

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
SECRETARIAT
BULLETIN PART-I
No. 32

Monday, the 4th March, 2024

The House assembled at 11:00 a.m. of Monday, the 4th March, 2024 in the Assembly Hall with the Hon'ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh in the Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon'ble Chief Minister, 9 Hon'ble Cabinet Ministers, Hon'ble Chairman (Hill Areas Committee) and 36 Elected Members.

QUESTIONS:

- (a) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) made a reply to Starred Question No.213 asked by Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA regarding ex-gratia for the victims of the ethnic violence.
- (b) Hon'ble Minister (Water Resource Department) made a reply to Starred Question No.214 asked by Shri K. Shyam, MLA regarding Central Assistance Funds for flood control and anti-erosion works.
- (c) Hon'ble Minister (MAHUD) made a reply to Starred Question No.215 asked by Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA regarding election of Urban Local Bodies.
- (d) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) made a reply to Starred Question No.216 asked by Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA regarding financial assistance/ex-gratia to civilians and village volunteer injured/died during the ongoing conflict.
- (e) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) made a reply to Starred Question No. 217 asked by Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA regarding economic loss due to ongoing violence.
- (f) Hon'ble Minister (Water Resource Department) made a reply to Starred Question No.218 asked by Shri K. Shyam, MLA regarding repairing works of river bund of Imphal River at Karam Makha Leikai.
- (g) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) made a reply to Starred Question No. 219 asked by Shri Th. Lokeshwar Singh, MLA regarding deployment of security forces in violence hit constituencies.

- (h) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) made a reply to Starred Question No. 221 asked by Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA regarding payment of pending pensionary benefits to the government pensioners.
- (i) Hon'ble Chief Minister (in-charge of Home) made a reply to Starred Question No. 222 asked by Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA regarding weapons used by Kuki militants

Starred Question No. 220 was not asked and answer to Unstarred Question Nos. 61 was laid as written reply on the Table of the House.

ZERO HOUR:

Shri Ram Muivah, MLA raised a matter on the reported apprehension of indefinite shutdown of Imphal-Ukhrul road by Ukhrul based Joint Action Committee (JAC) of Trucks, Wingers and other services due to collection of unauthorized taxes in the name of donation. He therefore urged the concerned authorities to intervene and solve this matter amicably at the earliest.

Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA also raised an issue related with the deplorable condition of Khangabok Bangshibudon to Kha-Khundon road and urged the concerned authorities to improve the said road at the earliest.

Shri Kh. Joykisan Singh, MLA raised a matter on the reported scarcity of potable water in Nagamapal Kangjabi Leirak and urged for solving the matter at the earliest.

Shri S. Premchandra Singh, MLA citing the losses due to the ongoing crisis in the state expressed the need for arrangement of special economic package for the affected families.

Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA raised a matter on the reported irregularity in the release of funds for the cadres of Kuki militant groups under Suspension of Operation (SoO).

Shri K. Ranjit Singh, MLA raised for releasing the 13th month's salary of police personnel at the earliest.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BUSINESS:

Shri N. Biren Singh, Leader of the House announced the Business of the House for the week.

PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORT:

Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts, Manipur Legislative Assembly presented the following reports:

- (i) Fifty-fifth Report on the Excess Over Voted Grants and Charged Appropriations (2018-2019).

- (ii) Fifty-sixth Report on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2019.

CALLING ATTENTION:

(1) Shri Th. Arunkumar called the attention of the Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) on the appeal of the Meetei Tribe Union to waive off loans to the loanees. He also opined that most of the business establishments, entrepreneurs and other services in the state have been badly affected owing to the ongoing crisis. He further stressed the need to waive-off loans of the loanees as a special case.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) replying to the Calling Attention informed that the loanees can avail moratorium by approaching the concerned bank branches within March, 2024 and that the government had issued notification regarding the matter. He further informed that there is no provision under RBI's guidelines to waive off the loans of the loanees but the state government is making serious effort to address this issue by finding ways and means to reduce the hardships faced by the loanees.

(2) Shri Surjakumar Okram, MLA called the attention of the Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) on the deteriorating State economy due to the ongoing violence. He opined that the economy of the state is badly affected. He added that there is price rise on essential commodities due to the ongoing crisis. He further stressed the need to constitute a committee comprising of academician, economist and government officials to find out the detailed sectorial wise loss of economy. He also highlighted the decline in the state's GSDP and GST collections and also enquired about the steps taken up by the government in order to curb the losses. Tourism which is one of the revenue generating sectors has also been badly affected, he further added.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) replying to Calling attention stated that the state government is suffering with revenue losses owing to the ongoing crisis yet managing to cope with the situation and added that the Central Government is providing assistance to improve the state economy. Regarding the constitution of expert committee to find out sectorial wise revenue losses, he informed that the state government would look into it. He said that proper training is provided to the inmates in relief camps to produce quality goods and also aid them in marketing their goods. He also stated that the government has started releasing financial assistance of Rs. 25,000/- as first instalment out of Rs. 1 lakh to be provided to families staying in the relief camps and an amount of Rs. 15 crore has been sanctioned for this. With regards to the illegal collection of money on Ukhrul-Imphal Road, he added that strict action will be enforced to stop it from happening again. On the escalating air fare, he said that a request was made to the Civil Aviation Ministry but as the airfare rate fixation is done by an autonomous body, the matter would be pursued further. He also added that loans under

Scheme for Special Assistance is interest free for 50 years and that it won't be a huge burden for our state.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Hon'ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh made an announcement that Md. Achab Uddin, MLA had applied for leave of absence for the day's sitting.

The House agreed and the leave was granted.

ELECTION OF THE THREE FINANCIAL COMMITTEES:

Hon'ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh announced the election of 7 (seven) Members each to the following three Financial Committees for the year 2024-25:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS:

1. Shri Keisham Meghachandra Singh
2. Shri Losii Dikho
3. Md. Abdul Nasir
4. Shri Khumukcham Joykisan Singh
5. Shri Janghemlung Panmei
6. Shri Surjakumar Okram
7. Shri Sanasam Premchandra Singh

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES:

1. Shri Kangujam Ranjit Singh
2. Shri Thokchom Lokeshwar Singh
3. Shri Thounaojam Shyamkumar
4. Shri Leishiyo Keishing
5. Shri Khongbantabam Ibomcha
6. Shri Ram Muivah
7. Shri Khuraijam Loken Singh

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKING:

1. Shri Usham Deben Singh
2. Md. Achab Uddin
3. Shri Lourebam Rameshwor Meetei
4. Shri Surjakumar Okram
5. Shri Mayanglambam Rameshwar Singh
6. Smt. Irengbam Nalini Devi
7. Shri Thangjam Arunkumar

Hon'ble Speaker Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh adjourned the House at 1:30 p.m. for an hour.

The House resumed at 2:30 p.m. with Hon'ble Speaker Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh in the chair.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER:

Hon'ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh announced that the Bulletin Part-II which contains the list of members elected to the three Financial Committees for the year 2024-25 is made available to the Hon'ble Members.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION:

Shri Th Lokeshwar Singh, MLA raising a short duration discussion highlighted the plight of the internally displaced persons living in relief camps and queried the government on the policies and programmes that will enable them to return to their respective homes. He also pointed out the lack of proper educational facilities for the children who are the future pillars of the society and said that a solution is needed. It was also mentioned that immediate medical requirements are not met, and due to their deplorable living conditions depression, tension, stress are on the rise. Hence, he appealed the government to provide recreational facilities and better living conditions. He also requested the government to instruct the concerned DCs while setting up pre fabricated houses so that it will be set up near their old homes and in a safe area. Raising a query on compensation provided by the government to those that have lost their homes in arson, he asked whether the same will be applied to those whose building materials were also stolen.

Shri K.Ranjit Singh, MLA also taking part in the discussion said that intervention from both the state and central government is the need of the hour. He also added that mental stability and better diet is very much necessary for the displaced people. He added that many have lost their lives due to lack of timely medical attention and queried the government's policies to help those who are in need of medical attention. Highlighting the plight and hardships faced by the inmates of relief camps while performing religious rites during childbirths and death inside the relief camps, he suggested for providing financial assistance for such rites.

Shri M. Rameshwar Singh, MLA participating in the discussion expressed his concern over the ongoing ethnic violence and highlighted some root causes of the crisis such as the unprecedented increase in the number of new villages in Kuki inhabited areas within a short period. He suggested the enactment of 'The Manipur Hill Areas (Acquisition of Chiefs' Rights) Act, 1967' to abolish hereditary Chieftainship.

Shri K. Meghachandra Singh, MLA highlighting the grievances and predicaments being faced by the inmates in the relief camps, made an appeal to work collectively to

restore peace and normalcy in the state soon. He lamented that the internally displaced people need immediate attention in terms of medical assistance and suggested that consolation and healing programmes be taken up to help the inmates. He enquired as to how many people have been affected by the violence and also asked whether damage assessment has been done.

Shri Th. Shanti Singh, MLA participating in the discussion said that a short term and long-term plan would help in rehabilitation of the displaced people and suggested for construction of permanent houses for those people who are rendered homeless due to the ongoing conflict.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) in his clarification appreciated the concerns of the Hon'ble Members over the issues of the ethnic violence and expressed his anguish and pain over the disastrous violence. He informed that altogether there are 320 relief camps and pre-fabricated houses have been constructed. He further stated that arrangements were being made for those inmates staying in the community halls to provide partitioned rooms before the month of May, 2024. He further informed that many inmates have now returned to their native places and some of them have been provided with financial assistance to build houses. He said that there are some issues being faced by the IDPs to shift completely to their respective places due to security reasons. Regarding medical related assistance for the inmates in the relief camps, he informed that utmost efforts are being made to provide financial assistance for the seriously ill and for emergency treatment through a corpus fund of the government and added that an amount of Rs. 10,000/- is provided for cremation of dead inmates under the Manipur Relief and Recovery Fund. He further informed that measures to provide financial assistance and free uniforms to the students staying in the relief camps is in the pipeline and also said that the each and every inmate has been provided with financial assistance of one thousand rupees thrice. He also informed that each family of the relief camps were provided financial assistance of twenty-five thousand rupees on instalment basis along with providing gas and rice cookers. Plans are also being made to identify the areas for constructing temporary houses for the internally displaced people, he informed and added that efforts are on to engage skilled workers staying in the relief camps while taking up government projects. He further informed that the government will take up steps for abolishing hereditary chieftainship. Damage assessment has already been completed and unmanned aerial drone assessment survey for the properties demolished in the violence are being done, he stated. He said that various committees were formed for effective management of the reliefs camps and further informed that initiatives are underway to deport the illegal immigrants as per the rule of law.

CONSIDERATION AND PASSING OF GOVERNMENT BILLS:

(i) Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Land Resources) moved that,

“*The Manipur Names of Places Bill, 2024 (Bill No.4 of 2024)*” be taken into consideration.

Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister stated that names of various places in the state has been renamed in an unauthorised manner thereby distorting the historical records of our ancestral lands. Citing various instances of unauthorised renaming of places including hill ranges, he stated that such renaming of places is one of the main reasons for creating conflicts between communities like the one which is happening now in Manipur, he added. Renaming of places and localities leads to largescale dilution of ancestral names of places and has created confusion in the overall administrative functioning of the state, he informed. As such, this Bill aims to prevent unauthorised naming of places in the state, he mentioned and added that under this Act, a Committee will be constituted to look into the matter of naming of places. Anybody violating the provision under this Act shall be punishable both with jail term and fine, he further informed.

After clause by consideration, the Bill was moved for passing.

The Bill was unanimously passed by the House.

- (ii) Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved that, “*The Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No.7 of 2024)*” be taken into consideration.

After clause by consideration, the Bill was moved for passing.

The Bill was passed by the House.

- (iii) Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister (in-charge of Finance) moved that, “*The Manipur Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No.8 of 2024)*” be taken into consideration.

After clause by consideration, the Bill was moved for passing.

The Bill was passed by the House.

- (iv) Shri Y. Khemchand Singh, Minister (in-charge of MAHUD) moved that, “*The Manipur Municipalities (11th Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No.1 of 2024)*” be taken into consideration.

After clause by consideration, the Bill was moved for passing.

The Bill was passed by the House.

- (v) Shri H. Dingo Singh, Minister (in-charge of Labour & Employment) moved that, “*The Manipur Labour Laws (Exemption from Renewal of Registration and License*

by Establishments) Bill, 2024 (Bill No.6 of 2024) 'be taken into consideration. After clause by consideration, the Bill was moved for passing.

The Bill was passed by the House.

- (vi) Shri Th. Basanta Kumar Singh, Minister (in-charge of Education) moved that, "*The Manipur Prevention of Malpractices in High School Leaving Certificate and Higher Secondary Examinations Bill, 2024 (Bill No.5 of 2024)*" be taken into consideration.

After clause by consideration, the Bill was moved for passing.

The Bill was passed by the House.

Hon'ble Speaker, Shri Th. Satyabrata Singh adjourned the House at 5:09 p.m. till 11:00 a.m. of Tuesday the 5th March, 2024.

(K. Meghajit Singh)

Secretary,

Manipur Legislative Assembly
