

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
SECRETARIAT
BULLETIN PART-I
No. 38

Tuesday, the 6th August, 2024

The House assembled at 11:00 a.m. of Tuesday, the 6th 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 in the absence of Minister (Textiles, Commerce and Industry Department) made a reply to Starred Question No.275 asked by Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA regarding the reasons for delay in completion of the construction of Cold Chain facility at Ukhrul.
- (b) Hon'ble Minister (Relief & Disaster Management) made a reply to Starred Question No.276 asked by Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA regarding compensation for natural calamities during the last ten years.
- (c) Hon'ble Chief Minister in the absence of Minister (Tribal Affairs & Hills) made a reply to Starred Question No.277 asked by Shri Th. Shyamkumar, MLA regarding works undertaken by the Department from 2022 till date.
- (d) Hon'ble Minister (Water Resources) made a reply to Starred Question No.278 asked by Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA regarding construction of retaining walls along the Iril river bank during 2020 to 2024.
- (e) Hon'ble Minister (Water Resources) made a reply to Starred Question No.279 asked by Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA regarding the recent rainfalls in the state.
- (f) Hon'ble Minister (PHE) made a reply to Starred Question No. 280 asked by Sheikh Noorul Hassan, MLA regarding the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Kshetrigao A/C.
- (g) Hon'ble Minister (Social Welfare Department) made a reply to Starred Question No.281 asked by Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA regarding Transgenders of the State.

- (h) Hon'ble Minister (Transport) made a reply to Starred Question No. 282 asked by Shri Th. Shyamkumar, MLA regarding buses of the department and the routes they are plying.
- (i) Hon'ble Minister (Power) made a reply to Starred Question No. 283 asked by Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA regarding pending recruitment results of the department.
- (j) Hon'ble Chief Minister in the absence of Minister (TA & Hills) made a reply to Starred Question No. 284 asked by Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA regarding pending Utilisation Certificates of the department.

Answers to Starred Question No.285 and Unstarred Question Nos. 87 were laid on the Table of the House as written replies.

ZERO HOUR:

Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA terming the news report that Hon'ble Chief Minister had failed to translate into action his promise of enhancing the Ration Money for IRB and MR personnel by Rs.500 as unfortunate, stated that such a thing could degrade the morale of the forces. He further sought clarification regarding the news report which stated that the Chief Minister had made a statement in the Assembly about the enhancement of honorarium of the VDF personnel though there had been no increase since 2023.

Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA highlighting the current crisis in Bangladesh, urged the Chief Minister to formulate a policy to secure the safe return of Manipur residing there. He also enquired the plans taken up by the government to protect the border areas since chances of illegal immigrant crossing the border was high.

CALLING ATTENTION:

(i) Shri Leishiyo Keishing, MLA called the attention of the Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) on the increasing count of illegal immigrants outnumbering local residents in many villages in Kamjong District. He urged the government to check further infiltration of illegal migrants and suggested that illegal immigrants currently residing in Kamjong district should be kept confined in Shelter Homes by providing their basic needs, without allowing them to mix with local people. He further urged the government to strengthen the Police Station at Kamjong and for proper fencing of the borders. He further expressed the need to make an action oriented comprehensive law for illegal immigrants in the state.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister replying to the calling attention informed that the government had been carrying out verification of illegal immigrants in the state

and collection of biometric data was also underway. He further informed that the illegal immigrants were given shelter on humanitarian ground and their deportation was also carried out from time to time with the consent of the Central Government. He also informed that a Cabinet Sub-Committee led by Shri Letpao Haokip, Minister was constituted and identification and detection of illegal immigrant had begun. He suggested the need for constituting a House Committee to look into the issue.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, MLA endorsed the proposal of the Leader of the House for constituting a House Committee comprising of representatives of all communities for a thorough enquiry into the issue of illegal immigrants.

Hon'ble Speaker took sense of the House for constituting a House Committee regarding the issue and the House agreed.

(ii) Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA called the attention of the Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) on the need to extend loan repayment moratorium by at least another year in view of the hardships faced by Micro-Finance banks, small shop owners and other business owners due to the ongoing crisis and queried whether the government had any plans to provide relief to the borrowers before they become defaulters. Since RBI had advised to resolve the issue at the State level, he suggested the inclusion of representatives of the business community at the next State Level Bankers' Committee meeting.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister in his reply informed that the government had requested the RBI for further extension of the moratorium for another year but RBI explained that even the extension of one year was a rare case and further extension was not possible. He added that he had written to and even met the Union Finance Minister apprising her of the issue and that he is hopeful of a of a positive response.

Hon'ble Speaker Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh adjourned the House at 1:34 p.m. till 03:00 p.m. of the day.

The House resumed at 03:00 p.m. with Hon'ble Speaker Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh in the chair.

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 2024-2025:

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved Demands Nos: 11-Medical, Health and Family Welfare Services;13-Labour and Employment;14-Department of Tribal Affairs and Hills Development;18-Animal Husbandry and Veterinary including Dairy Farming; 19-Environment and Forest; and 39-Sericulture for discussion & voting.

Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA moving cut motion highlighted the urgent need for the government to properly staff, equip and monitor the district hospitals, PHCs, CHCs and Primary Health Sub-Centres to provide proper medical care to people from rural areas. He further queried about the progress of the District Hospital at Sagolmang. He also urged for the prompt substitution of doctors who go on leave for further studies and that the recruitment of doctors should be done by MPSC. On Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, he stressed on the need to open Sub-Veterinary Hospitals in every constituency and requested an assurance from the concerned Minister for the same. On Environment and Forest he urged for the need to include local MLAs and other local elected representatives in the implementation of policy related to protection of forests and to give proper awareness to the local people. Regarding air pollution, he lamented that brick fields which are one of the main causes of pollution in the state were flouting the rules and as such shows that the Manipur Pollution Control Board is not functioning properly.

Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA moving cut motions queried as to when the liabilities incurred during the Covid pandemic would be cleared and also highlighted the plight of the workers engaged to work at the oxygen plants who had not been paid for months. He asked whether the students of Churachandpur Medical College who have been affected by the current crisis could be accommodated at a proper location and also whether they could use the facilities at PHCs and CHCs for their practicals. He questioned the discontinuation of free clinical tests at RIMS, lack of reagents at JNIMS, unavailability of life saving drugs and ROTA 3 vaccines. On Labour, he lamented that construction workers had not received their due benefits and further queried on the cancellation of several labour cards; and asked whether the card renewals could be done every three years instead of the existing one year. On Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, he urged the need for proper implementation of the Manipuri Pony Conservation and Development policy, regulation of stray ponies and proper remuneration to polo clubs. He further queried on the measures for increasing the number of the State bird Nongin which is almost extinct in the state. He also lamented that the “Way of life for Scheduled Caste farmers of Manipur” scheme under NEC had not been implemented properly. He further queried on the non implementation of the New Wetlands Rules passed in Parliament in 2017. He questioned as to why no concrete steps had been taken to preserve/conservate the water of the Thoubal River for domestic utilization. He also informed that forest products were being smuggled during the early hours through Thoubal till Imphal to avoid checkpoints and questioned whether the smugglers were in cahoots with the concerned officials. He suggested that giving certificate for tree plantation to the young students for their activities involved in the tree plantation would be very productive and making

mandatory for such certificates at the times of seeking admissions to academic institutions and for employment. He then said that this will certainly aid remarkably in the afforestation campaign. He further sought a detailed information regarding implementation of Green India Mission and CAMPA, and urged to increase the fund of CAMPA.

Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA moving cut motion highlighted the lack of proper facilities at Churachandpur Medical College and problems faced by the medical students of the college in terms lack of facilities for clinical exposure, hostel facilities, library facilities etc. He suggested that the clinical exposure for the Churachandpur Medical College students could be arranged at Thoubal District Hospital which have more patient. Regarding the supply of sub-standard dental chairs at JNIMS, he queried if any actions have been taken against those involved by the authority. Appreciating the valuable services rendered by the ASHA workers, he urged the government to increase their honorariums and incentives. On the issue of lack of medical staff and medicines at District Hospital, Jiribam, he suggested for recruitment of staff from eligible local people on contractual basis to solve the problem. On Labour and Employment, he lamented on the inability to pay minimum wages to the scheduled and non-scheduled labourers and demanded to increase the wages of the labourers by strictly adhering to the Gazette notifications and rule laid down by the authority. Regarding Animal Husbandry and Veterinary including Diary Farming, he highlighted the inability to pay compensation for pigs culled by the Department in 2023 due to outbreak of African Swine Fever and urged the government to provide the compensation to the farmers as per the guidelines of the Ministry.

Dr. S. Ranjan Singh, Minister (Medical, Health & Family Welfare Services) while making clarifications informed that the government is taking necessary steps for establishment of a Mental Health Hospital in the state under the PM-deVINE. He informed that under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission more than nine lakh patient's data have been enrolled in the state and this comprehensive digital platform with the Health Identity Number could help in a big way in the health care system once it is activated. He further clarified that the government is making all out efforts to install oxygen plants, build more infrastructures for health care sector and also informed that constant monitoring is being done to cater free diagnostics, free medicines in the CHC, PHC and other health care centres Regarding construction of district hospital at Sagolmang, he informed that approval from the Ministry is awaited. He said that initiative is being taken up to convert the analog X-Rays machines into digital at all health centres. He further clarified that out of 122 Medical Officers recommended by MPSC, 88 of the Medical Officers are pursuing their P.G. course while some of them are serving as Senior Resident (SR) and only 30 are serving as Medical Officers. He informed that a regular Director of JNIMS would soon be appointed. He also stated that process is underway to clear the liabilities incurred during the covid pandemic at the earliest. On the discontinuation of free clinical

test at RIMS, he clarified that it was related to the MoU signed between NHM, Manipur and RIMS. Regarding the greivances of the Oxygen Plant technicians, he said the department would look into. He clarified that Bishnupur District Hospital is treating 300/400 patients at OPD regularly and is a 50 bedded hospital which is suitable for the medical students for their clinical exposer and added that arrangements are made for regular classes for the medical students at dual campuses using the facilities of JNIMS and other district hospitals without affecting the academic sessions. He also stated that Rota Virus Vaccine provided by the Centre would be available again and added that under CMHT and PMAY lifesaving drugs are made available. He informed that an enquiry committee headed by a Joint Secretary was constituted to look into the matter of supply of sub-standard dental chair at JNIMS. Regarding the matter for enhancing the honorarium and incentives of ASHA Workers, he informed that it would be looked into. He stated that the department is trying its best for improvement of health care infrastructures.

Shri H. Dingo Singh, Minister (in-charge of Labour and Employment) clarified that financial assistance are provided to the labour card holders and mass distribution of labour cards had already been done. He further informed that some Labour cards have been cancelled due to non-payment of renewal fees as per guidelines and added that financial assistance for the back log period would be released after proper verification. Regarding delayed in providing medical benefits and educational assistance benefits to the labourers, he opined that it was delayed because of the verification process. He informed that the proposal by the State Advisory Board to increase the daily minimum wages from Rs 225 to Rs 400 for unskilled labourers, Rs 248 to Rs 440 for semi skilled labourers and from Rs 273 to Rs 480 for skilled labourers has been approved by the State Cabinet. He also mentioned that financial assistance have also been provided to 4888 labourers who have been displaced due to the ongoing conflict.

Shri Khashim Vashum, Minister (in charge of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary) while clarifying the cut motion informed that the state government is taking steps to provide compensation to owners of the 1781 number of pigs culled by the department in 2023 due to outbreak of ASF. Regarding pending dues of dairy farmers, he stated that the government is making efforts to release it after proper screening. He also mentioned that Beneficiary Oriented Scheme which aims to provide necessary animal health care facilities was discontinued. Regarding renovation of Veterinary Dispensary in some areas, he said that the department will look into the matter seriously. He further assured that the government is providing necessary assistance for conserving grazing ground of Manipur Ponies in various areas and also mentioned that registration of Manipur Ponies will be started at the earliest.

Shri Th. Biswajit Singh, Minister (in charge of Environment and Forest) in his clarification informed that the department is trying its best efforts to regulate collection of tax systematically and also to protect forest areas. Most of the encroachers in reserved and protected forest area has been identified and so far 413 encroachers have been evicted, he added. He further informed that the forest department have completed the survey of Langol Reserved Forest, Khema Reserved Forest, Chingkheiching Reserved Forest, Heingang Reserved Forest and Laimaton Reserved Forest. He also mentioned that the State Wetland Authority was set up for conservation of wetlands and water bodies. He also stated that necessary steps are being taken up by the department to monitor illegal mining and quarrying in the state. The department is giving its best efforts to control timber smuggling by systematically monitoring and confiscated timbers will be auctioned by the government following necessary procedures, he said. He informed that various tree plantation programmes have been conducted across various areas under Van Mahotsav, 2024 and appealed for collective efforts to safeguard environment. He further asserted that various activities and awareness programmes have been taken up at village level across the state under Green Mission and CAMPA.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved Demands Nos.11, 13, 14, 18, 19 & 39 for passing.

Demands Nos. 11, 13, 14, 18, 19 & 39 were passed unanimously by the House.

Hon'ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh adjourned the House at 7:14 p.m till 11:00 a.m of 7th August, 2024.

(K. Meghajit Singh)
Secretary,

Manipur Legislative Assembly
