



OFFICIAL REPORT

BUDGET SESSION

VOL. I

No. 17

The 25th March, 1959



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Assam
Legislative Assembly
Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

19TH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE WINDING
UP OF THE ASSAM MOVEMENT UNDER THE
INDIAN LEGISLATION ACT, 1947
INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOL. I

1947

THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



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DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1959

(Budget Session)

Vol.I, No.17

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The 25th March 1959

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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 9-30 A. M.
on Wednesday, the 25th March, 1959.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LLB., Speaker in the Chair, eight
Ministers, three Deputy Ministers and fifty-six Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Plan adopted by Government for procurement of paddy

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*47. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to
state—

- (a) What is the plan adopted by Government this
year for procurement of paddy ?
- (b) What is the controlled rate per maund of paddy
and what is the sale price of rice in the market
now ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that due to the procurement
plan adopted by Government most of the Rice
Mills were out of stock for rice for general
sale ?

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

47. (a)—It has been decided by Government in consulta-
tion with the Food Advisory Council that 22 lakh maunds of
paddy should be procured from the Plains districts of Assam at
the maximum wholesale prices fixed by the Government of
India. This target has been distributed area-wise. Procure-
ment is being done through millers, licensees and Co-
operatives.

(b)—The maximum wholesale prices of paddy fixed
for different zones vary from Rs.10.25 per maund in Zone No.I
to Rs.10.75 in Zone No.III. The prices of common winter
Sali rice in the open market generally vary from Rs.19.00 to
Rs.23.00 per maund. There are no retail prices statutorily
fixed.

(c)—Government have no such information.

There are some reasons of local nature for which prices go up occasionally for example, to cite a case in the Cachar District it happened so and I enlightend the House about the causes when some questions were put in that connction by more than one, Members. Recently, Sir, there was rise in price in the Sibsagar District and our information was that it was due to the fact that the millers did not release sufficient stock. When we got this information we rushed supply ourselves. As you know possibly, Sir, there is no statutory fixed price for retail sale of rice because the Government of India did not agree to fix any control price so far as retail market was concerned. Therefore, Sir, occasionally due to local reasons the prices might go up in one or two places.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): 47 (c) প্রশ্ন উত্তরত মন্ত্রী মহোদয় কৈছে যে তেনে কোনো information নাই। কিন্তু যেতিয়া চাউলৰ দাম ২৮—২৯ টকা তেতিয়াও কৈছে ১৯—২০ টকা, গতিকে মই জানিব খোজো যে এটা নতুন নীতি (Policy) প্রচলন কৰিবলৈ যাওঁতে চৰকাৰে বিষয়া-সকলক সকলো প্ৰকাৰে well-equipped কৰি ৰাখিব নেলাগেনে কি?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply): বিষয়াসকলক well-equipped কৰি ৰাখিব লাগে আৰু বৰাও হৈছে। কিন্তু এইটো নতুন policy নহয়; যোৱা বছৰত ও একেই policy প্ৰবৰ্তিত আছিল।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: চৰকাৰে যেতিয়া ধান-চাউলবোৰ stock কৰিবৰ কাৰণে লৈ গল, তেতিয়া ঘাইকৈ urban আৰু semi-urban এলেকাবোৰত general sale ৰ কাৰণে stock নাইকিয়া হ'ল কিয়?

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: চৰকাৰে জানেনে যে যোৱা জানুৱাৰী মাহত শিৱসাগৰৰ মিলবিলাকে consumer ক চাউল দিব নোৱাৰিলে?

Mr. SPEAKER: ইয়াৰ দুটা কাৰণ হ'ব পাৰে—মিল বিলাকে দিব নোৱাৰিব পাৰে বা পাবিও নিদিব পাৰে। So let not the hon. Member put a question presupposing that the Millers are all honest.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: মই জানিব খোজো যেতিয়া চৰকাৰে ২০ টকা দাম বান্ধিছিল সেই সময়ত কিয় ২৭ টকা হৈছিল?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: গোটেই State ত ২৭ টকা কেতিয়াও হ'ব নোৱাৰে।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: যি সময়ত মিলবিলাকে ৯ টকাত ধান কিনিছিল, সেইসময়ত স্থানীয় মানুহে ১৪ টকাত কিয় ধান কিনিব লগা হৈছিল?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: মিলবিলাকে ৯ টকাত কিনিলে স্থানীয় মানুহে কিয় ১৪ টকাত কিনিব?

Maulavi RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): 47 (b) প্রশ্নৰ প্ৰসঙ্গত মই ক'ব খোজো যে winter sali paddy ৰ লগত চৰকাৰে লাহীধান—যিটো superfine ৰ সমকক্ষ ধৰি খেতিয়ক সকলক ন্যায্য প্ৰাপ্যৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰা হোৱা নাইনে?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply): There is no control over superfine rice. We have fixed the price of the winter Sali rice and paddy statutorily in Assam, the specification of fair average quality is:—"the rice shall be in sound, mercantile condition, sweet, dry, clean, wholesome, of good food value, uniform in colour and size of grain and from mould, weevils small, discolouration, admixture of deleterious substances or colouring aquints and all impurities except to the extent indicated in the Second Schedule of the rice paddy (Assam) second price control order, 1958.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): অসমৰ ভিতৰত Zone Area কোন কেইটা জানিব পাৰোনে ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Zone No. (1)—Kamrup District—North of Brahmaputra, Darrang District, North Lakhimpur Sub-division and Nowgong District, Hailakandi, Silchar and Kokrajhar Sub-divisions.

Zone No. (2)—Kamrup District—South of Brahmaputra, Sibsagar District, Karimganj and Goalpara Subdivisions.

Zone No. (3)—Dhubri and Dibrugarh Subdivisions.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: এই কথা গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে জানেনে যে আটাই বিলাক মিল মালিক লগ লাগি ৯১১০ টকাত ধান কিনি grower বিলাকক deprive কৰিছে ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: ৯১ টকাৰ ওপৰত দিলে deprive কৰা বুলি নাভাবে, কাৰণ transport, বস্তা ইত্যাদিৰ খৰছ আছে।

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether the Minister-in-charge is aware of the fact that in some areas producers were selling paddy at Rs. 6 or less per maund during the month of December last ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: This is absolutely an incorrect information.

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয় জানেন কি যে লঙাই বিজাৰ্ভেৰ কৰ্ত্তন এলেকায় টাকায় ১৫ চাউল বিক্ৰী হৈছে ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: This is not a fact.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): Sir, is it a fact that the Procurement Advisory Board advised the Minister to fix the minimum price at Rs. 10/8 per maund ?

Mr. SPEAKER: This aspect of Supply Department was discussed in details in the budget discussion.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY: I want to know from the Minister on whose recommendation the prices for different Zones were fixed by the Government ?

Mr. SPEAKER: This was explained by the Minister.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply): I spoke about it in reply to the debate on Governor's Address.

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM (Dhing): Why Government have fixed different prices for different places ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Just on the principle of demand and supply and the resultant economic variations of prices Zone No. 1 consists of areas which are surplus or having more production. No. 2 Zone consist of areas where there is enough production but not much of surplus. No. 3 Zone consists of areas which are deficit or having no excess production.

This formula is working for many years.

Maulavi RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): গবর্ণমেন্টে যি ধান procure কৰিছে সেই ধান গবর্ণমেন্টে গুদামৰ অভাব হোৱাৰ কাৰণে আৰু supply development এ delivery পাব নোৱাৰাৰ কাৰণে বাহিৰত পৰি আছে বুলি মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে এখন টেলিগ্রাম পাইছিল নে ? Huge quantity of paddy lying outside Government godowns at Hojai without taking delivery.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : এনেকুৱা এখন টেলিগ্রাম পাইছিলো। তাৰ পিচত মই নিজে নগাঁৱলৈ গৈ এই বিষয়ে Procurement officer আৰু অন্যান্য বিষয়া আৰু বিশিষ্ট মানুহৰ লগত আলোচনাও কৰিছিলো, তাৰ পিচত ধান বোৰ ভালকৈ delivery লোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থাও হৈছিল। এতিয়া Procurement departmentএ অৱস্থাটো ওলোটো হৈছে, বুলি অভিযোগ কৰিছে; অৰ্থাৎ গবর্ণমেন্টে গুদামত বেচি পৰিমাণ ধান পোৱা নাই বুলি মৌলৈ অভিযোগ কৰিছে।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে জানেনে যে অসমত এনেকুৱা নিয়ম আছে য'ত গৰুৱে মৰণা মাৰে ৫ পাৰ সেন্ট Standard quantity বুলি Procurement Advisory বোৰ্ডে মানি লৈছিল ? কি Basis ত ৩ পাৰসেন্ট নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰা হৈছে ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: কাৰণ ১ পাৰসেন্ট Standard specification গোটেই ভাৰতবৰ্ষতে বুলি ধৰি লোৱা হৈছে।

Shri MAHENDRANATH BORA (North Lakhimpur): Sir, I want to know what is the quantity of paddy procured by Government uptill now and how many officers are engaged to procure the same ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: 11,17,457 maunds have been procured upto 7th March, 1959. Regarding the number of officers engaged I cannot furnish the information without notice.

Maulavi RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): Supply department ব অফিচাৰ আৰু Co-operative department ৰ officer সকলৰ ভিতৰত paddy সংগ্ৰহ সংক্ৰান্ত মতভেদ হোৱাৰ কাৰণে মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক Supply officer সকলৰ দ্বাৰা ভুল সংবাদ দিয়া হৈছে, এই সম্পৰ্কে enquiry কৰিব নে?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply): আনি enquiry কৰি আছে। নতুন কোনো enquiry ৰ প্ৰয়োজন নাই।

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): চাব, যোৱা বছৰ Procurement department এ ধান কিনি সাপেখাটিৰ মহালক্ষ্মী বাইচ্ মিলৰ যোগেদি Steel Brothers ক বেচাটো হয়নে?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: যোৱা বছৰৰ কথা মোৰ মনত নাই। Notice লাগিব।

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): যি সকল মিল মালিকক ধান কিনাৰ লাইচেন্স দিয়া হৈছে সেই সকলক কি পদ্ধতিৰে আৰু কি পৰিমাণৰ rebate দিয়া হয়?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: নিৰ্দেশ অনুসাবে কথাটো হৈছে যে কিনিবলৈ যাওঁতে licence বিলাকে ৯ টকাৰ কম দাম দিব নোৱাৰিব। কিনিবলৈ যাওঁতে licence বিলাকে ৯ টকাৰ ওপৰত কিমান বেচি দিব সেইটো নিৰ্ভৰ কৰিব বজাৰ ভাও আৰ্থিক প্ৰতিযোগিতা আৰু তেওলোকৰ বহন আদিৰ খৰচৰ ওপৰত। আমি যেতিয়া তেওঁবিলাকৰ পৰা কিনিম Loan অনুসাবে ১২৪ নয়া পইচাৰ পৰা ১৭৫ নয়া পইচাৰ ওপৰত নিদিও।

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে জানেনে যে গোৱালপাৰা জিলাত জাম ফল বিল নামৰ হাটত ২ মাহ মান আগত ককিৰাপ্ৰাথম মুখাজী নামৰ এজন Supply Inspector এ খেতিয়কক বজাৰতকৈ ধান মিলক কম দামত বেচাৰ কাৰণে, বজাৰৰ বাইজে তেখেতক বেয়াটকৈ জখম কৰিছিল।

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: তেনে খবৰ পোৱা নাই।

Mr. SPEAKER: This question has been discussed now for about 20 minutes and this was discussed in great details in the Governor's Address.

(Starred Question No.48 standing in the name of Shri Ramnath Sarma was not put and answered as the questioner was absent)

Demand for a Community Project at village Chamata of Mauza Dharmapur, police station Nalbari, district Kamrup

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*49. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Development be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there is a long standing demand to establish a Community Project at village Chamata of mauza Dharmapur under police station Nalbari in the district of Kamrup for the improvement of poor and backward people of the locality ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the questioner submitted written representation to the Minister concerned for Community Project at village Chamata ?
- (c) If so, whether the said project is going to be opened within the year 1959 ?
- (d) If not, why not ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Development) replied:

49. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—There is no proposal for establishing a Community Project at village Chamata but, there is one proposed block for Dharmapur, Pakowa, Bahjani and Khetri Dharmapur mauzas. The question of taking up this shadow block into a pre-extension block will be taken up along with other shadow blocks of the Gauhati Subdivision, when Government of India sanctions blocks during 1959-60.

(d)—In view of (c) above, does not arise.

Proposal for construction of Bund from Dilsirimukh at Neghriting to Rungagoraghat in Golaghat Subdivision

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked:

*50. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there was a proposal for construction of Bund from Dilsirimukh at Neghriting to Rungagoraghat in Golaghat Subdivision in the Budget of 1957 ?
- (b) If so, what is the reason for abandoning this proposal ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to include the said proposal in forthcoming Budget of 1959-60 ?
- (d) If not, whether Government propose to abandon the proposal altogether and why ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware that the proposed embankment will protect a vast area of paddy land from flood and save the life and property of several thousand of plains tribal and backward people who are now victims of erosion and floods ?
- (f) Whether Government is aware that every year water of the Deroi, the Gelabil and the Brahmaputra damages Rabi and Sali crops of Dergaon, Missamora, Rungamatty and Mahura Mouzas ?
- (g) If so, what steps Government propose to take to save these people from the ravages of these rivers ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY [Minister, Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage)] replied:

50. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Due to successive reduction in the plan ceiling, this proposal could not find place in the revised programme of the 2nd Plan.

(c)—In view of the fact stated in reply to (b) above the scheme could not be included in the Budget for 1959-60.

(d)—This is relatively a lower priority scheme and may wait for better days.

(e)—The area likely to come under benefit is not large compared to the cost involved and the flooding in this area is also not relatively severe and extensive. The problem of erosion is not solved by embankment.

(f)—Occasional flooding occurs in the areas, but damage to crops is not so extensive.

(g)—Measures necessary for dealing with the problem will be considered for inclusion in the Third Five-Year Plan along with other Schemes on the basis of its relative priority.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): এই scheme বিলাক লোৱাৰ কাৰণে Advisory Board আৰু Statutory Board আছে, এইটো Statutory Board ৰ তৰফৰ পৰা নে চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা abandon কৰা হ'ল ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, P.W.D. (Embankment and Drainage)]: The Department abandoned it.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: আৰু এটা কথা সুধিব খুজিছো, Embankment and Drainage য়ে মথাউৰিৰ Alignment কৰোঁতে দুখীয়া মানুহৰ মাটিবাবী বক্ষা কৰাকৈ কৰে নে কি ভিত্তিত কৰে ?

Mr. SPEAKER: I think there is some mistake about the meaning of Statutory. Statutory Board is a Board which is established under a law. It only indicates the nature of its establishment; it does not indicate the powers and functions of the Board.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: এটা উদাহৰণেৰে কওঁ যে শিৱসাগৰৰ চিণ্ডাবাৰীৰ মথাউৰিৰ বাহিৰত ৬ হাজাৰ বিঘা মাটি আৰু ভিতৰত প্ৰায় ৩ হাজাৰ মাটি পৰিছে—মথাউৰিৰ Alignment কৰোঁতে এই বিলাক বিষয়লৈ লক্ষ্য কৰা হয় নে নহয় ?

Mr. SPEAKER: It is a far off cry so far as our question is concerned from Golaghat to Sibsagar (Laughter):

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Whether the schemes approved in the Embankment and Drainage Board are abandoned by the Department without consulting this Board?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, P. W. D. (Embankment and Drainage)]: This is an Advisory Board. Government must be capable of carrying out the advice. If financial considerations stand on the way to implement the advice naturally Government has to regret its inability.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): এই কাণ্ড বিলাকৰ কাৰণে State এ কিয় Fund ধৰা নাই? বাজেটত কিয় টকা ধৰা হোৱা নাই—তাকেই জানিব খুজিছোঁ।

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: কোনো দিনেই এইটো ধৰা নহয়।

Maulavi RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): এই কাণ্ড বিলাক অসম্পূৰ্ণ অৱস্থাত পৰি থকাৰ কাৰণেই বাইজৰ উপকাৰতকৈ ক্ষতিহে বেচি হৈছে। চৰকাৰে ইয়াৰ কি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: কোনটো প্ৰশ্ন, ক্ষতিৰ বিষয়েনে, অসম্পূৰ্ণৰ বিষয়ে—নই ধৰিব পৰা নাই।

Entertainment of Subdivisional Veterinary Officers in certain Subdivisions of the State

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether there is any Subdivision in the State where there is no Veterinary Supervisory Officer for the Subdivision?
- (b) If so, which are these Subdivisions?
- (c) Whether Government propose to post such officers in these Subdivisions?

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

51. (a), (b) ও (c)—Sanction has been accorded to the entertainment of Subdivisional Veterinary Officers with the auxiliary staff in respect of Sibsagar, North Lakhimpur,

Barpeta and Mangaldai Subdivisions for the present. Entertainment of Subdivisional Veterinary Officers in other Subdivisions in the State will be considered according to the needs of each Subdivision. District Veterinary Officers are doing the Supervision work in all Subdivisions irrespective of the entertainment of Subdivisional Veterinary Officers.

Shri MAHANANDA BORA (North-Lakhimpur) : I want to know from the Minister whether the proposed Subdivisional Veterinary Officer will be taken from the present Veterinary Assistant Surgeons or they will be recruited from outside the State ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) : If found suitable they will be selected from the existing Veterinary staff.

Shri MAHANANDA BORA : Do not Government think that the existing number of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons are inadequate to meet the demand of the Department, if so why the new posts of Subdivisional Veterinary Officers are going to be created ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : We are no doubt in shortage but for that we cannot leave the work of supervision. We have to plan for that as well within our limited resources.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Grants for re-construction and repair of Namghars of Satras

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari East) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government sanction subsidies to Satras for construction and improvement of Namghar ?
- (b) If so, whether Government will be pleased to supply the names of such Satras showing the amounts granted to them for the last three years separately ?
- (c) On what basis and reasons such grants or subsidies were given ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)
replied :

140. (a)—Yes, Government sanction grants for re-construction and repair of Namghars of Satras which are old and historically important having longstanding influence on the social, cultural and religious life of the people.

(b)—Statements showing the distribution of grants during 1955-56 and 1957-58 are laid on the Library table. No distribution was made during 1956-57.

(c)—Grants have been given on the basis of reports of district officers about Satra's old historical importance and longstanding influence on the life of the people. The Archeological Department of the Government of India took over some Temples, Moths and Monuments of this State which have historical and archeological importance. There are still some institutions which are very old and historically important and which have longstanding influence on the life of the people. For these institutions the grant-in-aid in question is meant.

Number of Co-operative Societies of different categories in Kamrup District

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari East) asked :

141. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

(a) The number of Weaving Co-operatives, other Industrial Co-operatives, Trading Co-operatives, Farming Co-operative and Co-operatives of all other categories separately circle by circle in Kamrup District (figures for both large and small sized Co-operatives to be furnished) ?

(b) The number of such Specialities liquidated in each circle during the year 1958 ?

(c) The number of circles under the Deputy Co-operative officers and the Assistant Co-operative officers separately ?

(d) What is the basis of determination of number in posting of Co-operative officers in a circle ?

(e) Whether Government are aware of the anomalous condition of societies in Barpeta area and other areas of North Bank of the district for lack of close supervisions of works of field Co-operative officers ?

(f) Whether the Registrar, Co-operative Society, Additional Registrar, Co-operative Society and the Joint Registrar, Co-operative Society visited the area in the North Bank of Kamrup District during 1957 and 1958 ?

(g) If so, on how many occasions ?

(h) If not, why ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

141. (a)—The statement is placed in the Library table.

(Please see Library Register No.74)

(b)—The number of Societies sent into liquidation in 1958 in Kamrup district is as under:—

I. Barpeta ... (a) Simlaguri Trading Co-operative Ltd.

(b) Baghmara Trading Co-operative Ltd.

II. Gauhati ... (a) Scientific Agricultural Co-operative Ltd.

(b) Sualkuchi Co-operative Transport Ltd.

(c) Dharapur Co-operative Stores Ltd.

(d) Pragjoyshtipur Trading Co-operative Ltd.

(e) Rani Co-operative Stores Ltd.

(f) Solabil Co-operative Stores Ltd.

(g) Azara Co-operative Stores Ltd.

III. Nalbari ... Nil.

(c)—The number of circles under the Deputy Co-operative Officers is 12 (Twelve). There is no circle under the Assistant Co-operative Officers.

(d)—The basis of determination of number of officers posted in a circle consisting of block or blocks is two Deputy Co-operative Officers, one for inspection and the other for audit, in one circle consisting two or more N. E. S./G. Blocks (notified in the *Assam Gazette*) and two Assistant Co-operative Officers one for inspection and the other for audit, in each such block. The above basis, however, could not be given effect to because of shortage of officers and therefore for the time being, one Assistant Co-operative Officer in each block have been posted. The number of Deputy Co-operative Officers and Assistant Co-operative Officers so posted is, however increased in case where circumstances necessitate in order to take up special works such as Credit Rehabilitation, Liquidation, Land Mortgage Marketing Societies, etc.

(e)—Government are not aware of any anomalous condition. If any specific instance is brought to the notice of Government necessary action will be taken. For supervision of the work of the field officers there are 5 Deputy Registrars attached to the office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and they constantly move about inspecting societies and offices of the field officers keeping the Registrar in constant touch with the actual work in the field.

(f)—There is no Additional Registrar of Co-operative Societies at the present moment. The Registrar and the Joint Registrar were not able to visit the North Bank of Kamrup District during 1957 and 1958 but two of the Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies visited the area more than once during the period.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—The Registrar and Joint Registrar could not make time due to other works and tours. The present Registrar assumed charge a little before the middle of 1957 and he was also away on training for 4 months in 1958.

**Medicines given to Labour patients in dispensaries
of European owned Tea Gardens**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

142. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he is aware that in many dispensaries of European owned Tea Gardens, medicines are usually given to Labour patients without prescribing directions of drugs to be taken ?

(b) If so, what steps Government propose to take to stop this practice ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

142. (a)—Government have no such information.

(b)—If any specific instance is brought to the notice of Government, action will be taken.

**Arrangement for interview of candidates in New Delhi
for appointment to various posts in the Oil
Refinery**

**Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi
(Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** asked :

143. Will the Minister, Major Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that the Government of India have made arrangement for an interview of the candidates in New Delhi for the appointment to various posts in the Oil Refinery to be started in Assam ?

(b) If so, why the interview has been fixed in New Delhi ?

(c). Whether the Government of Assam will move the Central Government to make provision for holding the said interview either at Shillong or at Gauhati ?

(d) If not, why not ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries) replied :

143. (a)—No. Government have no information.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Yes, the matter will be taken up with the Refinery authorities, as soon as occasion arises.

(d)—Does not arise.

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: With regard to (a), whether Government will enquire about it ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : We will naturally enquire about it. We are keeping in contact with the Government of India.

Management of the Shillong Hydro-Electric Company, Ltd.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government is aware that Shillong Hydro-Electric Co., Ltd., realises exorbitant amount from the consumers of electricity at the time of house service connection ?

(b) Why the company do not supply a detailed estimate of house service connection to the consumers as required under clause I of part III of their conditions of supply ?

- (c) Whether Government are aware that the said company realise excess amount by violating the rules No. 31 and 57 (4) under the Indian Electricity Act, 1956.
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the company charge Rs.10 (ten) for every Meter Box supplied though the market price is less than the half of the charged ?
- (e) What action has since been taken by Government to order the Shillong Hydro-Electric Co., Ltd., to refund the excess amount thus realised so long from the consumers of Shillong illegally ?
- (f) What steps have been taken by Government to enquire into these affairs and to take action against the concern ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the employees of the Shillong Hydro-Electric Company, Ltd., are not allowed to enjoy Sundays and other Govt. Gazetted holidays and are deprived of overtime allowances as prescribed by rules ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that some employees and labourers of the said company have not yet been confirmed as yet though they have rendered their services for long eight years ?
- (i) If so, why ?
- (j) The number of consumers of electric current at Shillong ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that Store Keeper who has no knowledge of technical matters is entrusted in making the estimates ?
- (l) If so, why ?
- (m) What are the qualifications of the Engineer and Commercial Manager and Store Keeper who are assisting the Resident Director in matters of management ?
- (n) Whether it is a fact that the concern is violating the provision of the rule No. 54 under the Indian Electricity Act, 1956 in supplying still low voltage, although charges for higher voltage are being realised from the consumers ?

- (o) Whether Government propose to take up the question of nationalisation of the Shillong Hydro Electric Company at an early date ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Electricity) replied:

144 (a)—No.

(b)—It is not obligatory on the part of the Company to furnish such estimate as per terms of the conditions of supply.

(c)—No.

(d)—Government has no information as no complaint was received.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—Does not arise.

(g)—No.

(h)—There are only 3 temporary staff who have not yet completed even 2 years service under the company.

(i)—Does not arise.

(j)—3640

(k)—No. The estimates are prepared by Assistant Engineer.

(l)—Does not arise.

(m) (i)—Commercial Manager, B.A., B.L.

(ii)—Assistant Engineer passed Senior Course (Electrical) from Jadavpur Engineering College, Calcutta.

(iii)—Store Keeper passed Store Keeper examination under Eastern Command and worked as a Store Keeper in M.E.S. Electrical & Mechanical Department for seven years.

(n)—It is a fact that the licensee is not maintaining the prescribed voltage as the consumer's premises during the peak load period as required under rule 54 of the Indian

Electricity Rules, 1956. The watt-hour meters, installed in the consumer's premises at Shillong to register the consumption of electrical energy, take into account the fall in voltage and the meters register the actual consumption. So regarding the charge of energy consumption the consumers are not affected, by the lamps and electrical equipments (rated for the prescribed voltage) become less efficient due to low voltage.

(o)—It is for the Assam State Electricity Board to decide.

Fixation of Seniority of officers of the Co-operative Department

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that seniority of officers of the Co-operative Department in the headquarters has not yet been fixed?

(b) If so, when it is expected to be fixed to remove grievances of the said officers?

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

145. (a)—No. Seniority of the officers at headquarters has been fixed.

(b)—Seniority was fixed after due consideration in accordance with the rules of Government Service. Some officers however, have submitted representations to revise the order on certain grounds which are now under consideration.

Amount sanctioned towards the Pathsala Natya Samity a Cultural Institution in Barpeta Subdivision

Shri SURENDRA NATH DAS (Patacharkuchi) asked:

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

(a) Whether there was any proposal in 1956-57 for sanctioning upto Rs.20,000 by Government

towards the non-official Cultural Institutions for the improvement of stage, hall, etc., on self-help basis ?

- (b) If so, what is the amount sanctioned towards the Pathsala Natya Samity which is the oldest institution of its kind in the Barpeta Subdivision in 1956-57 ?
- (c) Whether there was any prayer from the Pathsala Natya Samity for financial help on self-help basis in 1957-58 and if so, how much money was sanctioned and if not, why not ?
- (d) What are the names of the institutions which have already received Rs. 20,000 each as proposed by Government ?
- (e) Whether Government have received from the Pathsala Natya Samity prayers for financial help through the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta and also the Assam Congress Chief or Local M. L. As ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that Government have lately received a telegram from the Secretary, Pathsala Bazar Committee stating the bad financial condition of the said Natya Samity ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the Pathsala Natya Samity represented their grievances to the Chief Minister, Finance Minister including some of the Members of the above Committee on 17th November, 1958 ?
- (h) Why further grant as proposed by Government was not sanctioned to the said Natya Samity in 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that Government granted some amount to some such institutions in 1958-59 ?
- (j) Whether Government propose to sanction a good amount towards the Pathsala Natya Samity during the current year ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister-in-charge of Finance) replied:

146. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Rs. 9,100.

(c)—Yes. But the *Ad-hoc* Committee which was constituted in 1955-56 was discontinued after the last general election and the subsequent *Ad-hoc* Committee was reconstituted

late during the year 1957-58 as a result of which the Committee could not meet during that year. So no grant was distributed to any institution in 1957-58 by the Committee.

(d)—There are only three institutions which have already received the maximum grant, namely, (1) Nowgong Dramatic Club, (2) Nowgong Kala Mandir and (3) Ban Theatre Building Committee, Tezpur.

(e)—Yes. Application, dated 5th August 1958 submitted through the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta only praying for a grant of Rs. 12,500, was received.

(f)—No such telegram was received. Only a Memorandum submitted by the Pathsala Bazar Committee was received on 20th November, 1958.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—With regard to the grant for 1957-58 reply to question No. (c) above may be seen.

As regards grant for 1958-59 it may be stated that the application received from the institution was presented before the meeting of the *Ad-hoc* Committee on the 3rd May, 1958 for consideration. But the Committee did not allow any further grant to this institution.

(i)—Yes.

(j)—No. The matter will have to be placed before the next meeting of the *Ad-hoc* Committee, which is not likely to meet during the current year.

Pay and Status of the present Transport Commissioner

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked:

147. Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:—

(a) Who is the present Transport Commissioner, what is his status (I. A. S. or I. P. S.) and what is his pay?

(b) Whether it is a fact that this post was till recently held by people of I. A. S. rank and if so, what is the reason for making a departure ?

(c) From what Department the present Commissioner has been recruited ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

147. (a) Shri G. Hamilton, I. P. S. His present pay is Rs. 840 and Special pay Rs. 150 per month.

(b)—Yes. Government decided to appoint a Senior I.A.S. Officer or a Senior Officer of any other State Service with sufficient experience or a suitable qualified person recruited from outside the services as State Transport Commissioner. There is, therefore, no departure from Government decision when an I. P. S. Officer with sufficient experience has been appointed as Transport Commissioner.

(c)—Home (Police) Department.

Construction of the Kulaguri Bund in Behali Mouza

Shri BISHNU LAL UPADHAYA (Gohpur) asked:

148. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Em-bankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the Kulaguri Bund in Behali Mouza was constructed by the Public thrice previously ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that they failed in their attempts to make the Bund permanent due to lack of technical knowledge and necessary resources ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Government have now examined the matter and proposed to construct the Bund in order to irrigate 6,000 acres of cultivable land and called for detailed plans and estimates ?

(d) Whether the Tezpur Subdivisional Development Committee has recommended this project to Government and asked for technical and approval ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that fund is available for this and the work will be undertaken from next year ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, P.W.D. (Embankment & Drainage)] replied :

148 (a)—Government are aware that the local people since last few years have been irrigating their adjoining paddy fields by constructing temporary earthen dam across the river Kolaguri.

(b)—It is too natural that such earthen dam cannot last more than one season and has got to be renewed every year.

(c)—Yes. Government have now examined the matter and already ordered for detailed survey which is now in progress and is expected to be completed shortly. There is a proposal to construct a headwork over this river as the first phase of the scheme for regulating supply of water to the villagers' irrigation canal.

(d) & (e)—The Subdivisional Irrigation Committee of Tezpur Subdivision, in its meeting held on the 10th October, 1958 has recommended taking up of the scheme and has also recommended that an amount of Rs.1.50 lakhs out of the available amount of Rs.2.50 lakhs under the head "Irrigation" in Biswanath National Extension Service Block be set apart for this project. It is expected that the works on the proposed headwork can be undertaken next winter on completion of the detailed survey and collection of necessary hydrological data.

Free Secondary Education in Government High Schools of Assam to Children of Primary Teachers

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

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

(a) Whether children of Primary teachers are entitled to free secondary education in Government High Schools of Assam ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that majority of children of Primary School teachers read in Government Aided High Schools where the facility of free education to children of Primary School teachers has not been extended ?

(c) Whether Government propose to extend the facility of free secondary education to children of all Primary School teachers by sanction of compensatory grants to the Schools, in a manner similar to Tribal students ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education)
replied :

149. (a)—Yes. They are given free tuition upto to Class VI.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The matter is being examined.

Demand of the All Assam College Teachers' Association regarding Dearness Allowance, etc.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon)
asked :

150. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state whether Government has taken any action to fulfil the demands of the All-Assam College Teachers' Association regarding dearness allowance, charge allowance of Vice Principal, Heads of Department and pay scales for Demonstrators, Librarians, Ministerial staff, etc. ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education)
replied :

150.—Yes.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA : May I know the date from which it will be given effect to ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education):
From the next financial year.

Recommendations of the University Grants Commission's Report

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon)
asked:

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

(a) Whether Government is aware of the modifications brought about in the Recommendations of the University Grants Commission's Report by its circular, dated the 6th November, 1958?

(b) Whether Government will be pleased to take necessary steps for implementation of the recommendation that a teacher who has completed ten years service shall be entitled to the scale of Rs.400—25—700 per mensem?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education)
replied:

151. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Government have no information about such recommendations. The matter however can be examined.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: In reply to question 151(a) the Minister-in-charge said "Yes". If so, is it not stated in the recommendations that the teachers who have completed ten years' service will be entitled to the scale of pay referred to in (b)?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education): It is not stated in the Circular that ten years' service will entitle a teacher to this scale.

Mr. SPEAKER: She wants to know whether this Government is aware of the modifications brought about in the recommendations of the University Grants Commission.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: In the University Grants Commission's Report there is no such recommendation.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: It is stated in answer to (b)—"The matter however can be examined". If it is not stated in the recommendation, how can it be examined?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education): Not necessarily on the basis of the recommendation.

The Assam State Acquisition of Lands Belonging to Religious or Charitable Institutions of Public Nature Bill, 1959

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): The Select Committee held its first meeting to discuss the Bill relating to Assam State Acquisition of Lands Belonging to Religious or Charitable Institution of Public Nature Bill, 1959. The Select Committee after an examination observed that a thorough examination was necessary and since the time was very short the Committee decided to approach this House for extension of time upto 31st May, 1959 for submission of report.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the time for submission of the report of the Select Committee on the Assam State Acquisition of Lands Belonging to Religious or Charitable Institution of Public Nature Bill, 1959 be extended upto 31st March, 1959.

(The Motion was put as a question and adopted).

Demands for Grants

Mr. SPEAKER: We are already behind the schedule by about two hours. I think, it will be better for us to confine our discussions to important items, otherwise discussion will not be ended by the 31st March. May I request the hon. Members to ask only the important points in brief so that we may skip over to the important items like Revenue, etc.?

GRANT No.46

"63.-B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service, Etc."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Projects): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,30,44,000 (Rupees one crore, thirty lakhs and forty-four thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "63.-B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,30,44,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "63.-B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service, etc."

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): Shri Pakhirai Deka will speak on behalf of the Opposition.

Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 1,30,44,000 under Grant No.46—Major head “63.-B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development works” at page 449 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,30,44,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই মোৰ কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো উত্থাপন কৰি ইয়াকেই ক'ব খুজিছো যে, বাইজে বেয়া পোৱা চৰকাৰৰ বিভাগবিলাকৰ ভিতৰত N. E. S. ব্লক বিলাকেই আটাইতকৈ বেচি বেয়া পোৱা ডিপাৰ্টমেণ্ট। চৰকাৰৰ আন আন বিভাগ বিলাকৰ দৰে যদি এই বিভাগটো কনট্ৰল কৰিবৰ ক্ষমতা নাই—তেনেহলে ইয়াক গাঁৱৰ মাজত বাইজৰ অসুবিধা আৰু বেমেজালী সৃষ্টি পাতি দিয়া চৰকাৰৰ অধিকাৰ নাই। মই নিজে দেখিছো আৰু মোৰ নিজৰ অভিজ্ঞতাৰ পৰা এনে কৈছো এই N. E. S. ব্লক বিলাকৰ কাৰণে যিবিলাক কৰ্মচাৰী নিয়োগ কৰা হৈছে—তেওঁলোকে গাঁৱত একো কাম কৰা নাই। তেওঁলোকৰ কামৰ কাৰণে দিয়া জীপ গাৰী বিলাক লৈ ব'ৰি ফুৰিছে—নিজৰ কামত; আৰু আন হাতে তেওঁলোকে নিমন্ত্ৰণ বন্ধা কৰি ভোজ ভাত খাই চৰকাৰৰ টকাৰ অপব্যৱহাৰ কৰিছে। বাইজৰ ভিতৰতে যিটো সুবিধাবাদী দলে—তেওঁলোকক নিমন্ত্ৰণ খাবলৈ নিয়ে—তেওঁলোকৰ কথা মতে তেওঁলোকৰ সুবিধাৰ কৰণে কিছু কৰি বাকী বিলাক বাইজক অৱহেলা কৰিছে। এইদৰে সুবিধাবাদী সকলক সুবিধা দি বাকী বিলাকৰ ন্যায্য দাবী বিলাক অৱহেলা কৰি তাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰাটো ঠিক কথা নহয়। এই দৰে নিমন্ত্ৰণ খাই ফুৰোতে যতে পাইছে ততে শিক্ষা সম্বন্ধীয় গ্ৰাণ্ট বিলাকো আনৰ লগত আলোচনা নকৰাকৈ—আনকি স্থানীয় বিধান সভাৰ সদস্যৰ লগতো আলোচনা নকৰাকৈ দি দিছে। এই বিষয় চৰকাৰৰ নজৰলৈ অনাৰ সন্ধেও—কোনো ফল হোৱা নাই। হাই স্কুল, এম, ই, স্কুল আৰু এম, ডি স্কুল বিলাকৰ কাৰণে যি টকা ধৰা হৈছে—সেই টকাৰ ক'ত ক'ত বিতৰণ হ'ব লাগে তালৈ লক্ষ্য নকৰাকৈ এওঁলোকে ইচ্ছামতে মগ্গুৰী দিছে। এই বিষয়ে বিভাগীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে যেন চকু দিয়ে।

তাৰ পিচত—লাইব্ৰেৰীৰ কাৰণে যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে—সিও দুখ লগা। কিছুমান মোজাই পাইছে, সবহ ভাগেই পোৱা নাই। টকাৰ পৰিমাণ বৰ কম হোৱাৰ কাৰণে লাইব্ৰেৰীৰ সংখ্যাও বৰ কম। এই অঞ্চলত এটা ‘মাইক’ আছে: তাকো বিভাগীয় কৰ্মচাৰীৰ ইচ্ছামতে—য'ত দিব লাগে ত'ত নিদিয়ৈ। আনফালে বিয়া নাম বিলাকতো ইয়াক তেওঁলোকে দিয়ে আৰু ডাঙৰ মিটিং হলে সাম্প্ৰদায়িক বুলি নিদিয়ৈ। এইটো বৰ পৰিতাপৰ কথা।

টংলাত Embankment and Drainage বিভাগৰ এজন Sub-divisional Officer আছে। ইয়াত ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ কাম হাতত লোৱা হৈছে। কামৰ বেলিকা এওঁলোক স্থানীয় M.L.A. আৰু বাইজৰ লগত আলোচনা নকৰাকৈ নিজ ইচ্ছাবেই কাম কৰিব লাগিছে। যদি এওঁলোকে এনেকৈ কাম কৰে তেনেহলে বাইজৰ উপকাৰত কেনেকৈ আহিব। এই দৰে কাম কৰাটো অত্যন্ত দুখৰ বিষয় হৈছে আৰু ইয়াৰ ওপৰতো control ৰ প্ৰয়োজন আছে।

তাৰ পিচত ঠৈবাবাৰীত Subdivisional Officer আৰু Extra-Assistant Commissioner ৰ কিবা ট্ৰেইনিঙৰ কাৰণে বখা হৈছে আৰু তেওঁলোকক পৰিচালনা কৰিবলৈ চৰকাৰৰ আন ওপৰৱালা কৰ্মচাৰী নাই।

সেইদৰে কোনো শাসন নোহোৱাকৈ থকা Extra Assistant Commissioner, Sub-Deputy Collector বিনাকৈ খৈৰাবাবীত কি training লব ? মই আশা কৰো চৰকাৰে সেই training উঠাই দিব।

কিছুমান ট্ৰাইবেল লোকে গ্ৰাম সেৱক হবলৈ আবেদন কৰিছিল, কিন্তু গ্ৰাম সেৱক হবলৈ দিয়া নাই। মই আশা কৰো ট্ৰাইবেল লোককো গ্ৰাম সেৱক, P. E. O. আৰু Assistant Political Officer হবলৈ সুবিধা দিব। কাচাৰ জিলাৰ পাখাৰকুছি National Extension Service Block ৰ নিম্ন খাপৰ কৰ্মচাৰী সকলে ২-৩ মাহ দৰমহা পোৱা নাই, তাকো সোনকালে দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। আৰু এটা কথা যে এই Block টোৰ পৰা ডিপিলা আৰু বনমোজা বাদ দি লগত শিলপোতা মোজা-লগ লগায় দিলে কামৰে বাইজৰ কাম কৰাৰ বৰ সুবিধা হব। ইয়াকে কৈ মই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো দাঙি ধৰিছো।

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.1,30,44,000 under Grant No.46.—Major head “63.-B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works” at page 449 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,30,44,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon):

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় ; সাম্ৰাজ্যবাদী বৃটিচৰ দুশ বছৰীয়া এলাঙ্কলীয়া শাসন আৰু শোষণত উৱলি যোৱা আমাৰ দেশখনক ন কৈ গঢ়াৰ পথত জাতীয় সম্পূৰ্ণ সাৰণ কেন্দ্ৰ আৰু সামূহিক উন্নয়নৰ বাবে এটা নীৰব বিপ্লৱৰ জৰিয়তে যি বিৰাট বৰঙনি যোগাইছে তাৰ অনুভৱ কৰিয়ে মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰি বিৰোধীদলে অনা কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ টোৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিছো।

এই আঁচনি খন এখন বাইজৰ দ্বাৰা সম্পাদিত হোৱা বাইজৰ আঁচনি, চৰকাৰ চৰকাৰী বিষয়া আৰু কাৰিকৰি বিশেষজ্ঞ ই মাত্ৰ ইয়াক গঁহায় কৰিব লাগে, কিন্তু প্ৰথম অৱস্থাত এই আঁচনি কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিবলৈ লওঁতে এই ভাবটো বাইজৰ মাজত ভালদৰে প্ৰচাৰ নোহোৱাৰ ফলত বাইজৰ অনুমান হল যে এইখন চৰকাৰৰ আঁচনি—বাইজে তাক সহায় কৰিব লাগে, গুৰিতে এই কেনা লগা কাৰণেই আমি বৰ্ত্তমান বহুতো সমালোচনাৰ সন্মুখীন হব লগীয়া হৈছো। যিহওক লাহে লাহে এই তুল ধাৰণা আঁতৰাব ফলতেই আমি সামূহিক উন্নয়ন খণ্ডবোৰৰ তলত থকা আমাৰ গাওঁবিলাক এটা নতুন প্ৰাণৰ নতুন আঁগৰ সঞ্চাৰ হোৱা দেখিছোঁ।

আমি যদি কহিয়াই চাওঁ তেন্তে আজি ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ সামাজিক আৰু অৰ্থনৈতিক স্বাধীনতা আনয়ন কল্পে এই আঁচনিৰে আমাৰ গাঁৱৰ ভাই ভনী সকলক কৰ্ম্মৰ প্ৰতি অভিমুখী কৰি তুলিবলৈ যত্ন কৰিছে তাক বুজিব পাৰো। শ্ৰমৰ মৰ্যাদা আৰু আত্ম সাহায্যৰ ওপৰ প্ৰচুৰ গুৰুত্ব দিয়াৰ ফলতেই গাওঁবোৰত আজি বাইজৰ দ্বাৰা ভালমান জনহিতকৰ কাম

সম্পাদন হোৱা দেখিছো, নিজে কৰা বস্তুটোৰ প্ৰতি মমতা বেচি বাবেই বোধ কৰো। আমাৰ গাঁৱৰ বাইজে নিজৰ বৰঙনিৰে যিবোৰ কল্যাণমূলক বাজহাৰা কাম কৰিছে তাক সম্বন্ধেৰে বন্ধ কৰিবলৈকো যত্ন কৰাৰ চিন আমি পাইছোঁ।

আমাৰ দেশৰ যি বিৰাট জনশক্তিক আমি অপচয় কৰিছো তাক জনহিতকৰ কামত লগাই সিবিলাকক আয়নিৰ্ভৰশীল কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰাটো এই আঁচনিৰ এটা বিশেষ উদ্দেশ্য। এই কাৰণতে আমি আমাৰ গ্ৰাম সেরক, গ্ৰাম সেৱিকা আৰু অন্যান্য কৰ্মচাৰী বোৰৰ জৰিয়তে আমাৰ গাঁওবোৰৰ মানসিক, সামাজিক, অৰ্থনৈতিক, সাংস্কৃতিক আদি সকলো ক্ষেত্ৰতে উৎকৰ্ষ সাধনৰ প্ৰচেষ্টা দেখিবলৈ পোওঁ। এই আঁচনি বোৰৰ সম্পৰ্কে যথেষ্ট কৰ লগীয়া আছে আৰু কৰিবলৈকো ইচ্ছা আছিল যদিও সময়ৰ অভাৱত ইয়াতে সামৰিব লগীয়া হল; যদিও এই আঁচনিৰ জৰিয়তে সকলোৰে সামূহিক প্ৰচেষ্টাৰ দ্বাৰা স্থানীয় শক্তি আৰু সামগ্ৰীৰ সু প্ৰয়োগ কৰি ইয়াৰ আদৰ্শৰ লগত খাপ খুৱাই বাস্তৱক কৰাৰ প্ৰয়াস কৰিবলৈ যত্ন কৰিলে আমাৰ বহু আউলীয়া জটিল সমস্যাৰ সমাধান হ'ব বুলি মই ন দি ক'ব খোঁজোঁ।

কোনো কোনো অঞ্চলত আমি এই আঁচনিৰ কটু সমালোচনা শুনিবলৈ পোওঁ— কিছু সমালোচনাৰ যুক্তি নাই বুলি আমি ক'ব নোখোজো যিহেতু এইখন এখন বাইজৰ আঁচনি ইয়াক কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিবলৈ যোৱা বিষয়া সকলে নিজৰ আচাৰ, ব্যৱহাৰ, সাজপাৰ, কথাবতৰা সকলোতে নিজক বাইজৰ লগত খাপ খুৱাই বাইজৰ সেৱক স্বৰূপে নিজক অনুভৱ কৰি নিজক বাইজৰ এজন বুলি ভাবিলে সেৱাৰ মনোবৃত্তি লৈ কাম কৰিলেহে এই আঁচনিৰ প্ৰতি বাইজৰ আস্থা ও আগ্ৰহ জন্মিব বুলি ভাবো, বাইজৰ ওপৰত কিবা এটা জাপি দিবলৈ গলে—কিবা এটা impose কৰিবলৈ যত্ন কৰিলে বাইজে কেতিয়াও তাক গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ সাজু নহয়—আৰু তেনে কৰিলে তেওঁলোকৰ এই আঁচনিৰ প্ৰতি আস্থাও হেৰাই যাব। উপৰোক্ত বক্তাই ক'ব পাৰে কিছুমান ক্ষেত্ৰত বাইজৰ কাম কৰিবলৈ দিয়া জীপ খনৰ অপব্যৱহাৰ দেখিও বাইজ বিতৃষ্ণ হোৱাটো স্বাভাৱিক।

যিহেতু এইবোৰৰ প্ৰতিকৰণৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি এই আঁচনিৰ যি সংউদ্দেশ্য আৰু আদৰ্শ তাক প্ৰতিকলিত কৰিব পাৰিলে, আমাৰ গাঁৱৰ—তথা আমাৰ দেশৰ বৰ্তমান ছবিখন জিলিকি উঠিব—আৰু ভবিষ্যতৰ বুকুত আমাৰ দেশখন এখন সুষ্ঠু সবল স্বাধীন ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰূপে উজলি থাকিব বুলি আমাৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ আশা হৈছে।

এই কাৰণেই মই দেশৰ পুনৰ গঠনত এই জাতীয় সম্প্ৰসাৰণ কেন্দ্ৰ আৰু সামূহিক উন্নয়ন খণ্ডৰ আঁচনি অতি আৱশ্যকীয় আৰু অপৰিহাৰ্য্য বাবেই এই অনস্থানৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰি কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো পুনৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিছোঁ।

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Projects):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the grievances which have been made against this project are less of a general nature and I am not prepared to accept the arguments put forward by my Friends that the National Extension Service Blocks have done no good things to the people at large. I will not take much time of the House by giving various details of the activities which have been undertaken by the National Extension Service Blocks all over the State. The only thing which I should like to bring to the notice of the House is that whatever defects there may be in the functioning of these Blocks, we believe there is now scope for removal of these defects when the panchayats begin to function under the new Panchayat Bill which is now before the House. As the hon. Members might have seen, according to the provisions of the Bill, and the Select Committee have also made recommendation, that all the

project officers in the Block will be under the control of an elected Chairman of the Panchayat and so whatever be the grievances arising in one place or in another to the effect that these Block Development Officers or the Project Officers do not take into consideration the views of the locality and that they do things in their own way, all these defects, I hope will be removed. The only thing I should like to state is that we have put forward a legislation in this regard and in the matter of legislation, I think that the responsible persons in particular should know what powers and what authorities the Panchayats and their presidents have and once the legislation is there, I think there will be no scope for any authority being exercised by any officers in their own way. I hope the hon. Members will realise the importance of this legislation and will try to explain the legislation throughout the State so that the people may know what powers and authorities are going to be transferred to them. Now regarding the complaints about the educational grants and that all these schemes are taken up by the officers at their own sweet will without consulting the members of the Block Committees, may I submit that this is entirely wrong for the simple reason that these matters are placed before the Sub-committees and meetings of the Block Advisory Committees and if the members, some of whom are also members of this Assembly, do not attend such meetings and do not know what are going to be sanctioned and what work is going to be undertaken, then I think they are themselves to be blamed and not the officers of the Projects.

I have a complaint barring a few members from our Congress group, very few members, particularly of the Opposition, do not attend these meetings or give any suggestions how these things should be improved and so on and so forth

***U JOR MANIK SIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] :** This is a very sweeping remark to make. Does the Minister refer to any particular area or to all areas in general ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Projects etc., etc.) :** Most of them. Actually I took one or two members with me.....

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara)** May I inform the hon'ble Minister that sometimes meetings are held while we are here in the Assembly and naturally it is difficult for us to attend those meetings.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** It may not be possible for the Members to attend those meetings which are held during the Assembly Session, but meetings are also held when the Assembly is not in session. As I said, actually I took one or two members with me when I found that they had not been attending these meetings. They were ashamed. I need not state their names. Wherever I go I try to take the hon. Members and I try to find out how many M.L.A.s. attend these meetings. So, I say, Sir, if interest had been taken by all of us then perhaps there might not have been any complaint against officers of the blocks on this score.

Then, Sir, so far as using the jeeps for personal purposes not connected with the work of the block, may I say one thing ? It is no use making a general observation. If there are such instances and if the hon. Members will be pleased to give the names of officers who have been misusing these jeeps I shall certainly make an enquiry and take necessary action.

Mr. SPEAKER : Shri Pakhirai Deka mentioned about one particular community project and said that the officer there misuses the jeep.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Projects, etc.) :** Yes, this was brought to my notice on the floor of the House. I shall have an enquiry made into it. In fact a similar complaint was brought to my notice from one of the blocks in Silchar or Karimganj side. An enquiry was made and it was found that the complaint was not correct. But so far as this block is concerned, I shall have an enquiry made and if it is found that the officer is really misusing the jeep necessary action will be taken against him.

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) :** The point of Amjuli should be clarified.

Mr. SPEAKER : There is no time for clarifying all the points. We are already behind the schedule.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** There is another matter. It was alleged that tribals were not given appointment as gram sevaks. So far as I know, Sir, there is no bar against tribals being given these appointments. I shall find out why this complaint has been made by the hon. Member. As far as I remember, these gram sevaks are selected by a local committee and I think in that committee some of my tribal friends are also there. If they had brought this to my notice I could have looked into it. But I think it is not correct to say that the tribals have been completely ignored so far as appointment of gram sevaka is concerned. I may inform the House that in the case of tribals I have reduced the minimum qualifications, so that they may get appointment and work as gram sevaks. In the case of tribals those who can simply read and write and submit a report, have been made eligible for appointment as gram sevaks. I hope this relaxation with regard to minimum qualification will go a long way in helping the tribal candidates. I would ask my Tribal Friends here to suggest suitable candidates for appointment as gram sevaks.

With these few words, Sir, I hope the hon. Member will be satisfied.....

Mr. SPEAKER : He wanted to know about Amjuli.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** I shall find that out. I have taken note of all the specific points raised and I shall make enquiries about them. I hope, Sir, what I have said will be acceptable to the hon. Member and he will withdraw his cut motion.

***Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA :** I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

(The motion was, with the leave of the House, withdrawn).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs. 1,30,44,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head. "63.-B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service, etc."

(The motion was adopted.)

GRANT NO. 47.

"63-B-1.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works"

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Projects) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 13,50,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head "63-B-1-Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is :

"That a sum of Rs. 13,50,000 be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head "63 B.-Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works"

(The motion was put as a question before the House and adopted.)

Mr. SPEAKER : Now we come to Grants Nos. 1,8,12,34,37,38,48 and 60 for which time allotted is 45 minutes. I do not know how to apportion time among all these grants. So, I leave it to the hon.Members.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : We are not going to move any cut motion on these demands.

GRANT NO. 1

"4.—Taxes On Income Other Than Corporation Tax".

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 1,12,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head "4 -Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax"

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is :

That a sum of Rs. 1,12,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head "4—Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax."

(The motion was put as a question before the House and adopted.)

GRANT NO. 8

“12A.—Sales tax and 13-Other Taxes and Duties.”

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.9,41,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “12—A—Sales Tax and 13—other Taxes and Duties.”

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is :

That a sum of Rs. 9,41,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head “12—A—Sales Tax and 13— Other Taxes and Duties ”

(The motion was put as a question before the House, and adopted.)

GRANT NO. 12.

“27—Administration of Justice”

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Judicial) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.18,66,400, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head “27 —Administration of Justice”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is:

That a sum of Rs. 18,66,460, be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head “27—Administration of Justice”.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : Sir, I beg, to move that the total provision of Rs. 18,66,400 under grant No. 12, Major head “27 Administration of Justice” at page 95 of the Budget be reduced by Re. 1 i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 88,66,400 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय ! मैं अपना यह कर्त्तन प्रस्ताव सदन की सेवा में उपस्थित करता हूँ, और उसके समर्थन में अपना विचार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। अध्यक्ष महोदय ! यह बड़ा अफसोस की बात है कि आज हमारे राज्य में Justice के नामपर injustice हो रहा है। हमने यह भी देखा है कि जिसके पास पैसा है वह आसानी से अपने पक्ष में न्याय करवा सकता है। जिसके पास पैसा नहीं है उस बच्चे को मारे-मारे फिरनेपर भी न्याय प्राप्त नहीं होता है। यह बात सही भी है। क्यों कि भागवत में ही यह बात स्पष्ट रूप से लिखी हुई है कि कलियुग में ऐसा ही होगा। अर्थात् कलियुग में जिसके पास पैसा होगा वह न्याय को अपने अनुकूल बना सकेगा। आज भागवत की यह बात बिल्कुल सत्य निकली है।

इसलिये हम सब को भागवतपर विश्वास करना होगा। भागवत में यह भी लिखा हुआ है कि कलियुग का अन्त होगा। कलि के अन्त में कल्कि भगवान का अतार होगा और उसी के साथ साथ अन्यायों का भी खातमा होगा। यह देखिये भागवत है। इसमें कल्कि भगवान की यह तस्वीर है।

(Laughter.)

Mr. SPEAKER : I hope the hon. Member will please place the book he is referring to on the table of the House for the House for edification of other hon. Members.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): Yes, Sir, I keep it on the table.

हाँ, तो मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस अन्याय को रोकना होगा। न्याय का राज्य हम स्थापित करना होगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय ! मंगलदै जिला सभी ओर से पिछड़ा हुआ है। मंगलदै कचहरी के लिये जो आसामी या साक्षी आते हैं उनके रहने के लिये या विश्राम लेने के लिये कोई स्थान नहीं है। इसके अलावा मंगलदै के लिये एक Honorary Magistrate की आवश्यकता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि हर जगह Honorary Magistrate की नियुक्ति हो। आज तमाम राज्य में Justice का जो नक्सा हम देख रहे हैं उसे देखकर हमें हताश होना पड़ता है। इसमें जल्द-से-जल्द परिवर्तन होना चाहिये। इस संबंध में मैं विभागीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ। इसके साथ साथ मैं उनसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वे मंगलदै कचहरी में आसामी और साक्षी बगैरह के लिए एक स्थान बना दें ताकि ये लोग धूप या वर्षा में shelter ले सकें।

(Voices—आगि बूझिटोना नाइ.....)

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, Order.

The hon. Member is entitled to speak in any specified language, and if any hon. Member fails to understand what he speak, there is no way by which he can be helped. There is no system for Translation of such speeches.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education): চাব, কথাটো আনিও ভালেই পাইছো ; তেখেতে যিটো ভাষাত তেখেতৰ বক্তৃতা দিছে অকল যে আনিয়েই বুজা নাই সেইটো নহয় আমাৰ গাঁৱলীয়া ৰাইজেও বুজি নাপায় এইটো বৰ ভাল কথা ।

(Loud laughter.)

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): ২ নং বাত জো ম' কহনা চাহতা হ'ল কি মংলদৈ ম' কিসী প্রতিষ্ঠিত ব্যক্তি কো Honorary Magistrate কে रूप ম' নিযুক্ত কৰ'। বে ব্যক্তি এসে भी हो जिनके लिये वहाँ की जनता की श्रद्धा और विश्वास हो ।

২ নং বাত যহ হৈ কি সরকার इसके लिये उचित व्यवस्था करें जिससे जल्द-से-जल्द अलग अलग मुकदमों का विचार हो । अब ऐसा हो रहा है कि एक एक मुकदमे के विचार में बहुत देर लग जाती है । इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि किसी मुकदमे के विचार में अनुचित देर लगती है और कभी कभी जेल के हाजत में ही आदमी मर जाते हैं । हाल ही में मंगलदे में ऐसी एक घटना हो चुकी है । वह यह है कि वहाँ के Village Defence Party वालो ने एक आदमी को पकड़ा था । इस मुकदमे में ७ महीने लग गये । हम चाहते हैं कि जो दोषी है उन्हें जरूर ही सजा मिले । किंतु बिना दोष के किसी को सजा नहीं मिलनी चाहिये । इस बारे में मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ ।

इतना ही कहकर मैं अपना यह कर्तन प्रस्ताव सदन की सेवा में उत्स्थित करता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि माननीय सदस्य महोदयगण इसका समर्थन करेंगे ।

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.18,66,400 under grant No.12, Major head "27-Administration of Justice" at page 95 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.88,66,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Judicial):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in course of the speech the hon. Member has raised three or four points, and one of these is the appointment of an Honorary Magistrate at Mangaldai. Sir, on hearing the speech it appears to me that the hon. Member seems to be thinking more in terms of the past than of the present. Sir, the posts of Honorary Magistrates have long been abolished and, therefore, there can be no question of appointment of Honorary Magistrate either at Mangaldai or, as a matter of that, in any other place.

Secondly, he has drawn our attention to the fact that litigant public and the witnesses who come to the court in Mangaldai Subdivision suffer inconvenience account of the fact that there are no suitable accommodation for their shelter and also there is lack of accommodation in the Court of Mangaldai. Sir, this matter is not only peculiar to Mangaldai but to many of our subdivisions and the Government are considering how far with our available resources it will be possible to construct additional court rooms and also some other buildings. In the meantime, with a view to

remove this inconvenience to litigant public and the witnesses we are trying to arrange additional accommodation with the limited resources at our disposal now, in one or two plaus. Government will keep in view the difficulty which my hon. Friend has placed before us and when we are prepared to increase our activities and expenditure on this item we shall see what consideration can be given to Mangaldai Subdivision. Thirdly, my Friend has spoken about the delay in the disposal of cases. This is a matter which is really causing us anxiety and we are anxious to do away with this delay as far as possible. The hon. Member may be aware that few months ago I have convened a conference of all the Lawyers from all over the State and also the Government Pleaders in which conference this was one of the subjects which was discussed and recently the Report of the Law Commission has also been published. We are actually waiting for the Report of the Law Commission, and after the Session is over, we shall see how far the suggestions given at the Lawyers Conference held at Shillong can be given so that we may introduce some measures in order to remove the delay in the disposal of the cases. I hope action will be taken so far as this matter is concerned. May I be permitted to point out that the cause of the delay does not only lie with the Magistrates or the Police. It also to some extent lies with the public. There are many factors which cause delay in the disposal of the cases. I hope, my hon. Friend and his other Friends will also create public opinion in the country by which we can undertake such activities which will help in the removal of this delay. So far as Government is concerned, we shall see what further changes in the law, what further changes in Executive Orders can be made by which this delay can be removed. These are the only matters which have been referred to by my Friend.

Mr. SPEAKER : He raised the question of ill-treatment to an under-trial prisoner at Mangaldai.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Judicial) :** If my hon. Friend gives me the name, I shall make an enquiry into the matter. The under-trial prisoners are not to be ill-treated. I shall enquire into the matter and take necessary action. I hope my Friend is satisfied and he will be pleased to withdraw his Cut Motion.

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) :** I shall give him the name of the under-trial prisoner later, and I withdraw my Cut Motion.

(The Cut Motion was withdrawn by leave of the House)

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that an amount of Rs. 18,66,400 (Rupees eighteen lakhs, sixty-six thousand and four hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head "27.—Administration of Justice".

(The question was adopted)

GRANT No. 34

“55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions”

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that sum of Rs. 43,10,600 (Rupees forty-three lakhs, ten thousand and six hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head “55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is:

That a sum of Rs. 43,10,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head “55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions”.

(The motion was put as a question before the House and adopted)

GRANT No. 37

“57.—Miscellaneous (II—Donation for charitable purpose, etc.)”

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 11,70,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head “57.—Miscellaneous (II.—Donation for charitable purposes, etc.).

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is:

That a sum of Rs. 11,70,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head “57.—Miscellaneous (II.—Donation for charitable purposes, etc.).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই Head ত যিখিনি টকা ধৰা হৈছে—দেখা যায় যে কিছুমান মহকুমাৰ প্ৰতি সহানুভূতিৰ চকুৰে চোৱা হৈছে আৰু কিছুমানক অবহেলা কৰা হৈছে—বিশেষকৈ মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাত। মই আশা কৰো, এই মহকুমাৰ পৰা কোনো আবেদন নিবেদন আহিলে বিভাগীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে যেন সহানুভূতিৰে বিবেচনা কৰে। এই আশাৰেই মই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাব উপস্থাপন নকৰো।

(The motion was put as a question before the House and adopted)

GRANT No.38

“57.—Miscellaneous—III—(Contributions)”

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 40,89,400 (Rupees forty lakhs, eighty-nine thousand and four hundred).

be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—III—(Contribution)".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is: That a sum of Rs.40,89,400 be granted to the Minister-in charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—III --(Contributions)".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and adopted.)

GRANT No.48

"64.—C.—Pre-partition Payments"

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.11,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "64.—C.—Pre-partition Payments."

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is: That a sum of Rs.11,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "64.—C.—Pre-partition Payments".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and adopted.)

GRANT No.60

"Loans and Advances, etc."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.3,44,62,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.3,44,62,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances".

Shri BISHWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.3,44,62,000 under Grant No.60, Major head "Loans and Advances, etc." at page 534 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs 3,44,62,000, do stand reduced by Re. 1.

अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस grant को (pass) मंजूर करने में हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। लेकिन मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस ग्रांट के जरिये जो ऋण दिया जाता है उसका ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा सदुपयोग होना चाहिये। इस बारे में मैं सदन का ध्यान एक बात की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। वह यह है कि काछाड़ जिले के Vidya Nagar चाय बगान के लिये ८ लाख रुपये ऋण के तौर पर दिए गए हैं। लेकिन मैं जानता हूँ कि इस बड़ी रकम का सदुपयोग नहीं हुआ है। सरकार की ओर से भी इस बात की सही जांच नहीं हुई है कि वास्तव में इस रकम का कैसा उपयोग हुआ है। दस साल हुए, इस चाय बगान में बड़ी खामखयाली चल रही है। इस बारे में हम सरकार के पास दरखास्त करते आये हैं। किंतु इसपर अबतक उचित कारवाई नहीं हो रही है। आखिर हमें इस बात के लिये बड़ी खुशी है कि हमें Finance Minister ने यह आश्वासन दिया है कि इस विषयपर विचार किया जायेगा और साथ ही उचित कारवाई की जायेगी। इस चाय बगान के संबंध में मेरा कहना यह है कि यहाँ नियमित रूप से श्रमिकों को वेतन नहीं दिया जाता है। यह बड़े अफसोस की बात है कि कमी ३/३ सप्ताह तक यहाँ श्रमिकों को वेतन नहीं मिलता है। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस चाय बगान के Management की त्रुटियों के कारण गरीब चाय-श्रमिक क्यों कष्ट भोगें? उन्हें क्यों बेकार तकलीफ उठानी पड़े? बगान के Management श्रमिकों को वेतन नहीं देता है और कहता है कि कलकत्ते में चाय की बिक्री नहीं हुई है। क्या इसका मतलब यही है कि कलकत्ते में चाय बिक्री न हो तो गरीब श्रमिक भूखों मरें।

इस बगान में जो धृष्टनीय भ्रष्टाचार चल रहा है उसके बारे में कुछ नहीं बोलना चाहता हूँ। किंतु मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब बगान के सारे कर्मचारियों से Cash Security ली गई है तो Manager से Cash Security क्यों नहीं ली गई है? उनसे Land की Security ली गई है। यह क्यों हुआ है? क्या यह Favouritism और Nepotism नहीं है?

इसके अलावा विस्थापित भाइयों को जो ऋण दिया जाता है उस बारे में भी दो शब्द मुझे कहना है। हमने देखा है कि displaced persons को part payment के रूप में ऋण दिया जाता है। इस तरह ऋण देकर हम इन लोगों की समस्या का समाधान नहीं कर सकते। Part payment करने से ये लोग ऋण का सदुपयोग नहीं कर पाते हैं। जो कुछ पैसा उन्हें मिलता है उसे वे खा जाते हैं। इस रीति से न कोई कारोबार कर सकते हैं और न कोई संपत्ति बना सकते। इसलिये मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि part payment न करके एक बारगी full payment करें ताकि displaced persons वास्तव रूप से उपकृत हो सकें और साथ ही स्थायी रूप से अपनी समस्या का समाधान कर सकें।

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.3,44,62,000 under grant No.60, Major head "Loans and Advances, etc." at page 534 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1., i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.3,44,62,000, do stand reduced by Re.1.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Friend has raised a discussion on a matter which does not concern this Department because here he has raised a question of loan to the Tea Estate.

***Shri BISBWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi):** I have got instances to show A page 80 of the Budget Memorandum under Loans to Land Holders, etc., it is stated that this represents loans to Dewan Manik Chand Ward Estate, Mechpara Ward Estate and B'dyanagar Tea Estate.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, I have not finished what I have said that he has raised a discussion on a matter which does not concern the Department. He has complained that the loan given to this particular garden is not being properly utilised.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. If for this particular finance, Government wants the sanction of the House under Grant No.60, then it becomes immediately relevant for discussion in the House. The matter that he has raised can be relevantly referred to the Department concerned, but in this particular case Government has come before the House for sanction of the grant.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** So far as the grant is concerned we gave the loan on the basis of certain information whether the concern or the persons have the capacity to repay the loan with interests. If we are satisfied that they can repay the loan, then we give the loan. The hon. Member may raise a question as to how the garden has been run. That is another aspect of the question.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry to interrupt the hon'ble Minister. So far as finance is concerned, the Finance Minister is the accounting officer in this House and he is responsible for whatever finance to be sanctioned for utilisation of the various Departments of the Government. It is for him to see that the money is properly utilised.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** This money is given for the purpose of running this particular tea estate. Actually the decision to advance such loan to tea gardens was taken long ago. Now, the Government have decided not to encourage such grant of loan to the tea gardens because there are other arrangements for the purpose of giving loans. But in this particular case, the Government have already invested the amount of about 8 lakhs of rupees. Government thought that if further loan is given it might be difficult to realise the principal and interest. We are also considering ways and means as to how the loan already advanced by Government should be utilised properly and we have advised the gardens to seek financial assistance from other sources and not the Government. This is the present policy of the Government. The reason why this amount has been shown is because our money has already been invested and we want that both our principal and interest should be realised and therefore, necessary action will be taken. I hope the hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Revenue will be able to throw light on this matter, as to what action is proposed to be taken by Government.

*Speech not corrected.

Now, as regards the other question, applications for loans and advances are received and they are being considered on merit. If my hon. Friend will bring the case of a particular garden to my notice, I will look into it, after proper scrutiny and after the Department is satisfied that a particular person or concern should be given a loan.

Mr. SPEAKER : About proper utilisation of the money the hon. Member has stated whether the money has been utilised for the purpose for which it has been provided and whether the Government has any machinery to utilise that money.

***Shri FAKHRUDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):** All these loans are advanced to the tea estates or individuals for the purpose of starting industries or some other purpose. They have within a certain period to submit a utilisation certificate. This certificate is checked through the report of our officers, and, if my Friend has any case that loan advanced by the Government has not been properly utilised for the purpose for which the loan has been given, I shall certainly have an enquiry made.

Mr. SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member permission to withdraw his Cut Motion ?

(The Cut Motion was withdrawn with the leave of the House).

The question is :

That a sum of Rs.3,44,62,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances", etc.

(The question was adopted).

Grant No. 27

"43.—Industries and Supplies—III.—Major Industries"

Mr. SPEAKER : We have given one hour for this. I find that it is difficult to anticipate the trend of discussion. But from my experience, it suggests to me that we might give one and a half hours instead of one hour ; thirty minutes will be given to the Minister-in-charge for reply and one hour to the hon. Members. Does that find agreement to the hon. Members ? Mr. Tripathi.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries): Mr Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.4,16,000 (Rupees four lakhs sixteen thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head "43-Industries and Supplies—III.—Major Industries."

*Speech not corrected,

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.4,16,000 (Rupees four lakhs sixteen thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st Mach, 1960, for the administration of the head "43-Industries and Supplies—III.—Major Industries".

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.4,15,000 under Grant No.27, Major head "43-Industries and Supplies—III.—Major Industries", at page 384 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,16,000, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(Failure of Government to establish Jute-Mills, Paper-Mills, Cotton-Mills and full-fledged oil refinery in the State).

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.4,16,000, under Grant No.27, Major head "43-Industries and Supplies—III.—Major Industries", at page 384 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,16,000, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the industrial policy of the Government).

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.4,16,600 under Grant No.27, Major head "43-Industries and Supplies—III.—Major Industries", at page 384 of the budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,16,600, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the failure of the Government to set up Major Industries in the State).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.4,16,000 under Grant No.27, Major head "43-Industries and Supplies—III.—Major Industries," at page 384 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.4,16,000, do stand by Re.1.

(To raise a discussion regarding the grant).

Mr. SPEAKER: All the Cut Motions are moved as above.

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in support of the Cut Motions moved by my Friends Shri Barbaruah and Shri Bhattacharyya I intend to analyse the industrial policy of the Government. The money required under this head is for major industries—obviously for development of major industries in the State. Now, in our State, curiously enough, we have no major industry excepting Tea and this industry came into existence long before the Ministry for Major Industry come into being. It came in our State in the early 40s of the last century. But up till now excepting the Umtru project and taking over a few small plants for producing electric energy we have no industry worth the name

*Speech not corrected.

in the State sector. The main difficulties for establishment of industries in our State, as hon. Members from this side as well as from the other side, have emphasised for the last two years are lack of electric power in the first place and secondly transport bottle-neck. Unless these two difficulties are removed it would not be possible to develop industries, major or small, in our State. Now, in that direction this Ministry gave us high hopes: we are told that there will be a new zone for Railway headquarters in Pandu, that there will be a Bridge over the Brahmaputra also to be constructed at Pandu. But Sir, I find it difficult to persuade myself to believe that even the Bridge or the Rail Link will ever be there. It has been pointed out by many hon. Members from all sides of this House that in the whole State we have not got a net work of railway lines, that road transport system is undeveloped. More emphasis should therefore, have been laid on development of our transport system, namely rail roads and inland water-transport. Now, speaking of inland water transport we have seen that not only emphasis has not been made for development of this system, but this has been totally neglected. Formerly we know steamers used to ply from Dibrugarh to Calcutta direct, but now this Steamer Navigation Company have restricted their area of operation and they have retrained only their terminal at Neamati in Upper Assam. Now Sir, this inland water transport system is the cheapest, safest and the best mode of transport and fortunately for us we have one of the biggest rivers in the world which if properly utilised will give us full scope for development of inland water transport which, as I have said, is the cheapest transport system which will at the same time help not only in growth of industrial townships on both sides of the river but also would give greater fillip to the development of major industries in our State.

Now Sir, as I have already said, Tea industry is the only major industry in our State but even this industry is facing a crisis for the simple reason that the industry is not in our hands. It is neither in the hands of Indian capital nor under Indian management but the whole industry is in the hands of British monopoly. In other words, the entire industry in respect of land, provision of equipments and machinery and technical advice, etc., are under the control of British magnates over and above that, not only this industry is in the hands of these British tea magnates but we find that the producers are also the purchasers. It is the Managing Tea Houses who purchase $\frac{3}{4}$ th of the total production of tea from State. We have found in no other industry or industries that the producers are also the purchasers as is the case with tea. In the agricultural sector our peasantry are not the purchasers of agricultural produce nor the producers of cement or sugar are also the purchasers of these commodities. But here these Tea Managing Houses are the purchasers of practically the total production of tea and thereby they manipulate the tea market and they also fix the price of tea. By this sort of manipulation during the period from 1950 to 1959 they have brought this tea industry to a very critical condition. We found that these Tea Managing Houses manipulated the price of tea in such a way that in 1952 they raised a hue and cry that the price of tea has fallen therefore, they demanded subsidy from the Government, they demanded that their labour force should be reduced and that taxation policy should be revised and so on. Actually Government yielded to that and within the last one year Government revised the taxation policy thrice. Now, these are the tactics of these Tea Kings to throttle this industry. Now, if stricter control of this industry is not taken by Government, the whole economy of the State will crumble because the economy of the State is depending on this tea industry.

Sir, Government should see as to how much land should be left with the tea gardens, whether some of their lands cannot be utilised for some other industries or for introducing cash crops. If it is possible to take over their surplus lands and distribute them amongst the peasantry for growing of food and other cash crops like pepper, arecanut, sugar-cane, cashewnut and the like, the State will be able to balance its economy to a great extent. We found in Cachar district tea industry is facing a crisis and this is due to the manipulation of the Tea Magnates. But in the midst of this we found some small gardens namely Bhubirghat in Patharkandi and Baithaghat—these are small gardens managed by the owners themselves, in these gardens we found the profit has risen whereas in other big gardens the profit is dwindling and this is purely due to the manipulation of the Tea Companies. Now Sir, if we really want to develop tea industry there should be legislative provision to force these planters to replant particular acreage every year but up till now that is not done in the whole of Assam with the result that the tea industry is facing a crisis which is bound to continue for the next 10 or 15 years. So there should be provision that replantation should be carried on. We also know Sir, that tea crisis is also facing a crisis in Java and China because of this particular tactics of the Tea Kings.

Now, here a question comes—how Government is going to rescue these uneconomic gardens? The only solution to save these uneconomic gardens is to bring them in a co-operative, to combine together their resources in order that they can survive otherwise smaller gardens may go out of action and collapse. Similarly they should be encouraged in some other ways so that they become economic units. In that direction some kind of help in the shape of loans may be given from the Government to these gardens on instalment basis and strict provision should be made that the loan should be properly utilised for renovation of their machineries, etc., and only on fulfilment of the conditions that the subsequent instalment can be granted, thereby this industry may be given a fillip and encouragement to start over again and to tide over their difficulties. Therefore, I hope the Minister for Major Industry will give greater attention to this particular industry in order to save it because in this industry depend not only six lakhs families, but still more families who are directly or indirectly dependant on this industry by way of manufacturing things for supply to the tea gardens. Now my suggestion to develop other industries particularly those industries for which we have enough raw materials. For the jute mill, paper mill, cotton mill, etc., we find that the Government have relied too much on the industrialists. They formed the Development Council composed of only industrialists with the belief that the industrialists will come to the rescue of the people and invest their money for the development of industries. Unless the Government take the people into confidence those industrialists will never invest their money, because they want guarantee that they would be able to get the maximum profit in the shortest possible time. But that will not happen. They take advantage of such industries which can give them bigger profit within the shortest time. If the Government is serious about this matter then the industrialists should be told that for the sake of patriotism they should invest their money for the development of industries, development of power, development of irrigation, for better roads, improved communication, etc. It is perhaps quite possible that investment of money in these sectors will not give them quick profit, but it may give them profit in longer period. At least in this case for the co-operation of the people and particularly the workers of industries this Development Council should be expanded so that it may include the workers of the industries.

It is found to be a glaring failure on the part of the Government to persuade the Government of India to allow us to have a large scale refinery in Assam. The refinery that is now going to be established here is a small refinery. With the new oil fields at Naharkatiya, Moran, Sibsagar, etc., it is quite possible for us to have a major refinery of the order of 2.5 million tons. But the refinery now we are going to have will have a capacity of processing only 75 million tons. So, here a big refinery is necessary which can process the greater quantity of crude oil produced in Assam and which can also pave the way for development of other industries for the by product. When this refinery in Assam is going to be state owned refinery and if the Government is very serious about development of this in the State sector, that is, public sector as against private sector then naturally this should be a bigger refinery. But the Government is taking the reverse course, that is to say, they are going to make the State owned refinery a smaller one and to leave the bigger refinery at Baruaani at the hands of the private monopolists.....(Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi: No, Sir, both the refineries will be at the public sector). Then it is well and good. In any way the big industries should be developed at the public sector and we should not think of leaving them at the private hands. Therefore, Sir, the Government of India should be persuaded that the refinery going to be set up in Assam should be a major one, otherwise some difficulties will remain about the processing of crude oil. After a discussion with the Rumanian experts it was learnt from them that a major refinery in Assam will be very profitable for the State as this would pave the way for development of other industries also from the by product and so, Sir, with a major refinery some other industries would also come up and that would naturally give impetus for the development of road transport and communication, etc. Taking all these into consideration, Sir, it is very essential that a major refinery should be established in Assam.

Regarding the paper mill we are very glad that an agreement has been signed with a company for the manufacture of paper pulp. It has been made known that we have in Assam special type of bamboos which are quite suitable for manufacture of fine paper. The Japanese experts, after their survey in the Cachar region, found that the type of bamboo there was very suitable for manufacture of rayon. So, transport and other arrangements should be made so that a rayon industry can be started in Assam very profitably. We should not hesitate to go to any camp, irrespective of political affiliation, which will help us for the industrial development of our State. We should not have any leaning to any particular camp only for this purpose. In many matters of economy we have to learn from the Soviet experts, Chinese experts, Japanese experts and so on. I do not suggest that we should give up the type of industry of other countries. We should take up such type of industries from any country which may guide us for development of our industries. China has built up her industry without much relying on the Western zones and yet they are having most modern type of industries.

I hope that the Government will try to put emphasis on the development of industries which will also go to give impetus for the development of road transport, power, irrigation, etc., and unless we do that we cannot expect to solve our economic difficulties.

With these words, Sir, I commend the Cut Motions for the acceptance of the House.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) :

মহোদয়, মন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই উত্থাপন কৰা ২৭ নং গ্ৰাণ্টৰ যি দাবী আনিছে তাক সমৰ্থন কৰি কেইটামান কথা ক'ব খুজিছো। প্ৰথম কথাটো হৈছে যে— আজি দুই বছৰৰ পৰা অসমত বৃহত শিল্প আগবঢ়াই নিবৰ কাৰণে যি প্ৰচেষ্টা চলাইছে সি যদি কৃতকাৰ্য হয় তেনেহলে অসমত অ'ত ত'ত পৰি থকা কেঁচা মালৰ সদব্যৱহাৰ হ'ব আৰু অসমত বৃহৎ শিল্প ভালেমান গঢ়ি উঠিব আৰু তাৰ পৰিমাণ হিচাবে অসমৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক উন্নতিও বহু পৰিমানে আগ বাঢ়িব। আজি অসমৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা-যি অৱস্থাত পৰি আছে তাৰ বহু পৰিমানে উন্নতি হ'ব যদি অ'ত ত'ত পৰিবোৱা কেচামাল বিলাক বিভিন্ন ধৰণৰ বৃহৎ শিল্প অসমত সংগঠন কৰি উৎপাদনত লগাব পৰা যায়। এনে কৰিব পাৰিলে মোৰ বিশ্বাস অসমৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা শতকৰা ৩০০ গুণ বৃদ্ধি পাব আৰু তাৰ ফলত অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ উন্নতি আহিবৰ এনে ধৰণৰ বৃহৎ আঁচনি বিলাক সমাধান কৰিবলৈ কাম হাতত লওঁতেই যদি তাৰ ওপৰত সমালোচনা আৰম্ভ হৈ যায় তেন্তে তাৰ দ্বাৰাই কল্যাণ মূলক এই কাম বিলাকত বাধা পৰিব আৰু সেই কাৰণে এই সমালোচনা বিলাক কৰোঁতে ভাবি চিন্তি কৰা দৰ্কাৰ। বৰ্তমান সমালোচনাৰ আগ ৰাই দিয়া উচিত নহয়। সমাজ তাত্ত্বিক সমাজ ব্যৱস্থাৰ লক্ষ্যত— সমৰায় ভিত্তিত গঢ়ি বৃহৎ শিল্প চেনি কলটোৰ বিপক্ষে যদি আক্ৰমণ মূলক সমালোচনা চলোৱা যায় তেন্তে সেই সমালোচনাই কেতিয়াও শিল্প সংগঠন কাৰ্য্যত সহায় বা অনুপ্ৰেৰণা যোগান ধৰিব নোৱাৰে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে ক'ব পাৰি, যি দহ লাখ টকা সংগ্ৰহ কৰি সমৰায় ভিত্তিত চেনি কলটো প্ৰতিষ্ঠা কৰা হৈছে—সেইটো যদি বিবোধী দলৰ বিশিষ্ট সদস্য শ্ৰীযুত নীলমণি বৰঠাকুৰে কেৱল সমৰায়ৰ এখন Sign Board হৈ বুলি আখ্যাদিয়ে তেন্তে ই বৰ দুখৰ কথা হ'ব আৰু তেখেতৰ সেই সমালোচনাই কিমান সংগঠন মূলক কামত অবিহিনা যোগাব কোৱা টান যিহেতু এই মিলৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে সমৰায় পদ্ধতিত গঢ়ি উঠা শিল্পৰ বা দিব লগা সাহায্য আঁচনিৰ ভিতৰতেহে চৰকাৰৰ পুঁজি নিযুক্ত কৰা হৈছে। চৰকাৰৰ আঁচনিৰ ভিতৰত বা বেচি অৰ্থ সাহায্য দিয়া নাই। এই ক্ষেত্ৰত, এই চেনি কলটো অসমৰ বৃহৎ শিল্পৰে এটা বুলি তাৰ পৰিপূৰ্ণ আৰু কৃত-কাৰ্য্যতাৰ সাধনৰ বাহিৰেও অন্যান্য বৃহৎ শিল্প সংগঠনৰ কাৰণে Capital Formation ত চৰকাৰে বিশেষ জোৰ দিব লাগে। বাফ্টই গ্ৰহণ কৰা আদৰ্শ সমাজ তাত্ত্বিক সমাজ বাদৰ বুনিয়াদত পুঁজি সংগ্ৰহৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত। সেই কাৰণে মোৰ বোধেৰে এইদৰে অন্যান্য বৃহৎ শিল্পতো কাৰ্য্য-আঁচনি গ্ৰহণ কৰিলেহে সাফল্যতা লাভ কৰিব পৰা হ'ব। যিহেতু চৰকাৰে আটাই বিলাক শিল্প বাজাৰত ক্ষেত্ৰত (public sector) গঠন কৰে আন কালে ব্যক্তিগত ক্ষেত্ৰত হলেও সমাজ বাদী বাফ্ট এটা Slogan বা ধন্য হৈ থাকিব, গতিকে সমৰায় পদ্ধতিত পুঁজি গঠন আৰু শিল্প স্থাপনত গুৰুত্ব দিব লাগে। সেই কাৰণে মই এই কথাই দৃঢ় ভাবে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যেন যিবিলাক শিল্প পাবলিক চেক্টৰত নপৰে বুলি ধৰা হয়—সেইবিলাক প্ৰাইভেট চেক্টৰত দিয়াৰ আগতে দহবাৰ ধীৰভাবে চিন্তা কৰি চাব লাগে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই প্ৰসঙ্গতে মই এই কথাও আলোচনা কৰিব খুজিছো যে চাহ শিল্প অসমৰ এটা প্ৰধান বৃহৎ শিল্প। এই শিল্পই অসমৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক ক্ষেত্ৰ বহু পৰিমাণে শাসন কৰি আহিছে আৰু আছে। ইয়াৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে— অসম তথা ভাৰত চৰকাৰ, দুয়ো চৰকাৰে চিন্তা কৰা প্ৰয়োজন যদিও— দেখা গৈছে ভাৰত চৰকাৰে—‘মেনন কমিচন’ৰ বিপৰ্টি কাৰ্য্য কৰি কৰিবলৈ প্ৰয়াস কৰা নাই। যদি এই কমিচনৰ ‘ৰিকমেণ্ডেচন’ কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰা নহয় তেন্তে ইয়াৰ মূল উদ্দেশ্য ব্যৰ্থ হ'ব। এই কমিচনে চাহ শিল্পৰ উন্নতি আৰু নক্ষলৰ হকে Replantation ৰ কাৰণে Fund গঠন কৰিবলৈ কৈছে। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই যিবিলাক চাহ বাগানত নতুনকৈ চাহ পুলি লগাব নোৱাৰি— uneconomic হৈ ধ্বংস প্ৰাপ্ত হৈছে আৰু শ্ৰমিক সকলৰ

unemployment বহুটি কৰিছে—সেইবিলাকৰ পৰিপূৰ্তি সাধন হ'ব। এই মেনন কমিচনৰ বিপৰীত থকা অনুমোদনৰলী বিলাক ভাৰত চৰকাৰে কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰা হ'লে—আজি uneconomic চাহ বাগান বিলাকৰ অৱস্থা বহু পৰিমাণে উন্নতি হৈ শ্ৰমিক সকলৰ সমস্যাৰ বহু সমাধান কৰিব পাৰিলেহেঁতেন। এই কমিচনৰ বিকমেণ্ডেচনত আজি Reorganisation of Tea trade to break the monopoly, Agency হাউচ তুলি দিয়া brakery, whole sale purchases আদি এক শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহৰ হাতৰ পৰা উঠাই নি পুনৰ সংগঠনৰ ব্যৱস্থা আছে। এই—কমিচনৰ বিকমেণ্ডেচন বিলাক কাৰ্য্যকৰী নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে চাহ-শিল্পৰ আজিৰ এই অৱস্থা হৈছে। এনে পৰিস্থিতিত অসম চৰকাৰে নতুন আইন এখন প্ৰণয়ন কৰিবলৈকো ভাৰত চৰকাৰে অনুমতি দিয়া নাই। আন ফালে Industries Development and control Act ৰ অধীনলৈকো চাহ শিল্পক আনিব নোখোজে। গতিকে ভাৰত চৰকাৰক ইয়াৰ কাৰণে জনসাধাৰণৰ তৰফৰ পৰা হেঁচা দিয়াৰ প্ৰয়োজন আহিছে। অসমৰ চাহ শিল্পই কেৱল অসমৰে উন্নতিত সহায় কৰা নাই, চাহে আজি বৈদেশিক মুদ্ৰাৰ অভাৱ ৰাখিছে আৰু বিদেশৰ লগত কিনা বেচাত ভাৰত বেপাৰক বহু পৰিমাণে সহায় কৰিছে। সেই কাৰণে তেল শোধনাগাৰ অসমত প্ৰতিস্থাপন বাবে অসমত জনসাধাৰণ বিভিন্ন শ্ৰেণীৰ লোকৰ মতামত যেনেকৈ অসম চৰকাৰে ভাৰত চৰকাৰক জনাব লগা হৈছিল তেনেকৈ এতিয়াও—চাহ শিল্পৰ কাৰণে ন্যায্য দাবী কৰাৰ সময় আহি পৰিছে আৰু চাহ শিল্পৰ উন্নতিৰ হকে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে চৰকাৰৰ আৰু ৰাইজৰো প্ৰতিনিধি নি ভাৰত চৰকাৰক এই দাবী কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনালো। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ এয়ে যে ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা যিবিলাক মন্ত্ৰী বা উপমন্ত্ৰী চাহ-শিল্প সমস্যা সন্ধানত ইয়ালৈ অহে—তেওঁ লোক চাহ পুলি বোৱা, বুঢ়া গছ উভালি দিয়া, কলম দিয়া, পাত তোলা, পাত মৰা আদি কাম বিলাক বুজি নাপায় আৰু কল ঘৰলৈ গৈ এইবিলাক কাম 'জু'ত জীৱ জন্তু চোৱাৰ দৰে চাবলৈ ধৰে। সেই কাৰণে মই কওঁ—যে মেনন কমিচনৰ বিকমেণ্ডেচন বিলাক এই শিল্পৰ উন্নতিৰ হকে ভাৰত চৰকাৰে আৰু অসম চৰকাৰে মানি লৈ ইয়াৰ ওপৰত গুৰুত্ব দিয়ে।

চাহ শিল্পত যিবিলাক একচনীয়া মাটি স্ফুৰাই গৈছে, আৰু যি মাটি পট্টা মাটিত চাহ গছ নাই। যি মাটি পতিত হৈ পৰি আছে আৰু grant ৰ যি মাটিত এতিয়ালৈকে চাহ গছ বোৱা নাই। সেই আটাইবোৰ মাটি চৰকাৰে অধিগ্ৰহণ কৰি মাটি-হীন মানুহক বিলাই দিব লাগে। তেতিয়া তেওঁলোকে সেই মাটিত খাদ্য উৎপাদন কৰাৰ লগতে তেওঁলোকৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাকো উন্নতি হ'ব।

Shri BISWANATH UPADHAYA (Patharkandi): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়! मेरे मित्र श्रीवरठाकुरजी ने जो कर्त्तन प्रस्ताव सदन में उपस्थित किया है उसका समर्थन करनेके लिए तथा इस बारे में दो-चार शब्द कहने के लिए मैं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। उस दिन हमारे Finance Minister साहब ने सदन में कहा था कि हमारे राज्य में उद्योग खड़ा करने के लिए आवश्यकिय पूजी नहीं है, पूजी का अभाव है। बाहर के पूजीपति को इसके लिये निमन्त्रण किया जाता है। परंतु बाहर का भी कोई पूजीपति यहाँ आना नहीं चाहता। Private Sector पर पूजी लगाने के लिये बाहर का कोई पूजीपति न यहाँ आना चाहता है और न अपनी पूजी लगाना चाहता है इसका कारण यही हो सकता है कि वे इस बात के लिये डरते हैं कि उनके उद्योगों का राष्ट्रीय करण हो जायेगा और उन्हें नुकसान उठाना पड़ेगा। किंतु कुछ भी हो हमें अपने अपने राज्य की उद्योग के क्षेत्रमें आगे बढ़ना पड़ेगा। मैं अच्छी तरह जानता हूँ कि इसके लिय पूजी का अभाव नहीं होगा। हम चाहें तो अपने राज्य में इतनी पूजी

जमा कर सकते हैं कि जिसके द्वारा हम बड़े-बड़े उद्योग खड़े कर सकते हैं। इस संबंध में मेरा सुझाव यह है कि हमारे राज्य में जितने अफसर हैं तथा और और जितने employees हैं उनके वेतन से एक Compulsory Cut किया जाय तो हम एक बहुत बड़ी पूंजी खड़ी कर सकते हैं। हमारे यहाँ बहुत-से ऐसे अफसर हैं जो Shillong Club जाते हैं। जिनके नाम हर महीने में २।३ सौ का बिल आया करता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि उद्योग खड़ा करने के लिये किसी तरह का एक Compulsory Cut कराने के लिये उन्हें कोई आपत्ति नहीं होगी। मेरा खयाल यह है कि वे खुशी से ही माहवार २५।३० रुपये इस के लिये जमा करेंगे। इस तरह हमारे राज्य में ही एक बहुत बड़ी पूंजी इकट्ठी की जा सकती है। सरकार से मेरा अनुरोध है इस बारे में उचित कार्रवाई करें जिससे उद्योग के लिये एक पूंजी इकट्ठी की जा सके।

हमने देखा है कि Tea Labourers' Provident Scheme के खाते बहुत ही कम समय में १० करोड़ की एक बहुत बड़ी पूंजी खड़ी हो गई है। यह पूंजी केन्द्रीय सरकार की Security में जमा है। मेरा कहना है कि इस पूंजी का उपयोग भी हमारे राज्य में ही होना चाहिये।

इसके अलावा ऐसी एक पूंजी खड़ी करने के लिये हम इस तरह का एक tax भी लगा सकते हैं। हमारे यहाँ Cinema Show होते हैं। Cinema Show से भी हम इसके लिये Tax लगाकर एक पूंजी जमा कर सकते हैं। इसके अलावा River Transport अथवा Bus Transport से भी Tax लगाकर हम आसानी से पूंजी खड़ी कर सकते। Public Works Department के Contractors तथा इस तरह के और कई साधनों से पूंजी खड़ी की जा सकती है। जब Public Works Department की ओर से जब ठेकेदारों को कोई ठेका दिया जाता है तो उस वक्त इस प्रकार का एक समझौता कर सकते हैं कि उनके लाभ का कुछ अंश (certain percentage) राज्य के उद्योगों के लिये रखा जायेगा। अगर हम इन साधनों का लाभ उठाये तो हम अपने ही राज्य में एक बहुत बड़ी पूंजी खड़ी कर सकते हैं जिससे हमारा राज्य उद्योग के क्षेत्र में आगे बढ़ेगा। अगर हम ऐसा करेंगे तो बाहर से पूंजीपति को बुलाने की आवश्यकता नहीं होगी।

इतना ही कहकर मैं अपने मित्र श्रीवरठाकुर जी का यह कर्त्तन प्रस्ताव समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the demand moved by the hon. Minister-in-charge of Major Industries. Some discussion has been already made about the Tea Industry of Assam. So, I do not like to discuss this matter any more. Sir, we sometime hear arguments that the people of Assam are averse to the industrialisation. But I substantially differ with this argument. Because sometime we find that the industrialists do not come to State for the benefit of the people living here. Sir, sometime we see that these industrialists are averse to the entertainment of the people of this State for simple reasons. The people of this State may not have technical qualifications or knowledge for managing this industry. But if the people of this State are not benefited by this industry, then I do not find any reason to welcome industrialist from outside the State. There is no doubt that from this industry, trade and commerce also grow, but the people of this State whether they live in the United K. and J. Hills or Mikir Hills or in the plains districts they feel that any industry is grown that should benefit them in tangible way. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that if our people are not upto the mark of

managing this industry, then provisions for imparting proper training to our people should be made. If outside people are mainly recruited to this industry, ignoring the claims of the indigenous people, then I fear that the economy of the State may be affected. Further, Sir, we have seen that the flow of the capital from the European countries and U. S. A. is directed towards the under-developed and South East Asian countries. The industrialists from these countries are trying to make the under-developed countries as their colonies. But we cannot support this colonisation. I should not be given to think that our Government would encourage colonisation in Assam by capital from outside the State. These capital should flow to this State to benefit us. Sir, when we speak about the welfare of the people of the State we generally speak on behalf of the people residing within the geographical boundary and if the interest of the people of the State is affected adversely due to our activities, then perhaps, the people will not welcome such activities. Therefore, Sir, my humble suggestion is that when any industrialist is invited, there should be a condition that he will come here to develop the economy of the State and train the people of the State to enable them to manage such industries themselves. Sir, there are no doubt some trade secretcies or screcies of the industrialists and if those secretcies are retained by certain groups of people and not allowed to be acquired by our people, perhaps there might be dissatisfaction and the dissatisfaction may lead to an adverse result. Therefore, I suggest that our Government will take adequate step so that our people will feel homely in the industries and an atmosphere should be created so that our people will be able to co-operate with the industrialists heart and soul not only for the greater interest of Assam but for the greater interest of India as a whole. With these few words, I support the motion moved by the hon. Minister.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय ! मैं अपना कर्तन प्रस्ताव सदन में पेश करता हूँ और साथ ही इसके समर्थन में दो-चार शब्द कहना चाहता हूँ। यह एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है कि हमारा राज्य भी उद्योग के क्षेत्र में आगे बढ़े। इसलिये यह Grant भी बड़ा ही महत्वपूर्ण है। इस बारे में मैं कोई जिक्र करना नहीं चाहता। किन्तु प्रश्न यह है कि हमारे राज्य के उद्योग Private Sector में हों या Public Sector में! हम चाहते हैं कि यहाँ उद्योग-धंधे बढ़ें और राज्य इस दिशा में उन्नत हो। यहाँ की जनता यही चाहती है कि यहाँ भी उद्योग बने। क्योंकि उद्योगों के बिना हम और और प्रान्तों के साथ कदम मिलाकर चल नहीं सकते।

किन्तु हमें यह देखकर बड़ा अफसोस है कि इस दिशा में हमारी सरकार ने कोई ठोस कदम नहीं उठाया है। सरकार की उद्योग नीति अबतक विल्कुल अस्पष्ट और शिथिल-सी रही है। यही कारण है कि हमारी कोशिशों के बावजूद भी इस दिशा में हम आशानुरूप सफलता प्राप्त नहीं कर सके हैं।

मुझे तिनसुकिया के Steel Worth की ओर से एक चिट्ठी मिली है। सरकार ने भी यह चिट्ठी देखी होगी। इस संबंध में मैं यह स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूँ कि न मैं खुद Capitalist हूँ और न Capitalist से मेरी कोई सहानुभूति है और न

उनका समर्थन करता हूँ। हाँ, तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस Steel Worth ने तिनमुकिया और तेजपुर में अपना कारखाना चलाया है और एक अच्छा उद्योग खड़ा किया है। वे अपने मुनाफे के २५ प्रतिशत धन अपने श्रमिकों के लिये देते हैं। अब गुवाहाटी में वे अपना तीसरा कारखाना खोलना चाहते हैं।

इसकी इस प्रवेष्टा में सरकार की ओर से विशेष सहयोग प्राप्त नहीं हो रहा है, और साथ ही व्यक्तियों की व्यवहार ऐसा है कि उद्योग को खड़ा करना असंभव-सा हो रहा है। ऐसी हालत में यहाँ कैसे उद्योग बनेगा? इसकी बहुत बड़ी प्रतिक्रिया उद्योगों पर हो रही है।

अब मैं डेरगाँव Sugar Mills की घटना की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि यह एक बहुत बड़ा उद्योग खड़ा हुआ है। जनता के पैसे से यह बना है। हमें आशा है कि हमारे राज्य की उन्नति में इससे बहुत बड़ी सहायता प्राप्त होगी। किंतु हाल ही में यहाँ जो घटना घटी है उसे सुनकर हमें हताश होना पड़ता है। हमने एक अखबार में पढ़ा है कि वहाँ जो घटना घटी उसमें १२ मजदूर घायल हुए हैं और दो आदमी मरे हैं। दूसरे अखबार के मुताबिक १६ आदमी घायल हुए हैं और दो आदमी मरे हैं। तीसरे अखबार में पढ़ा कि—गैर सरकारी खबर के मुताबिक १६ आदमी घायल हुए हैं और ३ आदमी मृत्यु के मुह में पड़े हैं। २ मजदूरों का पता नहीं चलता है। आशा है हमारी सरकार इस बारे में अपना स्पष्टीकरण करेंगी।

भारत सरकार ने तेल शोधनागार स्थापन करने के लिये Rumania और Russia जैसे विदेशी Expert से सहायता ली है। हमें भी अपने यहाँ उद्योगों के विकास के लिये बाहर से पूँजी और आवश्यकीय सामग्री लाना पड़ेगा। हमने देखा है कि केरेल राज्य की कम्युनिष्ट सरकार ने अपने राज्य में उद्योग बनाने के लिये विड़ला जैसे पूँजीपति को आह्वान किया है। हम भी ऐसा कर सकते हैं। अगर हम उद्योग बढ़ायेंगे तो हमारे राज्य की Revenue बढ़ेगी इसलिये उद्योग का विकास साधन करना हमारे लिए बहुत जरूरी है।

अपने राज्य में उद्योग स्थापन करने के लिये Nagpur से एक उद्योगपति आया है। हमारी सरकार उनसे कोई Cash Security चाहती है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि Cash Security की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं। वे जो Scheduled Bank Security दे रहे हैं वही काफी नहीं है क्या? क्यों कि Bank Security ही सब से Safest Security होती है।

शुरु से ही मैं Refinery Movement का समर्थक रहा हूँ। हम चाहते हैं कि हमारे यहाँ Refinery स्थापित हो, चाहे कहीं भी हो। Nowgong या Tezpur हम इस Refinery को चाहते हैं। कहीं भी यह स्थापित हो, सारे आसाम को इससे लाभ होनेवाला है। North Bank में यह हो तो South Bank के रहनेवालों को इसका लाभ होगा और उसी तरह South Bank में यह हो की North Bank के रहनेवालों को इससे जरूर लाभ होगा। इसी तरह कोअ्री भी उद्योग कहीं भी हो तो समग्र आसाम लाभान्वित होगा। इसलिये हम यही चाहते हैं कि यहाँ उद्योग बड़े। इतना ही कहकर मैं अपना यह कर्तन प्रस्ताव सदन की सेवा में पेश करता हूँ और आप सबों का समर्थन चाहता हूँ।

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members for having taken a constructive attitude in course of discussion of this grant. I think in the last few months since the Industries Conference was held and the Development Council was formed, there has been a great deal of change in the icy climate and great deal of enquiries have been pouring into our office from other parts of India for the purpose of setting up industries. For this I am thankful not merely to the House but also to the people outside who have taken a constructive and co-operative attitude. I remember there was a time 10 years ago when India had become independent, there was enough capital in Assam which had formed during the war and which wanted to start industries. Unfortunately, at that time our State made the decision that major industries should be in the Co-operative or State sector without fully knowing or realising its implications. The result was all that capital flowed out of Assam and was formed in Calcutta and other places. In the meantime our State could not develop industries either in the public or co-operative sector. The result has been very disadvantageous to us. Sir, we are functioning in India, we are functioning within the industrial policy laid down by the Government of India. Now, the Government of India in 1948 laid down the Industrial Policy which was amended in 1956. It has divided the industries into three categories. These categories are the first is that in which Government has exclusive responsibility, the second is that in which Government as well as private parties will take initiative and the third is that in which only private parties will take part. Now, Sir, this is the binding structure under which any State in India is functioning to-day. What are the industries allocated to these three categories? The industries for the first category in which the Government will have a exclusive responsibility are Arms and Ammunition Atomic energy, Iron and steel, Heavy castings and forgings of Iron and steel, Heavy plant and machinery required for iron and steel production, for mining, for machine tool manufacture and for such other basic industries may be specified by the Central Government, Heavy electrical plant including hydraulic and steam turbines, Coal and lignite, Mineral oils. Mining of iron ore, manganese ore, chrome ore, gypsum, sulphur, gold and diamond Mining and processing of copper, lead, zinc, tin, molybdenum and wolfram Minerals specified in the Schedule to the Atomic Energy (Control of production and Use) Order, 1953, Aircraft, Air transport, Railway transport, Shipbuilding, Telephones and telephone cables, telegraph and wireless apparatus (excluding radio receiving sets), Generation and distribution of electricity.

The industries in the second category in which both Government and the private parties may take part are: all other minerals except "minor minerals" as defined in Section 3 of the Minerals Concession Rules, 1949. Aluminium and other non-ferrous metals, Machine tools, Ferro alloys and tool steels, Basic and intermediate product, required by chemical industries such as the manufacture of drugs, dyestuffs and plastics, Antibiotics and other essential drugs, Fertilisers, Synthetic rubber, Carbonisation of coal, Chemical pulp, Road transport, Sea transport.

The rest are in the private sector. Now, Sir, if you consider the type of raw materials abundant in Assam, you will find that coal, gas and petroleum, which we have got, are in the public sector. So far as fertilisers synthetic rubber and coal carbonisation are concerned, are in either sector. All others are in the private sector, like limestone, bamboo, rayon, paper,

timber, textile, jute, engineering etc. Now, all our efforts in the first 10 years were to do in the public sector those industries which are basically in the private sector with attendant competition hazards it is for this reason that we failed. So, the sphere and functions of different sectors must be realised both by the people as well as the legislators. This division of industries into three sectors must be clearly borne in mind. Once we do that we will understand that there is no point in Government trying to impinge upon sectors in which it is difficult for Government to function without monopoly. Then, Sir, you will see that in the Second Plan out of 6,200 crores, 3,800 crores were allotted for private sector and 2,400 crores for private sector. Since we had not many schemes in the private sector the benefit out of 2,400 crores was practically loss to Assam. We expected to get benefit mostly out 3,800 crores.

The allocations are roughly in proportion of two to three. We agreed to lose the two so that we may get some benefit out of the three above. Now, this was a wrong decision. Any way, Sir, we can only try to retrieve this position as best as we may be in the midst of the 2nd Plan. In the meantime, we invited a conference of the industrialists, in order to able to take some advantage out of this 2,400 crores. Because unless we did some thing of this now our position would go on deteriorating. During the last few years the *per capita* income during the Second Plan *per capita* income of India will go up from 284 to 330 is by 18 per cent whereas for Assam it will go up by only 9.2 per cent as planned, or by 7 per cent as seems to be from present trends. Even in the first Plan while the *per capita* income of India went up by 10 per cent that of Assam seems to have actually declined from that of 1948. This is indeed, terrible. If this is terrible, then something has to be done to correct the wrong policy and to bring about industrialisation. Now Shri Hazarika maintains that the industrialists shall have to come at our dictation and on our own terms and conditions. But ten years have already elapsed and no body has come. The reason is that the situation in the capital market has changed. Due to the taxation policy of Government of India together with its financial and industrial policy a great deal of capital accumulation and formation has been directed from private to public sector. Therefore capitalists and also because these industrialists seem less interested today. Yet they are in virtual possession of all the technical know how in this country. As a result there has been in increasing demand on them from all states. Now if we do not invite them, they will not come. On the top of all this, if we impose too many conditions, well, they will simply refuse to come. So in view of the picture drawn up above we have to make our mind once for all it is not enough to say that we want industrialisation. If we say that then we have to create condition for industrialisation.

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Hazarika's point was that employment potentiality should be explored within the State because the purpose of the Plan itself is to create employment potentiality within the region of the industrial undertakings.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries): Sir, I am going into that point latter. At present I am confining myself to the first point raised by the hon. Member. His first point was to lay down conditions to the industrialists. So far as his other point is concerned, I replied to this during my speech on the debate on the Governor's address. I then stated that the industrialists when they set up industries, it is to their own interest that they train up local personnel. It is the

basic difference between industries and trades. While the traders can do without training up local persons, industrialists cannot afford to do that without question that own economics of their industry. Because cost of production goes up if local people are not employed and people are brought in from distant places. Therefore, so far as the question of general employment is concerned, there is no doubt that the industrialists will have to train up people from among the local population. But what my Friend Shri Hazarika, was referring to was about employment at the managerial level. (Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika—In other cadres also). So far as the other cadres are concerned, Sir, I have no doubt that any industry to grow in Assam will have train up local people in Assam. Training facilities for the purpose of technical personnel is too inadequate in our State. As a matter of fact, it is at the instance of Shri Hazarika himself that the House has come to the conclusion that a technical institution should be set up at Dibrugarh which is a highly industrial area in the State. It was indeed a great mistake not to have a technical institution there so long. I also hope that some technical institution at Gauhati will also be set up at Gauhati will soon grow up as an industrial area of considerable importance. Therefore we should take time by the fore lock and try to set up some technical institutions in such areas where such institutions are unavoidably necessary. However, Sir, I have no doubt that wherever the industries begin to grow, industrialists will themselves try to train up people in the region or employment.

Mr. SPEAKER: What the hon. Member, perhaps, wanted to know was instead of pursuing a sort of *Laissez faire* policy, why don't you create condition for the industries to function automatically why don't the Government do something to bring about and accelerate the pace of progress in the matter of training local people?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries): As a matter of fact this was discussed in the conference of Small Scale and Cottage Industries where a resolution was passed that the Government should pass a legislation for forcing all industrialists to train up people in an increased number—number greater than their own requirements. At present they do not train up any excess people, but they train up people sufficient only to meet their own requirement. The advantage of such training in excess of their requirement will be that if a new industrial unit of a particular type is established, then we can shift these excess trainees to that new industrial unit. Therefore, this matter was discussed and a resolution was moved and passed and it is now under the consideration of the Government of India. The State Government have no power to legislate in such a matter. So we have been requesting the Government of India to bring up an enactment like this. I may inform the House here that recently I wrote to the Assam Oil Company authorities at Digboi to agree to train up a larger number of technicians but unfortunately they have not replied. Now therefore, it is necessary that such a piece of legislation be passed by the Government of India and so long as such a piece of legislation is not passed, we are at a disadvantage. We can't force the industrialist to train up any excess number over their own requirement. You will realise, Sir, that for any technician to be a real technician some amount of implant training is absolutely necessary. But how can there be any implant training when there is no plant whatsoever there? The greatest bottleneck now, not only in Assam alone, but in the whole of India, is lack of technical personnel. Even in highly industrial countries like America and England there is great

dearth of technical personnel. In India there are a few places where facilities for inplant training exists. These are Calcutta region, the Bombay region, the other two places may be Madras and Kanpur. These are the only places where technicians and plants and facilities for inplant trainings exist now. I therefore hope that my Friends will appreciate these difficulties. I have no doubt that these difficulties will be overcome gradually.

So far the question of different industries are concerned, I am glad to announce here, Sir, that the Rumanian Team which visited Assam for finalisation of the location of Refinery, have gone back and given an unanimous report for location of the Refinery at Nunmati at Gauhati. I hope Government will now finalise the matter without delay. I am also happy to state that Government of India have decided to give priority also for utilisation of gas. They have divided it into two phases; in the first phase 35 million cft. of gas will be utilised for the purpose of producing (a) Electricity of 25,000 kw. (b) Fertiliser—perhaps 200 tons—I do not know the exact quantity that has been decided (c) Cement and (d) Carbon Black. Sir, this is more than what I actually anticipated. I was all the time thinking as a result of our discussion at New Delhi that Government of India had decided only for production of Electricity and Fertiliser. Now we came to learn that they have decided to include Carbon Black and Cement also. This is a good news for us. I hope the 35 million cft. of gas will be utilised for these industries. I would request the Government of India to give immediate priority to generation of Electricity. So far as Fertiliser, Carbon Black, Cement are concerned, for handling these things, I would suggest that a Corporation be formed and these 3 be taken up together in the public sector. The total investment required is more than 21 crores. So it is going to be a big enterprise from our point of view. Now, so far as our medicinal plants are concerned, we have taken up with the Government of India for phyto-chemicals and the Government of India have agreed to consider Assam for setting up of a factory for phyto-chemicals like caffen and Raulfia Serpentina, etc. I hope some steps will be taken quickly in this direction. Now, so far as other industries are concerned of medium type, our State Government is considering setting up of a timber treatment plant at Makum. Cement factory for which we granted a licence will come up. We have decided to participate with capital in this enterprise and now this Company is going ahead with full steam for setting up the factory at Cherrapunji. So far as the power requirement is concerned, the Planning Commission agreed even at this stage to sanction the Barapani Project which was rejected before. We shall under take the construction work during the coming winter. We have also taken steps for assessing our resources, and on the basis of this assessment we may be able to draw up the Third Plan. For that purpose we have entrusted this work to a team under the guidance of Dr. Lokonatham. They will undertake a techno-economic survey of our State from this month. So far as the Development Council is concerned, it has set up Committees which are going forward to draw up a blue print of the development of the State. Now, apart from this, we have two bigger schemes: one is Bongaigaon Railway Workshop which is one of the major projects to be taken up in Assam. I hope, the other is a series of Workshops for our nationalised transport service in Assam. So far as the Jute and Textiles are concerned, unfortunately the market is in doldrums. That may be one of the reasons why the private parties to whom licences had been granted have not come forward to set up the mills. The matter is under the active consideration of the Government.

So far as tea is concerned, I am very thankful to the hon. Members for the very helpful discussion. I thank Shri Borthakur and Shri Bordoloi for pointing out the malady. Sir, the greatest difficulty of the tea industry has arisen from lack of replantation. Now it will be remembered that even Ceylon has gone forward to create funds for the purpose of replantation. I understand Malaya also has set up a fund. The Menon Commission recommended the creation of such replantation fund, but unfortunately this was not accepted. I think, Sir, the Government of India made a great blunder when they rejected the proposal. Whatever the reasons might be, it is time they see their mistake and revise their policy in this respect. Sir, I understand Government of India are discussing with the Reserve Bank, so that some funds might be placed at the disposal of the Financial Corporation. But circumstances as they are the individual planters are not in a position to avail of assistance right now. To remove the difficulties of the tea gardens so that they can take assistance from the finance corporation for the purpose of block investment, the Tea Board has placed a scheme of guarantee and this is being considered by the Finance Department of the Government of India. Once this is agreed to, I mean the guarantee by the Tea Board to Banks for repayment of hypothetical amount by current crops, the assets of the tea gardens would be freed which then could be mortgaged for block loans. Once that is done, then they will be able to get the loan not merely for the crops, but loan for machinery and replantation also. In that case the same facility might be utilised for housing loans. As a matter of fact I am going to have meeting on the 2nd of the next month in Calcutta with the Tea Board Chairman and the Bankers, so that we may find a way for the interim period for enabling the tea gardens to take block loans for housing purposes.

I agree with my Friend Shri Bordoloi who has pointed out the tie up in the tea industry from production to marketing. Shri Borthakur has also made certain very relevant remarks about the findings of the Menon Commission on this. Unfortunately that finding was cold-shouldered. They have not been implemented. If it had been possible for the Government of India to accept some of these recommendations, it might be that the tie up might have been removed. Unfortunately one to this set up every market fluctuation is looked upon with suspicions today. It would be to the interest of the industry itself if this tie up was broken and the basic cause of suspicion removed.

Sir, so far as the idea that alternative crops should be raised by the tea industry in its unplanted areas is concerned, I am at one with the hon. Members who have made very good suggestions. I think if there are alternative crops allied with tea, it would be a great stabilising factor in a fluctuating tea market. In 1953 when I went to Pakistan during crisis, I found a planter who had cleverly anticipated the situation by taking to subsidiary industries and was much better off than others. So far as the situation in Cachar is concerned, there is no doubt that the situation is difficult. The matter has already been taken up. We have asked the Tea Board to give some assistance; they are actively considering subsidy on transfer and manure for reviving the gardens. So far as the two State taxes, viz., the Government of West Bengal and the Government of Assam taxations are concerned, they are being actively considered and we are already in correspondence with the West Bengal Government in this matter. Unfortunately, the management of the Macneil Borry gardens have not found their way to desist from the lay off workers and we have referred this matter

to the Tribunal. So far as the idea of amalgamation of small garden is concerned, this matter has been under the consideration of the Government as well as the employers and the employers have not agreed. This is a private industry and unless the employers are willing to amalgamate their gardens, nothing can be done. In this matter we moved the Government of India so that Industries Development Regulation might be applied. But for technical reasons that Act could not have been applied. Then we asked for amendment by the Tea Act for regulating and control of this industry. Unfortunately, the matter is still under the consideration of Government of India. I have no doubt that it is a great mistake not to bring tea under regulation under control. I have received a letter from the Union Minister for Commerce and Industries that we will have another discussion on this question when I go to Delhi next time. So far as tea Industry is concerned, this is being dealt with by the Commerce Department of the Government of India. Although it is an industry; unfortunately, it is being dealt with as commerce. If we had requested it as an industry, naturally this lacuna would have been noticed long ago.

So far as Balmer Lawrie Paper Mill is concerned, I announced last time that our Secretary initiated the agreement in Calcutta and the ceremonial signing of the agreement will take place very shortly in Shillong. So far as the allegation made by Shri Borthakur that we are leaning heavily towards western block is concerned. I think, I should say that India is the one country in the whole world today that is getting assistance from both sides, East and West. Both, East and West have been coming to the assistance of India, but the capacity of Russia in giving assistance is limited because they have to give assistance not only to China but to the whole of the eastern European countries. America has been giving assistance in a general way. They have given 330 million dollars to India. Russia has been giving projects wise. Therefore, the assistance has not been very elastic. I may assure the hon. Member that we are open to all assistance freely given. The only condition is that the assistance should be without strings, viz., without political strings. So far as China is concerned we are considering the Chinese method of production also and a team is about to go to China shortly sent by the Government of India to study their methods of production. If they are found suitable to our conditions, we will adopt them. The difficulty lies in the difference arising out of the economic and social organisation of the two countries ours is a democratic set up where a competition market exist and the exigencies of keeping the cost of production minimum is an over riding factor. Not so in Communist countries when I was in China in 1953 I was told by reliable source that a large number of industrial writ had been set up there by Russian help, great help has been given to China by Russia for building up China, but we do not belong to the same camp militarily. Hence Russia has not been able to assist us in the same with magnificent way. We are open and free in this matter. So far as the point raised by Shri Bordoloi about co-operative sector is concerned there is no doubt that if we really want to have a socialistic pattern of society, the ownership of industries has to be more and more in the public sector and co-operative sector.. It is for this reason that within the Second Five Plan a sum of 4800 crores has been provided in the public sector as against 2400 crores of private sector. It will be wise for the people to promote industrial co-operatives. It is quite a wrong idea that co-operatives can be formed through Government funds with minor participation of shareholders. If this idea remains then expansion of industries through co-operative will be limited. The other day I cited figures which show that 20

crores was the capital formation of Assam annually by which 4 crores were in inventory and 10 crores in the Government sector, which was mostly utilised for building of bridges, roads, buildings, etc., and the remaining 6 crores was hardly sufficient for industry and agriculture. Therefore, if we depend entirely on Government funds then the industrial development will be too small. For the major industries I cited figures to show that out of investment of 6 crores, we can have an employment potential of 5,000 which is too little.

Adjournment

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

After lunch

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries) : I am thankful to the suggestion made by Shri Upadhyaya about certain method of capital formation. He has given very valuable suggestions. As a matter of fact this has engaged the attention of the National Development Council for the Third Plan. Proposals have been made that there should be a compulsory provident fund or compulsory insurance for every earning member of the society. Now how far it is practicable and in what shape it can be given effect to is a question which has been considered also by the Planning Commission. I have no doubt that we shall have to leave a policy whereby capital formation may occur to promote a socialistic pattern of society, otherwise the capital in the hands of the private capitalists may not lead to the goal which we have set before us.

As regards the question of Steelworth I have already written a letter to the proprietor of Steelworth not to give up the idea of setting up his Gauhati Unit on account of the labour trouble he had with his Tinsukia Unit.

I hope the co-operation of labour leaders would be available so that necessary industrial conflict may be avoided, industrial development may take place in this backward State in the interest of development, production, and employment.

A question was raised by Mr. Barthakur about Inland Water Transport. We have already taken up the matter with Government of India over inviting international expert to advise us in the matter. So far as river transport is concerned, the Government of India have granted a loan to the River Navigation Company as well as for acquiring dredgers dredging. I think with this help it will be possible for the company to expand their carrying capacity.

So far as national income *per capita* is concerned, it has drawn much attention of the House. I will give the *per capita* income of Assam from 1948 to 1957.

In 1948 it was 243, in 1949 it was 250, then it declined to 237 in 1951, then upto 1954 it was between 241 and 242, in 1955 it slightly increased.

It shows that the *per capita* income does not remain static. Unless there is constant progress in investment and production there is danger that this might further decline with annual increase in population of nearly 2 lakhs.

In the circumstances I have no doubt that the only correct policy would be to have industries so that with the expansion of industries there is more and more employment and production.

Sir, I am thankful for the time given to me for clarification of the situation.

(All the Cut Motions were withdrawn by leave of the House)

Mr. SPEAKER : Now the question is that a sum of Rs.4,16,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1950 for the administration of the head "43.—Industries and Supplies—III—Major Industries".

(The question was adopted)

GRANT No 28

"47.—Labour and Miscellaneous Department"

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): Sir, I am advised by the Finance Minister to inform the House that he has agreed to the division of this head on account of "47.—Labour and Miscellaneous Department". So, in future Labour would be an independent Department.

Now, Sir, with your permission I move the Grant.

I beg to move that a sum of Rs.11,03,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "47.—Labour and Miscellaneous Departments".

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.11,03,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "47.—Labour and Miscellaneous Departments".

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.5,32,617 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments", Minor head—B.—Labour, at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the Labour Policy of the Government)

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs 5,32,617 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments", Minor head—B.—Labour (Total), at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a discussion regarding the grant under Labour)

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.11,03,300 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Department", at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(Failure of Government to give immediate effect to the recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal under Industrial Disputes, Act).

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.11,03,300 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Department", at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion about the working of the Labour Department).

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.11,03,300 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments", at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion and to criticise the grant).

Shri BISHWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.11,03,300 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments", at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(1. Criticise the failure of the Government to rehabilitate the retrenched labourer in the tea and other industry of the State).

(2. To criticise the Government for their inability to extend any help to the labourer of the Modanpur T.E. during Pakistani firing).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.11,03,300 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments", at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a discussion regarding the grant).

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.11,03,300 under Grant No.28, Major head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments", at page 385 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion)

MR. SPEAKER : All the Cut Motions are moved as above.

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAUR (Dibrugarh):** Sir, under the leadership of one of the veteran leaders of our Indian labour we expected that the Labour Department of the Government would proceed with a progressive policy. But we find that the Labour Department still continues to pass in the same old and conservative policy. In a democratic country one naturally expects that the Government will encourage a healthy growth of labour.

Actually we find that the Labour Department is not only a farce but it is creating enmity and fractions of the working class and putting the trading unions in rivalries.

In the matter of registration of trade unions, we find that there is inordinate delay. In most cases time for registration taken is 7 months to more than a year or two I know of one trade union of Sibsagar, Sibsagar Automobile Workers' Association. It applied for registration in 1957 but it is still lying in the office of the Labour Commissioner. Another trade union, Motor Associations Workers Union in Darrang has not been registered as yet although it applied in the early part of 1958. It is found that when it is the case of an I.N.T.U.C. union the Government is quick in registration but if this union is other than that of the I.N.T.U.C. it is evident that Government is reluctant to register it. For example, the Assam Colliery Mazdoor Trade Union is an organisation of workers but Government has not registered it but a new organisation which came into being a few months back, i.e., Assam Colliery Union was registered because it is an union of the I.N.T.U.C.

We find also that the Labour Department is in the habit of finding faults and defects which delay the time for registration. If one union applies for registration it is found that they do not ask to rectify defects in one instalment, if the defects are rectified in the meantime say after another six months they point out more defects. Cannot they find out the faults and defects at the same time? This Assam Colliery Mazdoors Trade Union who never to give accounts for 5 years with 98 per cent of the workers in it is not registered but a new union which has only 2 per cent of the workers was registered within 15 days.

Sir, in trade unions of plantations workers, we find that employers generally force the workers to join a certain union, particularly an union affiliated to the I.N.T.U.C. It is the fundamental right of the workers to have union of their own choice and in this there should not be any force from the employers that their workers should join such and such union. In Athelo Tea Garden, the manager said that they would only be allowed to join an union affiliated to the I.N.T.U.C. when they brought this to the notice of the Labour Department it is found that they are negligent of the genuine grievances of the workers.

Then, we find in the different committees in district level, such as, Labour Sub-Committee, the Committee on Plantation, Housing Committee, Medical Relief for Plantation Workers, representation is not given to workers trade unions who does not belong to I.N.T.U.C. although A.N.T.U.C. is the biggest union in Assam having 80,80,000 members but

the I.N.T.U.C. is having only 40,40,000. The Colliery Workers Union which enjoys the confidence of 98 per cent of the colliery workers is not represented in the State Sub-Committees, when this was brought to the notice of the Government of India. Government of India told us that they give nomination to such committees on the recommendation of the State Government. Even in the State levels these unions do not get representation in any committee other than unions which belong to I.N.T.U.C. In the Assam Colliery Sub-Committee there is no representation of unions other than I.N.T.U.C. unions. This is the case in the Medical Committee, in Oil Committees, etc. Although State Insurance scheme has been initiated in some areas but unions other than unions under I.N.T.U.C. are not represented in the Medical Committee. In Dibrugarh Subdivision not a single workers union other than I.N.T.U.C. representatives are there in the Medical Committee for State Insurance. In other States, there are separate bodies for workers, some of whom have big establishments for workers, but in Assam though the State Insurance Scheme has been introduced for the last one year but no such thing is visible. Not a single dose of medicine is given to any dispensary for the workers which is to be given under the aegis of this scheme. What is the use of this scheme if it does not help the workers.

Regarding number of conciliations in labour dispute is almost nil. The Industrial Tribunal which is meant to give relief to the labour population, it is seen that in conciliation they take a long time in files and papers going forward and backward from the Industrial Tribunal to the Government. In the delay in disposing such cases, the employers get a chance to bring more disputes and thus the other disputes become unimportant, and they fail.

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member will be brief.

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAHUR (Dibrugarh):** Yes, Sir.

In the Confectionary Workers Union of Shillong it was found that in this process of files going forward and backward from the Tribunal to Government it took 2 years but even then the difficulties of the union workers have not been consolidated to find out as to who should be the other party to the dispute.

Sir, this department of Labour, particularly in the Secretariat level seems to move in snail's pace. Therefore this department has not allowed the workers to have their rights, which have been conferred by different legislations.

Then, coming to the most important aspect of this labour and the unemployment questions it appears it has become a permanent feature in the plantations. It appears that it is the responsibility of none to see that the unemployment is reduced. It is the bounden duty of the Labour Department to find out potentialities of employment for the unemployed through the Employment Exchanges but it is found that the Employment Exchange has become a liaison agency between the employer and the employees. There should have been a statistical survey of the problem of unemployment. Now, if we take the Government figures and also the figures worked out by the Planning Commission for the Second Five Year

Plan we found that during the Second Plan period the existing rate of unemployment in the urban sector is 6 thousand, in the sub-urban sector the unemployment figure is 39 thousand and in the rural sector unemployment will be to the tune of 232 thousand. If we total up these figures and give the aggregate without slicing down the unemployment figure will be still more rising at the end of the Second Five Year Plan period. This leaves aside the growing unemployment in the tea gardens and this leaves aside the fact that the Plan may not be fulfilled. If we take again the figures in the rural sector, that is, in the tea plantations, the unemployment figure at the end of the 2nd Five Year Plan period will rise to about 2 lakhs. What will happen then? Unless some new industries or some new schemes for proper utilisation of land are found out the unemployment figure will still be growing. We know that in the tea gardens unemployment problem is growing because the acreage under tea is limited and also because population goes up due to various measures taken particularly by the Medical Department for affording better sanitation, better living conditions which brought down the mortality rate in the tea garden areas.

Then again, a certain colliery ran short of coal and the Company laid off work, the lay off affected about 300 workers. They went on strike and when the fact was brought to the notice of the Government of India somehow or other the employees opened the colliery again. So Labour Department should take proper cognizance of these facts. In other words, the unemployment figures in the State should be studied both by the Labour Department and the Employment Exchanges and the same reported to Government so that Government may be in a better position to help.

Now, another aspect of this matter is with regard to wages. Since 1952 there was no increase of wage, but after cash conversion in February 1954 the wages of a male plantation worker is Re.1-11-0 and that of a female worker is Re.1-9-0. This is not even a minimum wage. Any expert will say that this is starvation wage. But on the other hand the tea plantations were making enormous profits. In one year alone, that is in 1954-55 some Companies gave dividends to the tune of 165 per cent what does that mean? It means that the entire capital invested in this tea industry has been taken over as dividend. But in spite of that there is no increase in wages to the labour. When the employers and the labour refuse to turn the line of wages how can Government turn the line of prices? Prices have increased but there is no increase of wages. Whenever there is a struggle in regard to increase wage of fixation of bonus to the workers, Labour Department does not come out to help and this result in dispute. One instance in Dibrugarh there was a dispute for payment of bonus, the workers were led by Plantation and General Labour Union. Now, the Manager of the Tea Estate concerned was not keen to go in for conciliation, he shifted the date from one day to another and in the meantime the workers resorted to strike. Afterwards the management gave some proposal that if the strike is called off they will make some interim payment of bonus. The strike was called off but then the employers forced the workers to work without even paying the promised interim bonus. The Labour Department was informed of the facts but they did not do anything. They instead took steps against the said Union and it was deregistered. Sir, another thing, I want to bring to the notice of the House that these labour disputes always hinge on what they call 'nerik', that is piece rate. The Labour Department have done nothing or have made no attempt even to standardise this nerik or piece rate system.

in the whole plantation areas. Unless something is done with regard to this piece rate system trouble will always arise because always prices rise the labour suffer unless they are compensated with higher rate of bonus or wages. So, it is high time that there should be wage increase and for that purpose the piece rate should be taken into consideration in fixing the whole structure of wages.

Now, workers in other industries, for example, motor transport workers or plywood industry workers are outside the operation of these various Acts, like Workmen' Compensation Act or Minimum Wages Act. A motor driver is sometimes called upon to work for 18 hours without any sort of compensation. Our Ministers can say from their own experience about the working hours of their own drivers. In this connection I would like to suggest that something should be done so that these motor transport workers or plywood industry workers get some compensation from these labour legislations. Specially in respect of the drivers—there is no law that all vehicles should be incurred so that when accidents occur they may get some compensation. I hope Government will take into consideration the points that I have raised here.

With these words Sir, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Dr. RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhipur): Mr. Speaker Sir, in opposing the Cut Motion moved by my Friends from the other side I want to discuss something about labour problem and labour condition in Cachar. In connection with the tea industry as the hon. Minister has already mentioned in his reply, I am glad that he will try to bring the tea industry under the Industries Development and Regulation Act and also that the industry will be separated from the Commerce Department of the Government of India and that according to the report of the Menon Commission replantation will be implemented and finance from the Reserve Bank of India will also be available. So I will not discuss about the industry. But Sir, I shall discuss today about other problems. Sir, the question of tea industry and labour condition in Cachar has been deteriorating for some time. Even in 1952 when the tea crisis came a large number of workers were thrown out of employment by lay off policy and when the gardens re-opened, 10,000 workers were retrenched, who have continued to be unemployed so long. Their case has been pending, so that no relief could be given to them. Recently, gardens have been closed down there. Last year six gardens closed down mostly due to mismanagement, lack of management, speculation with money of tea garden management for shares in Calcutta. When gardens close, no relief can be given to workers. Although these gardens could have re-opened under provisions similar to what obtains in Industries Development and Regulation Act for other industries, nothing has been done so far to do that Sir; in connection with the Tea Industry, as the hon'ble Minister has already mentioned in his reply that he will try to bring the Tea Industry under Industries Development and Regulation Act, I am not going to discuss about it.

About retrenched labourers, I would like to say that when they were retrenched, it was suggested for their mobilisation and we tried our best to send as many as possible. We sent about 5000 labourers towards Assam Valley, but according to the terms they were not allowed to take their old father and mother and minor girls and

boys. So they had to leave half of their family in the district of Cachar and they came here on terms of one and three years. If they are not rehabilitated, how they will come here and if it is only for one or two years, how they will support their old father and mother and other dependents? So first of all there should be rehabilitation of these labourers as other peoples are being rehabilitated. Sir, these wretched labourers came here about a century ago. Now they have forgotten even the name of their original province. So these people should be given first priority in rehabilitation. That should be remembered by Government otherwise seeing their condition there will be burning sensation all over the State and it will go out of control and Government will have to repent.

Next I would like to mention something about two peculiar actions taken by Government in two relinquished gardens, namely Dupatil and Panibhara. These gardens were relinquished by the employers and as such they became Khas and came under Government. Instead of giving the labourers some facilities to rehabilitate they are now going to be evicted. They are going to be served with eviction notice *i. e.*, to give up the lands which they were occupying to other people and thus there is great excitement over this. Just two or three months ago notice has been served on them to evict the land and it is still being served. So, I think, if Government will not take care and not allow them to enjoy the lands which they have been enjoying so long there will be great discontent not only amongst the labourers of these two gardens but all over the district and that may spread all over the State. That will be a very bad example and that will bring blame on the Government. So I request the Government to be very careful about it.

Then regarding Bidyanagar tea garden, This is the only garden managed by the Government. But unfortunately there are so many complaints about various kind of corruptions and the gardens seems to be deteriorating since the management taken over by the Government. Under the circumstances as we are urging upon the Government to take over the management of the mismanaged gardens, it is essential on the part of the Government to form a high power Committee with a High Court Judge as the Chairman to go into the matter thoroughly and then clear the position and also the mind of the public at large so that there should be no scope to criticise the inability of the Government in the Tea Industry. Sir, this is a garden managed by the Government and there should be such suspicion in the mind of the public that the garden under Government management is going to be looted.

Sir, I could not understand what my Friend Mr. Barthakur just said that our I.N.T.U.C. is favoured by the Government. So far as my knowledge goes, I have heard from Dibrugarh side that some high officials, the Government Labour Department officials help the other unions more than the I.N.T.U.C. This was heard during the trouble at Dibrugarh. by One gentleman, Nibaran Bora, President, A.N.T.U.C. and Shrimati Lily Sen-Gupta brought some cases to our notice. I came to know that some of the high officials of Government were helping them in an underhand way. So I think my Friend's complaint has not got any basis; it is baseless. Lastly I would like to suggest something about Industrial Co-operative. It is a welcome news that tea gardens in Cachar who have been undergoing grave difficulties and hardship due to lay-off; closure and unemployment have

ultimately succeeded in forming a co-operative and are about to acquire two tea gardens for managing through the co-operative. Since it is one of the early experiments, in the line, all assistance should be given by the Co-operative Department and the Government, as a whole.

With these words, I resume my seat.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Cut Motions moved from this side of the House. In spite of what my Friend Dr. Choubey has said that the Labour Department in Dibrugarh help some non-I.N.T.U. Unions, I am convinced from reports and also from my personal knowledge that this Labour Department is more a department of the I.N.T.U.C. of the State than of Government. When I say so I do so from the way these Unions are registered, the way genuine trade disputes are tackled and the way the trade unions are registered and cancelled. Taking all these things into account, I feel that the Labour Department is a partisan Department and that partisan spirit is in favour of the I.N.T.U.C. Sir, my Friend, Shri Borthakur, has stated about some Unions which sought registration which took months to get the registration. The Labour Department is to abide by the provisions of the Indian Trade Unions Act. If an application is made in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Trade Unions Act, no direction from any quarters should come to stop the Labour Department from registering a Trade Union. We have found matters even went up to the Hon'ble High Court where a Trade Union was refused registration although we are to comply with all the provisions of the Act in the matter of registration.

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour):** Was it about registration or about cancellation of registration?

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** I am speaking about registration now, and I will come about cancellation later. Sir, when the Electric Corporation was taken over by the Government, the Union had to be registered and I was informed that although applications were made in a proper form, a technical objection was raised because the employees were Government servants and as such they could not be registered. I do not know of any wherein it is stated that a Union of Government servants cannot be registered. All that a registration requires is that it should be in a particular form and in a prescribed manner and that it should have a definite number of people who should apply for registration. At one time we have found that the Registrar even wanted to get the name of all the members or even a majority of them. It is almost impossible for a Union consisting of about 2,000 to 3,000 members to give the names of all the members in what way and the Act also does not envisage that it should be so. But that is insisted upon only to delay the registration. In the case of the Sibsagar Union organised by the non-I.N.U.C. body, viz., the Mazdoor Union, with Shri Pujari as Secretary it took several months to get the registration and every time some new objections were raised. I do not know of any case where a Union organised by the I.N.T.U.C. took such a long time to get registration. The North Kamrup of the Public Work Department Mazdoor Union which had applied for registration has not yet been given the registration on the technical ground that the officer was the same who did not submit the necessary report before and therefore, the Union has not been registered.

*Speech not corrected.

for that reason. I have not come across any provisions in the Act which state that because at one time the Union did not submit the report and because one of the office bearers is the old office-bearer of the Union, no registration should be given. This reminds me of the story about the Lamb and the wolf. The wolf wanted to eat the lamb on the plea that it had done something against the former. When the lamb said that it had not done anything to the wolf, the wolf said, "yes, you have not done anything to me but your father did and therefore I must eat you." Therefore in the registration matter also, if it is found that there is an office-bearer of the Union which has applied for registration and that office-bearer belongs to the Union which did not submit the report, no registration will be given. As I have said, this delatoriness in giving registration on genuine applications and on valid applications smacks the partisan spirit of the Labour Department and the Registrar of the Trade Union. My Friend, Mr. Tripathi, reminded me of the cancellation of Union. As a matter of fact, I had no intention to speak on it also but when it is reminded I will speak something about it also.

Recently, several Unions were served with notice regarding cancellation of registrations and we had to go to the Hon'ble High Court to challenge the orders. Of course, later on a compromise was effected and the applications as well as the cancellation of the registration were withdrawn. In this connection also, I want to say two things—one, it is not a light affair to order cancellation of registrations of Unions. If a Union does not submit its report by 31st July, then the law envisages that it should be served with a notice firstly to show that it has contravened a particular provision of the Trade Unions Act and after that a second notice should be served giving 2 months' time in asking the Union to show cause why its registration should not be cancelled. In some cases the registrations of some of the Unions were sought to be cancelled without serving any notice. The second point is a very important one, i.e., that the Trade Unions Act provides for an appeal under Section 11 against an order of the Registrar of Trade Unions. But uptill now the Court which is to clear of these appeals has not been appointed by this Government and therefore, the Labour Commissioner of the Registrar of Trade Unions becomes the supreme body and there is no provision for an appeal although the Act provides it. Again we find that when it is a question of some INTUC Unions things are somehow adjusted but when it is a case of some other Unions not belonging to the INTUC, the rules are very strictly adhered to. We also know of cases where a Union was fined Rs.5 for a certain offence and we also know of many cases where INTUC Unions are guilty of such an offence and no action was taken. Now leaving aside this registration and cancellation business, I want to speak about how the Labour Department behaves and we should see to that also. In every district we have a Labour Officer and a Labour Inspectorate now. Yet we have found that things are not in any way better than what they were before and particularly so when a Union which does not belong to the INTUC is involved where delay is allowed and things are allowed to deteriorate. I will cite as an instance the strike that took place in Dibrugarh in the carpentry shops where for a long time all these workshops were closed down. Apart from the question of police interference in the matter, although the matter was reported to the Labour Commissioner long before, it took about 3 to 4 months to refer the dispute to the Tribunal and the workers were without work for 3 to 4 months because

workshops were closed. So far as the Labour Officer and the Labour Inspector at Dibrugarh are concerned, I have no doubt that these officers were directed not to intervene in the dispute of the Union and allowed things to deteriorate so that the police may come, things fissled out and the Union collapsed. Whereas in the case of INTUC Unions, I know of cases where Government immediately issued circulars. I am not going to cite any instance but I am speaking about a case where was a strike in 1955 regarding the plucking rate and where Government immediately issued a circular although in this case many other things also took place. The strike was also due to a policy which was not clearly stated by the Government. I spoke also about the Ghuronia Tea Estate in Dibrugarh. So far as the dispute in that tea estate is concerned, I pin my charge against the Labour Department of their being partisan to the INTUC. This Ghuronia Tea Estate Union was once affiliated to the INTUC. Then on 21st August, 1957, the labourers dissociated from the INTUC and came under the flag of another Union. There also the dispute arose regarding bonus. This matter was once dealt with by the Labour Inspector and second time by the Labour Officer, but the Labour Inspector bungled in every respect. What happened in the Ghuronia Tea Estate is this: the Management said that they were not in a position to pay bonus. So the bonus matter was referred to two gentlemen, Messrs. M. N. Sarma and J. N. Mitra for their opinion. Mr. M. N. Sarma gave the opinion that the estate was not in a position to give bonus. Shri J. N. Mitra wanted some more papers. Although Mr. M. N. Sarma said that the Management were not in a position to give bonus that, matter was not made known to the Union. In the employer's letter itself it was stated that Mr. J. N. Mitra wanted more papers. But the Labour Inspector misinformed the Government that J. N. Mitra was silent about it. But in fact, as I stated, he wanted more papers to know the actual position but that was not done. For this reason, there was a strike which continued for more than four months. Afterwards the matter was some how settled with the intervention of the Labour Minister recently when he went to Dibrugarh. Here also, this matter was reported to the Labour Commissioner, to the Assistant Labour Commissioner and to the Deputy Labour Minister, whom I informed myself. The Management of the garden came to me personally and said that they would like to sit round a table and come to a decision. We sat round a table and it was agreed that the Management would immediately allow the labourers to rejoin work and they will be paid Rs. 10 to 12 as interim relief pending adjustment in the final settlement other bonus; and, thirdly, the bonus matter would be pursued further. When this agreement was being drawn up, the Manager wanted to go for lunch and he said that he would come back and sign the agreement. He did not and informed me on 'phone "I am not in a position to come just now; I have to go elsewhere. Will you please read out the agreement?" I read out the agreement on the phone and he said "you will please put your signature there, I will also do so". But he did not do so. Immediately he took the help of the Police and on that day about 85 workers were arrested. Although 85 workers were arrested only 7 were sent up for trial. This is the type of harassment the Management resort to. Here, certain things have come out very clearly. Firstly, when this dispute was going on, why the Labour Commissioner or the Assistant Labour Commissioner did not go down to Dibrugarh and look into the matter. They go on touring all the time, but when there was a genuine dispute a very important dispute, they left it to the Labour Inspector. Even during the strike they did not go. Then, secondly, why the letter of Mr. M. N. Sarma was not handed over to the Union or the Union not informed about the contents

thereof. Then, thirdly, why the Labour Inspector misinformed the Government that Mr. J.N. Mitra, one of the two members of the Bonus Committee was silent when actually he wanted some more papers. Then, also about this agreement with the Management. The Labour Commissioner was informed about it, the Deputy Labour Minister was informed about it, but why did the Labour Department allowed the Management to go back on their own agreement? Since this Union has seceded from the INTUC, the suspicion is genuine that the Labour Department did not want this union to thrive. They wanted the strike to fizzle out. And even to-day, 23 resident and 63 non-resident part-time workers have not been allowed to resume work. This is another instance. I can go on citing instances. For instance, in the R. S. N. and I. G. N. Co., certain disputes had been referred to the Labour Commissioner regarding classification of workers. We have not been able within two years to come to an agreement with the Management regarding classification of workers. We have asked the Labour Department to refer the matter to adjudication. But nothing has been done yet. Similarly, we have seen at Gauhati that Himatsingka concerns are somehow very expert in closing down their concerns. The other day they closed down the glass factory because that was not yielding profit and the labourers were left in wilderness. Then there was a saw mill but they have closed it down because it was not showing profit. Only the other day, the Himatsingkas served a notice on the workers that they would close down their rice and oil mill for unavoidable reasons and the mill has been closed down. A part of the staff are being used for other purposes and about 72 workers have been left in wilderness. These matters have been referred to the Labour Department but nothing has happened. If any union affiliated to the INTUC had reported to the Labour Department in similar matters, I doubt whether we could have slept in peace at Shillong. But, Sir, we did not create any trouble because we wanted to pursue a policy of healthy trade-unionism, a policy of doing things in a peaceful atmosphere. But it appears that the party in power and this particular Department of the Government want to harass us for this attitude.

Then there is another matter. In Cachar, in about 12 gardens, the labourers have been laid off, may be for a temporary period. Their number is about 20,000. Now although this matter was under the consideration of Government, these gardens were closed down without the consent of the Government and at least for one or two months these labourers have been denied their due. Their union is also not affiliated to the INTUC. If the union was affiliated to the INTUC and 20,000 workers were laid off, I am sure the Government would not have remained silent. The whole Department would have gone down to Cachar to look into the matter.

Here we find this attitude: let this union go to hell; let us create our own Raj through the I. N. T. U. C. And the history of this I. N. T. U. C. is known to us; how this Raj was created and they to-day want to create this Raj; want to rule over it.

Then to-day, Sir, we have seen the lot of *ex-tea* garden labourers. We have not been able to adopt a policy by which we can employ these *ex-tea* garden labourers. All the time labourers have been recruited from outside the state. It is time to see to recruit labourers from *ex-tea* garden labourers. Even those labourers who had so long been working in tea garden, they should also be taught to work in other industrial undertakings.

Lastly, I want to speak something about the tea gardens in the border areas. Take for instance the Madanpur tea garden. This tea garden is situated within the range of Pakistani firing and there the labourers are being harassed. Due to constant firings they cannot go out to work and for want of work they are suffering, they have not been able to make their earning. I have not seen any tangible steps being taken by the Labour Department to ensure their employment. I would like to know from the Minister-in-charge whether the Department has taken any step to give them alternative employment and to compensate their loss of income. This is very important.

My Friend Shri Barthakur has spoken at length about the unemployment situation. Unemployment is growing and Labour Department is all the time remaining a passive spectator. Fortunately the Labour department is under the charge of the hon. Minister who is also the Minister-in-charge of the Industry Department; both Labour and Industry Departments are in the hand of one and the same man. Therefore, my submission is that we have to look into these matter with greater care and vigilance. Merely relying on the Employment Exchange figures will not do; we have to take conscientious policy, and in doing so we have to keep a vigilant watch over the progress of the Trade Union Movement on democratic lines irrespective of whatever party may be in power.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak a few words by way of explanation on only two small points. Mr. Goswami has referred to two Unions where I was incidentally connected and as I think a little more explanation on the points raised by Goswami in connection therewith will enable the members to understand the position better, I feel the placing of facts by Shri Goswami was not adequate on these two points.

First of all, with regard to the question of the State Electricity Supply Workers' Union at Gauhati, Mr. Goswami said that this union had to re-register its name to cover supply of electricity to the whole State. That is not accurate. The point is that there existed a Union in Gauhati under the name and style of Gauhati Electric Supply Workers' Union since 1948. I must say that this was one of the best run Union in the State for two reasons or, rather, three reasons. Firstly, its membership was cent per cent of the employees. Secondly, it was run entirely by the employees themselves without any outside help; not a single outsider was any office bearer of that Union and thirdly, in the matter of submission of Returns, etc. this Union was never a defaulter; the Union was always very punctual in the matter of submission of Returns, etc. But one crime they committed, and that crime was that, that Union was affiliated to the A.I.T.U.C.—that was their crime. Now, when they had to cover the electric supply of the whole State, this Union had to change its name, and naturally, make some changes in the constitution of the Union. And what is that change? Instead of the name remaining as Gauhati Electric Supply Workers' Union, they changed it to State Electric Supply Workers' Union (*A voice*—And what is their jurisdiction?). Thank you. Previously the jurisdiction was the district of Kamrup and now the jurisdiction was extended to the whole of the State. These were the two changes. After making the necessary changes, the Union sent in their petition for registration. Now when even after two months they did not get any reply from the Registrar of Trade Unions, they sent a reminder followed only by another reminder after about 20 days of

the first reminder and yet there was no reply received by the Union. After that, some representatives of the Union came to Shillong to meet the Minister in-charge. I had the pleasure of accompanying them to the Minister. Then they made some amount of 'Tadbir' in the office of the Labour Commissioner. Sir, it has become necessary in almost all the departmental offices, and more so far as the Labour Office is concerned. After all these, a letter went to the Union saying that as two changes were made,—one in respect of the name and the other in respect of the jurisdiction—two different fees would be necessary. Then the additional fee was also sent and yet no reply was received. In this way some more months rolled by. In the meantime, unwritten pressure continued to be put on the Union to the effect that the Union should withdraw their affiliation from the A. I. T. U. C. and that then only the application originally made would be considered. At about this time a letter went from the Labour Office stating that as the Union had been kept open for outsider, it could not be registered. As a matter of fact there was no outsider whatsoever, either among the ordinary members or even among the office bearers. At this stage, I contacted the Labour Commissioner and told him the actual position and further stated that unless immediate action to register the Union was taken, "I am going to the law court." But as a matter of fact, I did not like such a course of action. At any rate there was unwritten pressure brought to bear upon the Union to withdraw their affiliation from the A. I. T. U. C. and all the time the pressure was going on strong. Having found the position as it was, I advised the Union to withdraw their affiliation from the A. I. T. U. C. Because, after all, we want to help the growth of trade unions and it does not weigh with us much as to which Union centre it is affiliated to. So, under heavy pressure put upon the Union by the Labour Department they got themselves affiliated to the I. N. T. U. C. and withdrew their affiliation from the A. I. T. U. C. If the Minister agrees to make an on the spot enquiry and take evidence of the workers at Gauhati, I am prepared to go with him and prove to him how the Labour office under his charge had put pressure on the Union to get themselves affiliated to the I. N. T. U. C. while all these things were going on, this Electricity Department through one I. N. T. U. C. leader of Gauhati and an employee of the Government of Assam now in another Department stated a fake Union. This Department of Electricity, through an outsider belonging to the I. N. T. U. C. of Gauhati, and through an employee of the Government of Assam gave birth to this proper union the I. N. T. U. C. President and the other man the Vice-President. Unfortunately for them they failed to start a strong paralled Union though those workers had previously agreed under pressure to cut off their connection with the A. I. T. U. C. Sir, this is the type of the administration being carried on under an ex-General Secretary of the All-India I. N. T. U. C. Coming to R. S. N. & I. G. N. Company, Sir, I am not in the habit of going to the Heads of Departments. Here, found the registration of the Trade Union cancelled on the plea of committing an illegality. The letter was sent by registered post, and if there happened any delay for the letter to reach the Office of the Labour Commissioner, it was due to the fault of the Postal Department. In the receipt the date of despatch was shown and because of the holiday intervening, according to the construction of the Labour Commissioner, there was delay in receipt of the letter. I being the Vice-President in the absence of my Friend Shri Hareswar Goswami, who is the President, went to the Labour Commissioner and pointed out that the delay in receipt of the letter was due to the Post Office and

for that he should not penalise the Union. He said—"You see, this time I am very strict even to our Union". I was simply surprised what he meant by the words—"Our Union" (*laughter*). I enquired of him what he meant by 'Our Union' and he said 'Last time Mr. Sarbeswar Bordoloi came to me and said about the merger of the Plantation Union and such other things'. I was simply surprised and thought that there was obviously no necessity of referring all these things to me about what he said to Mr. Sarbeswar Bardoloi. I went there and in connection with one of our Unions. At any rate, he remained strict inspite of my pointing out to him the reason for the delay, as stated above. Thereafter we filed a case in the High Court. Government had to pay the fees to the Government Advocate in a case which they were destined to lose. This was unnecessary wastage of the money of the tax payer and ultimately Government had to withdraw their notification cancelling the registration. Sir, this is our impartial Labour Department!

Then with regard to the use of Conciliation machinery. According to rules and also according to the I.T.A Circular the provision of the Plantation Labour Act and other relevant Acts are not being observed in respect of the labourers working in the Zingea Tea Company in Darrang District. The Management there is not following these rules and as many as 500 labourers, because they do not belong to the I.N.T.U.C. but to Akhil Bharatia Mazdur Sangha, have been affected. The Labour Department has been pressing upon the Management, and as a result as many as 500 labourers are affected. About 500 workers have been refused work without any prior notice, without showing any reason and without paying any compensation. Telegrams and letters have been sent and representations have been made to the Labour Department but to no effect. Probably it is due to the rival Union which was started by the Deputy Minister, Labour, Mr. Sarma. Of course Mr. Sarma may not have any hand in it directly and openly. But here we must see that not only justice should be done, but it should also appear to have been done. It may be due to the overzealousness of the Officers serving under them. But it is the duty of the Labour Minister and the Deputy Minister, Labour to see that whether the workers belong to the I.N.T.U.C. or to any other Union, they are not discriminated. They should impress upon them to be impartial upon them to be impartial. They should advise their Electricity Department or whatever that may be that it is none of their business to go on giving pressure on the workers to choose this Central Trade Union or that. It is for the workers to decide which Union they like to join.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ২৮ নম্বৰ গ্ৰাণ্ট টো সমৰ্থন কৰি এটা কথা মই জনাও যে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বাৰ Assam Tea Plantation Labour Welfare Fund বিল এখন এই সदनত দাঙি ধৰিছে যি খনৰ দ্বাৰা এটা নতুন পুৰ্জি আৰু শ্ৰমিক কল্যাণৰ কাৰণে গঢ়ি উঠিব। এনেকৰা এখন আইন গৃহীত হবৰ কাৰণে Indian National Trade Union Congress এ আজি বহুত দিনৰ পৰা দাবি কৰি আহিছিল। এই বিলখনৰ বাবে মই চৰকাৰক ধন্যবাদ জনাইছো। গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ফালৰ পৰা শ্ৰীপূৰ্ণানন্দ চেত্ৰিয়া ডাঙৰীয়াৰ Chairman হিচাবে লৈ Evaluation টাই বুনেনল এরডি, কন্‌চিলিয়চন ট্ৰিবিউং, ডিবিচন আদি কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰা নকৰাৰ কাৰণে Committee কৰা নকৰা চাবৰ কাৰণে এই কমিটি গঠন কৰা হৈছে। এই দুয়োটা ব্যৱস্থাৰ দ্বাৰা

মজদুৰ সকলৰ ভালেমান সুবিধা হ'ব। এইখিনি ব্যৱস্থা লোৱাৰ বাবে চৰকাৰ ধন্যবাদৰ পাত্ৰ। লগতে মই গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টক জনাব খোজে। **Labour department** ৰ **Major Head** ৰ ভিতৰলৈ আনিব লাগে। অসমৰ জনসংখ্যাৰ ২৫ অংশই **Labour**, ইয়াৰ পৰা চাহ শিল্পৰ যোগেদি বা অন্যান্য শিল্প প্ৰতিষ্ঠানৰ যোগেদি চৰকাৰৰ কোটি কোটি উপাৰ্জন হয়। বিৰোধী দলৰ বিশিষ্ট সদস্য আৰু দলপতি শ্ৰীভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়া আৰু গোস্বামী ডাঙৰীয়াই অভিযোগ আনিছে যে **I. N. T. U. C.** নোহোৱা **Union** বোৰ এ ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰোঁতে **Labour Department** এ বহুত দেৰী কৰে। এই অভিযোগ সম্পূৰ্ণ ভিত্তিহীন। **Trade Union** ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰাতো এটা **Technical** কাম। আইন মতে আবেদন কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে বহুত দেৰী হয়। যিবোৰ **Union** ত **Technical** অসুবিধা আহি পৰে সেই বোৰ **Registration** কিছু সময় লাগে। **Technical** অসুবিধা নথকা ক্ষেত্ৰত অতি সোনকালে **Union Register** হোৱাৰ কথা মই নিজেই জানো। সংঘ ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰাতো বৰ টান কাম কাৰণে আমি অফিচত মানুহ শিকাই ল'ব লগা হৈছে আৰু **Model Rules** প্ৰনয়ণ কৰি সহায় কৰিব লগা হৈছে। নজনা মানুহে সংঘ ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰিবলৈ আবেদন কৰিলে দেৰীয়েই নহয় বহুত দেৰী হয় বা ৰেজিষ্টাৰেই নহয়। এনে পৰিস্থিতিত এই কথাত ৰাজনৈতিক ৰং সনাত মই দুখ পাইছো। মোৰ পৰামৰ্শ বিৰোধী দলে যদি সংঘ ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰিবলৈ আবেদন কৰোঁতে আইন সংগঠন খুঁটি নাতি কথাবোৰ থিক কৰি আবেদন কৰে তেন্তে তেখেত সকলৰো সংঘ বেগেতে ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰিব।

দেশৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক আৰু সামাজিক উন্নতিৰ দায়িত্ব ট্ৰেড ইউনিয়নৰ ওপৰত বহুখিনি নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে। বিশেষকৈ আমাৰ কাম কাজ ব্যৱস্থাত। এই জাতিয় দৃষ্টি ভঙ্গিলৈ ট্ৰেডইউনিয়ন সমূহে কাম কৰিব লাগে।

কিন্তু আজি অকল ময়েই নহয়, সকলোৱে স্বীকাৰ কৰিছে যে এই বামপন্থী ট্ৰেড ইউনিয়ন বিলাকে তেখেতসকল ইউনিয়নে মজদুৰ আৰু সমাজৰ আৰ্থিক উন্নতিৰ দায়িত্ব লৈ কাম কৰা নাই। মই ইয়াকে ক'ব পাৰো যে বামপন্থী ইউনিয়নবিলাকে গঠনমূলক দৃষ্টি ভঙ্গি যেনে শিল্প সংৰক্ষণৰ হকে দেশৰ আৰ্থিক উন্নতিৰ হকে আনকি তেখেতসকলৰ ইউনিয়নৰ সভ্য মজদুৰ সকলৰ আৰ্থিক উন্নতিৰ হকেও কাম কৰা নাই। তেখেতসকলে কেৱল তেখেত সকলৰ ৰাজনৈতিক স্বাৰ্থসিদ্ধিৰ কাৰণেহে শ্ৰমিক সংগঠনৰ কাম কৰিছে—শোষণ বন্ধৰ কাৰণে নহয়। বৰ্তমান যি শিল্প সেক্টৰে দেশৰ অৰ্থ নীতিত ঘা দিয়া উপক্ৰম কৰিছে তাক প্ৰতিহত কৰি দেশৰ শিল্প অক্ষুণ্ণ ৰাখিবলৈ তেখেতসকলে বা তেখেত সকলৰ ইউনিয়নে কোনো কাৰ্য্যকৰী কামত সহায় কৰিব পৰা নাই। মই ভাবো কোনো দায়িত্বশীল ট্ৰেড ইউনিয়নৰ কৰ্মকৰ্ত্তা সকলৰ এনে ধৰণৰ কৰ্ম পদ্ধতিয়ে কেতিয়াও শোভা নাপায়। **Trade Union** বুলিলে আমি ইয়াকেই বুজো যে সেই অনুষ্ঠানৰ কৰ্মীসকলৰ বহুমুখী স্বাৰ্থ ৰক্ষা কৰাৰ লগে লগে শিল্প সংৰক্ষণৰ হকে লক্ষ্য কৰি সমাজ আৰু দেশৰো উন্নতি সাধনৰ অহো পুৰুষাৰ্থ কৰে। বামপন্থী ইউনিয়নৰ তৰফৰ পৰা আজিলৈকে তেনে কোনো কৰ্ম পদ্ধতি পৰিলক্ষিত হোৱা নাই।

মই এইটো দাঙি ক'ব পাৰো যে অকল চৰকাৰৰ শ্ৰমিক বিভাগে, তেওঁলোকৰ যি দায়িত্ব তাক নিকপিত ভাবে সম্পাদন কৰিছে। তেওঁলোকে কোনো পক্ষপাতিতা কৰা নাই। আমি যদি ৰাজনৈতিক দৃষ্টি ভঙ্গীৰ পৰা নাচাই বাস্তৱ দৃষ্টিভঙ্গীৰে চাওঁ তেন্তে দেখিম যে এই **Trade Union** বিলাক ৰেজিষ্টাৰী কৰোঁতে কিছুমান **Technical difficulties** আছে সেই বিলাক নিখুঁটভাৱে প্ৰতিপন্ন নকৰিলে আইন গত ভাবে সেই **Trade Union** খন **Registered** হ'ব নোৱাৰে। **I. N. T. U. C.** **Union** যো বহুত সেইদৰেই ৰেজিষ্টাৰ্ড নহয়।

এই ক্ষেত্ৰত বহুতো বামপন্থী নেতাই Union Registered নকৰাৰ কাৰণে আৰু কিছুমান Registration নাকচ হোৱাৰ কাৰণে Labour Department ক দোষ দিছে। মই তেখেত সকলক সুধিব খোজো যে এই বছৰত তেখেত সকলৰ কেইখন Union আৰু Registration নাকচ হৈছে আৰু ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় মজদুৰ কংগ্ৰেছৰ অন্তৰ্ভুক্ত Union ও এই বছৰতে Registration cancel কৰা হৈছে? মই নিজে জানো যে ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় মজদুৰ কংগ্ৰেছৰ প্ৰায় শতকৰা ৫০ ভাগ ইউনিয়নৰ Registration cancel হৈছে। গতিকে Labour Department এ ক'ত পক্ষপাতিতা পৰিলে।

তেখেত সকলে কৈছে যে Cancel কৰাৰ আগতে Notice দিয়াৰ নিয়ম আছে—আৰু এনে ভাবে নটচ দিয়া নাই বুলি অভিযোগ কৰিছে। মই কওঁ যে যোৱা আক্টোবৰ মাহলৈকে সময়ে সময়ে নটচ দি আছে আৰু তাৰ পিচতহে কাৰণ দৰ্শাব নোৱাৰাত Cancel কৰিছে। Labour Department এ নটচ নিদিয়া অভিযোগ মোৰ ব্যক্তিগত অভিজ্ঞতাৰ পৰা ভিত্তি হীন বুলি কওঁ।

তাৰ পাচত আজি মই শুনি আচৰিত হৈছো যে ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াৰ নিচিনা বিৰোধী দলৰ বিশিষ্ট নেতা এজনে কব পাৰে যে আজি Uneconomic বাগান বিলাক বন্ধ কৰি দিব লাগে। তেখেতে তেখেতসকলৰ দৃষ্টি ভঙ্গীৰ ফালৰ পৰা তেনেকৈ কোৱা আচৰিত নহয়—কিন্তু আমি বেয়া বাগিচা বোৰ বন্ধ কৰি দিবলৈ কব নোৱাৰো। আমি কওঁ যে চেষ্টা কৰি পুঁজি সংগ্ৰহ হলেও সেই বাগানবিলাক সজীব কৰিব লাগে। সেই বাগানবিলাকতো আমাৰ বনুৱা সকলে কাম কৰি আছে। যদি সেই বাগানবিলাক বন্ধ হয় সেই বনুৱা সকলক ক'ত নিয়োগ কৰা হ'ব সেই কথাটোৰ বিষয়ে ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই অকণো ভবা নাই। বন্ধ বাগানৰ কৰ্মীসকলক ক'ত সংস্থান কৰিব? বাগানৰ লোকচান হৈছে বুলি বাগান খন বন্ধ কৰি দিয়া অদ্ভুত যুক্তি যে ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই আগ বঢ়াইছে। মই কব পাৰো যে এইটো বৰ্ত্তমান চৰকাৰৰ নীতি নহয়। বেয়া বাগান বিলাকৰ উন্নয়ন কৰিবই লাগিব।

ধুবুৰীৰ বামপন্থী ইউনিয়নে যি নীতিত কাম কৰিছে, সেই কথা জানিলেও সদনৰ সদস্য সকলে আশাতীত নহয় নোৱাৰিব। ধুবুৰীৰ Match Factory ত তেখেত সকলৰ Union এ মজদুৰৰ State Insurance Scheme ৰ বিৰুদ্ধে Factory ত ধৰ্ম্মঘট কৰিছে। কিমান যত্ন কৰি এই সদনত প্ৰস্তাৱ লৈ এই মজদুৰ কল্যাণৰ কাম চালু কৰা হৈছে। ইয়াৰ বিৰুদ্ধে বামপন্থী ইউনিয়নে ধৰ্ম্মঘট কৰাৰ কি সংউদ্দেশ্য থাকিব পাৰে? সেই কাৰণে মই কওঁ যে তেখেতসকলৰ মূল উদ্দেশ্য হল ৰাজনৈতিক স্বাৰ্থ সিদ্ধি। মজদুৰৰ কল্যাণ আৰু দেশৰ হিত সাধন কৰা নহয়। মই এইটো স্বীকাৰ কৰো যে এই উন্নতিকামী আইনখন বলবৎ কৰাত আমি কেতিয়াও পৰাংমুখ নহওঁ বৰং তাৰ শ্ৰীবৃদ্ধি সাধিবলৈ আমি যত্ন পৰ হম।

State Insurance আইন প্ৰয়োগ কৰাৰ লগে লগে অসমত Regional Committee গঠন কৰি সভা সকলক সাহায্য দিব লাগে। Plantation Labour Act মতে গঠিত হোৱা Housing Board জিলাই জিলাই Regional Housing Board গঠন কৰাৰ সিদ্ধান্ত লৈছিল। এই Regional Housing Board বোৰ গঠন কৰিব লাগে সোনকালে। Labour Housing ৰ কাৰণে ভাৰত চৰকাৰে ৩০,০০০,০০ টকা আগ বঢ়াইছিল। কিন্তু কোনো মালিকে সেই সুবিধা

লোৱা নাই। গৃহ নিৰ্মাণৰ বাবেও মজদুৰৰ চিকিৎসাৰ সন্তুৰিধাৰ যি বিধান এই আইনত আছে তাকো ভালকৈ কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিব পৰা নাই। যোৰহাটৰ বৰচৈকটা বাগিছাত আজি দুই বছৰ ডাল্কৰ নাই সংঘই নিযুক্ত কৰা ডাল্কৰো মালিকে খেদাই দিলে। Plantation Labour Act মতে চৰকাৰে ডাল্কৰ দিব লাগে কিন্তু চৰকাৰও সেই বাগিছাত ডাল্কৰ দিয়া নাই। মই এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিছো।

সংশোধিত Industrial Dispute Act ত “Protected Workmen” বুলি এটা clause আছে। অসমত এই clause টো শিল্পে প্ৰয়োগ কৰিব লাগে। এই দফাতো প্ৰয়োগ নকৰাৰ কাৰণে চাহ শিল্পত কাম কৰা মজদুৰ সংঘৰ কৰ্ম কৰ্ত্তা বহু তকো। মালিক সকলে কামৰ পৰা খেদাই দিয়ে আৰু শ্ৰমিক সকলৰ কামৰ নিৰাপত্তা নাই। এই বিষয়ে আসাম চৰকাৰে অতি সোনকালে ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰিলো। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে মই পানবাৰী, দেওপানী আদি বাগিছাৰ কথা ক'ব পাৰো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, Tea Plantation Provident Fund Scheme Act ৰ এটা নতুন সংশোধন হোৱাৰ প্ৰয়োজনৰ কথা কওঁ। কাৰণ Adolescent বৰ্গৰ ১২ বছৰৰ পৰা ১৮ বছৰীয়া কাম কৰা ল'ৰাছোৱালীৰ বিলাকক এই প্ৰতিদেস্ত কাণ্ডৰ সুযোগ লব পৰা নাই তেওঁলোক বাদ পৰি আছে। বাগিছাত কাম কৰা মজদুৰ ল'ৰাছোৱালী বিলাকেও এই সুবিধা পাব পৰাকৈ—এই আইনখন সংশোধন কৰিব লাগে।

Mr. SPEAKER: Adolescent বিলাক—১২ৰ পৰা ১৮ বছৰৰ হ'ব নালাগিব নেকি ?

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLAI: হয়। এই মতে সংশোধন হ'লে ডেকা ল'ৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকে তেতিয়াৰ পৰা কাম কৰিব সেই ছাৰিখৰ পৰা সুবিধা পাব।

ইয়াৰ পিচত মই কওঁ লেবাৰ এপিলিয়েটে ট্ৰিবিউনেল টো উঠাই দি হাইকোৰ্টৰ হাতত আপিলৰ ভাৰ দিয়াত শ্ৰমিকৰ লোকচান হৈছে। গতিকে লেবাৰ এপেলেট্ ট্ৰিবিউনেলটো পুনৰ প্ৰতিস্থা কৰিব লাগে। কাৰণ ইয়াৰ নামটোতে এটা Social justice ভাব কথা আছে। Industrial Tribunal Act মতে—অন্ততঃ পক্ষে ১০ বছৰ District Judge কাম কৰিলেহে ইয়াৰ ‘জাজ’ হ'ব পাৰে। এনে অভিজ্ঞতা থকা ‘জাজ’—কেৱল অসমতে নহয় ভাৰততে অভাৱ। অসমত আৰু অভাৱ। সেই কাৰণে এই এক্টৰ ১০ বছৰীয়া ক্ৰজটো সংশোধন কৰিবলৈ আসাম চৰকাৰে ভাৰত চৰকাৰলৈ লিখালিখি কৰিব লাগে। আৰু এটা কথা হৈছে—ইয়াৰ ‘জাজ’ হ'বলৈ সামাজিক ন্যায্যৰ কথা বুজা আৰু ন্যায্য পৰায়ন হোৱা উচিত। এইবিধয়ে চৰকাৰে বিশেষ দৃষ্টি দিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো।

ইমিগ্ৰেণ্ট লেবাৰ এক্ট আৰু সংশোধন প্ৰয়োজন হৈছে। যিবিলাক মজদুৰ অসমৰ বাহিৰৰ পৰা চাহ শিল্পৰ কাৰণে অনা হয় তেওঁবিলাকৰ সুবিধাৰ কাৰণে নতুন ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লোৱাৰ সময় আহিছে। কাৰণ এই মানুহবিলাকে যেতিয়া কামৰ পিচত ঘৰলৈ যাব খোজে আৰু তেতিয়া মালিক সকলে এৰি মানুহদিয়ে আৰু মালিক সকলে জোৰ কৰি দেশলৈ পঠাবলৈ মন হয় আৰু মজদুৰ জনে যাব নোখোজে তেনে পৰিস্থিতিত মজদুৰক সাহায্য দিবলৈ কোনো আইনৰ বিধান নাই।

এই বিলাক বেশেজালিৰ কাৰণে, মই অসম চৰকাৰৰ ভাৰত চৰকাৰলৈ এই আইন সংশোধন আনিবৰ কাৰণে যেন অতি সোনকালে অনুবোধ কৰে। Plantation Labour Act ৰ প্ৰয়োগ অনুসৰি Medical Board গঠিত হৈছে আৰু এই মতে চাহ বাগানত কাম কৰা শ্ৰমিক সকলে সৰ্ব্বতো প্ৰকাৰৰ চিকিৎসা পোৱা দৰ্কাৰ যদিও কাৰ্য্যকৰী হৈ উঠা নাই। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ হৈছে—মেডিকেল বৰ্ড গঠিত হৈছে যদিও বহুত বাগিছাত উপযুক্ত পৰিমাণৰ ডাক্তৰখানা নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে এই মানুহবিলাক চিকিৎসাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত হৈছে। আইনত কথা বিলাক আছে যদিও কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত হোৱা নাই। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে বৰচৈকটা বাগানত ডাক্তৰ নাই—আমি Trade Union ৰ তৰফৰ পৰা ডাক্তৰ দিয়াতো মালিকে সেই ডাক্তৰ কামত নিয়োগ কৰা নাই—আজি দুবছৰ ধৰি ডাক্তৰ নোহোৱাকৈ চাহ-বাগিছা চলাই আছে। গতিকে চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা মালিক সকলক 'এক্টৰ' প্ৰভিজন বিলাক প্ৰয়োগ কৰোৱাবলৈ বাধ্য কৰিব লাগে।

ইয়াৰ পিচত আন এটা যে Regional Housing বৰ্ড গঠিত হোৱা নাই। ইয়াৰ ফলত কিমান চাহ-বাগিছাই কিমান ঘৰ সাজিছে বা সাজিব লাগিছিল তাক নিৰ্ণয় কৰা কঠিন হৈ উঠিছে। এই বৰ্ড অতি সোনকালে গঠন কৰা দৰ্কাৰ। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ভাৰত চৰকাৰে Housing Scheme ৰ কাৰণে ৩০ লাখ টকা দিছিল যদিও অতি দুখেৰে সেতে জনাব লগীয়া হৈছে যে বাগিছাৰ মালিক সকলে ইয়াৰ সুবিধা লোৱা নাই। এই টকা 'লেপচ' হৈ গৈছে—অৰ্থাৎ টকাৰ মঞ্জুৰী পাইও ঘৰ কৰিব পৰা নাই — ই বৰ পৰিতাপৰ বিষয়।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মেনন কমিচনৰ ৰিকমেণ্ডেচনৰ সন্মুখে মই আজিপুৱা কৈছে আৰু নকও যদিও ইয়াৰ আচনি মতে কাম কৰি দেশৰ কল্যাণ সাধিব বুলি আশা ৰাখিলো।

যোৱা দুই বছৰ ধৰি মই কৈ আহিছো—চাহ বাগানৰ ওচৰে পাচৰে যিবিলাক Surplus Labour আছে সেইবিলাকক কামত নিয়োগ কৰিলে চাহ বাগানত মজদুৰৰ বিধেয় প্ৰয়োজন নহব। এই মানুহ বিলাকক কামত নিয়োগ কৰিলে তেওঁলোকৰ শতকৰা ৯০ ভাগ প্ৰয়োজন পূৰণ হব আৰু এই মন্ত্ৰে এটা 'নেচনেল পলিচি' লৈ কাম কৰিলে চাহ বাগিচা বিলাকৰ ওচৰে পাচৰে থকা মানুহ বিলাকক কাম দিলে তেওঁলোকৰ অৱস্থা টনকিয়াল হব আৰু লগে লগে দেশৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ উন্নতি হব।

উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে মই যোৰহাট টি কোম্পানীৰ কথা কওঁ—ইয়াৰ ওচৰ পাজৰৰ গাঁৱৰ পৰা ১—১½ হেক্টৰ গাঁৱলীয়া মানুহে কাম কৰে। কিন্তু যেতিয়া বস্তি মজদুৰৰ প্ৰভিডেণ্ট ফাণ্ডৰ কথা যোৱা বছৰ উঠিল তেতিয়া তেওঁলোকক কামৰ পৰা আতৰাই দি চাকৰি আৰু প্ৰভিডেণ্ট ফাণ্ড দুয়োতাবে কৰা বন্ধিৎ কৰাতো পৰিতাপৰ কথা। এনে বিলাক অসুবিধা আৰু বেমেজালি থকাটো উচিত নহয়। এই সন্মুখে মই এখন আঁচনি দিছিলো আৰু তাত কেনেকৈ মানুহক কাম দিব পৰা যায় তাৰ ইঙ্গিত দিছিলো—কিন্তু তাৰ কোনো বকমৰ কাম নহল আৰু আনহাতে পাকিস্তানৰ মজদুৰেও বহুত বাগিছাত কাম কৰিছে সেই বাহিৰাগত সকলৰ লগত ঠিকা দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা লৈছে আৰু ইয়াৰ মানুহক উপাৰ্জনৰ সুবিধাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰিছে। এই বকম ব্যৱস্থা অকল চাহ শিল্পতেই নহয়—অসমৰ অন্যান্য শিল্প বিলাকতো আৰু ভবিষ্যতে গঠিত হব লগা শিল্প বিলাকতো এই নীতিকেই অবলম্বন কৰা উচিত।

মই চৰকাৰক বন্যবাদ জনাও যে এই উদ্দেশ্য সিদ্ধিৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে Labour Officer সকলক Chairman কৰি জিলাই জিলাই একোখন Employment Advisory Committee গঠন কৰিছে।

মই আশা কৰো। এই কমিটিয়ে ভাল কাম কৰিব পাৰিব আৰু এনে এটা জাতীয় নীতি শিল্পপতিসকলৰ ওচৰত দাখিল কৰিব যাতে তেওঁলোকে মানি লব অথবা চৰকাৰেই সেই নীতি মানি লোৱাবলৈ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, চাহ বাগিছাত মদ নিৰ্বাৰণ কৰাৰ যি প্ৰচেষ্টা চলিছে সি মাত্ৰ slogan হৈয়ে আছে। কাৰণ চৰকাৰে আয় কমি যাব বুলি মদৰ দোকান বিলাক চলাই আছে। সেই কাৰণেই এই মদ নিৰ্বাৰণী অভিযানত দৃঢ়তা নাই। আমাৰ চৰকাৰে এক কোটি ৭৭ লাখ টকা মদ বেচি আয় কৰে। আৰু ইয়াৰ অধিক অংশ চাহ বাগিছাৰ পৰাই পায়। গতিকে চৰকাৰে যদি এই আয় ত্যাগ কৰিব নোৱাৰে তেন্তে এই অভিযানত কেতিয়াও সফল হ'ব নোৱাৰে। এই আয় একেবাৰে ত্যাগ কৰিবও নোলাগে, ৫ বছৰ ভিতৰতে অন্যান্য টেক্স হিচাবে আকৌ চৰকাৰী পুঁজিলৈ এই টকা ঘূৰি আহিব। এই কথাটো নৈতিকতা আৰু বহুল দৃষ্টি ভঙ্গিৰে চোৱা দৰকাৰ। মদ বিক্ৰি কৰি আজি চৰকাৰে আয় বৃদ্ধি কৰিবলৈ গৈ নৈতিক অন্যায়ে আচৰণ কৰিছে। আশা কৰো চৰকাৰে এই কথাটো নৈতিকতাৰ ফালৰ পৰা চোৱা আজি একান্ত আৱশ্যক হৈ পৰিছে। সোনকালে সম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে মদৰ দোকানবোৰ বন্ধ কৰি দিয়াৰ প্ৰয়োজন হৈছে।

চাহ বাগিছাৰ কুলবোৰ চৰকাৰে লব বুলি বোৱা বছৰেই সিদ্ধান্ত কৰিছিল। কিন্তু সেই সিদ্ধান্ত আজিও কিয় কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰা হোৱা নাই? যদি চৰকাৰী সিদ্ধান্ত এটা কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰোঁতে এইদৰে এৰছৰ, ডেৰবছৰ লাগে, তেনেহলে চৰকাৰ কেনেকৈ বাইজৰ আশ্বাস ভাজন হ'ব পাৰে? গতিকে চৰকাৰী সিদ্ধান্ত যিমান পাৰি সোনকালে কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিব লাগে আৰু পলম হলেই তাৰ effect পোৱা নেযায়।

দ্বিতীয় পক্ষ বাৰ্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাত ৩০ লাখতকৈ বেচি টকা মজদুৰ কল্যাণৰ কাৰণে আছে। কিন্তু এই টকা এতিয়ালৈকে আঁচনি মতে কামত খৰচ কৰিব পৰা নাই মই আশা কৰো। এই পুঁজি State Labour Welfare Board এ মজদুৰ কল্যাণ কামত খৰচ কৰিবলৈ তৎপৰ হ'ব। যাতে কোনো টকা ফিৰং দিব লগা নহয়।

অসম চৰকাৰৰ অধীনতে বহুত contingency menials আছে, বহুত ৪ৰ্থ শ্ৰেণীতো কাম কৰা কৰ্মচাৰী আছে। এনে কৰ্মচাৰী সকল ছিলঙতে ডেৰ হেজাৰ মান হ'ব আৰু গোটেই অসমত প্ৰায় ৬-৭ হেজাৰ হ'ব পাৰে। এওঁলোকৰ নাম এতিয়াও চৰকাৰী বা পৰিয়ালৰ লিপি ভুক্ত হোৱা নাই, অৰ্থাৎ এওঁলোকক permanent কৰা নাই। এওঁলোকে ৩০-৩৫ বছৰ চাকৰি কৰি বুঢ়া হৈ যাব অথচ পেন্সন আদি ন্যায়্য প্ৰাপ্য পৰাও বঞ্চিত হ'ব যিহেতু permanent হোৱা নাই। এইটো বৰ অন্যায়ে হৈছে। আশা কৰো চৰকাৰে ইয়াৰ বিহীন ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব। যিসকলে চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে ৫ বছৰ চাকৰি কৰিছে সেই সকলক স্থায়ী এতিয়াও কৰা হোৱা নাই। যোৰ এটা প্ৰস্তাৱ ওপৰত চৰকাৰে কৈছিল যে এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে সিদ্ধান্ত লৈছে। কিন্তু যদি চোৱা যায় দেখিব যে ৫ বছৰ ১০ বছৰ পৰ্য্যন্ত চাকৰি কৰা লোক আছে—স্থায়ী হৈ মই আশা কৰো। চৰকাৰৰ সিদ্ধান্ত অতি সোনকালে কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰি এই চাকৰীয়াসকলক স্থায়ী কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা সোনকালে কৰিব।

(Shri Khogendra Nath Borbarua and Shri Hiralal Patwari stood up to speak.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The time allotted for this grant is 1½ hours. We have already exceeded the time. Now, I call the Minister to reply.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would have appreciated if Mr. Bhattacharyya did not have refer to the personal discussion he had with the Labour Commissioner, as he is not here to defend himself.

Mr. SPEAKER: But there is one difficulty in this. The hon. Member can refer to a matter of an officer in his official or administrative capacity and as he has not referred to the officer's personal capacity, he is quite relevant.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I would have appreciated if Mr. Bhattacharyya would have brought to my notice earlier so that I could collect the information from the officer.

Sir, I would have appreciated if Shri Bardoloi did not refer about the method of selection of personnel for the Tribunal and the Labour Court, as this may create wide repercussions. Apart from this, I have no doubt that today's discussion is quite comprehensive and has focussed light on certain matters in the trade union field. Unfortunately, I feel that the Opposition has been labouring under certain complexes, which is not warranted by the practice either in the Ministerial or Official level. Everyone knows that in this country including the Members Opposite what is happening in the trade union field in the country. It is a known fact that many unions have come into being and in the name of the unions fund is raised but such funds are found unaccounted for, which means, funds wasted. This is not only happening in Assam but all over India and for the last two years the all labour organisations, both in Government level and in trade union level are concerned about it. This has been discussed in Labour Ministers' meetings and the Labour Standing Committee of the Government of India. As a matter of fact, the Labour Minister of Government of India and other Ministers there are worried about it. These unhealthy predictions have come into being over a large area some middle class people are taking advantage of the labour class people and becoming their leaders they raise funds in the name of unions, but there is no protection under the existing Trade Union laws, the Industrial Dispute Acts, etc., through action of the registrar apart from taking up suitable criminal cases. As a matter of fact, the Labour Minister of Madhya Pradesh told me that if the Central Government did not do anything to prevent this growth of mushroom trade unions and playing about with funds his Government would bring a legislation and get all powers to put a complete stop to it. Yesterday, I saw in the newspapers, that Bihar Government is going to amend the Trade Union Legislation, as the Government of India have failed to bring forward a uniform legislation for trade unions. This will be admitted by all people that funds raised but not accounted for is nothing but raising money for fraudulent purposes. Therefore, I took all the responsibility and directed our officers to become stricter in matters of cancellation of registration. I directed I have not directed them to be partial in this matter but I have directed that they should be stricter in this matter so that this sort of practice may disappear from the country and the sooner it disappears the better for all concerned. I have no doubt that for the welfare of the workers every real trade unionist will support me in this—that is, when I tighten the rules of registration or deregistration. Sir, in this connection I am glad my Friend, Shri Bardaloi has cited examples to show that unions have been deregistered not only those of the opposition but also others. This shows that we are very impartial in these matters,

We have deregistered those unions which have been practising in a way which is not desirable irrespective of to what party they belong. I am sorry Mr. Goswami has based his conclusion on one case in the High Court. That case was about to be lost not on any material but on technical ground only because two notices were not served on the union for not filing the returns. Our Department should have given a second notice which they did not. If that was done the High Court would have upheld the case. But High Court go by technical grounds. Therefore, when we found that our orders are faulty.....

Mr. SPEAKER : Do these returns also include returns of accounts?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) : Yes Sir. Return of accounts is the main thing. Defalcations in accounts by Unions is going up and when such public funds are defalcated it is our duty to prevent such defalcations.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : On a point of clarification Sir, মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে এই টো জানেনেকি যে বহুত ঠাইত Trade Union এ মানুহৰ পৰা টকা লৈ ৰচিদ নিদিয়ৈ ?

Mr. SPEAKER : এই টোৰ বিষয়ে মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে পৰিষ্কাৰ কৈ কৈছে, তেখেতে I. N. T. U. ৰ কথাও কৈছে Labour ৰ কথাও কৈছে যেতিয়া point of clarification আৱশ্যক হয় তেতিয়াহে clarification বিচৰা উচিত। Like the teamster gangs of America.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Yes Sir, as hon. Members know there was one such teamster leader in U. S. A. (Mr. Devereck) who became a millionaire but now he is in disgrace he is in prison.

So Sir, unless this defalcation of public funds is prevented no proper and steady trade unionism can grow in this country. Trade Unionism in this country has come to such a stage that unless we can prevent this sort of malpractices no real and powerful trade unions can grow in this country. That is why I am trying to tighten up the rules in this regard and I expect wholehearted co-operation from all sides of the House including the Opposition and I have no doubt that only misconceived ideas have prompted these discussions here.

Now Sir, I may belong to the Indian National Trade Union Congress and I may have been its General Secretary before but I was not widely known to be a very partial man. I do not intend to be partial even now and I can assure my Friends Opposite that it would be my highest and honest endeavour to run this Department so long as I am here in the most impartial way.

So far as the question of representation in the different committees is concerned, which point has been raised by my Friend Shri Borthakur, I am conscious about it. But unfortunately we have constituted committees not on the basis of membership of All-India but on the basis of Assam. And it would be admitted rightly or wrongly that the membership in the hand of the I. N. T. U. C. in Assam is by far the highest over other unions particularly in Tea. Therefore, if in some of these committees there is an overwhelming representation from the I. N. T. U. C. It

should not be considered as due to partiality but it should be taken as rising out of the situation over which Government have no control. Still in the Valuation Committee which is going to meet either on the 8th of April or thereabout, I have directed that leaders of different shades of opinion may be taken in and I am informed that leaders of different shades of opinion are being taken in. Again Sir, I am thinking of convening a meeting for the purpose of discipline and efficiency and in this also I am thinking of including members of different shades of opinion. But so far as unions which are on the basis of individual industries are concerned, I am helpless because it is the membership in such individual industries that determines the representation in particular committees. So it will be appreciated and realised that it is not because of partiality at Government level but because of the situation which obtains that we are forced to act in a particular way.

Now Sir, I am very sorry that from the last few days' debate on the floor of this House I have noticed a tendency to use hyperbole and the strongest language for the smallest breach. There should be a sense of proportion and a relation between facts and comments. Opposition are erudite people and have control over their language, not only on language, but also on ideas I must comment Sir, that in the progress of the discussion here in the last few days and also today much unbalanced and unrestrained words were used which are not warranted by facts and the proportion of the breach if any. Sir, in this matter I take the example of the Leader of the Opposition. He has been labouring under a grievance arising out of the Goarnia Tea Estate. He has charged that not only the Secretary of the Department, but the Minister and everybody in the Labour Department, were highly partial, etc. Now, Sir, I had a discussion with him and further I had discussion with the Secretary who is in charge of the Union about whom he also mentioned and I had convinced him that the Government is not at fault. The facts are clear there was an agreement arrived at between the workers and the employers in a Committee in which not only the I.N.T.U.C. but also the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, the Communists were agreed.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Were the Communists represented there?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): I mean the A. I. T. U. C. and.....

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: So, that is the thing. The Communists.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order. The hon. Member from Gauhati need not be sensitive about it.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: But Sir, when the Minister thinks that A. I. T. U. C.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order. Let the Minister finish. The time of the House is already taken too much.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): Sir, I was saying that so far as the political and the trade unions set up of the Communists in this country is concerned, we all know well. But the point is that the person who represented the A. I. T. U. C. was a Member of Parliament. He was more political rather than trade unionist. He was deliberately put in because of his political stature. But what I was saying is not about that. This was a National agreement arrived at by all parties and trade unions in the country. It was jointly arrived at the co-equals and not as partners of unequal status. The agreement is that if there is profit there will be bonus and if there is no profit there shall be no bonus. That is the agreement. So far as Bhrania Tea Estate is concerned, there is no profit when the fact was checked up reported to Shri M. Sarma of I.N.T.U.C. and Shri Mitra of Bengal of H. M. S. with consent of parties Shri Sarma after examining accounts of the Company said that there was no profit and so no bonus was due. Shri Mitra however, kept silent. Naturally when that was said Government could nothing. When 50 per cent of the workers representation said that there was no profit naturally Government could not refer the matter to a tribunal and therefore Government did not take any action. Even today Mr. Mitra has not made any reference to us saying that there is a profit. So this is no fault of the Government. All parties agreed that there will be no bonus if there is no profit including the A.I.T.U.C. So what are we to do now on this question? So Sir, it is highly improper—I am sorry to have to say so—for the Leader of the Opposition to try to create an impression that our Department is functioning in a partial way. Our officers are also human beings and if a strong comment is made against them in the House it will affect them greatly. In this case, the Labour Officer of Dibrugarh is faultless. He has gone from place to place to collect information but could not get any from Mr. Mitra. As a matter of fact, unless and until it can be proved that there is a profit, no reference could be made to the tribunal. Mr. Goswami said that there was a personal talk between the employers and himself. But Government can't be guided by private personal talks. It should be the duty of the Opposition to honour that national agreement. This is the way how Trade Unions all over the world grow, flourish and prosper. Once an agreement is entered into, every member shall have to follow and abide by it. If we break such an agreement, then it will give handle to the employers to break further agreements. Therefore, I feel that Mr. Goswami's impression is unwarranted. Another point is about the Gingia Tea Estate where it was stated that the workers were remaining idle. That fact was never brought to my notice. So if such fact is not brought to our notice then are we to blame? I therefore feel that it is wrong to say that we are partial. I hope the Opposition will agree with me. In so far as the control of the employers on the Trade Unions are concerned, this practice will go on and it is the strong trade unions only that can prevent it. Our type of Government is not a dictatorial Government of a communist type and so we can't control employees in a dictatorial way. So far as the question of the Conciliation and the Tribunal taking time is concerned that is a question which has been discussed many times in the Labour Standing Committee and in the Labour Ministers' Conference. The whole difficulty is that the High Courts have the power and so has the Supreme Court. They always intervene and we cannot prevent them. So long as our Constitution stands as it is our cases are amendable to interfere with by the High Court and the Supreme Court. Therefore, our Labour Department should not be blamed for that. If there is any blame

that falls on the Constitution. Therefore, I hope the Opposition will realise that the blame does not lie on the Labour Department. So far as the question of unemployment is concerned, we have been taking surveys through the Statistics Department. As a matter of fact, it was the Statistics Department at our instance which went into the question and discovered that there was so much of unemployment in the tea gardens. Similarly, we are trying through the Statistics Department to keep a check on this unemployment situation, but this will be finally solved not by the Labour Department but by creating more employment in the country. The solution lies in creation of more employment. The solution does not lie in the statistics of unemployment which we may collect. Therefore, the solution is not with us. The only thing we can do is to keep abreast of it. We are apprising the different Departments of Government of what is happening and how the unemployment situation is gradually taking shape in transforming the economy of our society. We have in the meantime taken steps in this regard, not merely myself, but by the Finance Minister, the Chief Minister and the ex-Finance Minister. We are trying to impress upon the employers of the State to give preference to the people of the State at different levels of employment because the primary purpose of establishing industries is to create employment in the State and if the industries which exist do not give employment to the workers then what will happen? We have taken up this matter last time when I was in Calcutta and when we had a lunch with the coming Chairman of the Indian Tea Association this matter was discussed and we impressed upon him that this was the feeling of the State and that it should be respected. He has promised to look into the matter. Therefore, it is not a fact that we are unaware of the situation and that we are silent about it. Instead, we are very mindful of the situation. After all, the private industrialists have their own difficulties with the trade unions and sometimes one or two persons may have to be discharged here and there. Of course, there are so many arguments for and against it. As a matter of fact, you yourself know Sir that due to such a situation a large number of South Indians were imported to Calcutta and given even job arrival in Calcutta farms because of the perpetual strike situation prevailing in Calcutta, a few minutes ago.

Mr. Patwary quoted the instance of Steelworths saying "we are not going to open the third factory at Gauhati". I have written a letter to them urging them not to be upset by the labour situation, which was a passing phase and that things would settle down.

So far as employment is concerned, we are trying all the time to impress upon the employees that people of the State should be given preference in the matter.

Now, Sir so far as the wage question raised by Mr. Barthakur is concerned, I myself raised this matter with the Government of India and when the Standing Labour Committee sat in Shillong, this matter was discussed. Unfortunately, the Labour Minister of Madras took a different view because they had arrived at a wage settlement with the employers for 3 years. Therefore, a Wage Board on an All India level was not agreed to. I don't know what should be done if a Wage Board on All India level does not come into being. I agree with the Opposition that the present wage is not the minimum wage. The present wage is a negotiated wage in a large measure. Naturally we have to take some steps. But the tea industry is passing through some difficulties now. We should forget about 1954

which was a year of prosperity. Recently some difficulties have arisen and many tea gardens have closed down. Therefore, we have to go slow. I am trying to solve the problem from the other point of view, *viz.*, from the financial point of view. Finance should be made available to the tea gardens for development and once this is done, I can take up the question of implementation of the Plantation Labour Act. If I take up this question now, they will say that they have no funds.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Bardoloi said that some 30 lakhs of rupees have been provided for that purpose.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister for Labour) : Yes, Sir, he raised a very important question. We want security when we give loan. But there is no security by the Tea Estate to offer because the whole garden including the crop is mortgaged to the Bank for correct finance. This is a very unscientific thing. In the Menon Commission's report, it is stated that it was not proper for banks to take, against hypothecation, collateral security from the gardens. After great pressure from us the Tea Board has come to the conclusion that guarantee of the hypothecation fund shall be given by the Tea Board. If the guarantee is given the collateral security is freed. Once the security is free, the garden can be pledged for development loan, housing loan, etc. Then the tea gardens will be able to take these loans. However, Sir, as I informed the House, I have taken up this matter. I am going to discuss on the 2nd April in Calcutta with the Committee of Bankers whether we can find out a *via media*, and the gardens are enabled to take loan from the banks making a guarantee of annual instalments. I hope we may succeed. Therefore, this matter also is requiring our attention.

Then, Sir, so far as cost of living is concerned, there has been a slight decline in the last few months, both with regard to plantation and other labour in the State as well as in the rural areas. For instance, in rice and flour mills in November it was 104, now it has become 100. So far as consumers price index number of tea garden workers is concerned, it was 106, it has become 99. So far as rural population is concerned, it has declined from 155 to 152. So far as other workers in town areas are concerned, it has declined from 103 to 99 at Gauhati, from 108 to 103 at Silchar and from 114 to 108 at Tinsukia. So, there is a decline. It is very true that unless the price-line is held, wage line cannot be held. Of course, a part of the wages are protected by wages in kind in tea gardens, but not in other industries. Therefore, it is necessary to protect the price-line. As a matter of fact, the Parliamentary Committee on the Third Plan as well as of the A. I. C. C. are thinking about it. As you know, Sir, the A. I. C. C. has constituted four Sub-Committees and one of the Sub-Committee will go into the question of price, wage and income in relation to the Third Plan, obviously with a view to holding the price-line. If the price-line cannot be held, the plan is upset. Therefore, what was not provided in the Second Plan shall be provided in the Third Plan, *viz.*, holding the price-line. So far as the holding of the price-line is concerned, I am at once with the Opposition. I hope the Finance Minister and the Supply Minister will devise ways and means for that. So far as wage revision is concerned it is our policy that the matter should be discussed between the employers and the employees. Our aim is that the employers and workers should come together, discuss and decide. Only when they fail the matter comes to us. Therefore, I have no doubt that this will be done.

I do not agree with Mr. Barthakur that there has been a wage-freeze since 1952. I think it was in 1954 that provident fund scheme was introduced. Under the Scheme the employers have to contribute to the extent of one anna per rupee. This is an addition to the wage by six pice. After 1954, there was again another advancement in the shape of bonus. To the bulk of the workers this has been an additional sustenance. Of course, I agree that workers in many gardens do not get bonus, but it has been nevertheless to some extent a stabilising factor.

Now, Sir, so far as the question of unemployment in Cachar is concerned, we are very conscious about it. We are sorry that McNeill Berry have closed down their gardens. I am surprised when the Opposition Leader made the charge that we had neglected these workers because their union was not affiliated to the INTUC. It was a news to me because it is an INTUC union and I was receiving telegrams and letters daily from the INTUC. It is unfortunate that my Friend does not know which are his unions and which are not. He is of course a busy practitioner and he has no time to look into these matters closely. But it is unfortunate that he makes his comments from hearsay.

(A Voice—There is another union).

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): The second union has come to exist recently. When the gardens were about to close a new union was hastily formed, but that union has no control over the workers. The labour is not so unwise.....

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA : [Pathankandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : এয়ারটার বাগানের মধ্যে ডটাই লেবার ইউনিয়ন রয়েছে ।

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: With regard to the lay off we advised the Company not to lay off the workers.

The Company was ill advised. Even if they lay-off, they will have to give the workers six days wages. So they will not get much advantage. But their lawyers have advised them that if they lay-off then the All India Law will apply. As soon as we heard about lay-off we immediately and promptly referred it to the Tribunal and the matter is now sub-judice. All that we can say at the moment is that we are very sorry for this lay-off and that is why we promptly referred the matter to the Tribunal for adjudication.

So far as the standardisation of piece work is concerned, the conditions differ from one garden to another and therefore the employers have not agreed to the proposal of standardization. I therefore suggest to my Friend, Shri Brathakur that if he is very serious about this, it may be possible for him to discuss these things even at a tripartite level and later on represent the same to Government.

So far as the question of Transport workers are concerned, I am indeed surprised to hear that no benefit has been given to the Transport workers. As a matter of fact, Sir, these Transport workers did not get pension previously and now they are entitled to get pensions as in the case of other Government employees. This is a distinct advantage which they have been able to secure.

So far as the question of 10 thousand discharged workers of the Cachar is concerned, Sir, this refers to a matter which took place in 1952. The matter was referred to the Tribunal, the Tribunal gave some decision which was not to the satisfaction of parties. Then they went to the High Court. This is a most unfortunate state of affairs, a case which has been hanging from 1952, and yet no decision be arrived at. This is a case of delay in which Government have nothing to do, but a case of proverbial law's delay.

So far as the Electricity union is concerned, certain facts have been represented here. But subsequent development of the matter was never brought to my notice. Only in the House for the first time to-day I have heard about it. Sir, it is not our intention to be partial in any way. Of course the employers may have some preference or prejudice for one kind of Union as against the other but in the ultimate it is entirely for the employees to decide what kind of Union they prefer and get affiliated to, and the function of the Labour Department is to assist in the fulfilment of their preference. I fully agree with the hon. Member as to what he stated regarding the proper role of the Trade Unions and the function of the Labour Department. I can assure the House that it is far from our intention to be partial to one Union in preference to another.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Can a Government servant be an office bearer of Labour Union?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): Sir, this is a point of law which my hon. Friend knows better than I do.

So far as the points raised by my Friend Shri Bardaloi, they are of very great material import. So far as the question of the 'Thika' and Pakistani workers question are concerned, this matter was examined by the several concerning departments including our department several times but it has not been possible for us to take action on such general allegation. Whenever any particular case is cited, then only we can take steps.

So far as the schools are concerned, Sir, in spite of our efforts the Industry has not agreed to hand over the schools because the proposal is hedged in with the demand of Education department that the employers should continue to pay the difference of cost between what the Education Department usually incur on such schools and the expenditure borne by the tea garden authorities, so far. The demand of the tea garden authorities on the other hand is that if the Government want to take over the Schools in tea garden, they should take over at once and the tea garden authorities should not be asked to incur any expenditure therefore. If the demand of the tea garden authority is to be conceded, then the whole salary structure of the State education department will be affected. So, in spite of our best efforts the matter has been hanging fire and it has not been possible to

come to a solution. In spite of all these difficulties, we are taking action consistent with our capacity and resources. So long these tea garden schools were not inspected by officers of Government but now S.Is. and A. S. Is. are being authorised to inspect them. This is however, only a *via media*. Much more yet remains to be done.

So far as housing is concerned, we agree that we have not been able to make sufficient progress in this matter. Our department which deals with tea plantation labour is there only in name and is not sufficiently strong enough to do justice even to the task so far assigned to it. The question of expansion of this department is being taken up so far as it may be possible to have detailed and regular check. The employers have reported that they had some building activity in 1957. The returns of 1958 have not yet come. The position is however not likely to improve very much unless Government can take bolder and stricter steps. There are some employers who are very good and are willing to implement Government policy in regard to Housing, while there are others, who do not show that amount of enthusiasm. Out of the total of 20 thousand houses to be built annually only (*i. e.*, about 3 per cent) the number reported to have been built so far by the tea garden authorities is said to be seven thousand. So we have a short-fall.

So far as Medical facilities are concerned, we are quite conscious of the inadequacy in tea garden areas. In my opinion this matter of Medical and schools are vestiges of the past which are over lasting this time. If the industry can shake off this feudal vestige, it will be better for us all concerned. I would like advise them to hand over both the medical and schools to the respective departments of the Government. But unfortunately the tea industry is so organised that I find it is difficult for them to get out of this feudal vestiges. Then coming to Medical side also I find when a tea garden closes, along with it the hospital is also closed down. So also with the School. These tea gardens are situated in out lying areas where there are facilities for medical treatment. Therefore, when a garden closes down, also no labourers find it extremely difficult to obtain any medical treatment or medicine as the tea garden hospital also is closed down with the garden. I suggest to them that in such a case the Government should be asked to take over these hospitals, and that should be the proper procedure. We have set up an Evaluation Committee to go into the question of implementation of the Tribunal's awards. This will be a new Committee and I hope with the co-operation of the Members from both sides of the House, we shall be able to improve matters.

So far as the question of protection of workmen is concerned this is a valuable idea given by my Friend Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi. We shall try to take it up. So far as the question of Provident Fund Scheme is concerned *i. e.* non-adult being left out, I am sorry it was some how left out through over-sight while drafting the scheme. It was never intended that non-adult should be left out. I have no doubt that the matter will be corrected. So far as the Appellate Tribunal is connected, this is not in my hands because all the labour leaders of INTUC., AITUC. etc., combined to fight it out of existence in the last 6 or 7 years. Now when this has gone out of existence, again like a pendulum of a clock, we now realise perhaps it was a good thing. It is like the story of Sakuntala. When Sakuntala appeared before Dusmanta the latter could not recognise her and when Sakuntala disappeared, Dusmanta began to wail. Now again if it is taken up on an all India level, then it may be possible for the Government of India

to revise the decision in this respect. It was not the desire of the Government of India, but as it was the desire of the labour leaders, that was as it was scrapped. So far as the other matters are concerned, i. e., 10 years Judgeship that is a matter on which I have not applied my thought. Much can be said on both sides. Again, after having introduced, we have to revise our opinion out of experience. It is always good to have wide matured experience.

Sir, although it is a better criticism of the Department, I take it as a hang over of the habit of speaking in hyperboles. So I would request the hon. Members of the Opposition to give us a chance to implement all the schemes and assist us in the various spheres. I therefore request them to withdraw their Cut Motions.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Pauery): Except No. 2 we withdraw all the Cut Motions, Sir.

(All the Cut Motions except No. 2 moved by Shri Hiralal Patwary, were withdrawn by leave of the house).

Mr. SPEAKER : I put Cut Motion No. 2 to vote. The question is that the provision of Rs.5,32,617 under Grant No. 28, Major head "41-Miscellaneous Departments" Minor head B Labour (Total)" at page 385 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1 i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 11,03,300 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

THE HOUSE DIVIDED

Ayes No. 13.

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| 1. Shri Birendra Kumar Das. | 8. Shri Kogendranath Barbaruah. |
| 2. „ Bishwanath Upadhyaya. | 9. „ Nilmoney Borthakur. |
| 3. „ Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. | 10. „ Pakhirai Deka. |
| 4. „ Ghanashyam Talukdar. | 11. „ Kumar Prokritish Ch. Barua. |
| 5. „ Gopesh Namasudra. | 12. Maulavi Tajuddin Ahmed. |
| 6. „ Hareswar Goswami. | 13. Shri Tarun Sen Deka. |
| 7. „ Hiralal Patwary. | |

Noes 35.

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. | 19. Shri Gouri Shankar Roy. |
| 2. „ Debeswar Sarmah. | 20. „ Harinarayan Baruah. |
| 3. „ Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi. | 21. „ Jogakanta Barua. |
| 4. „ Hareswar Das. | 22. Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda. |
| 5. M. Moinul Haque Choudhury. | 23. Shri Karka Chandra Doley. |
| 6. Shri Mahendranath Hazarika. | 24. Prof. (Smti) Komol Kumari Barua. |
| 7. „ Radhika Ram Das. | 25. Shri Mohananda Bora. |
| 8. „ Larsingh Khyriem. | 26. „ Mohidhar Pegoo. |
| 9. „ Girindra Nath Gogoi. | 27. Maulavi Nurul Islam. |
| 10. „ A. Thanglura. | 28. Shri Radha Charan Choudhury. |
| 11. Pu Lalmawia | 29. Maulavi Rahimuddin Ahmed. |
| 12. Shri Lalit Kumar Doley. | 30. Shri Rajendranath Barua. |
| 13. „ Bhuvan Chandra Pradhani. | 31. „ Ram Nath Das. |
| 14. „ Bishnulal Upadhyaya. | 32. Dr. Ram Prasad Chaudhary. |
| 15. „ Dandi Ram Dutta. | 33. Shri Sarat Ch. Goswami. |
| 16. „ Devendra Nath Hazarika. | 34. Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi. |
| 17. „ Durgeswar Saikia | 35. Shri Tankeswar Chetia. |
| 18. Dr. Ghanashyam Das. | |

(The Cut Motion was negatived)

MR. SPEAKER : I will put the original motion. The question is: That a sum of Rs. 11,00,303 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "47—Miscellaneous Department".

(The question was adopted)

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 9-30 A. M. on Thursday the 26th March, 1959.

Shillong.

The 19th November, 1960.

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