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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A.M. on Tuesday, the 17th March 1959.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair, seven Ministers, four Deputy Ministers and seventy-five Members.

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given).

Location of the Criminal Court at Nalbari in a rented house

***Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:**

***23.** Will the Minister-in-charge of Judicial be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Criminal Court at Nalbari is to sit in a rented house since a period of about three years ?
- (b) If so, what is the total amount given as rent by the Government ?
- (c) Whether Government feels necessity of a permanent Court building at Nalbari ?
- (d) If so, whether Government propose to construct the same ?
- (e) If the reply to (d) above is in the affirmative, when and in what area of the town the permanent Court building at Nalbari will be constructed ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Judicial)
replied :

23. (a)—Yes, since 1st January 1957.

(b)—Rs.2,600 till 28th February 1959.

(c)—There may be such a necessity but the construction of the Court building must also depend on availability of funds.

(d)—Not at present.

(e)—Does not arise.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Whether any land has been acquired for the purpose ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Judicial) I want notice of that question.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Does the Hon'ble Minister require notice to answer this question ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I have no information, I will enquire from the Revenue Department.

Temporary Settlement of lands for cultivation in Professional Grazing Reserves and Village Grazing Reserves

Md. NURUL ISLAM (Dhing) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government have issued circulars stopping temporary settlement of low lying lands in the Village Grazing Reserves and Professional Grazing Reserves and other Government waste lands granted for the purpose of Boro cultivation in connection with Grow-More-Food Campaign and to relieve the people of food scarcity in the District of Nowgong ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that there is still great scarcity of food and the distressed people are put to more difficulties when the said waste low lying lands are not settled with them again ?

(c) Whether Government will be pleased to open such lands as before and settle the same with the distressed people till the food situation improves to the expectations of the people and the Government ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

24. (a)—In view of the Land Settlement Policy adopted in the Government Resolution of 25th September 1958 and of the inadvisability of allowing people to cultivate temporarily in the Grazing Reserves which is likely to lead to complications, the proposal of Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong for throwing open temporarily some areas from the Professional Grazing Reserves and Village Grazing Grounds, was not approved by Government. The Deputy Commissioner was, however, directed to examine if the area of the Reserves found suitable for Boro cultivation was in excess of the requirement of the grazing and if so to submit formal proposal for de-reservation. Later, on receipt of reports that considerable progress of Boro cultivation in some of the areas had already been made following precedents of the past years, temporary cultivation for this year only has been allowed as a special case.

(b)—Temporary allotment of land for cultivation in the Professional Grazing Reserves and Village Grazing Grounds cannot be made an annual feature nor can it remove the distress of the people. Greater distress to the people may ensue if due regard is not given for the maintenance of the Grazing Reserves which are essential for the agriculture economy of the country as a whole.

(c)—Cases will be decided on their own merits according to the exigencies of time and the circumstances.

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM (Dhing) Is it a loss to Government if these reserves are opened to cultivation temporarily to allow grow-more-food? What is the difficulty?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The difficulty is that it is illegal. It will have to be dereserved first and then settle with the people. But keeping it as Reserve and open it for cultivation then it will be illegal.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: (Gauhati): The question was with regard to three categories—Village Grazing Reserves, Professional Grazing Reserves and other Government waste land. May I know whether the answer with regard to "other Government waste lands" also is the same as that with regard to Village Grazing Reserves and Professional Grazing Reserves?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): That is not so. Other waste lands can be settled immediately if there is demand.

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM (Dhing): Formerly some lands from these Reserves were settled temporarily with the people but all on a sudden why it was stopped in view of the fact that there is demand from the people of the district?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I had already replied that it is illegal. As a matter of fact cases cropped up in which graziers assaulted the growers and there were criminal cases. In the Grazing Reserves the public have a right to graze their cattle. So these Reserves will have to be dereserved first and then open them for cultivation.

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM: Has Government done illegal things before?

Shri HARESWAR DAS It happens sometimes.

Shri LILA KANTA BORA (Kaliabar): Lands which are fit for cultivation are necessarily low lying, if so, will Government consider that these lands be thrown open for cultivation?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The reply is already there at (c) that "cases will be decided on their own merits."

Maulavi MAHAMMAD IDRIS (Rupaihat): It has been replied that on second consideration these low-lying lands have been allowed for Boro cultivation as a special case, I want to know the date when this order was passed?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Then I shall have to find out Sir. But at the moment I can only say this: That it happened in regard to three Village Grazing Reserves where boro cultivation had already far advanced so something had to be done not to disturb that cultivation. This may be about two months back.

Shri CHATRA SINGH TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Do Government propose to open these lands under Village Grazing Reserves and Professional Grazing Reserves provided the cultivators form themselves into Growers' Co-operative Societies?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: No Sir.

Motor Tax from the District of Nowgong in 1957-58

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM (Dhing) asked :

*25. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the amount realised by way of Motor tax from the district of Nowgong during the year 1957-58 ?
- (b) What is the amount given to the Nowgong Municipality as share from this tax in 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that only Rs.12,200 was given each year ?
- (d) In consideration of the heavy traffic and consequent damages caused to the town roads of Nowgong each year whether Government are aware that this amount of grant is too meagre to repair the damages caused ?
- (e) Whether the Government will be pleased to enhance the rate of grant enabling the Municipality to make and repair the damaged road ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

25. (a)—Rs.3,15,118.

(b)—Rs.12,200 in 1957-58 and Rs.13,200 in 1958-59.

(c)—No, Rs.13,200 has been given during current year as stated above.

(d)—Government have no precise information about the extent of damage to Municipal roads due to heavy traffic, but it is likely that the grants from the Motor Vehicles Tax alone is not sufficient to keep the roads in repair.

(e)—The grants to all Local Bodies during current year was increased by Rs.40,000, as a result of which Nowgong Municipality also got a slightly higher allocation than in previous years. No assurance can be given about further increase of the grant at this stage, as this will depend entirely on the State's financial position.

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM (Dhing): Does not the Government think that this amount is very poor in view of the fact that the town is growing and is expanding with a large number of population residing in it and also along with this large population the number of vehicles has also increased and these vehicles damage the roads ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Even if I think so, the whole thing will have to depend on our financial state. Similarly, other Municipalities have to bear the burden of a expenditure for maintenance of their roads.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Do Government think that so far as the question of Nowgong Town is concerned, it deserves special consideration in so far as this is a centre town in the District and most of the roads of the District lead to the town unlike other towns in the State.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : If the hon. Member desires that special consideration should be given to Nowgong I shall consider the matter, Sir.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): What is the percentage of share from motor vehicle tax that is granted to the Municipality in a Subdivision or District ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : The whole position has now changed. Formerly under section 21 of the Assam Motor Vehicle Taxation Act there was statutory obligation on the part of the Government to give these grants. But since the adaptation under the Government of India Act, 1958 this provision has been deleted and there is no longer any statutory obligation on the part of the Government to make any contribution; but Government have been giving one-eleventh of the total receipts to the local bodies.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur): Is it a fact that this grant is given as a compensation grant in view of the fact.....

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : This is only given as a help to the Municipality and not for the purpose of maintenance of roads.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGRAWALA : Originally the Municipality had power to tax these vehicles but that power

has been taken away by the Government. Had that power remained with the Municipality they would have got more from this source ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):

There is no statutory right so far as local bodies are concerned to get this grant, but Government have been continuing to give this grant on the basis of one-eleventh of receipts from this source.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :

Whether this grant to the Municipality is primarily meant for being spent for the roads or also for other purposes ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : It goes to the receipts of the local bodies.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table).

Establishment of two dispensaries at Dusitimukh and Kuruabahi of Golaghat Subdivision

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :

72. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is not a single Dispensary or a Hospital throughout the entire northern Plains Tribal Areas of Golaghat Subdivision, *viz.*, Northern portion of Dergaon, Missamara, Rungamatty, Mahura and Bokakhat Mauzas and the whole of the Ahatguri Mauza?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the above mentioned areas are predominantly inhabited by Plains Tribal and Scheduled Castes people who have been deprived of all sorts of medical help ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the areas mentioned above are flood affected where the people during flood time suffer immensely causing loss of life to many every year for want of proper medical treatment ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that proposal for establishment of two dispensaries, one at Dusitimukh and other at Kuruabahi of Golaghat Subdivision was made by the Government ?
- (e) If so, what steps have been taken in the matter ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that a representation on behalf of the Plains Tribal people of Golaghat Subdivision was made in this respect to the Chief Minister signed by the Members of Legislative Assembly of Golaghat and Plains Tribal Member of Legislative Assembly of the State ?
- (g) If so, what action has been taken for establishment of a Dispensary at Dusitimukh as demanded in the said representation ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that proposal for a dispensary at Dusitimukh is going to be replaced by a new proposal by which a lesser important place is being selected ?
- (i) If so, whether Government is aware that Dusitimukh is situated at Plains Tribal Area surrounded by twenty-five continuous Miri Villages ?
- (j) Whether Government is also aware that Kuruabahi in Golaghat Subdivision is situated amongst Scheduled Caste people ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical)
replied:

72. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise in view of (a).

(c)—Medical-aid is extended forthwith to each and every area affected by flood.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—The proposals for opening of State Dispensaries at Dusitimukh and Kuruabahi in Golaghat Subdivision will be considered along with other cases, according to merit of each case in due course.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—As (e) above.

(h)—No.

(i)—Does not arise.

(j)—Yes.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon): My question at (c) was : "Whether it is a fact that the areas mentioned above are flood affected where the people during flood time suffer immensely every year for want of proper medical treatment" The answer is. "Medical aid is extended forthwith to each and every area affected by flood".

Whether the Minister-in-charge knows that no medical aid was extended to the entire affected area of Golaghat Subdivision ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): If the hon. Member would give the definite time and area, I will try to give the reply ?

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): What medical aid was given to these flood affected areas ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: That I cannot say off-hand, but I can tell the hon. Member that generally when report comes to the Health Department the Department sends forthwith medical personnel and mobile vans together with necessary drugs and disinfection of water sources is done and other preventive measures are also taken.

Mr. SPEAKER: What the hon. Member wanted to know is what was done in the affected area ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I will look into it.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): I am not very clear regarding the answer given to 72(a). The question was "Whether it is a fact that there is not a single dispensary or hospital throughout the entire northern plains tribal areas of Golaghat Subdivision, viz., Northern portion of Dergaon,

Missamara, Rungamatty, Mahura and Bokakhat mouzas and the whole of the Ahatguri mouza". The reply is "No". I want to know from Government whether it is a correct answer ?

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member wants to know whether 'No' means no ? (*Laughter*).

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : It is not a fact. I may tell the hon. Member.....

Mr. SPEAKER : He wants to know what is the meaning of this 'No'.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : It is not a fact. We have got certain areas where there are medical facilities. For example, We have got treatment centres at Dergaon, Missamari, Bokakhat and a mobile dispensary stationed at Jorhat which goes round these places as and when necessary.

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : The question was whether there is any dispensary on the northern side of these mouzas where the tribal people predominate and where there is annual flood. Will the Hon'ble Minister name any of these dispensaries situated in these areas ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : I have mentioned some of them and at Ahatguri also there is a Local Board dispensary.

Shri RAMNATH DAS : Whether the Ahatguri dispensary is functioning at present ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : It is a Local Board dispensary. I have no definite information whether it is functioning now. I may tell the hon. Member that this dispensary is going to be taken over by Government along with other Local Board dispensaries in the next financial year.

Shri RAMNATH DAS : Apart from Ahatguri there are other mouzas, on the northern apart of Dergaon mouza, Mahura mouza, Bokakhat mouza, Khumtai mouza, etc. The question refers to the northern areas of these mauzas where the tribal people predominate and which are annually affected by flood.

Mr. SPEAKER : Whether the Hon'ble Minister is in a position to say whether the areas mentioned in the question have any dispensary or other medical facilities ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): I have already stated that at Ahatgrui there is a Local Board dispensary. Apart from that we have a Mobile dispensary at Jorhat that goes round different places. It is not a fact that these areas are going without any medical aid.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: ডেবগাঁৱৰ উত্তৰ অঞ্চলত যিবিলাক ট্ৰাইবেলৰ ঠাই আছে তাত চিকিৎসাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা আছেনে ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : তাত আন ব্যৱস্থা নহলেও Mobile Van Dispensary ৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে, এই Mobile Van Dispensary বিলাক particularly ট্ৰাইবেল সকলৰ কাৰণেই কৰা হৈছে।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : সেই অঞ্চল বিলাকলৈ Van বিলাক যোৱা বাস্তৱ্য আছে নে ?

Mr. SPEAKER : His question was whether there are roads in these areas on which the mobile van can travel.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : বাস্তৱ্য তেনেকুৱা নাই। ইয়াৰ ওচৰাওচৰি ঠাই আহত গুৰিলৈ মই নিজে গৈছো ; তাত বাৰিষা এনেয়ে পানীৰে ওপচি পৰে। সেই অসুবিধাই সেইবিলাক অঞ্চলত আছে।

Dr. Sri HARI DAS (Barpeta): Sir, with regard to 72 (e), the reply is that the proposals for opening of State Dispensaries will be considered according to merit of each case in due course. May I know what is meant by 'merit of each case'?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: The actual need of the locality and the absence of any Public Health facilities, importance of the place and the population in the area.

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: When that proposal will be considered ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: In the next financial year, Sir.

Appointment of Assistant Surgeon II in Ahatguri Dispensary

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :
73. (a) Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical Department be pleased to state the steps taken for appointment of a Government Assistant Surgeon II in Ahatguri Dispensary as assured in the last Assembly Session ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that for want of Medical Officer the Dispensary at Ahatguri is not opened and the Annual Grants sanctioned for Medicines and equipments are being refunded by the Local Board ?

(c) Whether Government will be pleased to take immediate steps to remove the untold sufferings of these Plains Tribal and Scheduled Castes people by providing adequate free medical treatment ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

73. (a)—A Government Assistant Surgeon II will be posted at Ahatguri Dispensary shortly when all Local Board Dispensaries including Ahatguri Dispensary will be taken over by Government from 1st April, 1959.

(b)—Government have no information.

(c)—With the taking over of the Ahatguri Dispensary by Government people of Ahatguri area will receive medical facilities from Ahatguri Dispensary.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) : With regard to reply 73(a), may I know how long will that area remain without a Doctor ? Whether it is a fact that there is no doctor there for the last 10 years ?

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether he saw any Doctor when he visited that dispensary ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : No, Sir. So far that dispensary is concerned it was a Local Board Dispensary.

Mr. SPEAKER : The proposal is very simple. Whenever any specific question is put, the reply should be specific. When the hon. Member said whether it was a fact that there was no Doctor there for the last 10 years, the Hon'ble Minister should have replied that he had no official information. The question was about the Doctor, so the Hon'ble Minister should have said that he had no information or he might have asked for notice.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : I said that there was no Doctor.

Shri MOHENDRA MOHAN CHAUDHURY (Hajo) : Does the Minister know that the areas near the dispensary has been deserted by the people due to floods?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : I have no information at the moment, Sir.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) : Whether Government received any suggestions from the questioner to give medical facilities in a week from the nearest dispensary?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : I have no such information, Sir.

Shillong Hydro-Electric Company

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakgaon) asked :

74. Will the Minister-in-charge of Electricity be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Shillong Hydro-Electric Company, Limited realises exorbitant rate from the consumers' of electricity at the time of House Service connection ?
- (b) Whether the said supplier realises excess amount violating rules No.31 and 57(4) of the Indian Electricity Act, 1956 ?
- (c) What is the reason for charging Rs.10 (ten) for one meter box supplied by the Supplier when the market price of the same kind of a meter box is Rs.4.12 nP. only ?
- (d) Whether any officer is deputed by the Government to supervise the works and activity of this company ?
- (e) Whether the Company has been found to realise and charge excess from the consumers and if so, whether Government contemplate to refund the excess payment ?
- (f) Whether Government is aware that whenever any consumer challenges the estimate of the companies the concern submits revised estimate and reduces the charge ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity) replied:

74. (a)—Government has no information.

(b)—No.

(c)—No complaint regarding excess charge for meter box was received by the Government.

(d)—The Senior Electrical Inspector carries out the statutory inspections regularly and when need arises under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the rules made thereunder.

(e)—No such case has come to the notice of Government.

(f)—Government has no such information.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): Is it not a fact that the allegation was made about 6 months back?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I think, Sir, it is a fact. There was a complaint sometime back that the Company charged higher rate and the matter was enquired into by the Senior Electrical Inspector and the dispute was amicably settled.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): So far as the reply (a) is concerned, I had occasion to complain that this type of information does not help the House. Here the reply is—"Government has no information". Now, the question was whether the Shillong Hydro-Electric Company, Limited realises exorbitant rate from the consumers' of electricity at the time of house service connection? The reply should have been positive and not in a vague manner. This type of reply will not help the House in any way. Similarly with regard to question (c), the question is "what is the reason for charging Rs.10 (ten) for one meter box supplied by the supplier when the market price of the same kind of meter box is Rs.4.12np. only"? Now, the reply is—"No complaint regarding excess charge for meter box was received by the Government". My question is what is the rate charged for the meter box and also what is the reason for charging Rs.10 for one meter box supplied by the supplier than the market price of the same kind of meter box is Rs.4.12 nP. only?

Mr. SPEAKER : May I place before the House and also for the benefit of the Government Benches our rules of procedure regarding unstarred questions? As ordinarily there is no scope for supplementary questions in an unstarred question, whenever any reply of unstarred question is given, it should

be as detailed as possible. That is the purpose of the Unstarred Question which is meant to elicit detailed reply which is not possible in starred questions except by supplementaries. I noticed the other day—I wonder whether it was an unstarred question—the question was to know the number of servants in respect of a Tea Garden Manager. The question was whether the Manager had 35 servants. The reply was 'no'. The reply should have indicated the number of servants and in that case the need for a supplementary would have been avoided. So far as the Unstarred Question is concerned, the reply should be such as to avoid supplementaries as far as possible. I suppose that will satisfy the hon. Members as well as the rules of procedures of this House.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity) : The question put is quite relevant, Sir. The charge used to be Rs.10 per meter box, but I understand from March, it is reduced to Rs.8, after it was enquired by the Senior Electrical Inspector.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Sir, with regard to reply (e) the question is what is the reason for charging Rs.10 for one meter box when the same is available at Rs.4.12np? The reply was—'No such case has come to the notice of Government.' Now the Minister in charge has just now said that the price has been reduced to Rs.8. The question was whether it was more than Rs.4.12 nP?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am coming to make this clear also. As soon as this question was received by Government they should have made an enquiry about the rate, because the question itself was a kind of complaint. The hon. Member who put the question, wanted the information whether the Company charged Rs.10 per meter box instead of Rs.4.12 nP. It looks as if Government did not do so.

Shri RAM NATH SARMA (Lumding): Sir, again the question No. 73 (b) the question was, "Whether it is a fact that for want of Medical Officer the Dispensary at Ahatguri is not opened and the Annual Grants sanctioned for Medicines and equipment are being refunded by the Local Board?" The answer is, "Government have no information". The answer being what it is, it appears Government did not enquire into the facts of the question but only stated that they have no information.

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order.

It is not necessary to impute any motive. I am not concerned with motives but with the Rules and Procedure and, if I may say so, with the convenience of the hon. Members in order that transaction of the business of this House may be beneficial to all. So, I think in future when reply to questions, particularly to Unstarred Questions, are given, more care will be taken to furnish detailed information as far as practicable under the circumstances.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):

Is it a fact that the Company do not submit revised estimates even when the mistakes in the estimates are detected?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity): Sir, the position is like this: This is a matter which concerns the supplier of Electricity and the consumer. Unless complaints are lodged, Government are not in a position to take any action. As soon as any complaint is lodged we send our Inspector to enquire. But now in Shillong no complaint has been made but in Tinsukia and Dibrugarh a large number of complaints poured in and the Government set up a Committee to enquire whether the suppliers in those places realised exorbitant rates. Now if any complaints are made in Shillong, naturally we shall include this place also for enquiry. But uptill now no general complaint has been made. From one single information Government cannot generalise. One complaint is hardly enough for generalising any case. But if many complaints are made, we shall try to include this place also under the terms of reference of that Committee.

Registration of Karunasagar Co-operative Muga and Endi Rearing and Weaving Society

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BORBARUAH (Amguri)
asked:

75. Will the Minister, Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a Co-operative by name Namti Karunasagar Rasom and Bayan Prashikshan Kendra Samabaya, in Somdar Village, Dopdar Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision, applied for registration in May, 1958?
- (b) If so, why it has not yet been registered?
- (c) When Government propose to register this Co-operative Society?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operative) replied :

75. (a)—It is a fact that one Co-operative by name Karunasagar Co-operative Muga and Endi Rearing and Weaving Society in Somdar Village, Dopdar Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision applied for registration in September, 1958 through the Circle Deputy Co-operative Officer and not in May, 1958.

(b)—Organisation papers had to be sent back for rectifying some mistakes. Hence the Society could not be registered earlier.

(c)—The Society has already been registered on the second of March, 1959.

Dhing Trading Co-operative, Nowgong District

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

76. Will the Minister, Co-operative be pleased to state—

(a) The date when Dhing Trading Co-operative, Nowgong District was formed and registered ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Share-holders demand the accounts of the said Co-operative and that on 24th September 1958, the District Co-operative Officer seized the relevant books and Khat-tas of this Co-operative ?

(c) If so, what is the next step Government proposes to take?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operation) replied :

76. (a)—The Dhing Trading Co-operative Ltd., was formed on the 22nd November, 1948 and was registered on 9th February, 1949.

(b)—No. No records of this Trading Co-operative were ever seized, nor any demand was made by the Share-holders to know the position.

(c)—Does not arise

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira): Is it a fact that the Deputy Co-operative Officer himself had organized this Co-operative Society? Then how could there be mistakes which delayed registration till March 1959?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operation): No man is above mistake, Sir.

Maximum pay for Head Assistants of the Heads of Departments Offices

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

77. Will the Finance Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the maximum pay fixed for the Head Assistants of the Heads of Departments offices is similar to that of the maximum pay of one Upper Division Assistant of the Secretariat?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Head Assistants of the Heads of Departments offices perform much more arduous and responsible duties involving the supervision of work of as many as 12 dealing Assistants as laid down by the Government?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Upper Division Assistants of the Secretariat are confined to the works of their own tables only?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the Upper Division Assistants of the Secretariat when promoted to the posts of the Assistant Superintendent get a special pay of Rs.50?

(e) If so, whether Government propose to consider the question of granting similar special pay to the Head Assistants of Heads of Departments offices in consideration of their much arduous and responsible nature of duties?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

77. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Pay Committee laid down that the Secretariat staff stand on a footing of its own in the matter of duties and responsibilities and for the matter of that in respect of pay scales. So no practical comparison can be made between these two categories of posts.

(c)—Yes, but as already stated against question (b), the nature of their duties and responsibilities cannot be compared.

(d)—Yes. Being in the scale of Upper Division Assistants, the Assistant Superintendents of the Secretariat have been given a special pay of Rs.50 p. m. for supervision of work of Upper Division Assistants and Lower Division Assistants under their control as no separate scale has been prescribed for them.

(e)—No. The Head Assistants in the Offices of Heads of Departments have been given a separate scale higher than that of Upper Division Assistants in those offices taking the nature of their duties and responsibilities into consideration. Hence, the question of grant of any special pay to the Head Assistants in the offices of Heads of Departments does not arise.

Pay scale of Civil Sheristhadar

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

78. Will the Minister, Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the pay scale of Civil Sheristhadar have been reduced to Upper Division Assistant after final notification though there is a distinct and separate pay scale for Civil Sheristhadar in Assam Services (Revision of Pay) Rules, 1956 ?

(b) If so, why ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

78. (a) & (b)—Yes. There is no sanctioned category of posts called Civil Sheristhadar. The Sheristhadars of the Munsifs are borne on the cadre of Upper Division Assistants in the establishment of the District Judges. So they have been given the scale of pay of Upper Division Assistants.

Granting of Advance Increments to graduate Lower Division Assistants

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

79. Will the Finance Minister be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the advance increments had been granted to Graduate Assistants in the various offices under the State Government who have entered into service on or after 1st October 1956, the date from which the revised scale of pay has been enforced ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that such advance increments have been denied to the Graduate Assistants entering service prior to 1st October 1956 ?
- (c) If so, why this discrimination has been made ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to grant the same benefit to the Graduate Assistants entering service prior to 1st October 1956 with effect from the same date (*i.e.*, 1st October 1956) ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)
replied :

79. (a)—Graduate Lower Division Assistants in offices of Heads of Departments were given the benefit of advance increments in the 1948 pay-revision and such Lower Division Assistants in the District Offices were granted advance increments in the 1948 and 1954 pay revisions. Two advance increments have been given to graduate Lower Division Assistants in the Secretariat and in the offices of Heads of Departments and three advance increments have been given to graduate Lower Division Assistants in the District Offices in the 1956 pay-revision which came into force on 1st October, 1956.

(b)—Graduate Assistants who entered into service in the offices of Heads of Departments and District Offices on or after 1st April 1948 got advance increments. Those graduate Lower Division Assistants who entered into service in the Secretariat prior to 1st October 1956 and who completed more than one year of service, earned service increments. They were already on higher pay. Those who had not earned increments, their pay was equalised with that of new entrants, if any.

(c)—There is no discrimination. Government accepted the revised scales with recommendation of the Pay Committee with effect from 1st October, 1956.

(d)—No.

Calling attention to matter of urgent public importance under Assembly Rule 54 on the recent molestation of women by Pakistani troops in village Ratanpur under Karimganj Police Station within the district Cachar.

Mr. SPEAKER : Now the question hour is over. Then I come to the notice of calling attention by Shri Tarun Sen Deka and Dr. Sri Hari Das.

Dr. SRI HARI DAS (Barpeta): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to call attention of the House under Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of the Business of the Assam Legislative Assembly in a matter of urgent public importance which affects the prestige of our nationals and also that of our State. This is regarding an act of molestation by the Pakistani troops. This report has been published in the *Natun Assamiya* of the 5th March, and Sir, with your permission I beg to read out the contents of the report :

যোৱা ২৮ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰীৰ দিনা পাকিস্থানী সৈন্য আৰু পাকিস্থানী লোক মিলি কৰিমগঞ্জ থানাৰ অন্তৰ্গত বতৰপুৰ গাঁৱৰ দুঘৰত আক্ৰমণ চলাই ধন সোণ লুট কৰাৰ উপৰিও গৰ্ভৱতী তিৰোতাৰ ওপৰত পাৰ্শ্বিক অত্যাচাৰ চলায় বুলি চৰকাৰী ভাৱে জানিব পৰা গৈছে।

বিৱৰণীত প্ৰকাশ যে সেইদিনা আবেলি চাৰি বজাত এজন হাবিলদাৰ আৰু দুজন কনষ্টেবল সহ পাকিস্থানী সৈন্যই আৰু লগতে আন লোকে বতৰপুৰ গাঁৱত বাস কৰা ভাৰত নমস্কৰ আৰু প্ৰহ্লাদ নমস্কৰ নামৰ ভাৰতীয় লোকৰ ঘৰত আক্ৰমণ চলায়। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও তেওঁলোকে ভাৰত আৰু প্ৰহ্লাদৰ পত্নী দুগৰাকীৰ ওপৰত বৰ্বৰোচিত ভাবে অত্যাচাৰ চলায়। পাকিস্থানী সকলে বাইফেল তোৱাই প্ৰথম জনৰ পৰা এহেজাৰ আৰু দ্বিতীয় জনৰ পৰা সাত শ টকা বল পূৰ্বক কাঢ়ি নিয়ে।

গৰ্ভৱতী তিৰোতা দুগৰাকীক চিকিৎসাৰ বাবে কৰিমগঞ্জ হাস্পাতাললৈ স্থানান্তৰ কৰা হয়। ইত্যাদি ইত্যাদি

If this be the State of affairs prevailing in our border area, hardly we can expect any sense of security on part of our border people who are innocent and who are earning their livelihood by the sweat of their labour. Not only this, these Pakistani troops let loose on our border are molesting our ladies in barbarous and inhuman methods. Pregnant woman even were not spared. Does it not show that the chastity of our women folk is at stake? Is it not a slap to the prestige of our State? Various protests submitted to the Pakistan Government against this kind of barbarous acts have so far been able to produce no tangible results.

Mr. SPEAKER: Hon. Member has stated the facts and now I want to elicit information and it is not necessary for him to make any further observations. Has the hon. Member any more facts to place before the House ?

Dr. SRI HARI DAS (Barpeta) : Only a few words more, Sir. So if these things are not properly guarded, it will indeed be difficult for any Indian national to live in peace and with honour in his own country. So I want to know from the Government what measures have been taken against this kind of action.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance, etc.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, about the shocking incident which occurred towards the end of February, 1959 and about which news was published in "*Natun Assamiya*" of 5th March, 1959, I have to place the following information before the House :

Three armed Pakistan Military personnel (one Havildar and 2 Constables) accompanied by one Pakistan National raided the house of Indian Nationals Bharat Namasudra and Prahlad Namasudra of Ratanpur Village, Police Station Karimganj on 28th February, 1959, at about 4.15 p.m. They assaulted the inmates and extorted Rs.1,000 from Baikuntha, father of the said Bharat Namasudra and Rs.700 from Prahlad Namasudra at the point of rifles. They were assaulted by rifle butts. Sadamani, wife of Bharat Namasudra and Subamani, wife of Prahlad Namasudra were molested. After we received the report of this shocking incident, we immediately issued a telegraphic protest to the Government of East Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan on the 5th of March has acknowledged this report and has intimated that the matter was being enquired into. We had also informed the Government of India and our High Commissioner in Pakistan. On the basis of this reference the High Commissioner of India in Karachi has also lodged a strong protest to the Government of Pakistan. It appears that this shocking incident was also a subject of a short notice question in the Rajya Sabha. From the reports published in the "*Statesman*" of Saturday, March 14th, 1959, which the hon. Members may have seen, the Prime Minister is reported to have stated that we have asked Pakistan to punish the culprits responsible for the atrocities, to return the looted properties and to compensate the injured persons.

In this connection I may inform the House that at the time of this shocking incident these were the only inhabitants of Ratanpur Village. After they were so cruelly treated and asked to leave the village, they left their homes with children leaving behind their properties and have now taken shelter at Khalopar.

Both women were admitted to Karingani Hospital on the 2nd of March and have since been discharged. Preliminary relief has been administered and a further report by Deputy Commissioner on rehabilitation is awaited.

General discussion of the Budget

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Talukdar may now resume his speech.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I was speaking about the establishment of a river port at Pandu. Besides Pandu other river ports should be developed such as at Dibrugarh, Tarabari and other important places. During the last bye election at Tarabari the Chief Minister of Assam said that the Government would protect Tarabari if the people of that constituency get elected the Congress candidate. Now that an Opposition M.L.A. has been elected, I do not know what will be the fate of Tarabari. Three-fourths of Tarabari are almost eaten away by the river Brahmaputra.

In Assam at present we have 6,000 miles of water ways and out of this only 1,000 miles are navigable. The rest of them are not navigable by steamers and good boats. Measures should be taken by the Government to increase the mileage of navigation so that the rest of the 5,000 miles of water ways can be made navigable immediately. Of course our Government might say that our rivers are getting shallow day by day and as such large boats and steamers cannot go to those places. So measures should be taken by the Government for dredging of our river like Monas, Beki, Kopili, Barak, etc.

Rivers are a great boon of nature to Assam. Even though they are destructive at times yet out of them we can get benefit if we know how to utilise them. We can have cheap transport of goods by these rivers and we can carry our agricultural raw materials at a very cheap price to the distant places. By river navigation we can develop our trade, commerce and industry. Of course this is a very tremendous work. But we should press the Central Government about allotting the necessary funds, machineries, barges, etc. This Government should be bold enough to press the Central Government about the development of transport by river in Assam. In 1955 the total imports into Assam by the rivers were 4,42,101 tons while we exported 3,31,517 tons by rivers. This is a very huge quantity.

After partition we are getting difficulties in our transport problem by the Brahmaputra river due to Pakistan. So, the Government should press the Central Government about the construction of a canal from the river Monas to the Tista river. This was also suggested in a quinquennial report of the Central Government. Hence, why not press the Central Government about opening this route in no time? So long this is not done we can expect no progress in Assam.

Assam is very poor in road transport also. We have only 400 miles of high way which is only 2·8 per cent of 13,809 miles of highway in India. Again we have 6,764 miles of road. And out of these 1,627 miles are only fair weather roads. The Government should convert the North Trunk road as the national highway. Again, Shillong-Badarpur road also should be made a national highway in no time. The Doboka-Diphu-Lanka-Lumding-Garampani road should be developed. There should be good road connections between Goalpara and Garo Hills. The people of Aijal and Lungleh in Mizo Hills are getting great hardship for want of a good motorable road. There is only a jeepable road upto Aijal and Lungleh from Silchar. The people there have to pay a very higher price for consumer goods, C. I. sheets are sold there at a price of Rs.200 per bundles. There are huge quantity of raw materials such as bamboos which can be brought to the plains and good income can be derived. If we spend money in constructing good motorable road from Silchar to Aijal and Lungleh then we shall get the return from the agricultural raw materials.

In the Second Five Plan there is a proposal for nationalisation of the Barpeta-Bongaigaon road, but no step whatsoever has been taken by the Government. Within a short time there will be an end of the Second Five Year Plan. But, Sir, how can you nationalise it when there is not a good road? There is no road from Barpeta Road to Sorbhog. Again the Beki, Monas, Aie and Bhalukadoba rivers are intersecting the North Trunk road. Provision should immediately be made for the construction of bridges over the rivers Beki, Monas, Aie and Bhalukadoba. I do not know when these bridges will be completed. I am glad that the Public Works Department Minister has a personal experience of this road after visiting this road along with the Medical Minister last January. I hope something concrete will come up now. Unless and until we develop road transport in Assam we can never develop our country economically. It will remain as backward as before.

Hence our Government should give more importance for the construction and also improvement of roads in Assam.

The air transport in Assam is also not fully developed. The proposed air strip at Shillong costing about 35 lakhs of rupees has not yet come into being. During the war time many air ports were constructed, but many of them have since been abandoned. Sorbhog aerodrome is one of the instances. The aerodromes constructed during the last war should be maintained properly. Daily mail and passenger services should be introduced by the Central Government from Sorbhog aerodromes. Arrangements should be made for transport of goods to Assam and from Assam to different parts of India. There is a great future for a r transport in Assam.

There was a proposal for a ropeway from Cherrapunji to Amingaon but we have now come to know that this is going to be dropped. We don't know the reasons for it. If there is no ropeway between Cherrapunji to Amingaon immediately, the people of these hills will not be able to transport their products and they will have to suffer.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member will have to be brief. He had his innings yesterday also.

Shri GHANASYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): Yes, Sir. One of the main problems in our State is the refugee problem. According to the Government Report we have half a million refugees in Assam, out of which about one lakh of them have been rehabilitated either partially or fully. That means another four lakhs of refugees are yet to be rehabilitated. For their rehabilitation it is highly essential that they should be provided with land in tea gardens or other waste land. If we cannot give them land, we should give them suitable trade and other avocations in life like cottage industries, etc. When we have allowed these refugees to come to Assam it is our bounden duty to protect them and give them their means of livelihood. If we cannot do that it will be criminal negligence on the part of the Government. Sir, once we have allowed these refugees to come to Assam, we cannot say now that they should go to Andaman or Dandakaranya. Once they have been allowed to come here, we cannot shirk our responsibility for them. We should provide them with all the facilities for their proper rehabilitation. Our Government should take immediate measures to that effect. We have come to know from Government that the Refugee Rehabilitation Department will be closed down in two years' time. If that be the case, then Govern-

ment should take immediate measures for rehabilitation of these four lakh refugees. On the 24th of February last, there was a demonstration by the refugees here in Shillong. I feel that Government should fulfil the demands put forward by the refugees. But, Sir, I am sorry to tell you that in Shillong there are about 500 road-side stalls ; half of them are maintained by the refugees. They are now facing eviction. I met the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Area Department and told him all about them, but he seemed to turn a deaf ear. Sir, these stalls are their only means of livelihood and if they are to be evicted, alternative sites should be provided for them. I do not say that Shillong should not be beautified, that roads should not be widened. Shillong should be beautified ; all I suggest is that alternative sites for stalls should be provided to the refugees which are going to lose their only means of livelihood. Unless this is done, Government will do a criminal thing to these refugees. We cannot believe this Government will do nothing for the benefit of the refugees and we hope they will do their best to rehabilitate the refugees and solve this burning problem.

Sir, I had many other things to say on the Budget, but as my time is limited, with these few words I resume my seat.

Shri Molia Tati (Doom-Dooma) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় মাননীয় বিভূমন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে সদনত যিখন বাজেট দাঙি ধৰিছে তাৰ বাবে মই তেখেতক সম্বৰ্দ্ধনা জনাও আৰু তেখেতৰ ভাষণৰ ওপৰত দুই এষাৰ কথা আলোচনা কৰিব খুজিছো।

প্ৰথমেই মই চাহ বাগিচা সম্বন্ধে ক'ব খোজে। আমাৰ চাহ-বাগিচা বিলাকত দিনক দিনে, বছৰে বছৰে নিবনুৱা সমস্যা বাঢ়ি আহিব লাগিছে। এই চাহ-বাগানৰ নিবনুৱা সমস্যাটো কেনেকৈ কি ভাবে সমাধান কৰিব পাৰি তাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে চেষ্টা কৰিছে আৰু চেষ্টা কৰি আছে। কিন্তু এই বিষয়ে মই এটা কথা ক'ব খুজিছো যে চৰকাৰে যদি চাহ বাগিচাৰ 'এভাৰেজ'টো বৃদ্ধি কৰিবলৈ দিয়ে তেন্তে এই নিবনুৱা সমস্যাৰ বহু অংশ সমাধান হ'ব। এই নিবনুৱা সমস্যাটো আমাৰ দেশত ভৰি পৰিছে আৰু এই সমস্যা দিনকদিনে গুৰুতৰ হৈ উঠিছে। আমি যেতিয়াই কোনো মিটিং বা অন্য কামত গৈয়ে গৈয়ে যাওঁ—তেতিয়াই আমাক প্ৰশ্ন কৰে—যে আমাৰ লৰাছোৱালী বিলাকে কাম নাপায় কিয়? আনহাতে যিবিলাক মজদুৰ কাম কৰি কৰি বুঢ়া হৈছে—নহয় কাম কৰিব নোৱাৰা অৱস্থা তথাপিও মালিকে নাম কাতি বদলি হিচাবে ডেকা লৰা ছোৱালীক কাম নিদিয়। যদি নাম কাতিবলৈ অফিচলৈ গলে নাম সূধে কিন্তু বদলি লৰা ছোৱালী নলৈ তেওঁবিলাকৰ লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকক বাগানৰ কামত সোমোৱাই লবলৈ কলেও মালিক সকলে মান্তি নহয় বৰং কয় যে 'কাম কৰিব নোৱাৰা যদি কাম এৰি দিয়া তথাপি লৰা ছোৱালীক কাম দিব নোৱাৰিম বুলি কয়। চাহ-বাগিচাত মজদুৰে কাম কৰে; মতা-মাইকী দুয়োৱে। এটা পৰিয়ালত ৬-৭টা লৰা ছোৱালী আছে। হাজিৰা মাত্ৰ দৈনিক ১১/৭ অনা আৰু এই হাজিৰাৰে পৰিয়ালত ৬-৭টা লৰা-ছোৱালী লৈ পোহপাল যোৱা ই কি সম্ভৱ হয়? গতিকে এই নিবনুৱা শ্ৰমিক বিলাকক কাম দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবলৈ মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিছো আৰু কিছু পৰিমাণে wage বঢ়াই দিলে তেওঁলোকৰ জীৱন ধাৰণৰ সুবিধা হ'ব বুলি মই আশা কৰো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই কম হাজিৰাবে পৰিয়াল পোহপাল কৰা কিমান কষ্ট সাধ্য— নিশ্চয় বুজিব পাৰিছে। আগৰ দিনত খেৰ, বাঁহ, খৰি আদিৰ কাৰণে চিন্তা কৰিব নালাগিছিল; কিন্তু এতিয়া এই হাজিৰাবেই খৰি-খেৰ, বাহ আদি কি নি পৰিয়াল পোহ-পাল কৰা, ৬৭টা লবাছোৱালীৰ কাপোৰ কানি দিয়া কিমান ডাঙৰ সমস্যা হৈ উঠিছে! চৰকাৰে এই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ সমস্যাটোৰ সুসমাধান কৰিবলৈ ব্যৱস্থা অবলম্বন কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিছে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি Plantation Act, ৰ মতেও বহু বাগিচাই কাম কৰা নাই। যি মালিক সকলে এই আইন মানি লোৱা নাই আৰু এই আইন মতাৰী ভাবে মজদুৰ সকলক দগ্ধ বা wage পোৱা নাই বা বানচ পোৱা নাই, যিবো পোৱা নাই। এই বিলাক মজদুৰ সকলে আদায় কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম যদিও, সংঘ আৰু চৰকাৰৰ মুখলৈ চাই আজি পাম কালি পাম কৰি বৈ থাকিব লগা হৈছে। দুই তিনি মাহ মানৰ আগতে শ্ৰীযুত যাদব চন্দ্ৰ চলিহাৰ 'কবন্ধনী' বাগানত এটা ঘটনা ঘটিছিল। তালৈ, I. N. T. U. C. ৰ নেতাই বোলক বা লিডাৰেই বোলক, চেক্ৰেটাৰী, মিনিষ্টাৰ, ডেপুটি মিনিষ্টাৰ আদি সকলো গৈছিল যদিও সেই ঘটনাত জড়িত থকা সমস্যা সমূহ আইন সঙ্গত ভাবে সমাধান হোৱা নাই।

সেই বাগানৰ মজদুৰ সকলক এনেভাবে বাখিছে যে ৯০ টকা কিমান বুলি স্মৰিলে দুকুৰি দহ বা বাৰ বুলি কয়; অথচ শ্ৰীমতী যাদব চলিহানীয়ে কয় যে তেওঁৰ বাগানৰ মজদুৰ সকলক সকলো সুবিধা দিছে আৰু বৰ ভালকৈ বাখিছে; কিন্তু ৯০ টকা কিমান বুলি স্মৰিলে কব নোৱাৰে। মই আজি কবলৈ বাধ্য হৈছো যে চৰকাৰে যি কেইটা আইন কৰিছে সেই আইন বিদেশীৰ অধীনৰ বাগানত মানি চলিছে মাত্ৰ, আমাৰ দেশীয় বাগানতহে মানি চলা নাই। আনকি সেই বাগানৰ বঙলাৰ পৰা I. N. T. U. C. ৰ সাধাৰণ সম্পাদক শ্ৰীমহেন্দ্ৰ নাথ শৰ্মা আৰু আমাৰ বনুৱা উপমন্ত্ৰীকো বাহিৰ কৰি উলিয়াই দিছিল।

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Labour) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification what the hon. Member said that the Deputy Minister and the General Secretary of I. N. T. U. C. were turned out of the benglow is not a fact.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :

তেখেত নিজেই ওলাই আহিছিল।

Shri BISWADEV SARMA : চাব, নিজে ওলাই অহা আৰু উলিয়াই

দিয়া দুয়োটা একেবাৰে বেলেগ কথা।

Shri MOLIA TATI (Doom Dooma) : এই বিষয়ত মোৰ

নিজৰো অভিজ্ঞতা আছে। আমাৰ মুখিয়াল মানুহ এজনক যদি এনে অৱস্থা কৰে তেন্তে সাধাৰণ মজদুৰ সকলৰ অৱস্থা কি হ'ব সহজে অনুমান কৰিব পাৰি। যদি আমাৰ মজদুৰ সকলৰ উন্নতি কৰিব খোজে তেনেহলে চৰকাৰে নিশ্চয় কিছু ভাল ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লব লাগিব, আৰু বিশেষকৈ যিবিলাক বাগানে আইন অমান্য কৰিছে সেইবোৰৰ বিষয়ে উপযুক্ত বিচাৰ কৰি চৰকাৰে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব বুলি মই অনুৰোধ কৰিছো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ ফালত বনুৱাৰ সম্বন্ধে দুআধাৰমান কব খজিছে। বাগানৰ ওচৰৰ গাওঁবোৰত ফালত বনুৱা ভবি আছে। তেওঁলোক না কৃষক হৈছে না বনুৱা হৈছে কৃষক হ'বলৈ তেওঁলোকৰ মাটি নাই আৰু বনুৱা হ'বলৈকো কামৰ অভাৱ। যি সকলৰ অলপ মাটি আছে, তেওঁলোকে খেতি কৰে যদিও তেওঁলোকৰ উপৰত নানা ধৰণৰ অন্যাৱ অত্যাচাৰ কৰে। গাওঁৰ শিক্ষিত সমাজে মাটি বাৰী কাটি লৈ যায়। আজি কিছুদিন আগতে প্ৰায় ৮-৯ মাহ মান হল, বাংলালি গাওঁৰ এখন মিছলৈ গৈছিলো আৰু মোৰ লগত মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীমানিক দাস আৰু শ্ৰীবাধা কিষণ খেমকা ডাঙৰীয়াও গৈছিলে; তাত এখন সভা পাতিছিল আৰু সেই সভাৰ সভাপতিত্ব মই কৰিছিলো। ওচৰতে থকা গিজিংখনত বনুৱাৰ গৰু ম'হ চৰে। কিন্তু ওচৰৰ অন্যান্য বাসিন্দা সকলে তেওঁলোকৰ খেতি নষ্ট কৰা বুলি কৈ বনুৱাৰ গৰু ম'হ কোবোৰু দি লৈ যায়। এই বিষয়ে বহুদিনৰে পৰা আপত্তি কৰা হৈছে আৰু মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰীৰ ওচৰতো আপত্তি কৰা হৈছে, কিন্তু আজিলৈকে একো কৰা হোৱা নাই। এই অসমকে নিজৰ জন্মভূমি বুলি বস-বাস কৰি থকা মজদুৰ সকলক এইদৰে আঁতৰাই ৰাখিলে কেনেকৈ দেশৰ প্ৰতি বিশ্বাস হ'ব পাৰে আমি নিজৰ ঘৰ-বাৰী এৰি আহিছো, কিন্তু ইয়াতো আমি না অসমীয়া হৈছো না মজদুৰ হৈছো।

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : আপুনি অসমীয়া নহয় নে কি ?

Shri MOLIA TATI (Doom Dooma) : মই অসমীয়া বুলিয়েই চিনাকি দিওঁ; কিন্তু অসমীয়া হ'ব পৰা নাই সেই কাৰণেই মই চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিছো যে এই ফালত বনুৱাসকলক মাটি দি খেতি কৰাৰ সুবিধা দিব লাগে, নহয় কিবা কামৰ সুবিধা কৰিব লাগে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই বাগানৰ স্কুলৰ বিষয়ে দুআধাৰমান কওঁ। আমি শুনিছিলো যে বাগানৰ স্কুল বোৰ চৰকাৰে ল'ব, কিন্তু আজিলৈকে লোৱা হোৱা নাই, গতিকে ই এটা মজদুৰৰ কাৰণে বৰ দুখৰ বিষয়, (মঃ) এই চাহ বাগিচাৰ মজদুৰ সকলে অসমৰ সকলোত কৈ পিচপৰা আৰু অশিক্ষিত। এনেকুৱা এটা সম্প্ৰদায়ক অন্যাৱভাবে পেলাই যোৱতো স্বাধীন দেশৰ নাগৰিক হিচাবে ই এটা ভাবিব লগীয়া কথা (মঃ) বাগিচা বিলাকত নামৰ কাৰণে স্কুল কোনোদিনে কামৰ নহয় যদি কোনোবা স্কুলত ল'ব। ছোৱালী পঢ়িবলৈ গৈছে তাত মাষ্টৰ নাই। ৯০/৮০ জন ল'ৰাৰ এজনহে মাষ্টৰ, ২য় জন বিচাৰিলে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে জানে বা চৰকাৰক খজি ল'ব। বুলি কৈ যদি জোৰ কৰি ধৰা হয় তেতিয়া সেই স্কুলৰ ওয় শ্ৰেণীৰ ল'ৰা এজনক বাগিচাৰ হাজিৰাত নিয়োগ কৰে গতিকে চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব খোজে। যে বাগিচা বিলাকত নিয়মিত ভাবে মাষ্টৰ আৰু স্কুল দিয়াৰ বুলি আশা কৰিছো। বাগানত বৰ্তমান প্ৰাইমেৰী স্কুলহে হৈছে, কিন্তু Middle English স্কুলৰ ব্যৱস্থা এতিয়াও হোৱা নাই। প্ৰতিখন বাগানত নেলাগে—অন্ততঃ ৩।৪ খন বাগানৰ মাজত একোখন Middle English স্কুলৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবৰ বাবেও চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিছো। যেনে ডিগবৈ তেল কোম্পানীয়ে Middle English হাই স্কুলৰ সুবিধাও কৰি দিছে। ঠিক সেই ধৰণে চাহ বাগিচা বিলাকতও তেনে সুবিধা দিয়াৰ কাৰণে মালিকক দাবা কৰিব লাগে বুলি মই আশা কৰো।

চৰকাৰে যদি বাগিচাৰ স্কুল বিলাক হাতত লয়—তেনে হলে এই মজদুৰ ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী অতি সোনকালে আগ বাঢ়িব বুলি মই ভাবো আৰু মোৰ বিশ্বাস একোখন বাগানত ৪।৫ খনকৈ স্কুল হ'ব আৰু ইয়াৰ ফলত বহুত মাষ্টৰ কামও পাব। এই কাৰণে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যে আমাক অনুমতি দিলে আমি নিজে স্কুল সাজি লম। যদি চৰকাৰে নোৱাৰে।

অধ্যক্ষ, মহোদয়, ভাল ভাল বাগন বোৰতো স্কুলৰ এনেকুৱা অৱস্থা যে এখন টেবুল পৰ্য্যন্ত নাই একোজন মালিকে দোকান ঘৰত বাথি কেটামান লৰালৈ স্কুল বুলি চৰকাৰক দেখুৱাইছে। যেনে গন্ধাবাৰী বাগানৰ মালিকেও গেলামালৰ দোকান ঘৰ এটাত স্কুল পাতি দিছে, সেই স্কুল Trunk Road ৰ দাঁতিতে আপোনালোক সেই বাস্তাদি গলে সেই স্কুল দেখিবলৈ পাব, স্কুলৰ অৱস্থা কি। জালানে চৰকাৰক ভুৱা দিবৰ কাৰণে নানা বকমৰ ঘৰ ইত্যাদি দান কৰিছে, জালান হাস্পাতাল পাতি দিছে, তাত তেওঁ ডিব্ৰুগড়ত Mater-nity Ward দিছে, আনফালেদি বাগানৰ স্কুল ঘৰ কি অৱস্থাত ৰাখিছে। মই এইটো কব খোজো যে কোনো পুঁজিপতি শিল্প মালিকৰ এক পইচাও দান চৰকাৰে লব নালাগে, কিন্তু যিবিলাকৰ পৰিশ্ৰমৰ দ্বাৰা এই শিল্পপতি সকলে ইমান উপাৰ্জন কৰিব পাৰিছে সেই মজদুৰ সকলৰ ফালে আগেয়ে চাব লাগিব নহলে মজদুৰক হিচাব দিব লাগিব। যেনে ডিব্ৰুগড় তিনিচুকীয়া আদি স্কুল ঘৰ ফলেজ ঘৰ আদি দান কৰাত কি মূল্য আছে? গতিকে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ জনাও যে বাগানৰ মজদুৰে যিবিলাক মাৰ্ঘ্য সা-সুবিধা পাব লাগে সেই বিলাক সুবিধা চৰকাৰেই আদায় কৰিলৈ চাই মজদুৰে চাই থাকে বাগিচাৰ মালিকৰ পৰা চৰকাৰে দান দক্ষিণা নলৈ মজদুৰৰ উন্নতিৰ বাবে লক্ষ্য ৰাখিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো। যাতে এই মজদুৰ সকল মানুহৰ দৰে বাচি থাকিবৰ বাবে যি বস্তুৰ প্ৰয়োজন সেই বিলাক বস্তু মালিকৰ পৰা আদায় কৰাবৰ বাবে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিলো। আজি জালানে কি কৰিছে? বাগানৰ ঘৰ সাজিবৰ কাৰণে পোৱা টিন পাতেৰে ভাৰা ঘৰ সাজি দিছে। এই কাৰণে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যেন এইবিলাক অনায়াৰ পৰা আমাৰ মজদুৰ সকলক যাতে চৰকাৰে সাৰি থাকিবৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পাৰিলেহে আমাৰ অসম তথা সমগ্ৰ ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ উন্নতি আশা কৰিব পাৰি।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ মজদুৰ লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকে যি ধৰণে স্কুল কলেজ আদিৰ বৃত্তি পাব লাগে সেই হিচাবে পোৱা নাই। গুৱাহাটী ইউনিভাৰচিটি লৈছে পঢ়া আমাৰ মজদুৰ সকলৰ লৰা ছোৱালী আছে, তেওঁলোকে Tea Board ৰ পৰাও কোনো সুবিধা পোৱা নাই। তেওঁলোকৰ পাব লগীয়া যি আছে তাৰ পৰা চৰকাৰে যেন বঞ্চিত নকৰে তাৰ বাবে অনুৰোধ জনালো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ চৰকাৰে মজদুৰৰ বহুতো উপকাৰ কৰিছে, বহুতো কাম কৰিছে minimum wages ৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে, Provident Fund ৰ সুবিধা কৰি দিছে কিন্তু তেওঁলোকৰ বুঢ়া বয়সৰ পাচত নাম কাতিলে যেই বুঢ়া বুঢ়ীৰ এটা পেনচনৰ ব্যৱস্থা হ'ব লাগে। চৰকাৰে ইয়াৰ এটা সুব্যৱস্থা কৰিবলৈ যত্ন কৰিব বুলি অনুৰোধ কৰিলো। লগে লগে বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰী ডাক্তৰীয়াৰ বাজেটক সমৰ্থন কৰিলো।

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Finance Minister for presenting a Budget which is surplus because he has digressed from the line which was followed by the Finance Ministers in the past who showed their budgets always to be as deficit. But this surplus Budget will mean nothing to us if it, in the ultimate analysis, does not prove itself to be a Budget for the common man. If the Budget is not properly utilised and its provisions not properly spent for the amelioration of the conditions of the groaning masses of our State, then from what we have seen in the

past, there will be a waste in the expenditure. There is a corruption which eats away a major portion of the money that is provided for the welfare of the common man. Therefore, the common man feels constrained to think to-day that the Budget is for the common man. But they say that the Budget is not for the common man ! it is a Budget of officers, offices and buildings because they have seen before their eyes that a huge amount of money was being spent where a Department was being started and a huge amount of money was spent for the maintenance of staff and for the construction of buildings. Half of what is meant for common man goes to corruption but we have no machinery to check this waste and corruption. Unless and until Government and this House devise ways and means for the purpose of preventing the huge waste and the corruption that is going on in every Department then the benefit which is expected from the Government will never be received by the people, they will simply groan and cry under the pressure of their sufferings. Therefore, I congratulate the Finance Minister not because he is going to give the people surplus food and surplus income by his Budget but because he has used a term which may give some sort of encouragement to the common man of the villages. This word 'surplus' Sir, will at least temporarily give some sort of encouragement to the mass people in the villages when they hear that our present Budget is a surplus one. They will naturally expect to get something ; at least they will expect that their economic condition will be improved. In other words, this Budget will at least have the psychological effect on the mass people which is very essential for the purpose of implementing the various projects with the co-operation of the people. Sir, if there is no enthusiasm in the minds of the people, how can we expect to implement the various projects that have been enunciated by this Budget ? So I say Sir, that this Budget will at least have that psychological effect on the people and enthruse them to extend their co-operation to the Government. We must maintain that enthusiasm and we must maintain that spirit of co-operation among the people if we want that in the next year projects enunciated by the Government are to be properly implemented. We must see that the money allotted for the benefit of the people is spent to the last farthing. If the Finance Minister can guarantee that we can achieve that end then he will have more congratulations in the long run. Now, it is rather inopportune to congratulate the Finance Minister at this stage. We have high hopes on him and he will have our congratulations latter.

Now, Sir, for the successful implementation of all the provisions that this Budget has made we must divert our ways from the

old tracks and be very much cautious so far as expenditure is concerned. There should be strictest economy in our expenditures. Now, the Finance Minister has rightly said when he referred in his Budget speech at page 43—"As servant of the people it will be my unpleasant duty to exercise strict and firm control over expenditure to create an atmosphere for the first two requisites..." namely, austerity and also to mobilise all avenues. I am glad Sir, that the finance Minister has determined to create an atmosphere of austerity by exercising strictest economy over expenditure. This is a very good thing.

Now, Sir, another thing I want to draw his attention is that some measures should be taken against surrenders and heavy saving and coming again and again with supplementary demands. Sir, times without number the Public Accounts Committee has made various recommendations to this House but those recommendations are never cared and never followed. Particularly the last Public Accounts Committee made very serious observations in this regard to the effect that their recommendations are being honoured more in their breach than in their observance. These are the remarks of the Public Accounts Committee as you might have read in yesterday's papers or in the report of the Public Accounts Committee itself. Again Sir, in the last sitting of the Estimates Committee at Delhi the President observed that these Committees—the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee are the eyes through which the affairs of Government are seen through and controlled. But unfortunately, as I have already said, we find that these recommendations are honoured more in their breach than in their observance or implementation. They have also passed very serious remarks as regards the Heads of the Departments for their lack of control and watchfulness over expenditure. The remarks of the Public Accounts Committee demonstrate the affairs of administration in the Heads of the Departments, there is no proper check of accounts, there is no proper maintenance of accounts: even on the 15th of March one Department could not say what would be the savings and in spite of the fact that there is savings even in the current session of the Assembly some Department come with supplementary demands. So they are groping in the dark in these matters. So Sir, this state of affairs must go. I hope our new Finance Minister will try his best to remove this sad state of affairs so far as control of expenditure is concerned.

Sir, our State is a problem State as well as a strategic State.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry to have to interrupt the hon. Member. if he deals with all problems then the biggest problems will go unheeded. (*laughter*).

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla):** No Sir, I will try to be brief. But I want to speak about certain important things. The Finance Minister in his budget speech has expressed his difficulty about getting adequate help from the Centre in various spheres. As a matter of fact Sir, the people of this State have expressed their feeling that the State of Assam has been neglected by the Centre. Up till now we have not got even a mile of extra railway line, up till now we have not got even a single river valley project in our State. Petrol is produced by us but the price of petrol is the highest in Assam. We do not get a farthing from the petrol duty. Sir, there will be a Oil Refinery we know, the public voice is there. We should be benefited by this. What is the use of these industries, if the people of Assam, if the youths of Assam cannot derive any benefit out of them, if they are to wander in the streets in search of employment? We do not want such industries which do not bring any good to the people of Assam which do not give employment to our youths. We want Oil Refinery, we want Assam to be industrialised, but we should see that our people are benefited. We have seen in the Oil Company and in the Tea Industry how our people have been neglected in the matter of employments, etc. The problem of educated unemployed youths has become so great that unless it is tackled soon, it will go out of control.

Now, I come to that section of population of Assam which is backward. In Assam a substantial portion is covered by the hills. We are glad the Government of India and the State Government are extending financial help and co-operation for the upliftment of the backward people living in Assam. We have not been able to do much. Our Government and the Central Government are doing their best to ameliorate their economic condition and other conditions of life. Our sympathy goes to the border people who are the victims of Partition of the country and also to those unfortunate people who are victims of Pakistani firings. We are glad that our friends living in the hills have undertaken the responsibility of running the Government. It is a very good augury. We hope that under the circumstances the misunderstanding which prevailed before may disappear and their co-operation will be forthcoming which will not result in the division of the State but it will result in the united strength of Assam. We hope as a result of their co-operation both the brothers and sisters of hills and the brothers and sisters of plains will live in peace and harmony and bring about all round prosperity of the State. Now, beside these

backward classes of people in hills, there are tribal in the plains, there are scheduled castes in the plains. Our Constitution have made some safeguards for their interest. Some measures have been adopted to uplift their conditions but still much more remain to be done to ameliorate their condition. Besides there are other Backward Classes, not only in the State but throughout the country. Then we have in our State the labour population to which my Friend Shri Molia Tati belongs, which form an important part of our population who are very much backward. The I.N. T. U. C., the Government and the Congress are doing their best to ameliorate their economic condition and we hope as a result of these measures the labour population which form an important part of the population of Assam will thrive and prosper. I may mention in this connection that the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee passed a resolution that all the schools of the tea gardens should be taken over by the Government, and we hope Government will consider the resolution. Besides these people, there are many other people who have gone down from the hills, for example, the Miris, Garos, Daflas etc., who are occupying different parts of the State. In our locality, we have mostly got the Mikirs who are most neglected people. They are living in a wretched condition. If any one visit Bugbora Mauza which falls within the constituency of Mr. Tripathy, he will notice that the Mikirs, Garos who have come from the mountains—the Himalayas are living a most wretched life. They are also included in the Backward Class. It is our sacred duty to ameliorate their condition. They are almost naked and very poor. Should we not take up the responsibility of uplifting them? Should we neglect them, kick them out? We should take all possible steps to raise them up socially, educationally and economically. Sir, our Constitution made a provision that there should be a Commission which will go into the whole question of the Backward Classes. As a matter of fact the Commission visited Assam and took evidence in different districts and submitted their report to the Government of India for implementation and those recommendations are under the consideration of the Government of India. Though these recommendations have not come still our revered leader Shri Pant, the Union Home Minister has sent the necessary instructions to this and other State Governments. It is said in the instructions "Instructions have been issued to the State Government with the request that they should render every possible assistance and give all possible assistance and facilities to those people who come within the category of Backward Classes according to the existing list. They deserve all consideration and help in the matter of education and in

other spheres, etc. That was the spirit of the instruction issued by the Home Minister. The case of the Backward Classes and their welfare activities are guaranteed under the Constitution and in pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee these instructions were sent to the State Government for undertaking certain interim measures. But unfortunately, I must say here, that these instructions have not been followed properly and in their true spirit. We had the honour and privilege of attending the Federation of the Backward Classes recently held where our Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai was also present. The members of the Federation were so much annoyed for non-implementation of these recommendations that some of them openly expressed their grave dis-satisfaction and wanted to secede from India and brought a resolution to that effect. But that resolution was, however, not adopted. So the dis-satisfaction of the Backward Classes are daily multiplying and are increasing. But we cannot afford to leave the matter at that. Now, Sir, in our State because of these instructions we got only about 115 scholarships given during the British regime. So the members of the Backward Classes submitted a Memorandum and we represented this matter to the Home Minister when he came here. He then promised to us that some measures will be taken for amelioration of the conditions of the Backward people. Therefore, I must confess my regret that nothing in the past had been done for amelioration of the conditions of the Backward classes. Therefore it was justified on the part of the members of the Backward Classes to submit a Memorandum to the Home Minister when he came to Assam. I quite realise that our Chief Minister is very much sympathetic to our people. He was pleased to inaugurate the Backward Classes Conference held at Dibrugarh. As a matter of fact it was under his direction that a Welfare Board was constituted for ameliorating the conditions of the Backward classes. Now this Board is functioning under the chairmanship of our Transport and Tribal Areas Department Minister, Shri Williamson A. Sangma. It is going to be inaugurated on the 20th March, next. I regret to observe that no substantial amount has been earmarked in the Budget for improvement of the conditions of the other Backward Classes. Nor did the speech of the Finance Minister give any indication of any such provision being made anywhere. If this is the fact, what shall we say to our Backward people when they will ask us regarding the activities of Welfare Board which they have heard being formed in the newspapers? At least some thing should have been done, some indication that Government is really serious to improve the conditions of the Backward people, should have been given in the Budget. When the

Advisory Committee will sit on the 20th next, I am sure, the Committee will formulate certain proposals and I hope Government will take sympathetic view of these proposals when they will be communicated to Government.

I may say without any fear of contradiction that the bulk of the people of Assam belong to the Backward Classes which, of course, include the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If our Government go on neglecting them, they will do so only to their own peril. These people belonging to the various Backward Classes are not disgruntled elements who are out to disintegrate the State. They are out to integrate the whole of India into a composite whole I, therefore draw before the House a poser to think twice before adopting any measure which may go to dissatisfy these vast bulk of the Backward people. I therefore request Government to make adequate provision for the ameliorating the conditions of the Backward Classes.

I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for presenting a surplus Budget. We are aware of his talents and abilities and wisdom and we hope he will take more care to see that the Budget be really a budget of the poor people reflecting the wishes and aspiration of the people at large and that some more funds are provided for improving the condition of the backward people in particular to uphold whose interest we have been sent by our people here.

Jai-Hind

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বাজেট সম্পর্কে বিতর্কে এই সদনের উভয় পক্ষের অনেক সদস্য অংশ গ্রহণ করেছেন। বিরোধী পক্ষের ও অনেক সদস্য মাননীয় অর্থ মন্ত্রীকে ধন্যবাদ জানিয়েছেন—প্রথম কারণ হচ্ছে ভুল-ভ্রান্তির সহজ স্বীকৃতি; দ্বিতীয় কারণ হয়েছে টাকার বিহীন একটা বাড়তি বাজেট এবং তৃতীয় কারণ হয়েছে সমাজতান্ত্রিক ধরনের সমাজ গঠনের একটা প্রতিশ্রুতি নাকি এই বাজেটে আছে। কিন্তু আমি দুঃখিত যে মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়কে এই বাজেটের জন্য ধন্যবাদ দিতে পারলাম না।

মহাশয়, স্বীকৃতি যদি হত আত্মসমালোচনা মূলক যাতে নিজের দুর্বলতাকে স্বীকার করে এমন একটা কর্ম পদ্ধতি বের করে নিয়ে আসা বা আমাদের গতিকে অগ্রসর করে নিয়ে যাবে তাহলে আশা করি আমরা সবলেই তা গ্রহণ করতাম। কিন্তু এক্ষেত্রে সে ধরনের কোন প্রচেষ্টা নাই। ১৯৫৭-৫৮ সালের বাজেট উপাধন করে শ্রীযুক্তদেবেশ্বর শর্মা তাঁর বিবৃতি শুরু করেছিলেন এই বলে “It was expected that by the implementation of the Plan the shortage of our food..... would be reduced..... But the results achieved so far, however, belied most of the hopes.” কিন্তু আমরা কি পরিবর্তন বা পরিবর্তনের কোন প্রচেষ্টা দেখেছি এই তিন বৎসরের কংগ্রেস শাসনে? মোটেই না। তাই বলছি যে Socialism এর কথা, পূর্ববর্তী মন্ত্রীসভা বা

নীতির দুর্বলতার স্বীকৃতি এটা একটা নতুন ভাবত। কারণ Employment বা কর্ম সংস্থানের ক্ষেত্রে কোন নতুন পথ, ভূমি সংস্কার বা Land reforms এর বাস্তব কর্মপন্থা অথবা ট্যাক্সের বোঝার জর্জরিত আমার জনসাধারণের সম্মুখে ট্যাক্স লাঘবে কোন পথ এই বাজেটে নাই।

মহাশয়, সমাজতান্ত্রিক ধরনের সমাজ গঠনের কথা ১৯৫৬ ইংরাজী থেকে আমরা শুনেছি। আচ্ছা দেখা যাক এই পথে গভর্নমেন্ট কতদূর অগ্রসর হয়েছেন। ১৯৫৬-৫৭ ইংরাজী আর ১৯৫৯-৬০ ইংরাজীর General Administration এর হিসাব দিচ্ছি।

১৯৫৬-৫৭

১৯৫৯-৬০

মাসিক ৫০০ টাকা বা তার উপর বেতন
নেন যেসব কর্মচারী তাদের সংখ্যা
হল ৯১; তারা মোট কর্মচারীর
৩.১৯ per cent; অথচ মোট
বেতনের ২৮.৫ per cent নিয়েছেন।

মাসিক ৫০০ টাকা বা তার উপর বেতন
নেন এমন অফিসারের সংখ্যা ১৩৮;
তারা মোট কর্মচারীর ৫ per cent পূর্ণ
সংখ্যা অথচ তারা নিয়ে যান মোট
বেতনের ২৯.৯ per cent।

তুলনামূলক এই হিসাব দুইটা থেকে দেখা যায় আমাদের গতি আজ কোন দিকে? সমাজতন্ত্র দিকে না আভিজাত তন্ত্রের দিকে? সমাজ তন্ত্রের মূল নীতি এই ব্যবধান দূর করা; কিন্তু আমরা দেখেছি ৪ বৎসরে এই ব্যবধান আরও বেড়েছে। সমাজতন্ত্রের নামে এই গেল এক নং ভাবত। দুই নং ভাবত দিচ্ছেন এই সরকার আমাদের জনসাধারণকে ভূমি সংস্কারের নামে বড় বড় কথা বলে। স্যার, Planning Commission এর Land Reform সহক্রে যে সমস্ত সুপারিশ ছিল এবং কংগ্রেসের নাগপুর প্রস্তাবে এসে যে ভাবে তা রূপ নিয়েছে, ত্রুটি বিচ্যুতি থাকে স্বত্তেও আমি মনে করি দেশের অর্থনৈতিক বুনয়াদকে বারো শত বৎসরে গড়ে তুলতে চায় এমন প্রত্যেক ভারতবাসী তাকে সমর্থন করবে। আমরা আশা করেছিলাম সারা ভারত কংগ্রেসের একটা শাখা এই আসাম কংগ্রেসের পরিচালিত গবর্নমেন্ট সে পথেই চলবেন। কিন্তু বড় বড় কথা বলে বাস্তবে বিপরীত কাজ করে আজ তারা জনসাধারণকে ভাবতাই দিচ্ছেন।

Sir, Land Reform বলতে আমি সোজাসোজি বুঝি “Land to the Tillers” —“লাওল যার জমি তার” আর মধ্যে স্বল্প ভোগীদের বিলোপ সাধন”। কিন্তু বাস্তব অবস্থা আজ কি। সারা আসামে হাজার হাজার পরিবার কৃষক আজ জমি থেকে উচ্ছেদের সম্মুখীন। আমাদের হিসাব মতে শুধু সরকারী নীতির ফলে সারা আসামে উচ্ছেদ হবে প্রায় ৬০ হাজার কৃষক পরিবার আর সংগে জড়িত তিন লক্ষ মানুষের জীবিকার সংস্থান একমুঠা ভাঙের প্রশ্ন। আমি মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়কে আশ্বাস জানাই তিনি হিসাব নিয়ে আস্তুন যতগুলি পরিবারকে উচ্ছেদ করছেন তাদের লোক সংখ্যার জমির quality র; দেখবেন ওদের মোটা অংশ বুড়ো আর আবাদ করছে কৃষির উপযোগী পতিত জমি। এখানে আমি আর একটা কথা গবর্নমেন্টকে বলতে চাই। ১৯৪২।৪৩ সালের খাদ্য সংকটের সময় “অধিক খাদ্য ফলাও” এই শ্লোগান দিয়ে গবর্নমেন্ট কি ঐ সমস্ত পতিত জমিতে কৃষকদের চাষাবাদের জন্য নিয়োগ করেন নি? আজ “জাতীয় সরকারের” প্রয়োজন ফুরিয়েছে। ওরা যেন মধ্য যুগের দাস—প্রয়োজন নাই বাজারে বিক্রী করে দাও। জমি থেকে উচ্ছেদ করে সেই জমিতে কি করতে চান গবর্নমেন্ট?

সরকার বলে থাকেন আমরা Forest কমিয়ে দিয়েছি তা বাড়াতে চাই। যখন সরকার Forest এর কথা বলেন তখন কি unclassified Forest এর কথা সরকার হিসাবে নেন? চা বাগানের Forest, বা ব্যক্তিগত Forest তা হিসাবে ধরেণ? আর যদি reserved Forest করতে হয় তবে unclassified Forest বা চা বাগানের বাড়তি জমিতে Forest করা যায় তার জন্য আবাদী জমি থেকে কৃষক কে উচ্ছেদ করতে হবে না।

Sir, সরকার প্রায় বলে থাকেন যে Land Reform এ আমরা অনেক অগ্রসর হয়ে গেছি।

(১) জমিদারী অধিগ্রহণ আইন আমরা পাশ করেছি

(২) চিলিং আইন আমরা পাশ করেছি

(৩) আধিয়ার আইন আমরা পাশ করেছি

আচ্ছা দেখা যাক বাস্তবে কি হচ্ছে। আমি-করিমগঞ্জের একটা জমিদারীর উচ্ছেদ নোটিশ পড়ছি।

নোটিশ

আমাদের জমিদারীর অন্তর্গত চরওলা কাচারীর এলাকাভুক্ত বহু জমি স্থানীয় কোন কোন কৰ্মচারী আমাদের বিনা অনুমতিতে বন্দোবস্ত দিয়াছেন বলিয়া প্রকাশ পাইতেছি। এইরূপ বন্দোবস্তী জমির মধ্যে ধানী জমি, পান ফলাইবার উপযোগী জমি ও অন্যান্য নানা প্রকার কৃষির উপযোগী জমি আছে। বলা বাহুল্য এরূপ বন্দোবস্ত দেওয়ার কোনও ক্ষমতা স্থানীয় কৰ্মচারীদের ছিল না এবং এই সকল বন্দোবস্ত আমরা আদৌ স্বীকার করি না। এই সকল ভূমি আমাদের খাস দখলে ছিল। এরূপ বন্দোবস্ত নিয়া যাহারা আমাদের জমিদারীর অন্তর্গত কোনও ভূমি দখল করিতেছেন তাহাদিগকে এতদ্বারা জানান যাইতেছে যে তাহারা যেন ঐ সকল ভূমির দখল আমাদের অনুকূলে ছাড়িয়া দেন, অথবা আমাদের সহিত রীতিমত বন্দোবস্ত করণে। তদন্য যার আইন মত আচরণ করা যাইবে।

শ্রী উষারানী চক্রবর্তী,

শ্রীনন্দরানী মুখার্জী, (একজন ভূতপূর্ব
বংগ্রেসী মন্ত্রী স্ত্রী—বক্তা।)

মানুগ্রাম বাংলা,
শিলচর, কাছাড়
২০শে ভাদ্র, ১৩৬৬ বাংলা।

শ্রীনির্মলকুমার চৌধুরী,

মালীকান পক্ষে

শ্রী এন্ এন্ চক্রবর্তী, আই, এ, এন্,
(রিটায়ার্ড)

হ্যাঁ জমিদাররা আইন মত আচরণ ই করছেন। December—January মাসে যখন জমির ফসল ফলাবার সময় আসল তখন জমিদার এক এক করে মিথ্যা ফৌজদারী

মানলা রুজু করেছিল। আর আমাদের “Land Reform” এর গবর্ণমেন্ট শান্তি এবং শৃংখলা কৃষকরা ভঙ্গ করতে পারে, তাই দুই উজন বন্ধুকারী পুলিশ গ্রামে নিয়ে বসিয়ে দেন। রাত্রে গিয়ে ঘরে হানা দেওয়া কৃষকদের ঘর থেকে হাস, পায়রা ধরে নেওয়া, মার ধর করা সমস্তই চললো—সেখানে Land Reform হয়ে গেল।

করিমগঞ্জে জমিদারী এলাকায় এই রকম শত শত দৃষ্টান্তের অভাব নাই।

আখিয়ার আইন পাশ হয়েছে। রাজস্ব মন্ত্রী মহোদয় প্রায়ই বলে থাকেন কৃষকরা সংগঠিত নয় কাজেই আইনের সুযোগ নিতে পারছে না। অন্যান্য Trade Union এর নতো।

আমি সংগঠিত কৃষকদের একটা দৃষ্টান্ত দিচ্ছি। করিমগঞ্জ মহরের এক মাইল দক্ষিণে একটা গ্রামে ৪৩ জন আখিয়ার আছেন। আইন মত ওরা পাঁচ ভাগ দাবী করায় জমিদার গবর্ণমেন্ট ৩৫ টা ফোজদারী মানলা তাদের উপর লাগিয়েছে। এবং প্রত্যেকটিতে পুলিশ নিয়ে কৃষকদের হায়রাণ করেছে। একদিকে গবর্ণমেন্ট আখিয়ার এই আইন পাশ করবেন অন্যদিকে এই গবর্ণমেন্টের পুলিশ সকল আখিয়ারকে চোর ডাকাতি, দাঙ্গাবাজ বলে ধরে নিয়ে আসবে। বাঃ, চমৎকার land reform.

চিলিং আইনে আজ পর্য্যন্ত কত বিঘা জমি সরকার জমিদারের দখল থেকে এনে জমিহীন কৃষকদের মধ্যে বিলি করে দিয়েছেন? তার হিসাব কি সরকার দিতে পারেন? আমার মনে হয়, পারেন না—কারণ প্রকৃত পক্ষে কোন জমি এদিক থেকে আসেনি।

Sir, সরকারী উচ্ছেদ, জমিদার ও জমির মহাজনদের উচ্ছেদ, জমিহীন ও কন জমি থাকা মানুষের সংখ্যা মিলিয়ে আজ কোথায় গিয়ে পৌঁছেছে মাননীয় রাজস্ব মন্ত্রীকে আমি সেই হিসাব নিয়ে আসতে অনুরোধ করি। দেখা যাবে মোট কৃষক জনসাধারণের বড় অংশ আজ ছিন্দুল, ভীতিহীন তার উপর আছে চা শিল্পের সংকটে বেকার ও অন্ধ বেকার জনসংখ্যা পূর্ববঙ্গের বাস্তহারা। সব মিলিয়ে সমস্যার ব্যাপকতা এবং গভীরতা আজ কোথায় গিয়ে দাড়িয়েছে তা সরকারকে চিন্তা করতে বলি এবং এই দৃষ্টিতেই উচ্ছেদ নীতি, কৃষিনীতি, সম্পর্কে পূর্ণ বিবেচনার প্রয়োজন হয়েছে বলে আমি মনে করি। এই নীতি সম্পর্কে কোন বাস্তব কর্ম পন্থা এই বাজেটে দিতে পারেন নি।

স্যার, অনেক সদস্য কেন্দ্রের কাছ থেকে আমাদের প্রাপ্য অংশ আদায় করতে পারেন নি বলে সরকারের বিরুদ্ধে অভিযোগ তুলেছেন। আমি বলতে চাই টাকা এনে কি হবে—অপব্যয় করার চাইতে না আনাই ভাল। কারণ আজ পর্য্যন্ত ধার রাখা বা অন্য যাতের টাকা গভর্ণমেন্ট কোন উৎপাদনমূলক কাজে পঁবা রিকল্পনায় নিয়োগ করতে পারেন নি।

উদ্বাস্তুদের জন্য কেন্দ্রীয় সরকারের ঋণ তার সব চেয়ে বড় প্রমাণ। আমার নিব্বাচন চক্রে কেন্দ্রীয় সরকারের টাকার ৩ টাকার, ৩২ লক্ষ টাকার একটা পরিকল্পনা ছিল। ১৯৫৭ এবং ১৯৫৮ ইংরাজীর বাজেটে ঐ সম্পর্কে খুব বাহাদুরী আমাদের গভর্ণমেন্ট নিয়েছিলেন। কিন্তু আজ আমরা সকলেই জানি ঐ টাকার একটা মোটা অংশ জলে গিয়েছে। unproductive সমস্ত scheme এ এই গভর্ণমেন্ট টাকা খরচ করেন।

Sir, আমাদের এই সমাজতান্ত্রিক সরকার আরও একটা অংশকে আজ ছিন্তামূল করে দিনার ব্যবস্থা করেছেন। মফস্বল সহর এবং ছোট ছোট বাজারে Sales Tax করবার যে ব্যবস্থা আজ সরকার করেছেন তার ফলে ছোট ছোট ব্যবসায়ীরা দোকান বন্ধ করে দিতে বাধ্য হচ্ছেন।

Sir, আমাদের ধারণা, এই Tax আদায়ে দুর্নীতি ছিলেছে। অনেক বড় বড় ব্যবসায়ী স্বচ্ছন্দে কারবার করে যাচ্ছেন; আর যাদের ছোট ছোট দোকান তাদের উপর উপর থেকে কর ধাওয়া করে দেওয়া হয়। তাদের আপীলের অধিকার আছে কিন্তু যে সমস্ত ছোট ব্যবসায়ী ধাওয়া ট্যাক্সের একটা অংশ দিয়ে আপীলের খরচ দিয়ে এসে আপীল করবার ক্ষমতা রাখেনা। ফলে দোকান বন্ধ করে দিতে হয়েছে। ঐগুলি যে অন্যায় ভাবে চালিয়ে দেওয়া হয় তার প্রমাণ পাওয়া যাবে এই শ্রিলং সহরের ভিতরেই কারণ জানিয়ে দেওয়া ট্যাক্স আপীলে মুকুব হয়েছে।

এই সমস্ত দুর্বলতা যদি থাকে তবে এই বাজেটকে জনসাধারণের বাজেট বলে কখনও স্বীকার করা যায় না। এই বাজেট আমাদের জনসাধারণের কাছে নতুন কোন আশা আকাঙ্ক্ষা তুলে ধরতে পারেনা।

Sir, আসামের বর্তমান খাদ্য সংকট এবং শিল্প গঠন প্রচেষ্টার প্রতি লক্ষ্য রেখে কটকগুলি সুপারিশ আমি রাখতে চাই।

(১) নতুন শিল্পগড়া এবং তাতে বাড়তি লোককে নিয়োগ না করা পর্যন্ত উচ্ছেদ বন্ধ রাখা।

(২) যাদেরকে উচ্ছেদ করতে হবে তাদের সম্পর্কে সমস্ত তথ্য --যথা তারা জমিহীন কিনা? কোন প্রকার জমিতে চাষ করছে? অন্য কি জীবিকার সংস্থান আছে? তা সংগ্রহ করতে হবে। এবং এইগুলি শেষ হলে পর প্রয়োজন মত উচ্ছেদ করতে হবে।

(৩) সর্বপ্রকার জমিদারী ও মধ্য স্বত্বভোগীদের উচ্ছেদ স্বরান্বিত করতে হবে। জমিদারও জমির মহাজনদের দ্বারা উচ্ছেদ বন্ধ করতে হবে।

(৪) আধিয়ার আইন কার্যকরী করতে হবে। পুলিশ যাতে আধিয়ারদের হায়রাণ করেছে তাপারে তার কার্যকরী ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করতে হবে।

(৫) ceiling এর অতিরিক্ত জমি শীঘ্র আনবার ব্যবস্থা করতে হবে। এবং তাহা জমিহীনদের মধ্যে বিলির ব্যবস্থা করতে হবে।

(৬) Sales Tax আদায়ের বর্তমান ব্যবস্থা বাতিল করে source এ তাহা আদায়ের ব্যবস্থা কার্যকরী করতে হবে। ছোট দোকানদার এবং ব্যবসায়ীরা এর হাত থেকে রক্ষা পায় তার ব্যবস্থা করতে হবে। এতে বড় staff রাখবার ও প্রয়োজন হবেনা।

Sir, এই বলেই আমি আমার বক্তব্য শেষ করলাম।

Maulavi MUHAMMAD IDRIS (Rupohihat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I congratulate our Finance Minister for presenting the Budget for 1959-60. In presenting the Budget he has dealt elaborately with the various problems of our State and has explained the financial position of the Government very comprehensively. Though the Budget is a surplus one, yet the financial resources are quite inadequate to meet many of our pressing needs and problems. It is unfortunate that the Centre has failed to allocate more funds to develop our under developed State. We only hope that more financial assistance will be forthcoming for implementation of the Second Five Year Plan projects and also for undertaking some more development plans in order to lay a promising foundation for the Third Five Year Plan.

Sir, to strengthen the base of our economy, first of all we require increased agricultural production and with this end in view our Government has already taken steps to organise field management committees throughout the State. The grow-more-food campaign is also there. But, Sir, I feel that in spite of these efforts we have not been able to get the desired result in this regard. The reasons for not achieving the desired results are many and I would like to discuss a few of them. Firstly, I would take up improved methods of cultivations of which we talk much. The Japanese method is still unknown in the countryside, not because of the fact that our people will not be able to adopt it, but because proper publicity and education have not been given to our agriculturists by the Department. I am sorry to say that our Agricultural personnel engaged in these operations are themselves in ignorance. They perhaps are not clear in their mind about these improved methods and it is really difficult for them to convince the agriculturists about the same. So is the case with the use of fertilisers. There is a superstition in the minds of our agriculturists against the use of fertilisers. This also requires intensive work on the part of the Agriculture Department to persuade our people to take to fertilisers and adopt improved methods of cultivation. Then again another factor which would help much in grow more food production is small irrigational projects. Of late we have done much propaganda through our Organisation *i. e.*, Congress Committees that this small-scale irrigation projects sponsored by the Agriculture Department are of great advantage to our cultivators and they should come forward to execute such schemes. But I should like to point out some difficulties which stand on the way for speedy execution of these projects. From my

own experience, I am of the opinion that this small irrigation project would have been better executed if the share to be contributed for it by the people who take up such a project is reduced. According to rule 50 per cent of the total cost of a project is to be borne by the people in whose area such a project is undertaken. As this is a matter of urgency by which large tracts of lands can be reclaimed or improved for cultivation and is helping to solve one of the national problems of food shortage, I think, the contribution from the public should be reduced to the minimum, say from 50 per cent it should be brought down to 20 per cent which shall be realised either in kind, cash or labour.

Next, I come to the Field Management Committees. It has been pointed out by our Finance Minister that circulars were issued to the respective departments and district heads to register them as soon as possible. So far my district of Nowgong is concerned, I have not yet been able to know of any progress in this regard. What I want to say is that these field management committees will not be of much use unless they are given proper guidance and help from the Agriculture and Co-operative Departments. Earlier on another occasion, I have mentioned about handicaps of our agriculturists for their failure to take up the modern and scientific methods of agriculture and their failure of the urge to apply fertilisers in their cultivation and these very people are going to be members of these committees. Unless they are enlightened and educated on values of modern and scientific methods of agriculture and utility of fertilisers, by the department concerned, I think, the committees cannot render help to the agriculturists. Therefore, I suggest that experienced and expert hands either of the Agriculture Department or Co-operative Department should be placed in charge of those committees. I don't think that these works can be done by the present demonstrators of the Agriculture Department.

Now, I want to speak about an important industry in Assam. It is the jute industry. Although this is not a food crop, it is a money crop. Sir, Assam has got abundance of resources for this industry. It is not only an important industry for Assam alone but for India as a whole, as it earns a very big amount of foreign exchange for our country. But, I am very sorry to note here that though Assam has got much scope for development of this industry, yet nothing has been done for the improvement of this crop and for the betterment of the growers of this crop. Sir, for the last two years

the jute growers are facing crisis as the price of jute has gone down very low and it has become simply uneconomic to produce any more jute crop. We have read in the news papers that in Bihar and Bengal, Governments are contemplating to give safeguard to the jute growers considering that they are having a set back owing to the fall in price of jute, but it is regrettable that our Government has not taken any step for the safeguard and protection of this important crop as well as for the growers of this crop in this crisis. Therefore, I suggest that our Government should try to fix a minimum price of this commodity in order to safeguard the interest of the growers. In fixing the price, the price to be paid to the producers should be fixed in such a manner that they get the impetus and encouragement to grow this crop more and more.

Sir, the entire riverine areas of Assam Valley is fit for growing jute and there are some areas which are not fit for any other crop but jute, so, even if we do not want to encourage jute growing in the State in that case vast areas of land fit only for growing jute will lie waste. This will be a great national loss. Therefore, it is necessary that due consideration should be given for the improvement of jute cultivation in the State. Our Government has a department, the Jute Development Department in Assam and there are a few officers of this Department in every district, but from what we have seen they are practically doing nothing for the improvement of this crop. So far as retting tanks are concerned, our Government is giving some money for setting them in important jute growing areas but it is difficult to understand on what principle or basis these are distributed. In fixing places for them neither the Agriculture Department nor the respective Development Board is consulted. Perhaps, this is done on the whims of some officers. Thus money for these retting tanks are being wasted for the failure of fixing them up in proper areas. I would suggest that Government should take a serious view of this measure and in future in fixing up retting tanks it should be borne in mind that they go to the betterment of the jute industry.

My next point is about the present food problem of the State. It has been said that our Government have decided to procure about 22 lakh maunds of paddy to make up a buffer stock in the State and for this purpose the Government have created different zones in the State and have fixed different prices in different prices in different zones

The Government have taken a bold step in deciding to give the monopoly of procurement in Nowgong district to co-operatives. This will help co-operative movement to thrive and I welcome the step but there are some lacuna which I cannot help mentioning. The people had to suffer a lot due to stringent rules and procedure of procurement. Decision of the Government was very hasty and there was little time to give proper publicity amongst our people to prepare themselves to co-operate with the scheme. Anyway, we do not mind so much about those procedural irregularities and difficulties but what we feel so much is this that in spite of the best intention of our Government to give the maximum prices to the growers that intention has been frustrated according to my estimation. Most of the growers have been deprived of the fixed price which has been stated as Rs. 9 (minus some deduction for shrinkage of weight, etc.,) and had to sell their paddy at a much lower price. That price of 9 rupee was never given to the growers for very many reasons. The main reason in my mind is this that though these Co-operatives are meant to function very honestly and in a systematic way, yet due to the ignorance of the co-operative principles amidst our people and due to lack of strict supervision from our Co-operative Department some difficulties were there and some unscrupulous people who could somehow or other become members or agent of some Co-operatives are deceiving the people in that way. This is a serious matter in so far as the interest of the grower is concerned and I draw the attention of the Government to see that all possible safeguard is given and the growers assured of the minimum price which has been fixed by the Government. The minimum price which has been fixed, it is told, at an All-India level is very low. I appeal to our Government that it should see that this minimum price of Rs. 9 is enhanced because according to my estimation, this is not a proper price and it should be enhanced to a fair limit. Our Government should take up this matter with the Central Government to redress this grievance of the people.

Co-operation is the most vital problem and the most vital programme of our Government to achieve the socialistic pattern of our society. In this respect, it has been stated that the rural credit problem has been solved to a great extent through the Co-operative Credit Societies. As many as 3702 Village Co-operative Credit Societies have been formed in our State. I agree that these Societies are serving the the very big needs of our agriculturists and it has reduced

the rural indebtedness to a great extent and it has also pushed the money lenders to a complete back door. But from the practical experience of the last two years, I would draw the attention of our Government to the following fact that mostly, short-term loans are issued to these Credit Societies through the respective Central Bank and these short-term loans are given against the standing crops and if the standing crops, somehow or other, fail the lot of the agriculturists is in jeopardy. This actually happened in the Nowgong District. I am speaking of the Central Bank which is perhaps the first in position in the whole State and which could record a good service for the last three or four years but the condition of this Central Bank to-day is very dwindling. This Central Bank could issue about Rs.35 lakhs for the last two years and the record of the repayment of the Societies was very satisfactory till last year. But due to the acute draught condition of the entire District, the member of these respective Credit Societies fail to repay their loans in due time and they now stand as defaulters. In spite of the best wishes of these people and inspite of the best effort of the organising body these Societies are now in the defaulters list and they are debarred from getting any finance. As a rule, any Society which is a defaulter to the tune of 20 per cent, will not be entitled to get the finance and on that estimate, there are about 300 Societies in our District and I think all the Societies, barring a few only, will be debarred from getting any finance this year. So due to genuine reasons and in spite of the best intention of the creditors they failed to repay these loans this year. These member creditor agriculturists are to grow more food and to take up agriculture for the next season but at the same time they are handicapped with the finance. This means, Sir, that ultimately, they shall have to take shelter with the money lenders. Those money lenders who are furious on our scheme will utilise this opportunity and reap the benefit to the fullest extent and I am afraid, the whole structure of the economy of the agriculturists will be shattered due to this fact. So, I submit that if after an enquiry the cases of these Societies are found to be genuine and the failure was due to a real drought affect and other natural calamities then they should be allowed to be refinanced. The Government can refinance them in two ways. I would suggest that firstly, Government can do it by converting the short term loans into medium term and then allow them to draw the short-term loans and secondly, I would suggest that Government can relax the rules in such a way that if a majority of the members of the Society repay the loan

that Society will be entitled to a short-term loan or medium term loan as the case may be. I therefore, draw the attention of the Government to consider this very seriously and to help this movement to thrive at least in the District which had stood first in the last record.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of our Govt. to another point. This is about the supervision and guidance by our Co-operative Department to the existing Co-operative Societies. I do not want to throw any blame on any officer but what I find is that though Government is serious about this Co-operative Movement and want to introduce co-operation in every walks of life, yet the Department which is entertained by our Government is not of such an efficiency that it can cope with the situation. Sir, to raise about 16 lakhs of revenue from a district we have got not less than 50 to 60 mauzadars and many Sub-Deputy Collectors and other officers. But to raise Rs.35 lakh issued as loan by the Government through Co-operative department we have only one Assistant Registrar in the district and that too without many of the facilities derived by other Government officers. So, if Government really mean business in Co-operation, I think it should increase the cadre of officers and they should be decently paid and given all the other facilities which are generally given to others.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2 P.M.

(After lunch)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour, Electricity, etc.) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the debate is expected to form the most important change which is intended by the budget for the coming year. From that point of view, I may say with due respect to the Opposition that while they have noticed the change but they have not seen the emphasis and if they would have seen the emphasis as far as the budget presented in this House is concerned they would see that the emphasis given on it is revolution. It should be remembered that there was a great deal of criticism in regard to our administration that it was not effective. After a great deal of discussion all over the country, it was decided that administration should be decentralised and certain programme was adopted by the All-India Congress Committee and by the Government of India that panchayats should be introduced in all the States and provision of funds and resources were made so that these panchayats can take

over the burden of administration. That is what is intended by this budget so that decentralisation may occur in State. I do hope that not only in this House but people outside will understand that this is a revolution which has taken the start. To give it a base it is decided to start and complete service co-operative by the end of Second Plan.

Now, Sir, service co-operative is one of the important spheres in agriculture. It is no doubt that in Japan where these co-operatives exist have been started by agriculturists themselves both on village and national level. They themselves finance the whole thing. Yesterday, in course of discussion one of the Communist Members of the House said that very little fund has been provided for co-operatives. It is true. If all the fund for co-operatives are provided by the Government then the whole object of co-operative movement would be lost. Sir, in Japan 50 per cent of the investments in service co-operatives come from rural areas in the shape of deposits. So, I would request the Opposition Members and other Members of the House that they see that deposit from agriculturists might start in our State by the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan.

Now, there was some discussion about the Third Five Year Plan in the House and it was said regarding the Second Plan that there was no weapon of holding the price line. I myself criticised this and, I think, it is a defect of the Second Plan. It is now decided that arrangement for holding the price line is made. As a matter of fact, the Parliamentary Committee of the Parliament and the All-India Congress Committee approached this question of price line. They have for this purpose set up sub-committees. Now, in the initial stage, what the country wants to enforce with regard to grain trade? I have no doubt that with the experience gained and this budget it will be possible next year so that fluctuation of price in grain trade is controlled. Sir, Mr. Barthakur yesterday rightly said that price of other things fluctuate with the change of price of grain. Therefore, we have to have control on grain price. If we succeed in this we shall achieve a great thing.

Now, from Delhi recently the question of industrial co-operatives has come. The Prime Minister himself said that he was fully in favour of introducing co-operative principle in agricultural as well as industrial sphere co-operatives. If we really want democratisation in the country there is no doubt that we should have co-operatives in agriculture and industry also. As a matter of fact, this is in the direction

of socialist pattern of society we want to have in this country. The Prime Minister in his statement to the press emphatically said that in this question there would be no compromise. Therefore, this attempt of introducing co-operative in the industrial sphere is going to be revolutionary. Therefore, our people should take advantage of this. In fact, in Assam, the first large scale venture in industrialisation of the State began with co-operative in the Assam Co-operative Sugar Mill. It is a good news to learn that recently two tea gardens in Cachar have been purchased by workers of these two gardens on co-operative basis and they will be run by the workers on co-operative basis. This is not only a beginning for workers to purchase gardens in Assam but it is the beginning in India as a whole. This is a step in the right direction.

So far as land reforms are concerned, we are about to complete the land reforms in the State within the next two years. The land reform legislation shall have to be completed by the next two years. Therefore the effort on the part of the Opposition to hustle and bustle things will not be a step in right direction. Once the legislative set up is complete, I have, no doubt, we will go forward to take other inevitable steps. But the Opposition should appreciate the difficulty in consolidating these measures and they should also appreciate why we are going the way in which we are.

Now I am trying to hurry myself. So far as the question of unemployment is concerned which has engaged the attention of this House, it is no doubt a very healthy indication that this idea has been receiving the attention of the House. I will just enumerate what is the type of unemployment in the country. From the Employment Exchange record it is found that out of the number of registration which have occurred, nearly 14,000 are of Matriculates or under-Matriculates, which form nearly 90 per cent of the registration. That is very clear. What is happening in Assam is that this unemployment problem is occurring mostly in the stage of under-Matrices. Mostly this is a category which will naturally go over to technical training and become artisans in other countries and other parts of India. In Assam due to lack of industrial development this category has been trying to drift into clerical class. Therefore great difficulty has arisen, we have not been able to expand industry in the way in which we are. The result is that there is a great time-lag between the industrial expansion of the State and the expanding unemployment among the youths of under-Matric stage. I have no doubt that the most urgent and

pressing problem today from that point of view is industrialisation. Naturally the State Government is taking same steps and private companies are also taking some steps in this direction. It may be possible to take wider and longer steps; but as I said we are now in the midst of difficulties. Therefore I would suggest that the number of technical institutions which we have floated are very few; they should be expanded. The other day a resolution was moved that there should be a technical Institute at Dibrugarh; there has been a demand yesterday by Sri Goswami that there should be a technical institute at Gauhati and there is also a demand that there should be one such institute in Goalpara or Bongai-gaon area. I have no doubt that the opening of technical institutes in different parts of the State is very much necessary.

So far as the high price is concerned, our State Government is taking further steps in this matter. The first step we took was to reduce the transport bottleneck so that the high cost of commodities coming from outside might be reduced. Naturally it should be admitted that it would not be possible for our State to reduce the prices unless we increase the production of our requirements for the State. Take for instance milk. Our milk production per cow is one of the lowest in the world. Then about our requirement in pulses. Formerly our whole attention was devoted to rice cultivation but nearly 90 per cent of pulses which Assam require are brought from outside. Unless pulse cultivation is introduced inevitably the cost cannot be reduced. Regarding wheat, in Assam less than 10 per cent wheat is produced and the bulk of our requirement comes from outside. So some efforts should be made to bring more areas under wheat cultivation to increase production. Our vegetable requirement in comparison to other States is very nominal. Unless our vegetable production is increased we don't advance any further. Similarly with regard to sugar, gur, etc., we are mostly dependent on other States of India. What I am pointing out is that for all these things our State has so long been depending on other States; so long we have been given stress on the luxurious growth in the State rather their agricultural skill. Unless agricultural skill is applied in all these spheres naturally the high cost will rule the market and will not be reduced. I think this aspect of the question will be appreciated both by the Opposition Members and other Members of the House, so that shortages in this direction may be reduced and I have no doubt that it would be a duty for me to point out the defects and shortcomings of our country and our State. Somehow there has been a tendency for some time not to point them

out and the result has been that our young men who are equally competent with the rest of India have not cared to notice their own defects and have not tried to correct them. Their life has been unfortunately geared up to the minimum efficiency. Of course the number of failures in Matriculation, the number of students passing in the third division is very high, it is one of the highest in India. Therefore it cannot be said that our students have geared themselves up to maximum efficiency. Just as our agricultural production per acre is the lowest in India, so also in respect of production of talents we are the lowest. We are the highest not only in failures, but also in third division also we are the highest. Therefore it is very necessary that more emphasis should be given on a change over from gearing ourselves to minimum efficiency to gearing ourselves up to maximum efficiency. We are now in the twentieth century. Unless our young men are told that they have to gear themselves up to the highest efficiency, there is no future for them. In this context I may tell you what I heard from hon. Sri Siddhinath Sarma. Sometime back a story was told by him which was very illustrative. Two students were talking near the Cotton College. One was trying to pull the other to a cinema house and when he said that next day he had to appear for his examination, the other boy said "Let us not bother about the examination. After all to whom the services will be given if not to us?" That shows that the boys have become complacent and if this complacency goes naturally it would be difficult to raise them in terms of efficiency and competition with the rest of India and the competition is not only with the rest of India but with the rest of the world. Therefore I would request the hon. Members of the Opposition as well as leaders of public opinion here that we should be united in an effort so that we may be able to diagnose the cause which has hampered our efficiency which is so vital for modern requirement.

Sir, I was looking through the production figures. I think the leader of the Communist Party was saying that the production figures for our State have gradually gone on declining. On the other hand the production figures have gone on increasing in recent years. So far as production in agriculture is concerned in Assam from 1951 to 1957 the figure has gone from on increasing from 94.7 to 105.1 but for India as a whole the figure is from 97.5 to 113.4. That is in agriculture we are behind of India but in respect of industrial development the figure has gone up from 100.0 in 1951 to 163.6 in 1957 whereas for the whole of India the figure is 100.0 in 1951 and 137.3 in 1957. Therefore in point of industrial production naturally our position has been much better.

Therefore, in point of industrial production naturally our position has been much better. That shows that we have great leeway to make up and somehow or other for the last few years the number of industries which have been set up has been considerable and their production also has been increased. Therefore, Sir, so far as industrial production is concerned, we are showing better results.

Shri MOHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY (Hajo):

Does this also include rice mill products?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Labour, Electricity, etc.): Yes Sir, it includes that also. Now Sir, from this fact also we have to become more anxious about our agricultural production.

Now, so far as the figures that I am quoting about the types of unemployment occurring in our country particularly in Assam, are concerned, they are thus: graduates 280, undergraduates 450, matriculates 2,984, undermatrics 14,441. Now, if you add up matriculates and undermatrics the figure comes to about 19 thousand. That again shows that unemployment is gradually growing in our country. Now, what is the type of shortages which is growing in Assam? From the report of Employment Exchanges we are finding great shortages in Assam with regard to stenographers, fast typists, scheduled caste matriculates, trained teachers, graduate teachers, laboratory assistants, silt analysts, economic statistical assistants, ex-service Gurkhas, scheduled tribes for class III and class IV posts, overseers, draughtsmen, experienced welders, turners experienced moulders, drilling machine operators, compressor driver, bull-dozer operators, concrete mixer driver, stationery plan attendants, skilled masons, skilled carpenters, wood, machinists, radio mechanics, surveyors, tractor drivers, earth cutting labourers, compounder and dressers, midwives, trained nurses, sweepers, expert cooks, boiler attendants, health visitors and doctors. So far as shortage of stenographers, fast typists, overseers, draughtsmen, compounders, midwives, trained nurses and trained teachers is concerned, this is widespread and persistent all over India. And so far shortage in respect of other categories like graduate teachers, scheduled tribes for class III and class IV posts, experienced welders, turners, drilling machine operators, wood machinists, radio mechanics, surveyors, expert cooks, health visitors and doctors, the shortage is generally felt more or less in almost all other States. Therefore Sir, from this type of shortages occurring in our economy, it naturally shows that we have not been able to provide facilities to our youngmen for such training. So naturally it would

be necessary for our administrative set up as well as educational set up to be able to set up institutions for such training so that these shortages may be made to disappear.

Sir, I have completed my time and I am grateful to you for giving me some minutes to complete my statement and in these few minutes I have been able to explain to the House as to what are the types of shortages that are occurring in our country and what measures are necessary to meet these shortages and particularly how to co-ordinate these things so that gradually we can cope with unemployment. Sir, the second thing that I have drawn the attention of the House is that unless we gear ourselves and focuss our attention to these points and unless we gear our set up to efficiency we shall not progress at least to the extent in comparison with the rest of India.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं आपको इसके लिए धन्यवाद ज्ञापन करता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे आज कुछ कहने का मौका दिया है। वजट तो कई पृष्ठों में हैं और मुझे सम्पूर्ण पढ़ने का अवसर नहीं मिला। अर्थमंत्री के भाषण में मुझे आशानुकूल संकेत नहीं मिला। माननीय अर्थमंत्री से मुझे बड़ी आशा थी कि वे समाजवाद का वजट प्रस्तुत करेंगे। किन्तु, ऐसा नहीं हुआ। यह वजट तो एक प्रकार का बनियाँ वजट है। बनियों के लाभ का है और इसमें जनसाधारण की भलाई का बहुत कम संकेत है। सरकार जिन लोगों को जनसाधारण के हित के खिलाफ कहती है। उसमें साठ-साठ गांठ का इस वजट में मुझे झलक मिलती है। कहा गया है मील मालिक सरकार का साथ दें। यह कैसा समाजवाद का नक्सा है? आमदनी का फर्क मिटाने के लिये कुछ कदम का संकेत नहीं मिलता है। कम-से-कम इस फर्क को १ और १० के बीच लाने की बात की गई होती तो एक प्रकार से हम मानलेते कि सरकार समाजवाद के रास्ते जा रही है। ऐसा तो नहीं हुआ। अन्न और कृषिपर जोर डालने की बात कही गई है। किन्तु, वर्तमान अनाज कानून में तो खराबियाँ हैं। चावल का Whole Sale दाम तय किया गया है। किन्तु, Retail दाम की जिक्र नहीं है। चावल ऊँचे दर से बेचनेवालों को कानून के किस धारा के अन्तर्गत सजा दी जायगी? ऐसा नहीं मालूम होता है। परती जमीन को आबाद करने का कोई ठोस कार्यक्रम नहीं बताया गया है। भूमिहीन किसानों में जमीन बाँटने और किसानों को राहत के लिए इस वजट में किसी निश्चित कदम का उल्लेख नहीं है। हमारे राज्य के कृषि और अन्नसमस्या के समाधान में गोबेरा का काफी महत्व है। किन्तु वजट में इसका कोई उल्लेख नहीं है। हमारी कृषिनीति का आधार बिन्दु गोबेरा ही होना चाहिए।

माननीय कृषिमंत्री ने मुझे चावल का व्यापारी बताकर इस सदन के सामने मेरी प्रतिष्ठ। को नुकसान पहुँचाया है। उन्हें ऐसा तो नहीं करना चाहिए। वे नाराज हो जाते हैं जब मैं किसी बात की ओर उनका अथवा सदन का ध्यान खींचता हूँ। उन्हें मुझे यहाँ जनता के प्रतिनिधि के रूप में देखना चाहिए। यहाँ मैं जनता की बात ही बोलता हूँ। माननीय मंत्री नवजवान लड़का हैं और यही वजह है कि गर्म हो जाते हैं।

महोदय, मैं देखता हूँ कि सरकार तड़क-भड़क को प्रोत्साहन दे रही है। इससे बड़ा नुकसान हो रहा है। सरकारी खर्चों में बढ़ती से जनसाधारण का लाभ नहीं हो पायेगा। लोगों से कम खर्च करने के लिए कहा जाता है और सरकार स्वयं फिजूल खर्च का रास्ता अपना रही है। इससे तो सामाजिक अशान्ति और लोभ-लालच के साथ अष्टाचार ही बढ़ेगा। आज हमारे राज्य में चरित्र का निर्माण नहीं होकर हास हो रहा है। हमारे राज्य में सरकारी खर्चों की कमी की ओर हम ध्यान खींचना चाहते हैं। कारण यह एक गुरुत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है। लापरवाही और दायित्वहीनता का आज बोलबाला है। ऐसी दशा में नवनिर्माण का काम कैसे आगे बढ़ेगा? हमारे इलाके में ही काफी परती जमीन है जो सिंचाई के अभाव में काम नहीं लगती है। मेरा विश्वास है कि इन जमीनों को आबाद करने से लाखों मन अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ सकती है। सरकार को इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए। मैं माननीय अर्थमंत्री का ध्यान तांगला के पानी समस्या की ओर खींचना चाहता हूँ। हमारे यहां यह समस्या बहुत पुराना है। अबतक कुछ नहीं किया गया। ताकि यही हालत रही तो सन ६० तक मैं स्वयं नहीं रहूँगा। इस सदन में आने के काबिल नहीं रहूँगा। क्या मैं आशा करूँ कि माननीय अर्थमंत्री हमारे यहां जल का प्रबन्ध करेंगे। ऐसा करने से उन्हें तांगला की हजारों जनता आत्मा से धन्यवाद देगी और समस्या का हल होगा।

मुझे अनेक समस्याओं पर कहने की ईच्छा है किन्तु समय कम है। चाय बगान के मजदूरों के बारे में माननीय सदस्य श्रीमोलिया तांतीजी की राय से मैं सहमत हूँ। इन बगानों में मजदूरों की अवस्था शोचनीय है। भयानक बेकारी फैल रही है। इनकी शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध ठीक नहीं है। इनके विकास की ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। मजदूरों के साधारण समस्याओं का भी बजट भाषण में जिक्र नहीं किया गया है। इनकी उपेक्षा की गई है। क्या यह अर्थ संगत है। समाजवाद के आधार श्रमिकों के प्रति सरकार का यह रुख हमें कहां ले जायगा।

राज्य की जनजातियों और पिछड़ी हुआ जातियों को और अधिक सुविधा की गुंजाइश होनी चाहिए। इनकी उन्नति की ओर सरकार को काफी ध्यान देना चाहिए। इसके अभाव में भयानक असंतोष और अशान्ति का वातावरण हो जायगा जो राज्य के विकास के लिए वातक होगा।

यातायात के साधनों का शिघ्र-विकास एक प्रमुख समस्या है। प्राइवेट बसों और मालढोने वाला गाड़ियों को मिल कारपोरेशन के अन्दर ले आना चाहिए जैसा कि पंजाब में हुआ है, इससे जान और माल को खतरों से बचने का रास्ता मिलेगा। कहा गया है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार मदद कम करती है। आखिर, वहां भी तो कांग्रेसी सरकार है यहां भी कांग्रेसी सरकार है यह तो घरेलू मामला है। मैं इसमें नहीं पड़ना चाहता। एक ओर केन्द्रीय सहायता की कमीपर कहा जाता है और दूसरी ओर ऐसा अनेक उदाहरण मौजूद है जब राज्य सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सहायता का उपयोग नहीं करके रूपया लौटाया है। यदि रूपया लौटाने के लिए लोभ है तो इसका क्या अर्थ समझें! एक जगह केन्द्रीय मंत्री श्री S. K. Dey ने हमारे माननीय अर्थ मंत्री के सामने बताया कि तुम्हारी सरकार रूपया नहीं खर्च करती है। यह तो एक तरह से जनता के साथ धोखा है।

गन्दे फिल्मों और नग्न पोस्टरों का प्रचार जारी है। इससे हमारे राज्य के छोटे छोटे बच्चोंपर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। समाज का भी अहित होता है। इस बारे में मद्रास के प्रेसिडेन्सी मजिस्ट्रेट का मैं एक फैसला का अंश पढ़ता हूँ कहा गया है—सीनेमा

कारण लोगों ने चोरियां सीखी ; डकैती सीखी, सराब पीना सीखा और भयावह श्रष्टाचार सीखे। यह एक गम्भीर समस्या है और राष्ट्रीय चरित्र निर्माण के लिए बाधक है। ऐसी चीजों पर प्रतिबन्ध का रास्ता लेना चाहिए। गन्दे गीत, जैसे—ला-रे-लप्पा का जोर है। सरकार ने इसके बारे में कुछ नहीं सोचा। क्या यह एक परह का अदूरदर्शिता नहीं है? ठीक इसी तरह बीड़ी कम्पनियों के प्रचार का भी बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है। इसकी रोक-थाम की और भी सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिए। शरणार्थी समस्या का ठोस हल नहीं हुआ। शिघ्र इन्हें बसाने की योजना जरूरी है। अनेक राज्यों में 'गो-सदन' का निर्माण हुआ है। हमारे राज्य में इसकी आवश्यकता है। क्या सरकार 'गो-सदन' बनाने पर विचार करेगा? यह गो-सदन ऊपरी धार में बनें तो वहां इसके लिए सुविधाएं मौजूद हैं।

इस बजट में एक प्रौढ़ व्यक्ति की सालाना आमदनी लगभग ₹५२.०१ रुपया अंक की जमा है। इसमें मील मालिक, ऊँचे सरकारी अफसर और व्यापारियों की आमदनी भी शामिल है। अगर, इनकी आमदनी निकाल लें तो औसत ०.५० नये पैसे रोजाना आमदनी होगा। और, यदि अर्थमंत्री का ही बात लें तो ०.४० नये पैसे रोज का होता है। क्या इससे साफ नहीं जाहिर होता कि गरिबों की संख्या बढ़ी है? गरीब और ज्यादा गरीब हो गए हैं और बनी और ज्यादा बनी बन गए हैं?

एक ओर भूखमरी का नक्सा है और दूसरी ओर मौज की जिन्दगी का। इस बजट में गरीबी मिटाने और जनता की आर्थिक हालत ठीक करने का लेश मात्र भी संकेत नहीं है। ऐसी चीजों का जिक्र ज्यादा है जिससे किसी प्रकार के उत्पादन की आशा नहीं की जा सकती है। नये-नये विभाग खोलकर सरकारी नौकरों की संख्या बढ़ाया जा रही है और इस तरह नौकरी का भार समाज पर पड़ रहा है। यह कहां तक तर्कसंगत है? इस तरह जनता की धन-राशि का अपव्यय हो रहा है। पूरे माने में यह कांग्रेसी बजट है। माननीय अर्थमंत्री के विचार का बजट नहीं है। इस बजट समाजवाद की आधारशिला नहीं बन सकती।

महोदय, मैंने तो समय पूरा कर लिया है। तथापि चन्द बातें और कहकर शेष करूंगा। सरकारी जनता के हित के कामों में आगे नहीं बढ़ पायेगी। राज्य के सभी पिछड़े हुए लोगों का संतुलित विकास जरूरी है। उद्योग के क्षेत्र में छोटी छोटी मशीनों का प्रयोग अधिक हितकर होगा। फिजूल खर्ची को तत्काल बन्द करना चाहिए। कड़ाई के साथ नये प्रयोग और नया साधन द्वारा समाजवाद का रास्ता लेना जरूरी है। इसी में राज्य की जनता का कल्याण है। मुझे पूर्ण आशा है माननीय अर्थमंत्री इन मुद्दों पर ध्यान देंगे। मैं अब शेष करता हूँ।

धन्यवाद ।

Shri INDRESWAR KHAUND (Bagdung): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that you have given me this opportunity to take part in the discussion of the budget. This time we have found that the Finance Minister has made a departure from the previous record. He has in his budget speech really put the sentiment of the people which we can hear throughout the State. He has said that the State is really in a very low level of development. This is really so and we all hope that after

this Plan period and from the Third Five Year Plan we will be able to march on our way to progress and that too in a rapid manner. But it cannot be said that our State has not made any progress in any direction. The State has made progress in education, health, Community Projects and such other matters. But so far as the economy of the State is concerned we are really in a very backward position, we are really in a very low level of development. The State of Assam is an agricultural State and if we judge the economic condition of a State like Assam then we will have to judge it from the view point of the economic condition of the peasants. What is the economic position or condition of the villager or peasant? What we see in the villages is that the economic position has not changed very much. The economic condition of the villages has not been raised. The poor section of the people, which is the overwhelming majority in our State, are still in a low level that was prevailing in the pre-independence days in our State. However, Sir, we should think now how we can proceed in the Third Five-Year Plan or in the fourth year of the Second Five-Year Plan. We should think out the ways and means so that the economic condition of the people can be raised appreciably and that the bare necessities of the poor section of the people can be made available to them. At page 5 of his budget speech the Finance Minister has said : "It is not possible, apart from other handicaps, to embark upon big development project without a stable food and price policy, stepping up the tempo of investments, a better timing of outlays and securing an adequate flow of essential materials." There may not be a stable food and price policy unless we can tackle the food or foodgrains problem in our State. What is the foodgrains position in our State? According to the Finance Minister's budget speech, Sir, we require annually 7.64 lakhs tons of rice for the whole State. But I cannot think that this calculation is correct. Because in our State there is a large number of floating people. When calculating the figure I think the number of those floating people has not been taken into account. We have seen that in some places when allotting rice for cheap grain shops the quantity of rice is determined on the basis of voters' list. But those people whose names are not found in the voters' list are not taken into account in determining the total requirement of rice for allotting in the cheap grain shops. So, this calculation of figure that we annually require 7.64 lakhs tons of rice for the whole State is not correct. However, supposing it to be correct, what is our position? We require nearly 3 lakhs tons more of rice to make our State self-sufficient. To achieve this it will require tremendous work and tremendous

investment of money, and we will have to invest a very large amount in order to obtain this additional quantity of rice. There is a big gap in our production and requirement and this big gap is widening in every year. On the other hand, Sir, there are unscrupulous traders who take advantage of this situation and create a problem. This year there has been a good harvest and we all know about it and the Finance Minister has also said in his speech that we are having a good harvest this time and there is a larger stock of rice than in the last 7 years. But what we find at Dibrugarh? There the medium quality of rice is selling at Rs. 29 per maund. Last year when the harvest was much below this year and when there was less quantity of rice in stock the price of rice in this month was, I think, not more than Rs. 20 or 22 per maund. This was so in the last 2 or 3 years. Now this year it is selling there at Dibrugarh at Rs. 29 per maund! This is due to the unscrupulous traders who have no respect for humanity and who are exploiting the situation. Our Government will have to tighten the price policy so that the unscrupulous business people cannot take advantage of the situation. Now, Sir, our target is to be only self-sufficient. I do not think a target to be only self-sufficient is a very good target. The target should be to produce more than what we require so that we may not only be self-sufficient but also be able to export to other States. Besides that, Sir, it will not be sufficient if the State becomes self-sufficient in respect of rice alone. We are sure that for other foodgrains which we bring from outside the State in every year we spend lakhs and lakhs of rupees.

The price of other foodgrains and the price of rice are inter-connected. Unless there is sufficient production of rice and other foodgrains in the State I don't think the prices can be stabilised and we can have a stable food and price policy for the State.

Regarding stepping up the tempo of investment, perhaps investment is contemplated from the rural people. But I don't think the rural people have enough surplus income for investing in the development projects of our country. The budget of a rural family is still running deficit in bare necessities of life. So, Sir, we cannot expect any substantial investment from the rural sector. Then, with regard to securing adequate flow of essential materials, the Finance Minister has somewhere said in his budget speech that supply of these essential materials is very much hampered due to the existing bottleneck of transport. But transport bottleneck is going to exist for some years

to come. In spite of the Brahmaputra bridge, which we are expecting very much, and in spite of the strengthening of the Rail Link, I don't think the transport bottleneck will very much improve within a few years. This bottleneck will remain and in consequence we will not be able to embark on any big project for years to come. This is not a good picture. However, Sir, we have to do our best in the present circumstances. If we really tighten our belts and sincerely devote our time and energy and spend our money wisely in the projects which have already been undertaken, we can at least make some progress towards development.

Now, Sir, let us take the case of community projects. We can do a great deal through community projects. Government are spending lakhs and lakhs of rupees in these community projects and hundreds of officers have been appointed by this Department. Within a project area a number of officers are placed to do intensive development work there. But what do we find to-day? In some places the progress reports of the projects draw a rosy picture, though we have found how misleading these reports are. For example, the other day I have seen one community projects pamphlet where it was written that 21,000 manure pits had been dug. This is, I think, a misleading figure. Simply digging manure pit does not produce manure. We have seen how the village level workers give reports about the number of pits dug. But these pits are not necessarily manure-producing pits. The village level worker goes to a village and asks the villagers to dig pits. He does not see whether the pits have been dug and are filled up scientifically according to instructions. He comes back from the village and enters in his diary "so many pits dug in such and such village". He then submits his report to the project officer, who in turn sends it to Government. Government compile these reports and give them publicity. This is how we have got this figure of 21,000 pits dug. But, of course, this is not the case in all places, but my point is such instances are there. Then, Sir, we know that in the community projects, night halts outside the headquarters have to be made by all officers. But in some projects we have seen that night halts are very rarely made. A Project Officer has to make 15 night halts in a month, the village level worker has also to make 15 night halts a month and in like manner other officers also have to travel extensively in their area, stay in different villages, mix with villagers and explain to them the projects which are being undertaken. But these instructions are seldom carried out, in some cases, we have also seen how fictitious

reports about night halts are sent. Why this is happening? This is due to the lack of supervision on the part of supervising officers. Supervision of these projects is very rarely done. Perhaps in a year a project is supervised by the Deputy Development Commissioner from Shillong. This kind of supervision cannot bring the desired results. This is why works in the community development areas are slackening and officers in some projects are finding it so easy to submit fictitious reports. While I visited North Lakhimpur, I found there was one project named Naoboisa project, which had been inaugurated in 1956. The headquarters for this project have not yet been built and the officers of that project do their work from a place called Bihpuria. They have to come always to Naoboisa from Bihpuria project headquarters to do their work. As it is not possible to go there always the work of that project is suffering. Then, we found that in Naoboisa there was no project officer also. The project was put in charge of an overseer, a Madras gentleman, who was leisurely spending his time at Bihpuria without caring much for the work of the project. We went there in connection with the selection of the best village level worker and the village where best works were done. This officer could not show us who was the best village level worker and which was the best village. This was the knowledge he had of his project area! I do not know whether such things are happening in other areas. But if this be the case, I don't think we can make much headway with these projects within a short time.

Again Sir, when we came to Dhemaji, we came to know that the overseer who was appointed there could not submit the plan and estimate to the Government for building the headquarters, but the Head Assistant of the Project who was a lay man had to help him to submit the plan estimates of the headquarters to the Government. At Tengakhat again, the overseer there did not know how to count the bricks. He had a measuring tape with which he wanted to count the number of bricks by measuring. So Sir, these are the kinds of overseers that we have seen in some places. I do not know why do we have a fascination for overseers of this type. In discussion, we were told that they possessed certificates which they procured by correspondence. These certificates are available in Madras and the like places and they procure certificates in that way. Sir, we have to make the community projects successful and have a better supervision and intensification of work and we shall have to make the officers very sincere so that we may get the desired results. One of the defects of the Community

Projects is that the approach of the officers in some places was not good. For example, in a certain village a house was constructed and a sewing machine, a table and a chair were placed there. But the people were not instructed how to use the machine and the ignorant people went there and looked at this piece of machine as a piece of article in a museum. But they could not use it due to lack of knowledge on their part. These things will have to be taken into account and if we can do in Community Projects areas concentrative works, I think our food problem and many other problems can be solved. We have also heard some complaint that people did not like to co-operate when called for. But I am sure if a thirsty man is given water he will surely drink.

As regards unemployment problem, this has really given us a headache. This problem will go out of control if it is not tackled now. Rural unemployment problem is due to lack to cultivable and waste lands and so far we have not been able to provide the people with any sufficient alternative avenues so that they can work in their spare time. Therefore, we shall have to give them alternative works like cottage industries and co-operatives and works in small and village industries. As regards the tea gardens, the Finance Minister had hinted that there was a surplus of people in the tea gardens resulting in unemployment there. There was an unemployment problem there and this problem is increasing in importance. What I want to suggest in this regard is that there is a very good scope in the tea gardens for the development of co-operatives. People in the tea gardens are already organised and they have got their own unions. So if we only make a little approach to them through their unions, it will be easier to organise their consumers' co-operatives than what it is in the villages. In every tea garden there is one consumers' shop and there is also a banker. If the labourers cannot take up any other business now, they will at least have the consumers' co-operative and that will give employment to the labourers. As regards the Cachar uneconomic gardens, the Labour Minister had hinted that these gardens would be taken up through the co-operatives, and would also be run through the co-operatives. This is a good suggestion and I welcome it. We have already organised one Co-operative Society in a bigger scale in the State at Dergaon and this should be an example for the State to do things in a co-operative manner. Sir, if we can run the Dergaon Sugar Mill through a co-operation of the

growers and through the co-operation of the people, then why cannot we run the tea estates in that manner and manage them on a co-operative basis? The unemployment problem in the tea gardens will also be solved that way. I therefore would suggest that not only in Cachar but wherever possible tea gardens should be run on a co-operative basis. As regard big industries though I do not like to say much, I would like to say a few words. Sir, we welcome these big industries if they come for the benefit of the State. But what do we see in this regard in our State? In the State we have a petroleum industry, the biggest in the State and next to that is tea industry. As a country India is benefited no doubt from this industry but as a State from the employment point of view we are not benefited. Very few Assamese people or local elements are finding a place in this concern. Now we have got the Naharkotiya Oil Wells and one township is going to be developed there. For the sake of the Naharkotiya Oil Wells the village people have sacrificed much, and gave up their hearths and homes, their villages and everything. But Sir, what do we find there? There they have got a sort of a scheme called the employees sons preference scheme. According to it, the sons of the employees of Digboi and its labourers will get the preference of employment in Naharkotiya. So Sir, if we failed to get the opportunity of employment at Digboi, there is much less opportunity of employment at Naharkotiya. So Sir, from the point of view of employment, if our State is not benefited by these big industries then I have no fascination for such industries. As regards tea industry recently, I have heard that 4 Indian Assistants have been dismissed from service without showing any cause and two or three of them are Assamese Assistants in tea gardens. These Assistants were dismissed from the Jorhat Tea Co. and the Assam Tea Co. I do not know why they were dismissed but I know that two or three of them are Assamese youths belonging to this State who are deprived of the opportunity of serving in the tea gardens. We do not grudge when good and efficient men are coming to our State and get employment. But what do we find here? During the last Republic Day I was invited to the Sealkotee Tea Estate for hoisting the flag. Mr. M. C. Das, M. L. A was also present there. One European Manager and two Indian Assistants who came from Punjab, were present also in the Flag Hoisting ceremony. But the Indian Assistants did not salute the National Flag. One of them was afterwards requested to speak something in the meeting, he said that he did not know Hindi.

Sir, these are the types of persons we are bringing from outside to serve our tea gardens. So Sir, if these people really come to serve for the benefit of the tea estates in Assam we have no grudge but if such types of persons are always brought to our State who do not honour the National Flag and who do not know the national language we cannot tolerate it. Therefore, Sir, as I have said I have no fascination for the industry if it does not serve the interest of our people and give employment to our young man.

With these words Sir, I thank you again and conclude my speech.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur): Mr. Speaker Sir, I thank the Finance Minister for the illuminating speech while presenting the Budget for the year 1959-60 and for his realistic approach in presenting the budget. My Friend in the Opposition Shri Borthakur found fault with the Finance Minister for placing before the House a surplus budget. But Sir, if we look to the budget figures of past budgets we will find that although previous budgets were shown as deficit they ultimately became surplus. It is a credit to our Finance Minister who has been able to give us a correct appraisal of all budgetary difficulties and his courage in attempting to solve the problems of Assam. Therefore Sir, I think this budget is an improvement of all previous budgets specially when it deals in a very realistic manner with all problems of our State both financial and otherwise.

Looking at the budget Sir, I find on the receipt side that there is a steady increase and improvement in revenue receipts under different heads. For instance, in the Agricultural Income Tax there was a big windfall compared with 1957-58. Then again, revenue from Excise and Sales Tax have yielded more amounts to the State exchequer compared with previous receipts. But Sir, I agree with my Friend Shri Borthakur when he said that Assam's financial resources have reached its optimum and we cannot expect a rosy picture of the future from this budget and that we shall have to look to the Centre to give us our rightful share from the different heads of taxes due to us. Sir, many hon. Members have spoken with all the emphasis at their command about Bengal's entry tax on tea. I feel that we should impress upon the Central Government that this tax imposed on Assam tea is putting this industry to great difficulties the result of which is that some tea gardens have become uneconomic because Assam tea has to bear this

double taxation. For this our tea gardens have been hard hit and many gardens have to be closed down.

Then again Sir, our Finance Minister has said in his speech that the Central Government have curtailed a good amount from the grant for our flood control schemes. From rupees eight crores they have reduced to something below 4 crores. Sir, it is well known all over India that Assam is a country of flood, erosion and recently drought, so if any curtailment is made in this regard, then Assam is really neglected by the Centre. Therefore Sir, I suggest that we should earnestly request the Central Government to restore the grant allotted to us under this head so that our flood control and drainage schemes are not disturbed. In this connection Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the House a Resolution passed by the Na-duar Block Development Samity consisting of about 7 Mouzas a copy of which was forwarded to me. This Resolution speaks about non-completion of certain protection embankment works done in the river Bhorali in Darrang district.

Sir, the necessity of such funds in the hands of State Government need not be emphasised because there are many places in Assam where many schemes are remaining half done. So I think the Finance Minister when he goes next to Delhi, will move the Central Government to restore the cut which is so essentially and urgently necessary for our State. I am very glad to see that our Government has at last seen its way to appoint an Inland Water Transport Board in Assam. My Friend Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar has ably stated about the vast resources and potentialities of the Assam river especially of the Brahmaputra. We should take advantages of these rivers and other rivers in the matter of navigation and derive the maximum benefit for the children of the soil. We can have a state sponsored country boat cargo fleet service. We have seen before our eyes lakhs and lakhs maunds of commodities in our State move to and from this State every day and this is managed by Foreign Companies and the state does not get a farthing nor the people of the soil. It is a right step in the right direction taken by our Government to open this wing and we hope it will collect necessary data to develop the river borne trade in the Brahmaputra and in other tributaries, so that conservancy, navigation in the inland waterways, ports, retaining dockyards, employment potentialities are fully developed. Sir, coming to the expenditure side of the budget we find that although Forest is a good source of revenue, the income under this Head is very small and leaves a very small surplus after meeting the

expenditure on administration. Sir, in advanced countries the income from forest is said to be Rs.200 to 400 per acre, whereas in Assam the income per acre is Rs.2 per acre. So there is vast scope for improvement in utilising the forest resources of our State and tapping other forest resources for commercial purposes. I hope Government will see its way to augment the income from forest resources and also by curtailing the expenditure.

Then Sir, I would like to speak a few words about the general backwardness of the North Bank of the Brahmaputra. While we find the South Bank have developed, nothing like that has happened in the North Bank. There is even no industrial enterprise. Our river of sorrow, Jia Bhoroli, which creates havoc and which causes heavy floods and erosion has hydro-electric possibilities. It is said if harnessed about 2 million KW of electricity may be generated. It will not only be able to meet the demand of Assam but it can meet the demand outside the State. If there is such a big possibility, I would request Government to collect necessary data of the river for making a multipurpose hydro-electric project of the big river in Assam.

As regards communication in the North Bank, the less said the better. We know that the Instruction of Buroi bridge would be completed by March 1959 but unfortunately for lack of about Rs.20,000 in foreign exchange the whole work was stopped. The result is that the bridge is left half done. This is a very serious matter and the public as well as outsiders who have visited that place condemn the Government for not taking right steps in right time.

I do not know why these things were not foreseen when the work was started. Why such a vital bridge has been left done? I do not understand this. Therefore I request Government to enquire into this matter and see who is responsible for this lapse and irresponsibility.

Mr SPEAKER : The hon. Member may be brief.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA (Tezpur): Sir, there is a lower Bhoroli ghat known as Chakighat which is not at all checked by Government Officers with regard to the running of the ferry. It is the only ferry but has only one engine, which sometimes run without engine and sometime with breakdown of engine. We have seen the result of the great disaster in the ferry

in Jia Bhorali at Siparipanghat resulting in loss of many lives, as a result of the stopping of the engine in the mid-stream. So if only one engine is kept and if it stops in the mid stream the fate of the passengers may be well imagined. I request Government to keep 5 or 6 mar boats with engines at Chakighat so that the people can cross the ferry without any anxiety. The maintenance of this ghat is essential as the distance from Jamaguri to Tezpur is only 11 miles *via* Chakighat while distance *via* Silonipomghat to Tezpur is about 40 miles.

Next would like to refer about the Public Works "Department" buildings. Sir, it is a sad sight to see the condition of the Tezpur court building which is covered with "Dharis". I do not know if such ugly things—this eye sore can be noticed in other places and I request Government to remove this as early as possible. So is the case of Government High School Forests buildings, etc. Sooner they are demolished the better for them is no knowing when they will fall down by earthquake. It is high time that Government construct new buildings in this place.

Lastly I request the Finance Minister to grant the entire local rate and amusement taxes to the Municipalities as strongly recommended by the Taxation Enquiry Committee otherwise the Municipalities can not cope with the growing demands of urban areas which has so many vital problems to solve but with the meagre funds of rate-payers at present they cannot do anything. This is a legitimate demand which the Government should rightfully allot to the Municipalities. There is a big influx of rural people to the towns and unless they are properly treated then the towns will fast become slum areas which no body but Government will have to face one day.

Thank you, Sir.

U JORMANIK SIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to take part in the discussions of the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister. It is gratifying to note that the hon. Finance Minister has been able to present a surplus Budget in spite of the various difficulties confronting us on the border and the heavy development programme of the State. This Budget sounds to be too good to be true. I find there is some difficulty on my part to understand certain figures given in the Budget. For example, at page 3 of the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister we find. "We need 15.84 lakh tons of rice for food requirement of our general, tea gardens and floating population and 99 lakh tons for seed purpose."

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): The figure given is '99 lakh tons and not 99 lakh tons as stated by the hon. Member.

U JORMANIK SIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Is it so? But I do not find the decimal point in my book. If it is '99, then it is all right.

I am glad to note in the first place that the food situation during the coming year will be much better than it was in the past years. I only hope that every corner of the State will be provided with sufficient rice at reasonably low rate. I cannot but mention that there are places specially in the Hills, which have lost their harvest by more than half will surely find it extremely difficult to carry through the rest of the year. The reasons for the loss of crops are many, such as drought, cattle mortality and other natural calamities. Only the other day quite a number of applications were forwarded by me to the Deputy Commissioner, which I received from the people of those areas which had a very poor harvest and are apprehending that they are going to face great hardship during the rainy season. I do not know what the Deputy Commissioner will do with these applications. There was some decision in the Supply Advisory Board that the supply of rice at fair price will be suspended in all the areas except the Border areas. I hope the Food Minister will kindly see that these people are given some rice when and if there are real need.

Coming to Agriculture and Veterinary, there appears to be no anxiety in the mind of the Finance Minister. My impression, however, has always been and still is, that these departments need proper organization. What I mean is that these departments should be manned by appointing people who have got the requisite training and experience. We must have adequate staff to cope with the work in proper time, *i.e.*, before it is too late to render help to those who are in need of seed, manure, fertiliser and to attend to their need in case of drought and other natural calamities.

Veterinary is linked up with agriculture. This department needs to be properly looked into, otherwise the cultivators will be in constant danger of having to face hardship, because, when there is wide-spread cattle epidemic it will mean not only loss of cattle to our cultivators but loss of cultivation also, as was the case last year. I believe the Government is fully alive to the situation and I hope that adequate provision will be made to meet such situation.

The Finance Minister very kindly told the House of the Government's readiness to help the Local Bodies. At page 22 of his speech, he says that a sum of Rs.2½ lakhs has been sanctioned for the reconstruction of shopees in the fire devastated Barabazar. But though 14 months have since elapsed not a single naya paisa was given, due to, it was stated, the non-receipt of a resolution, from the District Council of Khasi and Jaintia Hills. Sir, if my information is correct, the District Council did send a resolution to that effect but perhaps that resolution did not please the legal pundits of the Finance Department or the keymen of the Tribal Areas Department and therefore the loan could not be given. But those who are really concerned with the sufferings of the people cannot just look on and wait. Mere sweet words unless translated into action are of no value.

Coming to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes I find that the bogey of separatism has been introduced in the Budget Speech. What is the meaning of separatism? Does he fear that the Tribals are going to secede from India or from the State? If the hon. Finance Minister thinks that Tribal will secede from India he is highly mistaken. Tribals are Indian first and Indian last, they belong to India and will ever remain in India. They have allegiance no where else. If he is thinking of the demand for a separate Hill State, he need not have any fear. Since the champions of the Hill State movement are now in the treasury benches.

A cursory glance at the comments of the District Councils we can see how their Budget estimates were received. Pu Chhunbura of Mizo District said—

"I have something against the procedure of having emergency session. The Budget copy is received only some three days before the meeting—thus depriving us of time to have thorough examination of the Budget provisions. Yet having sat to discuss it, it will be taken as if we have had sufficient say in the budget. Again, the programme as chalked out is not followed—the final copy is given to us before our voice is heard. We are to discuss what provisions have been entered and not what we want entered. I want that we should raise our voice and then if necessary, Finance Department should make entry in the Budget."

Again Pu Harangaia said, "It appears to me that we are given to discuss this budget just by way of trying to please us. As the Member before me said, they put heavy expenditure for Forests and Agriculture where they make no gain....

The Government increase expenditure for their own items of administration while they give no expenditure for the District Council.’’

Mr. B. M. Pugh (Chief Executive Member) United Khasi and Jaintia Hills, initiating the discussion of the meeting stated that as he had received the copy of the Budget only one day before the session he was unable to study the Budget fully.

Mr. H. Hadem an experienced Member, District Council said. He referred to the demand of the previous Council for the preparation and supply of foot notes to the Budget to enable members to understand the figures and discuss the Budget intelligently, but the Government never paid any attention to that demand and expressed his inability to discuss the Budget. Mr. H. E. Pohshna deplored that the Government did not accede to the District Council's demand in previous years to supply explanatory notes to the Budget. He pointed out that there was no improvement in the Budget although the District Council had given many suggestions in the previous years and that not even a single figure was changed.

Such, Sir, is the reaction of the of the tribal leaders of Autonomous Districts to the integrated budget. The Finance Minister wants us to lend our support to impose his plans on them. This attitude is not in keeping with the broad principles enunciated by our Prime Minister, the other day. The Prime Minister's five broad principles as published in the newspapers are (1) People should develop along the lines of their own genius and we should avoid imposing anything on them. We should try to encourage in every way their own traditional arts and culture ; (2) Tribal rights in land and forests should be respected ; (3) We should try to train and build up a team of their own people to do the work of administration and development. Some technical personnel from outside will, no doubt, be needed, especially in the beginning. But we should avoid introducing too many outsiders into tribal territory ; (4) We should not over-administer these areas or overwhelm them with a multiplicity of schemes. We should rather work through and not in rivalry to their own social and cultural institutions ; and (5) We should judge results, not by statistics or the amount of money spent, but by the quality of human character that is evolved.’’

I should say, Sir, that the tribals are tribals whether they belong to N. E. F. A. or to the Autonomous Districts. They are the same people. They may differ in degree, but not in kind. I am afraid the Finance Minister's attitude towards the tribals is neither sympathetic nor practical. Before I conclude, Sir, I like to express thanks to the Finance Minister for his kind invitation for suggestions from the Members of this House. I hope whatever suggestions we give will not go in vain, but will be given due consideration so that we can work together for the welfare of our State, and will not be taken lightly like the other day when a question was put "whether fertilizer distribution centres have been specified" and the reply came from the Minister "Yes, it has been specified". The subject of question was in plural number, but the reply was in the singular number. As the reply pertinent to the question? It appears to me that the question put was not taken into proper consideration. Therefore the reply given did not have the same meaning or was not pertinent to the question put. However, Sir, we are here to work together, to put our hands together and to join hands together for the development of our country. I hope that the Minister will be pleased to consider whatever suggestions we have made and not to mind for the criticisms made.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Shri TAMIJUDDIN PRADHANI (Dhubri): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় বিত্ত মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে এই বিধান সভাত যি বাজেট দাঙি ধৰিছে আৰু সমস্যা বহল অসমৰ সৰ্বাঙ্গীন উন্নতিৰ বাবে যি আগ্ৰহ দেখুৱাইছে আৰু নতুনকৈ কোনো টেক্সৰ হেচা নিদিয়াকৈ এই বাহিৰ বাজেটখন দাঙি ধৰি যি দক্ষ্যতাৰ পৰিচয় দিছে তাৰ বাবে অশেষ ধন্যবাদ জনাইছো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিত্ত মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ৰ বাজেট বক্তৃতাত পঞ্চায়ত বিদখন কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰাৰ লগে লগে লোকেলবোৰ্ডৰ ডাক্তাৰখানাবোৰত চৰকাৰী সাহায্য দিয়াৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছে। কিন্তু মই বিশ্বস্ত স্বত্ৰে জানিব পাৰিছো যে কিছুমান লোকেলবোৰ্ড ডাক্তাৰখানা চৰকাৰে এতিয়ালৈকে বেজিষ্টাৰ ভুক্ত কৰি লোৱা হোৱা নাই। মই জনা নতে ধুবুৰী মহকুমাৰ, বেৰভাঙি, ৰাউডাঙা আৰু কাকৰিপাৰা আদি ডাক্তাৰখানা অতি সোনকালে বেজিষ্টাৰ ভুক্ত কৰা হয় আৰু চৰকাৰী সাহায্য পোৱাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত নহয় তাৰ কাৰণে বহু দিনৰ আগৰে পৰা মই স্বাস্থ্য মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰি আহিছো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, শিক্ষাৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে এই বাজেটত যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণ টকা ধৰা হৈছে আৰু নতুনকৈ কিছু অফিচাৰ বৃদ্ধি কৰাৰ কথাও উল্লেখ কৰা হৈছে। কিন্তু এতিয়াও গাঁৱে-ভূয়ে বহুত Lower Primary আৰু Middle English Venture স্কুল আছে যিবোলাক স্কুলত সাহায্য দিয়াৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰা নাই, বিশেষকৈ গোৱা সমষ্টিৰ

কিমামত হালদহ গাঁৱৰ বাইছে ধুনীয়া কৰি এটা স্কুল ঘৰ আজি ১০ বছৰ এখন Middle English স্কুল চলাই আছে আৰু বহুত চেষ্টা কৰাৰ পাচতহে যোৱা বাৰ কিছু non-recurring grant দিছে, কিন্তু এতিয়াও recurring grant পোৱাই নাই। স্কুলখনত Backward Class ৰ ল'ৰাই সবহ আৰু মাননীয় স্বাস্থ্য মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে দেখি আহিছে। অলপ দিনৰ আগতে মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয় ধুবুৰীলৈ যাওঁতে এই স্কুলখন চাই আহিছে। বহুত দিনৰে পৰা চৰকাৰী সাহায্য বিচাৰি আবেদন নিবেদন কৰা হৈছে কিন্তু কোনো ফল ধৰা নাই। আজি আকৌ recurring grant পাচৰ কাৰণে শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ চোকা দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিলে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আৰু এটা কথা ক'ব খুজিছো যে এই বছৰ এম, ভি, স্কুলবোৰত ইংৰাজী শিক্ষাৰ বাবে শিক্ষক নিয়োগ কৰা হৈছে। ইয়াৰ ফলত ওচৰৰ এম, ই, স্কুল আৰু হাই স্কুলত কিছু অসুবিধাই দেখা দিছে। অনেক এইটো কথা ভাবিছে যে এম, ভি, স্কুলত ষষ্ঠ মানলৈকে যদি বিনা মাচুলে ইংৰাজী পঢ়ায় তেন্তে এম, ই, আৰু হাই স্কুলত মাচুল কিয় ল'ব? এই কথাই বাইজৰ মাজত বেমেজালিৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিছে। সেই কাৰণে নই ভাবো যে এম, ভি, স্কুলত যদি ষষ্ঠ মানলৈকে বিনা মাচুলে শিক্ষা দিয়া হয় তেন্তে এম, ই, আৰু হাই স্কুলতো ষষ্ঠ মানলৈকে বিনা মাচুলে শিক্ষা দিয়া কথাটো চৰকাৰে যেন ভালকৈ চিন্তা কৰে।

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member will be in a position to resume his speech next day.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Wednesday, the 18th March, 1959.

Shillong:

The 16th September, 1960.

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

LIST OF MEMBERS

1. Messrs. C. W. & J. W. ...
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