

**MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
SECRETARIAT**

**BULLETIN PART-I**

**No. 62**

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Friday, the 17th July, 2009.

Asadha 26, 1931 (Saka)

*The House assembled at 11.00 am of Friday, the 17th July, 2009 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 42 Elected Members.

**QUESTIONS:**

- (a) Hon'ble Minister (Works) made a reply to Starred Question No. 391 asked by Shri E. Kunjeswar Singh, MLA in the absence of Shri T. Mangibabu Singh, MLA regarding the works taken up under S.P.A. in Thanga A/C.
- (b) Hon'ble Minister (Social Welfare) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 392 asked by Shri Th. Nandakishor Singh, MLA regarding the district wise number of beneficiaries under Family Benefit Scheme during 2008-09.
- (c) Hon'ble Minister (Social Welfare) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 393 asked by Shri R.K. Anand, MLA regarding the enforcement of person with disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1955 in the State.
- (d) Hon'ble Minister (Social Welfare) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 394 asked by Shri V. Hangkhanlian, MLA regarding the non-payment of honorarium for Anganwadi Workers and Helpers under Parbung I.C.A.S. Project since August, 2008.
- (e) Hon'ble Minister (Revenue) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 395 asked by Shri Morung Makunga, MLA regarding the acquisition for the post of Mandal in the Department.
- (f) Hon'ble Minister (Revenue) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 396 asked by Shri Wungnaoshang Keishing, MLA regarding the upgradation of Sahamphung S.D.C. Office to S.D.O. Office.

- (g) Hon'ble Minister (Education) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 397 asked by Dr. I. Ibohalbi, MLA regarding the filling up of some posts of Head Masters of Junior High Schools and Asst. Head Masters of High Schools through regular DPC.
- (h) Hon'ble Minister (Works) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 398 asked by Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA regarding the pending of cases in Court in respect of the seniority list of A.E. and E.E.
- (i) Hon'ble Minister (I.F.C.D.) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 399 asked by Dr. U. Deben Singh, MLA regarding Project proposal for improvement of river banks of Imphal River and Sekmai River passing through Wabgai A/C.
- (j) Hon'ble Minister (Revenue) gave a reply to Starred Question No. 400 asked by Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA regarding the implementation of the recommendation of the House Committee to enquire into the allotment of Plots in the Plan/Scheme areas of Imphal.

*Shri O. Ibohi Singh, Chief Minister further supplemented to it.*

#### **CALLING ATTENTION:**

S/Shri O. Joy Singh and T. Hangkhanpao, MLAs called the attention of IFCD Minister on the collapse of earthen embankment of Khuga canal at T. Daijang Village.

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA quoted the Sangai Express and Imphal Free Press edition on the breach of Khuga canal for the third time within one year and expressed apprehension that the Khuga Dam Project, the second dam after Singda expected to bring about socio-economic changes to the state would fail to give maximum benefits to the people. He raised queries on whether the repeated breach of the embankment was due to the water pressure or the earthen bund lacked compactness. Weak embankments and lack of proper specification of the width of the canal might be the main reasons, he stated. He said that flood level monitoring machine should be installed to check the water level. He pointed certain technical failure inspite of the huge investments being made in the past years and attention given to it by the present government and said that communalism and localism hampering the progress of the work should be removed. He also made a suggestion to find out the vulnerable points before the release of water.

Shri T. Hangkhanpao, MLA co-mover of the motion expressed that the Project first started in the early part of the 1980s and successive governments had failed to complete it and hand it over to the people. From the last Assembly onwards there was progress but the final completion was not being made, he said. He opined that the June and July embankment breach might be a trial of the quality of the works. Pointing out technical defects, he said that the use of steam roller for earth compression was not seen in the last many years. The Project was started with a motive of progress and development in many spheres but due to the negligence of contractors and officers in the past years the target could not be achieved till now. Expressing apprehension of a disaster if the problem was not

looked into timely, he appealed to the House to set up a House Committee and take up effective measures. Lastly he also mentioned the need to take up remedial measures to protect the agricultural works taken up in the area.

Shri N. Biren (IFCD) Minister replying to the motion said that there had been lack of supervision of the works in the early part of the Project which was first started in 1983-84 and the breaching at some points of the right main canal was a result of the dug out earth and the embankment was not properly strengthened. Highlighting the improvement measures taken up by the government under the initiative of the Chief Minister, he said that the Project was almost complete. He expressed that the local people need not be tense and suspicious as the department had given maximum attention not to create any untoward incidents. He informed the House that on trial basis the canal had irrigated several paddy fields successfully. The water would be released in a phasewise manner with extra precaution and the wear and tear of the canal at different points would be checked, he added. He further expressed that a spot verification would be made with the concerned MLAs.

The Chief Minister supplementing the reply said that close monitoring was required when the water was first released and department officials were instructed to be extra cautious. The right main canal was to extend upto Bishnupur and repairing works of the breaches had been taken up, he maintained. He also pointed out the poor quality of works done in the past and said that the earthen dam and spillway should be given more attention. Since it was a multipurpose project expected to bring benefits, the Government was keeping strict vigil on the works and there was no question of a major threat, he added.

*As opined by the Chief Minister the discussion on the Annual Report of the State Vigilance Commission for the year, 2008, laid on the Table of the House to be raised by Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA was deferred and the matter would be discussed on Tuesday, the 21st July, 2009.*

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Hon'ble Speaker informed the House that Shri T. Mangibabu Singh, MLA had applied leave of absence for the day i.e. 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

*The House granted the leave.*

**The Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh adjourned the House at 12.50 p.m. till 2.00 p.m. of the day**

*The afternoon session resumed at 2.00 p.m. with the Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair.*

## **ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE THREE FINANCIAL COMMITTEES:**

Hon'ble Minister Shri Th. Debendra Singh moved the following motions in place of Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister :-

“That in pursuance of Rule 233(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Manipur Legislative Assembly, this House do proceed to elect 7 (seven) members each of the following Committees on July, 24, 2009:-

- (i) Committee on Public Accounts;
- (ii) Committee on Estimates; and
- (iii) Committee on Public Undertakings.”

## **DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMAND FOR GRANTS, 2009-2010:**

Hon'ble Minister Shri Th. Debendra Singh moved Demand No. 16 - Co-operation, Demand No. 19- Environment & Forest and Demand No. 46 - Science & Technology & Information Technology for discussion.

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

Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA moving cut motion on said that cooperative movement was an age old tradition of our society which had deteriorated in recent past and expressed the need for its revival. Critically commenting on the pathetic condition of the cooperative societies in the district and block level, he emphasised the need for improvement of infrastructure at these levels. He emphasised that Cooperative Inspectors should monitor and evaluate Self Help Groups and Cooperative Societies properly. Commenting on Environment, he emphasised the importance of Incinerator for Bio-medical waste disposal and suggested for installation of Incinerators by the Government for the disposal of biomedical waste of private hospitals. He wanted to know the criteria of selection of NGOs for solid waste disposal and queried about the steps taken up by the government to prevent water pollution. He further expressed the need to take up measures to prevent air pollution in collaboration with Transport Department. He further said that pollution of river by toilet waste should be checked. He questioned where and how many the improved crematorium were built under IREP. He further question whether the Wind Solar Hybrid Project taken up by MANIREDA was cost effective or not. Emphasising the importance of Remote Sensing, he urged the government to take over MASARC.

Dr. I. Ibohalbi, MLA moving cut motion on demand number 19- Environment and Forest, pointed out the need to monitor the system of quarrying in river beds since quarrying helps in the siltation of Loktak lake and the disposal of waste in rivers which in turn pollutes Loktak lake and emphasised the need to prevent them in order to save the lake. He further expressed concern over the losing of many small lakes like Lamphelpat, Kharungpat etc. and wanted the government to take up measures to save and conserve them. In order to save Loktak lake Loktak Protection Force should be set up and straightened, he said. The Government, he said, need a scientific method of waste disposal including the Bio-medical waste and queried about how infected needles were disposed by the

NGOs dealing with HIV infected people. He further opined that awareness regarding waste disposal should be spread to both urban and rural areas. He also appealed to the government to give protection to the people residing at 9 99 Langol area when they were evicted and also to fill up the vacant posts in Forest Department.

Shri R.K Anand, MLA mover of cut motion on Demand No-19 pointed out the ecological disturbance caused by deforestation, siltation of loktak lake, soil erosion and pollution of rivers and lakes and added that afforestation taken up by the government was too less. The impact on environment by construction of Tipaimukh Dam, he opined, was a matter of major concern to the state and critically commented on the lack of impact assessment of the project by the government and suggested for the need to re-examine the project. He also expressed the need to find out an alternative source of power by Science and Technology Department.

Dr. Khashim Ruivah, MLA participating in the discussion drew the attention of the Minister for proper identification of unelectrified villages in the remote hill areas and take up Non Conventional Solar Power Projects there for providing solar lighting system. Pointing out the availability of abundant natural resources like Ginseng in Ukhrul, he appealed to the Government to tap these resources.

Shri Morung Makunga, MLA participating in the discussion reiterated the importance of Forest and expressed the need to preserve them. He was of the opinion that emphasis should be given to protection rather than plantation of trees and expressed the need for a policy on protection of forest. He further pointed out the abundant cutting down of trees in the interior parts of the hills and urged the Forest Department to check them. Langol hill should be protected, he said. He suggested for encouraging plantation of rubber trees to check Jhum cultivation by the hill people and urged the government to frame such a policy. He further opined that all the MLAs should jointly take up steps to protect forest.

Shri Radhabinod Koijam, MLA participating in the discussion pointed out the changes brought about by advancement of Science and Technology to the upgradation of knowledge, healthcare, entertainment, economy etc. and said that the benefit which this advancement of Science and Technology would bring to the people of the state and provide a source of strength to all the departments should be the aim and objective of the Department of Science and Technology. He further suggested for pumping more fund to Science and Technology Department and make it a major department.

Shri Y. Erabot Singh, Minister (Co-operation) replying to the discussion informed the House that District Cooperative Officers had been posted in the 9 districts for strengthening the department. He further informed that the final report of the enquiry conducted by the CBI regarding the fraudulent withdrawal of money sanctioned by the National Horticulture Board from the Manipur Industrial Cooperative Bank had been submitted and the final verdict awaited. The government, he said, was putting in their best effort to create awareness among the people regarding cooperative society and Self Help Groups and also to improve the infrastructures at the district and block level according to the availability of

fund. He further informed that Manipur State Cooperative Bank had given benefits to 9492 beneficiaries under the SEGP. He also informed of the weaving of loans to farmers by the Central Government and the phase wise process taken up in the state. The department, he said, was exercising to fill up the Boards of Cooperative banks which do not have such a board. He further informed that some of the Cooperative Societies at the Zilla Parishad level were actively functioning. The government, he said, was putting in their best effort to make the cooperative movement a success and appealed to cut motion movers to withdraw and allow the demand to pass.

Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh sought further clarification and the Hon'ble Minister clarified.

Shri Phungzathang Tonsing, Minister (Science & Technology) replying to the demand discussion informed that opening of Manipur Science Centre, inauguration of 3 Dimensional Centre, awarding of Science and Maths subject toppers of HSLC examination, science excursion programme to Guwahati for class XI & XII students, Science Meet and workshop on disaster management, etc, were taken up under the Science & Technology sector and added that integrated land management and administration planning was taken up and targeted for completion in October. Upgradation of IT Park at Chingmeirong under SPA and which was targeted for completion within the current month was taken up under the Information Technology Sector, he informed. He enlightened that electrification of 14 remote villages in the hills and installation of 100 nos. of solar lighting system at Heirok during the current year were taken up under the Non-Conventional Sources of Energy Sector and added that lighting at 4 hilltops to facilitate night landing at Imphal airport was almost complete. Under the Integrated Rural Electrification Program an amount of Rs. 50 lakhs had been released to Zilla Parishads during the current year as part of devolution of power, he informed and added that a same amount had been earmarked for the coming year. He further informed that 83 nos. of improved crematorium had been constructed from 2004-07 but discontinued since then.

Shri Th. Debendra Singh, Minister (Forest & Environment) replying to the discussion said that working plan for forest management had been completed for Chandel and Ukhrul district and efforts were on for early completion for the remaining districts. He acknowledged that steps being taken up regarding Joint Forest Management need to be looked into. Forest covered area had been increased with the plantation of bamboo under the National Bamboo Mission, he said. He informed that recruitment for Loktak Protection Force had been completed and thus, the inconveniences being faced in the conservation of Loktak Lake would be solved. Nursery plantation at the catchment area was taken up as a step towards conservation of Loktak Lake, he said. He informed about the constitution of a High Power Committee, with the Chief Minister as Chairman, for protection, conservation and preservation of lakes, water bodies and wetlands of the state and added that the approval of the Chief Minister in this regard would be obtained soon.

Dr. I. Ibohalbi, Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh and Shri O. Joy Singh, MLAs sought further clarifications and the Hon'ble Minister made the clarifications.

*All the cut motions were withdrawn and Demand Nos. 16, 19 & 46 were passed unanimously by the House.*

***Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh adjourned the House at 5.05 p.m. till 11.00 a.m of Monday, the 20th July, 2009.***

**Th. Megha Raj Singh**  
*Secretary,*  
*Manipur Legislative Assembly.*

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