



Proceedings of the Eighth Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly
assembled after the Second General Election under the
Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution of India

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A.M. on
Wednesday, the 6th April, 1960.

PRESENT

Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA B.L., Deputy Speaker in the Chair
Eight Ministers, Four Deputy Ministers and Fifty-Seven Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Number of Adhiary cases instituted after the enforcement of Adhiars

Protection and Regulation Act in the Dhubri Subdivision

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked :

*112. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the number of Adhiary cases, instituted so far, after the enforcement of Adhiars Protection and Regulation Act in the Dhubri Subdivision ?
- (b) How many Adhiaris have won cases and obtained decree in their favour ?
- (c) How many Adhiaris have executed their decrees and been given possession of the land ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Executing Officers are not co-operating with the Adhiars but on the other hand helping the land owners in the matter ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that many disheartened Adhiars are cultivating the Adhiary land in the then prevailing system giving half of all the crops they grow ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

112. (a)—219.
(b)—Adhiars have won and obtained decree in 89 cases.
(c)—In 56 cases decrees have been executed and Adhiars have been given possession of their land.
(d)—It is not a fact.
(e)—Government are not aware of any such case ?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Sir, in regard to answer to (a), may I know out of the cases instituted, how many were instituted by Adhiars and how many by the landholders ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : 185 cases by Adhiars and 34 by the landlords. I give the number of different Adhi Conciliation Boards :

Name of the Board	Cases instituted by	
	landlord	Adhiar
1. Gauripur	16	103
2. Golakganj	4	4
3. Agomoni	—	3
4. Mankachar	—	5
5. Bilasipara	—	5
6. Chapor Salkocha	4	62
7. Parbatjor-cum-Chapor (now dissolved).	10	3

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) :— চৰকাৰে জানেনে যে বহুত আধিয়াৰে ভৱতে কোনো case institute নকৰে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister Revenue) :— Case institute নকৰিলে কোনো হিচাপ পোৱা নেযায় ।

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) :— With reference to reply (d) may I know who are these Executing Officers? Are these Executing Officers Revenue Officers or Civil Court Officers ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS :— That is done under or. 21 rule 35 of the C. P. Code.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :— With regard to answer (b) it has been said that Adhiars have won and obtained decree in 89 cases. May I know how many cases are still pending

Shri HARESWAR DAS :— Landlords' cases—6 pending.
Adhiars' cases—20 „

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) :— Sir, when there is no certainty of the yield per bigha or per acre, how this is proposed to assess 1/5th of the total produce ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS :— That is a separate question.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER :— This question does not arise at all.

List of roads of North Kamrup Division taken up in the Second
Five-Year Plan

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

*113. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to furnish—

- (a) The list of roads of North Kamrup (Nalbari) Division for being taken up in the Second Five-Year Plan with total mileage thereof ?
- (b) What will be the mileage in the Second Five-Year Plan in North Kamrup Division if worked out Anchalik Panchayat-wise and Assembly constituency-wise ?
- (c) What are the basis on which Roads are taken by the Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) ?
- (d) Why there is great disparity of mileage of roads taken Panchayat-wise or Assembly constituency-wise ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that one of the criteria of roads being taken by Public Works Department is whether a particular area belongs to a Minister's constituency or not ?
- (f) What steps are being taken for equitable allotment of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) Roads Assembly constituency-wise in selection of Roads in the Third Plan period ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department, Road and Buildings] replied :

113. (a)—The list of roads being taken up in North Kamrup Division is given below—

1. Borka-Kamalpur road—Section II
2. Haradatta-Birdatta road—Section II.
3. Sonamati road to Rangia-Dhamdhama road—Section II
4. Kumarikata-Jalah road—Section II
5. Soulmara-Tihu road—Section II.
6. Bojera-Balikuchi (extension of North Gauhati Mandakata road.)
7. Barkhat-Dhamdhama road.
8. Jogra-Mukalmua road.
9. Soniram Mandal road.

Exact mileage is not known as the detailed estimates are still under preparation.

(b)—Roads are not taken up Anchalik Panchayat-wise and Assembly Constituency-wise and as such the information is not available.

But information has, however, been worked out roughly, and given below :—

In Anchalik Pachayat wise—255.05 miles. In Assembly Constituency—wise—255.08 miles.

(c)—Selection of road is generally made as per recommendation of the Subdivisional Development Board (now Mahkuma Parishad) and Assam Road Communication Board.

(d)—Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(e)—No.

(f)—Does not arise, in view of the fact that selection of roads is made, subdivision-wise, according to necessity and as recommended by Mahkuma Parishad, initially and approved by the Assam Road Communication Board, finally.

Regarding a petition from Shri Uma Shankar Missra, a Hindi School teacher of Khairabari tea estate in Mangaldai Subdivision

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery) asked :

*114. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government has received directly as well as through the District Magistrate' Darrang, a petition dated 7th September 1959 from Shri Uma Shankar Missra, a teacher of the Hindi School at Khairabari tea estate in Mangaldai Subdivision complaining against his illegal removal from service of the School and expulsion from the Garden by Shri R. V. Lyngdoh, I.A.S., then Subdivisional Officer, Mangaldai on 5th September 1959 on the ground that Shri Missra wanted to organise Co-operative Society amongst the labourers of the garden ?

(b) If so, what action Government has taken on that representation ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

*114, (a)—No such petition appears to have been received.

(b)—Does not arise.

*Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): —May I know whether the Deputy Minister before furnishing this reply contacted his chief, i.e. the Chief Minister, who is in charge of Education, and whether the Chief Minister, as a Education Minister, had received any such letter, and whether the Principal Private Secretary to Chief Minister, as Education Minister, had received any such letter, and whether the Principal Private Secretary to the Chief Minister replied to the person concerned acknowledging receipt of this ?

*Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Dy. Minister, Education) : I have tried to trace it out in the office but I did not find any information in the office.

*Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):—Did the Dy. Minister made any enquiry from the Chief Minister about this petition ?

*Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : May I submit Sir that I received this petition from the gentleman which I have taken up personally and I have not forwarded it to the department. So the department did not know the position and replied to the questions accordingly.

*Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : The Chief Minister has said that he has taken up personally. Has he been able to settle the matter ?

*Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : No question of settlement Sir. As a matter of fact I sent for the officer who was then S.D.O. in Mangaldoi, and this gentleman. That officer i.e., S.D.O. will be submitting the written report. But from the discussion which I held with them it appeared there was some tension in the tea garden area at that time, and although this gentleman was appointed as a Hindi teacher for the school by those people, subsequently, for reasons best known to them, those people got annoyed with him and did not like him to continue there. In the mean time on receipt of certain report, the S.D.O. Mangaldoi, visited the place and seeing the tension in the garden, he advised him verbally not to be there. So that advice was given with the best of intention. But in any case, I have asked him to submit a written report on the subject, and I shall take the decision in the matter.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Comparison of the value of stipend granted to students of Ayurved College and that of Veterinary College per month

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

282. Will the Medical Minister be pleased to state—
- What is the value of stipend granted to the students of Ayurved College per month ?
 - What is the value of stipend granted to the students of Veterinary College per month ?
 - Whether Government are aware that the value of stipend granted to students of Ayurved College very low.
 - Whether Government will be pleased to increase the value of the stipends of Ayurved College so that the students may get some relief in their training ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

282. (a)—Rs. 20 per mensem.
 (b)—Rs. 50 per mensem.
 (c)—Yes, comparatively it is so.
 (d)—Government have no such proposal at present.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI : Do Government consider that a stipend of Rs. 20 per month is adequate ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : The reply is there. It is admitted that the stipend is comparatively low.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI : My question was whether Government consider an amount of Rs. 20 per month is adequate for a stipendiary to continue his studies at Gauhati ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : I do not know what further reply I can give.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, the Minister has stated that comparatively it is so.

***Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) :** এই স্বত্তি বিলাকৰ বৈষম্যৰ কাৰণ কি ? আয়ুৰ্বেদিক শাস্ত্ৰত যি শিক্ষাকৰে তেওঁলোকে কি নিজৰ যত্ন থাকি কৰে ?

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA :** সকলো স্বত্তি একে নহয়। **General qualification** আদি চাইন্ত এই স্বত্তি ধাৰ্য্য কৰা হয়। এই বিষয়ৰ স্বত্তিৰ টকা যে **adequate** নহয়, সেইটো তদন্ত কৰি বঢ়াই দিয়া উচিত হব বুলি ভাবো যদিও বৰ্ত্তমানে কৰিব পৰা নাই। ভবিষ্যতে বঢ়াই দিব পাৰিনেকি আমি চান।

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla)**: এই আয়ুর্বেদিক কলেজটো আকর্ষণীয় কবিবৰ কাৰণে আৰু যাতে ইয়ালৈ বেচি ছাত্ৰ আহে তাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰী বৃত্তি বেচি কৰিবনে ?

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical)**: Rate of Scholarship নে number of Scholarship ?

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS**: তেওঁলোকৰ ২০ টকীয়া বৃত্তিৰ নিৰিখটো কম হৈছে। আয়ুর্বেদিক চিকিৎসাৰ উন্নতি সাধনৰ উদ্দেশ্যে যাতে বেচি ছাত্ৰই এই কলেজত পঢ়িবলৈ আহে তাৰ চিন্তা চৰকাৰে কৰিবনে ?

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA**: নিৰিখৰ কথা মই আগতে কৈছোৱেই। সংখ্যা হিচাবত এই কথাই কওঁ যে চাৰিটা শ্ৰেণীত প্ৰত্যেকতে সাতোটাকৈ মূঠ ২৮টা বৃত্তি দিয়া হৈছে আৰু বৰ্ত্তমান এই ২৮টাই যথেষ্ট বুলি ভবা হৈছে।

***Shri RAM NATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Caste)]**: মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কৈছে—যে নিৰিখটো বৃদ্ধি কৰিব পৰা নাই—বৰ্ত্তমানৰ অৱস্থাটো চাই। বৰ্ত্তমানৰ অৱস্থাটো নো কি? মই জানিব পাৰোনে।
(বিবাট হৰ্ষধ্বনি)

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA**: এই সম্পৰ্কত আন আন বৃত্তি বিলাকো বিজাই চাব লাগিব। চৰকাৰৰ 'ফিনানচিয়েল' অৱস্থাৰ লগত খাপ খুৱাই—তেওঁলোকৰ General qualification চাই এই Scholarship ধাৰ্য্য কৰা হয়।

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**: সংস্কৃত আৰু আয়ুর্বেদিক শিক্ষা দুয়োটাই বৈশিষ্টপূৰ্ণ বিষয়। ইয়াত ছাত্ৰ সকলে সহজ সৰল জীৱন নিৰ্ব্বাহ কৰি শিক্ষা লাভ কৰিছিল—অৱশ্যে মই আগৰ দিনৰ কথা কৈছো। সেই কাৰণে তেতিয়া তাত খৰচ কম হৈছিল। কিন্তু এতিয়া পৰিবৰ্ত্তনৰ ফলত—তাতো খৰচ বৃদ্ধি হৈছে—সেই কাৰণে ইয়াৰ নিৰিখ বাঢ়িব লাগে। কিন্তু মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীযুত মহীকান্ত দাসে কৈছে যে আয়ুর্বেদিক শিক্ষাৰ প্ৰতি অনুৰাগ বঢ়াবলৈ কি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পাৰি আৰু শিক্ষা লাভ কৰাৰ পিচত উপযুক্ত চৰকাৰী চাকৰীৰ ব্যৱস্থা নথকাৰ কাৰণে এই শিক্ষাত আগ বাঢ়িব পৰা নাই। এই শিক্ষাৰ পৰিপূৰ্ণ সাধনৰ কাৰণেই—ইতিমধ্যে দহজন আয়ুর্বেদিক (ফেজিচিয়ান) চিকিৎসাবিদৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে। এওঁলোকৰ কামৰ ফলাফল চাই ভৱিষ্যতে আৰু সংখ্যা বঢ়োৱা নবঢ়োৱাৰ কথা উঠিব।

***Shri GAURISANKAK BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati)**: যেহেতু আগৰ দিনৰ বাজৰি ও নাই মহৰি ও নাই—তেনেস্থলত, আজি তপোবনত থাকি ছাত্ৰ সকলে দেশ প্ৰেম জন প্ৰেমৰ কাৰণে আয়ুর্বেদিক চিকিৎসা কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰা নাযায় আৰু সেই কাৰণে চৰকাৰে এনে এটা ব্যৱস্থা কৰা দৰ্কাৰ যাব দ্বাবাই শিক্ষা লাভৰ কালছোৱাত ছাত্ৰ সকলে উপযুক্ত জ্বলপানি পায় আৰু শিক্ষা সাংকৰাৰ পিচত উপযুক্ত ভাবে জীৱিকা নিৰ্ব্বাহৰ স্থল পায়।

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA**: সেইটো বিবেচনা কৰা হব।

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)**: আয়ুর্বেদিক আৰু সংস্কৃত শিক্ষাৰ অনুষ্ঠান বিলাক চহৰত নহৈ গাঁৱত পতাৰ ব্যৱস্থা চৰকাৰে কৰিবনে ?

*Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : গাঁৱত বা চহৰত যতে নহওক তাৰ বাতাবৰণ ৰক্ষা কৰিব লাগিব।

*Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : এই কথা চবকাৰে জানেনে যে আয়ুৰ্বেদিক ঔষধালয় বিলাক চহৰতেই বেচি আৰু মোদক, বাসায়ন আৰু মৃত সূধা আদি আয়ুৰ্বেদিক ঔষধ বিলাক চহৰতেই বিক্ৰী হয় ?

*Shri RUPNATH BRAHMAH (Minister Medical) : এই বিলাক চহৰতো বিক্ৰী হয়, গাঁৱতো বিক্ৰী হয়।

*Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East) : এই combined systemৰ চিকিৎসাটোৰ পৰা যে ৰাইজৰ কামত অহা নাই আৰু উপকাৰো হোৱা নাই এই কথা চবকাৰে জানেনে ?

*Shri RUHNATH BRAHMA : সেইটো স্বীকাৰ কৰো।

*Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : এই বিভাগটোৰ কাৰণে চবকাৰে এজন স্নকীয়া ডিবেক্টৰ আৰু স্নকীয়া চেক্ৰেটাৰীৰ পদৰ সৃষ্টি কৰাৰ কথা চিন্তা কৰিছেনে ?

*Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : It is a new question Sir, I want notice.

Rate of charges for Operations and X-rays in Civil Hosp' Is

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

283. Will the Minister in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is fact that Government charges extra fees for operation, X-ray, etc., in Civil Hospitals ?
- (b) If so, what is the rate per Operation and per X-ray ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that some percentage of these charges are taken by the Surgeons in-charge of hospitals ?
- (d) If so, what is the percentage ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware that due to exorbitant charge of Operation and X-ray many poor people cannot afford to undergo these ?
- (f)—Whether Government will be pleased to make the Operation and X-ray free of charge in Civil Hospital in the interest of the public ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : replied :

283. (a)—Yes, operation fees are levied only on well-to-do persons and that for X—Ray on persons of different income groups. Copies of rules in respect of operation and X—Ray fees are placed on the Library Table.

(b)—A copy of the rates prescribed in the rules is placed on the Library Table.

(c)—Yes.

(d)--(i) Percentage of X-Ray fees—the fees levied in the cases of class A and B are divided equally between the Government and the operator and staff.

(ii) Percentage of operation fees :—
 30 per cent to Government.
 60 per cent to the Operator.
 5 per cent to the Anesthetist.
 5 per cent to other Assistants.

(e)—Government have no information

(f)—Not at present.

***Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARRUA (Katonigaon)** : যি বিলাক বোগীৰ অৱস্থা বেয়া, তেওঁলোকক বিনামূল্যে 'এক্স ৰে' কৰিব পৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা চৰকাৰে লবনে ?

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical)** : তৃতীয়া মানুহৰ কাৰণে 'ফ্রি'।

***Dr. SHRIHARI DAS (Barpeta)** : The reply to (b) is "Not at present" may I know when Govt. contemplate making these things free of charges ?

***Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA** : At present we are not considering this of any reduction of rates. We may examine the matter later.

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchella)** : মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে 'এক্স ৰে' সম্বন্ধে যি কথা কৈছে—ভাব পৰা মই এই কথা জানিব পাৰেনে যি সকলো ঠাইতে, য'ত 'এক্স ৰে' প্লেট' আছে, তাৰ 'প্লেট' বিলাক চমকত অৱস্থাত আছে ? নৰ্থ লক্ষীমপুৰৰ 'এক্স ৰে' প্লেটটোৰ অৱস্থা কি জনাবনে ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : That is altogether a different question, but I may inform the hon. Member that in almost all places, X-Ray plants are functioning. I am, of course, not sure whether the North Lakhimpur plant is functioning or not. I shall look into it.

Dr. RAM PROSAD CHOUBEY (Katlicherra) : May I know whether it is a fact that Government charge operation fees in connection with birth control also ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : I require notice for that.

Regarding Provident Fund Account of the teachers of Gauhati School Board

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

284. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Provident Fund Account of the teachers of Gauhati School Board has not been finalised for the last six years or so ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the contribution of the teachers to the Provident fund has not been entered in their respective accounts for these years ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that teachers cannot know the amounts accumulated to their credits as there is no individual Pass Book of their Provident Fund accounts ?
- (d) Why individual Pass Books have been discontinued ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that no interest has been credited to the Provident Fund of the teachers for these years.
- (f) Whether it is a fact that deductions in instalment as stipulated for repayment of a loans advanced from Provident Fund deposit have not been made in many cases ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that amount deducted for repayment of loans taken from Provident Fund accounts deposits have not been credited to the accounts of the depositors in many case ?
- (h) Whether any audit has been made of the Provident Fund accounts of the teachers of Gauhati School Board for the last six years ?
- (i) Whether the Education Minister will be pleased to have the Provident Fund accounts of the teachers of Gauhati School Board audited within current financial year ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that many teachers who are entitled to Provident Fund have not been allowed to open their Provident accounts ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

284. (a)—No.

(b)—No

(c)—No.

(d)—Post office cannot supply sufficient number of Pass Books for opening individual accounts. Moreover, there are difficulties in the transactions. The Post office accepts only 20 Pass Books in every alternate day. To improve over this system the existing Pass Books are continued with their accounts as they were and the Provident Fund money of the new entrants are being deposited regularly in the General Common Pass Book.

(e)—No.

(f)—This is not true generally. There were some such cases where the teachers concerned stopped the recovery with the plea of domestic troubles. Those cases have already been made.

(g)—No.

(h)—Yes.

(i)—Does not arise in view of (h) above.

(j)—No.

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : The reply to (c) is negative. Then what is the source of information of the teachers to know about the position of their Provident Fund ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : There is a Ledger Book and from that Ledger Book the teachers can get the information.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) :** গৌহাটীৰ স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ অধীনত থকা শিক্ষক সকলৰ G. P. Fund ৰ account ৰ বেমেজালিৰ কিয় শেষ হোৱা নাই? কেতিয়া ইয়াৰ শেষ হব?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) :** এই বেমেজালিৰ ওৰ পেলাবলৈ শিক্ষা বিভাগৰ A. D. P. I. ক অনুসন্ধান কৰিবলৈ দিয়া হৈছে।

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI :** যোৱা জানুৱাৰী মাহতেই শিক্ষক সন্মিলনৰ পৰা প্ৰস্তাব লোৱা হৈছে যে G. P. F. account ত যি খেলিমেলি হৈছে সেইটো finalise কৰিব লাগে। এই সম্পৰ্কত মাননীয় উপমন্ত্রীয়ে তদন্ত কৰিবলৈ মোকো লগত লৈ যাবনে?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS :** অনুবিধাটো হৈছে শিক্ষক সকলৰ নিজৰ 'পাচ বুক' নাই সেই কাৰণে হিচাব final কৰিব পৰা নাই। মাননীয় সদস্যই যাব খুজিলে মোৰ নিয়াত আপত্তি নাই।

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI :** এই ফণ্ডৰ পৰা যি বিলাক loan লৈছিল, সেই 'loan' পৰিশোধ কৰাৰ কিস্তি তেওঁলোকৰ নামত পাচ বুকত ভৰোৱা হোৱা নাই—। এই টকা কটলৈ যায় গম নাপায়। এই খেলিমেলিৰ তদন্ত মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে কৰিবনে?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS :** ইয়াত খেলিমেলি যে হৈছে সেইটোৰ তদন্তৰ কাৰণে মাননীয় সদস্যৰ লগত মই যাব পাবো।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : তেওঁলোকক individual pass book দিয়া হৈছে নে?

Shri RADHIKARAM DAS : সেইটো পিচত কৰা হব।

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : পাচবুক স্কুল বোৰ্ডত থাকে নে কত থাকে?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : স্কুল বোৰ্ডত থাকে।

Shri MAHIKANTA DAS : লেজাৰ বুক আৰু পাচ বহীত তেওঁলোকৰ হিচাব চাব পাৰিনে নোৱাৰি?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : চাব পাৰি, তেওঁলোকৰ হিচাব লেজাৰ বুকতে পাব।

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) : Individual Pass book Post officeত separate account নহলেও ledger স্কুল বোৰ্ডে দিব নোৱাৰাৰ কাৰণ কি?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : এমাহৰ পাচ বুক কৰোত ৩১৪ মাহ লাগে, সেই কাৰণে regularise কৰাত কিছু সময় লাগিব।

Number of High English School converted into Higher Secondary and Multipurpose in the year 1959-60

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

285. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) How many High English Schools have been converted into Higher Secondary and Multipurpose in the Year, 1959-60 ?
 (b) What are the Schools that have been so converted in the year 1959-60 ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

185. (a)—11 (eleven) (High School.....7.)
 (Multipurpose.....4.)

(b)—Higher Secondary.

1. Karimganj Government High School.
2. Khasi & Jaintia Presbyterian Girls School.
3. Tezpur Government High School.
4. Naharkatia Aided High School.
5. Moran Bardaba High School.
6. Patharkandi High School.
7. Puthimari High School.

Multipurpose Schools

1. Bam Nityananda High School.
2. Girls High School, Jorhat.
3. Kampur Aided High School.
4. J. R. P. Barnagar High School.

Shri BAIKUNTHNATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : যত টাইবেল ছাত্র আছে তত multipurpose আৰু higher secondary school কৰাৰ নিয়ম কি ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) : সাধাৰণতে subdivision wise লোৱা হয় কিন্তু number of students আৰু recommendation of the Inspector সেই বিলাকও চোৱা হয় ।

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Higher secondary ৭টা আৰু Multipurpose ৪টা আছে বুলি Minister এ কৈছে—কোনটো স্কুলত কিমান ছাত্র ছাত্ৰীৰ সংখ্যা মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কবনে ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : সেইটো তৎক্ষণাত্ কব নোৱাৰো ।

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Caste)] : Whether Patharkandi is still in the list or it has been omitted now ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Patharkandi is still in the list as Higher Secondary school.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : It is in the list ; but whether it is a fact that somehow or other in actual reality 'Patharkandi' has been transformed into 'Palasbari' ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) : Palasbari was taken up last year and Patharkandi has been taken up this year. The building in Palasbari was constructed last year and so this question does not arise

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) : May I know how many schools of this list have been provided with requisite number of trained teachers ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : There are three stages and these schools are now in the first stage. When the buildings are constructed then the question of providing teachers will come.

Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : What are the conditions for converting the high schools into Higher Secondary or Multipurpose schools ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : I have already replied to that question.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Whether Govt. are aware that the completed Multipurpose schools are running without any other technical staff uptill now such as Tezpur ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Except in agriculture and technology, other technical teachers have been appointed.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে কবনে যে ট্রাইবেল এলেকাত এনেকুৱা Higher Secondary school আৰু Multipurpose school লোৱাত কিবা বাধা আছে নেকি ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : বাধা একো নাই আৰু লোৱাও হৈছে।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI : ট্রাইবেল এবিয়াত কিমান স্কুল আছে ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : সেইটো লিষ্ট চালেহে কব পাৰিম।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY : ট্রাইবেল এবিয়াতে স্কুল বিলাক এনেকুৱাকৈ লব পৰাৰ কিবা special ব্যবস্থা আছে নে ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : সকলো বিলাক স্কুল লোৱাৰ ব্যবস্থা আছে আৰু আটাইবোৰ স্কুল Higher Secondary আৰু Multipurpose স্কুল কৰা হবই।

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katarigaon) : কোনো স্কুল Multipurpose বা Higher Secondary কবোতে স্থানীয় ইঞ্চিপেক্টৰ বা Subdivisional Development Board ৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি কৰাৰ ব্যবস্থা আছে নেকি ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : হয় আলোচনা কৰিয়েই কৰা হয়।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : মোৰ প্ৰশ্ন হৈছে যে ট্ৰাইবেল এৰিয়াৰ High school বিলাক convert কৰোতে বিশেষ দৃষ্টি চোৱা হয় নে ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) : কিছুমান ক্ষেত্ৰত কৰা হয় ।

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) : এইটো সচানে যে Higher Secondary আৰু Multipurpose স্কুলবোৰত যেনেকৈ শিক্ষা দিব লাগে তেনেকৈ শিক্ষা দিয়া হোৱা নাই আৰু যন্ত্ৰপাতিবোৰ বাকচতে নামৰে ধৰিছে ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : মই কৈছোয়েই নহয় agriculture আৰু technology ৰ বাহিৰে অন্তৰ্বৰ হৈয়েই গৈছে ।

Construction of the office of Mangaldai Zilla Chah Mazdoor Sangha
Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

286. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Mangaldai Ziila Chah Mazdoor Sangha has applied for a plot of land measuring 1 bigha 1 khata in dag No. 13 of Patta No. 9 of Dakhin Nalbari in Tangla town for the purpose construction of the Sangha office ?
- (b) If so, when the first application was received by Government ?
- (c) Whether the Settlement of the said land was sanctioned and possession thereof was handed over the said Sangha ?
- (d) If not, whether the Minister will be pleased to take speedy action so that the land may be settled at the earliest ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

286. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Secretary, Mangaldai Zilla Chah Mazdoor Sangha applied to Government on 5th November 1959. But he submitted petitions for lands to the local Sub-Deputy Collector, and Subdivisional Officer on 19th September 1955 and 18th December 1955 respectively.

(c)—No. The Sangha applied for land which belonged to the Medical Department and the latter refused to give the land. The Deputy Commissioner, Darrang has now submitted a proposal on 26th March, 1960 in the matter which is under consideration of Government.

(d)—Yes. It is being expedited.

Play Ground for the Jubak Sangha of Namdang Gohain Gaon, Morabazar Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

287. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Jubak Sangha of Namdang Gohain Gaon, Morabazar Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision is praying for a play Ground since 1952 in Telial lot ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Sub-Deputy Collector, Nazira Circle in 1952, reserved plot No. 1906, measuring about 7 bighas 15 lechas for the said purpose ?
- (c) If so, why settlement is not yet given to Jubak Sangha ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that representation to this effect, had been made to the Subdivisional Officer, and the Assistant Settlement Officer on 2nd November, 1959 by the said Sangha?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the plot prayed for and recorded as play-ground in official Khata, is being used for play since 1948?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that two persons of some other village, are encroaching this plot since 1956?
- (g) Whether Government will be pleased to evict the encroachers and give possession of the plot to the players, *i. e.* the Jubak Sangha at the earliest?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Revenue) replied :

287. (a)—Yes.

(b)—In 1959 a plot of land covered by dag No. 1406 was kept reserved for the purpose.

(c)—The land has not yet been settled with the Namdang Gohaingaon Jubak Sangha as there encroachments on the land.

(d)—Yes.

(e) Yes.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Settlement of the land may be made with the Namdang Gohaingaon Jubak Sangha after removal of encroachments. The Subdivisional Officer, Sibsagar is taking steps for early eviction.

Procurement of land from Wilton Grant by the Proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Company

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

288. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Company procured about 300 acres of land from Wilton Grant?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor encroached about 1,800 acres of land of that grant?
- (c) Whether Government propose to evict him from their unauthorised occupation and settle these lands with landless cultivators?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

288. (a)—Yes. The Moderkhat Tea Company purchased 500 acres of land cover by dag Nos. 2 (part), 3, 4, 5, being part of Fee Simple Grant No. 22/157 in 1950 from the Jokai (Assam) Tea Co.

(b)—It is not a fact.

(c)—Does not arise as there is no unauthorised occupation.

**Basis and principles followed in promoting a Sub-Inspector of Police
to the rank of Inspector**

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Mangaldai) asked :

289. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) The basis and principles followed in promoting a Sub-Inspector of Police to the rank of Inspector of Police since 1954 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that some Sub-Inspectors of Police were promoted to the rank of Inspectors without appearing in the Selection Board after Independence ?
- (c) If so, who are they ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

289. (a)—The Inspector General of Police used to appoint a State Police Selection Board consisting of a Deputy Inspector General as President and two senior Superintendents of Police as Members to select Sub-Inspectors for promotion to the rank of Inspector but since 1959 it is being constituted with three Deputy Inspectors General of Police, the seniormost being the President to make selection still better.

Promotion to the rank of Inspector is made by selection on basis of merit-*cum*—seniority and fitness to hold the post.

The Board examines the service record, Confidential Character Rolls, etc., of Sub-Inspectors and also interviews them and then submits its recommendation to the Inspector General of Police. If however, any officers cannot appear before the Board due to sudden illness or any unforeseen circumstances their cases are examined by the Board on the basis of record of their service confidential Character Rolls, etc., and recommendations for promotion or supersession are made by the Board accordingly.

(b)—Yes, before and after Independence, *i.e.*, upto 1948 Sub-Inspectors of Police were promoted to the rank of Inspector without being required to appear in the State Police Selection Board. The practice followed till then was (i) for accelerated promotion, Superintendents of Police of District used to submit names of Sub-Inspectors who are of exceptional merits to the State Police Selection Board specially appointed by the Inspector General of Police consisting of Deputy Inspector General of Police, C.I.D., as President and two Senior Superintendents of Police as Members.

(ii) For normal promotion, the Deputy Inspector General of Police, C. I. D., used to examine and recommend cases of deserving Sub-Inspectors for promotion to the Inspector General of Police.

(iii) In 1948 a Board consisting of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, C. I. D., as President and two senior Superintendents of Police was formed to examine cases of Sub-Inspectors for normal promotion, there being already a Board for selecting officers for accelerated promotion. In those Boards Sub-Inspectors were not required to appear. This procedure was followed upto 1950. From 1951 onwards all Sub-Inspectors are required to appear before the Board in person for a personality test,

(c)—After Independence and till 1950 the following Sub-Inspectors were promoted to the rank of Inspector without being called upon to appear before any Board as these promotions were made on basis of *b (i)*, *b (ii)* and *b (iii)* (1) Monoranjan Das (1948), (2) Mir Amirul Hussain (1948), (3) Biswaranjan Dutta Chaudhury, B. L. (1948), (4) Hari Kanta Mahanta (1948), (5) Nandalal Das (1948), (6) Ram Gopal Mukherjee (1948), (7) Jitendra Nath Deka (1948), (8) Sudhir Kumar Choudhury (1948), (9) Ghana Kanta Laskar (1948), (10) Rajendra Kumar Sen (1948), (11) Amerendra Nath Dutta (1948), (12) Tuleswar Saikia (1948), (13) Jaineswar Barua (1948), (14) Lambodar Saikia (1948), (15) Rowland Bendrowell (1948), (16) Girindra Kumar Bhuyae (1948), (17) Dhaneswar Sarma (1948), (18) Kuti Chand Das (1948), (19) Kanan Chandra Gogoi (1948), (20) Bijoy Chandra Das (1948), (21) Bibhas Kumar Roy Barman (1948), (22) Devendra Nath Choudhury (1948), (23) Anandi Kam Deka (1948), (24) Rosomoy Choudhury (1948), (25) Ramaprasana Nandi (1948), (26) Amrit Chandra Das (1949), (27) Hirendra Nath Das (1949), (28) Narendra Nath Hazarika (1949), (29) Bholanath Barua (1949), (30) Chandra Nath Borgohain (1949), (31) Amrit Chandra Talukdar (1949), (32) Jogesh Chandra Rajkhowa (1949), (33) Rajani Kanta Gohain (1950), (34) Kshirode Chandra Majumdar (1950), (35) Poziruddin Ahmed (1950), (36) Lakheswar Gogoi (1950), (37) Mobarak Ali (1950), (38) Tularam Keot (1950), (39) Tipeswar Hazarika (1950), (40) Jatindra Mohan Dastidar (1950), (41) Kuseswar Chutia (1950), (42) Mofizur Rahman (1950), (43) Gopendralal Bhattacharjee (1950), (44) Dimbadhar Konwar (1950), (45) Churamani Singh (1950), (46) Mohadar Chandra Nath (1950), (47) Radha Krishna Singh (1950), (48) Harendr Kumar Choudhury (1950), (49) Jogeswar Sarma Pathak (1950), (50) Sunil Kumar Choudhury (1959), (51) Kali Prasanna Deb Krori (1950), (52) Upendra Nath Saikia (1950), (53) Mohibur Rahaman Hazarika (1950), (54) Brojendra Mawlong (1950), (55) Sakumar Chandra Chakravarty (1950) (56) Ramesh Chandra Ghose (1950), (57) Dhirendra Nath Saikia (1950), (58) Hamendra Chandra Charkravarty (1950), (59) Sudhir Ranjan Dey (1950), (60) Padma Kumar Bhattacharjee (1950), (61) Pratap Singh (1950), (62) Promode Kumar Das (1950), (63) Dimchan Das (1950), (64) Tarnath Hazarika (1950), (65) Bidhu Ranjan Das Gupta (1950), (69) Anil Kumar Das (1950).

In 1959 the case of one Sub-Inspector *viz.*, Lakhanlal Saha was considered by the Board without calling him for interview on the basis of his record of service and Confidential Character Rolls. He was not called for interview as at the relevant time his resignation petition was under consideration of the Inspector General of Police. Subsequently when his resignation was not accepted the Inspector General of Police directed the State Selection Board to consider his case. The Board went through his record of service and Confidential Character Rolls and found him suitable for promotion. Interview was dispensed with in his case as he was well known to the President and the two members of the Board.

Unemployment problem in Nalbari

Shri PRABHT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

290. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether any Census was taken of the number of unemployed or under employed educated and semi-educated persons, M. E. Standard, Matriculate, I. A., I.Sc., I Com. passed, degree holders village, by village or Mauza by Mauza as in 1959 in Nalbari Circle ?

- (b) If so, what is the number ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that number of educated, semi-educated and others without employment is the highest in Nalbari Circle ?
- (d) What definite measures Government have taken for employment of the large number of unemployed persons of Nalbari by setting up Industries, Trading and Production Centres in the area ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour for Chief Minister) replied :

290. (a)—No. As a matter of fact no Circle-wise Tables for socio-economic enquiry are usually prepared.

(b)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c)—It is rather high in view of the concentration of population.

(d)—No industry has been set up in the Nalbari Area though large Co-operatives are functioning there. The production-cum-training centres established at Barpeta and Gauhati cater to the needs of the unemployed youths of the Kamrup District.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY** (Nalbari-East): Sir, in reply to (d) it is stated that two production-cum training centres have been established, one at Gauhati and the other at Barpeta, to cater the needs of the unemployed youths of the Kamrup District. Does the Minister know that the Gauhati Sub-division is as much big as three other civil sub-divisions of some other districts, and as such it is not possible for the people of Nalbari to get the facilities of the production centre ?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is your question ?

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY** : My question is that in view of the unwieldiness of the Gauhati Sub-division does the Minister think that there should be one more production centre at Gauhati, particularly at Nalbari ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** : As regards requirement my answer is "yes". But when exactly we can establish one centre at Nalbari, I cannot say.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA**, (Gauhati) : In view of answer (c) do the Govt. propose to start a sub-Employment Exchange at Nalbari ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** : If necessary it will be considered.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA** : Whether Govt. consider it necessary in view of answer to (c) ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** : The problem is of finding employment and naturally where employment facilities exist the Employment Exchanges function and where the employment potentiality is not there the Employment Exchanges are doing very little.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :** My question is that so far as people offering for employment are concerned, they are concentrated in the areas in and around Nalbari and so far as the employment facilities are concerned, they are disbursed in different parts of the State. Now, if there be an employment exchange at Nalbari, whether Government consider it feasible and desirable that the people of Nalbari come to get employment there, rather than the people from Bihar, U. P. and other places thronging into this State ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) :** Sir, at present what is happening is this : the people of Nalbari come to Gauhati to seek employment and register their names at the Employment Exchange. Therefore, I say that it is always more advantageous for the unemployed to seek employment where the potentialities of employment exist. We are not unwilling to set up industries at Nalbari in due course.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA :** As the number of unemployed people is very great and they are also very poor, whether the Government propose to start at least a Sub-Employment exchange forthwith at Nalbari ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** It will naturally be considered. We have a programme of extending Employment Exchanges and within this year that proposal is not there. Naturally next year that may be considered.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) :** Does the Gauhati and that on the last occasion a large number of people came to Minister know there was a "golmal" ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** That merely proves what I said earlier. People come to Gauhati to seek jobs.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA :** Whether the Minister is aware that the people had to wait at Gauhati for 3 to 4 days and they had to be disbursed with the help of police ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** That was an extra-ordinary situation in which a large number of people came to Gauhati to seek job and wanted to register their names at the Employment Exchange. But such stampede or rush does not occur usually.

Anti-corruption proceedings drawn against Shri A. K. N. H. Majumder, Deputy Director of Supply, Tezpur

Shri PHANI BORA (Nowgong) asked :

291. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there was an anti-corruption proceeding, drawn against Sri A. K. N. H. Majumder for signing in false accounts of a Fair Price Shop of Mariani in the District Sibsagar when the said Sri Majumder was the Superintendent of Supply at Jorhat ?

(b) If so, what was the outcome of the proceedings ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that the said proceeding was dropped and the said Officer was promoted to the post of the Deputy Director of Supply, Tezpur ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Sri A. K. N. H. Majumder got 3 promotions at a time in the first part of 1959 in spite of some departmental enquiries made against him and his increment was stopped for one year in the last part of 1958 ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

291. (a) & (b)—The Anti-corruption Branch submitted a report which was sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat for his comments. From the comments of the Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat and the report it was found to be a case of Inspection of the Fair Price Shop by Shri Mazumdar being not very thorough and not a case of his signing in a false account of the Fair Price Shop. The matter was therefore dropped.

(c)—Does not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

(d)—In 1959 four posts of Deputy Directors of Supply were created. Government filled these posts by appointing the seniormost eligible officers. Shri Mazumdar had held the post of Controller of Supply but on retrenchment of the post, he was appointed Superintendent of Supply. Shri Mazumdar was one of the four seniormost Officers, eligible for promotion as Deputy Director of Supply and he was accordingly promoted.

Number of Dispensaries opened in Dibrugarh Sub-division during 1957-58 and 1958-59

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) asked :

292. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) How many new dispensariers were opened at Dibrugarh Sub-division during the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (b) Whether Government has lately received any recommendation from the Development Board to open any dispensary in the Lahowal Assembly Constituency ?
- (c) If so, what action has been taken to implement the recommendation ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that public are still experiencing difficulty in getting medicine in that locality ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

292. (a)—1957-58	...	...	...	...	...	2
1958-59	...	...	...	...	...	1

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Yes.

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal): Development বোর্ডৰ সদস্য হিচাপে মই জানো যে লাহোৱাল সমষ্টিত ডাক্তৰখানা দিবৰ কাৰণে বোর্ডে হাবাৰ recommend কৰিছে যদিও এতিয়ালৈকে তাত ডাক্তৰখানা দিয়াৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা কৰা নাই কিয় ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : মই জনা মতে Development বোর্ডৰ পৰা ভেনে recommendation দিয়াৰ কোনো record নাই, তথাপি মই তেখেতক জনাব পাৰো যে Director of Health Services এ recommend কৰা লিষ্টত লাহোৱাল আছিল।

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : Whether the Minister-in-charge will be able to give the names of the 3 dispensaries, 2 opened in the year 1957-58 and 1 in 1958-59 ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Yes Sir, that information is with me.

1957-58—One out centre at Philobari and another out door dispensary in the Dibrugarh Town.

1958-59—One State Dispensary at Sisia Bakulabi.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Out Centre বোৰৰে ডাক্তৰখানা কয় নেকি ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA ; When there was a pressing need in a certain locality, for instance at Philobari where some reclamation work was being done and it was necessary to extend medical facilities to the people there, we thought it desirable to have an out-centre there.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : প্রশ্নটো আছিল নতুন ডাক্তৰখানাৰ বিষয়ে আৰু মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কৈছে ফিলবাৰী out centre ৰ কথা। এই out centre কে ডাক্তৰখানা বুলি ধৰেনেকি ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Out centre টো ডাক্তৰ যায় আৰু ঔষধ-পাতি ৰখা হয়। ১৯৫৯-৬০ চনত ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাত ছটা নতুন ডাক্তৰখানা দিয়া হৈছে—এটা উপৰ খুঁচী ডিহিংকৰ কঠাল কৰিও আৰু আনটো দেউৰী ঘাটত।

Shri MAHADEB DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : ডাক্তৰখানা প্রতিষ্ঠা মহকুমাৰ ভিত্তিত কৰেনে কি ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : যিমান দূৰ পৰা যায় জিলা হিচাপে কৰা হয়। তাৰ লগতে চোৱা হয় exigency and proximity of the existing dispensary to that locality.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS : Out centre বোৰ ডাক্তৰে পৰিদৰ্শন কৰেনে ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : মণ্ডাহত ২।৩ দিনকৈ পৰিদৰ্শন কৰে।

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) : কিমান দূৰৰ ব্যবধানত একোটা ডাক্তৰখানা হব পাৰে ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): সাধাৰণতে ৫ মাইলৰ ভিতৰত ডাক্তৰখানা পাতিবলৈ সিদ্ধান্ত কৰা হৈছে।

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): বড়িয়া সমষ্টিৰ চুহি আৰু বালিসদত আধা মাইলৰ ভিতৰতে দুটা ডাক্তৰখানা আছে। সেইটো চৰকাৰে জানেনে ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : That is a new question.

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal): ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমা এটা নিৰাচি ট্ৰাইবেল অঞ্চল, অথচ ডাক্তৰখানাৰ সংখ্যা ইমান কম। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ কি ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA ; প্রতি বছৰ ডাক্তৰখানা দিয়া হৈছে। যোৰা বছৰ ৮টাৰ ভিতৰত দুটা ডাক্তৰখানা দিয়া হৈছে। ডিব্ৰুগড়ক অৱহেলা কৰাৰ কথা উঠিব নোৱাৰে। আমি পৰ্য্যোমানে দি আছে।

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): মহী মহোদয়ে কৈছে যে ফিলবাৰীত এটা out centre আছে ; কিন্তু সেইটো কেচা ঘৰত খোলা বাবে ঘৰ ভাঙি তাৰ যে অস্তিত্বও বৰ্ত্তমান নাইকীয়া হল। সেই কথা চৰকাৰে জানেনে ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : বৰ্ত্তমান কি অৱস্থাত আছে কব নোৱাৰো। যদি বেয়া হৈছে তেনেহলে ভাল কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা যাব।

Total number of beds in the infectious Hospital at Gauhati
Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS (North Saluara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes))

293. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—
- What is the total number of beds in the existing infectious (Immigrant) Hospital at Gauhati.
 - Whether there is any nurse, ward boy or ward girl or male or female attendant ?
 - If so, how many are there in each category ?
 - If not, why not ?
 - Whether the Minister-in-charge is aware that the Medical Officer and the Civil Surgeon have been repeatedly asking for a male and a female attendant ?
 - Whether Government are aware that nursing staff is necessary for the Infectious Hospital ?
 - Whether Government will be pleased to provide adequate nursing staff there ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

293. (a)—38 (20 general beds for Immigrant labours had 18 for infection diseases).

(b)—There is only one male ward boy.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—The question of increase in the number of attendants is already under active consideration of Government.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Yes.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled castes)]: Is there any difficulty in appointing female attendants immediately?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): We have already replied that the matter will be looked into.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS: Is the Minister-in-charge aware that the whole hospital was full of patients recently?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I have no information, Sir.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS: Why no staff has been appointed in proportion to the number of beds?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I have said in my reply that the matter is under active consideration of the Government.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): What does "early" means? What is the approximate idea of earliness?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: We will try our best to appoint staff there. The time cannot be given.

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): **Attendant** নোহোৱাৰ বাবে **attention** কম হৈছে। সেইবাবে কঙ্গী ধৰাত ৰই থাকিব নেকি?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: মই কৈছো নহয় ward boy আছে।

Shri GAURISHANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): ২৪ ঘণ্টাৰ ভিতৰত কিমান সময়ৰ পৰা কিমান সময়লৈকে ward-boy থাকে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: সেইটো সঠিক কৰ নোৱাৰো।

Shri GAURISHANKAR BHATTACHARYYA; মহিলা কঙ্গী সকলৰ পৰিচৰ্যা কোনে কৰে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Ward-boy is expected to do that.

CHIEF MINISTER STATEMENT *RE* : ASSAULT ON SHRI MAHANANDA BORA, M.L.A. AND OTHERS ON 29TH MARCH 1960

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I promised to make a statement regarding the assault of Sarvashri Mahananda Bora, M.L.A., Uma Kanta Rajkhowa, Chairman, School Board, Chandra Nath Gohain, Publicity Organiser, North Lakhimpur and Subha Ram Baruah, Surveyor, Ghilamara. It has been reported that on the 29th March 1960 at about 10 P.M. while Shri Bora and others were returning from Ghilamara, after attending Panchayat meeting, in Publicity Department Jeep No. ASA.3085 about 40 to 45 Miris armed with daos, lathis, spears, etc., stopped them at Lalpani village of Kadour Mouza, 16 miles away from North Lakhimpur and charged them as child lifters. They the Miris took the party to the village on the plea that they would show them one injured man. When the party reached the village they assaulted them causing injuries to their heads and persons. They also took away the key of the Jeep. The driver of the Jeep somehow escaped and lodged ejarah at North Lakhimpur Police Station which refers to North Lakhimpur P. S. Case No. 13(3)60 u/s 148/149/342/326/379 Indian Penal Code. The Circle Inspector of Police and the Officer-in-charge, North Lakhimpur Police Station accompanied by a contingent of Armed men visited the place of occurrence immediately and investigated the case locally. After due investigation and repeated raids 9 male accused persons and 1 female instigator have been arrested so far. Some accused are still absconding. Several villages and jungles have been combed for them but to no effect. Vigorous Police investigation is proceeding and both Subdivisional Police Officer and Additional Superintendent of Police are personally supervising the whole investigation locally.

All the four injured persons have been admitted in the Civil Hospital, North Lakhimpur and they are improving satisfactorily there.

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) :** What is the cause of this incident? Is the Chief Minister in the know of that?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** I have already stated that these Miri people took the party as child lifters because there is a rumour on that side of the country—of course this is only a rumour and not based on any official information—that for the successful construction of the Brahmaputra Bridge some human sacrifice is necessary, therefore these villagers thought that Shri Bora and others are going there in search of some human beings for the sacrifice. It is superstitious rumour which is prevailing on that side of the State now. But I cannot say exactly until the investigation is completed. This is only the preliminary report that I have received so far in this connection.

(Both Shri Jahannuddin and Shri Hiralal Patwary rose at the same time calling the attention of the Chair on a point of information).

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Order, order. This is only an information which the Chief Minister gave pursuance to his promise earlier and no debate is necessary.

THE MINISTERS STATEMENT *RE*: MASS KILLING IN SOUTH AFRICA

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the attention of the hon. Members has undoubtedly been drawn to the recent tragic incident which took place in South Africa resulting in the death of a large number of African people from police firing in Sharpeville and Langa township near Capetown. I beg to move the following resolution for consideration of the hon. Members in regard to the widespread and deliberate suppression of fundamental human rights in South Africa.

"This House records its profound sorrow and concern at the tragic incidents which occurred in Shapeville and Langa townships near Capetown in South Africa on March 21, 1960 resulting in the death of a large number of African people from police firing. It deplores the deliberate and ruthless suppression of human rights in South Africa and sends its deep sympathy to the Africans who have suffered from this firing and from the policy of racial discrimination and suppression of the African people in their own homeland".

Sir, in moving this resolution before this august Assembly, I wish to bring on record that it is not customary for us here to express or take note of situations prevailing in other countries. The present situation, created by wide-spread repressive measures in South Africa and specially the police firing in Sherpeville and Langa is, so abnormal and tragic that it is bound to touch the feelings of self-respecting people all over the world. A wave of shock has been produced and the leaders of our country have already unequivocally condemned this outrage. There have been expressions of resentment, concern and regret from various countries.

This incident is, however, only one of the tragic ones that have resulted from the spirit of racial matery and authoritarianism and the policy of of racial segregation adopted by the ruling minority in South Africa. It will be recalled that the policy of apartheid has a long and unpleasant history. As far back as 1885, an enactment was made debarring coloured people in parts of South Africa from owing land, walking on Public footpath without permits and in general depriving them of all rights. On behalf of the suppressed peoples, the challenge was taken up by Mahatma Gandhi in 1893 and devoted the early part of his career as a lawyer to the mitigation of the hardships of the people of Indian and African origin in South Africa. It was in fact his antagonism to the spirit of racial superiority and authoritarianism which brought forth his great qualities of leadership and gave birth to the ideas of Ahimsa, Satyagraha, passive resistance and noncooperation. Since those early days the story of the African people has been the story of a continuous and unremitting struggle against the forces of oppression and racial tyranny. When one goes through the description of treatment meted out to the African people in their own home land in Gandhiji's History of Satyagaha in South Africa or in my Experiment with Truth, one wonder how in an age of political and social enlightenment can these barbaric concepts of racial superiority an apartheid be pursued. The deliberate policy of colonisation on non-White peoples in restricted areas by the Natives "Urban Areas Act, discrimination in education by the Bantu Education Act and the latest enforcement of Pass Laws has shocked world conscience.

Sir, the association of people with the people of South Africa goes back by several centuries and we have always had our utmost sympathy and go for their righteous and legitimate aspirations. In this era national resurgence of the peoples of Asia and Africa, it is difficult to visualise that the great African people can be suppressed in their own homeland by a minority which has peratreated racial tyranny and converted South Africa into a priso for a majority of its own people. Racial conflicts however small and localised contain seeds of infinite disaster and are found mentally wrong. They go against our professed beliefs in peace liberty, equality and fraternity among the people and the nation of the world. They go against the basic spirit and principle of the United Nations Charter. They go against human conscience and civilisation.

Yet, sir, this is not an occasion when we should be swayed by emotions. The struggle against forces as are now apperently dominant in South Africa has to be long and unceasing and for this purpose the people of South Africa need our utmost sympathy and goodwill. As our Prime Minister and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha have said, this is an occasion of great sorrow for the whole of humanity and we have to act with dignified restraint and moderation.

With these words, Sir, I commend the resolution to the House, and seek your permission to observe one minute's silence in token of our grief for the loss of lives in this racial conflict.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Any other hon. Member will speak.

***SHRI HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have to accept the Resolution in silence, so we don't want to make any speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I don't think any speech is necessary

(The Resolution was accepted by the House.)

**SHRI DEBESWAR SARMAH'S STATEMENT *RE* : THE CAUSES OF
HIS RESIGNATION FROM THE CABINET UNDER
ASSEMBLY RULE 134**

Shri DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Sarmah will make his statement.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Jorhat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful for the permission given to me to make this brief personal statement under Rule 134 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

The pressing demand from my electorate, Congress Workers and public in general in the press and platform to know the reasons for my having to leave the Cabinet is perfectly understandable. It is my duty to take the Honourable Members of this House and the public into confidence; but I hope and earnestly request that the limitations and discipline to which a party member like myself is subject might also be generously appreciated.

26 SHRI DEBESWAR SARMAH 'S STATEMENT RE : THE [6TH APRIL,
CAUSES OF HIS RESIGNATION FROM THE
CABINET UNDER ASSEMBLY RULE 134

On 26th January last, I wrote a letter to the Chief Minister requesting him to give his consent to my releasing the correspondence between him and me leading to and culminating in, my resignation. Not receiving any reply, I again wired to him on the 23rd February, 1960 as a reminder. On the 24th of February, the Chief Minister wired to me intimating that my letter would be placed before the Party, although this procedure was rather unusual as the Chief Minister is not required to, and in fact does not, take the approval of the party to appoint or drop a Minister from the Cabinet. This was done on the 25th of February and the Party decided that I may draw up my statement and submit it to Chief Minister for approval and may issue when he approves. The condition of approval is abnormal, because Rule 134 of the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules confers upon a member, who has resigned the office of Minister, the right to make a personal statement, and as such unacceptable. I made over copy of my statement to the Chief Minister on March 1, 1960. But the Chief Minister gave the green signal to me the day before yesterday evening that is on the evening of April 4, 1960 to make the statement. Thus there has been some delay in my taking the hon. Members and the public into confidence for which I am helpless.

A Minister's parting company with the Cabinet does not happen without weighty reasons. In this case, I wish to make it clear that the responsibility is not mine. There has been disagreement sometimes between me and some of my colleagues of the Cabinet; at other times my approach to certain vital problems concerning this State is a little different. But I believe, the Chief Minister and myself usually understood our mutual points of view.

Vital considerations about the welfare and integrity of this State used always to weigh on my mind as a Minister and my views on such matters might have caused displeasure to certain members of the Cabinet.

Perhaps it is pardonable to mention that there has not been a whisper even in the camp of my bitter critics about lack of efficiency or integrity on my part.

It may be stated here that those who keep information about politics in Assam know it that there has been effort on the part of a few since over a year to get me ousted from the Cabinet for reasons of their own and feelers were thrown in the local newspapers with this aim from time to time

The result of the last Nowgong bye-election was declared on 30-11-59. On the same afternoon there was a meeting of the Pradesh Congress Executive Committee at the Shillong residence of the Chief Minister, where we received the news.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Assam Congress Parliamentary Party was held at Shillong on the 6th December, 1959. The Congress Parliamentary Party also met on 7-12-59, 8-12-59 and 11-12-59 (The Winter Session of the Legislative Assembly commenced on 7-12-59). In all these meetings, amongst other things, the subject of Congress defeat at the Nowgong bye-election was discussed.

At the Party Meeting held on December 7, 1959, several departments of Government, including Education, Land Revenue, Forest, Excise, were attacked by a few members. Certain vague allegations were also made

against me. In the meeting of the 8th evening assault was concentrated against the Education Department and myself. This development took place after some of the attackers consulted a lawyer-member of the Cabinet, who in good faith said that such vague and wild charges, as were urged, were valueless and could not be brought home against any one. Then the same members, attacking the Education Department and me for the defeat of the Congress candidate at Nowgong, said at the Party Meeting on the 11th evening that they had no confidence in me and I should be removed from the Cabinet.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Pradesh Congress Committee held at Shillong on 9-12-59 a resolution was adopted reading—

(1) In view of the serious allegation that some Congress men helped the Communist candidate in the bye-election in Nowgong, the Committee decided to constitute an Enquiry Committee with the following gentlemen :—

- (i) One member of Working Committee, preferably of the Central Parliamentary Board to be nominated by the President, A.I.C.C..
- (ii) Shri Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati, M.P.
- (iii) Shri Sarat Chandra Singha, General Secretary, A.P.C.C., to enquire into the causes of the defeat of the Congress candidate-in-Nowgong bye-election with special reference to the following matters :
 - (1) What are the causes of the defeat of Congress candidate in the bye-election in Nowgong.
 - (2) Whether any Congressmen helped the Communist candidate in the bye-election.
 - (3) Whether the adverse effect of the election was due to any Government action.
 - (4) Any other cause that may be found by the Committee during the course of enquiry.

The Committee is to submit report on 31st December, 1956.

(2) The Committee will also enquire into the following matters :—

“Whether there are groupings amongst Congressmen in Assam generally and in Nowgong particularly. If so, how, why and when such grouping came about. The Committee will give recommendation as to how to eradicate or to minimise grouping amongst Congressmen and evil effects thereof. If it is necessary the Committee will go into complaints by the Congressmen against Congressmen in the last general election or before, to arrive at a proper conclusion,

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It is the desire of the Committee that the matter involved in (i) be taken up and disposed of first."

Dr. W. S. Barlingay, M.A., Ph. D., Bar-at-law, Member of the Rajya Sabha, was appointed as Member of the Committee by the President, A.I.C.C.

It is important to note here that this 3-men Enquiry Committee began the work of enquiry and recorded some evidence, but has not been enabled to complete its task till *now*.

At this Pradesh Congress Executive Committee Meeting, some members brought certain wild allegation that I got Rs. 5000,-from a well known, Upper Assam industrialist, but for obvious reasons I do not propose to mention the name, and gave the amount to the Communist to fight the last Nowgong bye-election. I addressed a letter to the Chief Minister the same day informing him that the allegation was absolutely false and malicious that I never received any money from any one for the purpose alleged. I also requested the Chief Minister to obtain the services of a suitable officer of some rank of the Central C.I.D. thoroughly investigate into this allegation. I am not aware till now as to what action was taken on my letter.

Before the result was declared, my name had not been mentioned in connection with the Nowgong bye-election at all, except that the President, Nowgong D.C.C., expressed his resentment to me at the A.P.C.C. meeting at Dhubri on 4.11.59 that the supersession of the managing committee of a particular High School was misinterpreted and resented and except that the Chief Minister had a talk with me at Bhubaneswar about the dissolution of the Managing Committee of the High School and one or two other minor things. Although I would still maintain that the suspension of the Managing Committee was a perfectly justified and necessary action in the interest of the Institution and peace in the locality, yet taking over charge by the newly constituted 5-Member Ad-hoc Committee, consisting of the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong as Chairman and Deputy Inspector of Schools, Nowgong as the Secretary, was stayed at the advice of the Chief Minister to avoid criticism. I further requested the Chief Minister that since he was going to Nowgong in connection with the election he would kindly see and do in all matters as he thought best.

Since the Three-men Enquiry Committee is continuing its function and has not completed its work and submitted the report, I feel that it would not be proper for me to go into the details of the allegations which constitute the subject matter of the enquiry. I leave it to the Enquiry Committee to come to their own findings. I was, however, asked by the Chief Minister to resign my ministership even before the verdict. I should in these peculiar circumstances, make it clear that the allegations against me are absolutely false and malicious and made with a sinister design. I never did anything against the Congress Organisation or the congress candidate. Shri Hareswar Das, Minister Revenue, Forest, Excise etc., Shri Williamson Sangma, Minister of T.A.D., Publicity & Information etc. and myself had no occasion to go to Nowgong during the period of election. Officers of the Education Department and teachers are subject to and governed by Government Servants' Conduct Rules and other Departmental rules and instructions. So also are the employees of P.W.D. If any one of them had done anything against the Congress candidate violating the rules, I wonder what prevented the Chief

Minister, Dy. Minister for Education and other Ministers, who were there at Nowgong, working for the Congress candidate for days together at intervals, to warn the erring employees to desist and to set matters right. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that all this fuss is an after-thought.

My humble-self has been in the Congress and is serving the Organisation since 1920 and I had the honour and privilege ever since of being in the front line of all the struggles for freedom. I was President of the APCC, a full-term member of the Working Committee of All-India Congress Committee and Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly. It is absolutely inconceivable for me to go against the Congress Organisation, which I have had the honour of serving devotedly for the last 40 years.

On December 11th, 1959, the Chief Minister wrote to me that in view of the allegations brought against me by some members of the Party, it would be in the fitness of things for me to offer to resign from the Ministry in the interest of the enquiry, adding that he felt that this would enhance my prestige. He delivered this letter to me personally saying that "Do not act in haste, we shall discuss."

We discussed and with mutual understanding I wrote to him on 14.12.59, that I was very much disgusted at the vague, irresponsible and maliciously false charges levelled against me and the Education Department in general in connection with the last bye-election at Nowgong by certain member at the Assembly Party Meeting and also by the same members in the Executive Committee of the Pradesh Congress Committee, and that I had almost decided to resign my Ministership; that, but then I thought that in view of the decision of the Pradesh Congress Executive to institute a Three-men Committee of Enquiry to prove into the causes of the Congress failure at the last bye-election at Nowgong and submit report without delay, any precipitate action on my part would not be in the best interest of the Party now or in future, and also that my resignation would prejudice certain issues in the Enquiry and perhaps cause some misunderstanding in the eyes of the public about myself. That, at the same time, I desired that the Enquiry should be free, just and fair, and that it was not enough to be free, just and fair, but also that all concerned should feel it to be really so and in these considerations, I requested the Chief Minister kindly take over the Education Portfolio to himself till such time as he considered necessary and proper.

Thereafter, everything seemed to be quiet and I thought that the matter was over. But at about 1. p.m. on 25.12.59, I received a letter from Chief Minister saying that he ascertained from the individual members of the Party as to how far my proposal to give up the Education portfolio would meet their wishes, and that he was sorry to inform me that this proposal did not meet their wishes and that they thought that it was a question of confidence and they have made it abundantly clear in their deliberations that they have lost confidence in me and therefore I should not continue as Minister.

The letter concluded with the paragraph—"under the circumstances I have no alternative but to repeat my earlier request to you to resign from the Cabinet. In the meantime I have decided to re-allot the portfolios you have been in charge."

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Subsequently I learnt that some people at Gauhati and Nowgong already got almost verbatim report of the contents of this letter before I had actually received it.

I submitted my resignation on January 16, 1960. In my resignation letter I wrote to him that he knew that the allegations made against me in respect of the Nowgong bye-election were a subject matter of Enquiry and the verdict was yet to come. Even before the distinguished body—the three-men Committee of Enquiry, including Dr. Barlingay, gave their decisions, his stripping me of all my portfolios and asking me to resign, was something like a judgement out of Court. It also helped to set in motion a whisper that I was the culprit and so the Chief Minister was taking action, and that a large number of congressmen, who assembled at Gauhati to meet the Prime Minister expressed surprise that a very unusual course was adopted, which offends against the basic tenets of justice and fairplay. I also cited the instance of a Minister of another State, where serious allegations were made against him and a section of the members of the Bidhan Sabha demanded his resignation or suspension of his portfolios, while the enquiry was pending. But the demand was turned down by the Chief Minister who took his stand that while an enquiry was on, nothing should be done to forestall the issue.

What happened in my case was just the reverse. I had been pre-judged and punished before enquiry.

It is of course reserved for the Chief Minister under the Constitution to drop anyone of his colleagues out of his Cabinet at any time, at his pleasure. But when it was said by him that he desired me to resign to meet the wishes of the Party, I pointed out that it was not a factually correct appraisal of the position. No doubt an insignificant minority in a party of 82 members spoke against me, but if he had taken the sense of the Party as a whole he would have found that an overwhelming majority of members would be against the taking away of all portfolios from me or my resignation, while the enquiry in respect of the allegations was pending. I further asserted in my letters to Chief Minister that silence or non-participation in the wrangling in the Party Meeting could not be construed as acquiescence and that the matter at no stage went to the party for eliciting its opinion or that of the majority of the members.

I also pointed out in my letter that this matter admittedly was more than a question of personal liking or disliking of a Minister by certain Party members. It involved a question of principle and precedent. Cabinet responsibility being joint and indivisible, it would be a dangerous precedent to act on a clamour of mere allegations against a member of the Cabinet and to reward these clamourers with-out proof.

As is known the Chief Minister thought it fit to strip me of all the portfolios and accepted my resignation, while the enquiry by the Three-men Committee was still continuing its work and its findings were pending.

I have reasons to state that the Chief Minister unfortunately yielded to sinister political pressure from certain quarters, in whose way I was considered to be an impediment.

Perhaps it is relevant to recall in this connection the background of my becoming a Minister :

After Lokapriya Bordoloi's death I was requested by Shri Siddhinath Sarma, the then President of the APCC, to join Medhi Cabinet but I thankfully declined. After the last General Election, I was put up as a candidate for the Leadership of the Congress Parliamentary Party in the Legislative Assembly with the support of Shri Bimolaprasad Chaliha, the Chief Minister. I lost to Shri Medhi by just a bare margin. When Shri Medhi was forming his Cabinet, I did not want to be a Minister, but Shri Chaliha pressed hard upon me to accept Ministership in the name of unity amongst congressmen and progress and development of the State. Shri Chaliha was the President of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee at that time and at his insistence I accepted Ministership in the Medhi Cabinet.

Then, Medhi-ji resigned and Shri Chaliha came in as Leader and requested me to join his Cabinet which I did. After some time, Shri F. A. Ahmed joined the Cabinet and Chief Minister took away the portfolio of Finance from me and gave it to him. I then earnestly requested Chief Minister to relieve me of Ministership, but amongst others, he was pleased to persuade me to continue in his Cabinet and to withdraw my resignation. I acceded to the request and the Chief Minister was pleased to issue a Press Note, No. 174, dated May 27, 1958, reading—

"I am happy to announce that Shri Deveswar Sarmah, who sometime back desired to be relieved of his membership of the Council of Ministers of the Govt. of Assam has since reconsidered his decision at the request of the President of All India Congress Committee, the Governor of Assam and myself. We have felt that for the best interest of the State Shri Sarmah should continue in his office. Shri Sarmah Dangaria has demonstrated by his action that the interest of the State ranks higher in his mind than any other consideration. I have no doubt that his present decision will be conducive for the good of our State and will be welcomed by the people in general."

Thus it will be clear that I did not become a Minister of my own seeking

I have always considered myself a soldier of the great Congress Organisation for the last 39 years and rendered my humble services to my people and my country in various capacities at various times. For the rest of my days also, I propose to place my services at the altar of my country to the best of my ability.

Now I leave it to the public to judge.

Broadly speaking, perhaps the circumstances of my resignation are reflective of the progressively deteriorating ethical standard amongst us. In our lust for power we lose sense of what is right and what is wrong, as also our duties and obligations which we owe to our people who voted us to power.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I consider myself to be very unfortunate for having had to request one of the senior members of the Council of Ministers to resign.

More so, because he was no less a person than Shri Debeswar Sarmah for whom I have great respect and regard. Sir, those of us who are in public life have to face allegations accusations and charges occasionally. We face these charges or accusations and explain our position. But when a responsible organisation like the Pradesh Congress Executive Committee or the Parliamentary Party takes serious notice of any allegation and appoints a Committee of Enquiry, the situation really becomes serious. When such a situation develops it becomes our duty to see that the the enquiry is free, just and fair, but also we have to create an impression that it is free just and fair. Such a feeling we must create.

Sir, in the statement made by the Hon'ble member Shri Debeswar Sharma has given his views clearly and he has related certain fact in his statement. Under these circumstances I felt that, in fairness to Shri Sarmah, in fairness to the enquiry and also for a healthy public life, it would be desirable that Shri Sarma resigns. That is the reason for which I requested Shri Sarmah to resign, and certainly all the responsibility for that rests with me.

Sir, I have nothing more to add. But I repeat that no body was more sorry than myself in requesting Shri Sarmah to resign. I, as the Leader of the Party, have certain duties and responsibilities which I have to discharge, hower unpleasant these may be.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION UNDER ASSEMBLY RULE 49
ON ANSWERS ARISING OUT OF STARRED QUESTION
NOS. 25 AND 26 ASKED BY SHRI DEVENDRA NATH
HAZARIKA ON 15th MARH 1960

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhawa) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, my starred question Nos. 25 and 26 asked on 15th March, 1960 regarding location of liquor shops near Kakapathar and Moderkhat High Schools in Dibrugarh subdivision. We had to bring this matter for discussion as on that day we were not satisfied with the replies as we could not get indications about shifting of these liquor shops from sites near the schools.

The Minister in-charge were pleased to reply that it was the policy of the Govt. not to locate liquor shops near the sites of education institutions. In reply to starred questions No. 26 (a) the Minister said in negative, i.e., no liquor shop is situated within a radius of about 300 yards of Kakapathar High School. I myself is the President of that High School and I used to go there very often and have seen the liquor shops in the vicinity of the High School. Even I had to address the members of teaching staff to be cautious so that students do not indulge in drinking. I had to do that based on certain information. Now I do not know whether I should believe the negative reply of the Minister or I should consider what I have seen and done it that report as a dream.

I am glad that the Minister in-charge admitted that Govt. were aware of a resolution adopted in a meeting of the guardians of students of Kakapathar High School held on 30th October, 1959 requesting Govt. to remove the liquor shop from the place near the School. I do not know why enquiry could not be completed during a period of about half a year.

In reply to Starred question No. 25(c) the Minister in charge replied that a liquor shop was shifted from a distant place to a site near the Moderkhat High School which was at a distance of 2½ furlongs in the month of March, 1959. If I correctly remember, in the month of March, 1959 Panitola liquor shop was removed from the site near Panitola High School after discussions made in this House. Although the Minister in-charge replied then that it was the policy of the Govt. not to locate liquor shop near Educational institutions during those discussions and question, this Chengelijan country liquor shop was shifted to a site near Moderkhat High School. Under the same Superintendent of Excise in the same subdivision one liquor shop was shifted from a site near a High school to a distant place, and another liquor shop was shifted from a distant place to a site near a High School in the same month, perhaps on the same date, may we take it Sir, as compensation ?

To justify the shifting of the liquor shop to a site near Moderkhat High School, the Minister said that the Headmaster and local leaders were consulted. May I know the name of the local leaders consulted who agreed to shift the liquor shop near the High School ? May I also know the name of the Headmaster and whether he is still in service there who wanted the liquor shop near the School ? May we also know when certain people will want to contravene certain Govt. policy whether Govt. would agree to it ? Certain people may want to spoil the young generation of a particular locality. Will Govt. encourage that ?

Sir, I am pleased that the Minister of Excise admitted that the Moderkhat Mauza Juvak Sangha adopted a resolution on 20th March, 1959, a few days after, objecting the location of the liquor shop near the School. He also replied to a supplementary that the shifting of the liquor shop from the site near the School will depend on the result of enquiry. I do not know why it took more than a year to make an enquiry ? Whether no Excise official ever visited that area during a year ? May we take it that when any suggestion is made in the interest of young generation or for public welfare "go slow" procedure is adopted in respect of my district, *i.e.*, the District of Lakhimpur. If not, may we know where is the weakness in taking a quick decision on such matters, *i.e.*, about shifting of liquor shop from the sites near schools specially High and Middle Schools ?

With these few words, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister Excise) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not much to add to the reply which I have given already. Government policy is, as far as possible no liquor shop should be located within a radius of at least 2 furlongs from a school or any other public place. This shop is located outside the radius of 2 furlongs of the Moderkhat High School, and as such it does not go against the policy of the Government.

As regards the Kakapathar spirit shop, it is standing at the present site since 1925-26 and the complaints for shifting of the shop have been received only in the latter part of 1959 and it is being enquired into.

As regards the names of the persons consulted by the Deptt., names of the public men whom the Department consulted cannot be given as no record has been kept. But the names of the Head Master and the Chairman

RULE 46 ON ANSWER ARISING OUT OF STARED
QUESTIONS NOS. 25 AND 26 ASKED
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ON 15TH MARCH 1960

of the Local Board, who were consulted by the Deptt., are Shri Narayan Chandra Mohanta and Shri Chana Kanta Morang. From 1960 this Head Master is not in service.

Shri DEVENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : Sir, previously the Minister-in-charge of Excise declared in this House that the policy of the Govt. was that no liquor shop would be situated within a radius of one mile of the schools. Whether this has been modified subsequently to 2 furlongs to accommodate that liquor shop in that area which is situated at a distance 2 furlongs from modarkhat School ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) : The insinuation is quite incorrect and I protest against it. If it was declared one mile, that was a mistake. The rules are printed and I request my hon'ble friend to look to the rules.

ADJOURNMENT

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Thursday, the 7th April, 1960

R. N. BARUA,
Secretary,
Legislative Assembly, Assam.

