MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

BULLETIN PART-I No. 9

Tuesday, the 8th May, 2007. Vaisakha 18, 1929 (Saka)

The House assembled at 11.00 am of Tuesday, the 8th 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 (Hill Areas Committee) and 49 Elected Members.

QUESTIONS:

- (a) Hon'ble Minister (Art & Culture) made a reply to Starred Question No. 65 asked by Shri Erabot Yumkham, MLA regarding programmes for improvement of Minuthong to Sanjenthong under the Kangla Fort improvement.
- (b) Hon'ble Minister (Tribal Development) made a reply to Starred Question No. 66 asked by Shri W. Morung Makunga, MLA regarding the total population of the state and the number of S.C and S.T.
- (c) Hon'ble Minister (Agriculture) made a reply to Starred Question No. 68 asked by Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA regarding agricultural policy of the state.
- (d) Hon'ble Minister (IFCD) made a reply to Starred Question No. 69 asked by Shri N. Mangi Singh, MLA regarding construction of Khuga Multipurpose Project.
- (e) Hon'ble Chief Minister made a reply to Starred Question No. 67 asked by Shri T. Mangibabu Singh, MLA regarding the compensation of agricultural land affected by Loktak Hydro Electric Project.

Answer to Unstarred Question No. 11 was laid on the Table of the House.

CALLING ATTENTION:

S/Shri O. Joy Singh and Th. Shyamkumar Singh, MLAs called the attention of the Revenue Minister on the allotment of land for construction of bus terminus to private individuals.

Shri Th. Shyamkumar Singh, MLA quoted the April 3rd Huiyen Lanpao and April 30th The Sangai Express publications on the allotment of land meant for construction of Central Bus Terminus to private individuals and said that such practices should be avoided in the interest of the public. He expressed the need to take corrective measures timely, lest all the government land would be occupied by private individuals.

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA co-mover of the motion cited such similar cases and said that it has become a trend. Regarding the allotment of land from the site reserved for the construction of Bus Terminus, it was alloted to 22 individuals by an order issued on 10th July, 1995, he said. He observed that it was violation of the Town and Country Planning Act and inquired whether the recommendation of the allotment committee was taken. He further sought clarifications on another case of allotment of land to one Educated Unemployed Youth Organisation at Lamphel area.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister replying to the motion said the government has been trying to cancel the allotment but was delayed by an interim order of the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court. He asserted that only a Cabinet Sub Committee could make recommendations for allotment of government land. He informed the House that the Planning Commission has earmarked Rs. 10 crores for the bus terminus construction. Regarding the allotment of land to one Educated Unemployed Youth Organisation, he said the Vigilance Department has started the investigation.

(b) Shri R.K. Anand Singh, MLA called the attention of the Transport Minister on the involvement of some 500 acres of land for the upgradation of Tulihal Airport.

Quoting a publication of the Huiyen Lanpao, he expressed the apprehension of the people living in the affinity of the airport. Since the surrounding was a built-up area and agricultural land, many families would be affected in course of upgradation of Tulihal Airport in the International Standard, he said. He inquired the government how the land could be acquired and the measures to be taken for rehabilitation of the displaced persons.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister replying to the motion expressed the need for upgrading the Tulihal Airport to be at par with international standard airports. He informed the House that a spot verification had been conducted by a team of Airport Authorities of India. Considering the heavily built up areas, the expansion was likely to be done on the southern side and eastern side which was mainly agricultural land, he added. He said that appropriate compensation would be given keeping in view the present market rate.

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS:

Chief Minister Shri O. Ibobi Singh moved Demand No. 7 -Police, Demand No. 24 -Vigilance, Demand No. 31 - Fire Protection & Control, Demand No. 32 - Jails, Demand No. 33 -Home Guards and Demand No. 34 -Rehabilitation.

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

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA moving cut motions on Jails said it would serve as a reformatory home for criminals. He made comments on the excesses of the security forces. Regarding modernisation of police, he said there should be accountability and credibility in trying to improve the relation with the people and regain their confidence. Normal crime investigation should be given proper attention inspite of the insurgency problems, he said.

(Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh adjourned the House at 12.55 p.m. till 2.00 p.m. of the day).

(The afternoon session resumed at 2.00 p.m. with the Hon'ble Speaker, Dr. S. Budhichandra Singh in the Chair).

Shri R.K. Anand moving cut motion said that special emphasis need to be laid on improving the police-public relationship apart from upgrading weapons and other gadgets of the police force. He drew the attention of the Chief Minister on the atrocities and excesses committed by the security forces in the state behind the veil of AFSPA and stressed the need for curtailing such unwanted practices. He further drew the attention of the Chief Minister to the failure to implement the para 9 of the resolution by the Government regarding the State Vigilance Commission.

Dr. I. Ibohalbi Singh, MLA moving cut motion stressed the need for expansion and upgradation of the Police Wireless which plays a vital role in maintaining the law and order in the state. He suggested to revamp the NAB and also drew the attention towards the irregularity in the pay structure of the staff of the Manipur Fire Service.

Dr. Ng Bijoy Singh Singh, MLA, mover of cut motion highlighting the deplorable conditions of the Home Guards stressed the need for an effective management to better their efficiency. In addition to the modernisation of weapons, there is the need for development of manpower, equipments for forensic science and infrastructure of the department as a whole, he added. He suggested for monitoring the haul of drugs seized by the Narcotics Cell. He sought clarification regarding the inclusion of rehabilitation in both Demand No. 7 & 34 and also enquired about the number of people rehabilitated and the ways of rehabilitation. He further pointed out the need for vocationalisation of the jail inmates and proper medical facilities.

Shri Morung Makunga, MLA participating in the cut motion opined the need for modernisation of fire service and increasing the number of fire tenders in all the fire stations. Promotion avenues and incentives in respect of the police department need to be looked into for better policing, he said and also suggested for increasing the ration money of police and fire service personnel, uniform allowance for traffic police and home guards personnel. Steps for bettering the recreation facilities in jails is needed, he pointed out. Rehabilitation and relief measures for the displaced villagers of New Somtal need to be looked into, he added.

Shri Erabot Yumkham, MLA participating in the discussion highlighted the hindrance to the various developmental work due to the interference by various insurgent outfits. He observed the need for checking the various unwanted conducts of the police personnel and also suggested for regular health and mental checkups. He drew the attention towards reformation and vocationalisation of the inmates in jails.

Shri Y. Surchandra Singh, MLA taking part in the discussion said that strengthening of manpower and giving proper training to personnel of the police department, improving the intelligence wing, monitoring of police stations and personnel on duty need to be looked into by giving priority over others. He suggested for taking up police-public interaction programme, upgradation of the Pallel out-post to the status of a police station and sophistication of the police wireless.

Shri Th. Shyamkumar Singh, MLA participating in the discussion opined for improving the medical and other facilities in jails and to increase the budget allocation.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister replying to the budget discussion said that police modernisation was given utmost importance by the

present government due to the deteriorating law and order condition of the state. He expressed regret over the non-completion of the ongoing projects like construction of Ima Market, Fly Over Bridge at BT Road, etc. inability to take up works like construction of Cultural Complex at Palace Compound and lack of quality control in most of the ongoing projects due the constant disturbances by the various underground outfits. He further said that the present government had no intention to continue imposition of AFSPA but the present law and order condition necessitated its imposition. Regarding the Police Public Relation, he clarified that the Manipur Human Rights Commission had been acting as a watchdog for any excess committed by the security forces and added that the introduction of Manipur Police Bill and the institution of District Complaint Authority would give relief to the various grievances of the people to a certain extent. He informed the house that remuneration for the Home Guards had been enhanced and added that all the matters regarding promotion in the police department would be looked into. He further informed that the government is adopting the Rehabilitation policy of the Central Government and added that the government is planning to make the policy more attractive to the surrenderee. All the suggestions given by the Members to improve Fire services, police stations etc. were noted down, he said, and appealed to the movers of cut motions to withdraw and allow the demands to pass.

S/Shri Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, Dr. I. Ibohalbi Singh, O. Joy Singh, and R.K. Anand Singh, MLAs sought further clarifications regarding a mechanism to locate the whereabouts of any person caught and picked up by the security forces and urged the Chief Minister to give a clear cut statement on this regard.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister clarified that the introduction of the Police Reform Bill and the institution of State level complaint authority and district level complaint authority would address such grievance to a certain extent.

Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA gave suggestion for appointing a Nodal Officer of the Home Department to be posted round the clock whom the Members or the aggrieved family could contact when a person is arrested anytime of the day.

All the cut motions were withdrawn and Demand Nos. 7, 24, 31, 32, 33 & 34 were passed unanimously.

Hon'ble Speaker adjourned the House at 4.45 p.m. till 11.00 a.m of Wednesday, the 9th May, 2007.

T. Joute
Secretary,
Manipur Legislative Assembly.