

**MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
SECRETARIAT**

**BULLETIN PART-I
No. 39**

Friday, the 7th March, 2008.

Phalguna 17, 1929 (Saka)

The House assembled at 11.00 am of Friday, the 7th March, 2008 in the Assembly Hall with the Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh in the Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon'ble Chief Minister, 11 Cabinet Ministers, Chairman & Vice-Chairman (Hill Areas Committee) and 43 Elected Members.

QUESTIONS:

- (a) Hon'ble Minister (Works) made a reply to Starred Question No. 261 asked by Shri T. Hangkhanpao, MLA regarding the repairing of road and bridges between Singhat and Behiang road in 60-Singhat (ST) AC.
- (b) Hon'ble Minister (IFCD) made a reply to Starred Question No. 262 asked by Shri N. Mangi Singh, MLA regarding the number of AE sanctioned post in the Department.
- (c) Hon'ble Minister (Education) made a reply to Starred Question No. 263 asked by Dr. U. Deben Singh, MLA regarding the Aided College running with Government approved teachers.
- (d) Hon'ble Minister (Commerce & Industries) made a reply to Starred Question No. 264 asked by Shri W. Morung Makunga, MLA regarding the items of trade as agreed to between the Government of India and Myanmar through Moreh.

- (e) Hon'ble Minister (Social Welfare) made a reply to Starred Question No. 265 asked by Shri R.K. Anand, MLA regarding the policy/programme of the State Government for the rehabilitation and treatment of drug users.
- (f) Hon'ble Minister (Education) made a reply to Starred Question No. 266 asked by Shri K. Raina, MLA regarding the strenght of Students and Teachers of the Government High Schools and Junior High Schools.
- (g) Hon'ble Minister (IFCD) made a reply to Starred Question No. 267 asked by Shri S. Joy Singh, MLA regarding the proposal of the Government for the repairing of Imphal River Banks within Wangoi A/C.
- (h) Hon'ble Minister (Transport) made a reply to Starred Question No. 268 asked by Shri Ngursanglur, MLA regarding the programme for implementation of Registration of Members for Motor Boat (launch) Plying on the Barak River under Jiribam and Tipaimukh A/C.
- (i) Hon'ble Minister (Works) made a reply to Starred Question No. 269 asked by Shri K. Wungnaoshang, MLA regarding the construction of bridge across the Maklang River in between Phungyar & Kamjong road.
- (j) Hon'ble Minister (IFCD) made a reply to Starred Question No. 271 asked by Dr. I. Ibohalbi, MLA regarding the functioning of imphal low canal under L.L.I.
- (k) Hon'ble Minister (Education) made a reply to Starred Question No. 272 asked by Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA regarding the functioning of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of IFDC in Manipur.

ZERO HOUR:

During Zero Hour, Shri R.K. Anand, MLA drew the attention of the House to the statement made by Iron Chanu Sharmila who had been on fast for the last 8 years, in the local dailies of 7th March, 08.

Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA drawing the attention of the plight of the people due to the disruption of Imphal-Jessami bus service, enquired as to what steps had been taken up in this regard.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER:

The Hon'ble Speaker announced the receipt of a leave application from the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Shri Th. Shyamkumar Singh. The House granted leave.

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMAND FOR GRANTS, 2008-09:

Chief Minister Shri O. Ibobi Singh moved Demand No. 10 - Education, Demand No. 38 - Panchayat, Demand No. 41 - Art & Culture and Demand No. 45 - Tourism for discussion.

Hon'ble Speaker clubbed the four demands for a joint discussion.

Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA moving cut-motion observed the need for upgrading the colleges at Moreh and Mao and also for setting up a science college at Jiribam. He drew the attention of the Minister concerned for including job-oriented courses in the course curriculum at the college level, modernization of colleges and improvement of department libraries. He emphasized for equal pay for all the part-time lecturers, regularization of Principals and increasing the superannuation age of college teachers to a minimum of 60 years in order to make them more interested in their works. He pointed out that administration of school education was in chaos as the authorities were not accessible and said that it need to be properly arranged. There was need for revamping Zonal Units of school education and the Language Cell, he said and added that SSA was also not effective. Improvement of infrastructure, filling up of required staffs, conducting of literary and co-curricular activities, reviving of Vocational courses, renewing of monitoring and evaluation activities and appointment of regular Headmasters were some of the suggestion he made for revamping School Education. He further drew the attention of the Education Minister to the pay revision of the recently appointed graduate teachers and the pending of salaries of the Aided school teachers for a long time. Regarding Arts and Culture, he drew the attention of the Government for improving the infrastructure of the Imphal Art College by giving special attention.

Dr. I. Ibohalbi, MLA moving cut-motion drew the attention of the Minister concerned for increasing the super-annuation age of college teacher to 60 years or preferably 62 years as per the UGC norms and also for releasing the balance amount for the construction of school buildings. He further drew the attention of

the Minister for an equitable pay for all the part-time lectures of Higher Secondary Schools and their service extension and also for a Higher Secondary School in his constituency. He enquired about the implementation of the devolution of powers to the Panchayat. Regarding Arts and Culture, he drew the attention for extending grant for promoting the culture of Lai-Haraoba. He expressed desire for black-topping and widening of the stretch of road from the NH-150 to Sadu Koireng Waterfall and setting up of a rest house there.

(Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh adjourned the House at 1.00 p.m. till 2.00 p.m. of the day).

(The afternoon session resumed at 2.00 p.m. with the Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh in the Chair).

Shri R.K. Anand, MLA moving cut motions observed that the School Education lacked almost all the basic infrastructure and there should be co-ordination of the students, school authority and guardians to solve the problem. Irresponsibility of the school authorities, irregular pay structure and other anomalies should be properly streamlined to bring about quality education, he said. He stressed the need to impart advanced education in the Higher Education system and extend the age of superannuation for college lecturers. Manipur inspite of being an ideal place for tourism industry, the Restricted Area Permit and Protected Area Permit restricting the entry of tourist were stumbling blocks to it, he stated. Even in Jammu & Kashmir inspite of the extreme form of militancy existing, there was relaxation of RAP and PAP, he said and wanted the Government to make necessary arrangements for its relaxation. Since the implementation of the Panchayati Raj Act there were complaints regarding empowerment and other common problems, he said and stressed the need to translate the Act at the grass root level and utilise the fund allocated effectively.

Shri O.Joy Singh, MLA moving cut motions pointed out the need for relaxation of RAP and PAP to boost tourism. He said that the state possessed a storehouse of valuable resources and required to be efficiently exploited and tapped. Highlighting the trend of tourism industry in the modern world, he expressed that the basic infrastructure should be improved and there should be better mobilization of resources. Under the National policy on Tourism, Public-Private Partnership should be initiated with clear vision and mutual involvement in the state also, he said. He made a comparative study of the domestic tourist inflow

of the state with other North-East states and said that the rate was good but the foreign tourist inflow was low due to the RAP and PAP. He further expressed that Eco-tourism or nature based tourism should be improved and new ventures of the Department need to be enhanced.

Dr. Khashim Ruivah, MLA moving cut motions said that there was no proper policy programming by the Education Department and there was disparity in rendering facilities in the hill and valley. He wanted the Minister to appoint full-fledged headmasters and principals in the schools particularly in the hills. Commenting on the loopholes of the past governments, he said that no proper incentive was being imparted to the teachers. He drew the attention of the Minister to make provisions for improving the basic infrastructure and to effectively implement the rationalization policy for rendering quality education. He also highlighted the strike called by the students of Pettigrew College, Ukhrul and wanted the Government to address their grievances. To attract more tourists and popularize Siroy Hill, the Government should do the needful.

Shri Morung Makunga, MLA supporting the cut movers expressed that the fund allocated for school and higher education was low. He said that private colleges should be encouraged by providing subsidy or aid, since it accommodates many students who failed to get admission in government institutions. He also made observation on the lack of Maths, Science and MIL teachers in the hills and wanted the Government to look into it. Regarding the expansion of Manipur University and setting up of NIT, he suggested that an alternative site should be chosen.

Shri V. Hangkhanlian, MLA participating in the discussion said that the hill people are still deprived of computer education in this Computer Age. He wanted the Minister to provide adequate staff and school buildings particularly for the government schools at Thanlon. Making observation on the setting up of NIT at Langol, he said that the Government should arrange an alternative site since it would affect the source of livelihood of the local people. A policy for exploiting tourism potential should be framed and increase the budget allocation.

Shri M. Manindra Singh, MLA participating in the discussion made observation on the occupation of the State -run- Tourist Homes by the Para-Military and Army and thereby causing many problems. Commenting on the significance of Moirang in the tourism industry, he emphasised the need to provide better facilities and improve the infrastructures

Md. Allauddin Khan, Minister (RD & PR) replying to the discussion said that the Panchayat Elections was held in 2007 for election of 1738 seats altogether. Due to the intervention of the District Council, the Turibari Gram Panchayat Elections were not hold, he said. The required posting of the Zilla Parishads and Gram Panchayat were being made in accordance to the order issued on 2/9/2005 by the state cabinet regarding empowerment of Panchayats, 16 Government departments had been short listed for devolution of powers, he stated. He also informed the House that plans were being made to look into the working of the Panchayat by a Vigilance Monitoring Committee. Training and awareness programmes were done by earmarking more funds for the elected Panchayat bodies and the construction of the Panchayat buildings would soon start, he said. The honorariums given to the Panchayat members would be increased after having consultations at the cabinet level, he observed. The delimitation process was suspended since the elections were held as scheduled, he said. He made further clarifications on the composition of Zilla Parishad and formation of Employment Guarantee Council and sought the co-operation of the cut movers in passing the Demand.

Shri L. Jayantakumar Singh, Minister (Education) replying to the discussion clarified that job oriented courses like tourism industry, sericulture, spoken English etc were opened in some of the colleges in the state. Regarding the vacant posts of college lecturers, he informed that requisition notification for 309 lecturers had been made to MPSC and added that requisition for the regularization of 25 college principals and DM College of teachers Education had already been to MPSC. Regarding the extension of service of college teachers under UGC norms, the government had no decision on the matter for the present he informed and added for the shortage of teachers a Cabinet decision had already been taken to engage 44 college teachers up to June this year. He also informed that instruction had been given to ZEOs, DIs and AIs of Schools for discharging their duties well and added that seniority list for regular ZEO and DI except AI were almost completed. For enhancing extra curricular activities of students, Inter School Sports cum Literary Competition would be organised by the department. He said that pending salary for the teachers of Aided schools of the state would be paid at the earliest and added that a long lasting policy would also be framed with the consultation of experts for the welfare of approved teachers. Regarding the pending of payment for the construction of 19 schools, he informed that the matter would be looked into as the matter was with the vigilance department. An Academic Reforms Committee had been constituted under the Chairmanship of

I.S Khaidem, former Vice- Chancellor, Manipur University for the up gradation of colleges, he informed and added that the government would frame a policy for the opening of Science & Commerce subjects in hills and valley schools taking into account of its financial involvement also. Expansion of MU campus was made with a vision that it was due to the up gradation of Manipur University to the Central University level, he further said.

Shri T.N. Haokip, Minister (Tourism) replying to the discussion termed the Tourism as one of the fastest growing industries in the world and added that a successful tourism in the state needed certain criteria with the co-ordination of departments like Power, PWD, PHED and MAHUD. He also informed that since the inception of SPF government several guest houses had been developed in the state. As part of tourism, construction of guest house, improvement of IBs, upgradation of free border trade and providing night landing facility at Imphal Airport had been taken up. Government was taking steps to develop Sadu Chiru waterfall as a tourism spot by constructing roads, bridge, Guest House, Foot Park, marketing sheds, restaurants and public toilet and added that government was also set to frame tourism policy. But the vital thing was to change the mindset of the people of the state, he strongly maintained. He further said that all the security personals occupying the Sendra tourist Home would be vacated at the earliest. RAP & PAP would also be repealed from the state for which the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India had also expressed willingness to repeal it.

Dr. I. Ibohalbi, Shri V. Hangkhanlian, Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, Shri R.K Anand, and Shri O. Joy Singh, MLAs sought further clarifications and the Ministers concerned clarified.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister replying to the discussion clarified that the government had no intention to neglect the Imphal Art College and added that adequate fund was earmarked for the infrastructure development of the college under SPA. He informed the House that the construction of State Kala Academy at palace compound was near completion and added that land required for the construction of main administrative building of the Academy had also been sought for acquisition from private parties. He also said that government had no provision to earmark fund particularly for Umanglai in the budget. The government would look into the J.N Dance Academy to upgrade upto the degree level, he informed the House.

Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA sought further clarification and the Chief Minister also clarified.

All the cut motions were withdrawn and Demand Nos. 10, 38, 41 and 45 were passed unanimously by the House.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL:

Shri O. Ibobi, Chief Minister moved for leave to introduce:

“ the Manipur Ceiling on Government Guarantee(Amendment) Bill, 2008.”

And also moved for introduction.

The House granted leave and the bill was introduced.

Hon’ble Speaker adjourned the House at 6.07 p.m. till 11.00 a.m of Monday, the 10th March, 2008.

T. Joute
Secretary,
Manipur Legislative Assembly.
