

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

RE-ASSEMBLED BUDGET SESSION

(BULLETIN)

FRIDAY, THE 3rd JUNE, 2010.

The House met at 11. a.m. with the Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair, and transacted business till. The day was allotted for transaction of Private Member's Business.

1. Questions :

Starred Questions No.27 to No.37 were disposed off till 12 P.M. On Starred Question No.27, Supplementary Questions were raised by Shri James K Sangma, MLA Shri Manas Chaudhuri, MLA Shri Paul Lyngdoh, MLA and Shri E.C. Bamon, MLA. On Starred Question No.28, Supplementary Questions were raised By Shri Manas Chaudhuri, MLA and Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Leader of Opposition. On Starred Question No. 29, there was no Supplementary Question. On Starred Question No.30, Supplementary Question was raised by Shri Marcuise N. Marak, MLA. On Starred Question No.31, Supplementary Questions were raised by Shri James K Sangma, MLA, Shri Paul Lyngdoh, MLA Shri Purno A. Sangma, MLA and Shri E. C. Bamon, MLA. On Starred Question No.32, Supplementary Questions were raised by Shri Manas Chaudhuri, MLA and Shri James K. Sangma, MLA. On Starred Question No.33, Supplementary Question was raised by Shri Timothy D. Shira, MLA. On Starred Question No. 34, Supplementary Questions were raised by Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Leader of Opposition and Shri Purno A. Sangma, MLA. On Starred Question No. 35, there was no Supplementary Questions raised. On Starred Question No. 36, Supplementary Question was raised by Shri Manas Chaudhuri, MLA. On Starred Question No.37, Supplementary Question was raised by Shri Timothy D. Shira, MLA.

After Question Hour, point of Order was raised by Shri James K. Sangma, MLA and said that the Chicken dish served in the Opposition Party room yesterday was from meat that had gone bad. The Hon'ble Speaker said that he has received his complaint and has directed his Secretariat to look into it and take it up with the Caterer. He also said that

the same chicken meat was served in the Ruling Party room and in his room and there was no complaint.

2. Zero Hour Notice:

Zero Hour Notice was moved by Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Leader of Opposition on the news item which appeared in “The Shillong times”, dated 31.5.10, under the caption “Now, Assam captures State’s hospital”, and reply was given by Shri Rowell Lyngdoh, Deputy Chief Minister i/c Health.

Dr. Mukul Sangma, Chief Minister made a statement under Rule 55 of the Rules of Procedure & Conduct of Business with regard to Annual Plan of Meghalaya for the year 2010-2011.

3. Calling Attention Motion:

Shri James K. Sangma, MLA, moved a call attention under Rule 54 (1) of the Rules of Procedure & Conduct of Business to the news item appearing in “Mawphor Today” (English), dt.28.5.10 under the caption “Petrol pump lands MLA in tangle”. The reply was given by Shri Rowell Lyngdoh, Deputy Chief Minister.

Shri James K. Sangma, MLA, said that listing of Questions for the day should be minimum and balanced within the time allotted for Question Hour. The Hon’ble Speaker said that this will be looked into.

4. Resolutions:-

Resolution No. 1 – Shri E. C. Bamon, MLA, moved Resolution No.1 “Whereas ever since the birth of Meghalaya in 1972, the State has been confronted with recurring social and political disquiet arising out of the fact that inter-state boundary with Assam has so far remained physically undetermined. A number of times during the past 38 years there has been avoidable tension between the two States owing to the lack of proper and acceptable boundary demarcation, particularly in Langpih, Khanduli, etc. areas. The recent police firing in Langpih killing four brave hearts of Meghalaya is a case in point.

Whereas, there has been a feeble and sporadic dialogues between the two States which have failed to address the issue to the satisfaction of the people of Meghalaya. As a matter of fact, owing to protracted failure to iron out problems, the situation has tended to go out of hand.

Therefore, the House do now resolve to move the Government of India for its urgent intervention in finding an acceptable and lasting solution to the inter-state boundary problem in accordance with the political history, tribal traditions and Constitutional rights of the Khasis, the Jaintias and the Garos.

Further, this House also resolves to move the Government of India for sanctioning special economic package for the uplift of the Meghalayans residing along the inter-state boundary with Assam and in raising two Battalions of Security Forces for the specific purpose of manning the sensitive areas thereby helps in maintaining fraternal harmony with Assam”.

The Members who participated the Resolutions were Shri E. C. B. Bamon, MLA, Shri Ardent M Basaiawmoit MLA, Shri Paul Lyngdoh, MLA, Dr. P. W. Khongjee, MLA, Shri Conrad K Sangma, Leader of Opposition, Dr. Adviser Pariong, Parliamentary Secretary, Dr. D. D. Lapang, MLA, Shri P. A. Sangma, MLA, Shri James K Sangma, MLA, Shri H. S. Lyngdoh, MLA, Shri J. M. Marak, MLA, and Shri Manas Chaudhuri, MLA,. All the Members expressed concern on the border dispute problem with Assam, the recent incidents in Langpih and asked the Government to be active and take action in resolving the boundary dispute issue, and to take up with the Government of India. The Hon’ble Speaker informed the House that since Resolution No. 1 and 2 are identical, the mover of Resolution No.2, Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Leader of Opposition, has agreed for clubbing Resolution No.2 with 1.

Reply by Dr. Mukul Sangma, Chief Minister:

The Chief Minister appreciated the concern shown by the Hon’ble Members and said that the Government is making sincere efforts to resolve the issue. He asked the political parties to speak in one voice and be united on this issue. It has already become a national issue as even the Nepal Government has also taken up with the Government of India. He said that

the Government is not weak and it has taken all appropriate steps. He suggested all political parties to submit a joint petition to the Government of India. Therefore he asked the mover of the Resolution to withdraw the Resolution.

(The Resolution was not withdrawn was not withdrawn and put to vote. The Resolution was lost).

Resolution No.3 – Shri M. M. Sangma, MLA, moved Resolution No.2 “Whereas, 53 – Chokpot (S.T) L.A. Constituency is one of the most backward and neglected constituencies in the district of South Garo Hills as will as in the State educationally, socially, economically, politically even 36 years of Statehood.

And whereas, the constituency is still deprived of Government facilities, in other words, Government has failed to extend the facilities in road communication, electrification, healthcare, water supply, etc, which are the basic needs of the people of the constituencies.

And whereas, for better development of the constituency in particular and the people of South Garo Hills in general and to bring administration closer to the people creation of civil Sub-division at Chokpot is the need of the hour”.

This House therefore, resolve that, a new civil sub-division be created as “Chokpot Civil Sub-Division” with its headquarter at “Chokpot” which is already a “Block Headquarter” during the financial year 2010 – 2011 including part of areas from old 54 – Kherapara, 37 – Baghmara and 55 – Dalu (S.T.) L. A. constituencies”, Shri Sangma emphasized the necessity for creation of Civil Sub-Division at Chokpot.

Shri P. A. Sangma, MLA also emphasized the need for creation of new Sub-Division and creation of Civil Sub-Division in the State. He said Mizoram there are 8 Districts and 23 Sub-Divisions. Arunachal Pradesh has 16 Districts and 36 Sub-Divisions. Nagaland has 11 Districts and 13 Sub-Divisions. Meghalaya has the highest population that all the States with 23 lakhs, but it has only 7 Districts and 8 Sub- Districts. Therefore, he said that this proposal has to be placed before the 13th Finance Commission. Khliehriat needs to be upgraded and also Chokpot needs a Civil Sub-

Division. Ri-Bhoi also needs one Sub-Division, and also South and North Garo Hills.

Shri T. D. Shira, MLA, also said that the road from Tura to Chokpot is very bad and therefore creation of a Civil Sub-Division is very much necessary reply by Shri H. D.R Lyngdoh, Home Minister.

The Minister replied that the request for creation and setting up of Sub-Division has been engaging the mind of the Government and a Task Force was set up for this purpose. He said the State financial position is weak, and also the Government had submitted proposal to the 13th Finance Commission in this regard.

(The Resolution was withdrawn by the mover on the assurance by the Minister that the request for setting up a Civil Sub-Division at Chokpot will be considered by the Government).

Resolution No.4:- Shri James Sangma, MLA, moved “This House do now resolve to move the Government of India to abolish Assam – Meghalaya joint cadre in the All India Service and create common cadre for North-East States including Sikkim”. The Member suggested for abolishing of the Assam – Meghalaya cadre and referred to the petition from West Khasi Hills organization on the role of the DGP, Meghalaya, who did not go to Langpih after the recent incident and access the situation. The Member also said that the allegiance and loyalty of the DGP to the State of Meghalaya is doubtful because of his long stint and association with the Government of Assam. Therefore, to avoid such conflict of interest and also to provide promotion for the bureaucrats it is feasible to have a common cadre for North-East, including Sikkim.

Shri Ronnie V. Lyngdoh, MLA, said that it is not proper to single out a particular officer and communalize. He said we cannot have only Khasi, Jaintia or Garo Officers. He also said that we should look from a boarder point of view and not to be narrow minded.

Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Leader of Opposition, said that Shri Ronnie V. Lyngdoh, MLA misunderstood the intention of the mover. The issue is not about communalizing but it is about conflict of interest. He said that the mover was saying about joint cadre of all North-East States including Sikkim, and not only for Khasis, Jaintias and Garos. He also said

that even the Officers will be happy as it will also provide them scope for further promotion. Therefore, he suggested that the Chief Minister can take up with other Chief Ministers of the North-East States including Sikkim in this regard.

5. Adjournment:

Since there was no more business to be transacted for the day, the House was adjourned till Friday, June 4, 2010 at 11 a.m.

W. M. Rymbai
Secretary,
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.