

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
SECRETARIAT
BULLETIN PART-I
No. 36

Friday, the 2nd August, 2024

The House assembled at 11:00 a.m. of Friday, the 2nd August, 2024 in the Assembly Hall with the Hon'ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh in the Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon'ble Chief Minister, 8 Hon'ble Cabinet Ministers, Hon'ble Chairman (Hill Areas Committee) and 38 Elected Members.

QUESTIONS:

- (a) Hon'ble Chief Minister made a reply to Starred Question No.253 asked by Shri Kh. Loken Singh, MLA regarding funds sanctioned for repairing of NH-137A (Mayai Lambi) during the F.Y. 2022-23 & 23-24.
- (b) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) made a reply to Starred Question No.254 asked by Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA regarding pending Utilization Certificates.
- (c) Hon'ble Minister (Social Welfare) made a reply to Starred Question No.255 asked by Shri Th. Shyamkumar, MLA regarding Anganwadi & Mini Anganwadi Centres in Andro AC.
- (d) Hon'ble Minister (Education) made a reply to Starred Question No.256 asked by Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA regarding non-declaration of results for MTS (Multi Tasking Staff) Group-D exams.
- (e) Hon'ble Minister (Agriculture) made a reply to Starred Question No.257 asked by Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA regarding compensatory schemes for farmers unable to cultivate their agricultural lands due to the present crisis.
- (f) Hon'ble Minister (Power) made a reply to Starred Question No. 258 asked by Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA regarding policy for waiving off electricity charges.
- (g) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) made a reply to Starred Question No.259 asked by Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA regarding deployment of security personnel in vulnerable areas.

- (h) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Planning) made a reply to Starred Question No. 260 asked by Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA regarding benefit schemes for IDPS under One Family One Livelihood Mission.
- (i) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) made a reply to Starred Question No. 261 asked by Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA regarding number of FIRs in the last five years.
- (j) Hon'ble Chief Minister made a reply to Starred Question No. 262 asked by Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA regarding Cold Storage facility at Food Park, Nilakuthi.

Answers to Starred Question No. 263 and Unstarred Question Nos. 80, 81, 82, 83 & 84 were laid on the Table of the House as written replies.

ZERO HOUR:

Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA drew the attention of the Chief Minister on the reported incident of police action against internally displaced persons protesting for their resettlement to their original homes. He further expressed resentment over the assault of a journalist by the police and urged the concerned authorities to look into the matter seriously.

Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA drew the attention of the concerned Minister regarding failure of the concerned authorities to complete construction of a bridge near Pangaltabi Awang Leikai and urged for its early completion.

Shri Dinganglung Gangmei, MLA highlighted the problem faced by drivers and transporters carrying essential items along the stretch of NH-37 in the state due to collection of illegal taxes and extortion by unknown miscreants. He also appealed to all the concerned to halt collection of illegal taxes and extortion along the National Highway at the earliest. He further hailed the recent directive of Hon'ble Supreme Court to exclude the "Creamy Layer" of SC/ST from reservation quota.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE:

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister laid the "Economic Survey Manipur, 2022-23" on the Table of the House.

CALLING ATTENTION:

- (i) Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA called the attention of the Minister (in-charge of CAF&PD) on the reported apprehension of halting/suspension of services by the petroleum products transporters and urged the government to bring an amicable solution in the matter. Expressing dissatisfaction over the worsening security situation along the

NH- 37, he sought the urgent intervention of the government to curb imposition of illegal taxes and extortion along NH-37. He further queried about the deplorable condition of road along the stretch of NH-37.

Shri L. Susindro Meitei, Hon'ble Minister (in-charge of CAF& PD) replying to the Calling Attention informed that necessary security measures are being taken up by the government to ensure safety and the security of the drivers. He further said that a meeting has already been convened with the association called "Consortium of Manipur Petroleum Products Transporters" and the government is ready to find an amicable solution for resuming their services along the NH 37. He further stated that vulnerable areas along the NH-37 were identified by the concerned authorities and security forces are deployed to prevent unauthorised collection of taxes. Considering the gravity of the matter, the government is making efforts to find a long term solution to the issue, he added.

Shri N. Biren Singh (Chief Minister) clarifying further to the Calling Attention stated that the government will take appropriate action to curb collection of illegal taxes and extortion along the NH-37 and also added that maximum security will be provided for which an officer of the rank of DIG has been put in charge. He appealed to the Trasporters Consortium to reconsider their decision of suspending their service. He also stated that renovation of NH-37 was halted due to land disputes in some areas.

(ii) Shri Leishiyo Keishing, MLA called the attention of the Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) on the reported frequent landmine blasts along the Indo-Myanmar border in Kamjong district and also raised his concern about the Border Guarding Force's inability to safeguard the border areas. He further urged the concerned authorities to strengthen state police in border areas, to develop of police infrastructure and for separate allocation of VDF in Kamjong District. Considering the plight of the people of border areas, he also urged the concerned authorities to establish a separate ADC office for border areas and relocation of Assam Rifles check posts existing in the area.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) clarified that the matter pertaining to the frequent mines blasts along in the Indo-Myanmar border in Kamjong district would be discussed at a high level and stated that a letter regarding the same would be sent to the Home Ministry. He informed that a joint survey team comprising Assam Rifles, State Police personnel and CID would be sent for investigation and the findings would be sent to the External Affairs Ministry at the earliest. He further stated that construction of several police stations have been started to strengthen the border areas.

Hon'ble Speaker Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh adjourned the House at 01:23 p.m. till 02:30 p.m. of the day.

The House resumed at 02:30 p.m. with Hon'ble Speaker Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh in the chair.

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS:

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved Demands Nos.; 1- State Legislature, 2- Council of Ministers, 3- Secretariat, 12- Municipal Administration, Housing and Urban Development, 21- Textiles, Commerce & Industries, 22- Public Health Engineering, 26- Administration of Justice & 27- Election for discussion & voting.

Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA moving cut motions expressed the need for proper implementation of building bye-laws and also the need to spread awareness by the Department to strictly adhere to the bye-laws before taking up any construction works. He stated the need to implement the Property Tax Act and inquired about the collection of property tax in the State. He further queried about the non-completion of Water Supply Schemes under NDB and JJM and urged the concerned Department for early completion of the Water Supply Schemes. He expressed the need to consult the MLAs while implementing the schemes. He urged for early completion of construction of Manipur Judicial Academy at Pangei.

Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA moving cut motion lamented about the inability to complete several schemes/projects and also about the irregularities in purchasing sub-standard equipments under the Textiles, Commerce and Industry Department and which has resulted in loss of employment opportunities for the youths of the state. He urged the government to investigate the matter and initiate action against those persons involved. Regarding Election, he expressed his concern that withholding election of all Local bodies in the state is depriving the constitutional rights of the citizens and urged the government to conduct the same at the earliest.

Shri Y. Khemchand Singh, Minister (MAHUD) stated that many new rules have been included after the enforcement of building bye-laws in 1969 and added that several meetings have been convened and it had been resolved for conducting a survey to properly implement the Act in the state. For effective collection of Property Tax, an office had been set up inside the old Assembly Complex and the Chairman for the same has been appointed and also urged everyone to pay their property taxes.

Shri L. Susindro Meitei, Minister (PHED) in his clarifications informed that in spite of the various challenges/difficulties faced by the department due to the diminishing water sources and the ongoing crises, the department is trying to mitigate the scarcity of water by setting up hand pumps for which a proposal had been made to the Central Ministry. He stated that most of the Water Supply Schemes are handed to the Village Water and Sanitation Committee under an undertaking and added that irregularities of the Committee, if any would be looked into. He also sought the cooperation of all communities while taking up various schemes effectively. He further stated that local contractors would be given priority when undertaking projects under the state government.

Shri Th. Basanta Kumar Singh, Minister (Law & Legislative Affairs) in his clarification stated that the Department is working with a proper policy and strategy with regard to the construction of the Manipur Judicial Academy at Pangei. Construction of compound fencing and land development works had already started, he stated. He added that a Firm had been selected by a High Court Committee for designing the building and the construction work would be started and preparation of the DPR is underway. Regarding the matter for allotment of a plot of an area of 0.88 acres to the encroachers, he informed that it would be discussed with the Revenue Department.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister in his clarification stated that quality control of all projects being taken up is the need of the hour and an inspection of the machineries being used in various projects under the Industries department would be done by a special team and a district wise status report of the same would be made soon and due action would be taken accordingly. He added that proper planning is required before implementation of any scheme. He also informed the House that there were many other functional Food Storage units under the Horticulture Department. The Textiles, Commerce and Industries Department has been taking up various projects, he informed and stated that a detailed list of the projects would be drafted and made available soon. He informed the House that the Department had started giving out yarn to the weavers for free or at lower rates and a special shop/room had been set up at the Ima Market for distribution of the same. He also informed that rupees 149 crores had been sanctioned for the construction of a new ethnic Market for display and sale of ethnic products of the various communities of the State.

Regarding the delay in holding elections of Local Bodies, he informed that election of Municipalities was delayed due to various court cases, most of which have been disposed and only one case regarding reservation of seats is pending. Inability to complete the delimitation process was the reason for delay in ADC election, he added. He informed that a Cabinet decision had been taken on the 13th of June, 2024 to hold the elections simultaneously around September, 2024 and that a tentative schedule had already been sent to the Election Commission and added that the government is trying to hold the elections as soon as possible. However, benefits to the public in the grassroots level have not been affected by the delay in holding the elections as Committees constituted under the directive of the High Court were discharging the duties of local bodies.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved Demands Nos.1, 2, 3, 12, 21, 22, 26 & 27 for passing.

Demands Nos. 1, 2, 3, 12, 21, 22, 26 & 27 were passed unanimously by the House.

INTRODUCTION OF GOVERNMENT BILLS:

- (i) Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved for leave to introduce:
“The Manipur Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes (Regulation of Issuance and Verification of Caste Certificates) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 15 of 2024)”.

The House granted the leave and the Bill was introduced.

- (ii) Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved for leave to introduce:
“The Manipur Contingency Fund Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 9 of 2024)”.

The House granted the leave and the Bill was introduced.

STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF MINISTER:

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister making a statement, informed the House that in a successful attempt at peace, a meeting was held on 1st August 2024 at Cachar, Assam between the representatives of Meitei and Hmar communities of Jiribam District under the moderation of the Jiribam District Administration and attended by officials of State Police, CRPF and the Assam Rifles. Both communities resolved to put in full efforts to restore peace and normalcy and prevent incidents of arson and firing, ensure full co-operation with security forces, and facilitate controlled and co-ordinated movement in the region. The meeting was also attended by representatives of Paite, Thadou and Mizo communities of the District.

INTRODUCTION OF GOVERNMENT BILLS:

- (i) Shri Th. Basanta Kumar Singh, Minister (in-charge of Education) moved for leave to introduce:
“The Dhanamanjuri University (Second Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 13 of 2024)”.

The House granted the leave and the Bill was introduced.

- (ii) Shri Th. Basanta Kumar Singh, Minister (in-charge of Education) moved for leave to introduce:
“The Manipur Private School (Registration and Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 14 of 2024)”.

The House granted the leave and the Bill was introduced.

Hon’ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh adjourned the House at 04:55 p.m till 11:00 a.m of 5th August, 2024.

(K. Meghajit Singh)

Secretary,

Manipur Legislative Assembly