## MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ::::: SHILLONG BUDGET SESSION, 2008 (BULLETIN NO 17) WEDNESDAY, THE 7th MAY, 2008

The House met at 10.00 am on the 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2008 with the Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair. The day was devoted for the transaction of Government Business.

## **QUESTIONS:**

Starred Questions No 110 to 119 were disposed of and Starred Question No 120 to 129 could not be taken up for want of time.

## **VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS:**

Shri H.D.R. Lyngdoh while supporting the cut-motion felt that the Government should not declare that all villages have been electrified when one village is left out. He was also of the opinion that Non-Conventional energy should be taken up. He also felt that electric bills should be delivered every month to the consumers to enable them to pay regularly.

Dr. Phlour W.Khongjee wanted to know from the Government as to whether it is having a mind to change the present policy of the power projects.

Shri Lahkmen Rymbui supported the cut motion moved by the mover suggested that a person appointed by the village community should be allowed to collect bill amounts from the users for payment to the MeSEB and an incentive should be given to the individual.

Shri F.S.Cajee moved the Policy Cut on Grant No.11 and lamented at the lack of vision of the MeSEB with the requirement of power reaching its peak.

Shri FW Momin also supported the cut-motion and was concerned at the rampant power theft all over Garo Hills.

Shri Francis P.R. Sangma while supporting the cut-motion stressed on the need to set up thermal projects.

Replying to the cut motions, the Minister i/c Power admitted that the power in the State at present, is looking grim. However, the Government is very much alive to the situation and is doing its best to find out ways and means to mitigate the problems of the public. If power is to be harnessed, private companies will have to be involved in this regard. With regard to electric bills, the involvement of a village committee for collection of bills will be looked into. He assured that surprise checks will be made on power theft.

With leave of the House, the Cut Motion was withdrawn and Grant No 11 was passed.

The Minister i/c Finance moved Grant No 12 and was passed since there was no cut motion.

The Minister i/c SAD moved Grant No 13.

Shri Lahkmen Rymbui moved his cut motion against this Grant and wanted the Government to provide a common room for the legislators or officers in the Secretariat with some assistants. He was also against the idea of purchasing new Government cars since it will affect the State Exchequer.

Shri R.V.Lyngdoh and Shri F.W.Momin supported the cut motion and fell in line with the mover.

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In reply, the Minister i/c SAD and stated that one common room will be arranged for use by the legislators or officers. With regard to the purchase of new vehicles, this was done when the old vehicles have completed 1,30,000 km and allotment a vehicle to every legislator is not at all feasible.

With leave of the House, the cut motion was withdrawn and Grant No 13 was passed.

Grant No 14 and 15 were passed since there were no cut-motions.

The Minister i/c Home moved Grant No 16.

Shri Charles Pyngrope moved his cut motion against this Grant and lamented at the police for showing disrespect to the traditional heads by the junior level. They do not have the courtesy or etiquette for their superiors and, in this regard, the relation between the police and the public has dipped. He felt that all police stations should be upgraded and should be manned by an officer of the rank of DSP with headquarter at the Station to enable all and sundry to err their grievances.

Shri H.D.R.Lyngdoh, Shri Friday Lyngdoh, Shri F.W.Momin, Shri R.V.Lyngdoh and Shri Francis P.R.Sangma supported the cut motion and spoke more or less on the same lines.

Replying to the cut motion, the Minister i/c Home agreed with the participants that had the police worked in tandem with the traditional heads, many crimes would have been solved. The upgradation of police stations and the arrests of the syiem of Myriaw, will be looked into.

With leave of the House, the cut motion was withdrawn and Grant No 16 was passed.

Grants No 17, 18, 19 and 20 were passed since there were no cut motions.

The Minister i/c Higher & Technical Education moved Grant No 21.

Shri Lahkmen Rymbui moved Grant No 21.

## ADJOURNMENT:

The House rose at 2.00 pm to meet again on the 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2008 at 10.00 am.

Secretary, 775708 Meghalaya Legislative Assembly Dated Shillong, the 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2008

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