

**Proceedings of the Ninth Session of the Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled after the Third 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 3rd March, 1965

PRESENT

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY, B.L., Speaker in the
Chair, eight Ministers, three Ministers of State, one Deputy Minister and
fifty-two Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

**Re: Charge-sheeted Officers in connection with the Dibrugarh Town
Protection Works**

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Sche-
duled Castes)] asked :

*13. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Flood
Control and Irrigation Wing) be pleased to state—

- (a) How many officers were charge-sheeted in connection with
the Dibrugarh Town Protection Works ?
- (b) Whether the cases have been disposed of now ?
- (c) What punishment, if any, has been given to them ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, P. W. D. (Flood
Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied :

13. (a)—6 (Six) officers.
(b)—No.
(c)—Does not arise.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : Sir, who are those
officers involved ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, this question refers to the suspended officers and the suspended officers are six, but officers involved in the case are eleven. The suspended officers are—

1. Shri Syed T.A. Kazi,
2. Shri Syed A. Shah,
3. Shri Arabinda Das,
4. Shri A.K. Barbhuyan,
5. Shri Badan Chandra Sarma,
6. Shri N.M. Bujarbarua.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : Sir, when they were charge-sheeted ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, the Police asked for their suspension in April, 1960. I cannot give the actual date of charge-sheet which could possibly be given by the Home Department on a separate question. The trial commenced on 11th February, 1965.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, according to the Government Servants' Conduct Rules these cases are to be disposed of within six months. May I know from the hon. Minister why so much time had been taken to dispose of the cases ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, this part of the question be better referred to the Home Department.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether this matter was referred to the Home Department ? If so, when ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, so far I am concerned, from time to time I drew the attention of the Home Department.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, may I know from the hon. Chief Minister as to in what stage these cases are lying in the Home Department ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : I cannot give the detailed information ; but the investigation itself took a very long time because many officers were involved in that case. Some went outside the State and to get them to carry on investigation took a long time. The whole case is a very complicated one ; that is why it took a long time for investigation.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Whether this inquiry has been instituted from the State Government side or from the Central Government side ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : The State Government.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, who are the inquiring officers ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : Sir, it was first taken up by the Anti-Corruption Department which investigated the case and later on investigations followed.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : These cases have already taken nearly five years. Can we expect that it will be expedited ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : Sir, the Government cannot expedite it because the matter has gone to the Court. It is now for the Court.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE : What is the date of the last reminder sent to the Home Department ? The Agriculture Minister has stated in the House that he had sent several reminders.

Mr. SPEAKER : Not several reminders, but the Minister has stated that from time to time he drew the attention of the Home Department.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding) : Whether any opportunity had been given to the accused persons to explain their conduct ?

Mr. SPEAKER : They will get ample opportunity to defend their cases in the Court when the matter has already gone to the Court.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : Whether any opportunity was given to them to explain their conduct ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : That I cannot say exactly ; but after the Department was fully satisfied that it was a fit case for prosecution, it was sent for prosecution.

Re: Poultry Farms of the State

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

*14. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state

- (a) The number of poultry farms in the State ?
- (b) The total number of birds ?
- (c) Whether these are running at a loss or profit ?
- (d) What help Government extend to the individual farmer ?
- (e) What steps Government have taken to encourage poultry farming ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

14. (a)—Eleven, including two duck farms.
- (b)—Forty-three thousand.
- (c)—The poultry farms are primarily meant for breeding, research, extension and seed supply and are not commercial units. They are expected to be run on no-profit no-loss basis. In spite of various difficulties and the programme being new, the farms are, by and large, now being run on no-profit no-loss basis.
- (d) & (e)—Birds are distributed through Block agencies. Some birds are also distributed on 50 per cent subsidised rate under the scheme for distribution of Family and Commercial Poultry Units in the urban areas.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : Whether Government give subsidy or grant to an individual for rearing poultry ?

Mr. SPEAKER : He has already replied. The reply is 'Birds are distributed through Block agencies. Some birds are also distributed on 50 per cent subsidised rate under the scheme for distribution of Family and Commercial Poultry Units in the urban areas.'

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH : Where are these farms ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : 1. Poultry Farm at Berubari at Gauhati ; 2. Central Chick Rearing Farm at Khannapara ; 3. District Poultry Farm, Nowgong ; 4. District Poultry Farm, Jorhat ; 5. District Poultry Farm, Dibrugarh ; 6. District Poultry Farm, Tezpur ; 7. District Poultry Farm, Tura ; 8. District Poultry Farm, Bhoi ; 9. Duck Farm, Jaysagar ; 10. Duck Farm, Silcoorie ; 11. Agricultural Farm, Upper Shillong.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : Sir, the hon. Minister has given a list of the Government farms. He has already said that birds are being distributed on subsidised rate. May I know whether during the year 1964-65, persons have been given subsidy and if so, how many ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : I would ask the hon. Member to put a separate question.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara) : Whether medical facilities are available to individual farmers of the State ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Doctors in charge of Veterinary Dispensaries and the Veterinary Field Assistants are expected to provide service to the farmers ; but unfortunately we have got a large number of vacancies. I am running with a shortage of 159 Veterinary Doctors in the State.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North) : Sir, is there any proposal to open such farms in the district of Cachar ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : We have opened a duck farm at Silcoorie. Silcoorie is in the district of Cachar.

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB (Kokrajhar) : Sir, whether any bird is sold for consumption from these farms ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Sir, when the birds become old or un-productive they are sold for table purposes.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA : Sir, whether the Veterinary Surgeons are able to deal with the epidemic diseases amongst the birds ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Then who else will do ?

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, the Minister has stated that these farms are running on no-loss no-profit basis. Are Government taking any schemes to earn revenue from these farms ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, as I have said these are experimental farms; the purpose for which they have been started does not envisage a state of things in which Government can give emphasis on earning profit, but we thank our star that some of our farms have shown some profit. For example, Berubari Farm at Gauhati which had a Budget allotment including capital investment of Rs.1,09,000 in the year 1963-64 had a receipt of Rs.1,29,528.62. There is some profit in this case. Anyway, I do not consider it desirable to run after profits for this farms.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Whether financial assistance has been provided to private farms rearing poultry?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Fifty per cent subsidy is given to deserving cases for birds.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: The Minister stated in his reply that there are 11 farms, may I know whether those are demonstration farms?

Mr. SPEAKER: He said these are experimental farms.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA: May I know from the hon. Minister in view of the present scarcity of doctors in the Veterinary Service what steps Government envisage to take to meet the demand?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: There is a similar question coming up today in which I have narrated the actions taken so far.

Shri MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri): What arrangement is there for farms with poultry to be supplied with feed?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: This is really a serious problem. We have not been able to solve the problem supply of feed to the farms and we are contemplating of making interested private farms for supply of feed failing which Government will have to do something in this respect in the public sector.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: May I know whether the Agriculture Minister got any loan, subsidy or assistance in his own residence at Shillong for rearing of poultry?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, this is a most irresponsible and mischievous allegation. I emphatically deny having any financial assistance, etc., from Government.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: I strongly protest the words uttered by the Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: You should avoid all sorts of insinuation.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: I asked a question whether the Minister has taken any loan or grant or subsidy for rearing of poultry in his residence but he has used unparliamentary words, which I protest.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, the rule of the House is that if such allegation or insinuation is to be made against a "person in authority", the hon. Speaker should be supplied with a statement beforehand which should be sent to the person concerned by the Speaker in advance. I want protection on this Rule. Not only no such thing has been done but this is the second time that this allegation had been repeated after I had denied it, by the same hon. Member.

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education): Sir, we are not only Ministers here but we are also Members of the House and we have every right to refute such allegation. The usual procedure is that such things should be moved through you first.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry that such kind of arguments have been brought here, but at the same time I would ask the hon. Member that in making such a statement he will try to avoid insinuation as far as possible. In this particular case, the hon. Minister has said that it is the second time this allegation has come and that at the first time he denied the allegation, when made. I feel that the hon. Minister should not use caustic words. We should take matters in the spirit of democracy and whatever information is given by the Minister should be in that spirit; this is good for Government, the parties and the House as a whole.

Re: Total number of Surgeon I promoted from Assistant Surgeon II

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: asked

- *15. Will the Minister-in-charge of Health be pleased to state—
 (a) What is the total number of Assistant Surgeon I promoted from the Assistant Surgeon II at present in this State?
 (b) What is the quota of promotion reserved for Medical Licentiates in service?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Health) replied:

15. (a) & (b)—The present number is 18. The number is proposed to be raised to 50 as recommended by the last Pay Committee and accepted by Government.

Re: Allotment of Tribal Development Blocks

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Bokakhat) asked:

- *16. Will the Minister-in-charge of Panchayat and Development, Assam, be pleased to state—
 (a) Whether Government allotted some Tribal Development Blocks in some parts of Assam? If so, which are the places where such blocks were allotted?
 (b) Whether Government received any such proposal from Golaghat Subdivision in this respect?
 (c) Whether it is a fact that the proposed Tribal Development Block consisting of 5 (five) mouzas are inhabited by Tribal and Scheduled Caste population?
 (d) Whether Government will reconsider the said proposal for Golaghat Subdivision?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Community Development and Panchayat) replied:

16. (a)—Yes. A statement is placed on the Table of the House.
 (b)—Yes.
 (c)—Yes.
 (d)—The number of Tribal Development Blocks to be taken up during the Fourth Five Year Plan period has not yet been finalised as complete proposals from all the districts have not yet been received. The number of Tribal Development Blocks to be taken up in the first year of the Fourth Plan will be reported soon to Government of India for approval. The case of Golaghat Subdivision will be duly considered.

Re: Abolition of Rampur Model Ghani Centre

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) asked:

*17. Will the Minister-in-charge of Khadi and Village Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Rampur Model Ghani Centre has since been abolished but the Manager is still there and is getting his pay regularly?
 (b) Whether it is a fact that the said Manager of the Ghani Centre has misappropriated the fund of the Centre?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, T. A. D. replied on behalf of **Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**, Minister, Khadi and Village Industries):

17. (a)—There is no Model Ghani Centre at Rampur.
 (b)—Does not arise.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is one Model Ghani Centre at Rampur?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON: It is a Khadi Production Centre.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Is it a fact that due to misappropriation committed by the Manager, this Centre was abandoned?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : This Khadi Production Centre is functioning?

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding) : Whether it is physically functioning?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : It is functioning physically. The Manager is under suspension and another man has been placed.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: May I know what is the amount misappropriated and thus defaulted by the erstwhile Manager?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : About Rs.9,052.12 Paise or something like that.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : When this misappropriation was detected?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : It was detected in 1956 and a Police case was instituted against him but the case could not stand and he was acquitted. Now, departmental proceedings have been drawn up against him.

Discharge of the Assistant Manager of Gauhati Khadi Bhandar

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) asked :

- *18. (a) Whether it is a fact that the Assistant Manager of Gauhati Khadi Bhandar has been discharged from service ?
 (b) If so, the reason thereof ?
 (c) Whether it is a fact that the person in-charge of the Central Store of Khadi, Gauhati also has been discharged ?
 (d) If so, the reason thereof ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, T. A. D. replied on behalf of Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA, Minister, Khadi and Village Industries):

18. (a)—The Assistant Manager of Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan was discharged from service.

(b)—For misappropriation of the Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board's money.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—For misappropriation of the Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board's money.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : What is the amount misappropriated ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : About Rs.12,803.56 Paise, which was detected on 25th January, 1963.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : What is the stage of the case now ?

Whether it is lying with the Police or the departmental authority ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : I want notice of this question but the person concerned has been discharged.

Re: Unspent money of Assam Khadi Board

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) asked :

- *19. (a) Whether it is a fact that a huge amount of unspent money of the Assam Khadi Board has been kept in the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank, Gauhati on 31st March 1964 ?
 (b) What are the receipts and expenditure for the year 1963-64 against each industry ?
 (c) Whether it is a fact that the employees of the Board are not getting medical facilities though it is provided in the Board's regulation ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, T. A. D. replied on behalf of Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Khadi and Village Industries) :

19. (a)—Yes, to the extent of Rs. 12,29,512.00 (Rupees twelve lakhs twenty-nine thousand, five hundred and twelve).

(b)—A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(c)—A scheme for affording medical facilities to the employees of the Board is under preparation.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Why this money could not be spent, Sir ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : Because the amount was received from the Commission at the fag end of the year.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Then, Sir, are we to understand that the schemes there which have been taken up failed due to non-receipt of the money in time ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : Sir, the schemes were prepared but unless the sanction of the Commission is received they cannot be implemented.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, my question is : as the hon. Minister has stated, if the Government had received the money in time, could not the schemes taken up by the Board have been implemented ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : That is obvious, Sir.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, in what way the Board is going to spend the money ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : Sir, according to the directive of the Commission the amount that is sanctioned during the corresponding year is to be utilised during the same year and on failure to do so the amount is to be surrendered.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : The hon. Minister has stated that a scheme for medical facilities is under preparation ; when it will be fully implemented ?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON : That is still under consideration.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : When we can expect the implementation the same ? Can the Minister give us any specific date, say within six months or so ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : It is very difficult to give a definite date, Sir.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the Table)

Re: Overseas Scholarship for Tea Garden Labour or ex-Tea Garden Labour Students

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked :

7. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—
 - (a) Whether any student from tea garden labour or ex-tea garden labour received any Overseas Scholarship up till now ?
 - (b) If so, the number and names ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education) replied :

7. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : Whether any application was received by the Department for the purpose ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH : Sir, scholarships are given on merit excepting six scholarships of which two for the Hills Tribes, two for the Plains Tribes and two for the Scheduled Castes are kept apart.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE : Sir, my question is whether any applications were received from Tea garden people ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH : Sir, I require notice;

Re: The Out-put of food-cereals and oil crops, etc.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

8. Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) The out-put of food-cereals and oil crops, sugar-canes, potatoes and vegetables, in 1963-1964 ?

(b) The percentage of increase as expected, if any in 1965 as against 1964 ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

8. (a)—The out-turn of cereals, oilseeds, sugar-canes, potatoes and vegetables, in 1963-64 and 1964-65 is furnished below :—

Crops				1963-64	1964-65 (in tons)
1. Cereals	...	...	...	12,35,258	12,95,379
2. Oilseeds	...	...	...	54,988	58,881
3. Sugar-canes (Gur)	..	...	...	1,03,432	1,06,050
4. Potatoes	...	...	...	1,03,561	1,50,022
5. Vegetables	...	...	...	Not available.	

(b)—The percentage of increase in 1964-65 over 1963-64 is as follows :—

Crops	Percentage of increase 1964-65 over 1963-64				
1. Cereals	3.28 per cent.
2. Oilseeds	7.48 per cent.
3. Sugar-cane	2.53 per cent.
4. Potatoes	44.86 per cent.
5. Vegetables	Not available

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: How these figures have been collected, Sir ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Through the Statistics Department, Sir.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: (Lumding): What are the commodities included in the cereals, Sir ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: According to the ordinary English Dictionary they are rice, wheat, maize, millets, etc., Sir.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: May I know, Sir, whether Government have followed the dictionary meaning in this respect ?

Mr. SPEAKER: It is obvious. When the hon. Minister has referred to dictionary, he has followed the meaning of dictionary.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: Sir, the other day the figure for target production for 1964-1965 was given as 200 thousands or something like that and here it is given as 1895 tonnes. Sir, the figure does not tally.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: The production target was fixed for the entire country of which a share was given to us. It is known to the hon. House that the country as a whole had failed to achieve the target.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: Sir, the figure given is in respect of the State and not the whole country.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I do not understand to what the hon. Member is referring. Unless the particular speech or paper is produced I cannot reply. What I am saying is that the country as a whole failed to achieve the agricultural production target and Assam is no exception to it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Are you satisfied ?

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Sir, is it not a fact that the percentage of increase would have been more if Government would have taken timely action ?

Mr. SPEAKER: It is a hypothetical question.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I would only say that there is lot of scope for further improvement in the working of the Agriculture Department.

Re: Requisite qualification for the post of Principal, Engineering Polytechnics (Institutes) of Assam

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

9. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

(a) The minimum educational qualification (General and Engineering) required for the post of Principal in the Engineering Polytechnics (Institutes) of Assam ?

(b) Who is the Principal of P.O.W. Institute of Engineering and Technology, Jorhat and what are his educational qualifications (Engineering and General).

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Principal of P.O.W. Institute of Engineering and Technology, Jorhat had been transferred to some other Institution several times and each time transfer order was published in the Gazette but he is not yet transferred finally ?

(d) If so, why ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education) replied :

9. (a)—At least a second class degree in Engineering with 8 years experience of which 4 years should be in Engineering profession according to the standard laid down by A.I.C.T.E. No general qualifications for the post have been prescribed.

(b)—Shri R.K. Sharma is the Principal. His qualifications are—
General—Read upto I.A. Standard.

Engineering—He holds a Diploma in Engineering and passed A.M.I.E. (both part "A" and "B") which is equivalent to a Degree in Engineering.

(c)—Yes, to Nowgong Polytechnic.

(d)—Shri Sharma represented twice to Government to allow him to continue there for sometime due to illness in the family.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Sir, since the Principal was twice transferred only on Gazette and there was no actual transfer, will the Government transfer him finally if in the mean time his family comes round ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH: Sir, if the grounds for cancelling his transfer are still there, I am afraid, he will not be transferred.

Re : Lecturers in P.O.W. Institute, Jorhat

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

10. Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some Lecturers were employed in P.O.W. Institute, Jorhat on contract basis during the last few years ?
- (b) If so, who are they and what are the terms and conditions of the contract ?
- (c)—Whether it is a fact that some such Lecturers such as (1) (Prof.) Shri G. Gopalakrishnan, (2) (Prof.) Shri H.V.I. Sundaram, (3) (Prof.) Shri A. Aryaswami and others left the Institute before the expiry of the contract ?
- (d) If so, reason thereof ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education) replied :

- (a)—No.
- (b)—Does not arise.
- (c)—No. Shri H.V.I. Sundaram is a Lecturer in P.O.W. Institute, Jorhat appointed in the regular cadre through the Assam Public Service Commission. He is undergoing higher training in Calcutta. Shri G. Gopalakrishnan was appointed under Regulation 3(f) and has been transferred to Assam Engineering College, Gauhati. There is no such person in P.O.W. Institute, Jorhat as Shri Aryaswami but there is one Shri R. Ayyaswami, Lecturer. He has been later appointed through Assam Public Service Commission at Jorhat Engineering College, Jorhat.
- (d)—Does not arise.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Sir, my information is that some professors have been hired and appointed on contract basis. May I know if these have been appointed on contract basis ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH : That question does not arise, Sir. The answer is given there.

Re : Post of Veterinary Surgeons

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH (Sonai) asked :

11. Will the Minister, Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) How many posts of Veterinary Surgeons are lying vacant in the State of Assam ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that a good number of Veterinary Surgeons are going to be recruited permanently against these vacancies from Andhra State ?
- (c) How many Veterinary Surgeons more will be required to meet the target of 3rd Five Year Plan and also to meet the target of 4th Five Year Plan ?

- (d) How many students are going to appear in the next final examinations, both Diploma and Degree Course for Assam Veterinary College ?
- (e) Whether these students can be provisionally posted against these vacancies soon after their examination is over as is done in some other States and also in our State P. W. D. where Overseers and Engineers are appointed in Junior grades soon after their examinations are over.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

11. (a)—159.

(b)—No. Government have advertised to fill up some of these posts permanently and some on deputation from outside the State. But no application has yet been received.

(c)—About 144 Veterinary Surgeons are required to meet the target of 3rd Five Year Plan and about 400 Veterinary Surgeons for the 4th Five Year Plan.

(d)—68.

(e)—No. The vacancies can be filled up as soon as their result is declared by the University of Gauhati.

Re: Maternity Ward in Borgaon State Dispensary

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Borchella) asked :

12. Will the Minister, Health be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there has been persistent demand from the public for a Maternity Centre, in Borgaon State Dispensary ?

(b) When do the Government propose to establish a Maternity Ward there ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE, (Minister, Health) replied :

12. (a)—No representation or demand has been received by Government.

(b)—When a proposal is received the case will be considered along with those of others, subject to availability of funds.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: Are Government aware that about a month back a resolution adopted in a public meeting demanding a midwife in the State dispensary was sent to the Government, Sir ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Health): Sir, it has not yet reached the Secretariat. This morning I have discussed with the Director of Health Services and the Secretary, Health, Sir, none of them has also received it. It may be still in the District level.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: Sir, is it not the policy of Government to provide the dispensaries with midwives?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, during the question hour policy matters should not be discussed. However I may inform that it is the intention of the Government to give as much facilities as possible to one and all but this depends on the availability of funds and personnel.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Sir, may I draw your attention to Question 12 (b)? When do the Government propose to establish a maternity ward there? Sir, the answer to it depends on so many factors. It is said that the proposal when received will be considered along with those of others, subject to availability of funds. Sir, this is no reply.

Obituary Reference

Obituary Reference on the death of Shri Chandra Singh Teron, Chairman, Mikir Hills District Council

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very sorry to inform this august House about the sad demise of Shri Chandra Singh Teron, the Chairman of the Mikir Hills District Council. He was also the Chief Executive Member of the Mikir Hills Council in the previous term. He was not keeping well for some time and, therefore, he was undergoing treatment in the Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh for some months. We heard with great regret that he passed away last night. Shri Teron was a very enterprising young man who took up the cause of upliftment of the people of Mikir Hills with sincerity, and for that purpose his contribution in setting right the affairs of the Mikir Hills Council and setting up proper organisation in the District Council in all these his contribution was very great. We are sorry to lose him so early. We expected something more from him, but Almighty's will is otherwise. Sir, on behalf of myself and everybody in this side of the House, I convey a deep sense of sorrow at the demise of the gentleman and pray to Almighty for the peace of his soul.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully associate myself with the feeling expressed by the Leader of the House on the sudden and sad demise of Shri Chandra Singh Teron. Shri Chandra Singh Teron was the Chairman of the District Council of the Mikir Hills District. I, on my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members on this side of the House, pay our respectful homage to the departed soul and express our deep sympathy towards his bereaved family.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully associate myself with the feeling of the Leader of the House. Shri Chandra Singh Teron was a good social worker and to a great extent he could win the heart of the people. I pay homage to his departed soul.

Mr. SPEAKER: I fully appreciate the feelings expressed by the Leader of the House and other Members of this House. Shri Chandra Singh Teron was very young and had a great future before him. While he was preparing for higher responsibility the destiny meant otherwise and he had been taken away from our midst. In him we lost a social worker, an enterprising politician and specially the Mikir Hills people have become poorer in his death. We send our heartfelt condolence to his bereaved family and pray to God Almighty for the eternal peace of the soul.

With these words, I request the House to stand up in silence for one minute.

(The House stood up in silence for one minute).

Adjournment Motion the on situation arising out of the observance of No Work Day by the Assam Secretariat Services Association on the 3rd March, 1965

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, I have received notice of an Adjournment Motion from the hon. Members Shri Rothindra Nath Sen, Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee, Shri Dulal Chandra Barua, Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta, Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah, Shri Ramprit Rudrapaul and Shri Hoover Hynniewta.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Adjournment Motion is regarding No Work Day observed by the Secretariat Services' Association. While observing this demand day to-day they have also taken a decision to continue it till their grievances are fulfilled. Sir, all the works of the administration are managed by this Secretariat establishment and due to their observance of No Work Day there will be dislocation of administration and it will surely affect the administrative machinery, particularly during the time when the Budget Session is going on. Therefore, Sir, it fulfils the conditions laid down in Rule 56 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Assam Legislative Assembly. Again, Sir, we did not discuss this matter earlier and we will get no occasion to discuss it in future also. We never anticipated it before. Sir, they are abstaining from doing any work only from to-day. Therefore, it is a matter of recent occurrence and is a very serious and definite matter of public importance as it seriously affects the administrative machinery. Therefore, it should be allowed for discussion so that the House can come to a conclusion and normal administration can run smoothly.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALIA HMED (Minisier, Law):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think this is a matter which can be discussed in a Motion of this nature for the simple reason that this is not the first time that such things have taken place. This kind of action was previously taken by the Government employees before also and it is a matter of continuous nature. Sir, this matter was discussed at this House at length

during the last Session when the recommendations made by the Pay Committee were fully considered and views of the Members were heard and Government after hearing these views made certain modifications giving increase of pay to a number of categories of Government employees with large number of concessions. Since then it has become a never ending affair. Every time a concession is given, they come forward asking for more concessions. Sir, when considering this we have to consider the interest of the large section of people also. We should not allow something which encourages Government employees to take such kind of thing which will hamper the work of the Government. Therefore, I submit that this is not a matter which can be discussed by an Adjournment Motion. As it is observed by the Government employees, there is a breach of discipline also. So I request the hon. Members not to give much support to this kind of thing which is not of public interest.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have heard Shri Barua and the Law Minister in connection with this Motion. I fully agree with the Law Minister that this matter has become very common now-a-days. Pen-down strike, observance of 'No Work Day' and 'Protest Day' have become common features in our daily life. At the same time I would like to emphasise one point to the hon. Members who are interested in this matter that the strike has just started; if there is any strike at all, the Government must be entering into some negotiations with them. Therefore, if at this stage we discuss this matter and speak in support of this side or that side then the course of negotiation will be prejudiced. So, I do not think for the interest of the employees for whose welfare this Motion has been brought should be allowed to be discussed in an Adjournment Motion now. Then there is also a Calling Attention Motion from Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah, Shri Dulal Chandra Barua and Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee fixed up for discussion to-day and the Motion is also more or less identical with the Adjournment Motion. Therefore, the hon. Members will get enough scope to discuss this matter on the Calling Attention Motion. For all these reasons the Adjournment Motion is ruled out.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Are we to understand that if negotiation does not take place, the strike will continue?

Mr. SPEAKER: You will get scope to discuss this matter on the Calling Attention Motion which will come up for discussion just now.

Shri HOOVER HYNNEWTA (Shillong): Sir, I just want to make a request to the Chief Minister that he should meet a delegation of the Employees' Association. They have been wanting to see him but so far they have not succeeded, probably because of the fact that the Chief Minister was ill. Some representatives came to me this morning and asked me to take this opportunity to request the Chief Minister on the floor of the House to meet the representatives of the employees. I hope, if the meeting takes place, it will be possible to avert the strike.

Mr. SPEAKER: How can the House give any direction to the Chief Minister to see somebody or not? Your request is there and it will be left to the Chief Minister for his consideration.

Now, let us pass on to the next item. Calling Attention Notice.

Calling Attention on Wearing of "Protest Day" Badges by the employees of the Secretariat on 22nd February, 1965

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):** Sir, under Rule 54 of the Rules of the Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly I call the attention of the Chief Minister to a vital point, that is, on wearing "Protest Day" badges by the employees of the Secretariat on 22nd February, 1965. Even to-day we have heard that the employees are abstaining from work. Sir, this is a very vital matter affecting the very administration. Therefore, I want to know what are their grievances and what steps Government have taken to redress their grievances. We want that we should be enlightened on this point and that is why I have called the attention of the Chief Minister.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Sir, the Assam Secretariat Service Association in a meeting held on 13th February, 1965 had passed some resolutions against the recommendations of the Pay Committee. They have resolved that unless and until all the anomalies inconsistencies, irregularities, pointed out by them are reconciled within 28th February, 1965 they will resort to continuous "No Work Day" with effect from the 3rd March, 1965 till their grievances are redressed. As a prelude to the observance of continuous No Work Day they observed 'Protest Day' on 22nd February, 1965 by wearing badges and holding a meeting. In this connection it may be pointed out that the Chief Secretary had met the Office-bearers of the Association on 26th February, 1965 and discussed with them their grievances. The report of the Assam Pay Committee was discussed at great length both inside and outside the Assembly and after mature consideration the Government had accepted the recommendations after some modifications which have been published in the form of a resolution on the report of the Assam Service (Revision of Pay) Rules. Sir, I would remind the hon. Members about the deliberation which took place in this august House on the report of the Pay Committee. It is not that I have not met the representatives or the Office-bearers of the Association. As a matter of fact taking into consideration particularly the rising cost of living, Government throughout has been taking a very sympathetic attitude towards the employees. So far as the Secretariat Service Association is concerned, these employees are the best looked after people in the Government because it was considered that they had to deal with more responsible work, and therefore whether in the matter of pay scale or otherwise, they are the best looked after people among the whole of Government employees. It is unfortunate that this Association has taken such an intolerant attitude and is trying to hold the Government at random. Whatever may happen the Government feel that they should not submit to this attitude of the Government employees.

Sir, so far as the pay scales and other things are concerned, we can say with confidence that the pay scales of the Government of Assam compare very favourably with any Government of the whole country. Under the circumstances any Association or Government employees either collectively or individually trying to hold the Government at random should never be encouraged. Therefore, I am very sorry that this Association has taken this attitude and is trying to create difficulties for the whole administration. We

do not propose to submit to this kind of threats. The work will suffer and the administration will suffer but we are prepared for that. We are not prepared to submit to the threats.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): May I know whether the employees are asking for an interview with the Chief Minister?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : I do not remember. It is not possible for the Chief Minister to go on seeing the representatives of the various Associations indefinitely.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : May I know whether the grievances of the employees are only in respect of pay scales or something else? May I also know whether they have sought for an interview with the Chief Minister, and if so, whether the Chief Minister has agreed to see them or not?

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order.

Speaker's Ruling on Adjournment Motion on Complete lawlessness in Shillong, the Capital of Assam

Mr. SPEAKER: Before I take up the next item of the Agenda I want to give my ruling on the admissibility of the Adjournment Motion tabled on 26th February, 1965. The Motion reads as follows:—

“The House do now adjourn to discuss complete lawlessness in Shillong, the Capital of Assam”.

The hon. Members who argued in favour of the admissibility of the Motion drew the attention of the House to an incident that took place at about 8 P.M. on the previous evening in the office of the Frontier Times, a daily News paper published from Shillong and also to stabbing of two persons at different places. Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, while opposing the admissibility of the Motion gave fuller details of the above incidents and also referred to another incident on the same evening, namely, that a Chowkidar of the Shillong Law College was forcibly restrained by a mob and was robbed of about Rs.15. It was also learnt from the hon. Minister that he along with his colleague Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi, Minister, went to the office of the Frontier Times immediately after the incident there, and sent for the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police and instructed them to take adequate measures for maintaining law and order in the town. He also stated that when he arrived at the place of occurrence, almost simultaneously, the Police knowing about the incident came to the office of the Frontier Times and arranged for guards.

I very well appreciate the anxiety and feelings of the hon. Members who were prompted to bring this Adjournment Motion which wanted to discuss a vital matter, namely, the maintenance of law and order in the Capital of the State. The incidents that took place on the 25th February, 1965 and other incidents which took place on the 24th February, 1965 in connection with distribution of sugar, show that there had been some deterioration in the maintenance of law and order in the town and there were rooms for

improvement. It is unfortunate that in spite of Police vigilance, such incidents could take place in the heart of the town within a short distance from the Police Station. In order to consider the admissibility of the Motion, the above facts and circumstances are to be borne in mind and the Rules of Procedure and precedents relating to such Motions are to be applied accordingly.

As the House is aware Adjournment Motions are governed amongst others by the provisions of Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly under which the matter sought to be discussed should be a definite matter of urgent public importance and the purpose of an Adjournment Motion is threefold, namely (1) to get information from the Government, (2) to raise a discussion and (3) to censure the Government.

In this particular case, the first purpose, namely, to get information has already been fulfilled inasmuch as the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs gave more details of the happenings on the day of occurrence than the hon. Mover of the Motion. To consider whether the subject matter is fit to be discussed is to be judged looking at the background and the nature of business before the House. The House is at present debating on the Governor's Address and will after a few days have the opportunity to discuss the Budget in general and during such debates there has been and will be occasion for the hon. Members to discuss the law and order situation in the State and to refer to the same in the Capital of the State. The second purpose, namely, to raise a discussion is also fulfilled in this case.

The remaining thing to be examined is if the matter is such that the Government deserves to be censured for it. The question of maintenance of law and order in the State in general and in the Capital in particular is a primary duty of the Government and the Government must be alive to the situation and alert so that unsocial elements do not get the upper hand and create an atmosphere where the citizens and the Press are not allowed to carry on their normal functions without any threat or violence. In view of certain prior occurrences, there was scope for greater vigilance on the part of the Police, but from the fact that the two hon. Ministers went to the place of one of the incidents and they took immediate steps for the maintenance of law and order, it would not be proper to arrive at the conclusion that there was complete lawlessness in Shillong as alleged in the Notice and for that to censure the Government. In these circumstances, I am not inclined to allow this Adjournment Motion and accordingly rule it as out of order.

The other day my hon. friend Shri Rathindra Nath Sen complained that every time an Adjournment Motion is disallowed. I like to point out in this connection that an Adjournment Motion is not a normal feature of the proceedings of a Legislature. It is taken resort to, to meet an extraordinary and emergent situation, when no other course is open to raise a matter on great public importance and of recent occurrence. Then only an Adjournment Motion is sought to be brought. But since sometime past it is noticed here that for any and every little matter hon. Members come forward with Adjournment Motions even when other avenues are open to them to bring up these matters. They are also not generally in conformity with the rules. I request the hon. Members to see to this aspect of the question and I shall feel grateful to them if they kindly refrain from such practice. If at any

time an Adjournment Motion is there, satisfying all the conditions laid down, I shall be the last person not to allow it.

In the circumstances, I appeal to the hon. Members, more especially to my esteemed friend Shri Rathindra Nath Sen, to appreciate my difficulties under which I am to discharge the onerous duties of the Speaker.

I promised that I will make a statement regarding Questions position to the House. As to the Replies received from the Government up till now, the position is not very satisfactory. We have received notice of 395 Starred Questions and 331 Unstarred Questions and up till now we have received Replies up to the 2nd March 1965 only 23 Starred Questions and 14 Unstarred Questions. Therefore, the position is not so satisfactory. I would request the hon. Ministers in-charge of the respective Departments to see that Replies are expedited.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, I want to submit that information is being sought from the Government. We do not get proper reply from the Chief Minister. Just now the attitude of the Chief Minister in replying to one Calling Attention Motion shows that the reply will in no way help the smooth functioning of the administration. If this attitude continue in respect of other matters, I am afraid that there will be a deadlock throughout the State Administration.

Statement by the Chief Minister in connection with an Adjournment Motion tabled on the 2nd March, 1965 on alleged Anti-National Activities by a Group of Anti-National Elements in Cachar-Mizo Hills Border

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday in connection with a Calling Attention Motion about detection of some arms in the Hailakandi Subdivision, the following further information are received... ..(A voice from Opposition—That was an Adjournment Motion).

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, it is the Adjournment Motion.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: All right, Sir. On 13th February, 1965 the house of one Madaris Ali, son of late Hamid Ali Borbhuya of village Thalaimali about 2½ miles South of Katlicherra Police Station was searched. During search a hand-made single barrel breach loading gun was found inside his dwelling house kept concealed in the paddy store room. He was arrested under section 25 (a) of the Arms Act.

On 19th February, 1965 the house of one Kamdev Ghasi, an ex-tea garden labourer, son of Dinaram Ghasi of Harsingar Part III about 5 miles South of Katlicherra Police Station was searched.

In his house one hand-made Gun was recovered. On the same day, that is on 19th February, 1965, 9 other houses in that area were also searched. Both Madaris Ali and Kamdev Ghasi have been granted bail by the Magistrate. Madaris Ali has already been released but Kamdev Ghasi's bail bond has not been accepted and the security furnished by him is under examination. The search is still going on as to the place where these guns were made and it is suspected that these guns were made in the Hailakandi Sub-division somewhere near the place where those were recovered.

Shri DUDAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): So our charges are correct.

DEBATE ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

Shri BRINGTON BUHAI LYNDON (Nongpoh, Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few words on the Governor's Address. I am afraid I cannot congratulate the Governor for his Address which seems to have contained nothing much except attempts to cover and white-wash the many problems of the State. I am very much disappointed, Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the complete silence in the Governor's Address to the very serious political problem of the State.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, of late, Assam has become a problem State of India. It has been threatened by the external danger from the North and also from the South and still more it is fraught with the internal danger of disruption from within the State. I want to draw the attention of the Government to this particular political problem of internal discontentment within the State which is completely silent in the Governor's Address. We want to know, Mr. Speaker, Sir, why within the State of Assam in the recent four or five years there is a growing turmoil in the minds of the hills people. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been vigorous demand from the Mizo people for complete independence and cessation from India. I am to inform the House through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that of late in the recent months the minds of the youths in this district also are drawn towards the movement in the Naga Hills and Mizo Hills. The silence in the Governor's Address on this particular serious problem—does it mean that the Government is not concerned with it? Whether the Government thinks that this problem does not concern this august House? Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I think about this problem, I never cease to wonder why our present Chief Minister who is known to have possessed a great heart and abundant good will towards the hill people—why this turmoil, why this agitation occurred in the hills in the tenure of his office? Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is high time for the Members of this House and for the responsible leaders of the State to find out the reasons for the unhappy trend in the minds of the hills people. The Government think that the hill people are being foolish or wrong and the matter seems to end there. There is no serious attempt on the part of the Government leaders or the State leaders to make discussion and find out the reasons behind this agitation and this discontentment in the minds of the hill people. The Government know only to oppose and condemn and next by resorting to divide and rule. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this attempt the Government

have been successful to a great extent in dividing the leaders. The Government have divided the leaders of the All Party Hill Leaders' Conference and he could see many of those renegade members basking in the sun-shine of the Government's patronage. Sir, the question is whether the Government have been able to win over the people from this agitation? Mr. Speaker, Sir, last year, the Government had one great opportunity to solve the situation when the Hill Leaders responded to the appeal of Prime Minister to work and remain in Assam under the native place. It is expected that the Central Government and the State Government would have rushed to implement the decision of the Prime Minister before hill people have any cause to change their minds. But alas, Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are sorry that the State Government and the responsible leaders of Assam did anything except to condemn and protest and the result is that the Central Government hesitated to implement the plan in view of the opposition of the State Government and State Congress. I may inform the House that now the youths of Shillong are losing interest in the Hill State demand or in the Nehru Plan. Their minds have been drawn to the movement in the Naga Hills and Mizo Hills. If this is the attitude of the State Government towards the demand of the responsible leaders, we cannot but regret it. I wonder even if the Nehru Plan is implemented this time whether the minds of the people will accept it. Sir, one thing that I want to point out specially to the State leaders and to the Government leaders is that they have forgotten the wisdom of the policy of late Gopinath Bordoloi and late J. J. M. Nichols-Roy. During that time there was happy relationship and they never attempted to push and thrust the Congress party in the Hills. They co-operated with the responsible progressive organisations of the Hills like Mizo Union in Mizo Hills, Garo National Council in Garo Hills, Khasi and Jaintia Hills Conference in K. & J. Hills and Karby-Darbar in Mikir Hills. There was no reason for any conflicts with the Government or with the people within the State but of late when the Hills people have organised themselves into a very strong united Conference, what did the Government do? They tried to win over certain opportunist elements and through those opportunist elements tried to organise the Congress Party in the Hills. I am surprised at the folly of thinking that the Hills people can be won over through these elements. So, sir, this is the tragedy. I am very much pained and I am sincerely thinking that the Nehru Plan will work. Instead independence idea is now running through the minds of the youths and it will spread like fire.

Mr. SPEAKER: Your time is up.

Shri BRINGTON BUHAI LYGDOH: Therefore, Sir, my last statement on this matter is that if anything happens, if the Government does not pay any heed, if it does not take us into confidence and if it goes on depending on the advice of opportunist elements in the hills then if anything happens in future they are only to be blamed. I have something also to say on the development programmes.

Mr. SPEAKER: You will get time in Budget discussion.

Shri BRINGTON BUHAI LYGDOH: Then thank you, Sir.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heard the debate with rapt attention. Except for sometime yesterday when I had to be absent perforce for some personal reasons for which I express my regret to the House, I was present all through.

I am grateful to the hon. Members who had been nice to use some kind words of encouragement for the Departments under me. Not being satisfied with the statement on the Address of the Governor that the agricultural production had increased, some hon. Members had demanded for the figures. I am gladly giving the same:—

Production of Rice:

1962-63	1963-64	1964-65
15,71,286 tons	18,19,810 tons	18,78,991 tons.

Thus, it will be seen that there had been substantial increase in the production. I may tell the House that these figures had been collected by the Statistics Department. But I confess, despite this success, the Department will have to do a lot more to be really useful and beneficial to the country.

Some of the hon. Members had rightly stressed the desirability of increasing the cultivation of pulses and mustard. I can tell the House that efforts are being made in these directions. The limiting factors in this connection are the climate and the non-availability of suitable land. Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta impressed upon the desirability of raising double crops from lands as was the case in some other States. I can tell the hon. Member, wherever possible in this State also two crops are raised every year on the same land. In the double cropped fields the usual pattern of cropping has been (a) Ahu paddy is followed by Sali paddy, (b) Jute is followed by Sali paddy, (c) Jute is followed by Rabi crops like potato, pulses, mustard, etc. Popularisation of double cropping is one of the programmes of the Department. In fact, as against 9.73 lakhs acres of land under double crops in 1962-63, there was 9.94 lakh acres in 1963-64; this shows an increase. The main difficulties enumerated by the field workers for wider adoption of double cropping by the cultivators are want of fencing materials and letting loose of cattle by the cultivators immediately after harvest of Sali crop. Some of the hon. Members had referred to about the non-availability of fertiliser in time. Apart from other factors this happens very often due to operational restrictions imposed by the Railway. In fact the hon. Members have had experienced repeatedly the same difficulties in getting essential articles like sugar, wheat, etc., due to the same reason. It is our endeavour to make the supply of fertiliser regular for which we have been trying to set up a subsidiary organisation by appointing some established companies as our agents to operate side by side with the Department. It is hoped when these agents will operate fully the situation may improve. But till the transport and communication of Assam with outside is not improved the problem shall not be solved fully.

Sir, with regard to the complaint of Shri Stanely Nichols-Roy regarding disease in the orange plantation, I can only repeat that we had been trying our very best to find out an effective solution of the problem in collaboration with the Government of India. I assure my hill friends that the problems of agriculture in the hill areas had received and will receive our best attention. It is true we have not yet been able to find out an effective alternative to Jhum cultivation.

We have noted the suggestion of the hon. Members with regard to various schemes in the flood control and irrigation sectors. The hon. Member will be pleased to learn that as against a plan allocation of Rs. 5 crores for 5 years for the Third Plan period for flood control, the Department had already spent Rs. 5.37 lakhs in the first three years of the Plan. It is anticipated that by 1965-66, i.e., the end of the plan period expenditure will go to Rs. 11.17 crores. This is not a mean achievement for a comparatively small Department. The Department of Flood Control has asked for a fourth plan of Rs. 28.44 crores with a target of expenditure of Rs. 25.44 crores. In addition to this, the State Government had asked for some centrally sponsored schemes for which hundred per cent Central assistance should be provided in the Central Plan for flood control. This included the Barak Project also. I am obliged to find that there had been a demand from large number of hon. Members to increase the allocation for this Department due to the importance and necessity of tackling the flood problem in the State. Hon. Member, Shri Pulakeshi Singh had been labouring under a misconception that this State Government considered the Barak Project to be not feasible. This was not so. In fact, after the Central Government pronounced such a verdict this State Government insisted upon association of foreign experts in the matter of investigation of this project as far back as 1958.

Thereafter, the Government of India again started the investigation, the cost of which had been and is being defrayed by this Government. In fact, the investigation had been taking a very long time and creating an impression of a leisurely investigation. This Government had been impressing upon the Government of India to complete the investigation without any further delay and they had promised to expedite the report. We are awaiting the same.

Sir, I now come to the speech of Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee. I am obliged to him for his solicitude for my health. I wish he had been balanced in his criticism since he had gained some experience by working for now about 3 years in this august House, so as not to impair the dignity of this august House.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, the Minister is going too far; we cannot tolerate all these things?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. Kindly avoid all these insinuations.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: The hon. Member who had such a great reliance on the intellect of his wife, as stated by him yesterday, that he consulted her on telephone about the interpretation of certain portion of the speech of the Governor would have done well in keeping her always with him even during the Assembly Session, for, I feel he needs her guardianship not only to give him the advantage of consultation on every matter without spending money on telephone calls also for the reason that it is well known that the sublime presence of a lady teaches people more decorum.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: These are also insinuations.

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Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, the hon. Member referred to the case of a senior U. D. Assistant of the Department of Agriculture being superseded. I do not know whom he referred to. I asked both the Director of Agriculture and the Secretary, Agriculture.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): On a point of clarification. Sir. After giving his speech, the hon. Member Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee has corrected it. Now, he is mentioning the Agriculture Department.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Whether his speech relates to an Assistant of the Veterinary Department or the Agriculture Department, the same reply will hold good.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Chief Minister took note and I think he will be able to reply.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: He can't also in the absence of the name of the concerned Assistant, Sir. Both of them in writing had informed me that they were not aware of any such case. Sir, you know a Minister does not deal with the promotion cases of Assistants. Government is not aware as to who had been superseded where, and far less to speak of whether rightly or wrongly. I don't think I should waste the time of the House any more on a matter like this unless and until some more facts are given to me or at best the name of the Assistant concerned is disclosed.

The hon. Member next referred to my note suspending an Executive Engineer who was arrested at Silchar by the Police. Sir, the House may feel amused to know that this case was over a maid-servant. This maid-servant and her pregnancy became such a serious matter for a section of people of the town of Silchar where Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee lives that an M.L.A. and an Ex-M.L.A. had to file a case on 10th July, 1964 on hearing a "strong rumour" telling the Additional District Magistrate, Cachar, that this matter was "threatening the communal accord".

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no necessity of a history of the case.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I will have to give justification for my action. So, I am giving the facts and background of the case.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Sir, it was a matter of shame that the communal amity of a town could be impaired over the pregnancy of a maid-servant. Admittedly this girl in question was the maid-servant of the Executive Engineer of Silchar in the E. & D. Department and the complainant in this case was Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee himself.

Shri HOOVER HYNNIEWTA (Shillong): We want to know who is that M.L.A. ?

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): I did not institute any case ; I only informed the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar, over the matter.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: That is a complaint under law, Sir.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether his reply is purposely against the hon. Member ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Why the hon. Member is so interested ? I am only giving facts in this case. Had Shri Bhattacharjee been not interested not only as a complainant but also as a person who was represented in this Police case through a lawyer and got petitions after petitions filed asking the Court to pass one after another order the consequence of which had been that the learned Additional District Magistrate was ultimately fined Rs.100 in a contempt proceeding by the High Court and ordered to pay Rs.50 as cost to the girl in question, I would have certainly taken the contention of Shri Bhattacharjee with much greater seriousness as one should take the statement of a hon. Member. Sir, this maid-servant had made a history. Apart from her case being mentioned in this House, for her repeated detention in Jail Hospital and then Destitute House on the petitions filed on behalf of the complainants which included Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee and Shri Satindra Mohan Deb objecting her release, the learned Additional District Magistrate was fined Rs.100 for contempt by the High Court.

Shri Bhattacharjee had made a grievance as to why the Government did not agree to file an appeal on behalf of this learned Additional District Magistrate to the Supreme Court against this sentence passed against him. I will deal with it later. Now, I would like to confine myself with the complaint that I did not suspend this officer after he was arrested. Long after the starting of the case on 10th July, 1964 the Police arrested Shri Jamiruddin Ahmed, Executive Engineer concerned on 16th September, 1964. Surprisingly the Police did not send any intimation to the Department either before or at the time of this arrest in question. On the contrary the matter came to the notice of the Government from a petition of the Executive Engineer himself complaining *mala fide* and collusion between Shri Tarapada

Bhattacharjee and the Police Officer in-charge of investigation in this case and also from newspaper reports. The Executive Engineer *inter alia* said that Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee used to make 'undue request' to him 'for allotment of works to some selected contractors' and that he could 'not oblige' him and others 'with allotment of works against the rules and regulations of the Department to their satisfaction. So this case was concocted.....

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: Sir, I did never go to the Executive Engineer's office for a single day.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: I know Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee would say so. Here I am placing a document written in the hand of Shri Bhattacharjee on the table of the House. I knew it, Sir, therefore, I brought this document. These papers will show whether the hon. Member did ever approach the Executive Engineer or not for contract and favours.

The undue interest taken in this case by the complainants some of which were the subject matter of question in the Hon'ble High Court including later on punishment of the learned Additional District Magistrate and staying the further proceedings in the case as stated before, let Government to seriously think about the matter, instead as a routine affair. In fact, as I had already mentioned, the Police arrested the Executive Engineer without even giving an information to the Department. An Executive Engineer is in-charge of valuable papers, cash, etc., of the Government. It was surprising that without giving a chance to arrange custody of all these by posting a substitute by the Department, this arrest was made. There appeared to be no urgency in the matter also. The case was under investigation at least from 11th July, 1964 and the arrest was made on 16th September, 1964 and that too from office so hurriedly that time was not found to give any intimation to the Department. Supposing if the Court had not granted bail to this officer on the same day it was not known as to what would have happened to Government property including confidential papers. This was not a matter which could be lightly viewed with. Hence order was passed on 24th September, 1964 on the petition of the Executive Engineer concerned and other information received calling upon the Police to explain as to under what circumstances they made the arrest in the manner as stated in my speech. The explanation is still awaited. In the meantime only on 27th January, 1965 I repeat, on 27th January, 1965, the special Superintendent of Police (CID) had reported formally about this case to the Department. This matter was put up to me by the Secretary, E and D on 15th February, 1965 under confidential cover while I was on tour. (Holding a file within a cover in hand). On my return from tour I got the file sometime on 20th February, 1965. Due to the heavy pressure of work in the Assembly I could not pass any order in the matter. It appears my friend's interest is so great in this matter that he not only knows the movement of the file but can anticipate my order also. The most reprehensible part of his conduct is that he had made an attempt to put pressure on me to suspend the officer by his yesterday's speech by taking advantage of his membership of this august House forgetting that the House would not and should not take him in his words in this matter. For he is the complainant and therefore an interested party. It is not customary for the House to allow such a misuse of the privilege of a Member for personal

aggrandisement. I wish somebody also mentioning this case in the House. But it seems rest of the hon. Members from Cachar are not having any vested interest in the matter for which I thank them. Sir, merely because one has been arrested Government is not obliged to suspend him, particularly when arrest is alleged to be malafide and that too with sufficient reasons. The House expressed concern this morning that some officers of the E. & D. were suspended in April, 1960, in connection with the Dibrugarh Protection Works at the asking of Police but their trial had started 5 years after the said suspension. Arrest cannot be used as an weapon to tyrannise people by getting them suspended; unless there are cogent reasons or sufficient grounds to do so one should not be put under suspension surely as a routine. I am sorry, I cannot abdicate my privilege of deciding this matter without fear or fervour to the hon. Member, however, vocal he may be. The Government may suspend an officer or may not, if there is sufficient reason for taking such a decision. In this case apart from the various facts I have already stated it, may be remembered that not only the learned Court dealing with this case had been fined by the hon. High Court for contempt but the hon. High Court had admitted a petition to quash the entire proceedings. In view of all these facts and circumstances I have come to the conclusion that it is not a fit case where the officer should be suspended and I may inform Shri Bhattacharjee that I shall pass orders accordingly in the file which is still pending before me.

Sir, Shri Bhattacharjee referred to the learned Additional District Magistrate being not defended at Government cost. He was defended at Government cost in the High Court. But he was fined by the High Court, it appears, on his own admission. I refer to a portion of his own affidavit "That the respondent most humbly and respectfully tenders unqualified apology to the Hon. High Court for any omission or commission on the part of the Respondent in passing the order dated 19th September, which was passed by him in good faith in the interest of the personal safety and honour of the minor girl in question." The Hon'ble High Court held in the judgment "Mr. Pathak contends that the opposite party has expressed unqualified apology which in the circumstances of the case should be accepted. We do not think that the apology tendered by him is sufficient to purge the contempt which he had committed in this case. However, having regard to the fact that he had only recently joined as Additional District Magistrate and that he is a young officer having not much experience, light sentence will meet the ends of justice. In the circumstances we hold the opposite party guilty of the contempt of the Court and impose a fine of Rs.100. He is also liable to pay the cost to the petitioner which we assess at Rs.50". It may be noted that the judgment was passed by Justice Mehrotra, the Chief Justice, and Justice S. K. Dutta. What more Government is to defend in the Supreme Court where one tendered unqualified apology and asked for mercy? There appeared to be no law point involved in the appeal. If there was any this was a case on fact. It appears the learned Additional District Magistrate ultimately did not go to the Supreme Court. Instead he had filed a revision petition before the Hon. High Court itself. In doing so he did not ask for the cost of his defence, and I do not know the result of the Revision petition up till now.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: He has been exonerated.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I was really pained to hear that in my absence Shri Bhattacharjee alleged in course of his speech yesterday that I was having 4,000 birds and that they are looked after by Government Peons and that the Finance Department found money for them or something like this. He repeated almost similar allegations this morning while putting a question.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: Where from he got the figure?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: From the proceedings.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE: I never said about 4,000 birds.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: The hon. Member cannot be allowed to deny the statement he made.

Mr. SPEAKER: Please pass on that speech to me.

(The Minister handed over the copy of the speech to the Speaker).

We have got tape-recording arrangement here. Whatever speech is delivered is tape-recorded. I shall play back the tape-recorder and see whether this statement was made by him.

(A voice: He is challenging the ruling).

He is challenging that part of the statement about 4,000 birds and about his getting money from the Finance Department.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: I wish this hon. Member behaves honorably and in a more responsible manner. The hon. Member consulted his wife for teaching him the meaning of a portion of the Governor's Address. I consulted my wife also yesterday evening after hearing about his speech, but that was for a different reason. I wanted to know from her the actual number of the poultry in my bungalow because I had not seen or known the existence of 4,000 birds in my bungalow. When I asked my wife about it, fortunately hon. Shri Rathin Sen, M.L.A. of the same party to which Shri Bhattacharjee belongs, by chance was present there. My wife told me that we had only 5 birds in our house. I repeat, Sir, we have only 5 birds. Sir, you cautioned this hon. Member not to be 'hyperbolic' while he was in the midst of his speech. Even after this wise counsel from you he converted 5 into 4,000. What an imagination!

(Noise:).

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, Order. A tape-recorder is recording the entire speech and if the speech is found to be wrong, that portion of the speech will be expunged.

(Noise:).

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I am replying to the charges brought against me in public.

Mr. SPEAKER: He is only replying to the charges against him. But what Mr. Barua wants is that there has been more emphasis on the point of number of birds.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Then, Sir, it was stated that the Finance Minister has granted some money for building the cage for poultry in my bungalow. But, Sir, I am entitled to have a free and furnished bungalow for which some people have heart-burning but I can't help it. All bungalows including that of the hon. Speaker, I believe, are having poultry sheds and in some cases runs also.

(Noise:).

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, Order. Have you concluded?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I am concluding. Sir, the purpose of putting questions in the House is to elucidate information. If my friend was not fully conversant about facts and therefore was putting a question this morning to me on the same subject to elucidate information, why he made such baseless mischievous allegations yesterday before ascertaining facts only to lower me in the eye of the people by concocting and fabricating baseless stories? A person suffering from jaundice sees everything yellow with his eyes. When the hon. Members would give up the habit of hunting offices with all kinds of illegal requests to officers, that will be the appropriate time for them to teach people moral—that will be the appropriate time for talking about eradication of corruption or sending complaints to the Home Minister of India. It is rightly said "Physician! heal thyself first".

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, how can the hon. Minister allege that we are hunting the offices and putting pressure on the officers?

Mr. SPEAKER: He is not accusing any particular hon. Member of hunting Government offices. What he means is that if anybody is doing so, he should avoid it.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, somebody is doing so, otherwise how could the Minister refer to this?

Mr. SPEAKER: In this part of his speech I do not see any reason why the Members are raising objection. He has referred to certain rule of conduct for everybody including himself. Therefore, nobody who is not doing so, should find any fault with him.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, you can give that direction. We take exception to it.

Mr. SPEAKER: In discussing about the conduct of Members, certainly he had not violated any parliamentary requirements. Mr. Choudhury, have you concluded?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Yes, Sir, I have concluded.

***Shri HOOVER HYNIEWTA (Shillong):** We are assembling in this Session under the shadow of a grave and acute scarcity in the Capital town and I am afraid, Sir, my speech may not be sugar-coated one. I would like, however, to pass my first remark by some words of appreciation of the Government for certain things—good things—they have done in course of the year. Sir, the Government after a very long time has ultimately acceded to the request for reducing the cost of transport of potatoes from Shillong to Gauhati. We certainly take note of this with gratitude. I have on different occasions also in the past expressed our demand for establishment of a Law College here in Shillong and I am grateful to the Government and the Education Minister particularly for having used his office in establishing the Law College at Shillong. So, Sir, this will go a long way in creating a legal atmosphere in this Capital and also in the State as a whole.

We also note with gratitude that the demand for establishment of a Polytechnic Institute is heard, but I am not quite sure whether the efforts for early establishment will be pushed forward. We are looking for this long standing demand. For my constituency, Sir, we have great reason to be grateful to the Public Works Department for having sanctioned a considerable amount for the improvement of roads and drains in the neglected portion of the town and for this we are particularly grateful to the Chief Minister for having used his good office to make money available. Of course, we are also grateful to the Finance Minister for readily giving the money. I regret very much, Sir, that in certain vital matters, Government is still lagging behind and I think we can expect some changes in this Department and we hope that we on this side of the House can be instrumental in bringing a democratic form of Government in our State with the co-operation of the Treasury Benches.

Then, Sir, it is very unfortunate that a long standing demand of the people to have another Subdivision at Nongstoin is being delayed. Sir, Shillong Subdivision covers a very very wide area and a very big population in comparison with other Subdivisions in the Hill areas. I wish Government had taken speedy action as they did in creating a separate District Council for Jowai Subdivision. It is purely an administrative matter. For creation of a Subdivision, there is no opposition from the people.

Now, coming to one area in the State inhabited by the Khasi people who suffered very heavily as a result of the divide and rule policy of the British Government and this area is Nongwah adjoining the Khasi Hills and now under the administration of Kamrup District. This area is about 100 sq. miles and it is inhabited by 3 to 4 thousand Khasi people. They have been demanding as early as 1887 the inclusion of this area into the Khasi Hills, but the British Government for the purpose of maintenance of the imperialistic rule in our country did not pay any heed to the legitimate demand of the people. Sir, the area is situated between the border of Khasi and Jaintia Hills and the District of Kamrup.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): May I know the name of the place?

Shri HOOVER HYNIEWTA: The name of the place is Nongwah. Administratively this area is now under the Kamrup District. I urge upon the Government to appoint a Commission to go into the question of finding out whether these people have legitimate cause to demand the inclusion of this area to the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District.

*Speech not corrected.

Now, Sir, I come to an important question. This is with regard to development. Sir, yesterday we heard the graphic portrayal of the manner and magnitude of the development in our District from the hon. Member from Nongstoin constituency. That is a very wide area, but it has only 15 miles of roads completed in 18 years of independence. It is not even one mile per year progress. Sir, the other day, while discussing the provision of Panchayat development in our State, the hon. Minister in-charge of Development came with an assurance that the Panchayat Act will be amended to suit the conditions in the hills and he further said that he would bring forward this amendment in the next Session. But unfortunately one or two Sessions have already elapsed, yet Government and the Minister in particular have not done anything in this direction. Perhaps in his heavy programmes for going to Kerala and other areas of the State and the Union of India, he might have forgotten this insignificant assurance for the insignificant people of the State. However, insignificant we might be, regarded to be, I take this opportunity to appeal to him to be true to his promise so that charge of promise and slow performance may not be brought against him. I believe he has all good intention and he would fulfil his assurance.

Now, Sir, about the Blocks that have been established in our State have been very true to their names. They have really blocked the development of our people. They have brought along corruption and bribery and as Mr. Lyngdoh said yesterday these Blocks have really become centres of corruption. This is really a very gloomy picture. We the people of the soil, know how much development we have received. I do not say this simply for condemning the Government. We are pointing out the defects of the Government and do not rejoice at their failures, but suggest to them to take some remedial measures and that remedy to me appears to be appointment of an Enquiry Committee into the working of these Blocks in our District. In order to find out the root cause, it is necessary that an Enquiry Committee should go thoroughly into the working of the Development Projects in the hills districts so that the money received from the Centre and whatever money is allotted from the State may not go waste. We heard from the Agriculture Minister that so many crores of rupees have been spent in agriculture. Judging by the amount spent we can say that the hill districts of the State of Assam and India as a whole have developed, because thousands and crores of rupees have been spent, but in terms of real target how much has been really developed by this huge amount of money, it is to be seen. This assessment is necessary. I am pointing out these defects to the Development Minister with the sole intention of suggesting to him that assessment should be made to find out how much benefit these huge sums of money have brought to the hill people so that these Blocks may not really be an instrument of blocking the progress of development to our people.

Sir, the other day I met the Agriculture Minister who is now here but unfortunately he is not listening to me. I had the good fortune of meeting him in another Minister's house and we had a little bit friendly chitchat about agriculture and in that meeting the Minister was very courageous enough to admit that agriculture has failed in the hill areas. Sir, we do not rejoice at this frank admission, rather I congratulate him for being courageous to admit that all the agricultural schemes undertaken so far in the hill areas have not been able to achieve the objectives they are intended to achieve. Sir, this is a very good beginning. Let us forget the past and let us

start afresh. We learn through mistakes and we should not rejoice at our failure or at the failure of the Government to achieve the target. I feel, Sir, that this is a very good ground for the establishment of a Research Institute in the hill areas to undertake thorough research into the nature of our agricultural problems and remedies and the measures to solve these problems. Sir, it is true that we have one or two Agricultural Colleges—I do not know how many colleges we have in the State, but so far the agricultural colleges have not been able to devote much time to the solution of our agricultural problems. Therefore, Sir, it is high time that a special effort should be made in order that these failures should not be a continuous process, so that the people in the hills may really enjoy the benefits of Independence and the Grow More Food Campaign of the State Government may be a reality not only in the plains Districts but also in the hill Districts of Assam.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the continued acquisition of paddy lands and lands under cultivation for this and that project. This certainly is not conducive to the Grow More Food Campaign in our District as well as in the State as a whole. I may suggest to the Government that cultivable lands should be excluded as far as practicable from acquisition by the Government.

Sir, now I come to the Public Works Department. Though I had said in the beginning that we in this town of Shillong have great reasons to be grateful to this Department for having undertaken some road construction which, as a matter of fact, is not in the Plan, I would like to point out one basic defect which is blocking the progress of road construction in the hill areas and that is, payment of compensation. Sir, many areas have been acquired by Government and the people desiring to have good roads willingly offered their orchard, orange groves and betel-nut groves for road construction. But, Sir, 4 or 5 years have elapsed yet compensation is far from being paid. We have bitter experience of this defect here in the capital. Because of the bad reputation of the Government in the matter of payment of compensation some people in the town have refused advance possession of land for road construction or for construction of the Polytechnic. This objection may be condemned but I think people have legitimate reasons to give their objection or to block the advance possession of land for any construction. Therefore, I would request the Chief Minister, who is at the same time the head of the Government and in-charge of the P.W.D., to see that compensation is paid as speedily as possible.

Sir, as I said in the beginning, we are meeting to-day under the shadow of acute sugar scarcity. I therefore, come to the question of supply in our District. Sir, a few months ago we had scarcity in rice and there was a big agitation here for non-supply of rice or inadequate supply of rice to the people of the town and in the villages. A few months later we had scarcity in mustard oil and now we are having scarcity in sugar. The other day, Sir, I put a question to the Minister. After hearing his speech I said why Shillong alone was singled out for this acute shortage of sugar and this was the reply of my esteemed friend, the Minister of Supply. He said "because we could not give sugar liberally and lavishly. There should be some limited quantity. The Deputy Commissioner rightly allowed this to people on application. The position is such due to depleted quantity; there is no other way". Unfortunately, Sir, the Minister, Supply, has failed to reply to my question. If the supply was short for the State as a whole than the scarcity

would have been felt in other areas as well. As the Government said in the statement, there were some frequent and prolonged operational restrictions on the railways. Sir, this is a very vague reply. We should like to know whether these operational restrictions were brought into being in collusion with the businessmen or it was a technical restriction.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries): Technical.

Shri HOOVER HYNIEWTA: I think the Minister of Electricity who is connected with electric trains has helped our Supply Minister to give this reply.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I have been connected with the movement of materials for industries and Electricity Board and so I know the position. For technological reasons there has been operational restriction.

Shri HOOVER HYNIEWTA: I do not like to waste my time by joining issue with the Minister. If there is operational restriction of railways then it would not only confine to the Shillong quota alone; it would have caused shortage of sugar for the State as a whole. My question then and my question now is this—although the operational restriction had affected the supply of sugar in the State as a whole, why Shillong alone is facing the scarcity? Why the Canteen Manager of this House had to go running here and there to get sugar for the Members of this House? So, Sir, it is certainly a question which deserves investigation on the part of the Government. It is not a simple question of acute shortage. It is a question which has created a very dangerous law and order situation for the town, for the State and for the country as a whole. A number of persons have been injured and a number of property have been damaged and a number of people had to stop work in order to get a kilo of sugar. Does this suffering of the people not matter anything to the Government, to the Minister of Supply in general and the Deputy Commissioner of the District in particular?

Sir, one kilo of sugar is being sold at Re. 1.40 paise. Government can come here and say 'Look here, we are selling sugar to the consumers at Re. 1.40 paise per kilo', I say that that is false. Yes, it is false because the people had to stop their working for days together and they had to stand in queues for hours together every day in order to get one kilo of sugar. Sir, the daily wages of these working people are between 3 and 4 rupees and they had to forego that in order to get a kilo of sugar. The mother cannot feed her children properly, the father had to give up his work in order to get a kilo of sugar for his household for which he had to forego his daily wages of 3 or 4 rupees and therefore, to him a kilo of sugar would cost more than 4 or 5 rupees. So, Sir, this is a very deserving situation to have a very thorough enquiry.

Sir, I have got a reply as to why Shillong has such an acute supply of sugar. I have a very very good reply and I will substantiate it with documents. Sir, we have such an acute shortage of sugar in Shillong and this is due to the bungling of the whole distribution machinery by the Deputy Commissioner of this district. I regret very much to have to say this but it is a fact. The Deputy Commissioner has abdicated his function and he has transferred his functions to one Traders' Price Regulation Committee. But I ask, who recognised that Traders' Price Regulation Committee?

It was said in the Governor's Address that Vigilance Committees were being set up in Subdivisional levels and Panchayat levels, unfortunately it is only this district which has been exempted from the institution of such Vigilance Committees and instead surprisingly enough a Price Regulation Committee was initiated by the big businessmen. I can tell you, Sir, that these big businessmen have really regulated the price, and I emphasise that they have indeed regulated the price but the question is : for whose advantage they have regulated the price ? Is it for the interest of the consumers ? No, I say, it is for their own interest. Sir, such artificial scarcity of sugar means encouragement of the black-market. The people on getting the news that there was sugar scarcity in the town-naturally they would like to get whatever sugar is available in the black-market which sells between Rs. 2 and Rs. 2.50 per kilo and the Deputy Commissioner is helping such Traders to achieve that objective. Sir, the whole attitude of the present Deputy Commissioner in the discharge of his duties is a contempt for the people and a contempt for those representing the people. All my friends Mr. Nichols-Roy, Mr. B. B. Lyngdoh and Mr. H. Lyngdoh including myself have had bitter experience of the insulting treatment we had in the hands of this Deputy Commissioner.....(Shame! Shame! from the Opposition Benches). Sir, he comes from a State which has done so much for our common cause and that cause is retention of English as the Official Language of the State. We would be very much grateful to his State if one of her sons come here to serve us as a servant of the people and not as a master. I will tell you, Sir, of a very small experience of the attitude he has shown to me. I went to him for one small tea stall which is supplying tea to our office—I mean our Society Office which was opened by the Chief Minister. I went to him and told him that this shop is supplying tea to our office and I requested him to help a lady who is running that shop. He said to me, 'Yes, please, send that lady to me and I will help her'. But when that lady went to him his reply was, 'No, I will have to investigate whether you are the genuine tea stall keeper or not'. Sir, this is the kind of co-operation that the Deputy Commissioner is taking from us, this is the hand of co-operation that he is extending to us ! Then again the Canteen Manager of this House went to him for sugar with an application. Was that application disposed of by the Deputy Commissioner ? I will inform this House, Sir, the application was forwarded by the Deputy Commissioner to this Traders' Price Regulation Committee for disposal. The Deputy Commissioner has abdicated his function. I would like the Government to enquire from the Deputy Commissioner about this application. It is written on that application 'forwarded to the Traders' Price Regulation Committee' why ? He could have rejected it or he could have granted it. Who authorised him to send the application to this Traders' Price Regulation Committee ? Sir, I do not know for a fact as to whether this application from the Canteen Manager of this House was forwarded by the Deputy Commissioner to this Traders' Price Regulation Committee. I would demand that the Government ask the Deputy Commissioner to produce this application. Sir, in the Minister's reply it was stated that the Manager of Assembly Canteen was asked to apply to the Deputy Commissioner on 11th February, 1965 and orders were passed accordingly but she did not lift the sugar till the 22nd February, 1965. Sir, I demand that this application be placed on the Table of this House so that we may know whether the privilege of this House has been infringed or not. I demand that this application should be produced because when I met this lady who is the Canteen Manager I asked here whether sugar was really given to her, instead she told me that she was sent

to one Mahavir Shah, the Secretary of this Traders' Price Regulation Committee, who said to her to come the next day at 3 o'clock and the next day because he said he had no time for her. If this enquiry is instituted this lady will appear before that Committee and testify as to how the Members of this House have been treated with insult in the regime of the present Deputy Commissioner.

Sir, one thing more. In the matter of distribution of sugar the Deputy Commissioner is following a very original method of distribution which according to him is very much in keeping with our socialistic programme. What he has done is that he selected 49 fortunate shops barring Fair Price shops. These fortunate shop-keepers are the Members of the Price Regulation Committee, in the midst of whom the President of the Price Regulation Committee is also an Executive Member. So, Sir, the people were not getting sugar continuously for three or four weeks and there are other three or four hundred dealers who have been deprived of sugar. Is it socialism here? If there is scarcity of sugar, Sir, how the Deputy Commissioner can give 50 shop-keepers to-day in one batch then 50 more shop-keepers in another batch to-morrow and still another batch of 50 day after tomorrow? The Government is giving more preference to the sugar suppliers than to the dealers. These sugar dealers are poor Refugees from Pakistan. Their demand is not considered. The case of the consumers are also overlooked because they know that the consumers would not come and report. The trade of these Refugees is very much affected. What they expected from the Government is simply the justice. Everybody is looking for us for his share. But the Deputy Commissioner has been treating them just as the step-mother treats her children.

Sir, the other day, that is, on Sunday, these dealers having felt that they have come to the end of their patience and realising that they must do something, they held a meeting and in this meeting they formed an Association of Dealers and after the meeting they all came to me. I told them to convene a bigger meeting and thereafter to form the Association.

Next day about 200 dealers held a meeting and a Resolution was adopted relating to the formation of an Association. Immediately they made a catastrophic blunder by electing me as President. Sir, as their representative I had no other alternative but to agree. I gave a telephone call to the Deputy Commissioner telling him about the formation of the Association and then he asked me to prepare list. Sir, the Deputy Commissioner told me that the sugar position has been improved and that he would be in a position to liberalise the sugar supply. So, Sir, I took his words and prepared the list and typed it myself. In the meanwhile I was informed that three Representatives of this renowned Price Regulation Committee secretly found their way to the Deputy Commissioner's residence, rather bungalow which is really a bungalow. So, Sir, when I met the Deputy Commissioner next morning I found that his attitude had completely undergone transformation. He viewed me with absolute coldness and his response was very very cold as if a cold war was existing between him and me. But still I had to submit him the resolution and glancing at this paper and slightly relaxing on his table condescended to tell me "Look here, I am very sorry that I am not prepared to give any sugar in retail because there will be black-marketing." So, Sir, what alternative was there but to leave his blessed chamber? I went round to the Supply Minister and I waited upon the Chief Minister. The Chief Minister was kind enough to look

into this matter. Now I believe, Sir, that this matter has been brought to personal notice. Therefore something will be done about it. He will do something about the basic cause of the acute shortage, namely the Deputy Commissioner himself. I think, Sir, he is not an experienced hand if not too haughty. I am inclined to think that he is very haughty because he scolded two Khasi Assistants. Perhaps he thinks that these Khasi Assistants are nothing better than Jungli people. He suspended one and degraded another. Sir, is this the way to get co-operation from the Assistants? We find nothing wrong in taking action against the Assistants but they should not be treated badly in the presence of the Representatives? It is due to the fact that he is very haughty or due to his inexperience. I think he requires further training in the art of public relationship and in the art of co-operation. These people feel that they are the masters and they owe nothing to the elected people's representatives. They have forgotten that they were appointed by the Government formed by people's elected representatives. His authority is borrowed one and it is borrowed from the Government. He has not brought it from Madras. He has been given this authority by the people of Assam alone. So, Sir, I feel that if nothing is done by the Government, these things, I mean the incidents which are taking place, are likely to take place because the people are acutely suffering for want of sugar and an empty stomach is bound to react against this unhealthy practice. The people know that sugar is available but they do not get it. So the people's anger is directed against the big businessmen. So peace cannot be maintained unless sugar is released. So the Deputy Commissioner is the villain of the episode. Sir, I do not know why the Deputy Commissioner is so friendly with the businessmen. But he is not very friendly with the people's representatives. Is it due to the fact that the representatives are not very rich like the big businessmen? I, the man of the people, strongly feel that this Deputy Commissioner should be transferred and be given further training. The fact of the matter is that he is still too young.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order, your time is up.

Adjournment

The House then adjourned till 2 P. M. for lunch.
(After Lunch)

Shri HOOVER HYNNEWTA : Sir, the Deputy Commissioner does not know the fundamentals of economics and mass psychology as I said earlier. He was of the view that any liberalisation in the supply of sugar to the retailers will result in blackmarketing. But the fact of the matter is that there is the other way round because if everybody gets some sugar people will feel that the scarcity is over and nobody will buy sugar from the blackmarket. But the restriction has created a very favourable atmosphere for blackmarketing and by continuing the restrictions, even though the supply of sugar has considerably improved, The Deputy Commissioner is serving the interest of the big businessmen who want to have illegal profits from the sufferings of the people. So, Sir, I would urge upon the Chief Minister and the Supply Minister to issue orders for the release of sugar to all the retailers of Shillong, thereby removing this fear that sugar is still

scarce. Sir, in the past I had made complaints to the Government about the anti-activities of these so called 'Traders' Price Regulation Committee and on one occasion I brought this matter to the notice of the Members and the Chief Minister about the arbitrary distribution of the supply to the dealers. On this issue, Sir, the Chief Minister was kind enough to entertain my appeal and issue orders restricting the supply against the wishes of the so-called Price Regulation Committee. Sir, this is not a new thing but unfortunately the Government have not taken notice of this kind of complaint lodged by us even for the interest of the administration, for the prestige of the Government and for the equitable distribution of essential commodities to the consumers. So, it is necessary that an immediate enquiry should be conducted and the Deputy Commissioner should be transferred in order to facilitate this enquiry. If the Deputy Commissioner is retained here in spite of his bungling of the distribution of sugar it will either mean that Government is condoning his bad deeds or is approving the activities that he had taken in this regard. So, Sir, I strongly urge upon the Government to transfer him immediately so that people may feel that the Government is also amenable to their demands. Sir, I would also like to request the Chief Minister not to impose so heavy responsibility on the shoulders of this ageing Minister. Sir, 'supply is a very important portfolio and you will find so many capable leaders in the Central Government changed even in a short period of time in order to play a fair deal in the Department. So, Sir, I think it will be worth while if this portfolio is given to any young Minister. He had been for so many years continuously in the Government. So, I would request him to take charge of some other Departments where he can pass his days peacefully without the trouble of the Members of this House every time. Sir, I think the time has come for the Government to reshuffle the Ministry. By this I do not mean to discredit the Minister but there is a limit to the source of strength and even a great man like Sir Winston Churchill had to retire and I think he should also follow the suit of Sir Winston Churchill.

So, Sir, before I resume my seat I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that our own men are now in a very agitated state of mind because of the concentration of a large number of Police Force on the roads of Shillong. As a result the Government has made the unhappy Superintendent of Police to suffer. On the other hand for the maintenance of this huge Police Force a heavy expenditure on the part of the Government will be necessary. Sir, I can say that the constant parading of this Police Force on the roads of Shillong is not healthy at all. Sir, this aspect of the matter should not be ignored. Apart from the question that it involves a heavy expenditure to maintain such a huge force of police-men to parade on the streets of Shillong and to guard different shops and places, it may create troubles also. So, Sir, this aspect of the question should be viewed with great concern in order that no untoward incident may take place in this town or in the villages.

As I said that our youngmen have been feeling that it is the big businessmen who have manipulated the sugar scarcity; now they will know that it is the Deputy Commissioner in collusion with some businessmen who have created this sugar scarcity in Shillong. So, it is not favourable that this Deputy Commissioner continues in this District.

With these words, I thank you and request the Chief Minister to take immediate steps in this regard.

Statement by the Speaker re: Verification of a portion of Speech delivered by Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee, M. L. A. on 2nd March, 1965 with the aid of Tape-recorder

Mr. SPEAKER: This morning the Agriculture Minister made a statement from the report of a speech made by Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee yesterday. A portion of the speech has not been correctly reported and I heard that portion of the speech which has been tape-recorded. The portion which is incorrectly reported is this: "Of course our Agriculture Minister may advise us that we should rear poultry. But we do not have the opportunity of rearing these birds like him who has about 4 thousand such birds and has got money from Finance to construct their cages and Government peon to look after them. It is really something unthinkable." The tape-recording states as follows: "that of course our Agriculture Minister may advise us that we should rear poultry. But then again he may have the Finance Minister to give him an outright grant of rupees three to four thousand to build the cage for birds in the spacious Government bungalow given to him with office peon to look after them (laughter). It is really something unthinkable....."

So, this tape-recorded portion of the speech should be taken as correct.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHODHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Sir, this version of the speech of Shri Bhattacharjee is still more worse than the one on which I had already replied to. I can emphatically say that no finance or aid had been given either to myself or to anybody else in my family by the Finance Department for poultry rearing. This is a baseless allegation.

Statement by the Minister, Supply re: Supply of Sugar in the town of Sillong

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply): Sir, regarding the sugar position in Shillong I made a statement making the position quite clear the other day. Yesterday, my hon. friend, Shri Hoover Hynniewta, had been to my place with a number of retailers. After hearing him, I contacted the Deputy Commissioner who told me definitely that the sugar distribution will be gradually liberalised and I requested him to consider the cases of the retailers. I do not know what action the Deputy Commissioner has taken by now and whether he has allowed sugar to these retailers also.

Shri HOOVER HYNNIEWTA: On a point of clarification, may I know from the Minister the quantity of sugar now available in Shillong? My information is that recently, 2/3 days ago 1450 bags of sugar arrived in Shillong and yesterday about 1000 bags have arrived and three special trains are on motion with sugar, one started on 27th February, another on 1st March and the other is to start today. So a huge quantity is available in Shillong and, therefore, there is no more necessity to impose restrictions on sugar distribution. I do not understand what the hon. Minister means by gradual liberalisation of sugar distribution. When there is plenty of sugar why should it be gradually liberalised? Immediately sugar should be released and people should feel that scarcity of sugar is over.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, I would like to submit a point regarding the application for sugar by the Assembly Canteen Manager, which was discussed the other day in the House in course of an Adjournment Motion and you also spoke about it. The fact is the Deputy Commissioner on receipt of the application for sugar instead of granting a permit himself sent the application in question to the Traders' Price Fixation Committee.....

Shri HOOVER HYNNIEWTA: The copy of the application should be laid on the table of the House so that we can be satisfied.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: (Rose to speak).

(A Voice from Opposition—The hon. Minister is speaking not from his seat, according to rule this should not be allowed).

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Hon. Members should also know that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to discharge his duties is required often to move from one seat to another.

Mr. SPEAKER: Our rule is that when an hon. Member speaks from a seat which is not his, he should take prior permission of the Chair.

(Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury moves to his seat).

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Sir, the Deputy Commissioner concerned was asked to submit the papers after you told the House that you had received information that instead of granting a permit to the Manager to purchase sugar her petition was sent to the Traders Price Vigilance Committee. Sir, from the Deputy Commissioner I found that his office had actually sent the petition to the Traders Price Vigilance Committee (Voices from Opposition—Shame, Shame).

The Deputy Commissioner said that at that particular time there being no control as such, the merchants of Shillong decided voluntarily that they would form an organisation so as to keep the prices of essential commodities down and as such his office sent the application in question to the said Committee in good faith. As an usual office routine, I was told, the application was sent by the Superintendent of Supply.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): On a point of order, Sir, I draw your attention to Rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assam Legislative Assembly. It says—"Government's right of reply.—The Chief Minister or any other Minister whether he has previously taken part in the discussion or not, shall on behalf of the Government have a general right of explaining the position of the Government at the end of the discussion and the Speaker may enquire how much time will be required for the speech so that he may fix the hour by which the discussion shall conclude".

So, the hon. Agriculture Minister finished his speech and now he has no right to reply on the Governor's Address as the Chief Minister will reply to all the points. The Minister cannot make a second speech now.

Mr. SPEAKER: I want to remind the hon. Member that he also on many occasions spoke again and again. Now, when the House raised some points for explanation the hon. Minister with whom the reply was ready gave it to the House for the benefit of the hon. Members.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: I am not making a speech but I am clarifying certain points raised by hon. Members.

Sir, the Deputy Commissioner admitted the fact that the application was sent to the Trader's Vigilance Committee and he regretted to me for that oversight.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, on a point of clarification. As the hon. Minister has already stated that this was a voluntary organisation, I want to know on what authority it is doing all these things without Gazette notification?

Mr. SPEAKER: He has already replied that the authority was given to them by the Deputy Commissioner, and later on he has expressed his regret that he did so.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Then what about the Supply Minister's statement? It is a clear breach of privilege.

Shri HOOVER HYNNEWTA : Sir, on a point of clarification. This statement of the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is incorrect. This is not a voluntary organisation. I can bring to you 200 or 300 people who have been compelled to join this organisation as otherwise they won't get sugar. Sir, since the matter has come up before this House, I can bring to you four dealers who refused to abide by the wishes of those big businessmen ; they were deprived of sugar for six months until the matter was referred to the Government. So they did that in order to teach other traders a lesson. Sir, as I said, it was not a voluntary organisation. I can bring 200 retailers to testify before any Enquiry Committee that these people were compelled by necessity to join this organisation.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Sir, now the question is this. In the Governor's Address, there is a provision to constitute Prices Regulation Committee. Now, instead of doing that, on what authority the Deputy Commissioner has given power to this voluntary organisation to act on behalf of the Government ? Practically he is censuring the Government.

Mr. SPEAKER : I cannot allow these things to go on indefinitely. I think all those points which have been raised by the hon. Members will be borne in mind by the Chief Minister and in his reply he will clarify every point that has been raised by the hon. Members.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Sir, I have not finished regarding this particular matter. We have asked the Deputy Commissioner to give a detailed report.

Mr. SPEAKER : If you want to speak, I would like you to reply to hon. Member, Shri Barua, who said that the information was given by the Agriculture Minister about which you said that the report was being asked from the Deputy Commissioner.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : As I said, we have repeatedly asked the Deputy Commissioner for a report. As soon as the report is obtained, we will certainly see what further action will be taken against him.

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : That would not be the position, Sir. After the Adjournment Motion was tabled, I obtained direct information from the Deputy Commissioner because I wanted to be prepared for it. Then, before you adjourned the House, you said that you would give your ruling later on. So, I wanted to be prepared with facts and I obtained them direct from the Deputy Commissioner.

(Interruptions from Opposition Members)

Mr. SPEAKER : I wish that you should not interrupt the proceedings of this House in this way. This has been clarified to the greatest extent possible and further discussion will not be allowed.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Sir, regarding the cause leading to the unfortunate accident of sugar shortage, I may inform the hon. Members that I have already decided to get this matter thoroughly enquired into, and we are appointing one of the Commissioners to go into it and submit a detailed report.

Debate on the Governor's Address

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries):

Hon. Members are so much concerned with sugar that they cannot leave the item of sugar.

Sir, I was very happy to notice during the discussions that a great deal of lively interest was disclosed in the matter of development of industries in the State. I have a feeling that it was a direct result of the All India Industrial tour by Members. When people go to see industries developing in other States and come back, they naturally have a burning desire that our State should be equally developed. I have no doubt, therefore, that this experience of some of our members in seeing developing industries in other parts of the country would be of great help in the process of industrialisation of our State. Naturally they would raise certain questions as to what has happened to this industry and that industry. One point which was raised was this: What has happened in the L. P. G. (Low Pressure Gas) in the Gauhati Refinery? The instance was cited that the Low Pressure Gas has been brought from Barauni, why not from Gauhati? It appears when the project report at Barauni Refinery was prepared this Low Pressure Gas also was included therein. Therefore, they have gone in for preparation of the production of Low Pressure Gas. In the meantime, the Indian Oil Company seems to have carried out certain investigations and come to the conclusion that there is no market for Low Pressure Gas in Assam. When we came to know about this, we took up this matter very strongly with the Indian Oil Company, as a result they have now agreed to manufacture 2,500 tons of Low Pressure Gas a year which will go up to 6,000 tons. The decision is taken and execution of this project will be undertaken and early steps should be taken to produce this Low Pressure Gas.

Another point which has been raised is: Why have not steps been taken for setting up paper plants in the State? You will appreciate, Sir, that the people who got licences for paper and pulp mills could not set up industry because they could not arrange finance. Therefore, they disappeared. Since then we have taken up this matter with the Government of India. The Government of India have, it seems, decided to set up some paper pulp plants in the public sector, and for that purpose they sent a team of investigators to Assam as well as to other States. The team has gone back and reported. My information is that they have found adequate raw material for paper in our State and we are looking forward to a decision in this respect by the Government of India. We have also taken up the matter and I think the Chief Minister has also taken up the matter with the Government of India and we are expecting a reply on this question soon.

The additional reason we have to ask for a public sector paper mill in Assam is because capital has become rather shy after the Chinese aggression. We have taken up the matter also with the National Development Council. In its Sub-committee this matter was discussed. We raised this question like this: Two States—Kashmir and Assam—are handicapped States, particularly handicapped because of this aggression, so much so that capital has become shy, and, therefore, to counter-balance that it has become necessary that public sector investment in these States should be pushed in.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, I want a clarification. What the hon. Minister means by handicapped States?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I have called Kashmir and Assam handicapped, therefore, all the more reason why additional finance should be pushed in through public sector. Sir, I have informed this House that the Sub-committee of the National Development Council accepted our idea both with regard to industries as well as with regard to our transport. In the matter of transport they have accepted Assam as a handicapped State; in the matter of industries both Kashmir and Assam as handicapped States. May I point out, Sir, that in the Fourth Five-Year Plan as many as 7,000 crores has been provided in the private sector of which a large part will be industrial investment. What I have argued is that, of this the major part is not likely to go to Assam and Kashmir, and, therefore, to counter-balance this, public sector investment is necessary. Now, so far as States are concerned, the amount provided for the public sector in the Fourth Plan, as the draft stands, is Rs.135 crores, which is too small. The bulk of public sector provision is in the Central sector. Therefore, I have urged that provision for the States should be increased—and a bigger chunk should be ear-marked for the handicapped States or the investment by the Central Sector should be massive in the handicapped States.

Sir, with regard to paper my friend seems to be surprised why paper mills have not been established. You will appreciate, Sir, I think in the year 1959 there was flowering of bamboos, as a result of this the bamboos died and until there is regeneration it is not possible to establish any paper mill of any large size. I am told, how far I am correct I do not know, so far as Muli bamboo is concerned, regeneration takes four years and as regards Jati and other bamboos, regeneration takes 7 to 8 years. The bamboos of Mikir district and North Cachar Hills are of the second variety, and, therefore, the time required will be 7 to 8 years; the earliest we could expect bamboos is 1967-68. So, in this region no paper mill could have been set up before that. So far as the Mizo district is concerned, licences were granted, but as I have said, before 1964, it was not possible to set up any industry there and the parties which were given licences for setting paper and pulp mills withdrew before 1965.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that there is no possibility of setting up paper mill in 1964.....

Mr. SPEAKER: He is developing that point.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Sir, this is the opinion which I have collected from the Forest Department. I am not a Forest Technologist. My friend might have separate friendship with the Forest Department, but we have to go by official information; we cannot rely on private information. This information shall have to be given in writing. What I was saying is on the basis of written information.

The next question was why no sugar factory was established in Cachar. Opinion in the Government of India after the improper functioning of the Dergaon Co-operative Sugar mill seems to have suffered, and they were of opinion that in Assam necessary sugar-cane is not available. Necessary sugar-cane means—which will give a return of at least 10 per cent sugar, because at the beginning we were getting 7 per cent and 7 per cent is not economical. The opinion went around

in Government of India that Assam is not a good place for sugar industry. This point was taken up by the Department for setting up sugar mill at Cachar. But the Government of India took a long time to send their team; their team came only recently. They have examined the sugar-cane there and I am glad to report to the House that the return has been found to be satisfactory. The extraction of juice which was taken immediately on cutting sugar-cane gave a return of 23 per cent. So in actual operating condition I have no doubt that 10 per cent will be available. I have heard that the report which has been given by the team is very favourable and we are waiting forward for clearance in the matter in the near future.

Then I am coming to petro-chemicals. It will be appreciated, Sir, the original figure which we got about the availability of gas was 60 million cft. out of which we have already arranged for the consumption of 30 million cft. 18 million cft. is going to be utilised for the production of power at Namrup, and if it is expanded later another 12 million will be required. The Namrup Fertiliser Factory which should have come up by 1966, would require 12 million. Unfortunately due to the wrong selection of the site, the discovery which was made rather late, they have to change the site. They have now selected a new site which is firm enough and they are going to place orders for the construction machinery, etc., and I think it will be coming up by 1967. Now, with regard to total availability of gas there seems to be a dispute. The original idea was that 60 million cft. was available, of which 40 million cft. has already been taken care of. A sizable petrochemical complex is, therefore, not possible—that is the opinion of the Government of India experts. We have urged upon the Government of India that the total availability is 90 million cft.

Therefore, there is a balance which is to be taken care of and Petro-chemical Industries should be set up. Not satisfied with the opinion of the Government of India, we asked a Japanese Team-Mitsui who have come and given a project report. This report will have to be adjusted in terms of local conditions. They have suggested certain industries and we have taken up the matter with the Government of India so that these industries may be set up based on our gas.

Now, the second point is the utilisation of the black products of the refinery. The refinery will be producing a lot of furnace oil and L. D. O. With regard the furnace oil and L. D. O., it is necessary for making arrangements for local consumption. If we can make that arrangement there is the chance of increasing the output of the refinery. We have also a proposal mooted already specially to the Electricity Board to utilise the black products for the purpose of power generation. Negotiation for utilisation of these products is going on and I hope it would be soon concluded.

The other problem was with regard to excise. This matter was taken up with the Government of India and the Government of India was kind enough to remit the excise on black product if these were used for power generation. One hurdle has been removed, and the other hurdle is expected to be removed, and I think the negotiation will be successfully concluded. When the black products will be locally used, further expansion of the refinery would be expedited.

The other question which was raised was Kopili. What has happened to Kopili project? May I point out, Sir, that this matter was being investigated by the Government of India, C. W. P. C. After 7 years of investigation, the C. W. P. C. produced a project report. That project report has not been accepted by the C. W. P. C. itself. And this has been rejected. Why? Because the project report did not tackle the problem of lime-stone. It has been found that on one side of the valley for a distance of about six miles the problem of lime-stone exists. There are big tunnels passing to the other side of the valley and if we have a dam on the river the river will be diverted by tunnels to the other side of the valley. Therefore, this problem of lime-stone has become important and this House will remember that we have set up a committee presided over by the Chairman of the C. W. P. C. with international experts. Two American experts advised us as to what should be done in this regard. This Committee came to Assam twice and they have ordered further investigation and it is estimated that two more years will be necessary to complete the investigation, that means that before two years it would not be possible to get the project report at all. Therefore, the chance of taking up for execution work in the near future does not exist. Ultimately, therefore, we asked another Japanese team to investigate and give us a project report to include it in the Fourth Plan. This team came and investigated and had given us project report of the Umling project which is to produce 80,000 kw. This project report has been approved by our experts and has been sent to the C. W. P. C. I understand that the C. W. P. C. is very angry because we have asked foreign experts and they are creating certain difficulties. We are taking up the matter with them and we hope to sort it out. Therefore, the House will appreciate the difficulty created before us and how we have been trying to pass over the difficulty to take up further schemes, so that our electricity progress may not be hampered.

Now, Sir, certain statements were made in the House and also outside the House that outsiders are being allowed to set up industries in the State. So far as the small-scale industries are concerned, I beg to submit, Sir, that people who have set up industries, small-scale industries, they are not outsiders. Ninety-nine per cent of them are people of the State who were born and are working in the State and for all practical purposes they are insiders. There was only one party from outside, because that party purchased machinery which was brought in the name of Assam and sold in Calcutta. When I heard that a party was bringing machinery for Assam and got them sold in Calcutta, I immediately got in touch with that party and the party was forced to transfer the machinery to Assam.

With regard to other industrialists who have set up other small-scale industries they are born in Assam or working in Assam for years and it would be wrong to say that they are outsiders. So far as heavy industries are concerned, it has been the policy of the State Government to invite capitalists from outside. When Shri Medhi was the Chief Minister, I remember having held a meeting of Industrialists in Calcutta to which invitation was extended. In 1955 before we became Ministers there was a statement of policy under which invitation was given to industrialists showing that incentive will be given. In the time of our present Chief Minister

also similar invitation to industrialists in Calcutta was given. In 1958 industrialists from all over India including Bombay were invited to an Industrialists' Conference. There we asked them to come to Assam and requested them to invest here as the capital formation is very small here. But some people think it is possible to develop Assam by industrial undertakings in the Co-operative Sector. Now, what is the capital formation in the Co-operative Sector? The figures are in 1961-62 18 lakhs, and in 1962-63 15 lakhs; in 1963-64 16 lakhs; in 1964-65 15 lakhs and in 1965-66 15 lakhs; total nearly 79 lakhs. Now, if we utilise this 79 lakhs for the purpose of investment in modern industries the employment generated would be between 2 and 4 hundred. Sir, you will appreciate that in the Fourth Plan over 9 lakhs of people will have to be found jobs. Therefore, the amount of capital investment which will be necessary for the purpose of development of the State is colossal in character. Therefore, to say that one particular sector how-so-ever developed it may be, will be able to cater to the requirement of the State is wrong. I beg to point out, Sir, that the raw material resources are such that they are capable.....

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): May I know, Sir, whether the potentialities of the industries have been released?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: What is the meaning of release, Sir, I do not quite follow. Does the hon. Member mean utilisation?

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Yes, release means utilisation.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Sir, the exact word is utilisation if the hon. Member asked me a question I would have replied. Sir, what I have said is that the capacity of the industries is not fully utilised.

Sir, I may point out that all over India nearly 30 per cent of the industries is under-utilised in terms of installed capacity because of mismanagement, lack of technical know-how, lack of raw materials and many other things.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Sir, about the question of utility of raw materials, the hon. Minister said that even the tea industries in Assam are not utilising it. Sir, what are the reasons for non-utilisation of raw materials?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I am just coming to reply to this question.....So, the Tea Industry in Assam is an old industry. Yet of the Tea gardens in Cachar district about 60 per cent became obsolete, because.....

Shri HOOVER HYNNEWTA (Shillong): Sir, what is the word just expressed by the hon. Minister?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: "Obsolete" but the better phrase will be "superannuation",

The British firms which were the owners of most of the tea gardens in Cachar sold these gardens to the local people—people who purchased them have no sufficient money to invest. So, the industry is not developed adequately. Now, the Government of India have given five crores to the Tea Board for development, specially for replantation of these gardens. But it is very late, progress is slow.

Then, coming to the Textile Industry, there also we find that about the third of the industry, mostly in Bombay and other big cities, has become un-economic.

So, the condition of industries in India is such that a large percentage of them is not modernised. With regard to small-scale industries, the greatest difficulty is dearth of raw materials. In the recent National Development Council meeting, the Chairman Shri Ashoke Mehta postponed the meeting saying that the matter of raw material would be discussed later on another occasion. He will discuss it on the 15th and 16th March when the Sub-Committee on National Development Council on Power, Transport and Industry will take place. I am going to attend that meeting and ask why the Government of India is not giving proper allocation. Because in the case of major industries, Government of India's decision is to allocate 80 per cent of the raw material along with licences, but in the case of small-scale industries, no allocation of raw material is given, though the policy is there. Anybody can set up an industry provided he gets raw materials. They must give us raw materials. Now new industries are growing up in Assam and it is the small-scale industries which come first. If there is no raw materials, industrial development in the State will be retarded.

Now, Sir, Government of India have another policy that firms which export will be given extra foreign exchange. They are big industrialists and they are in big cities like Calcutta and Bombay. So, big industrialists get more benefit and advantage of raw materials and foreign exchange. So, the people who are in big cities and towns get the advantage of raw materials and foreign exchange more than other people. But this earning of foreign exchange should not be a privilege. It should a liability laid on them. What they earn in foreign exchange by export should be made available to growing industries in the hinterland areas. It is necessary to ask for capital from outside. Capital is not internal it flows where it is utilised. Now, the Centre has taken a decision that licences will be given to not only the Indian industrialists, but it will be given to foreign partners so that a large part of foreign exchange could be utilised easily.

Sir, a delegation from America has come here and they are touring in India. They are searching for Indian counter parts. So, Sir, in the matter of capital, the policy of the State Government for asking outsiders both from foreign countries and India is correct. Our requirement is very great. About Rs.1,00 crores will be necessary before this State gets properly industrialised, and for that purpose capital from outside has to be invited.

Now, Sir, a statement has been made by somebody—I do not know which that hon Member is—that there was no investment, no progress in Assam. My friend should not be so disheartened. The progress is there but it may not be as much as we desire. So, I have tried to find out the facts as to whether we are progressing, regressing or are static. The first thing I tried to find out is the public sector investment in industries, minerals and

powers in the three plans. In 10 years' time we have invested in minerals and industries Rs.129 crores and in power Rs.46.60 crores. Now let us see the investment in other States. In Andhra the investment in industries and minerals is Rs 39 crores, Bihar Rs.479 crores, Gujarat Rs.92 crores, Kerala Rs.77 crores, Maharashtra Rs. 53 crores, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 290 crores, Madras 114 crores, Mysore Rs.38 crores, Orissa Rs.138 crores, Punjab Rs.20 crores, West Bengal Rs.261 crores, U.P. Rs.48 crores and in power Andhra Rs.64 crores, Bihar Rs.82 crores, Gujarat Rs.85 crores, Kerala Rs.43 crores, Maharashtra Rs.121 crores, Madhya Pradesh Rs.76 crores, Madras Rs.115 crores, Mysore Rs.69 crores, Orissa Rs.44 crores, Punjab Rs 67 crores, Rajasthan Rs.35 crores, West Bengal Rs 49 crores, U.P. Rs.108 crores. It will be seen that in Assam we have only invested Rs.46 crores and we can only get return for Rs.46 crores. Sir, Madras was highly power intensive State even before independence and after independence they have spent Rs.115 crores—33 per cent of the First Plan outlay, 33 per cent of the Second Plan outlay and 30 per cent of the Third Plan outlay. Naturally Madras has been able to supply electricity to every village. We have started late but we have started. I may tell the hon. Members that before 1965 it was impossible for Assam to go for industries. Where was the power? There was no power before 1965 and in 1965 only we have been able to break through barrier. Umiyam has come into operation.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : Why there was no power? Who is responsible for it?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: If the hon. Members want to blame somebody, I have no objection.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : For whose fault the power was not there?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: For the purpose of election campaign the hon. Member can blame us and blame the Congress Party also.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : The Minister has given the comparative figures of other States. We have also given the figures in the same way. Now the Minister says that they started late. That is our point. What the Government was doing during these 17 years?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Sir, Assam was cut off from the rest of India due to partition. Before 1955 the Assam Railway Link was not stabilised. Therefore, large-scale industrial development was not possible; then industrial development could not be conceived of. We must take into account the physical and geographical difficulties. The second thing which I want to point out is the investment in industries and power by the Central Government and the State Government. Sir, the Central Government investment in the second plan was Rs.970 crores and in the first plan Rs.79 crores. In our State the investment in industries during the first plan was only Rs.1.3 crores and in the second plan Rs 8.1 crores. I do not want to take up the time of the House by giving the figures of other States.

Now, I will give the figures of the registered companies and their authorised capital because in order to know what is the progress in industrial development we must know how many companies were floated and what is

their capital investment. I have the figures from 1956 to 1960, i.e., the whole of the Third Plan. The number of companies floated in Andhra during the period is 103, and the authorised capital of these companies is Rs.4 crores. In Assam the number of companies floated is 63 with an authorised capital of Rs.58 crores, Bihar 86 companies with authorised capital of Rs.11 crores, Gujarat 72 companies and 24 crores of rupees, Kerala 201 companies with Rs. 8 crores, Maharashtra 75 companies with Rs.16 crores, Madras 967 companies with Rs.111 crores, Madhya Pradesh 223 companies with 83 crores of rupees, Orissa 57 companies with 12 crores, Rajasthan 82 companies with Rs.6 crores, U. P. 198 companies with an authorised capital of Rs.15 crores, West Bengal 1,847 companies with Rs.127 crores Bombay 693 companies with Rs.61 crores. Therefore, Sir, Assam's share was not insignificant in the whole march.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati): Out of the total authorised capital what is the paid-up capital of these companies?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I have not got the figure with me. It will take some time. Sir, these are the indicators of progress. We are also keeping pace with the march of progress. If I want to get the authorised capital of Assam I must have the authorised capital of other States also.

Now, Sir, what is the production capital employed? The production capital in Assam is Rs.93 crores, Andhra Rs.68 crores, Bihar Rs.289 crores, Gujarat Rs.222 crores, Jammu and Kashmir Rs.5 crores, Kerala Rs.56 crores, Madhya Pradesh Rs.32 crores, Madras Rs.936 crores, Orissa Rs.257 crores, Punjab Rs.86 crores, U. P. Rs.161 crores, West Bengal Rs.536 crores and Delhi Rs. 30 crores. This gives in a nutshell the progress registered by India in the industrial field. It will be appreciated that Assam is not lagging behind. We are making progress. The future of Assam lies in the industrial development. Sir, we have broken through two barriers—one was power. We have broken through the barrier and now there is surplus electricity in the State. With regard to transport, we are also breaking through the barrier. Broad gauge railway line is coming to Assam and we expect it in the next year. The movement of goods from Calcutta to Assam will be through broad gauge and from the rest of India through metre gauge. Therefore, the present difficulty will be removed to a great extent. Then the Government of India have been kind enough to take over the Joint Steamer Company. Therefore, investment in river transport is going to be from the Government of India side.

Therefore, river transport, railway transport and road transport also are much improved. All the rivers from Calcutta to Assam except the Ganga have been bridged. Bridging of the Ganga has been held up because it is linked up with the Farakka barrage, but that scheme is also under way and I can say that cheap transport from Calcutta to Assam is assured. Therefore, the basic handicaps in the industrial development on account of transport have been broken, that is to say, we have broken through these barriers and we look forward to quicker and better industrial development. So I would request my friends to help and assist us in creating a proper climate so that industrial development may be possible.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA : What is the proper climate?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Proper climate in the sense that we are inviting people from India as well as from abroad to invest the necessary capital for industries. Now, there are certain handicaps in this respect ; particularly after the Chinese aggression, there is a great deal of nervousness among the industrialists in regard to investment. We have told them that you need not fear because if there is aggression all the industries in India will be insured. But, Sir, human mind is human mind—they want assurance. I have seen, Sir, recently when I went to Bombay I discussed with the Government there regarding their industrial development. I was given to understand that every industry set up in Maharashtra, outside Bombay, will be given subsidised electricity, almost free land, water and power would be supplied on the spot, roads will be made, raw materials would be assured. With regard to building of factories they have opened a Bank so that as soon as a man gets a licence he may get the resources to build houses necessary. All these steps are being taken by other States to invite industrialists. Now, Sir, we are a backward State. We have not been able to give all these advantages. Land prices in Gauhati are the highest compared with other places. Therefore, a proper climate for all this is necessary not only from the side of the Government but also from the people because it is not the law which creates industries ; it is the interaction of men. If the interaction of men is there, industries will come. So I say, Sir, that it is of the utmost importance that in the States like Kashmir and Assam we should try to create a climate for industrial development and we should also try to march along with other States which have progressed far in this field. In this connection I am glad to say that our Chief Minister has been kind enough to take upon himself the question of discussing with the Government of India to invite not only Indian but also foreign capital for industrial development of this State. For this reason also a proper climate is necessary. This cannot be created by any and every one, it can be created only by the M. L. As. who are the representatives of the people. What other people say is nothing but what the M. L. As. say is law for the people. The Industrial Exhibition at Gauhati, Sir, has made an impact on the people. They say that it was for the first time that they have seen such industrial progress. For the first time also the people have realised that many things are manufactured in Assam. For example in the matter of machineries excepting for one type of machine, almost all the requirements of the tea gardens are manufactured in Assam and no import from outside is necessary. That shows the progress of industries in Assam.

Now, with regard to the arrangements made by the Government of Assam for the purpose of training our boys to make them fit for industrial development, there has been a question raised. Four years back we discovered a mistake in our Industrial Training Institutes. It was found that the boys who turned out of these institutes were not suitable for industries in Assam. Now a scheme has been taken up for apprenticeship training so that our boys would be suited for the purpose.

Mr. SPEAKER : Your time is up.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Yes, Sir, I am finishing. Now, in 1961 we took steps and made provision for 78 boys to be trained in apprenticeship ; in 1962, 380 boys were trained in apprenticeship ; in 1963, 461 boys were trained in apprenticeship and in this way we are increasing the number of such apprenticeship to make them fit for various industries in the State.

Shri ROTHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North) : Are all those boys who got such apprenticeship employed ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Yes, the only difficulty is with regard to those boys who come from places like Tezpur, Goalpara and others where there are no industries but in places like Gauhati and Tinsukia the boys got jobs and they do not find difficulty. So, Sir, this scheme of training our boys is taken up for the purpose of making them fit for modern industries. At present about 1,000 persons are under training in these Industrial Training Institutes, but you will appreciate, Sir, that the amount of employment generated in the small-scale industries in Assam is not much, it is only about 3,000 from 1947 till today. The number of boys employed in the small-scale industries is barely 3,000. However, we are going on with the scheme of absorbing the boys who come out of these Industrial Training Institutes.

Now, Sir, with regard to the Textile Mill which has been set up, the difficulty arose in fitting them in the Tezpur Textiles Mill but I can say that employment there also has been stabilised and the mill there is running. Moreover about 260 girls are being employed in the factory. With regard to the Associated Industries we were dissatisfied with the management of this industry. While the other industries have been able to start three shifts, this industry has not been able to start even two shifts. The question in regard to workers also has been very disturbing to us. So recently when I went to Bombay I discussed the matter with the Textile Commissioner, the result of which is that the Joint Director came and wanted to make an investigation. I have not yet got his report and look forward to getting it and will be able to find out the result of his investigation. Anyway I had also a discussion with some industrialists during the course of the Exhibition and most of them assured me that so far the question of employment of local people is concerned, they will give it their highest consideration. In fact they have said that it is not at our insistence but at their insistence that local people should be provided because by bringing people from Calcutta, the Managements have to pay them more than the local people. Therefore they try to run the industries with the help of the local people. But the great difficulty is with regard to the Managerial employment. As the hon. Members know some time back a Liaison Officer's post was created to look after the interest of the local people. Adequate consideration is not received with regard to Managerial jobs and in this context the Liaison Officer has not been able to succeed. So far as the proprietorial concerns are concerned, they manage their business by their own men. But so far as the Companies are concerned, they require Managers and it is here where we have not been able to secure adequate posts. Sir, I hope I have replied to most of the points raised by the hon. Members. One point remains with regard to employment in Tea Gardens raised by Shri Durgeswar Saikia.

Mr. SPEAKER : You reserve this point to Budget Discussion.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : All right, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Sarma, will you be able to finish your speech within ten minutes ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara) : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I would like to discuss the problems of food and high prices of the foodstuffs. Sir, the Governor has rightly highlighted the political problems of the State and we hope, Sir, sooner the problems are solved is better for the country as a whole. Sir, in the context of this Emergency the problem of food and high price should be viewed with all emphasis. I would suggest that if it is possible for us to arrest the rising prices then we shall be able to solve and overcome much of the problems of the State. As we have found, Sir, this high cost of foodstuff and scarcity of foodstuffs resulted in various problems and this has affected the law and order situation of the State. We must maintain the law and order situation and solve various other problems and difficulties which have been created after the Chinese aggression.

Sir, I would like to give emphasis on the law and order situation and in this context I would suggest that the Police Department should be equipped with all modern equipments and should be enlarged so that the Department can effectively tackle the law and order problem that arises often and on. Sir, the other day Shri Khemka mentioned about an incident which occurred in Shiilong but the Police could not go to the spot before the gang left the place. Sir, we must admit that the Police in this State has to face serious problems for want of proper equipment and for which they cannot effectively deal with the various problems. I, therefore, suggest that this Department should be thoroughly reorganised and should be equipped with all modern equipments.

Sir, high cost of living has created certain problems not only among the general public but also among the Government employees. They have now decided to continue the No Work Day. This will create a problem of corruption; because the employees having no other alternative will be bound to resort to corrupt practices because these people at large are very much distressed due to high cost of living. So they will be compelled to carry on this corrupt practice which is running rampant in this State in every walk of life. The crux of the problem is that until and unless we arrest the rising prices and ensure fair distribution of foodstuff, this problem will be more and more. Sir, in this connection I would like to mention about the food position in the Tea Gardens also. Sir, there are about 12 lakh people in the Tea Gardens of this State. For the Tea Gardens the Government has not taken any notice of this problem. In the Tea Gardens shops are there. The Management of the industries is to supply rice and atta of certain quantity to the labourers. But the foodstuff supplied is so inferior and unfit for human consumption that the workers refuse it. I do not know why this bad quality of rice is supplied in the Tea Gardens. Sugar allotted to the Tea Gardens is lifted by the Management. But a fair proportion of sugar goes to black-market. So, Sir, the other day I had a discussion with the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang and I suggested that sugar should be distributed through the Fair Price Shops in Tea Gardens instead of giving to the retailer so that some amount of control can be exercised. I also found that mustard oil was sold at Rs.5 to Rs.6 in some places. I, therefore, suggested that the Tea Garden shops should be registered. The shops dealing with foodstuffs should be registered first and after registration these shops should be allowed to deal with foodstuff and a list showing the prices of all commodities should be displayed in the shops for the information of the consumers.

Secondly, Sir, I have mentioned about the problem of corruption and I suggest that Vigilance Committee is not enough to tackle these problems. I do not know what is the procedure adopted by the Vigilance Committee.

Sir, what I find is that there has been some anomaly in the matter of nominating candidates to Town Committee, Municipality and Panchayat. For instance, say in Dhhekiajuli Town Committee two persons are nominated—one is a defaulter to the extent of say Rs.300 and he does not reside in the town and he has to come from a distance of about 9 miles; yet he is nominated by the Department. The other one is a dismissed Police Constable. So, I say, Sir, this is a sort of corruption and these things will have some respect to this Government. Sir, in this way there are various sources of corruption which cannot be effectively dealt with by the Vigilance Commission. Sir, the Governor has mentioned in his Address that some Head Assistants and low-paid employees were dismissed and investigations are being made against some low-paid employees also. But what about the corruption of high officials and whether the Vigilance Commission is competent enough to deal with those matters? Sir, unless and until we can root out corruption the people will have no faith in the administration and the problem of law and order will remain as it is.

Sir, on agriculture also I would like to say one thing. Last time one Tea Garden Manager wanted to grow potato in the garden and for this he repeatedly approached the Agriculture Department for potato seeds and I also personally met the Agriculture Minister who told me that all these potato seeds were supplied through the Panchayat and directed to come through the Panchayat. It is because of this he could not grow potato. Sir, if it is supplied through the Panchayat, some other agency should be there which could serve the purposes of the Tea Gardens also. Sir, in some gardens there are facilities for growing such kind of commodities and for these gardens some facilities should be offered so that they can grow more food in their gardens. Sir, I hope the Agriculture Department will in future surely make available this kind of facility to the Tea Gardens. Sir, the other day Shri Manik Chandra Das spoke about the monopoly of the Excise Department and Industries Department and Cinema licences. Sir, we are going to build up a socialist society. Naturally in a socialistic pattern of society this monopoly is quite contrary. Without the knowledge of the Government this Excise monopoly is going on. I would, therefore, suggest that the monopolistic tendencies in these Departments should be properly checked and there should be a fair deal from this side also.

Sir, regarding Family Planning I would like to say a few words. Sir, we have a plan of Family Planning but it seems this planning will have no use unless we can arrest the growth of population in this country and specially in the Tea Garden areas. In the Tea Gardens I have found that the population is increasing at an alarming rate and some Managers of some Tea Gardens have told me that if the population of the tea garden labourers increases in this way then we will have no space in the gardens to stand even. I, therefore, suggest that steps should be taken to arrest the growth of population in these industrial areas so that we can achieve our desired results in other fields also.

Sir, I would like to speak about the food problem in view of the Emergency which is going on in our country. The problem of food and its high prices should be tackled vigorously. Sir, I do not understand how the food-prices are going on increasing day by day in spite of the Defence of India Rules, etc.

With these few words, Sir, I resume my seat.

***Sbri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Speakers, Sir, I confess that because of my absence from this House for a number of days I have not been able to go through the speeches of all the hon. Members. I have to depend mostly on the concise notes of the speeches in my observation. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not perhaps touch rigidly upon all the points raised by the hon. Members. With all my sincerity I would like to go to some basic questions of this whole State, i.e., about its present condition and also about its future. I assume that the Governor's Address has not been able to cover everything what is required for the State. It has dealt with a large number of subjects but on the other hand quite a large number of important subjects also remain untouched. But it will be my endeavour to touch the basic questions of this State. In this particular zone we have a diverse population belonging to various tribes of population both of the hills and of the plains, speaking different languages and so on. Sir, that is one side of the picture and the other side of the picture is that God has given us everything—whether it is mineral resources or paper—everything is available in this area. Now, what is wanted is that if we are to live with prestige and dignity in this area and with strength, what is basically required is a proper understanding among the diverse population of this State. I have in my mind that such a situation could be brought about only by us—by the people living in this area. Yesterday I felt a bit uneasy when certain Members referred to some news-item about the discovery of some unlicensed arms and some newspapers blaming this community or that community. I personally feel that nobody has any right to blame this community or that community, not even the Nagas. There are certain reasons for which the Nagas are not behaving as it should be and for that they should not be blamed. Similarly, in Assam also, for example, certain things are very often said about the Mizo District. Well, I know the difficulties of the Mizo people. The great hardship of the Mizo people is the problem of water scarcity, the problem of communication and so on and so forth. When with all these handicaps, if sometimes they are annoyed, I don't mind at all. My duty is to be tolerant—my duty is to see that these handicaps or difficulties are removed. Sir, what I would like to emphasise is this. We have the political problem, there is no denying the fact about the existence of this problem, there is the problem of the hills. My friend, Mr. Brington Buhai Lyngdoh has said the Governor has not mentioned about this political problem in his Address. There is no denying the fact that we have got a number of problems. We have the economic problem, we have the social problems, problem of development and so on. I would like to maintain that if anybody is capable of solving these problems, it is the leaders of the people of this region, they are the people who are capable of solving them. Therefore, I would like to insist that we should all shoulder all these problems, political, economic, social or whatever it may be with full burden. Let us thrash them out fully, let us come to grips and find out their solution and live as a united and strong people. I do not believe in disintegration at all. I do not think disintegration can bring peace and prosperity to the community. This disintegration cannot bring unity to our people. Is peace prevailing in the Nagaland? No. Will this disintegration bring peace? What is wanted is to provide for the hungry mouths, to provide educational facilities, communication and so on and so forth. All these things are required if we want to do good to the people. This should be our duty. We can't play about politics by dividing ourselves in various ways. That won't help the people

in any way. Therefore, I would submit, Sir, let us come into grips of all these problems and assume the responsibility of solving them ourselves. I cannot satisfy myself by expecting others to solve these problems. They will never be solved. The problems will be more complicated. Therefore, I invite everybody, all my friends on the other side and on this said also, let us come into grip of all these problems and find out the real solution. There are other things for which there is reason to feel perturbed. The question of the Chinese, Pakistanis and so on. Therefore, posterity will blame us if we do not become strong and make our country strong, particularly this part of the country, strong. I do not believe in any talk about disintegration. Therefore, I would appeal to everybody to think in terms of integration and consolidation which will bring strength to us. I would request the hon. Members to give these few points their serious consideration because actually everything else depends upon this. We talk about industries, planning. Well we can have nothing. You won't have even the security of this part of the country unless we know how to live together and how to adjust our problems whether economic problem or the problems of language or whatever it may be. We better forget about our planning and other things unless we are capable of living together. Now, I would like to come to something about the economic condition of our State.

The hon. Members have very rightly devoted a lot of attention to the very important problems like agriculture, industries, transport and so on. I can say in the presence of my colleague, the Minister for Agriculture, that what we have achieved so far in agriculture is very insignificant. We have to do much more. Hon. Shri Hoover Hynniewta said about the failure of hill agriculture. We have been able to do absolutely nothing about it. The orange groves are dying and we have been able to do nothing about it. Therefore, in the field of agriculture, more particularly the agriculture in the hills, we have to give much more attention. Why? Because Assam with its vast area of 14,000 square miles, and practically half of it are hills. If there is no improvement of agriculture in the hills, improvement of agriculture in the plains will not be sufficient. Even improvement of agriculture in the plains is very insignificant. On the other hand, it must be admitted that these are very difficult problems. When the foreign ambassadors came, we asked the Russian Ambassador how did Russia improve the hill agriculture? I do not think they have been able to do much. Similarly, agriculture in the hills is a very difficult subject and requires a lot of research work. Therefore, I fully agree with the hon. Member, Shri Hoover Hynniewta that we should have a good number of Agricultural Research Farms in the hill Districts.

With regard to development of industries we require the raw materials, power, capital, and technical know-how. It is true we have the raw materials but we do not have the rest, namely, capital, technical know-how and power. That is why industries have not developed in our State. This is a very backward State in respect of industries and for this we have to be sorry. It is true that during the course of these 17 years since Independence if we could have better results in the field of industrial development that would have been a great credit for us. But unfortunately, it has not happened so.

But something has happened, the base that is required for industrial development is fund, and I suppose with power and with the gradual development of communication, it will be possible for establishment of

more industries in our State. Sir, I would like to refer to a very unfortunate circular issued by the Under Secretary of the Appointment Department which created a lot of dis-satisfaction. Sir, after the Constitution came into force in our country, all bars in the matter of appointment to Government service because of birth as well as language became unconstitutional, that means nobody could be debarred from appointment in Government service because he does not belong to a particular place, because he does not know a particular language. This is a Fundamental Right and this was when this Constitution came into force, and after that the Removal of Disqualification for Employment Act was passed. Now, Sir, what happened was that some States like West Bengal and Bihar did issue certain circulars saying that in the industries or in the business houses or in Government service people of that State should be given preference. They did issue some circulars but they had to withdraw all these circulars because the Government of India on examination found these to be unconstitutional. Sir, so far as this circular about which I am referring to, is concerned when these demands from various States went to the Government of India about the reservation of appointments and so on and so forth, in the Chief Ministers' Conference, the Union Home Minister stated that it would be unconstitutional to have these reservations, but he stated that in case of those people whose lands have been acquired for giving them appointment by giving special consideration for that would not be illegal. That decision of the Chief Ministers' Conference, was communicated to this Government, but unfortunately one of our Under Secretaries failing to realise the particular subject on which emphasis has to be given repeated the earlier things about the removal of disqualification and so on and so forth. But now that circular has been withdrawn. I am sorry that it created a lot of resentment and misunderstanding.

Sir, in the field of industries the hon. Members can rightly blame the Government, at least ask a question as to why the State is slow in the field of industrial development. The reasons are various. Lot of explanations could be given but we do admit that our progress is slow. One reason for that is that what we have are the raw materials and nothing else, no power, no technical know-how, no capital—nothing of the kind. That is why we had to depend or borrow everything from elsewhere. That is why we lists do not find Assam a very convenient place for establishment of industries for various reasons such as defects of communication, remoteness, inadequate power supply and finally the problem of foreign aggression. Therefore, depending on them, at least my mind is quite clear, our industrial development would never be accelerated. We welcome them, let them come, but from whatever we have gained from our experience during all these years, we feel that if we merely depend on the private capitalists for establishment of industries, there will be no industrialisation of Assam. Therefore, the other alternative is the public sector for which we require capital. One Member asked my colleague the Minister for Industries, why do you call Assam a handicapped State? 'Handicapped State' we call for the simple reason that in all these three plans, out of the total amount of each plan about half of the investment was expected from the private sector; for example, as he has stated in the Plan about Rs.7,000 crores are expected to be in the public sector. In Assam and in Kashmir we did not get the benefit of the private sector investment during all these three years at least in proportion to what is provided in the plan. That is why this public sector investment did not find it attractive to invest capital here. To that extent our Plan got stuck up.

We did not get the benefit of that amount. Therefore, we are trying now, my colleague has already told you that he took up in the Sub-Committee of the National Development Council of which he is a member, and I also when I attended the National Development Council stated that because, if not for other reasons, for this reason alone, we should have a higher allocation for our development and we hope this will receive consideration.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua mentioned about the fluctuation or the low per capita income in our State. It is true that in certain years there is fluctuation in the per capita income—one of the main reasons is the failure of agriculture, and that also mainly on account of floods; the other thing is the slow rate of development of industries. The problem of tackling the floods we have been trying very seriously at all levels. Myself and my colleague in every meeting of the National Development Council or the Flood Control Board have been exerting ourselves fully for tackling this problem in the most serious way Sir, if I may say the main difficulty has been particularly about the Brahmaputra erosion problem. The Ministry for Irrigation and Power technically have not been able to find out and tell us what should be done for this problem of erosion. Therefore, it is also a very serious problem and although we have been trying our best it is taking a long time to get these things sorted out. Sit, in this connection many of the hon. Members have mentioned about the distress of the eroded families. I have seen large numbers—thousands of eroded families in the Majuli area and on the South Bank also in various places. Actually their distress is very great. We have all our sympathy. We are trying to do our best, but this is really becoming a very serious problem; the hon. Members have rightly mentioned about the distress caused by high cost of living. High price, soaring price and also the scarcity of essential commodities and for these the people have been undergoing great hardship, no doubt, although it is not confined to our State, the country as a whole had to face this trial last year and this is a great trial, comparatively we consider ourselves lucky that this distress was not as great as suffered by many other States. Never-the-less, particularly those families whose income is low, for them this was a very difficult period through which they had passed. The question is, why in spite of the Defence of India Rules and all that, we have not been able to keep down the prices? Sir, the Defence of India Rules are there and of course, it is not that they have not been used. I have the figures here and I can say that a lot of prosecutions have taken place under the Defence of India Rules and under the Essential Commodities Act and so on and so forth.

The monetary policy of the country has a lot to do with regard to the price of commodities. We expect that the new Budget of the Central Government would give a lot of relief to the people. We are also expecting that the prices would come down.

Hon. Member Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah very impatiently mentioned about the beggars and the landless people. I share his emotion. Really it is very true that even after 17 years of freedom we have not been able to remove beggars and also solve the problem of the landless people. Personally I think that to reach the ideal economic condition we will require a few more years when our economy would take off and more development will take place. Then it would be possible to remove these problems.

Sir, about arrest of C.P.I. members belonging to the leftist group, about which Shri Barbaruah mentioned yesterday, viz., Shri Achintya Bhattacharjee and others, the Home Minister of the Government of India has given his

detailed explanation for which the Government had to take this unpleasant step all over the country. I would not like to add anything to that, but I really feel very much concerned that there should be a party in the country who lends it support to the Chinese. From the security point of view that becomes very dangerous. Therefore, with regard to this matter I would draw the attention of the hon. Members to the Government of India's view.

Hon. Members have mentioned about retrenchment of the Tea Garden labourers. I request my colleague—the Labour Minister to look into this retrenchment.

Sir, Dr. Ghanashyam Das has noticed a large number of anomalies and imperfection in the co-operative system, so did say Shri Nichols-Roy, also. We know about it, but unfortunately we have no other alternative than to stick to this co-operative system of procurement. Co-operatives have a lot of defects, but in spite of that it is progressively showing improvement and I hope that improvement will continue.

Sir, I would not contest the hon. Members or would challenge the hon. Members when they point out any defect in the administration, because I do not claim that the administration is perfect. I know myself that we have lot of defects at all levels and when these criticisms are made; our duty is to, at least my duty, is to see that whenever criticisms are made and whenever we find that criticisms are justified, instead of trying to defend ourselves, without attempting to defend indefensibility, we should try to rectify ourselves.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North): There are requests also.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Sir, we are very grateful to the hon. Members for pointing out the various defects in the administration. It is only through their critical eyes that many things come to the notice of the Government. Therefore, although at times we may quarrel in this House, they may rest assured that we are very grateful for their criticisms because that helps the administration to correct itself.

Sir, with regard to the problem of security which has engaged the attention of so many hon. Members, it is really a subject on which there can be no complacency. We have to be very vigilant. I cannot say that the security taken by us is adequate, but we are trying our best to improve the situation. We have to take security either on this side of the border or that side of our border or inside the State. But nevertheless, we should not look to only one single incident. There are so many incidents and whenever any incident occurs, we are looking into it and are taking proper steps. In future also there should be no complacency in a State like Assam.

Sir, hon. Member Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee has mentioned about some Pakistanis who came from Pakistan and remained in Katigora. Sir, I have no hesitation in saying here that not all of them were turned out. Some of them have gone and some remained. Sir, this is a case where promise cannot be given. Further enquiries in this respect are going on.

Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee has again mentioned about this particular area of Karimganj which is under occupation of Pakistan. In this connection, I may inform the hon. Member that it is not under the jurisdiction of Boundary Demarcation Commission to take possession or give possession of this area. Moreover, there are various places which fall in our State and similarly there are many other places which fall in Pakistan side. Boundary Demarcation Commission's decision should be accepted by both the Governments and then and then only the question of taking over or handing over of areas comes. Even now in Goalpara District there are some areas of Pakistan in our occupation. So, we have to wait till the final decision.

The hon. Member has also mentioned about one Additional District Magistrate who sought permission to appeal to the Supreme Court and permission was refused by the Government. The present position is this—This officer confessed before the High Court that it was a mistake on his part to go to the High Court and the High Court showed some consideration and imposed a small fine. But the officer had the option to file a case. The Law Department felt that there was no case.

Sir, about suspension of the Executive Engineer in the Embankment and Drainage Department, my colleague has already replied to this question.

There are many subjects on which the hon. Members have devoted their time and attention. Sir, it will not be possible for me to go through all of them in detail. Now, I will say a few words regarding the sugar position in Shillong since many Members specially Shri Hoover Hynniewta raised this issue. I must not deny that such a bad situation developed in Shillong. Sir, it is a fact that not only in Shillong where many essential commodities are in shortage, but this is so in every towns and cities like Calcutta, Bombay, etc. But even there, no law and order problem was created. My colleague, the Minister-in-charge of Supply, has given the necessary direction to the Director of Supplies and I hope there will be no scarcity of sugar in the town. In this connection an enquiry will be held.

Shri HOOVER HYNNIEWTA (Shillong): Sir, whether this enquiry will be held in presence of public as it will be taken in the interest of public?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Certainly some member of the public will hear them.

Sir, we have transport bottleneck which a constant problem to our State in spite of the assurances given by the Railway Department for maximum capacity. But we find that that assurance has not been fulfilled. We are suffering very badly for this transport difficulty. Anyhow, I met the Director and the Director gave me a note after consulting the Deputy Commissioner. I am reading this note:—

"I discussed with Deputy Commissioner, Khasi and Jaintia Hills about liberal issue of sugar to the retailers of Shillong. He told me that with fresh arrival of sugar he has been gradually increasing the number of retailers. About 60 wagons of sugar were due to come to Shillong by the

end of February of which only 6 wagons have arrived. Although the Trade Adviser, Calcutta intimated Government by wire that sugar is rushed to Assam by three special trains of 80 wagons each, we cannot be complacent until adequate quantity is physically received here. The present stock is a little over 1,600 bags and it is necessary to ensure that not a grain of sugar is wasted by lavish use of it. The Deputy Commissioner issued sugar to 185 retail shops on 2nd February, 1955 and assured me that he would increase the number further."

Mr. Hoover Hynniewta, M. L. A., furnished a list of about 200 retailers and demanded that they too should be allotted sugar. The Deputy Commissioner already issued sugar to 21 of these shopkeepers and got an enquiry made about the rest. He is issuing sugar to most of them to day.

Mr. Hynniewta mentioned the name of a person—I need not mention his name here—of Burabazar who has got sugar but who is not a dealer in sugar. I brought this to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner agreed to hold an enquiry into the matter.

The Minister, Supply has passed an order directing a thorough enquiry by an officer of the rank of a Commissioner into the cause of short supply of sugar in Shillong and the unfortunate incident of 24th night.

Shri HOOVER HYNNIEWTA: May I make a submission? When the Deputy Commissioner himself is in the dock and is an accused and when this man was selected by him, how can he make an enquiry? I feel that since the Government has decided to appoint a Commission to enquire into this matter, this matter should also be referred to that Commission, and in order to facilitate enquiry the Deputy Commissioner should be given some holiday.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: Sir, the Fourth Plan is to be drawn up now. Why I am mentioning this is that we have various ideas and a lot of improvements are to be brought about in our State. In order to give shape to our ideas which we have in our minds, they will have to be incorporated in our Plan. So, the preparation of the Fourth Plan in a perfect way is very important and the task is before us now. The hon. Members must have read a small booklet in which the draft outline of the Fourth Plan is given. Sir, what I would like to submit is that our future will very much depend on how suitably we can draw up our Plan. Therefore, I would request the hon. Members to give their best attention to this subject. Personally I have no doubt that although we have a large number of problems in our State, some of which appear to be very difficult, I am very much optimistic about our future. I am saying this not only now but on previous occasions I said so. This is my conviction that the future of Assam is very bright. In spite of the fact that we have a number of problems—problems of hills, problems of plains and problems of floods and all that, our future is bright. I am confident that our young generation is a very bright set of people and in their hands the future of Assam will be quite safe. It is my conviction that Assam will give better account of herself to the country. Whatever difficulties we have, difficulties of plains, hills and difficulties of administration, we will be able to solve them. We will have to take the responsibility upon ourselves to solve these problems.

With these few words, I conclude my speech.

Shri ROTHINDRA NATH SEN: What about the publication of the Mehrotra Commission Report?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA: We have already discussed it in the cabinet, but the exact date of publication I cannot say. We will try to publish it soon.

Mr. SPEAKSR: Will the hon. Members withdraw their amendments?

(Voices: No, no.)

Then I put the amendments.

The question is that at the end of the motion moved by Shri Mohi Kanta Das relating to the Governor's Address, the following may be added:

"But the House regrets that the Governor has failed to mention in his Address:—

1. The complete failure of the Assam Government to maintain law and order in the State, specially in the Border areas of Assam;

2. The complete failure of the State Government in checking corruption favouritism and nepotism, in the administration;

3. The complete failure of the Government in bringing to the book, the hoarders, black-marketeers, adulterators, profiteers and other anti-social elements;

4. The failure on the part of the Government to check and deport illegal Pak-infiltrators;

5. The complete failure of the Government in arresting the rise in prices of essential commodities and maintaining adequate supply of the commodities;

6. The complete failure of the Government in respect of Industrial Development *vis-a-vis* solving the unemployment problem;

7. The failure of the Government to increase agricultural productions under five year plan and schemes;

8. The failure of the Government in respect of publication of Mehrotra Commission report on Silchar Police firing in 1961 and Naidu Commission report on Shillong Police firing in 1964;

9. The failure of the Government to give any indication about its stand on the Union Official Language Policy;

10. The failure of the Government in respect of rehabilitating the flood and erosion affected people and the landless people of the State;

11. The failure of the Government in the field of educational advancement in the State;

12. The failure of the Government to offer amenities and to improve the living condition of the Tea Garden labourers;

13. The complete failure of the Government the existing paddy procurement policy;

14. The complete failure of the Government to create enthusiasm in the people for successful co-operative movement in the State;

15. The failure of the Government in maintaining and improving the Transport Service in the State;

16. The failure of the Government in pursuing uniform policy in respect of all the Trade Union Organisations in the State which have been disturbed by the Government by indulging in high-handedness and harassment in the interest of the party in power;

17. The complete failure of the Government in improving the lot of the tribals and backward people of the State ;

18. The complete failure of the Government in implementing the Third Five Year Plan Scheme for the improvement of communication and failure in maintaining roads, ferries, etc., by the Public Works Department ;

19. Complete failure of the Government to meet the minimum requirement of the low-paid employees of the Government ;

20. Failure of the Government to curb the forces of disintegration in the State of Assam ;

21. Failure of the Government to implement Rehabilitation Scheme of the new migrants ;

22. Failure of the Government to control recurrence of floods in the State."

(The House divided)

Ayes

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Brington Buhai Lyngdoh. | 6. Shri Rampirit Rudrapaul. |
| 2. Shri Dulal Chandra Barua. | 7. Shri Rothindra Nath Sen. |
| 3. Shri Hoover Hynniewta. | 8. Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta. |
| 4. Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah. | 9. Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee. |
| 5. Shri Nanda Kishore Singha. | 10. Shri Zahirul Islam. |

Noes

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Moulana Abdul Jalil Chowdhury. | 22. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi. |
| 2. Shri Akshoy Kumar Das. | 23. Shri Khogendra Nath Nath. |
| 3. Shri Baidyanath Mookerjee. | 24. Shri Lalit Kumar Doley. |
| 4. Shri Bali Ram Das. | 25. Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta. |
| 5. Shri Bazlul Basit. | 26. Shri Mahadev Das. |
| 6. Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha. | 27. Shri Manik Chandra Das. |
| 7. Shri Bishnulal Upadhyaya. | 28. Shri Matlebuddin. |
| 8. Shri Biswadev Sarma. | 29. Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury. |
| 9. Shri Dandiram Dutta. | 30. Shri Molia Tanti. |
| 10. Shri Derajuddin Sarkar. | 31. Shri Muhammad Umaruddin. |
| 11. Shri Devendra Nath Sarma. | 32. Shri Omeo Kumar Das. |
| 12. Shri Dhaniram Talukdar. | 33. Shri Radhakishan Khemka. |
| 13. Shri Durgeswar Saikia. | 34. Shri Radhika Ram Das. |
| 14. Shri Enowell Pohshna. | 35. Dr. Ram Prasad Choubey. |
| 15. Shri Emongsing Sangma. | 36. Shri Ramdeb Malah. |
| 16. Shri Emerson Momin. | 37. Shri Rup Nath Brahma. |
| 17. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. | 38. Shri Sai Sai Terang. |
| 18. Dr. Ghanashyam Das. | 39. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami. |
| 19. Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi. | 40. Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi. |
| 20. Shri Harendra Nath Talukdar. | 41. Shri Surendra Nath Das. |
| 21. Shri Indreswar Khaund. | 42. Shri Upendra Nath Sanatan. |

Mr. SPEAKER: Ayes:	10
Noes:	42

The Motion is lost.

Mr. SPEAKER: I put the main motion.

The question is that "The Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to this House on the 22nd February, 1965.

(The question was adopted.)

Adjournment

The Assembly then adjourned till 10 A. M., on Thursday, the 4th March, 1965.

Shillong,
The 25th September, 1965. }

R. C. CHAUDHURI,
Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly.

