

# MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

## BULLETIN PART-I No. 6

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Friday, the 4th May, 2007.  
Vaisakha 14, 1929 (Saka)

*The House assembled at 11.00 am of Friday, the 4th 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 45 Elected Members.

### **QUESTIONS:**

- (a) Hon'ble Minister (IFCD) made a reply to Starred Question No. 44 asked by Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA regarding the adoption of Flood Plain Zoning Act.
- (b) Hon'ble Minister (Tribal Development) made a reply to Starred Question No. 45 asked by Shri W. Morung Makunga, MLA regarding the posting of C.E.O. of Autonomous District Council.
- (c) Hon'ble Minister (Tribal Development) made a reply to Starred Question No. 47 asked by Shri Awangbow Newmai, MLA regarding the schools under District Council.

Answers to Starred Question No. 46 and Unstarred Question No. 7 were laid on the Table of the House.

### **ZERO HOUR:**

Shri Erabot Yumkham, MLA raised matters on the control of the UGs over the FCS Department in issuing of SK oil and the excess of security personnel and asked the government to look into the matter. S/Shri Elangbam Kunjeshwor, Th. Shyamkumar Singh, Morung Makunga, MLAs also raised matters on the irregularities in the FCS Department in issuing of SK oil.

### **CALLING ATTENTION:**

(i) Shri O. Joy Singh and Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLAs called the attention of the Forest & Environment Minister on the apprehension that widespread bamboo flowering in four districts of the State could lead to scarcity of food.

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA quoting a newsreport of the Sangai Express English Edition pointed out the need to take up effective measures to combat bamboo flowering since it would bring about a serious blow to the economy of the state. The effect in the bamboo based economy, would eventually lead to famine or scarcity of essential foodstuffs, he added. He also emphasised the need to check rodent population and set up a State Bamboo Committee to boost rural economy.

Dr. Ng Bijoy Singh, MLA co-mover of the motion suggested that mixed plantation of different varieties of bamboo should be implemented to control bamboo flowering and rodent population. Highlighting the importance of bamboo in the state economy, he wanted the government to take up effective remedial measures to check it.

Shri Th. Devendra Singh, Forest and Environment Minister replying to the motion said that the government is well aware of the problem faced by the people of the four hill districts. He mentioned the various remedial steps taken up to control bamboo flowering effectively. The Bamboo Development Agency would be constituted very soon, he added.

### **DISCUSSION ON GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS:**

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA participating in the discussion said that the address failed to mention effective streamlining and toning up of the administration to maintain democratic functioning efficiently and effectively. Unemployment and unrest among the youth of the State was due to lack of industrialisation, he said. Regarding modernisation of Police, he pointed out the need to create an outlook to gain public confidence.

Shri Nongthombam Biren, MLA supporting the motion of thanks said the Governor's Address was compact and included all the thrust areas precisely. He mentioned some of the major achievements of the government in solving chronic problems. Regarding the boundary problem of Manipur, he said that it could be solved amicably through inter-state negotiation.

Dr. Kh. Ratankumar Singh, MLA supporting the motion of thanks highlighted the overall achievement of the government and said that the Governor's Address was constructive and reasonable. On the issue of territorial integrity of the state, he said that it could not be compromised at all.

Shri Y. Surchandra Singh, MLA supporting the motion of thanks said that the address gave wide coverage on all aspects. He expressed the need to defend the territory of Manipur and discourage issues which might flare up problems. The development of transport and communication was a road towards industrialisation, 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).***

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister, replying to the discussion said that work programmes of PWD would be finalised by the Work Advisory Committee after proper scrutiny. He said that industries had failed due to shortage of power supply in the state and added that more power projects were required to set up to enhance power supply in the state. He said that the Loktak down Stream Project would soon be started within the current month for which MOU was signed with the NHPC through a Joint Venture Board. Expressing concern on the Tipaimukh Dam, he maintained that experts would be consulted on the feasibility of construction of the said dam. He informed the House that the state government was under heavy debt to NHPC in buying electricity and added that underground cables would be installed in four valley districts of Manipur for the first phase to

control unauthorized power connection. He also expressed desire to amend the existing Manipur Electricity Act to promote resource mobilisation. Regarding the Gurgaon estate at Haryana, he informed the House that the area was an institutional area not meant for other purposes but for setting up of performing art institution under the government of Manipur. The works for the development of infrastructure of Imphal East was underway and added that the works would be completed by the current year. He also mentioned, among other things, the privatisation of IMC, uniform distribution of essential commodities, etc. He further informed that winding up of Manipur Spinning Mill and Khansari Sugar Mill were due to lack of economic viability. He also informed the House that the Planning Commission of India had agreed to sanction fund for the preservation of Loktak Lake and wanted the introduction of Forest Preservation Bill. Expressing concern on the insurgency problem in the state, he informed the House that the government was actively considering to initiate political dialogue with the underground organisations of Manipur for bringing lasting peace in the state.

### **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS:**

(i) Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh & Dr. I. Ibohalbi Singh, MLAs moved the following resolution:

*“ this House agrees that there should be no creamy layer i.e. economic ceiling or Rs. 5 lacs per annum should be taken as the creamy layer for the OBC population of the State of Manipur”.*

Dr. Ng. Bijoy Singh, MLA initiating the Private Member's Resolution said that the creamy layer ceiling for OBC was previously fixed at Rs 1 lakh and that it was enhanced up to Rs. 2.5 lakhs by the Government of Manipur on 2nd August, 2004, he said. He informed the House that other states had already implemented creamy layer criteria of their own. But in Manipur no specific creamy layer criteria for OBC had been implemented as mentioned in the State Commission for OBC so far, he added. He said that non-implementation of such creamy layer criteria in the state would deprive the benefit of the OBC in facing the Central competitive examinations. He said that Rs. 5 lakh per annum should be taken as the creamy layer ceiling for the OBC population of the state of Manipur.

Shri I. Ibohalbi, MLA co-mover of the Private Member's Resolution said that due to non implementation of specific creamy layer criteria in the state hindered the benefit of the youths of Manipur in facing the Central Competitive Examinations and expressed intention to enhance the present ceiling of Rs. 2.5 lakh up to Rs. 5 lakh in view of the OBC population of Manipur.

Md. Allauddin Khan, Minister (Minorities and OBC) replying to the discussion said that though there was instruction of the government of India to institute OBC Commission in every states in 1993 no specific creamy layer criteria for OBC in Manipur was finalised so far. A socio economic survey would be undertaken for examining the raising of the ceiling limit.

Hon'ble Speaker also made observation that creamy layer should not be based on the per capita income because states having higher per capita income had lower ceiling of OBC creamy layer.

Shri Ph. Parijat Singh,( Minister Arts & Culture) participating in the discussion observed that the present ceiling of Rs. 2.5 lakh was the right amount. If the ceiling was increased up to Rs. 5 lakh all the benefits would go to the rich rather than the most backward classes in the state.

S/Shri Y. Surchandra Singh and Th. Shyamkumar Singh, MLAs also made observations.

Md. Allauddin Khan, Minister (Minorities and OBC) making further clarifications informed the house that opinion of an expert committee and recommendation of Manipur Commission for OBC would be required to work out the mechanism of fixing the ceiling. He appealed the movers to withdraw the resolution.

*The resolution was withdrawn by the movers.*

(ii) S/Shri O. Joy Singh and R.K. Anand, MLAs moved the following resolution:

*“this House in pursuance of the direction of the Supreme Court of India agrees to establish an Autonomous and Statutory Vigilance Commission in the State of Manipur”.*

Shri O. Joy Singh, MLA moving the Private Member’s Resolution said that though the State Vigilance Commission was constituted in 1981 the statutory status of the commission as envisaged in the resolution of the Commission was still lacking. Therefore, he felt the need for making the State Vigilance Commission a full fledged statutory body to make the Commission to work independently and effectively.

Shri R.K. Anand Singh, MLA co-mover of the resolution said that in order to fight corruption that has risen to an alarming level in the state, the State Vigilance Commission need to be given autonomy and a statutory power.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh, Hon’ble Chief Minister replying to the Private Member’s Resolution said that earlier a draft bill was prepared and placed for discussion before the cabinet to give more power to the State Vigilance Commission but the decision was deferred. He further said that as the government was seriously considering the matter and was planning to place it in the Cabinet for discussion soon, he appealed to the movers to withdraw the resolution.

*The resolution was withdrawn by the movers.*

***Hon’ble Speaker adjourned the House at 5.05 p.m. till 11.00 a.m of Saturday, the 5th May, 2007.***

**T. Joute**  
*Secretary,*  
*Manipur Legislative Assembly.*

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