to review this?

Regarding Vigilance and Law & Judicial Departments, I would like to reiterate the general consent given by the Government to the CBI. This is quite impressive and this should be strengthened to fight corruption as much as possible. We plan to strengthen Lok Ayukta by making amendments and appointing new chairman but, strengthening the prosecution is the most necessary thing that is needed.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is now 5:30 and should we let him continue? (The House agreed) You may continue.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE, OPP. LEADER: Thank you, Pu Dy. Speaker. Moving to Finance, we need to strengthen the employees of Accounts & Treasury who deal with pensions since our senior pensioners often face problems.

Our House Leader is an experienced person and he is also the most experienced person in this House. I want to encourage him to be strong and bold in what he do and we hope that he will do something good for our nation and we think that his approach is good.

Moving to Legislative Assembly, we are able to do everything on time and in a proper manner during this session thanks to the guidance of our Speaker, Dy. Speaker, and the Commissioner & Secretary. Let us rethink the location of our Assembly House in the new era since Traffic and security are quite difficult. Let us fight for the Assembly House and let us make it a more respectable place.

Lastly, we are grateful to the House Leader and the Speaker for their guidance and for their support in this House. We will use our ideas and thoughts for this nation and we will always support the government in good things. However, if you do something that is not good for the nation, we will stand up to the best of our ability to defend the people and I would like to reiterate that we will play the role of opposition.

Thank you and I support the Demands of our Ministers.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will have a recess and we will continue at 7:00PM

(Recess)

7:00 PM

SPEAKER : I now request the Hon' Minister Pu Lalnghinglova Hmar to windup and beg the House to pass his Demands.

PU LALNGHINGLOVA HMAR, MINISTER: Thank you, Pu Speaker. I am quite new at this but I am learning from the file process. After analysing our Demands, it seems like we are asking for the rewards and salaries of the government's employees and that is why we need to work efficiently.

Pu Speaker, I would like to start with Demand No. 7 - Excise & Narcotics Department. We started in 1974 with one Inspector and this year is our 50th anniversary. Currently, enforcement staff posts are 559 out of which 431 are occupied and 128 are vacant. We do not have enough vehicles as well and that is why the members, the Churches, NGOs and the public should all work together in fighting drugs. Commissionerate building is located on the south side of the Assembly. District offices are located in seven districts - Aizawl, Lunglei, Siaha, Champhai, Kolasib, Serchhip and Mamit and we have district offices in 7 districts-Aizawl, Lunglei, Siaha, Champhai, Kolasib, Serchhip and Mamit where narcotics cells have been established separately. Stations are located in two places- Lawngtlai and Vairengte and we have a check gate at Vairengte and an outpost at Rangvamaul.

In 2023, country liquor of 81,221.885 litres was seized and 1,94,733 tins of liquor while brewing was also seized. We also seized 20,516 full bottles and 3,134 half bottles of IMLF, 76.058 kgs of heroin and 179.233 kgs of Ganja. Pu Speaker, I would like to say that one Investigating Officer registered 140 cases a year relating to alcohol and they are working extremely hard. Under the MLP Act, 16.35 people are arrested daily and under the NDPS Act, the investigating officer registers and handles 31.85 cases a year. It is like arresting 3 people every day and this is the hard work of the 431 employees that I had mentioned earlier. We also paid revenue and while our target is ₹180 lakhs in 2023, we submitted ₹237 lakhs to the government.

Secondly, I would like to talk about wine. The Mizoram Liquor (Prohibition) Rules, 2022 allows grape wine to be produced in two wineries, Hnahlan and Champhai and there are 43 licensed vendors in Mizoram and the rest are all law violators. Some members suggested that wine should be made from pineapple, banana and raspberry etc

but it is still illegal under the Act as for now. However, if we allow wine made from grapes, then wine or beer made from pineapple, dragon fruit, banana, raspberry would be great for the labourers but we must be careful on its implementation.

Pu Speaker, Excise & Narcotic Department has its needs like vehicles, quarters, weapon equipment etc. and we will soon share our needs to the government. Efforts are underway to open offices in 11 Districts and we will gradually move forward when government funds are available. We have held 6 meetings relating to alcohol and drugs in various places this year as well. Pu Speaker, DPRs are being prepared to fight drugs and we have already taken a very long step. Rewards are also introduced for informers under the NDPS Act and in collaboration with the Narcotic Control Bureau, Mizoram Government has made a proposal to earn ₹10000- ₹100000 without spending additional government's fund. We are also preparing to launch a website or portal in the fight against drugs and Reporting modules will be developed to identify offenders and repeated offenders and provide citizen information reports within the limits permitted by the law. We are trying to clean up the city in collaboration with community leaders and the Police Department has also supported us in this regard.

Moving to Demand No. 22 - Sports & Youth Service Department, this department should aim to promote sportsmen, employment opportunities, better lifestyles, healthier lives and refrain from drugs and other addictions. Our vision is to conduct as many trainings and competitions as possible and we plan to deploy our coaches in rural areas. The coaches are not to occupy offices in Aizawl and rural residents can also make request for coaches. Mizoram State Sports Council has allocated sports promotional funds to 33 disciplines and we also plan to upgrade the existing academies and we have talked with Reliance and Tata Trust. One of our visions is to reduce the distribution of goods. We want to stop the distribution of sports equipment to non-sports associations.

India's bid to host the 2036 Olympics is already underway. India is a rich country and with money and world-class infrastructure is possible. However, it will be too late if we do not organize a program now so that Indians can participate. We approached the Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry and we said that we want to hold a National Sports Conclave. So, they asked us to submit a proposal which we did and ₹68.85 lakhs is then sanctioned. The National Sports Conclave - Vision 2036 Olympics will be held in Mizoram for the first time after the Lok Sabha elections.

The Incentive Cash Award was strongly implemented by the previous Government and ₹ 73 lakhs were distributed to 479 athletes between 2021-2023 alone and we intend to continue this by distributing it to each discipline.

Pu Speaker, it is impressive that Khelo India Centre was achieved by our former Sports Minister. Mizoram State Sports Council and SYS are currently conducting Non-

Residential Coaching Programme and we want to implement Fit-Mizoram more effectively under the Fit India Movement.

Young wing is currently implemented and I believe it will be effective to work with NSS (more than 3000 had registered) in the field of environmental protection and fight drugs. NSS is available from Class-XI to University and they donated 6093 units of blood last year. Nehru Yuva Kendra and NCC have 4 battalions and many people registered under them. Several armies are recruited and we also have newly recruited army officers. We often conducted drug awareness campaign, pollution awareness campaign and blood donation drive with them and we plan to continue this.

Pu Speaker, Mizoram State Sports Council is under the Sports & Youth Services and it looked after the Sports Associations. Mizoram State Sports Council is an autonomous body and have a separate Act in 2002. The Sports Council also has 89 regular employees. We are willing to adapt for the better of the State.

Mizoram State Sports Council is in charge of many sports' infrastructure. It has 84 projects under PMJVK and several projects under SASCI.

We have several debts under our academies which are the cost of maintenance and other expenditures. These debts amount to ₹67,22,200 lakhs.

We have several portals and schemes under Labor & Employment that workers could sign up for. I urge every worker to sign up to these schemes as it carries several benefits such as pension scheme and other benefits. Impex Portal, Mizoram Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board, e-shram portal and Employment State Insurance (ESI) are some of the schemes that fall under this category.

Under skill development, we have three Industrial Training Institute and we are slowly upgrading these institutes with more skills added. ₹31.6 crores have been sanctioned by central government for 'bana-kaih' policy. We have also signed an agreement with KVI. In regards to ITI, all three of the ITI's have a vacant post for principal. MPSC has recently conducted an exam for these posts where two posts will be filled.

Regarding issues surrounding overseas placement, it is under the purview of Home Department. We have applied for it to be under our department and are awaiting the outcome.

In answer to Pu C. Ngunlianchunga regarding the project costing Rs. 10 lakhs, there is no record of administrative approval and expenditure sanction. We will further look into this. In answer to Pi Prova Chakma, we will do our best to set up a playground since the area does not have one.

In regards to the issue surrounding Zobawk playground, it is an ongoing case under National Green Tribunal and as such I am not at liberty to discuss this issue.

In answer to Pu H. Lalziriana, we are currently planning to construct a multipurpose indoor stadium at Durtlang North. This will have the capacity to set up a volleyball court.

About the comment made by Pu Robert Romawia Royte in regards to Rs. 20,000 lakhs left by the previous ministry under PMJVK, these funds will be the unreleased fund from the project.

PU ROBERT ROMAWIA ROYTE: Pu Speaker, it was just an explanation to ease the mind of the hon. Sports minister. Rs. 5 crores were left under SASCI.

PU LALNGHINGLOVA HMAR, MINISTER: Pu Speaker, the amount has decreased to 2.5 crores. I have the detailed documents for anyone who would like to see it.

Lastly, I thank the members for participating in the discussion of my demands. I ask that the House passed my demands.

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount (in ₹)</i> |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 7 | Excise & Narcotics | 54,56,93,000.00 |
| 22 | Sports & Youth Services | 25,71,20,000.00 |
| 28 | Labour & Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship | 31,75,42,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 1,12,03,55,000.00 |

SPEAKER : The hon. minister has asked the House to pass his demands -

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount (in ₹)</i> |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 7 | Excise & Narcotics | 54,56,93,000.00 |
| 22 | Sports & Youth Services | 25,71,20,000.00 |
| 28 | Labour & Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship | 31,75,42,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 1,12,03,55,000.00 |

Those who are in favor say agree. (*Members: Agree*) The House has unanimously passed the demands submitted by the hon. minister. (**Pu Lalngthinglova Hmar, Minister:** Pu Speaker, thank you.)

Let us call upon the hon. Chief Minister, Pu Lalduhoma to windup.

PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, thank you. Pi Prova Chakma has mentioned the state of Legislators Home and MLA Hostel and I do agree with her. We have set aside Rs. 100 lakhs for repair of government quarters and we plan to utilize this fund for repairing Legislators Home and MLA Hostel.

My comment regarding IT Battalion was taken out of context. It is true that IR Battalion is owned by the central government and it is also true that all expenditures incurred by them will be met by Mizoram Government. I stand by my statement and would like to repeat that having our own armed forces is more feasible and profitable for us.

As for our police forces, the statement was made by the Opp. Leader, Pu Lalchhandama Ralte and I agreed with his statement. (**Pu Lalchhandama Ralte, Opp. Leader:** I did not make the exact statement. However, I did mention that I would like to revise their fitness.)

In regards to recruitment of police with drug problems. I have first-hand knowledge regarding this. They were employed while having drug problem during the previous ministry.

We agree with Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte and will do our best to secure our borders.

In answer to Pu Lalrintluanga, Pi Lalchhandami, Chairman of Women Commission is not over the age of 65 which is the age limit. I have her birth certificate with me which states that she was born on 30.3.1960.

In answer to Dr. K. Beichhua, aerial survey and preliminary survey was performed between 10.1.2020-23.3.2020. feasibility survey report was also submitted. It was decided that it was not realizable and practical for an airport. Cabinet meeting will soon be held to consider our options.

The Opposition Leader has mentioned that there are no officials in several boards and committees. This is not the case.

PU LALCHHANDAMA, OPP. LEADER: Pu Speaker, I mentioned specifically that Mizoram Education Reform Committee does not have an official present, not other boards and committees.

PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER: That is under the purview of Education Department and I have no knowledge of it.

We are planning to move the residence and the Chief Minister's Office in MINECO due to conveniency and to save time. However, we currently do not have space for it.

We are not in a hurry to establish Village Committee and Town Development Committee as VC and Local Council term is still ongoing. Tenders will also be reopened due to complaints from the public.

As suggested by the Opposition Leader, I agree that we do need a new Assembly building. Our problem is finding a new place and space for the building.

Pu Ngunlianchunga questioned the reason why healthcare is under Finance. Since Corpus Fund is under Finance Department, it has to be under the department. UIDF and SIDBI are also under Ministry of Finance and as such they have to be put under Finance Department.

‘Other Charges’ has been replaced by ‘Other Revenue Expenditure’ and as such it will no longer under be revenue, but will be under Capital instead. Counterpart Funding is set aside for all departments.

ZPM Party has made a promise to the public that the Chief Minister will not have a portfolio and will not have works department under his portfolio. Finance Department is not Works Department and no works department is under the portfolio of the Chief Minister. Due to Year of Consolidation, we cannot function temporarily as planned.

Regarding excluded area asked by Pu RM Chakma, I believe we have given the answers. However, regarding repair and reconstruction of schools, I suggest that the Opposition Leader will be better informed to answer the queries placed.

It was also mentioned that Finance Department has the highest budget among the departments. I would like to state that among the budget 1965 crores and 75 lakhs is for pension fund. The amount for pension debt is high. Other than pension fund, SASCI has 500 crores. We have also set aside ₹200 crores for hand-holding policy.

Actual amount received under SASCI is ₹1477.27 crores. It should be known that all of the amount received is not spent on actual works.

About the RBI statement mentioned by Pu Dawnga, the statements differ according to the date issued.

Under Demand No. 1 Legislative Assembly, I would first like to voice my gratitude.

We will lead the people and take accountability for our actions. The Council of Ministers does not have a separate budget and we have had 4 meetings so far. Law & Judicial, a major department without a directorate and I trust it will be best to make appointments of the Advocate General, Additional AG, Govt. Advocates and Prosecutor through proper channel like recruitments conducted by MPSC. There are 22 Notary and 735 Registrar General of Marriage. We have a Library at New Secretariat Basement – II which can be utilized even by the public. I want the public to be aware of The Mizoram State Legal Authority which render service to under privilege people. There are two Fast Track Special Court in Aizawl and one in Champhai, one Special Court to determine ND & PS Act, and proposal has been submitted for Aizawl and Champhai, which I believe will be excellent for more efficiency.

The government has introduced a new portal to facilitate easy access to Annual Immovable Property Returns, thereby strengthening anti-corruption efforts. A Selection Committee has been established to appoint the Chairman of Lok Ayukta, with Pu Lalmalsawma's nomination receiving the Governor's approval.

In finance, the government has launched an e-marketplace, offering a 10% discount on procurements. Efforts are proceeding to settle outstanding bills and electricity dues in a timely manner. Furthermore, Rs 50 crores have been allocated to clear pending healthcare bills. Regarding employee welfare, the government has decided to incorporate the increased Dearness Allowance into the General Provident Fund. In line with regularization guidelines, 233 contract and provisional employees from Group B, C, and D have been regularized. To enhance air connectivity, the government plans to augment helicopter services and establish a heliport in each district. Discussions are underway with Akasa Airline to commence operations in the state. An allocation of ₹ 50 crores has been made to refurbish infrastructure and meet the required Pavement Classification Number.

In the sphere of entrepreneurship and sustainable development, the Mizoram Startup Mission has been launched, accompanied by a Start Hub and a dashboard for monitoring Sustainable Development Goals. The state has also submitted a proposal for a special package to support startups and has received approval for the Prime Minister Ekta Mall project, with an allocation of ₹ 127 crores.

PU C. NGUNLIANCHUNGA: Pu Speaker, I'd like to seek clarification regarding the payment of power supply bills. The Power Minister assured us that these bills would be settled within March, but our finance minister later mentioned that not all bills might be cleared. Could we please have a definitive update on this matter?

On a separate note, I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to the government on behalf of the District Council. We appreciate the notification regarding the official treatments available to District Council Members. Thank you.

PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I will highlight several key initiatives and policies that our ministry has undertaken. The Right to Public Service, established in 2015, has been a cornerstone of our efforts to ensure efficient and transparent governance. Furthermore, we have drafted and completed the Sustainable Investment Policy, 2024, which will guide our investments in a responsible and environmentally conscious manner.

We also intend to amend the Ceiling of Government Guarantees Act, passed by the previous ministry, to enable our ministry to provide guarantees that benefit the people. To ensure effective project implementation, we have constituted a Project Monitoring Committee and a Hand Holding Policy, which will meet tomorrow to discuss key issues.

Another critical area of focus for our ministry is the battle against substance abuse. We are committed to identifying the root causes of this issue in our society and working towards a comprehensive solution. As we move forward, it is essential that we learn to coexist with nature, adapting our work culture and value system to the rapidly evolving needs of our environment.

In conclusion, I urge my fellow members to remain determined and tenacious in our pursuit of excellence. Pu Speaker, I appeal to the House to pass the following Demands

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount (in ₹)</i> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Legislative Assembly | 47,44,15,000.00 |
| 2 | Governor | 30,60,000.00 |
| 3 | Council of Ministers | 7,37,45,000.00 |
| 4 | Law & Judicial | 47,73,44,000.00 |
| 5 | Vigilance | 7,11,46,000.00 |
| 9 | Finance | 34,38,13,62,000.00 |
| 11 | Secretariat Administration | 1,20,32,60,000.00 |
| 14 | Planning & Programme Implementation | 1,20,27,41,000.00 |
| 15 | General Administration | 1,05,30,67,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 38,94,01,40,000.00 |

SPEAKER : The hon. Chief minister had appeal to pass the following Demands in the House –

| <i>Demand No.</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Amount (in ₹)</i> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Legislative Assembly | 47,44,15,000.00 |
| 2 | Governor | 30,60,000.00 |
| 3 | Council of Ministers | 7,37,45,000.00 |
| 4 | Law & Judicial | 47,73,44,000.00 |
| 5 | Vigilance | 7,11,46,000.00 |
| 9 | Finance | 34,38,13,62,000.00 |
| 11 | Secretariat Administration | 1,20,32,60,000.00 |
| 14 | Planning & Programme Implementation | 1,20,27,41,000.00 |
| 15 | General Administration | 1,05,30,67,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 38,94,01,40,000.00 |

All in favor to pass the Demands may say ‘Aye’ and those who oppose may say ‘No’ since there are no objections, the ‘Ayes’ have it and the Demands of the hon. Chief minister is unanimously passed by the House. **(Pu Lalduhoma, Chief Minister: Pu Speaker, Thank you.)**

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

We will now move on to our legislative business and I will now call upon the hon. Chief minister to introduce ‘The Mizoram Appropriation (Demand for Grants 2024 – 25) Bill, 2024’ in the House.

PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, with your permission and the permission of the hon. Governor I introduce ‘The Mizoram Appropriation (Demand for Grants 2024 – 25) Bill, 2024’ in the House.

SPEAKER : The copy may be distributed and the hon. Chief minister may appeal to move and pass the Bill.

PU LALDUHOMA, CHIEF MINISTER: Pu Speaker, I appeal to move and pass ‘The Mizoram Appropriation (Demand for Grants 2024 – 25) Bill, 2024’ in the House, thank you.

SPEAKER : The hon. Chief minister had appeal to pass the Bill and those in favor to pass the Bill may say ‘Aye’ and those who oppose may say ‘No’ since there are no objections, ‘The Mizoram Appropriation (Demand for Grants 2024 – 25) Bill, 2024’ is unanimously passed by the House. (**Pu Lalduhoma, Chief Minister:** Thank you, Pu Speaker)

SUMMARY

SPEAKER : The summary of our business transaction during the 2nd Session of the 9th Assembly are as follows. During this session 374 is the number of times ZPM members have participated and 186 is the number times MNF member have participated and from Congress party, 30 times.

Governor’s Address:

The hon. Governor address the House in the beginning of the session and the Motion of Thanks was presented by Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi which was supported by Pu T. Lalhlimpuia and was unanimously passed by the House.

Panel of Chairman:

Pu Rasik Mohan Chakma, Pu Lalrinsanga Ralte, Pu K Hrahmo and Pi Baryl Vanneihsangi were the panel of Chairman.

Obituary:

An obituary of our Ex- Minister Pu KL. Lianchia was observed.

Vice President Address:

The hon. Vice President of India Pu Jagdeep Dhankar visited Mizoram and address the House on Dt.26.2.2024.

Statement by a Minister:

A statement was made by Dr Vanlalhlana, the hon. Minister of School Education Department regarding HSLC Examination 2024, in this 2nd Session-cum-Budget Session.

Questions & Answers:

Questions are raised through NeVa Application. The following are the number of questions received -

Starred Questions

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| No. of Starred Questions | - 482 |
| No. of questions admitted | - 475 |
| No. of questions rejected | - 4 |
| No. of questions withdrawn by members | - 3 |
| List of Business | - 280 |
| Questions answered in the House | - 75 |
| Question unanswered | - 205 |

Unstarred Question

No. of Unstarred Questions - 37;

No. of Unstarred Questions admitted - 37;

No. of Starred Questions converted to Unstarred Questions - 194;

Presentation of Budget:

The Budget and Supplementary Demand was presented by the hon. Chief Minister Pu Lalduhoma.

Presentation of Reports:

There were *three* reports presented in the House during this Session.

Resolutions:

Official Resolution presented by the hon. Home Minister was passed unanimously and 94 Private Member Resolutions submitted which are all admitted.

Laying of Papers:

16 nos. of paper are laid on the table of the House

Government Bill:

10 nos. of Government Bills were submitted which are all passed by the House.

Election to Financial Committees:

We have four Financial Committees, they are –

- 1) Public Accounts Committee
- 2) Committee on Estimates
- 3) Committee on Public Undertakings
- 4) Committee on Local Funds Accounts.

Members for these committees had been appointed and informed through our Bulletin Part – III, apart from these financial committees there are other 16 committees and are working very hard in between the assembly sessions.

Passing of Demands:

Demands of all our Ministers have been discussed earnestly by the members and passed by the House.

Conclusion:

We were able to complete all our business for the session and it is worth noticing that we have introduced a paperless system through NeVa Application from this session. I also express my gratitude towards different departments for their hard work and dedication.

The oppositions have also played their part on being a constructive oppositions. We pay our respect to all our ex- members who have used their time and their skills to legislate the people of our State.

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude towards the officials of Home Dept., Health Dept. P&E, government officials, DDK, Radio, Cable Tv and other journalists for their duty and service and also the staff of Assembly Secretariat for their earnest duty and dedication.

The House is adjourned *Sine Die*. **(8:45 PM)**