

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

BUDGET SESSION, 2012

BULLETIN PART - I

TUESDAY, THE 20th MARCH, 2012

The House met at 10 a.m. with the Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair, and transacted business till 1:45 p.m. The day was allotted for transaction of Government Business.

1. Questions :

Starred Questions No.105 to No.110 were taken up and disposed off. Immediately after Question Hour, Shri. James K. Sangma, MLA raised the issue relating to the assault by a Member of the House against a Press Reporter inside the Assembly premises on 19.3.12. He felt that this is a serious matter, and action needs to be taken against the Member of the House, and also an apology has to be tendered by the Member as it affects the honour and prestige of the House. Shri. Conrad K. Sangma, Leader of Opposition also felt that the Member should tender an apology; he said that the incident has also been given coverage in the National Media and shown in CNN – IB.

Shri. F.S. Cajee, MLA replied that he has the utmost respect for the prestige and dignity of the House. He said that he was provoked when the Press Reporter said to him “You stupid MLA representing Mawlai Savage Constituency”. He further said that he does not mind if he is called stupid MLA, but what really hurt him was when the Reporter insulted the people of his constituency by calling them savage. The Member also said that such incidents will not happen again, and it will be sorted out after the Session.

The Hon'ble Speaker said that since the Member has tendered an apology to the Press fraternity, the matter will now be sorted out outside the House. He also informed the House that the Speaker has no role to play in the FIRs filed by both the parties, and the law will take its own course.

2.	General Discussion on the Budget :
<p>Members who participated on the General discussion on the budget were Shri. H. S, Lyngdoh, MLA, Shri. Manas Chaudhuri, MLA, Shri. Conrad K. Sangma, Leader of Opposition. While participating in the discussion, the Leader of Opposition spoke about the loss of revenue to the State, and also while speaking on Tourism he said that in the Budget Estimates, there is no allocation for Garo Hills while it is completely blank for Khasi and Jaintia Hills. Therefore, he demanded that the Budget should be presented again after correcting the mistakes. Dr. Mukul Sangma, Chief Minister intervened and said that he will reply on this later. The Hon'ble Speaker then told the Leader of Opposition that since the Chief Minister has said that he will reply on this matter later, therefore, the House has to proceed further with the discussion on the Budget. Not satisfied with the clarification from the Chief Minister, the entire Opposition Bench, with the exception of Shri. Manas Chaudhuri, walked out of the House.</p> <p>Other Members who participated were Shri. Ardent M. Basaiawmoit, MLA. While participating, Shri. Basaiawmoit also said that it is time that the super rich people of the State should also start paying tax and not to be totally dependent on the Centre. Then Dr. Adviser Pariong, MLA participated.</p>	
3.	Adjournment :
<p>As there was no more business to be transacted for the day, the House was adjourned till 10 a.m. on Wednesday, the 21st March, 2012.</p>	

H. Myllemngap
Secretary,
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.

No. SP. 10/MLA/BS/12/8.,

Dated Shillong, the 20th March, 2012.

Copy to :

1. All Members, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.
2. Legislation Branch, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.
3. Library Branch, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.

**Andrew Simons,
Additional Secretary
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.**