MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

BULLETIN PART-I No. 5

Thursday, the 3rd May, 2007. Vaisakha 13, 1929 (Saka)

The House assembled at 11.00 am of Thursday, the 3rd May, 2007 in the Assembly Hall with the Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh in the Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon'ble Chief Minister, 6 Cabinet Ministers, Chairman (HAC) and 49 Elected Members.

QUESTIONS:

(a) Hon'ble Chief Minister made a reply to Starred Question No. 40 asked by Dr. Usham Deben Singh, MLA regarding the condition of buffalo breeding farm at Wabagai.

(b) Hon'ble Chief Minister made a reply to Starred Question No. 41 asked by Shri N. Mangi Singh, MLA regarding the construction of Kumbi-Saiton road.

(c) Hon'ble Chief Minister made a reply to Starred Question No. 42 asked by Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA regarding the Govt. Aided High Schools, J.B. Schools and Primary Schools in Manipur.

(d) Hon'ble Chief Minister made a reply to Starred Question No. 43 asked by Shri Doukhomang Khongsai, MLA regarding the widening of Imphal-Saikul Road.

Answer to Unstarred Question No. 6 was laid on the Table of the House.

OBITUARY REFERENCE:

The Speaker, Manipur Legislative Assembly moved a resolution on obituary reference on the demise of Shri Th. Navakumar Singh, Member of the Ninth Manipur Legislative Assembly.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister, Shri Radhabinod Koijam, Shri S. Joy Singh, Shri Ph. Parijat Singh, Shri N. Mangi Singh, Shri T. Phungzathang, Shri R.K. Anand, Shri L. Jayantakumar Singh participated in the Obituary Reference.

The following resolution was adopted by the House:-

"That, this House expresses its deep and profound sorrow at the sad demise of Shri Th. Navakumar Singh, Member of the Ninth Manipur Legislative Assembly

And, that the Members of this House observe two minutes' silence by standing up to pray to the Almighty God for the eternal peace of the departed soul."

INTIMATION OF GOVERNOR'S LETTER:

Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh read out a complimentary letter from the Governor.

INTIMATION OF GOVERNOR'S ASSENT TO BILL:

The Secretary, Manipur Legislative Assembly intimated to the House the Governor's Assent to the following Bills.

- (i) The Manipur Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2007, and
- ii) The Manipur Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2007.

PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORT:

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister presented the Second Report of the Business Advisory Committee, 2007 and also moved:

'that this House agrees with the allocation of time proposed by the Committee."

The House agreed.

CALLING ATTENTION:

(i) S/Shri O. Joy Singh and I. Ibohanbi Singh, MLAs called the attention of the Health and Medical Minister on the death of one Smt. Premila Devi of Leimaram Village while in the RIMS Hospital for her delivery case on 24/04/2007.

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA quoting the 22nd April, Poknapham edition said that the death of Smt. Premila Devi had become a sensitive issue and expressed suspicion on the conduct of the RIMS authorities. In this age of medical advancement, the incident might be due to negligence of the doctors, he said. Citing such similar cases, he added that such things would create a bad impression of RIMS, the only prestigious institution in the North-East. He wanted the government to place the enquiry report in the House during the ongoing session.

Shri I. Ibohanbi Singh, MLA co-mover of the motion pointed out negligence on the part of the doctors and failure to furnish the information regarding the condition of the patient timely. He wanted the government to conduct enquiry to avoid such unwanted incidents and give due compensation to the aggrieved family.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister replying to the motion said that precautionary measures would be taken up to avoid such unfortunate incidents. He informed the House that a departmental enquiry committee had been constituted by the RIMS authorities and appropriate action would be taken up if any lapses are found. RIMS being a Central institution, the purview of the government was almost nil, he added.

(Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh adjourned the House at 1.00 p.m. till 2.05 p.m. of the day).

(The afternoon session resumed at 2.10 p.m. with the Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh in the Chair).

DISCUSSION ON GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS:

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA raising a Point of Order under Rules 336(ii) of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business quoted relevant rules and said that the scope of discussion on Governor's Address should be very wide and not confined to a specific issue given in the business list. He wanted the Speaker to give a ruling on this.

Shri N. Mangi, MLA moving the Motion of Thanks to the Governor's Address said that the Governor's Address reflected all the major achievements and projects of the SPF government. He further highlighted the various achievements of the present SPF government and added that the Governor's Address was a comprehensive statement of all these achievements and projects taken up by the government. He thanked the Governor for the Address.

Dr. Kh. Loken Singh, MLA seconder of the Motion said that the address was a comprehensive one reflecting the plans, policies and new initiatives of the government. The address, he said, reflected the better financial management of the SPF Government and added that the address also reflected the major achievements of the SPF government in the field of Health, Education, Infrastructure development of border areas etc.

Shri Radhabinod Koijam, MLA initiating the amendment motion to the Governor's Address said that the address is the policy statement of the government with a review of the past achievements of the government but the Address is very vaguely placed. He said that the address failed to give a specific time frame for the completion of the new initiatives taken up by the government and added that it also failed to specify concrete steps and concrete issues. The address failed to reflect any step to solve the deteriorating law and order condition of the state, he said and added that the address failed to mention any specific interim means to solve the present problem of electricity and shortage of drinking water before the completion of long term projects.

Shri Dr. N. Bijoy Singh, MLA participating in the amendment motion said that the address failed to mention any step to streamline the administration of the government departments. The IMC, he said, failed to the absence of proper administration and also added that the government failed to take up steps to establish the required offices in Imphal East district. He critically commented on the failure of the government to check electricity tax defaulters in the state including government offices. The address, he further said, failed to reflect any clear cut policy for establishing Public and Private Undertakings in the state, the problem of insurgency, Sports and Arts and Culture.

Shri Th. Shyamkumar Singh, MLA participating in the Amendment Motion said that PDS items like Kerosene, Rice, Sugar etc. were not available to the common people and that the address failed to reflect any policy to make these items available to the people.

Dr. Ibohalbi Singh, MLA participating in the amendment motion said that the address failed to reflect any policy to check the rampant corruption prevalent in the state which was a direct result of the administrative failure. The address, he said, failed to reflect any policy for employment generation and for tapping the resources available in the state. He also commented on the lack of any concrete policy to prevent the frequent bandhs, blockades and unwanted extortion on the two National Highways. The address did not mention any step to improve irrigation and agriculture in the state, he further said.

Dr. Khasim Ruivah, MLA participating in the amendment motion pointed out that the Border Area Development Project was not logical as it failed to specify the exact area of operation. He also pointed out certain area of the address which needs to be amended.

Shri R.K. Anand, MLA participating in the motion of thanks to the Governor address said that the address failed to reflect a clear policy for a self sustainable economy. He also pointed out the lack of concrete steps inspite of opening the door for dialogue with the various insurgent outfits. He further stressed the need for reflecting in the address a policy for streamlining the PDS in the state, a permanent policy for sports and arts & culture.

Morung Makunga, MLA participating in the discussion felt the need for paving a way for dialogue to solve the insurgency problem in the state. He felt the need for taking into account the merit and demerits in constructing the Tipaimukh dam, streamlining of the District Council administration, steps for rubber plantation and setting up of modern towns in the state.

Hon'ble Speaker adjourned the House at 4.55 p.m. till 11.00 a.m of Friday, the 4th May, 2007.

T. Joute Secretary, Manipur Legislative Assembly.
