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Assam
Legislative Assembly
Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

FOURTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE
THIRD GENERAL ELECTION UNDER
THE SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLICAN CONSTITUTION OF
INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOL. I

No. 13

The 19th March, 1963



सत्यमेव जयते

1964

PRINTED AT THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT PRESS
SHILLONG

Price 62 nP.

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Proceedings of the Fourth Session of the Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled after the Third General Election
Under the Sovereign Democratic Republican
Constitution of India

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 a. m. on
Tuesday, the 19th March, 1963.

PRESENT

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY, B. L., Speaker in the
Chair, ten Ministers, two Ministers of State, three Deputy Ministers and
sixty Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Re: Attempts to derail train

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked :

*36. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there was any attempt to derail trains in Assam during the last October, November and December 1962 ?
- (b) If so, whether there was any proper investigation to find out the culprits ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

36. (a)—Yes. Four cases of attempts to derail trains in Assam were reported during the months of October, November and December 1962.

(b)—Yes.

Re: Motor accidents in Gauhati

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked :

*37. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of deaths on account of motor accidents in Gauhati in the years 1960, 1961 and 1962 ?

- (b) The total number of wounded persons on account of motor accidents in and around Gauhati in the years 1960, 1961 and 1962 ?
- (c) Whether the number of accidents has decreased ?
- (d) If not, steps taken so far to check such accidents ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

37. (a)—1960	...	...	...	...	12
1961	...	...	...	...	19
1962	...	...	...	...	12
(b)—1960	...	...	...	...	108
1961	...	...	...	...	136
1962	...	...	..	...	143

(c)—No.

(d)—The following immediate steps have been taken to prevent road accidents—

- (i) Traffic check-posts have been opened from time to time at Dispur, Maligaon, Chariali and Chandmari to check the traffic for 24 hours in addition to holding of frequent mobile courts.
- (ii) One Traffic Sergeant has been posted and there is proposal for increase the number of Traffic Sergeants.
- (iii) Restrictions on traffic have been imposed which includes one way traffic, no parking zones, no entry for trucks and slow moving vehicles and speed limits, etc.
- (iv) Elaborate arrangements are made to observe a "Traffic Week" at Gauhati from 16th March 1963 with a view to enlighten all users of the road about the rules of the road and to impress on them the necessity of scrupulously adhering to those rules to avoid accidents.
- (v) A Committee has been constituted to consider measures for effective traffic control and prevention of accidents.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : Whether Government has taken any step to widen the roads ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : Yes, Sir. The hon'ble Member might have seen that the Noonmati road and the Bhubaneswar Baruah Road have been taken over by the P. W. D. and have been widened and the footpath also has been laid. Similarly, a part of the Strand Road had been taken over by the Government, and now other part is also being taken up.

Shri MAHAMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhabri) : Are Government taking any step to control the movement of rickshaws in Gauhati ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : Yes, Sir. The number of rickshaws is very big and I cannot give the exact number. They are too many and they are responsible for the traffic congestion in Gauhati.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN : What steps Government propose to take to reduce the number of rickshaws or to control their movement ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : So far as my information goes, Gauhati Municipality has decided not to increase the number of rickshaws in Gauhati town.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : Whether the Chief Minister is aware that the number of accidents has increased in other towns also ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : Yes, Sir, it is becoming a problem.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : What steps have the Government taken to widen the roads in thickly populated towns in Assam ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : As the hon. Members are aware, the Assam Trunk Road is going to be widened under the Central Scheme which will be a two lane road instead of a one lane road. In towns also, funds have been set apart for widening some important roads and for taking over by the Public Works Department and for laying of foot-paths.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : Do the Government consider the measures already taken adequate to stop such kind of accidents ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : I would not say these are adequate. Actually much more will have to be done.

Shri R. THANHLIRA [Aijal East (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Whether any drivers were prosecuted during this period on account of these accidents ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : There must be some prosecutions, but I want notice of that question, Sir.

(Starred Questions No.38 standing in the name of Shri Mahadeb Das was not put and answered as the hon. Member was absent.)

Re: Scarcity of cattle fodder around Gauhati

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked :

- *39. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state--
 (a) Whether Government are aware of the scarcity of cattle fodder around Gauhati as a result of which supply of milk in Gauhati is very scanty ?

- (b) If so, whether Government propose to start some cattle fodder farms near Gauhati ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

39. (a)—There is some scarcity of cattle fodder around Gauhati town as is the normal feature of any growing town. But Government are not aware if the production of milk has, for that reason, been any way seriously affected.

(b)—It is not the policy of the Government to start fodder farm for production of fodder and supply to the cattle keepers. What is being done by the Department is encouragement of fodder cultivation by cattle keepers themselves and the development of V. G. Rs and P. G. Rs. Gauhati has also the difficulty of getting sufficiently big land for development of fodder cultivation even for expansion of our Khanapara Farm.

Re: Establishment of Milk Colony

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government propose to establish milk colony in the State ?

(b) If so, steps taken in this regard ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY replied :

40. (a) & (b)—There is no such scheme included in Third Plan.

Re: Extension of Panchayat facilities to Forest villages

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowka) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that since introduction of Panchayat, no facilities were extended to Forest villagers either out of Community Development Block or from Anchalik Panchayats ?

(b) What are the instructions in this regard ?

(c) Whether Government will enquire as to whether Anchalik Panchayats decided not to extend help from their funds as it did not come under their purview ?

(d) If so, what will be the fate of the Forest Villagers ?

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

41. (a), (b) and (c)—Community Development Blocks and Panchayats were formed on the basis of mouza and village boundaries. As Forest Villages were not included in any Revenue Village, they were left out of the jurisdiction of Community Development Blocks and Panchayats. The facilities of these organisations could not therefore be extended to them.

(d)—Government have already decided to extend the Assam Panchayat Act, 1959 to the Forest Villages with adequate safeguard for the Reserve Forests. Separate Gaon Sabhas will be formed for these Forest Villages and these will be included in the neighbouring Anchalik Panchayats. The difficulty faced in implementing this decision is that Forest Villages are not properly demarcated. Forest Department have already undertaken survey and demarcation of these villages. A Gaon Sabha has already been formed for Lakhimpithar Forest Village in Dibrugarh Subdivision, survey and demarcation of which has been completed. Gaon Sabhas will be formed in other Forest Villages as and when survey and demarcation is completed.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): চাৰ, এতিয়া ফৰেষ্টভিলেজ বিলাকে কমিউনিটি ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্লকৰ পৰা কোনো সুবিধা নোপোৱাটো হয় নে?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Community Development): এতিয়া এই Forest Village বিলাকও গাওঁসভা গঠন কৰি আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তৰ তললৈ অনাৰ সিদ্ধান্ত হৈছে। তেতিয়া Community Development-ৰ পৰা সুবিধা পাব।

Mr. SPEAKER: এইটো হওতে কিমান সময় লাগিব অৰ্থাৎ কেতিয়া আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তৰ তললৈ ফৰেষ্টভিলেজবোৰ অনা হব?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: অতি সোনকালে কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা হৈছে কিন্তু কিমান সময় লাগিব কোৱা টান।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: ফৰেষ্ট ভিলেজ বিলাক পঞ্চায়তৰ শাসনলৈ অনাৰ আগতে কমিউনিটি ডিপাৰ্টমেন্টে সহায় দিয়া নাই জানো?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Community Development): যেতিয়ালৈ deforestation কৰা নহয় তেতিয়ালৈকে ফৰেষ্ট ডিপাৰ্টমেন্টৰ কৰ্মচাৰীৰ এই গাওঁবিলাকৰ ওপৰত দিয়া ক্ষমতা কম কৰা টান হব।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): চৰকাৰে ফৰেষ্ট ভিলেজ বিলাকত পঞ্চায়ত আইন প্ৰযোজ্য কৰাৰ সিদ্ধান্ত কেতিয়া লৈছে?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: ১৯৬১ চনৰ ভিতৰতে এটা নীতিগত হিচাবে সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱা হৈছিল। Detailed Working-ৰ বাবে ১৯৬২ চনৰ মাজভাগত হাতত লোৱা হৈছিল।

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (Bihpuria): ফৰেট ভিলেজ বিলাকে ফৰেট বিভাগৰ পৰা সুবিধা পাই আছিল কিন্তু আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তৰ তললৈ আহিলে সেইবিলাক সুবিধা পাব নে নাপাব ?

Mr. SPEAKER : দুই কালৰ পৰা সুবিধা কেনেকৈ পাব।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : এইটো কথা সঁচা নে পঞ্চায়ত বিভাগে ফৰেট ভিলেজ বিলাক নিজৰ অধিনলৈ আনিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰি আছে কিন্তু ফৰেট বিভাগে বাধা দি আছে ?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : ফৰেট বিভাগে বাধা দিয়া নাই কিন্তু Staff কম হোৱাৰ কাৰণে কামও আগ বাঢ়িব পৰা নাই।

Mr. SPEAKER : They are getting certain advantages in lieu of rendering certain services. If they render the services, they will get the advantages.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri): When the Gaon Sabhas will be formed, will they get a share of the land revenue ?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Deputy Minister, Panchayats, etc.) : I think so.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Will Government issue instructions to expedite demarcation works ?

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Yes.

Re: Board of Revenue

Shri RAM PRASAD DAS (Bijni) asked:

*42. Will the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the New Board of Revenue Act has been put to operation ?
- (b) When this Act received the assent of the Governor ?
- (c) What is the reason for the delay in implementing the Act ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that since August the Board of Revenue has not been able to function for want of either Member or Chairman ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to appoint Members permanently instead of pulling Departmental Heads from time to time ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to appoint as Chairman a man from the Bench or a lawyer having a good knowledge and practice of law ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Revenue) replied :

42. (a)—Yes. The New Board of Revenue Act, 1962 has been put to operation with effect from 15th February 1963.

(b)—4th September 1962.

(c)—Due to certain difficulties in sparing the service of a Senior Officer for appointment as third member as provided in the new Act.

(d)—It is not a fact.

(e)—All the three members of the Board have already been appointed under the new Act. Government will consider permanent appointment of the members in due course.

(f)—The Chairman of the Board is appointed from among the members. Qualifications of the member are defined in Sub-Section (3) of Section 3 of the Board of Revenue Act, 1962. There is no bar to the person is available. Appointment to this post is made according to the availability of a suitable person.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East) : Whether any rules have been framed ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Yes, it is being framed.

Shri RAM PRASAD DAS (Bijni) : Sir, may I know who is working as a Chairman of the Board ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Shri Bhagaiwalla.

Shri RAM NATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserve for Scheduled Castes)] : May I know from the hon. Minister how long the Government will take to finalise the rules ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, the rules are under the examination of L. R. We may get the rules within a day or two. I met the L.R. yesterday and he told me that he would be able to give me today or tomorrow.

Shri RAM NATH DAS : Sir, is it a fact that for want of these rules the Revenue Board is not in a position to hear fishery appeals ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Yes, Sir. I am fully aware of it. The hon. member himself has brought this matter to my notice.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA : When are the rules going to be published ?

Mr. SPEAKER : After voting by L. R. the rules will come to the Subordinate Legislation Committee and after the Committee has gone through them they will be published and placed before the Members.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Naibari-East) : The Governor gave his assent on 4th September 1962. Why there has been so much delay in framing the rules ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Revenue) : You know about emergency, Sir. That was the difficulty.

Shri RAM PRASAD DAS (Bijni) : Has not the Chairman since been appointed to some other post ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : In addition to his office as Chairman, Board of Revenue, he is also the Commissioner for two plains districts.

Shri RAM PRASAD DAS : Who are the other two members of the Board ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : One is Shri Lakheswar Sharma and the other is Shri Jitendra Nath Das.

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta) : Are they all members of the permanent service ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA : Shri Lakheswar Sharma is a retired member of the I. A. S.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA : For want of rules the Board could not entertain appeals. May I know how the limitation would be saved ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Limitation will be saved because sale of fisheries is confirmed by the Commissioner and it takes a long time for such confirmation. Appeals are filed only after confirmation. So, that will take time. It will be seen that no owner suffers from on grounds for limitations.

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserve for Scheduled Castes)] : What is the period of limitation proposed to be fixed for preferring appeals before the Board of Revenue ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : It will be known when the rules will be finalised.

Mr. SPEAKER : The rules will be finalised only after they have been gone through by the Subordinate Legislation Committee. They will then be published and placed on the Members' tables. Then only the rules will come into force. This procedure will take some time. What will be the position in the meanwhile ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : The rules will provide the time within which appeals will have to be filed. As you have rightly mentioned, Sir, unless and until the rules have been approved by the House, they will not come into force. So far as present appeals are concerned, more or less the previous practice is followed, I think, one month's time is allowed for filing of appeals.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): The reply to (d) is "It is not a fact". But it ought to be "Yes".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Board of Revenue is functioning except for appeals. Most probably they have got some functions on the original side.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Revenue): The reply is correct. The question was: "whether it is a fact that since August the Board of Revenue has not been able to function for want of either Member or Chairman?" The reply is 'It is not a fact'.

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta): In view of the fact that some of the three members are lawyers of any eminence, how can Government expect the Board to function properly in respect of judicial matters requiring high knowledge of law?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): They satisfy the qualifications laid down in the Act.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): May I know whether the period for filing appeals will be extended?

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minister said there would be no difficulty about the time limit.

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: Is the Minister aware of the fact that in respect of fishery appeals there was previously no time-limit fixed for preferring appeals?

Mr. SPEAKER: That information will be taken by the Minister.

Shri RAMNATH DAS: In framing the new rules whether the Minister has taken the fact into consideration that even after 2½ years fishery appeals used to be filed and entertained?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): That was not the practice in the High Court.

Shri RAMNATH DAS: I am not speaking about the High Court. I am speaking about the appellate provisions before the Board of Revenue where there was no time-limit fixed for filing of fishery appeals. As I said, even after 2½ years the Board of Revenue entertained appeals.

Re: Supply of Gravels with dust, dirt, etc.

Shri MAHADEB DAS [Bhabanipur (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the gravels collected for use in the Barpeta Public Works Department Roads under the Barpeta Public Works Department Division in the district of Kamrup were specified to be $\frac{1}{2}$ " by $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in size and free from dust, dirt and foreign impurities?
- (b) If so, whether Government is aware that more than 80 per cent of gravels supplied are not free from dust, dirt and foreign impurities?
- (c) Whether Government propose to enquire and take necessary steps in the matter?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Minister, of State in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

43. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It is not a fact that 80 per cent of the gravels supplied are full of dust, dirt and foreign impurities. Whenever gravels are found to be mixed with dust, dirt and foreign impurities these are duly got rectified through the contractor before the formal acceptance of the same by this Department.

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

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Re : **Dispensing of Medicines in Pharmacies by unqualified persons**

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

28. Will the Medical Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that many Pharmacists in the State are maintaining unregistered pharmacists and raw persons in their Pharmacies and are dispensing medicines to the public which is detrimental and not allowed by Act ?
- (b) If so, what measures have been taken by Government to stop this malpractice ?
- (c) If not whether Government be pleased to enquire ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied :

28. (a)—Government have no information of dispensing and compounding of medicaments by unqualified persons.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Government will ask the Civil Surgeons, Subdivisional Medical Officers and the Drug Inspectorate to enquire. It will help the cause if informations about unqualified people dispensing medicines are passed on to any of the above named officers.

Re: Middle English and Middle Vernacular Schools**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** asked :

29. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether any decision has been arrived at by the Government to do away with the distinctions of Middle Vernacular and Middle English Schools in view of the introduction of English teaching in Middle Vernacular Schools ?
- (b) Whether Government have arrived at any decision to impart free education in the Lower Middle stage, *i.e.*, from Class IV to Class VI in all Schools of the State ?
- (c) Whether any step has been taken to revise the syllabus of M. E. and M. V. Schools with a view to introduce an integrated course of studies in the Middle Schools ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education) replied :

29. (a)—If by doing away with the distinction refers to abolition of tuition fees in the Middle English Schools and lower classes of High Schools no such decision is in contemplation so far.

If the reference is to the introduction of a uniform syllabus it may be stated that in order to retain the special features of the M. V. Schools their syllabuses which are slightly different from those of M. E. Schools and lower classes of High Schools are not proposed to be changed. The provision of advance Arithmetic and advance mother tongue in the M. V. School course continues and there is no proposal to do away with it.

(b) & (c)—No.

†**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH** : Sir, I would like to make a slight amendment to the replies. The reply to (b) will be “No” and the reply to (c) will be “Not yet”.

†**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** : In the Middle Vernacular Schools the English Teachers are matriculates, whereas in the Middle English schools the headmasters must be Intermediate-passed. Will Government, therefore, consider the desirability of appointing intermediate-passed teachers for teaching English in the Middle Vernacular schools ?

†**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH** : It is difficult to make any commitment for the simple reason that number of I. As. will not be available. We have 753 Middle Vernacular schools and I wonder Sir, whether 753 I. A. passed teachers will be available for them.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) : (b) প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰত “No” বুলি কৈছে। এই No হোৱাৰ পৰা Middle English বা হাইস্কুলৰ ওচৰত চৰকাৰে যিবোৰ Middle Vernacular স্কুল পাতিছে তাত চৰকাৰৰ বেচি টকা খৰচ যোৱা নাইনে আৰু Middle English আৰু High স্কুল বোৰত লৰা কনি বোৱা নাইনে? আৰু তাৰ দ্বাৰা এটা rivalry হৈ Standard কনি বোৱা নাইনে?

†**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education):** The Middle Vernacular schools have a very special character : that is to say, they specialise in local language. Therefore, they are serving a very useful purpose. In addition, the boys have been given the opportunity to learn English without which it is difficult to function in modern world.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): এইটো কথা ভাল হৈছে যে মাচুল নিদিয়াকৈ পঢ়িব পাৰিব। কিন্তু Middle English বা হাইস্কুলৰ ওপৰত Middle Vernacular স্কুলত মাচুল নোহোৱাকৈ পঢ়িবলৈ দিয়াত চৰকাৰে Middle English আৰু Middle Vernacular দুয়োটাকৈ Grant দিয়াত দবল পয়ছা খক হোৱা নাইনে? আৰু Middle English আৰু হাইস্কুলত ছাত্ৰ কমি যোৱা নাইনে?

†**Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH:** I am inclined to agree with the Hon. member from Thowra that there is some overlapping and it has resulted in difficulties for the Department. So far as the second part of his question is concerned, viz., that there is reduction in the number of boys in the Middle English and High Schools, there is no substance in his contention. On the contrary, we have more students than we can look after in High Schools.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: Middle English বা হাই স্কুলৰ ওচৰত নতুনকৈ Middle Vernacular স্কুল পাতিলে Middle English আৰু হাইস্কুলত ছাত্ৰ কমি যাব। এই কথা তদন্ত কৰি চাবনে?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH: কোনো কোনো ঠাইত কমিব পাৰে। কিন্তু বাইজৰ মাজত শিক্ষাৰ খাউতিলৈ চাই আমাৰ অভিজ্ঞতা তৰ ওলোটাটোহে।

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur): Middle Vernacular স্কুলৰ কাৰণে সম্বন্ধিত Syllabus কৰাৰ কথা আছিল। সেইটো বাদ দিলেনে কি?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH: বাদ দিয়া নাই। এতিয়ালৈকে কৰিবহে পৰা নাই।

Re: The Labour Welfare Board

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabor) asked:

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

- Whether it is a fact that there is a Labour Welfare Board in the State?
- If so, who are the members of this Board?
- When this Board was formed?
- How many meeting of the Board have been held?
- What is the fund at the disposal of the Board?
- What is the amount of unclaimed wages received so far?
- What is the approximate expectation of unclaimed wages to be received by this fund?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Labour) replied :

30. (a)—Yes. There is a Board, namely, The Assam Tea Employees Welfare Board constituted under the Assam Tea Plantations Employees Welfare Fund Act, 1959.

(b)—A list of members is placed on the Library Table.

(c)—The Board was formed on 10th January 1961.

(d)—So far, five meetings were held.

(e)—Up-till now, an amount of Rs.10,64,125.96 nP. is at the disposal of the Board.

(f)—So far, an amount of Rs.11,04,189.38 nP. being unpaid accumulation, is received in the Fund.

(g)—It is difficult to give any approximate figures of unpaid accumulation expected to be received in the Fund.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : Labour Welfare ব কাৰণে এই কমিটিয়ে ১৯৬১ চনৰ জানুৱাৰী মাহৰ পৰা এতিয়ালৈকে প্ৰধানকৈ কি কি কাম কৰিছে কব পাৰেনে ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) : Sir, a separate question may be put for that.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) : ১৯৬১ চনতে মী মহোদয়ে কৈছিল যে এই আইন প্ৰবৰ্ত্তন হোৱাৰ লগে লগে চাহবাগীছাবিলাকৰ পৰা ৩০ লাখ টকা আহিব। কিন্তু এতিয়া দেখা গৈছে মাত্ৰ ১১ লাখ টকা আহিছে। বাকী মাজৰ টকাখিনি কলৈ গ'ল ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : এই বিলাক লোকৰ হাতত থকা টকা সিমান খিনি locate কৰিব পৰা যায় সিমান খিনি অন্য হৈছে।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : আজি তিনি বছৰেও এই মাজৰ টকা খিনি আনিব পৰা নাইনে ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : প্ৰায় এহেজাৰ চাহবাগীছাত ইমান বছৰত কিমান টকা সোমাই আছে সেইটো খিবাংকৈ কব নোৱাৰি ; আমি মাত্ৰ আন্দাজ কৰিছিলো। তাৰ ভিতৰৰ পৰা ১০ লাখ টকা আহিছে।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : এই Welfare Board খনে Tea Board আৰু অসম চৰকাৰৰ পৰা কিবা grant পাইছেনে ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: নাই পোৱা !

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): এই Welfare কমিটিটো reconstitute কৰাৰ কিবা ব্যবস্থাৰ কথা চৰকাৰে ভাবিছেনে ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: হয়।

Re: Illegal Transportation of logs by Timber Merchant

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINGHA (Silchar-West) asked:

31. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a representation, dated 10th August 1962 from some Timber Merchants of Silchar has been received by the Government alleging the illegal transportation of logs by one Amiruddin Laskar from Mizo District to Silchar by means of forged hammering ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Government has been deprived of a large amount of money as royalty due to the Government from the said merchant ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that transportation was detected by the Forest staff of Silchar ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the said transportation was illegal ?
- (e) If the reply to question (d) above is in affirmative, what action has been taken against the said merchant ?
- (f) If the reply to question (d) above is in negative whether Government be pleased to direct an enquiry into the matter and place the result thereof before the House ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Forests) replied:

31. (a)—Yes, a representation was received. But, the date of the representation is 10th September, 1962 and not 10th August, 1962.

(b)—It is not a fact.

(c)—Yes, some irregularities have been detected by the Range Officer, Sonai Range and not by the staff of Silchar.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—An amount of Rs.1,607 has been realised from the contractor as revenue for timbers not covered by District Council challans.

(f)—Does not arise.

Re: Vehicular Traffic on the Dhansiri Bridge

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Kalaigaon) asked :

32. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether Government is aware that the Central Government is pressing hard to restore vehicular traffic on the Dhansiri Bridge ?
 - (b) Whether it is a fact that the breach of the Dhansiri Bridge approach is becoming a very serious blockade to the army vehicles movement ?
 - (c) Whether it is a fact that no vigorous attempt is going on war footing to restore permanent traffic and erect protection work of the bridge ?
 - (d) Whether Government is aware that the Central Government is taking a serious view of the breach of the Dhansiri Bridge approach and has suggested our State Government to take proper action against the Chief Engineer, P. W. D. (R. & B. Wing), A. sam ?
 - (e) Whether the State Government propose to constitute an enquiry committee to go through the whole affairs of the Dhansiri Bridge approach breach at an early date ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Minister of State, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied :

32. (a)—No.

(b)—Vehicular traffic was suspended from 15th August, 1962 to 2nd September, 1962. For these days, difficulties in crossing vehicular traffic were experienced due to high velocity of water and strong current as marboats (hand-driven) could not be plied. From 3rd September, 1962 marboats were put into commission for crossing of traffic. A Cold Weather Bridge was also constructed and opened to vehicular traffic on 28th October 1962, and marboats also continued to ply. No military traffic was held up at any time except from 15th August, 1962 to 2nd September, 1962 as mentioned above. During the emergency, in November, the Cold Weather Bridge and the marboats adequately met the need of Army movements. A second Cold Weather Bridge of heavier carrying capacity has also been constructed and is being used from early part of January, 1963.

(c)—All possible steps had been taken immediately for temporary and permanent protection works and to restore traffic. Earthwork in the Bridge approach has since been completed on 14th February, 1963 and vehicular traffic opened. Works of permanent restoration, *i. e.*, construction and boulder pitching of guide bunds are in good progress and will be completed duly.

(d)—No.

(c)—No.

Re: The proposed Veterinary Dispensary at Singri

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked :

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

(a) Whether any plan and estimate has been made for the establishment of the proposed Veterinary Dispensary at Singri (in Tezpur Subdivision) ?

(b) If so, what is the reason for not taking steps for the construction of the Dispensary buildings uptill now ?

(c) If no, whether Government be pleased to take early steps for the establishment of the Dispensary in Singri area ?

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary)

replied :

33. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—Chief Engineer, Public Works Departments, Assam has instructed the Executive Engineer, Tezpur Division to take up the construction early.

Re: Supply of C. I. Sheets and Cement in Karimganj Subdivision

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj-North) asked :

34. Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that there is very acute and continued demands for C. I. Sheets and Cement in Karimganj Subdivision ?

(b) How many petitions have been received by Supply Branch, Karimganj during the year 1959-60, 1960-61, 1961-62 and between 1st April, 1962 upto 31st October, 1962 for C. I. Sheets and the result thereto ?

(c) What is the total quantity of C. I. Sheets demanded during these years (to be shown year by year) ?

(d) What are the annual or quarterly allotment of quota of C. I. Sheets and Cement for Karimganj Subdivision ?

(e) Whether Government is aware that there is hue and cry among the people particularly for C. I. Sheet permits as for want of C. I. Sheets thousand of applicants have been undergoing heavy damages to their already constructed house-roofs ?

(f) Whether Government propose to improve the position of C. I. Sheets and Cement Supply immediately ?

(g) If so, how and when ?

(h) If not, why not ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply) replied :

34. (a)—Yes, in respect of C. I. Sheets. The Cement position is good.

(b)—

Year	No. of C. I. Sheets applications received	No. of applications disposed of	Quantity allotted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1959-60	1,465	503 petitions	1,870 bundles.
1960-61	1,227	288 petitions	902 bundles.
1961-62	1,452	174 petitions	409½ bundles.
and between 1st April 1962 to 31st October, 1962	1,133	314 petitions	628 bundles.
Total	5,277	1,279 petitions	3,809½ bundles.

(c)—

1959-60 .. .. .	...	...	10,351 bundles.
1960-61 .. .. .	...	...	8,215 bundles.
1961-62 .. .. .	...	...	9,796 bundles.
1st April, 1962 to 31st October, 1962. .. .. .	...	...	7,893 bundles.

(d)—The annual allotments are as follows :—

	C. I. Sheets	Cement
1959-60	2,297 bundles	1,996 tons.
1960-61	1,282 bundles	634 tons and 574 M. Tonnes.
1961-62	1,553 bundles	
From 1st April, 1962 to October 1962.	446 bundles	1,147 M. Tonnes.

(e)—Yes.

(f), (g) & (h)—The Supply position of Cement is satisfactory. As regards C. I. Sheets, the Iron and Steel Controller and the Government of India are being regularly moved for supply of C. I. Sheets on priority basis.

to the State, but production of C. I. Sheets in the Country being far below the actual demand and the current production being mainly utilised for defence purposes, the supply position of C. I. Sheets cannot be expected to improve appreciably in the immediate future. However, the Supply position is expected to improve with effect from May, 1963 in respect of C. I. Sheets.

Re: Development of Handloom Industry

Shri DEVENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked:

35. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the funds placed by the Central Government at the disposal of the State Government of Assam for the development of handloom industry has been fully utilised in 1958-59-60 and 1961?
- (b) If so, whether there has been improvement in the economic condition of the weavers as a result of steps taken by the Government?
- (c) Whether any survey has been made and if so the extent of improvement in the economic of weavers?

Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied:

35. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. There has been considerable improvement so far as the co-operative sector is concerned.

(c)—No.

Re: Training of Girl Home Guard in Bombay

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

36. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) The name of the lady candidate selected for Home Guard training in Bombay from Sibsagar Subdivision?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that she was declared medically unfit?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that she was not selected by Selection Committee?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

36. (a)—One Kumari Bijoy Lakshmi Barua, a girl Home Guard of Sibsagar along with 11 other girls Home Guards of Assam were sent to Bombay Rally of Home Guards.

(b)—No.

(c)—No.

There was no selection Committee. Selection was made by Sub-divisional Officer taking into consideration various factors, like general physical fitness, educational qualifications, general smartness, efficiency as Home Guard, enthusiasm for Home Guard duties and so on.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : Whether that girl Home Guard of Sibsagar who has been sent to Bombay Rally of Home Guards was medically examined, if so, by whom and what was the result ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : I do not have that information.

Re: Soil Conservation Scheme

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Rampur) asked :

37. Will the Minister in-charge, Soil Conservation be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the schemes undertaken under Soil Conservation in the year 1962-63 ?
- (b) Whether the places proposed to implement the schemes have been subsequently shifted to some other places ?
- (c) If so, what are those places ?
- (d) What are the district-wise investment of money from the total allocation for 1962-63 ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, Tribal Areas) replied :

37. (a)—The schemes undertaken by Soil Conservation Department in the Sixth Schedule Districts under Art. 275 Programme during 1962-63 are—

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-------------|---|
| 1. Afforestation | ... | ... | Maintenance of 998.00 acres. |
| 2. Terracing | ... | ... | Maintenance of 1095.00 acres |
| 3. Training in Soil Conservation-cum-Research. | | | Maintenance of 60.00 acres. |
| 4. Purchase of tools, plants and other stores. | | 3 tractors, | 7 vehicles and other stores and plants. |
| 5. Cash crop development | ... | ... | Maintenance of 4890.39 acres and 68,450 standard of black pepper 76 Nos. Nurseries. |
| 6. Buildings | ... | ... | 99 numbers. |

7. Lac cultivation Maintenance of 140·00 acres.

General Plan for Plains Districts—

1. Afforestation Maintenance of 70·00 acres.

Creation—

(i) Plantation—400·00.

(ii) Nurseries—6 Nos.

(iii) Preliminary works on Afforestation—500 acres.

2. Graded terrace with strip cropping. Creation 50·00 acres.

3. Fodder multiplication farm ... Creation 25·00 acres.

4. Pasture improvement ... Creation 1000·00 acres.

5. Buildings Construction 2 Nos.

6. Reclamation of waste land preliminary works with gully plugging. Through gully plugging approximately 1000 acres of Paddy land will be saved.

7. Survey and Mapping ... Surveying in Darrang, Nowgong and North Kamrup.

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Art. 275 programme—

				Rs. nP.
(i) United Khasi-Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	4,98,943·30
(ii) United Mikir and North Cachar Hills	...	...	...	3,61,668·00
(iii) Garo Hills	...	...	...	2,71,088·00
(iv) Mizo District	...	...	...	3,68,300·70
			Total	<u>15,00,000·00</u>

General Plan Programme—

Darrang District 3,11,618·00

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR (Rampur) : Sir, in reply to question (a) will the Minister be pleased to state the amount allotted for each of the scheme in the year 1962-63 ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.) : For the year 1962-63, the amounts are like this : For afforestation Rs. 40,250, for training in Soil Conservation-cum-Research Rs. 18,000 ; for the purchase of stores, etc Rs. 2,21,055 ; for Cash crop development and for maintenance of departmental plantation Rs. 1,99,688 ; for loans cum-subsidy Rs. 1,29,696, for maintenance of 76 Village Nurseries Rs. 31,650, for buildings Rs. 54,292, and for Lac cultivation Rs. 41,275 and for Staff Rs. 7,09,144.

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR : Sir, whether there was any cash crop cultivation in 1962-63 ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : Sir, the Government manages the Cash Crop Centres where these crops are grown, and also Government continues to maintain those crops which were planted before.

Shri HARENDRA NATH TALUKDAR : Whether it is a fact that some thousands of Cashewnut seeds are still lying in Gauhati Divisional Forest Office ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : I do not have that information.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri) : Will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to state the cost per acre of terracing ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : I am sorry, Sir, that information is not with me.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN : Is it something like rupees one thousand per acre ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : I have not got the information regarding the cost per acre.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN : What is the total cost involved in this terracing ?

Mr. SPEAKER : The Minister has given the afforestation cost.

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.) : The afforestation cost is Rs 40,250 and graded terracing comes to Rs. 5,000.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN : Who is responsible for maintenance of the terracing after the operation is completed ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : Sir, those within the Farm are maintained by the Department and in respect of those which are done by individual cultivators, the cultivators themselves used to maintain.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri) : Are the cultivators subsidised ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T.A.D): Sir, subsidy for maintenance is not given. But at the initial stage of creation some subsidy is given.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN : On what basis this subsidy is given ?

Shri CHATRASING TERON : Sir, I am sorry, I shall not be able to supply the information now.

General Discussion of the Budget

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Mr. Speaker. Sir, yesterday, before the House rose for the day, I was placing before the House the figures of collection of different taxes and land revenue to meet the arguments advanced by some Hon. Members, that if Government have taken steps and action to collect all these arrears, it would not have been necessary to impose fresh taxation. Sir, I have given the figures indicating the collection position of the Agricultural Income-tax, Sales Tax and the land revenue. So far as the first of these two items are concerned, collections in 1961-62 and 1962-63 were 61 per cent and 71 per cent respectively and in case of land revenue, I pointed out the collection was unsatisfactory because of the devastating floods last year. The other important item from which we get revenue is the Forest. I shall now place before the House the figures of the Forest receipt. Sir, the outstanding revenue from the forests stood, about three months back, at about Rs.75 lakhs which roughly comes to about 40 per cent of the average annual revenue. The necessity for realisation of arrears has been emphasized and it is expected that about Rs.35 lakhs would be realised by the end of the financial year. It should also be noted that in our State, special encouragement is given to men of small means to enter into the timber trade, unlike most of the other States in the rest of India, where the proportion of population engaged in the timber trade is less. It is only when these persons are able to sell their timber that they are able to pay the Government dues because they have very little initial capital. This is particularly so in case of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes traders to whom special privileges as regards settlement of forest coupes and forest works have been extended. Sir, the total arrear outstanding from Agricultural Income-tax, land revenue, forest revenue, taxes on motor vehicle, sales tax and other taxes etc. stood on 31st March, 1962 at Rs.4,64,67,00. We fixed a target, date to realise Rs.197 lakhs out of this total arrear outstanding. The amount has also been taken into consideration in determining our resources for the next year. It is, therefore, wholly incorrect some of Hon. Members to say that the amount outstanding from taxes and revenues has not been reckoned in determining our receipts. It must however be stated that it is impossible for any Government, however efficient it may be, to realise the entire amount of revenue and taxes because of certain inherent difficulties, such as, the number of stay orders in appeal cases and the amount involved in bakijai proceedings. But even then, at the time of determining our resources, we have taken into account a sum of Rs.197 lakhs out of the total outstanding arrears. Those Hon. Members, who have said that the arrears outstanding have not been taken into consideration at the time of determining our resources, have not correctly appreciated the positions. There is no substance in the criticism that if proper steps to realise arrears had been taken, there would have been no necessity for going in for fresh taxation.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Finance Minister has not included the arrears on loan account, is not it?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): If the Hon. Member will just have patience, I shall go into that matter also; I am now dealing with the collection of revenue and taxes. Now, coming to the point raised by the Hon. Member, these loans are given as agricultural loans for improvement of lands, purchase of cattles etc. as Industrial loans for launching upon industrial projects and as rehabilitation loans, to displaced persons. The amount advanced as loans will come to Rs.303.65 lakhs. Out of this, only Rs.19 lakhs will become due and will mostly be realised. When loans, are given they cannot be realised immediately. Some time must be given to the loanees so that they may be in a position to make use of the loans taken and return them. If we insist on immediate realisation, the very purpose of giving the loans will be frustrated and there would be no sense in giving the loans. Now, out of this 303.65 lakhs of rupees, we will be able to realise only Rs.19 lakhs, and this amount will only be due next year. Therefore, the receipts figure include this amount.

I hope, after this clarification the hon'ble Members will have no doubt in mind that all possible receipts have been taken into account at the time of determining our resources including amounts out of outstanding dues which are likely to be realised in the coming year.

When Shri Dulal Chandra Barua stated that there was Rs.7 crores outstanding alone from land revenue, I was surprised, I do not know where from he got this incorrect figure which I cannot accept. In fact as I have already pointed out, the total outstanding arrears, not only from land revenue, but also from other State taxes, does not come to Rs.7 crores but to only about Rs.4.65 crores out of which nearly Rs.2 crores, which is expected to be realised, have been included in the receipts of next year.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): I have already given the necessary particulars.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): I am sorry, Sir, I cannot accept the figures which are incorrect and he has got in some mysterious way.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: What about the Rs.7 crores for which I gave the particulars?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): The total outstanding arrears from land revenue & taxes comes to about Rs.4.65 crores out of which we have taken into consideration Rs.1.97 crore in calculating our resources. The various reasons for these outstanding arrears have also been explained by me. These arrears relate to Forests revenue, land revenue, Motor vehicle tax, Agricultural Income-tax and such other taxes. Sometimes it is beyond our control to realise the arrears, as for instance, when stay orders are passed by courts in petitions and appeals before Courts and Bakijai proceedings are started for non-payment of dues. Now, we are making every effort to see that these proceedings are expedited so that we may collect the arrears as expeditiously as possible.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: You cannot interrupt the debate in this way, I have already stated that on two grounds only you can intervene. First, if you are misrepresented, by way of personal clarification and secondly on a point of order. On these two things only you can interfere when the hon'ble Minister is on his legs.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): We bow down to your Ruling. But, Sir, yesterday, I handed over to the hon'ble Minister for Revenue the particulars regarding arrears of land revenue. I want to get a clarification on this point, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: All right.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): That has been clarified. Two different items have to be separated. One is arrears on account of State revenue and taxes and the other is dues on account of various loans. I have already placed the figures before this House of various loans advanced which come to about Rs.3 crores and also stated that in the next year it would not be possible to realise more than Rs.19 lakhs as they do not become due by that time. We shall have to give time to the loanees for the purpose of paying their dues. Such dues cannot be taken into consideration in determining the resources on receipts for next year.

Sir, the hon. Member, Dr. Homeswar Deb Choudhury, said that there was a scope of increasing revenue from forests and he quoted before this House the figures of various States to indicate that our revenue, as compared to those States, per mile is much less. Sir, I would like to remove the misconception which exists about these matters.

Sir, a great deal of confusion has been created in respect of the revenue receipts of the Forest Department in relation to the total area of forests under the control of the State Forest Department because of the incorrect area reported as Unclassed State Forests under the control of the State Forest Department. As per figures, reported by the Deputy Commissioners, Forest Department, the area of Unclassed State Forests in the different Plains District of the State is 3,237 square miles. The area of Forest Reserves in the State is 6,260 square miles, thus the total forest area, from which the forest exploitation can be effected by the State Forest Department, is 9,497 square miles. The revenue budgeted for 1963-64 is Rs.172.45 lakhs. Thus, the revenue per square mile estimated from the Assam Forests, on an average comes to approximately Rs.1,815.

Unfortunately, in published records the area of Unclassed State Forests has been shown wrongly and on that basis, about 2 years ago, the then Inspector General of Forests came to the conclusion that the revenue per acre of our forests was low. The mistake in his computation of the area was pointed out to him. As figures stand at present, our revenue per square mile stands a favourable comparison with many States.

At this rate of revenue per square mile, Assam stands next only to Kerala, Mysore, and Himachal Pradesh among all the States in India. The higher per square mile revenue realisation in Kerala is primarily due to

its having valuable Teak forests. In the exploitation of the timber from such produce, more revenue per cubic foot of timber are received than any other timber in the world. This State is also the most densely populated State in India and every forest produce is saleable and has to be purchased by the people. Similarly, the forests of Mysore State also contain Teak and even the more valuable Sandal wood trees. Hence their revenue per square mile is high. As regards Himachal Pradesh, its forests were not adequately tapped hitherto, and therefore, there are forests which are practically virgin. It is to be noted that our revenue per square mile is higher than the big Teak producing States, such as Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, etc.

It is further to be noted that, out of the 6,260 square miles, more than 10 per cent of the area has been constituted as Wild Life Sanctuaries wherefrom exploitation of any type of produce is prohibited. No other State has got a comparable area constituted as Wild Life Sanctuaries wherefrom forest produce exploitation is prohibited. Therefore, in computing the revenue if the deliberately non-productive area of 800 square miles or so is deducted, the revenue per square mile would be about Rs.2,000-00. Then again, the settlement-holders and their sub-tenants of Assam are entitled to removal for their own requirements from unclassed State forests of specified quantities of forest produce per house-hold free. The blanket free consumption of all settlement holders does not prevail in any other State.

It was also ascertained from certain State Governments that they do not provide produce such as stone, gravel sand, etc., free to their public Works and other Departments, but such Departments have to pay for such produce by debits. If this is done in our State also, then, approximately another Rs.30 lakhs of revenue will accrue to the State Forest Department, which will further increase the revenue per square mile.

It is also to be remembered that, so far as our State is concerned, since the settlement holders and their sub-tenants got the bulk of their requirements free, our main consumers on payment are the urban population and the industries. The bulk of our annual production of our timbers have, therefore, to be exported outside the State and sold in competition with the produce of other States, after incurring a heavy transport cost. This position has worsened since the loss of our time-honoured markets which were in East Bengal District, now constituting Pakistan, with whom forest produce trade now comes practically to a stand-still owing to exchange control restrictions.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Sir, on a point of clarification, may I put a question? Whether it is a fact that the royalty charged per cft from Biris is Rs.1/4/- and by doing so, the Government is sustaining a loss of revenue.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): I have already requested the Members not to disturb me. I shall try to deal with each and every point raised in the budget discussion. I do not want the hon. Members to have the impression that I want to withhold from them any information which I possibly can give. I shall be replying to this question raised by the hon. Member.

Sir, it is also to be noted that, in relation to feeding the existing industrial units such as plywood factories, etc., timber has to be allocated,

whereas, if timber had been sold, without any regard to feeding of any particular industry located in the State, to the highest bidder regardless of what use he puts to it, more considerable revenue could have been obtained to this Department. To that extent some sacrifice of revenue is made in the interest of sustaining the wood using industries of the State.

Sir, this disposes of the very pertinent criticism made by Dr. Choudhury that there was scope of increasing the revenue from forest resources. My submission is that so far as the present figures are concerned we stand very favourably with most of the States including one or two States in the case of which the forest revenue yield per square mile is more because those States have valuable timbers like teak, sandalwood, etc. So far as teak plantation is concerned we are now making an effort in that direction and after some years when these trees become fit for exploitation we shall be able to improve revenue yield.

Md. MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri): Whether we are suffering loss of revenue for having to supply timbers at controlled price?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Yes. Then Sir, one of the hon. Members advanced a very extra ordinary argument opposing proposed tax cuts. I am really amazed how such an argument could have been advanced. He stated that if one per cent economy is effected in our budget expenditure that will give us straight way 2 crores of rupees and that imposition of fresh taxes is hardly necessary. For arriving at this figure of Rs 2 crores at 1 per cent cut in expenditure he took into account the total expenditure shown in the Budget, that is to say, Rs.2,12,51,01,000 including the expenditure on Public Accounts. I was amazed to be told that our receipts, on revenue and capital accounts reached such a high figure as to enable us to incur an expenditure of Rs.2,12,51,01,000 on revenue and capital account. I wish our State had that much actual receipts and expenditure. Unfortunately, in suggesting 1 per cent cut he has taken into account not only the revenue and the capital expenditure but also the expenditure on Public Accounts. I submit, economy to the extent of Rs.2 crores suggested by the hon. Member is impossible. The Public Account includes deposits, withdrawal of G. P Fund, remittances within India, Reserve Bank deposits, etc., as will be found in statement 'F' of the State Budget. Economy under this head may be possible only in the case of expenditure of Rs 86,26,000 provided for Sinking Fund investment. My Hon. friend, who has given this suggestion of a possible saving of Rs.2 crore by effecting 1 per cent economy in total expenditure has not realised what he was talking about. I hope, after the clarification, it will be possible for him to remove his misconception. As I have already stated, Government are making an effort to effect economy wherever possible without detriment to the administration and progress of development. Then, Sir, I do not find the hon. Member who stated that, as the per capita monthly house-hold expenditure in Assam is Rs. 25.49 which is more than in most of the other States and more than the all India figure of Rs.18.56, there was no justification for imposing taxes higher than in other States. I have already given the figures showing that new taxes would not impose a heavy burden on common man. But, Sir, it is correct that *per capita* expenditure in our State is higher than in other States. It is high because the price

of articles in our States are also high, but in this connection, the standard of living of our people should also be taken into account. So far as the standard of living even of a common man in our State is concerned, it is higher than that of a common man in many of the States. Even in our villages the standard of living of our villagers is higher than the standard of their counterpart in many of the other States. Sir, it was further stated that as agricultural income-tax has been increased, it will affect the Tea export and Tea Estates. In this connection, I may point out the misconception which exists. The agricultural income-tax, which is proposed to be enhanced on agricultural income, will be paid on the income after deduction of expenditure and the cost of production. The question that new taxes would affect the tea industry does not merit serious consideration. There has been no net increase of burden on the tea gardens, rather the net burden has been reduced. The carriage tax was an element in the cost of production whereas agricultural income-tax is levied on the surplus and does not, therefore, entail any burden. The proposed tax enhancement, therefore, makes the taxation burden on the tea industry more equitable.

Then, Sir, my friend, Shri Pabindra Sarma, suggested that, instead of going for fresh taxation, a percentage cut in the plan should be made. I submit, Sir, that it is very necessary for us to maintain the tempo of plan expenditure as, only by increasing investment and expenditure, our economy can be raised to self sufficiency and the standard of living of our people can be improved. By affecting a cut in plan expenditure our progress and development would be slowed down and retarded. To keep pace with other States it is essential to raise resources even by resorting to taxation to finance plan expenditure. We have to think and work for development of the State and for raising the standard of the people adequately and quickly.

Sir, hon. Member, Shri Tudu, observed that, as the economic conditions of the people of our State was bad, further taxes which will result in *per capita* tax higher than in some other States was not justified. I submit, Sir, that the new taxes have been proposed after taking into consideration the present economic condition of the people of this State. In the best interest of people and for early development of the State, it is necessary to raise as much resources as possible from within the State even though the *per capita* tax in Assam would be higher than in some of the States. Simply because the *per capita* tax is not lower than in some of the States, it is no argument against further levy of taxes. Further, in Assam the *per capita* State taxes at current prices according to 1952-63 budget estimates, comes to Rs. 12.12 whereas in some other States such as Andhra, Kerala, Madras, Maharashtra, Mysore, Punjab and West Bengal *per capita* tax is higher. For all the States together the *per capita* taxes is only slightly less than Assam, being Rs. 11.85 as against Rs 12.12 in Assam. In the case of Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh the *per capita* taxes is less than in Assam. But because the *per capita* taxes in Assam is higher than in some of these States, it does not mean that we should not impose further taxes. We have to increase our resources for the purpose of development. Hon. Member, Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami, suggested that, while imposing new taxes, the price level should be kept under check. I fully agree with Shri Goswami. We shall have to make an all out efforts to check the prices. The level of prices was taken into consideration while taxation proposals were formulated, as also the impact which the proposed taxes will have on the prices levels. My purpose is to raise resources without disturbing the

stability of the economy. I have no doubt that, so far as our taxes are concerned, they will not have much impact and the dealers will not get any opportunity to raise the prices. We shall see that proper steps are taken so that the prices of the commodities do not rise beyond the taxes.

Sir, some of the hon. Members have vehemently opposed new sales tax on Kerosene oil and many hon. Members have pleaded for exempting Kerosene oil from being taxed. In this connection, I would like to say that there has hardly been any taxation on the common rural people. As has also been pointed out by the Taxation Enquiry Committee, the rural sector is under-taxed. So, by the imposition of this tax, balance will be restored in the taxation structure to a certain extent. I also personally feel that this tax will have much impact on the rural people. In the context of the present emergency, when we have to raise as much funds as possible for meeting our commitments, it is not advisable to press for the dropping of small sales-tax on Kerosene oil. Moreover, in a welfare State, Government have to raise resources in the form of taxation in order to undertake development work. A part of the amount raised by taxation goes back to the people in the shape of amenities and facilities such as Education, Medical, Communication, etc. The common and rural people, by making this small sacrifice, will be able to get much more by way of amenities, as will be apparent from the Budget which has been placed before this House. So, I submit, Sir, that there is no justification for the hon. Members to ask me to drop this sales tax on Kerosene oil. Sir, when the higher section of the population have heavily taxed, it is only fair that others, belonging to middle or lower section of the population, should be asked and given some burden at least in the interest of development and security of the State. Then Sir, a question has been raised about the evasion of taxes from passengers and goods carried by public vehicles. I feel there is justification in this contention, but I would like to point out that as the tax on passengers and goods is a new tax, machinery for the collection of the same has still to be put into gear and, if necessary, change and after the experience of few months to ensure more efficiency and check evasion. Action is being accordingly taken. Till now effective supervision was not possible as the number of Superintendents and Inspectors of Taxes were few. Rules, have also to be modified after the experience. We shall see how the collection of taxes from this source improves and becomes efficient.

The Leader of the Opposition was also pleased to point out the necessity of doing away with lump sum realisation from the taxis and some other vehicles. We shall take this into consideration and see how the taxes, instead of being realised on a lump sum, can be realised from persons using those vehicles. In this connection, I may also refer to a question put yesterday in this House to find out the amount collected from this tax. In the last year's budget, I had indicated that the yield expected from this tax during the current year was 45 lakhs of rupees. But, after the bill was introduced, we had to exempt Kerosene and Lubricant from the purview of this tax on the suggestion of Government of India resulting in the reduction of expected receipts by about ten lakhs of rupees. Apart from this, amounts shown as collected do not include the realisation made by our State Transport Department which have not yet been deposited. Secondly, the amount realised by the Steamer Company has also not been received by us till now. Most of our goods come through steamers and as the hon.

Members are aware, for about two months, because a strike resorted by ratings of Steamer Company, the steamers could not ply. We cannot expect any receipt for this period. In any case, even the amounts realised by the Steamer Company have not yet been paid and we have asked them to deposit that amount as early as possible. After the amounts are deposited by the State Transport and the Steamer Company the figures of collection will increase. After steps to improve the efficiency of collecting these taxes are taken, I feel, the next year's collection will be to our expectation and will improve considerably.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I like to remind that what I suggested yesterday was that steps should be taken by the Government to realise the exact amount of taxes collected from public vehicles and not the lump sum.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED ((Minister, Finance)): I have understood the implication in the hon. Members suggestion. If we realise the tax on a lump sum basis there is likelihood of owners of vehicles collecting more than what they will pay to the Government. As I have already indicated, we shall take into consideration his suggestion and take steps to realise the exact amounts, as far as possible, collected by the owners of the Public vehicles. We may have to modify the rules and regulations to improve the situation.

Sir, Shri Dajjesh Sarma from Digboi complained that cinema tickets were not destroyed and there was evasion of amusement tax by the cinema-owners who sold the same tickets over and over again. This complaint has been made from time to time by several members on the floor of this House. I agree, this requires complete investigation and strict checking. I shall see how we can plug this evasion where it is resorted by some of the cinema owners. The hon. Member, Dr. Ghanasyam Das, has suggested that there should be tax on smoking. The tobacco products are already subject to heavy excise duty and additional excise duty. In place of levying sales tax on tobacco products, all the States have agreed to the Government of India levying additional excise duty and handing over the proceeds from additional excise duties to all the States in proportion to collection made in each State. In view of the fact that additional duties on tobacco products is levied on our behalf by Government of India, there is no scope and justification for us to levy sales tax on tobacco and tobacco products.

The hon. Member, Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee, wanted to know how we were going to repay the loan of 53 crores so far raised and received by us from different sources. He also criticised us for taking such loans as it would involve the future generation to huge commitments in the shape of paying back debts with interest. His remarks were objectionable in as much as they were made to indicate that I was keeping those loans in my iron safe. I may tell the hon. Members that, even though I am the Finance Minister and have control over the funds of the State, I do not touch a pie not to say of keeping any public fund in my iron safe. If there is any fund at our disposal, it is in the cash balance of the State in the Treasury or Bank. Further, it seems amazing that while, on one hand, he objects to raising the resources by fresh taxes and loans necessary for undertaking the development programme, on the other hand, he wants provisions for the new works resulting in fresh amenities and facilities. He has gone even to the extent of demanding a Sub-division in his constituency,

Katigora. It is not a matter of joke that such projects involving huge expenditure can be considered or thought of without funds. Here I would like to seek the hon. Members' co-operation for guiding and helping to spend fund, on productive schemes and projects rather than unproductive schemes such as setting up of a Subdivision or inspection bungalows, in the constituency of a Member. Let us first of all try to invest on such schemes as are likely to increase the income and receipts of the State. Therefore, when hon. Members ask us to provide funds even for such unproductive purposes as a subdivision or inspection bungalow, it is very difficult for me to understand their objections to raising resources through taxes or loans. Therefore, Sir, the taking of loans is as essential as raising taxes to increase our resources and receipts. We have raised loans from the public and obtained them from the Central Government, Reserve Bank, State Banks and L. I. C. to meet our requirements of development programme. We are utilising these loans for various developmental activities and it will be possible for us to repay them with interest out of the income of receipts accruing from such investments. I am entirely in agreement with him that the loan should be utilised for such developmental activities as are likely to benefit and to increase the receipt of the State so that burden on future generation may not become irksome. But, I do not support his stand that loan should not be taken because of the creation of burden for the future. If he wants us not to invest for development, I am sorry, I cannot agree with him.

The hon. Member must also realise that sometimes we have to borrow not only for developmental work but for other purposes, as for instance for granting rehabilitation loan, agricultural loan, seed loan, etc., to the distressed people affected by natural and other calamities. All these kinds of loan have to be given to such people to rehabilitate them and to help them improve their economic conditions. These loans are realised with interest from the people in easy instalments and also returned by us with interest to the lender whether it be Government of India, Reserve Bank or the State Bank. So far as loans taken for implementation of agricultural, flood or industrial schemes, etc., are concerned, effort is made to ensure that the loanees invest such loans on purposes for which they are given. I would like to point out, in this connection, that, during the last few years we have stepped up our expenditure on electricity power production. Formerly, a very small percentage of our expenditure was incurred on producing power, but, now we have stepped up this expenditure up to about 23 per cent of annual plan expenditure which is even now less as compared to other States having more power than our State. I feel that any expenditure incurred to make power available to the people, though it may not give immediate return, is a good investment and bound to improve the economic condition of the people and help the State in Agricultural and industrial development. So, I feel Sir, that whatever amount has been borrowed for the purpose of generating electricity and helping industries to be established, though we may not get immediate return, are good investment and will ultimately be beneficial to the State as a whole. We have no fear that loans taken for such activities will put any burden in the future. On the other hand, these will help in the creation of fresh resource of the State out of which the principal and interest will be paid without any difficulty.

I think that all the points regarding financial aspect of the budget raised by the hon. Members have been hitherto dealt with by me. So far as my replies to criticism against taxation measures are concerned, I would like to summarise them again for the benefit of the hon. Members. Of the various taxation measures taken in Assam, 55 per cent of incidence is upon the rich class, that is, the class having annual income of more than Rs.15,000, Tea Estates, Coal Mines, Oil concerns and similar other companies; 15.8 per cent on the group having annual income between Rs.6,000 to Rs.15,000; 14.8 per cent on the group having annual income between Rs.1,500 to Rs.6,000 and 15.4 per cent on the group having annual income below Rs.1,500. As the percentage of population in each of these 4 groups is 1.4, 20 and 75 respectively, the impact of taxes on the common people is very slight indeed. Assam has to make arrangement for a big 3rd Five Year Plan for which the State must make sufficient effort for additional taxation for the purpose of getting Central assistance on a commensurate scale. The magnitude of the task for meeting the condition created by the emergency and for rapid economic development demand adequate tax effort on the part of the State and the Centre and as the resources to be raised are so vast that everybody-rich and poor has to make sacrifice on an equitable scale according to the capacity to bear the burden. I hope, Sir, I have fully explained the necessity and reasonableness of proposed taxes and I now seek co-operation from my friend, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, and other hon. Members. I hope, they will fall in line with me and explain the necessity, equitable nature and implications of these taxation proposals to the people and call upon them to sacrifice and bear the hardship in the interest of the future of the State, in the interest of their children and grand children and also for the protection, security and integrity of our country at this time of emergency.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): On a personal explanation, Sir, we are losing about 0 to 50 thousands of rupees in the shape of relief granted to the Central Government Public Works Department on account of stone quarry.

Shri FUKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, because we are giving similar concession to our State Public Works Department, we cannot deny to extend it to Central Public Works Department, but I feel this matter of concession requires reconsideration.

My Friend, Mr. Thanhlira, mentioned about Grants under Article 275 of the Constitution of India for revenue expenditure in Autonomous areas. On the basis of the average expenditure during the three financial years immediately preceding the commencement of the Constitution, *viz.*, 1947, 1948 and 1949, the Government of India provided, under that Article, a grant-in-aid of Rs.40 lakhs annually to the State Government since 1950-51. At that time, this expenditure also covered the expenditure for Naga Hills which is now no longer a part of Assam. As pointed out to him the other day, our expenditure in these areas excluding Naga Hills has now increased to about Rs.1.75 crores every year and is even increasing. The entire burden of expenditure excluding Rs.40 lakhs is borne by the State Government. This matter was brought by me to the notice of the Finance Commission. We have taken up this matter with the Government of India also, I feel the grant fixed on the basis of 1947-49 figure that is, 40 lakhs annually now calls for revision in the light of experience and increasing expenditure in these areas. So far as the autonomous areas are concerned, they can have no grievance as maximum help is given by us to meet the requirements of expenditure even though no attempt to increase their receipts are made by them while the expenditure is on the increase.

Sir, a reference also was made to the Pay Committee. About this, I need not take much time of this House. I would only like to say that we have set up the Pay Committee to examine the Pay, Dearness allowance and other allowances and conditions of services of all Government employees including the 3rd and 4th Grades employees. When the Pay Committee will submit its report, it will be considered by the Government. The Pay Committee received various memoranda in connection with the grant of interim relief to Government employees and it has, after examination of the memoranda, submitted an interim report to the Government on 27th September, 1962. The report is now under consideration of the Government.

Sir, some hon. Members observed that we have not effectively placed our problems before the Central Government and as a result our State is being treated very badly. In this connection, I may point out that we have been constantly taking up the various matters with the Central Government and in respect of certain matters we have succeeded in getting their assistance and help and in other matters, we are still persuading Government of India have appreciated our difficulties, I am glad to find their attitude which is in our favour; but still somewhere the matter is delayed and we do get the assistance in time. It has not been possible for me to understand, why inspite of the appropriations, immediate action is not taken. Therefore, I would like to emphasize that we have brought to the notice of the Central Government about our needs and as a result of this effort, it has been possible to get an additional substantial allocation for power, additional allocation of Rs.15 lakhs for minor irrigation and of Rs.102 lakhs for flood control for the annual plan outlay of 1963-64 in addition to what was fixed for allotment to us.

The initial allocation of Rs.3 crores for power development and in current year's annual plan also was increased by Rs.7 crores and 40 lakhs. We have already acquainted the Union Government about the special problems of Assam, in view of special geographical and economic position of the State and the Centre is giving aid to our State. So, there is no justification in the charge that myself and Tripathi go to Delhi for the sake of mere pleasure and not for pressing our problems and demands to secure Government of India's assistance.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Mr. Speaker Sir, the Finance Minister has not replied to my points.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Finance Minister has not finished his speech.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, now I would like to refer to another important point. Before the Budget is placed before the Assembly, the budget of the autonomous Hills districts is forwarded to the respective District Councils with a view to obtaining the comments and observation of District Councils. These budgets are discussed by the District Councils in their meeting before they forward their comments to us. The copies of the comments received from the various District Councils had been placed on the table of the House. It will be seen therefrom that most of the District Councils have ventilated their local grievances and put forward a number of proposals and suggestions. From the comments of some of the members of District Councils, it appears that they have a grievance and apprehension that their comments and observations are not given any consideration in this House. I am glad that one of our Hon. members, Shri K. P. Agarwalla, has drawn our attention to the comments of the members of the District Council. Sir, as far as the Government is concerned, I should like to

disabuse the impressions and feelings that the comments of the members of the District Council are not given due consideration. The Tribal Areas Department, as usual, have already taken up scrutiny of their comments and proposals. On receipts of its reactions and recommendations, the Government always try to provide more funds where necessary to take up such schemes and proposals as are considered essential and beneficial to the people and capable of being executed during the year. I realise that many things have yet to be done in these areas in matters of communication, education, sanitation etc. Special attention is being given and will be given to these problems. We are giving and will always be prepared to give all due considerations to whatever suggestions and criticism that may be expressed by the District Councils. I would also request the hon. Members of the House to take more interest in these matters and express their reactions on the views and suggestion given by the District Council so that the District Councils may feel that their suggestions and comments are given due consideration. I have taken note of the various suggestions and proposals of the District Councils and, wherever possible, an attempt will be made to adopt them within the Budget provision and, if essential and urgent even outside the budget funds. The schemes, which are essential and vital in the context of development of the autonomous areas and present emergency, I would like to assure this House and the District Council, would be given special consideration by us.

Shri R. THANHLIRA [Aijal-East (Reserved for Schedule Tribes)] :

This time the Government placed the budget of the District Council late. So, we could not give any comment.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Sir,

these comments and observations were placed before this House soon after they were received from the District Councils and in time, for the hon. Members to offer their observations during the budget discussion. Any how, I would like the Hon. members from Autonomous Districts to convey to their respective District Councils that the Tribal Areas Department is scrutinising and taking necessary action on these suggestions and comments.

Then Sir, one of the hon. Members raised the point that the Tribal people of autonomous areas who live in the plains areas, do not get the benefits as are available to the plains tribal population. Actually, they are getting all the benefits as are enjoyed by the general population from the schemes under the General Plan as also from special provisions under articles 275 meant for the scheduled plains tribes.

Shri Emerson Momin complained that the Development Work in Garo Hills was not progressing satisfactorily. There is no information that the Development Schemes under Article 275 are not going on properly. For schemes under Article 275, every year, an annual plan is drawn up at State level within ceiling approved by the Planning Commission and the schemes are properly implemented by the respective Head of Departments with their district staff. Again, Sri Momin also complained that the Government were discriminating between Garos living in the Hills and Plains. I would like to point out that there is no such discrimination between the Garos living in the hills and the Garos living in the plains. The Garos living in plains districts are given all the facilities as are given to scheduled tribes in the plains except that they have no special representation in the State Legislature and in Parliament. Sir, the scheduled tribes living in the autonomous

areas have been given special privileges in the matter of representation, but those living in the plains have also not been denied the right to stand, to vote or to take part in the elections. They have, in such matter, the same right as general population of the plains. The separate constituencies have not been and cannot be created for them in these areas. They are, however, given all the economic benefits and advantages which are being given to plains tribes.

Mr. Thankhira again complained that no tangible and long term measures were being taken for removal of scarcity of water in Mizo Hills especially at Aijal. I would like to point out to him that a permanent Water Supply Scheme for Aijal at a cost of Rs. 20 lakhs has been sanctioned for implementation by the Public Health Engineer during the Third Five Year Plan period. The same hon. Member raised a point that a substantial amount of scholarships meant for Hill districts was being given to outsiders. We have no information that the scholarships given for hills people have been given to outsiders. If the hon. Member gives me any specific case, I shall pass it on to the Education Department for necessary action in the matter.

Shri Mohi Kanta Das raised the question that there should be equal distribution of grants under Education with special attention to backward people. Sir, special attention is being paid to the education of scheduled tribes, scheduled castes and other backward classes students. In addition to scholarships, awards are being given to first and second class students of backward classes. I have also agreed to give more scholarships to the backward classes students pursuing studies in technical subjects. I think this will meet the objection raised by my hon. friend. So far as technical education is concerned, irrespective of the merit, they have all been given the scholarships.

Shri Agarwalla raised the point that the District Councils should be given more fund for the spread of primary education. Consequent upon taking over all Government Primary Schools by the District Councils, except in the North Cachar Hills, Government have decided to give financial assistance to the respective District Councils to the existing level of expenditure incurred by the Government. This grant will be given for maintenance of Government Primary School; for expansion of Primary Schools, for improvement of Primary education, etc. Regarding medical and Public health facilities, they are given to the Hill districts under the schemes executed under both Article 275 and the general plan.

My friend, Shri Madhusudhan Das, objected to engagement of Government Pleaders in all cases. He said that it was a waste and should be avoided. This is a useful suggestion. But, my information is that, so far as Government Pleaders are concerned, they are engaged only in Session cases and in Criminal appeals where the State is made respondent. In civil cases, the Government Pleaders are engaged for the State in cases where the State is party. As such, there is no question of any waste in this matter. But, if any specific case is brought to my notice, I shall take necessary action.

My friend, Shri Mal Chandra Pegu, appealed for more staff in the Tribal Areas Department. I feel there is adequate staff in the Tribal Areas Department, I do not see how the Hon. member can advance the suggestion whether

the staff is inadequate, because such consideration and estimation can be made only on the basis of the yard-stick, and only those having knowledge of work load and the number of posts, can say whether more staff is necessary. The Government, in the Finance Department, will always be prepared to examine the proposals of inadequacy of staff in any department when submitted by it.

My friend, Shri Bhattacharjee, said that the number of Ministers should be reduced as was done in Punjab and he was showing sign of impatience because the reply to this matter raised by him has not yet given. Sir, in Assam, there are 10 Ministers of Cabinet rank including the Chief Minister, 3 Ministers of State, 3 Deputy Ministers and one Parliamentary Secretary. The portfolios distributed among the Ministers justify the number. As against this number of Ministers in Assam, it appears that the Punjab Government had originally 29 Ministers and Deputy Ministers, but, subsequently, the number of Ministers had been reduced to 3 only. The circumstances under which the number of Ministers in Punjab have been reduced is not known to us. Besides, we are living under more peculiar and difficult circumstances than that of Punjab and many other States. There is little justification for the demand in the reduction of Ministers in our State and much less on the ground that in Punjab the number of Ministers has been reduced.

Sir, Shri Tajuddin Ahmed objected to the appointment of new Commissioners, and said that it was absolutely unnecessary. It has been seen that there is definite advantage in keeping one high level officer in between district officers and Government who can deal with the district officers and can guide and supervise their work. They can also look to the implementation of Government policy and also look after the law and order situation and development activities. As such, Commissioners are very useful. It was found that the two Commissioners had too much work. Accordingly, as an experimental measure, Government have appointed one more Commissioner. In this connection, it may also be mentioned that, instead of two Commissioners for Plains and Hills and one Chairman for the Board of Revenue, Government have now appointed three Commissioners with one Commissioner performing the functions of the Chairman, Board of Revenue also. There has been thus no additional expenditure incurred by the State by the increase in the number of Commissioners. On the other hand, the work of the Commissioners has become more manageable and they are now in a position to supervise the districts more intensely and guide the districts officials better.

Shri Dandiram Dutta pointed out that the daily allowance given under rule to 4th Grade staff was insufficient and should be raised. The rate of daily allowance for 4th Grade servants is proportionate to the rates of daily allowance of other categories of Government servants particularly 3rd Grade servants. It will be seen, therefore, that the rate for 4th Grade alone cannot be raised without corresponding increase in the rates of daily allowance of all categories of Government servants. Government are at present considering the question of revision of travelling allowance and daily allowance of all categories of Government servants.

Shri Sarat Goswami raised the question regarding training of Home Guards in Thanas and he said that the present arrangement was not working properly. Sir, the volunteers trained in the mufossil Thanas by the Police

are not Home Guard enrolled under the Assam Home Guard Act, 1947. They may, however, at the most, be considered to be potential Home Guards. This scheme of training in Thanas was taken up to meet the situation created by the peoples' enthusiasm for this training. It was also decided that after completion of this training those who qualified for enrolment as Home Guards would be enrolled as such. So far about 13,000 volunteers have received training under the Police but owing to limitations of the authorised strength of Home Guards in Assam (25,000) it may not be possible to take all the 13,000 volunteers who have completed training under the Police into the Home Guard organisation. All the Home Guards are properly being given training in camps, the period of training extending over a month. The training programme is however, held up to some extent owing to inadequacy of instructors who are being trained in Nagpur, Jorhat and Gauhati.

My friend, Shri Durgeswar Saikia raised the question regarding detection and deportation of Pakistani nationals. I would like to emphasise that Government are taking all possible steps for detection and deportation of Pak nationals. For effective steps in this behalf, the staff for detecting and checking infiltration has been strengthened with financial assistance from the Government of India. The Border Security Force Battalion have also been entrusted with the task of checking Pak infiltration. The patrolling in the border has been intensified. So far as Government information goes, things have improved considerably.

This question was also raised by Sri Bhattacharjee. There is no justification to give this matter a communal colour and to press for deportation of members of a particular community even though they may be Indian Nationals. The question is one of taking such action against foreign nationals in the interest of security of the State and not of deporting Indian National of a particular community.

Shri Devendra Nath Sarma pressed for increasing the number of Police staff to control traffic at Gauhati. Sir, a proposal to increase the traffic staff at Gauhati by two Sub-Inspectors of Police, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police and 48 Constables is under examination of the I.G.P.

Shri Tajuddin Ahmed raised the question of delay in issue of instructions by the State Haj Committee on account of which he stated that intending Hajis from Assam could not avail of the steamer passage. Sir, the Home Department have taken up the matter with the Port Haj Committee, Bombay in the matter of allotment of seats on a special basis for pilgrimage from Assam. The matter is being pursued with the Government of India now. In this connection, I would like to point out that, on account of the foreign exchange difficulty, the Government of India have put a ceiling on the number of Hajis for the purpose of pilgrimage. They have fixed the number at about 15,000 for the whole of India. It is true, because Assam is on one side of the corner, the intending Hajis in Assam have not been able to secure adequate seats. The Government of Assam have taken up the matter for allocation of quota to Assam on population basis. But, this, perhaps, cannot be given effect this year as it is rather late and the members fixed by Government of India has already been filled.

Shri Dulal Chand a Barua objected to Cinema Licences being given liberally in spite of protest from the public. No objection certificates, in respect of construction of cinema halls, are given according to the provisions of the relevant rules. No new cinema houses have been constructed at Shillong. In case of Gauhati, however, after considering public protest, a non-objection certificate was issued in accordance with the concerned rules.

Shri E. Pohshna, on the other hand, complained that no license for a cinema hall was given to a tribal in Shillong. In this connection, I would like to point out that grant of cinema licenses is regulated by the Assam Cinema (Regulation) Rules, 1960. The grant of license is considered on the recommendation of the District Council who is the Licensing authority. The rules do not provide for any special consideration for any particular community.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): May I know whether Government has given a license to construct the Meghdut Cinema House in Gauhati ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): One License as I have already said has been given for construction of a cinema house at Gauhati after inviting objections. I cannot at the moment, say whether this license was given to the Meghdut Cinema House referred to by the hon. Members or to some other.

Shri Abdul Munim Chaudhuri stated that no provision was made for relief to political sufferers. This is not a fact as a provision of Rs.8 lakhs has been made in the Budget for 1963-64 for relief to political sufferers. In the current year, the revised provision was Rs.8½ lakhs.

Shri Akshoy Kumar Das suggested that the age of superannuation need not be raised as such a step will lead to the aggravation of the unemployment problem which has already assumed an unmanageable proportion. Sir, at present, the age of superannuation for Grade IV staff is 60 years and they will not, therefore, be affected by the present decision of the Government to raise the superannuation age to 58. In many technical Departments, such as, the P.W.D. Medical, etc. officers have been regularly re-employed even till now upto 58 years on account of shortage of experienced and trained personnel in these departments. The employment opportunities may be reduced to a certain extent by this decision, but, this will be only for a period of 3 years. Compared to the unemployment problem in the State, the reduction in employment opportunities is, therefore, very small. There is at present actual shortage of experienced persons both technical and non-technical and the decision to raise the age of superannuation will reduce the shortage considerably. Taking all these factors into account, there is sufficient justification in raising the age of retirement to 58 years.

Shri Emerson Momin raised the question of checking, the cases of over-loading in buses and stated that proper checks have not been maintained. Sir, for checking cases of over-loading in buses, frequent mobile courts are being held and also Police Officers are being posted at all strategic points to detect such cases. Several over-loading cases are being detected each day.

The hon'ble Member's criticism has been noted for further improvement in preventing the nuisance and offences complained. The Government have also requested Government of India to amend the relevant section of the Motor Vehicles Act with a view to enhancing the penalties prescribed for such offences.

Hon. Member, Shri Prabin Chandra Choudhury, raised the question of augmenting the fares of private buses with a view to give them some relief. With regard to this Sir, I may say that the Government will examine whether review of the fare and freight structures of transport vehicles is necessary in the immediate future.

Shri Devendra Nath Sarma wanted the people of this State to be given preference in the matters of giving permits by the Transport Department and suggested that the City Buses should be nationalised. Sir, over and above giving preference to any application for a State Carriage Permit or Public Carrier Permit from Registered Cooperative Societies, the transport authority give preference to applicants of the State for permits, other things being, however, equal.

As regards the question of nationalisation of city bus service, Sir, Government have given the matter very careful consideration, but they do not feel at present that the city bus services should be nationalised.

The question of extension of the broad gauge from Siliguri to Jogighopa was raised by my friend, Shri Homeswar Deb Choudhury who is, however, not present in the House at the moment. I have already told this House that the State Government had taken up this matter with the Government of India and that there was a chance of this broad-gauge being taken up. I am, now glad to announce and inform the House that only yesterday we have received the information from the Government of India approving the proposal of extension in principle. The work will be undertaken immediately to extend the broad-gauge from Siliguri to Jogighopa (applause).

Shri Mal Chandra Pegu stated that a direct bus service from Jorhat to Shillong should be provided. There are enough bus services between Gauhati and Dibrugarh, Gauhati and Tinuska, Shillong and Nowgong, Jorhat and Nowgong which give enough facilities to the travelling public to go from Jorhat to Shillong. As such, a direct bus service between Jorhat and Shillong is at present not contemplated.

Shri Surendra Nath Das raised the question of settlement of Sarkari waste land within the tribal belt. It has been revealed that about 1,01,774 bighas of sarkari waste land were available within the tribal belt and blocks for immediate cultivation. Some portion of this area has already been settled by this time. The settlement of land within Tribal Belts and Blocks is confined to landless tribal people and to certain other backward classes in whose interests the belts and blocks have been constituted. The District and Sub-divisional officers have been asked to expedite settlement of all cultivable waste land with deserving landless agriculturists in order to increase food production in the State.

Shri Akshoy Kumar Das stated that all survey schemes of Public Works Department are entrusted to raw and new hands as a result of which the Public Works Department schemes have become defective. Therefore, he suggested that survey schemes should not be entrusted to raw and new hands. That is, indeed, a very valuable suggestion. But my information is that surveys are carried out by qualified officers, experienced surveyors and Moharrirs trained in their respective jobs under the direct supervision and guidance of senior and qualified officers. However, if any specific case is brought

to the notice of the Government, it will be looked into. He also raised the question of test relief works. Test relief works are initiated for the purpose of giving affected families a means of livelihood. For this purpose, productive works like road, buildings, etc., are taken up. The selection and framing estimates naturally start only after the flood has subsided. All the initial preliminaries take sometime and as such work cannot start until the flood season is over and hence there is inevitable time lag between floods and initiation of test relief works.

So far as this year was concerned, I may add that I had placed advance funds in the hands of the Commissioners concerned to give sanctions on the spot after their visits and inspections and where this was considered necessary.

Shri Emerson Momin raised the question of demarcation of boundary between Garo Hills and Goalpara Districts. There is no proposal to take up this work immediately. The Assam Survey Department is now mainly occupied with the demarcation work regarding the Indo-Pak boundary between Assam and East Pakistan. The question of taking up boundary demarcation between Garo Hills and Goalpara District will be examined by Government as early as possible.

Shri Prabin Choudhury suggested about giving land to evicted people after proper enquiry. Encroachers on Sarkari waste land are sometimes given settlement if they are found to be deserving landless cultivators. Generally, people who encroach over the land reserved for public purposes are evicted.

Shri N. Sangma raised the question of funds for test relief works and that it could not be fully utilised for want of supervising staff in Garo Hills.

Test relief works in Garo Hills are done by District Council; the Block Development Officers, who act as executing agencies, and sometime by the Deputy Commissioner. The question for the need for staff has never been raised by the Deputy Commissioner. As such, there is no supervisory staff under the Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hill for the test relief works.

Shri M. Das stressed about the abolition of the Mouzadari system and introduction of tahsildari system. The Mauzadari system is in vogue in all the plains districts of Assam except Goalpara and Cachar district where Tahsildari system exists. Mouzadari system in this State has a long history and it has been continuing since 1903. This, is, therefore, a major issue to think about the abolition of the Mauzadari system and introduction of Tehsildari system in its place. There are arrears in Tehsil as well as in the Mauzas. It is difficult to say that Tehsildari system has proved better than the Mauzadari system in regard to collection. On this point also, Estimates Committee recommended appointment of full time Government servants on pay basis for collection of revenue instead of mauzadars on commission basis. The matter is now under the consideration of the Government.

Shri T. Gogoi suggested about more facilities for Gaonburas. The existing facilities given to the Gaonburas are annual remission of land revenue for 20 bighas of land, award of gold ring to the best Gaonburas, exemption from payment of ferry tolls, free medical treatment to the extent admissible

to State Government servants and payment of Rs. 2 per annum for maintenance of Notice Board. The status of Gaonburas is not like that of a Government employee. They are leaders at village level and have a non-official status. Further facilities may not be necessary. The Estimate Committee in their Eight Report recommended that Gaonburas should be attached to Panchayats and need not be under the consideration of Government and appropriate action will be initiated after obtaining the views of Panchayats Department thereon.

Shri Agarwalla wanted the Court building at Tezpur to be extended. Though there was a proposal to construct a new court building at Tezpur, Government have decided to drop the project for the present as a measure of minimising expenditure on less essential items and to provide funds for more essential items in the context of the present emergency. The project may be considered after the emergency is over.

Shri Dugeswar Saikia spoke about bringing of forest villages under Panchayat system. A decision has been taken by Government to apply the Panchayat Act to various villages subject to certain special regulations and control in view of the peculiar circumstances and surroundings in which such villages are found. For this purposes, grouping of various villages has also got to be done so that such groups can be formed into one Gaon Panchayat. All this takes time. However, every effort is being made to step up the constitution of Gaon Sabhas and Gaon Panchayat.

Another point, which Shri Saikia raised, was about indiscriminate opening of Forest villages. The main trouble has not been due to opening of authorised villages for settlement, but due to large scale encroachment in the forest reserves, the worst cases being in Sibsagar District. However, every effort is being made to control encroachment which goes on possibly due to the lack of cultivable land outside forest reserves.

Shri E. Pohshna complained about Government for not giving any compensation for crops damaged by wild elephants. He said, on the other hand, when an elephant was killed by a cultivator he was prosecuted.

To minimise the damage done to crops by wild elephants every effort is being made to reduce the number of crop damage by elephant hunting operations. The Deputy Commissioners also declare for destruction of elephant which damage crops in a particular locality by notifying them for destruction. It is not an offence if a villager shoots down an elephant in his own defence or in defence of his property. Therefore, in such a case, no prosecution can be launched.

Shri Mal Chandra Pegu wanted appointment of special staff for rehabilitation of flood affected people specially in Jorhat. Special staff consisting of one S.K. and 6 Mondols has been sanctioned for a period upto 29th February 1964 for survey settlement work in connection with allotment of land to the flood and erosion affected people of the Lakhimpur District in the dereserved area of Subansiri Reserve Forest. Apart from this, no special staff has been sanctioned for this purpose which is to be done by the Deputy Commissioners and Sub Deputy Collectors as a part of their normal duties.

As regards non-issue of periodic pattas to the landholders, orders have already been issued which are expected to expedite conversion of annual patta land into periodic without straining the limited financial resources of the poor cultivators. If action has not been taken by the Revenue Officers already in accordance with these order, this matter will be looked into.

His other point was in regard to allotment of land to Satras which have been eroded. A large area of land has been allotted to various Satras like Benganaati which was given about 256 bighas of land and to Borelengi Satra which was given about 244 bigha of land. The question of settlement of land with Aditengi Satra is being examined.

Shri Gauri Tankar Roy wanted to know about forest utilisation schemes. The various forest products are properly utilised in our State. Practically, the entire output from our forests are supplied to the Ministry of Railways in the form of sleepers. Also the State has got plywood mills. There is satisfactory utilisation of the wood of those trees which can be utilised for tea chest manufacture and commercial plywood manufacture. The maximum task of utilisation is in respect of bamboos. After the establishment of a paper mill in Cachar and North Cachar Hills, the position with regard to this will improve. A hardware factory is being established in Gauhati. Regarding communications, 63 miles of road have been constructed in the Second Five Year Plan. For the Third Plan, 10 miles of road are expected to be constructed or improved. The total allocation for the Third Five Year Plan for road construction, wells, is Rs 1 lakh only in addition to Rs.26,500 which has been allocated to the Public Health Engineering Department for construction of wells in Forest villages.

Shri H. Talukdar referred to leakage of taxes and revenue and that it should be plugged specially in forest Department.

Every effort is being made to minimise leakage of forest revenue but the protective forest staff is not more than 1 per cent for about 6 to 7 square miles of forest reserves only.

Further, there are materials such as cement, stone, etc., which, after removal from the forests, cannot be specifically identified in the matter of whether royalty has been paid on them or not. With the rapid growth of communications inside the forest reserve, etc., with consequent increased lorry movements inside, the working of the Department has become more difficult. As already stated, however, every effort is being made to reduce leakage of forest revenue to the minimum. Even trees of small growth are being indiscriminately felled by contractors. Indiscriminate felling of trees of small growth by contractors is not permitted. Trees of small growth in forest reserve are marked for improvement, so that the other small trees which are retained can grow faster and better. The definition of firewood has recently been changed to guard against the tendency to remove small trees in the name of fire wood, but really to get timber in the name of firewood.

Then, Sir, regarding misappropriation of Rs.80,000 in Rani range—it came to light when an anonymous letter was received by Government stating the existing Government machinery failed to detect such misappropriation. There was slackness in respect of checking by the Accountant General, Assam. When even the Accountant General failed to check this matter, the failure on the part of the Department can be condoned to some extent. However, the necessity for closer check of accounts by Divisional Forest Officers has been emphasised. It is expected, therefore, that such serious cases may not recur in future.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the amount involved is Rs.24,000 and not Rs.80,000.

Hon. Friend, Mr. Talukdar complained that some loss was sustained by supply of sleepers because of rejections at the destinations.

In the case of supply of logs and sawn timber to the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals of the Ministry of Works, Government of India for use by the Ministries of Railways and Defence; timber worth Rs.3 lakhs approximately was claimed as rejectable by the consignees, which were Railway workshops during the period from 1957-60. The Director General of Supplies and Disposal has given the award that this complaint by the consignees was not justified and full payments have been received.

In respect of supplies to the Defence Ministry timber worth about Rs.1 lakh have been claimed as rejectable by the consignees and in most of these cases no final decision has been given by the Director General of Supplies and Disposal whether the consignee's complaint is justified or not. During this period, about Rs.4 crores worth of timber has been supplied to these Ministries and the unresolved objections of about Rupees one lakh represent only less than one per cent of the value of the total supplies, whereas, the Department gets a commission of 5 per cent for these supplies. Hence, while in particular consignments there may be loss more than 5 per cent, overall the supplies have resulted in a substantial profit and at the same time, makes it possible to market timber which have no large-scale local demand.

Sir, he has also complained about the settlement of Bogai Unclassed State Forests on lease basis and objected to the terms and conditions of the lease. Sir, during the negotiations with the Railways regarding quantities and rates for supply of sleepers for the three year period from October, 1961 the country's dire need for sal sleepers was pointed out by the representative of the Ministry of Railways. They pointed out that foreign exchange had to be expended on import of sleepers while the country could produce increased numbers, sleepers if all efforts were made. It was accordingly estimated that every effort would be made to step up production of sal sleepers from Assam. As the Bogai Unclassed State Forests had remained unoperated for about 25 years or so and efforts to constitute these areas into Forest Reserves had failed because of widespread and scattered jhumming, particularly by Garos, whereby valuable sal trees were being damaged and lost by fire, it was decided to invite tenders to work out these sal trees primarily for production of the greatly needed sal sleepers. The Working Plan Officer with staff was deputed to make an approximate assessment of the different patches of trees in these Unclassed State Forests and the approximate number of exploitable trees therein. Based on that assessment, the area was demarcated into three blocks, two fairly large and one somewhat small, and tenders were invited for the royalty per cubic feet in terms of sleepers, sawn timber and dead and windfallen trees which may be available in the area. Only sal trees 4' and up or 5' and up according to blocks were to be operated for production of sal sleepers, but trees of smaller girth could be operated if they are dead or windfallen. Tender notices were sent to the Government Press for publication but, as the Government Press stated that notices could not be published in the Gazette timely, notices were sent to the Press (newspapers) and also cyclostyled tender notices were circulated among the usual contractors. The three blocks were accordingly settled on the basis of the highest tenders received. The areas could not be sold as small-sized coupes for annual working, because considerable investment in road-making and dragging path construction, etc., was involved, which could not be recouped by purchases of small numbers of trees only. Since the

area was Unclassed State Forests subject to jhumming, it was not considered desirable to expend a large amount of Government money for construction of the road which may not come to permanent use to the Department, as trees would have become exhausted by jhumming very soon and the investment would have been useless. It was stipulated that normally trees will be allowed to be extracted only after sawing in the forests themselves into sleepers. But in case the Divisional Forest Officer permitted extraction in the form of logs, the logs will have to be paid for at 60 per cent sawn timber rates. Complaint was received that the leases were converting trees into long logs so that the girth in the middle of such logs, on the basis of which royalty was to be assessed, became less than that would have been the case, if the sleepers had been converted at the felling sites. On investigation, it was found that there was not much substance in this complaint. However, to guard against this, log royalty were made realisable at the higher rates for the length of the logs which would yield sleepers. The royalties in terms of sawn timber and logs are payable per cft. and even if more trees than estimated become available, the corresponding royalties per cft. will have to be paid. The lease is for a three-year period. Even if more trees remain to be operated after that period, while the present leasees will have the option to have the new lease, the rates payable by them would be such as prescribed by Government at that stage. The present assessment number of trees to be worked out are 20,000 in Block I, 12,000 in Block II and 6,000 in Block III.

Further, in this matter, as my friend has expressed strong feeling, the Revenue Minister has undertaken the responsibility of making further enquiry.

Shri HABENDRA NATH TALUKDAR : What about the agreement.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Revenue) : The agreement is finalised.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Now I, come to the Co-operative Department. Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi suggested that procurement of paddy and rice by Government should be planned to avoid over-dues. The procurement of rice and paddy is done by the co-operative and the work is supervised by the Apex Marketing Society which also places adequate funds at the disposal of the co-operative so that they can make prompt payment to the growers. The Co-operative Department is also there to see that there is no delay in payment of dues to growers.

Sir, Shri Akshoy Kumar Das referred to revitalisation of co-operative schemes and rendering facilities to co-operative by supply staff. The rural credit movement suffered a setback in the year 1959-60 and thereafter owing to heavy over dues of the credit societies. The matter was discussed at various levels and ultimately a joint committee was set up in accordance with those suggestions, schemes for reorganisation of rural credit in three districts has been prepared and submitted to Government of India for their approval. This new scheme, as well as the vigorous drive, which has been taken up in all the districts is expected to revitalise the credit movement in the State. No complaints have been received from the Co-operative Department that local supply staff is not giving proper facilities to co-operatives in the matter of procurement of paddy and rice. On the other hand, in order

that co-operatives should not face any difficulty in the matter of procurement, instructions have been issued to the local officers to arrange prompt delivery of paddy into godowns and quick payment of their bills. Action will be taken against those officers who do not co-operate with co-operatives.

Shri Chanu Kheria spoke about encroachers in the forest reserves and about Nagas claiming some areas to be in Naga land. Nagas claiming some areas to be in Naga land have encroached into about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Geleky and Dayang reserves in Sibsagar District. In the Mikir Hills also and North Lakhimpur Forest reserves there has been encroachment. The Forest Department and Police are doing their best to evict the encroachers, but the evicted encroachers are returning to continue the encroachment and the problem has become extremely difficult.

Then Sir, hon. Member, Shri T. Chetia wanted more loans to be given to Panchayats for development of fisheries. Tank fisheries require normally more than 4 years to yield returns. It is not possible for the Panchayats to employ the required experts for ensuring the proper formulation and execution of the projects. The Fishery Department is giving technical assistance to Panchayats for development and they should not take any fishery scheme which requires more than Rs.1,000 for development. It is, therefore, not considered desirable to advance loans exceeding Rs.1,000 in any individual case for development of existing fisheries. The plan provision for loans to Panchayats is adequate.

Hon. Member, Shri Mohananda Bora criticised the unnatural taking of Panchayats with C. P. Department, which, he said, was standing in the way of progress of both. Sir, the Panchayat Department, is indissolubly linked to the C. P. Department. The Panchayats are wholly responsible in the present set up for the implementation of the C. D. programme in the field. Panchayats are now not playing merely an advisory role but have become the actual workers in the field. The Panchayat and C. D. Departments have, therefore been properly integrated at headquarters. If Panchayats are to continue with the whole responsibility of executing the C. D. programme in the field, the Department has necessarily to remain merged with the C. D. Department. No divorce is advisable or possible.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Ahmed, you are to conclude within 5 minutes.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Yes Sir. Then, Sir, Shri Dulal Barua suggested fixation of prices to the essential commodities. Most of the essential commodities are decontrolled commodities and as such there was no provision for fixing the prices of these commodities. Whenever there was any report on the shortages of any commodity and consequent high prices thereof, supplies were rushed by special trains on private trade account in consultation with the Railways with a view to stabilising the prices at a reasonable level. Price Vigilance Committees have also been set up at the subdivision, Block and Gaon Panchayat levels consisting of Government officials and representatives of the people and trading community. Taking into account the cost of the commodity, actual transportation charges and a fair profit margin for the dealer, this Vigilance Committee will fix reasonable maximum wholesale as well as retail prices within which the dealers will voluntarily agree to sell articles irrespective of stock at their disposal from time to time. In case, any dealer persists in late

voluntary price regulation scheme, the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers will be able to deal with him under the law according to their powers. All these measures are expected to maintain the prices of the essential commodities at reasonable level.

Then Sir, Dr. Homeswar Deb Ghoudhury mentioned about inadequate supply of C. I. sheets and cement. Sir, the Government of India have allotted 1,32,000 metric tons of cement to Assam during the year 1962. Out of this, 76,000 metric tons have been lifted to Assam. This quantity of cement has reached Assam by rail route and river route. Due to strike in Pakistan, no booking of cement was made to Assam for about 4 months. This position has worsened due to the transport difficulties. Now, from the 1st week of February, 1963, cements are booked to Assam by Rail Road *cum* River route. These are expected very soon and the position will be better.

No allotment of C. I. sheets was made by the Central Government, during this year except an *ad-ho* allotment of 400 metric tonnes for flood relief, but this allotment has not started moving owing to the sudden development of emergency.

The hon. Member, Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha, complained that adequate rice had not been provided for Silchar. Sir, there is already a stock of 2,589 metric tonnes at Silchar and another 700 metric tonnes has already been despatched from Gauhati. We hope that the existing stock will be sufficient to run upto April next. If, however, the existing stock is found inadequate, fresh supply will be made to Silchar. The Deputy Commissioner, Cachar has been asked to open as many fair price shops as possible in the district. We are taking all possible steps so that the position may not deteriorate.

Now, Sir, so far as the Public Works Department is concerned, a comprehensive scheme has been undertaken but I would not like to burden the hon. Members with details. The plan has been drawn up in consultation with the Communication Board and the Members of Legislative Assembly. Sir, hon. Member, Shri Gaurisankar Roy pleaded for the improvement and extension of Hailakandi-Belsola road which is not a Public Works Department road. Maulana Abdul Jalil Choudhury wanted extensive communication facilities in Cachar. Out of the total plan programme of Rs.12.5 crores for roads and bridges for the Third Five Year Plan for the State as a whole, Rs.1.72 crores have been allotted to Cachar district. The total mileage of roads proposed to be undertaken during the Third Plan in the district will come to about 302 miles. On completion of Third Plan, the district will have 1,071 miles of road and about 3,500 Rft. of bridges. Under the Rs.4½ crores programme from the Finance Commission award, a sum of Rs.24.30 lakh is being allotted to Cachar district.

Hon. Member, Shri Emerson Momin also spoke about the roads in Garo Hills. Sir, many roads have been included for the Third Plan period and under grants under article 275. The total amount allocated for the purpose being about Rs.52 lakhs. The total length of roads included under the general programme in Third Plan period for Garo Hills is about 37 miles. In addition some more routes have been taken up under the Border Roads programme. More roads, if necessary, may be considered for inclusion in the Fourth Plan.

The hon. Member, Shri Doly, said that many buildings taken up several years back in Dhemaji and Nowboicha Development Blocks have not been completed due to laxity in control and execution. He complained that construction of the primary Health units at Dhemaji and Nowboicha have been delayed for want of suitable contractors and dearth of materials. The Primary Health Unit at Nowboicha has already been completed. Action has been taken to expedite construction of other buildings.

Hon. Member, Shri Pohshna, said that development schemes in matters of communication are inadequate in the Hills districts. Sir, during the First Plan Period, the Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs.256.20 lakhs for taking up about 500 miles of roads in the Autonomous districts of Assam. During the period under consideration about 300 miles were completed. The Government of India during the Second Plan allocated Rs.377.4 lakhs for expenditure. A target mileage of about 300 miles was completed during the Second Plan with a total expenditure of about Rs.260 lakhs. The expenditure, as sanctioned by Government, was not fully utilised because of shortage of technical personnel, transport difficulties, shortage of steel, etc. The Plan allocation for road development during the current plan period, is Rs.280 crores which the State Government have expanded to Rs.456 lakhs, out of which a sum of Rs.63.50 lakhs was spent during the year 1961-62 and another sum of Rs.65 lakhs will be spent during the current financial year. The selection of road projects in the hills areas was generally made by the Tribal Advisory Council according to the recommendation of Members of Legislative Assembly concerned.

Shri A. M. Choudhury enquired about the progress in improvement of communications in Cachar District. Under the Third Plan, an amount of Rs.2.11 lakhs has been allotted in Karimganj Subdivision for metalling and black topping 3.5 miles of Karimganj-Kaliganj road. Another amount of Rs.2.25 lakhs is allocated for surfacing Surama Trunk road. These selections were made considering traffic load and availability of funds.

Mr. SPEAKER : How long you are going to take.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : I will not take long time. I am to deal with criticism about Medical Department. This may take only about 2 minutes.

Shri A. K. Das has complained about scarcity of doctors. I would like to inform the House that steps have been taken for producing more doctors by increasing the number of admission in the Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh from 100 to 200 from next year and in Medical College, Gauhati upto 100. In the pre-medical Course, admission has been increased from 100 to 120 at Dibrugarh and from 100 to 120 at Gauhati. The question of re-employing doctors upto 60 years of age is under consideration of the Government.

Shrimati Afia Ahmed pleaded for provision of drinking water in Nowgong. A sum of Rs.10 lakhs has been provided for the first phase of the Nowgong Water Supply Scheme and an expenditure of Rs.10,200 has already been sanctioned for survey and preparation of Plans and estimates are now under preparation. In respect of water supply in rural areas of Nowgong the scheme has been executed for Lanka-Kaki area under which 120 ring wells, 40 tube wells and 2 pipe water supply systems were installed covering a population of 1,40,000 in 260 villages. During this Five Year Plan, Raha area has been selected for rural water supply scheme.

Shri A. K. Das wanted to know regarding the progress of construction of Gauhati Medical College building which is immediately needed. A Master plan for the Medical College at Gauhati was prepared by the architects in 1962. As the plans and estimates appeared to be costly, they were asked to prepare fresh plans and estimates which is being done. The Government's idea is to see that the buildings are built keeping an eye on economy, beauty and utility. Owing to limitations in men, materials and money, Government has been compelled to go slow in this matter.

Shri Thanlura complained about efficiency in hospitals and dispensaries in Mizo district. In Mizo district as many as 34 dispensaries and hospitals as many as 6 maternity and child welfare centres and 10 maternity centres attached to State dispensaries are functioning. Construction of dispensaries and hospitals is taken up after taking into consideration, the funds available for this purpose for the State as a whole and on the basis of priority.

Shri Devendra Nath Sarma wanted to know regarding the scheme of water supply at North Gauhati. The Scheme is expected to be implemented during the Third Plan period. The plan and estimates provide an expenditure to the extent of Rs.1,12,000 for this purpose. The scheme has been sent to the Government of India for approval and immediately after the same is received, it will be implemented.

Dr. Homeswar Deb Chowdhury raised about equalisation of pay of Assistat Surgeon I and Assistant Surgeon II—Assistant Surgeon I are diploma holders (licentiates) and Assistant Surgeon I are Degree holders. As such, the equalisation of their pay-scale is not possible. However, Assistant Surgeon II have got sufficient scope for promotion to Assistant Surgeon I in due course. Revision of pay scale of Assistant Surgeon II from Rs.175 to Rs.300 to Rs.250 to 400 may be submitted to the present Pay Committee.

Shri Mal Chandra Pegu complained about inadequacy of treatment centres for V. D. and Leprosy specially for Plains Tribal people. As many treatment centres as possible for anti-leprosy have been increased in the plains tribal areas, keeping in view of the funds available for the overall development of the State as a whole. Grants-in-aid are also being given to non-official organisations for the purpose of anti-leprosy work.

Shri Surendra Nath Das spoke regarding scarcity of drinking water, about uneven distribution of dispensaries and about taking over subsidised dispensary in Boroma. In the next year, there is a provision of Rs.1 lakh for rural water supply schemes to be executed by Medical Department. Because, the fund is so small, it is difficult to take up water supply scheme in all of the water scarcity areas of the State. Recently, however, an Investigation Division has been created under the Public Health Organisation to investigate the position in the entire State regarding scarcity of drinking water. According to Government policy adopted in 1959, it has been decided that there should be no dispensary within a radius of five miles. However, there might be some deviation from this principle as Government have taken our all Local Board dispensaries and some subsidised dispensaries irrespective of location. There is already a State Dispensary at Boroma. It is not known if there is in addition a subsidised dispensary there.

Shri M. Tudu asked why the leprosy colony at Goalpara was not getting sufficient grants? Sufficient grants have already been sanctioned by the Government for the non-official leprosy colony at Goalpara, namely Rs.3,160 for Santipur leprosy colony and Rs.20,000 for Agia Leprosy Colony and Ramjoypara Leprosy Colony during 1962-63.

Dr. G. Das has referred to purchase of many unnecessary medicines, etc., resulting in huge wastage. Supplies of medicine and equipment to the Government Hospitals, etc., are made through Central Medical Stores Depot, Calcutta, against indents submitted by the Civil Surgeon and Superintendents of Medical College. Local purchase has to be made in certain cases in accordance with the rules in these matters. The present procedure regarding local purchase is that the Director of Health Services calls for quotations for the required items of medicines and equipments from approved firms. After scrutinising these quotations, the purchase Board selects firms from which medicine and equipments are to be purchased.

Mr. SPEAKER : How long you will take to conclude your reply ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : I shall presently conclude. I shall take only two minutes, Sir.

Sir, I have tried to reply to all the questions raised by hon. Members except those regarding Education, Agriculture, Embankment and Drainage, Veterinary, Industries and Electricity which have been dealt with by the respective Ministers-in-charge in the course of their interventions during the budget discussion. I am thankful to all the hon. Members for the patient hearing and their valuable suggestions which I shall forward to all the Departments concerned for further examination and such action as are called for. I would only like to add in conclusion that I have troubled the hon. Members by delivering a long Budget speech and followed it by giving a detailed reply to points raised during discussion including the leader of the Opposition, had complained that in taking up new schemes, their implications, and whether they have resulted in success or failure. Government do not take Members of the House into confidence. Sir, every-one will agree that, as far as possible, I have tried in my Budget speech and in reply to the criticisms made by the hon. Members, to acquaint them about our schemes, our actions, our defects and our success or failure in the attempts made by us. Sir, I am thankful to the Leader of the Opposition for the useful suggestions of following the example set up by the State of Uttar Pradesh in bringing out in every year a brochure containing review of the schemes and plans undertaken showing how far they have been implemented and what results have been obtained. I feel some sort of a similar brochure should be brought out by us and presented to the Members. I shall see that something like that is also brought out by our Government next year to enable the Members to have a clearer picture of the year's achievement and failures.

Sir, I am obliged to all the hon. Members for the patient hearing they have given me the whole of yesterday afternoon and this morning.

I should only like to conclude by reiterating that the task we are faced with to-day is a very difficult one and this cannot be accomplished without the co-operation and united efforts of all those given this task. We are not only confronted with the difficulty of finding resources for the development of our State, but we have also to prove worthy of the heavy responsibility of safeguarding the frontiers of our country by facing with unity and determination the present emergent situation on our borders. Unless and until sincere and full co-operation are forthcoming from all sides, it is difficult for any Government and, as a matter of fact, for any one to discharge such a big task and heavy responsibility.

During the debate, Sir, a reference was made to the Tezpur evacuation and, as my name was mentioned in that connection, I shall be failing not only in my duty but also perhaps may be misunderstood if I do not make the position clear. Some hon. Members' observation implied that my colleague, Shri Tripathy, the Union Deputy Minister, Shri Bhagawati and I were cowards as we ran away from Tezpur leaving the people of Tezpur in distress and difficulty. Sir, I would like to point out that if I actually possessed the trait of coward, I would not have volunteered myself to go to Tezpur on 19th afternoon after knowing fully at Shillong that a serious situation has developed and Tezpur was threatened from the 18th November. According to all reports, the Chinese were fast approaching towards the foot-hills and resistance from our side had to our consternation and indignation collapsed inexplicably. Sir, knowing such a serious situation had developed around Tezpur, similarly my friend, Shri Bhagawati would not have come all the way from Delhi to Tezpur to put himself in danger and my friend, Shri Tripathy would not have accompanied me to Tezpur on the 19th if any of them was a coward. I may also add that purposely I have refrained hither to from issuing any statement regarding the false propaganda indulged in by some individual and press because it would have necessitated disclosure of some facts within my knowledge which I could not in the interest of security of the State and am not willing to give out notwithstanding hon. Members have heard a very provocative and malicious statement by one of the Members of this House. I am, however, assure the hon. Members of this House that so far as my coming away from Tezpur at about 11-30 p. m. (night) of 20th November is concerned it was not due to any cowardice which I abhor. Hon. Members and the people of this State who know me well would bear me out that if I had been coward I would not have ungrudgingly faced so many hazards during the passed 30 years of my political life. I firmly believed that the person dies once only and when date comes there is no escape from it. Sir, I am the last person to run away from my duty.

As regards the allegation of coming away in fear, I would also like to point out without going to details, that at that time, not only Tezpur was in danger but equally all other places, Dibrugarh, North Lakhimpur, Jorhat, Nowgong, Gauhati, Rangiya, etc., in Assam were exposed to danger and indefensible. It is thus not true to say that we left Tezpur because of the fear of Chinese because that fear was equally at Gauhati. We were there up to mid-night though the Chinese were expected there at about 4 p. m. (afternoon) and we left at the latest hour to be in time to meet the Union Home Minister who was expected at Gauhati at 8 a. m. on the 21st November. We considered it essential to apprise him of the first hand and latest situation around Tezpur to get more and adequate assistance from Government of India to meet the emergency. We are now blamed both Shri Tripathy and myself for this and a malicious propaganda has been released that we ran away from Tezpur in fear. I expected that such persons as has been influenced by their malicious and motivated propaganda would have disabused themselves of the wrong impression and atmosphere created after the position had been explained by Chief Minister in the statement issued by him sometime ago. It is most unfortunate that some still persist in making that propaganda. I would like to add that as long as I live whether holding a position under the Government or otherwise, I cannot think of leaving this state of ours or its people with whom my association has been of long standing and who not withstanding my short-comings are kind and good to me.

Then Sir, both Shri Tripathy and myself have been blamed and accused of giving an order which it is alleged resulted in evacuation from Tezpur. So far as evacuation from Tezpur is concerned, it had started long before we reached Tezpur on 19th of November (Night). When we reached Tezpur we found a large number of people waiting on the bank of river to cross over to Nowgong side. We heard there that a considerable number of persons had already crossed and on our way to Tezpur, I think, not less than 200 vehicles seen by us carrying loads of people towards West of Tezpur. The vehicles found rushing from Tezpur did not only carry the people but a considerable quantity of furniture and other belongings. Evacuation from Tezpur started not because there was an order but because the situation at the time was serious, there was panic and all kinds of rumours were afloat. Seeing this state of affairs and in order not to cause any impediment in the way of troops movement as the military authority wanted the road route to be kept free, we passed an order in writing to be announced that as road routes were required for military purposes arrangements for transport of those who wanted to leave, were available to take them to river and also to take them across the other bank. The people were also advised not to leave the place in large numbers and if considered necessary only to remove the infirm, sick, women and children. It is regrettable that this order in the state of confusion was mis-interpreted and understood by some as an order of evacuation. I do not blame the people for this. One should place himself in the situation of those days to understand the real position. It is easy to become wiser afterwards. All I wish to emphasise is that no such evacuation order as is attributed to us was passed by us. What action was taken by our officers in that situation, our Chief Minister has already stated and I need not repeat. Without divulging secret I will only say this much that if I had not been there something worse would have happened and Tezpur town would have temporarily been deprived of many things. I can claim this much to my credit that in spite of the very serious situation I kept my head cool and prevented many of the actions from being taken which we were instructed and which, if taken, would have caused greater hardship to the people. My friend, Shri Omeo Kumar Das, who was with us most of the time at the Circuit House during those crucial hours, would bear me out that because of our advice to our officers instruction received from Government of India were not fully implemented by them. If they had implemented fully the people would have been subjected to more deprivations and hardships. I am sorry that I had to refer to all this because during discussions on the Governor's Address also malicious and uncalled for references were made to us in connection with Tezpur evacuation.

I am particularly obliged to you Sir, for giving me this much time to wind up the discussions. We shall now be occupied for some time with the business of this house, but after the Session is over, I have no doubt, all of us will face our responsibilities and gigantic task with courage, determination and the united purpose of serving our country and taking its people to the path of security, progress, prosperity and happiness.

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Dhekiajuli) : Sir, I have to rise on a point of personal explanation. Yesterday, during the reply on the general discussion on the Budget the Planning Minister referred to certain remarks by one Deputy Minister at Barapani, some year ago. I do not understand how it relates to the subject matter under our discussion. It was towards the

end of March 30th or 31st 1960, when there was a meeting at Barapani near Umiam Hydel Project Site, Shri Satis Shandra, Union Deputy Minister, remarked that Assam was leading state in matter of National Income. On this remark, I raised a point and said that this was something like a news to me. I would have confidence on statistics if Assam was the leading State in India in respect of National Income. I did not object for taking Barapani project instead of Umtinger project, nor did I raise any objections regarding two Chief Engineers under the Electricity Board.

So I respectfully submit before you that the taunting remarks which the Minister of Industries made instead of giving a direct reply had not been happy. I said that huge amount were being spent for Electricity Board. I raised objection to providing power to a Contractor who, under terms was to provide power for him elf. It is a matter of great regret. The Minister could have given a direct reply instead of giving a reply in taunting manner.

Thank you Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 2.15 P.M.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 2.15 P.M. for lunch.

After Lunch.

Shri FAKHURUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, may I just take a few minutes? Sir, in course of a speech by Shri Dulal Chandra Barua, it was stated that at the time of the emergency in Tezpur area, one senior officer, who is also the head of the Department, took to corrupt practice and it was stated that he removed the tyres of a Government vehicle and fitted them to his own car.

Sir, the facts of the case are that this vehicle No ASA.3395 is the vehicle which has been allotted for the use of the Plains Commissioner. It was put to a great deal of use on rather rough roads, particularly in connection with the Commissioner's tour and the tyres were rather worn out. The tyres were given for re-treading and the car was practically not used from October onward. With the development of the emergency, Shri Vaghaiwalla was in need of a vehicle at Tezpur. He tried to get his Personal Assistant to send the staff car ASA3395, but though the tyres had been re-treaded, it was very difficult to get the tubes which were also required. As Shri Vaghaiwalla's need was very great, his private car was sent down by his Personal Assistant. This car, which had done about 8,000 miles, had better tubes and tyres but had a defect in its spare tyres. The driver felt that it would be risky to undertake a long journey without a spare tyre and as such he borrowed temporarily the spare tyre of Government vehicle ASA 3395. Shri Vaghaiwalla came back from Tezpur soon after with his car and the spare tyre was also returned without having used it at all. There was never any actual misuse of any Government property by this officer. As the matter has been explained, I submit Sir, there is no justification in hon. Member reaching a conclusion or alleging misappropriation. The tyre was taken on loan but was not used. It was returned as soon as the officer came back to Shillong.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, we are discussing on a particular item. I do not find any reason why the Finance Minister should come with this statement.

Mr. SPEAKER: Suppose any hon. Member raised certain question it is the godness of the part of the Ministers to reply as far as possible.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the term of one year of this House, this House has been asked to vote on supplementary demands for at least on three occasions. It has become very frequent, and I feel that unless there is some wrong in the control over expenditure in the Finance Department, the supplementary demand would not have come up very frequently before the House.

Sir, in the Budget Manual of the Government of Assam, there is a clear instruction given to the Finance Department. That will be found in Chapter XVI, at page 47. Here the principle that has to be followed by the Controlling Officer has been clearly laid down. I will draw your attention to the provision laid down here. Rule 140 reads thus: "The submission of return in Form B will be watched by Controlling Officers by means of a broadsheet in Form C. The receipt of returns must be scrupulously watched, as the accuracy of the Controlling Officers' accounts will depend upon their completeness and if necessary a subsidiary broadsheet should be kept to watch them. Reminders should be sent if returns are not received by the 7th of the month (or the 12th in the case of the Mizo Hills). Then, again in Rule 141 the procedure to be followed by the Controlling Officers has been laid down. It says "on receipt of the returns the Controlling Officer will examine them carefully to see (c) that the expenditure is within the appropriation and that this is not likely to be exceeded".

Now, we find that the returns in Form B in broadsheet in Form C do not come in time and the Finance Department does not pursue this matter regularly, and that is why it has become a constant feature on the part of the Finance Minister to come before the House asking us to vote on supplementary demands. The supplementary demands on which we have been asked to vote amount to Rs.15 crores.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical): On a point of information, Sir. Are we discussing Item No 2. That item relates to the charged expenditure. How can it come here?

Mr. SPEAKER: Why can he not point out the rules that govern the presentation of supplementary demands.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical): That is a different thing. There is a difference between the charged and the grants which are not charged.

Mr. SPEAKER: But Item 2 says 'discussion, if any Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for 1962-63 charged on the Consolidated Fund of the State. Therefore, your discussion should be confined to that part of the Supplementary Demand and not to the entire part of it. In Item 3 we find Voting on Demands; we will come item by item. We are discussing at the moment the Supplementary Demands for Grants and Supplementary Appropriation for 1962-63. Therefore, if you have any thing to add, you may do that after your own observation.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Sir, Rule 151 says that "Supplementary, additional excess and exceptional grants and votes of credit shall be regulated by the same procedure as is applicable in the case of demands for grants.

Mr. SPEAKER: But who objected to it? The same procedure will be followed. The point of irrelevance was argued by Mr. Mookerjee. He said that Mr. Goswami was irrelevant because he was bringing all the supplementary demands while we are concerned now only with the supplementary statement of expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of the State. That is the point.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): By way of reference I wanted to mention about the supplementary demands which have been brought before the House. However, Sir, the procedure which has been followed in this House and which has become a constant feature should be avoided and there should be some accuracy at the time of placing the Budget. Though Article 205 of the Constitution has given power to the Finance Minister to place supplementary demands, yet there is a limit to it and this advantage should be utilised sparingly and should not become a constant feature. This is my submission, Sir.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, we are now discussing item 2 of the List of Business, which relates to Statement 'B' at page 80. The hon. Members will be pleased to see that the amount originally included in the Appropriation Act was Rs.15,27,77,200 and now we are asking only for Rs.10,37,985. It is not 15 crores that we are asking for. Now, out of this sum of Rs.10,37,985, an amount of Rs.8,78,716 is required for interest on debt and other obligations. When we are informed about these amounts they are paid. This is not due to any extra expenditure. Then the hon. Member will find that under "Parliament and Legislature" there is only an increase of Rs.12,300; under "General Administration" the increase is Rs.13,750. All charged these are expenditure and there are other minor items. My friend is under a wrong conception that we are asking for a grant of 15 crores. That is not correct. These are all inescapable expenditures. Whenever we come to know about them we pay them and then bring them to the notice of the House.

Supplementary Demands for Grants

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, let us pass on item No. 3.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.13,80,528 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "19.—General Administration". The demand and the explanatory notes have been circulated to the hon. Members.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.13,80,528 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "19.—General Administration".

There are two motions, one standing in the name of Shri Tajuddin Ahmed. He is absent. The second one stands in the name of Shri Madhusudhan Das. Is he going to move it?

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta): Yes, Sir, I want to move my cut motion.

I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.13,80,523 under Supplementary Demand No.1, Major head "19.—General Administration", at page 1 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 13,80,523, do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমার প্রশাসনীয় বিভাগের বাবে এবার আমি Supplementary Demand 'পাচ' করিছিলো তার পিচত আকৌ এই নতুন Supplementary Demand টো আহিছে। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ দেখুৱাইছে বেচি ভাগেই অৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাৰ হেতুকে খৰচ লগা হৈছে। কিন্তু 'ডিমান্ড' কেইটা দেখিলে, খৰচ নহলেও চলিব পাৰিব বুলি কব পাৰি। সেই কাৰণেই নই এই কৰ্ডন প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ৰাখিছো।

ইয়াত ৰাজ্যিক মন্ত্ৰী এজন বচোৱাৰ কথা হৈছে। মই কওঁ যে, আমাৰ ৰাজ্য খনৰ লোক সংখ্যা পৰিমাণে কামৰ পৰিমাণ আৰু ৰাজহলৈ চাই 'মিনিষ্টাৰ' ৰাজ্যিক মিনিষ্টাৰ, ডেপুটী মিনিষ্টাৰ, পালিয়ামেণ্টাৰী চেক্ৰেটৰীৰ মুঠ সংখ্যা এনেদৰে বেচি হৈ আছে।

Mr. SPEAKER : There is only one Parliamentary Secretary.

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS : এই সদনত ৰাজেট সমালোচনাৰ কালত বহুতো মাননীয় সদস্যই মন্ত্ৰীৰ সংখ্যা কমাব লাগে বুলি কৈ আহিছে। ভেমে স্থলতো, চৰকাৰে বৰ্তমানৰ সংখ্যাৰ ওপৰত, আৰু এজন ৰাজ্যিক মিনিষ্টাৰ নিয়োগ কৰিবলৈ মনস্থ কৰাটো বৰ দুঃখৰ কথা। প্ৰকৃততে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত ১১ খন জিলা আছে, তাৰে চাৰি খনৰ কাম মিনিষ্টাৰ সকলে কৰিব নোৱাৰে, কাৰণ, পাৰ্বত্য জিলা চাৰি খনৰ সকলো কামৰ তাৰ ডিষ্ট্ৰিক্ট কাউন্সিলৰ ওপৰতহে। বাকী বলসাত খন জিলা। এই সাতখন জিলাৰ কাৰণে ১০ জন মিনিষ্টাৰৰ বাহিৰেও কিয় ৩ জন ৰাজ্যিক মন্ত্ৰী, ৩ জন ডেপুটী মিনিষ্টাৰ আৰু ১ জন পালিয়ামেণ্টাৰী চেক্ৰেটৰী লাগে বুলি নাপাওঁ। ৭ খন জিলাৰ ৰাজকাৰ্য্য কিয় এওঁলোকে অৰ্থাৎ ১০ জন মিনিষ্টাৰে আৰু আগেয়ে থকা ৰাজ্যিক মন্ত্ৰী, উপমন্ত্ৰী আৰু পালিয়ামেণ্টাৰী চেক্ৰেটৰী সকলে চলাব নোৱাৰে—আকৌ এজন নতুন ৰাজ্যিক মন্ত্ৰী লবৰ প্ৰয়োজন হল।

Mr. SPEAKER : He says that for every district while there is one Deputy Commissioner there are 10 Ministers.

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta) : আমাৰ ৰাজ্যতকৈ বেচি ডাঙৰ ৰাজ্যৰো মন্ত্ৰী পৰিষদৰ সংখ্যা কম আছে; এনেস্থলত কিয় অসমৰ নিচিনা সৰু এখন ৰাজ্যত ইমান বিলাক মন্ত্ৰী ৰাজ কাৰ্য্য চলাবৰ কাৰণে লাগে বুলিব নোৱাৰো। বোধহয়, শাসকদলৰ, দলীয় স্বার্থৰ কাৰণে এই কাম হৈছে আৰু পুনৰ নতুনকৈ এজন ৰাজ্যিক মন্ত্ৰী লবলৈ চিৰাং কৰিছে। কেৱল দল বৰাই যদি চৰনতুনকৈ এজন ৰাজ্যিক মন্ত্ৰী লবলৈ চিৰাং কৰিছে। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে ৰাজহৰ কাৰণ উদ্দেশ্য হয়, তেন্তে ই বৰ দুঃখৰ কথা কাৰণ, ইয়াৰ কাৰণে ৰাজহৰ লক্ষ্যৰ পৰা ধন যাব। মন্ত্ৰী আৰু ডেপুটী মিনিষ্টাৰ, ৰাজ্যিক মিনিষ্টাৰ পালিয়ামেণ্টাৰী চেক্ৰেটৰী আদিৰ বাবদ বহুতো টকা খৰচ হৈছে—তাবোপৰি আৰু এজন ৰাজ্যিক মন্ত্ৰী লব লগা হ'ল এই মন্ত্ৰী জমৰ ভ্ৰমণ বানচ, ঘৰভাৰা, আদিৰো খৰছ লগা হল, এই প্ৰসঙ্গত মোৰ এটি বঙ্গালী বচন মনত পৰিছে।

“কাৰো দেখি পৌষ মাস,
কাৰো সৰ্বনাশ।”

আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত জনসাধাৰণে, জৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাৰ কাৰণে মুক্তহস্তে দেশ-বন্ধনৰ কাৰণে লামলাকুতি সকলো দিছে। আনহাতে মিনিষ্টাৰ সকলে, নানা অজুহাত দেখুৱাই ভ্ৰমণ বানচ ভোগ কৰি ধন ষাটিছে। এওঁলোকৰ এই ভ্ৰমণ বিলাক বন্ধ কৰিব লাগে কাৰণ, ভ্ৰমণত অমুখা বহু পৰিমাণৰ ধন ৰাজহৰা ধন ভাৰাৰ পৰা যায়।

তাৰ পিচত, “Contingencies :—Due to hiring of the houses for accommodation of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and purchase of furniture for the residence of Ministers”.

তেওঁলোকে ভাড়া দিব নলগা ঘৰ, পাইছে। তাত বিলাসপূৰ্ণ 'ফাৰ্ণিচাৰ' কাৰ্পেট পৰ্দা আদিৰ কি প্ৰয়োজন? 'বিলাসপূৰ্ণ' সামগ্ৰীৰ ওপৰত থাকিলেহে ৰাজকাৰ্য্য কৰিব পাৰে নেকি? এই বিলাক বাদ দিব লাগে। তেতিয়া হলে তাৰ পৰা বহু টকা বাহী হব।

নগ্ৰী সকলক ইমান বোৰ Furniture কিয় লাগে? ফৰাছ পাৰি তেওঁলোকে বহিব পাৰে আৰু বেচ আৰাম পোৱা যাব। গতিকে এই টকা যিনিৰ কোনো প্ৰয়োজন নাই। তাৰ পাচত আকৌ Defence Council অৰ সন্ত্যসকলক dearness allowance দিয়াৰ খৰচো ধৰিছে। এইটো কি ধৰিছে মই বুজাই নাই। ইয়াত D. A. ৰ কথা কৈছে।

Expenditure in connection with travelling allowance and dearness allowance of the Members of the State Defence Advisory Council and its sub-committees. This is in page No.3 of the Supplementary Demands.

এওঁলোকক D. A. দিয়া ও হয় নেকি?

Mr. SPEAKER: The expenditure was required in connection with the Branch Secretariat at Gauhati. There are two parts. One part was meant for that and the other part to meet the expenditure in connection with Travelling Allowances, etc. Mr. Das, your time is very limited. Therefore please try to be brief.

এই খৰচ সন্মুখে লিখা ইংৰাজী বাক্যাৰ পৰা তেওঁলোকৰ D. A. দিয়া কথা স্পষ্টৰূপে বুজা যাব সেই বাক্য অন্য অৰ্থ হবই নোৱাৰে। দুজনৰ বাহিৰে সকলোবোৰ Defence Council ৰ নেত্ৰাৰ কংগ্ৰেছী। বোম্বয়ৰ কংগ্ৰেছী সকলক এই ছেগতে কিছু টকা ৰাজহৰা ভৰালৰ পৰা দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে। কংগ্ৰেছী সদস্যৰ তুলনাত আন পাৰ্টি ৰ মানুহ বহুত কম লোৱা হৈছে। যোৱা বাৰ ইলেকছনত কংগ্ৰেছে পাইছিল ১১ লাখ ভোট P. S. P. এ পাইছিল ৩ লাখ সেই হিচাবে P. S. P. ৰ পৰা অন্ততঃ ২ সদস্য এই কমিটিত থাকিব লাগিছিল। Defence Council অৰ শাখা সভাত ৭৭ বছৰীয়া বুঢ়া কংগ্ৰেছী লোককো লোৱা দেখা গৈছে। তাৰ পিচত নতুন কমিচনাৰ দুজনৰ খৰচ ধৰা হৈছে। আগেয়ে কমিচনাৰ আছিল ২ জন ভালৈই আছিল। এতিয়া একে কোবেই ৪ জন কৰিব লগা হল কিয়? আমাৰ Top heavy প্ৰশাসন বন্ধৰ আৰু বেচি Top heavy বা ওপৰ ভাগত গধুৰ কৰাবাহে ব্যৱস্থা হৈছে। ওপৰ গধুৰ হলে লাভ কি হব। নাও হলে ডুৰি যাব মৰণ মিলিব। আমাৰ প্ৰশাসনীয় নাওৰ আপৰ পৰাই ওপৰত বৰ বেচি বোজা হোৱাৰ পৰা বুৰি যাবৰ সন্ভাৱনা হৈছে। আকৌ টুঙ্গা নাও খনৰ ওপৰত বেচি বোজা দিলে সি বুৰি যাই আৰোহি সকলৰ মৰণ ঘটাব। আমাৰ জ্ঞানী পুৰুষ 'ডাক' পুৰুষে কৈছে যে—

অকাৰ্য্যত ফুৰে বাতি ।

জুইৰ কাষত বান্ধে গাটি ॥

টুলুঙ্গা নাও ওপৰে ভৰা ।

বোলন্তু ডাক তিনিও মৰা ॥

গতিকে খৰচৰ বোজা বঢ়োৱাৰ আগতে চৰকাৰে যেন ভালদৰে সকলো কথা ভাবি চিন্তি চাইহে বঢ়ায়। দুজন বেচি কমিচনাৰ কৰাত কিবা লাভ বাইজৰ হৈছে নে? একো লাভ হোৱা নাই। কমিচনাৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধিৰ পৰা বাইজৰ কাষৰ কোনো সুবিধা হোৱা নাই। অসুবিধাহে বৃদ্ধি হৈছে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে এটি কথা কওঁ। Grow More Food Campaigns অৰ বাবে M. L. A. সকলক পুচাৰ চলাব চৰকাৰে কৈছিল, সেই হিচাবে আনি বাইজক কৈছিলো তেওঁলোকে বেচি শাক-পাচলিৰ খেতি কৰা, কৃষিজাত বস্তুৰ দাম পাবা। পিছে কি হ'ল? বাইজে তেওঁলোকৰ শাকপাচালি বেচিবলৈকে ঠাই নাইকীয়া হল। এই বিষয় D. C., Commissioner, Agriculture Director আৰু মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়লৈকে চিঠি দিলো; কোনো উত্তৰ নাই মাত্ৰ মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা উত্তৰ পাইছিলো "আপোনাৰ চিঠি পাইছো"। এই বিষয়ত ই জনৰ ওচৰলৈ গলে কয় সেইটো মোৰ নহয়, সি জনৰ ওচৰলৈ গলে কয় সেইটো মোৰ নহয়। গতিকে প্ৰশাসনৰ বাবে উচ্চ কৰ্মচাৰীৰ সংখ্যা বঢ়ালে কি ফল হ'ব। গতিকে অতিরিক্ত কমিচনাৰ দুজনৰ বাবে খৰচৰ টকা দিবলৈ আনি বাজি নহওঁ আৰু সেই কাৰণে demand টো বৃদ্ধি-বৃদ্ধ হোৱা নাই। এইটো demand এৰি দি যেনেকৈ পাৰে প্ৰশাসন চলাওক।

Mr. SPEAKER : I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to Rule No. 144(3) at page 33 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the Assembly. According to that rule, all demands will be guillotined at 4-30 p. m. I have got at my disposal notice for too many cut motions. Therefore, it will be desirable on the part of the Members of the Opposition to select which of the cut motions they want to move. If they start talking on every one of them, then I am afraid more important motions will not get due consideration. If all the hon. Members speak on the same motion, then the position will be precarious. Therefore, I request the hon. Members to decide as they like in the light of my observations.

The Cut Motion is moved.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I only want to say, Sir.....

Mr. SPEAKER : I have no objection, but the point is that more important motions may not get due consideration from your side.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding) : I rise to point out one discrepancy of a sum amounting to Rs.3,13,325 under the Head of General Administration. In the Budget Expense (for 1962-63) Vol. II, it is found that this Assembly voted Rs.1,22,16,000-0-0 originally but here in the list of Supplementary Demand (Statement A) a sum of Rs 1,25,29,300 has been shown as originally voted. So the above discrepancy is noticed. I shall request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to explain this discrepancy and then place the actual amount of demand before this August House for considerations

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): অধ্যক্ষ

মহোদয়, মই কব খুজিছে যে, আমাৰ ইমানবোৰ মন্ত্ৰী থকাৰ পাচত আৰু এজন State Minister লোৱাৰ যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে সেইটো ভাল কথা হোৱা নাই। এজন মন্ত্ৰী লবলৈ গলে, তেওঁৰ ঘৰ, দৰমহা, গাড়ী, এলাউন্স ইত্যাদি যাবতীয়া বহুত খৰচৰ কথা আহি পৰে। এইদৰে খৰছ কৰিবলৈ যোৱাটো ভাল কথা নহয়।

National Emergency ৰ কাৰণে মন্ত্ৰী সকলে সুবা-স্বৰী কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে আৰু প্ৰশাসনীয়, প্ৰতিৰক্ষা আদি কিছুমান কথাত নিৰ্দেশ দিয়াৰ নিমিত্তে মন্ত্ৰী সকল ভ্ৰমণ কৰা উচিত। কিন্তু আন আন কিছুমান নিৰ্দেশ দিয়াটো হে দুঃখৰ কথা। যেনে ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ সোঁ-মাজত বেতাৰ বন্ধ পাতি পেলাই দিবা—লিয়ালীত বন্দানদীত মটৰ গাড়ী পেলাই দিবা ইত্যাদি। কিন্তু ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ পানী চাবলৈ যায় কিয়? ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ পানী চাই বানপানী বন্ধ কৰিব পাৰিব নেকি? ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰই কিবা মন্ত্ৰীৰ কথা শুনিব নে? কোন নদীয়ে মন্ত্ৰীৰ লুকুমাৰ মান?

Mr. SPEAKER: Relief ৰ কাৰণে যায়।

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: নহয় মহোদয়, মন্ত্ৰীৰ

টকা ঘটাৰ সন্মোগ বৃদ্ধি হৈছে। কোন মন্ত্ৰীয়ে গৈ চাউল দাইল বিলাইছে গৈ। বানপানী হলে তাৰ উপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা লবৰ বাবে D.C. আৰু S.D.O. আছে। তাৰোপৰি তেওঁলোকক সহায় কৰিবৰ বাবে E.A.C. S.D.C. মণ্ডল কানুনগু আদি সকলো ঠাইতে আছেই। আজি কালি আকৌ মহকুমা পৰিষদ, আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত, গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত আৰু ব্লক উন্নয়ন খণ্ড আদি আছে। তাৰোপৰি পাটি আছে। তেওঁবিলাকে যিটো বিপটি দিব সেইটোৱেই ঠিক। মন্ত্ৰী গৈ তাত কি কৰিব? একালে বানপানী আহিল অন্যফালে মন্ত্ৰীৰ দাঁও আহিল অথাৎ টকা ঘটাৰ দাঁও, বানপানীত যিবোৰ বাটপদূলী ছিগিল তাৰ হলে কোনো ব্যৱস্থা কৰা নাই। অসমৰ বানপানী হোৱা সকলো ঠাইতে বস্তা নষ্ট হৈছে। উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰৰ বাট মঠাউৰী, নগাঁৱৰ মায়াং মৌজাৰ মঠাউৰী, দক্ষিণ কামৰূপৰ বাট মঠাউৰী ছিগিলে কিন্তু ভাল কৰা নাই। পাঠশালা, স্কুল, নামঘৰ, মছজিদ নষ্ট হ'ল, তাৰ মেৰামতি হোৱা নাই। বানপানীৰ প্ৰাসত পৰি আজি বাইজৰ হাহাকাৰ লাগিছে। তাত-কাপোৰৰ লগত কিন্তু সেই সকলৰ অভাৱ দূৰ কৰা নাই। তাৰ কাৰণে টকা সদনত বিচৰা নাই, টকা বিচাৰিছে (১৫ হাজাৰ) মন্ত্ৰী সকলক বানপানীত ঘূৰাৰ কাৰণে ভ্ৰমণ বাণচ দিবলৈ। ঠিক মন্ত্ৰী সকল।

মই এই কাৰণেই শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ সমৰ্থন কৰিছো।

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ সম্পৰ্কত যি কেইটা যুক্তি দাঙি ধৰিছে সেই বিষয়ে দুটা মান কৈফিয়ত দিব খুজিছো। প্ৰথমতে মন্ত্ৰী পৰিষদৰ সংখ্যা সম্পৰ্কে সমালোচনা কৰা হৈছে। এই সম্পৰ্কে মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীমধুসূদন দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে, জিলা হিচাপে মন্ত্ৰীৰ সংখ্যা বঢ়াব খুজিছোনো অন্যান্য কাৰণত মন্ত্ৰীৰ সংখ্যা বঢ়াব খুজিছে? ভাৰতৰ কেইখন মান ৰাজ্য আমাৰ ৰাজ্যতকৈ ডাঙৰ হোৱা স্বত্বেও মন্ত্ৰীৰ সংখ্যা আমাতকৈ কম। মন্ত্ৰী সভা সম্পৰ্কে শ্ৰীতাজুদ্দিন আহমদেও এবাৰ এটা প্ৰশ্ন তুলিছিল আৰু তেতিয়া মই কোৱা মনত আছে যে, মন্ত্ৰী সভাৰ সংখ্যা ৰাজ্যৰ লোক সংখ্যাৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰি। ৰাজ্যত কিমান বিলাক সমস্যা আছে, কিমান বিভাগ আছে সেইবোৰৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি মন্ত্ৰী

সভাৰ সংখ্যা ঠিক কৰিব লাগিব। মন্ত্ৰী সভা গঠনৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ৰাজনৈতিক কাৰণ নাই বুলি কলে মই স্বীকাৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰো। পৃথিবীৰ কোনো ৰাষ্ট্ৰতে ৰাজনৈতিক কাৰণ বাদ দি মন্ত্ৰী সভা গঠন কৰাৰ কথা কোনেও কব নোৱাৰে।

আমাৰ সমস্যা বহুত। হবপাবে ভাৰতৰ বহুত ৰাজ্য আমাৰ ৰাজ্যতকৈ ডাঙৰ কিন্তু এইটো কথা ঠিক যে, আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ দৰে সমস্যা বহুল ৰাজ্য ভাৰতত দ্বিতীয় এখন নাই। প্ৰথম হৈছে আমাৰ ইয়াত নানান ভাষা-ভাষী মানুহ প্ৰত্যেক জিলাতে আছে। দ্বিতীয় হৈছে প্ৰত্যেক জিলাৰ সমস্যা নানা বৰকমৰ। অসমৰ কথা আৰু অসমৰ সমস্যাবলী ভালকৈ জানিবলৈ উপযুক্ত উপায় হৈছে গোটেই অসম খন ভ্ৰমণ কৰিব লাগিব। কেৱল ভৈৰামৰ জিলা কেইখন ভ্ৰমণ কৰিলেই নহয়, পাৰ্ব্বতীয় জিলা কেইখনো ভ্ৰমণ কৰিলেই বুজিব পাৰিব আমাৰ ৰাজ্যখন কেনেকুৱা।

এইটো ঠিক যে, মন্ত্ৰী সভাৰ সংখ্যা কমাব পাৰিলে ভাল। লগতে এইটোও কওঁ যে, সেই সভা সংখ্যা দেশৰ স্বাৰ্থৰ অনুকূলে বা কাম চলা হিচাপে লব লাগিব। সাধাৰণতে মন্ত্ৰী সভা গঠন কৰাৰ নিয়ম হৈছে সংখ্যা গৰিষ্ট দলৰ দলপতিৰ ওপৰত আস্থা কৰি গঠন কৰিবলৈ দিয়াটো। সেই কাৰণে মই কব খোজো যে, অসমৰ পৰিস্থিতি আৰু ৰাজনৈতিক কাৰণলৈ চাই মন্ত্ৰীৰ সংখ্যা বেচি হৈছে বা অনাৱশ্যকীয় হৈছে বুলি কব নোৱাৰো। কোনোবা এখন ৰাজ্যত ২৯ জন মন্ত্ৰীৰ ঠাইত এতিয়া ৯ জন কৰিছে। তাৰ প্ৰধান কথা হল যে, ৯ জনে চলাব পাবাৰ ঠাইত ২৯ জন কিয় লৈছিল? তাৰ কৈফিয়ৎ মই দিব নোৱাৰো।

মই অসমৰ ৰাইজক কব খোজো যে, আমাৰ মন্ত্ৰী সভাৰ সংখ্যা বেচি হৈছে বুলি স্বীকাৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰো আৰু লগে লগে এইটোও কব খোজো যে, দেশৰ পৰিস্থিতিয়েও বাধ্য কৰিছে। দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে ভ্ৰমণ সম্পৰ্কে। এই ভ্ৰমণ সম্পৰ্কে দুয়োফালৰ পৰা সমালোচনা হয়। প্ৰথমতে মানুহে চৰকাৰক সমালোচনা কৰে বিপদৰ সময়ত যাব নোৱাৰা বাবে আৰু দ্বিতীয়তে অন্য বৰকমে সমালোচনা কৰা হয় কিয় ভ্ৰমণ বেচি কৰা হৈছে? এই ভ্ৰমণ সম্পৰ্কে কোৱা হৈছে যে, বানপানী হলেও শ্ৰীখণ্ডেস্ত্ৰ নাথ বৰবৰুৱাই কোৱাৰ দৰে মন্ত্ৰী সকল গৈ ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ বানপানী কমাব পাৰিবনে দমাৰ পাৰিব?

(বিপুল হৰ্ষধ্বনি)।

ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ বান কমাব নোৱাৰিব পাৰে, কিন্তু এটা কৰ্তব্য আছে যে, তাৰ এটা বিপট ৰাইজৰ প্ৰতিনিধি সকলৰ আগত দিব লাগে। ৰাইজৰ অৱস্থা উপলব্ধি কৰিবৰ বাবে আৰু বুজিবৰ বাবেও সময়মতে যোৱা দৰকাৰ। অৱশ্যে যিমানদূৰ পৰা যায় নিয়ন্ত্ৰিত হব লাগে, overlapping হব নেলাগে আৰু planned ভাৱে হব লাগে। কিন্তু ভ্ৰমণ কৰাটো অনাৱশ্যকীয় বুলি কব নোৱাৰো।

তৃতীয়তে, জৰুৰীকালীন অৱস্থাৰ সময়ত কমিচনাৰ পদ আৰু অফিচৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধাৰ লগীয়া হৈছিল। ইয়াৰ আগতেও বানপানীৰ সময়তো কিছুমান বিশেষ দায়িত্ব কমিচনাৰক দিয়া হৈছিল আৰু ডেভেলপমেণ্ট কমিচনাৰক জিলাই জিলাই ভ্ৰমণ কৰিবলৈ দিয়া হৈছিল। এতিয়া জৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাত কামৰ হেচা বৃদ্ধি হোৱাত কমিচনাৰৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধাৰ লগীয়া হৈছিল। তেওঁলোকৰ কামৰ পৰা উপকাৰ হৈছিল নে নাই, মোতকৈ সংশ্লিষ্ট জিলা কেইখনৰ মাননীয় সদস্য সকলে বেচি জানে। এই কমিচনাৰ সকল কোন? এওঁলোক হৈছে একো একোজন উচ্চ পদস্থ চৰকাৰী বিষয়া যি দীৰ্ঘদিন চৰকাৰী পদত অধিস্থিত থাকি যথেষ্ট অভিজ্ঞতা আহৰণ কৰি

আহিছে। এই অভিজ্ঞতা থকাৰ ফলত বহুতো বিষয়ত এওঁলোকে সময়মতে হুকুম দিব পাৰে। এওঁলোকে যোৱা বাণপানীৰ স্বংশলীলাৰ সময়ত আৰু জৰুৰী অৱস্থাৰ সময়ত যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে কাম কৰি আহিছে। দৰং জিলাত বিশেষকৈ বিশ তাৰিখৰ দিনা আৰু তাৰ পিচত যি অৱস্থাৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছিল সেই অৱস্থাৰ মাজত। তাৰোপৰি বেতিয়া ইউৰুপীয় চাহ খেতিয়ক সকলে নিজৰ চাহ বাগিচা এৰি যাব লগা হৈছিল তেতিয়া চাহ বাগিচা আৰু তাৰ উপকণ্ঠত এটা উদ্বোধনৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছিল। এই পৰিস্থিতিত, এই কমিচনাৰ সকলে যথেষ্ট দায়িত্বপূৰ্ণ কাম কৰিছে। তেওঁলোকে, বন্ধকৰি থোৱা বচদৰ গুদাম ভঙাই চাহ বাগানৰ শুমিক আৰু জনসাধাৰণক বচদ যোগাইছিল জৰুৰী কালীন সময়ত, এই অভিজ্ঞতা থকা কৰ্মচাৰী সকলে লক্ষীমপুৰ আৰু দৰং জিলাত স্থপাতিৰে, শৃংখলতাৰে বহু কাম কৰিলে। এতিয়া, আমি দেখিছো যে, তিনিজন কমিচনাৰৰ দৰ্কাৰ নাই আৰু সেই কাৰণে এজন কমাই দিয়া হৈছে।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই 'ডিমাণ্ডটোত' যি কেইটা বিষয়ত মাননীয় সদস্য সকলে সমালোচনা কৰিছিল, আশাৰুৱা তেখেত সকলক মই সন্তোষজনক উত্তৰ দিব পাৰিছো আৰু সেই কাৰণে তেখেত সকলে যেন তেখেতসকলৰ কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ প্ৰত্যাহাৰ কৰে।

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Das, are you going to withdraw the cut motion?

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta): Yes, Sir. I withdraw the cut motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: The cut motion stands withdrawn. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.13,80,523 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for administration of the head "19.—General Administration".

(The motion was put as question and adopted).

Demand No.2

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.57,527 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "21.—Administration of Justice."

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.57,527 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the Administration of the head "21.—Administration of Justice". There is one cut motion by Shri Tajuddin Ahmed. He is absent. Will anybody take part in the discussion. (voices—No).

None taking part.

The question is that an additional amount of Rs.57,527 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "21.—Administration of Justice."

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Demant No.3

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.4,11,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the Administration of the head "22.--Jails".

Mr. SPEAKER : There are two cut motions, one by Shri Tajuddin Ahmed and the other by Shri Haladhar Ujir. Mr. Ujir, are you going to move the cut motion.

Shri HALADHAR UJIR [Tamalpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Yes, Sir. I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.4,11,000 under Supplementary Demand No.3, Major Head '22--Jails' at page... of the List of Supplementary Demand, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs.4,11,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri HALADHAR UZIR : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, সংক্রান্ত ব্যাপারত বিভাগীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে যিটো পৰিপূৰক মঞ্জুৰী উপস্থাপিত কৰিছে, সেইটো মই বুদ্ধিসঙ্গত হৈছে বুলি কব নোৱাৰো। কাৰণ, সংক্রান্তত, চৰকাৰে যি ধৰণেৰে কাম কৰিব লাগে সেইদৰে কৰিব পৰা Under-trial prisoner বিলাকক, জেল অৰ্ধাৰিটিয়ে যি খাদ্য দিয়ে, সেইটো বেয়া। ইয়াৰ ফলত, এই unde-trial prisoner সকলৰ সূৰণে বেমাৰ স্বাস্থ্যৰ হানি হয়। বন্দী অৱস্থাত থাকিলে যে, এই 'প্ৰিজনাৰ' বিলাকে ইমান খাদ্য খাব লাগে সেইটো অত্যন্ত দুঃখৰ বিষয়। তাৰোপৰি, এওঁলোকৰ ব্যৱস্থা শোক লগা। এই থকা আৰু খোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা উন্নত কৰা চৰকাৰৰ কৰ্ত্তাৰ তাৰ পিচত, আন এটা কথা আনি দেখি আহিছো, যে জেলত কয়দী বিনা পইছাৰে কৰা বস্তু বিলাক, বৰ বেচি দামত বিক্ৰী কৰে। এইটো হোৱা নাই আৰু ইয়াৰ দাম কম হ'ব লাগিছিল। বোধ হয় এই চৰা দামত কৰাত এটা তাৎপৰ্য্য আছে। এই ফালে চৰকাৰে লক্ষ্য ৰাখিব বুলি আশা কৰি তাৰ পিচত এই under-trial prisoner অথবা অন্যান্য কয়দী সকল, জেল পৰা ওলোৱাৰ পিচত যাতে তেওঁলোকৰ কিবা ভাল হয়-

Mr. SPEAKER কি হয় ?

Shri HALADHAR UZIR : কিবা ভাল ব্যৱস্থা ! মানসিক পৰিবৰ্ত্তন আদি যাতে হয়, তাৰ কাৰণে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। এই বিলাক ব্যৱস্থা নথকাৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ মনুহ বিলাক বহুতো জিয়াতু ভুগিব লগা হৈছে। এই বিলাকৰ কোনো বকমৰ উপশম হোৱা নাই। সেই কাৰণে মই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ দাখিল কৰিছো ; চৰকাৰে যেন, বিহিত ব্যৱস্থা কৰে।

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Jail) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই পৰিপূৰক বাজেট খন ডাঙি ধৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে। কাৰণ, যোৱা বাজেটত যি টকা থকা হৈছিল তাতকৈ কিছু বেচি টকা খৰচ কৰিব লগীয়া হোৱাৰ কাৰণে এই টকা ধৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে। বৰ্ত্তমান চীনা আক্ৰমণৰ জৰুৰী পৰিস্থিতিৰ ফলত জেলৰ কয়দীৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি হৈছে ; তাৰ কাৰণে বেচি টকাৰ প্ৰয়োজন হৈছে। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰে যোৱা বাণেশ্বৰীত কেইখনমান জেইল বেয়াটকৈ ক্ষতিগ্ৰস্ত হৈছে। সেই কেইখনত নেৰামতিৰ কাৰণে টকা লাগে। বচদ পাতিব মূল্য বৃদ্ধি আৰু যোৱা বছৰৰ পিচত অহা বিল বিলাকৰ টকা পৰিপোধ আদি তাৰ কাৰণে মাত্ৰ আৱশ্যকীয় পৰিমাণ টকা বিচৰা হৈছে।

মাননীয় সদস্যই কয়েদীৰ খাদ্য বিষয়ে এটা আসোঁৱাই উৎপাদন কৰিছে। সেই বিষয়ে মই কওঁ যে, আমাৰ বিভাগৰ খাদ্য বিষয়ে এটা বন্ধা-ধৰা নিয়ম আছে তাৰ পৰা আমি তেওঁলোকৰ খাদ্য কমাৰ নোৱাৰো। তাৰ উপৰি পাৰ্ব্যমানে তেওঁলোকক ভাল খাদ্য দিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা হৈছে। তেখেতে কোন জেলত বেয়া খাদ্য দিয়া দেখিছে, সেই কথা উল্লেখ কৰা নাই। বৰ্তমান জেলত কেনে ব্যৱস্থা চলিছে তেখেতে দেখিছেনে নাই কব নোৱাৰো। সম্ভৱ নেদেখাৰ ফলতেই এনে বৰণৰ আশোঁৱাই কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছে। কেৱল খাদ্যই নহয়, তেওঁলোকৰ মাতে সৰ্ব্বাঙ্গীন মঙ্গল হয় আৰু আগৰ চৰিত্ৰ পৰিবৰ্তন হয় তাৰ কাৰণে বিশেষ যত্ন কৰা হৈছে।

ইয়াৰ উপৰিও আৰু এটা ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰা হৈছে যে, কয়েদী বিলাক জেলৰ পৰা ওলাই অহাৰ পিচত বাহিৰত আমাৰ মাজত প্ৰকৃত নাগৰিক হিচাবে জীৱন যাপন কৰিব পাৰে তাৰ বাবে তেওঁলোকক শিল্প শিক্ষাও দিয়া হৈছে; আৰু প্ৰকৃততে তেওঁলোকে ওলাই অহাৰ পিচত ভাল জীৱন যাপন কৰা দেখিবলৈ পোৱা গৈছে।

তেখেতে আৰু এটা কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছে যে, “জেইলত কুটাৰ শিল্পৰ জৰিয়তে যি উৎপন্ন কৰিছে সেই বিলাক বস্তু বাহিৰত অন্যান্য অনুৰূপ বস্তুতকৈ বৰ্দ্ধিত হাবত বিক্ৰী কৰা হৈছে”; কিন্তু কোন বস্তুৰ মূল্য বৃদ্ধি হ'ল তাৰ কোনো উল্লেখ তেখেতে কৰা নাই। কিন্তু মই কওঁ যে, তাত লাভ কৰাৰ কোনো কথা নাই। কেৱল তেওঁলোকে যাতে নতুন শিল্প শিক্ষা কৰি বাহিৰত ভাল জীৱন যাপন কৰিব পাৰে, তাৰ শিক্ষাহে দিয়া হয়; সেই বস্তু বিলাক নাম মাত্ৰ মূনাফালৈ বিক্ৰী কৰা হয়। তেখেতে কোনো ঠাইত বহুত বৰ্দ্ধিত মূল্যত এই বিলাক বস্তু বিক্ৰী কৰা হৈছে তাৰ সংবাদ দিলে মই নিশ্চয় তদন্ত কৰিম। তেখেতে বিচাৰাবীনত থকা কয়েদীৰ ভাল অৱস্থা কৰা কি কথা কলে মই ধৰিব পৰা নাই।

Mr. SPEAKER তেখেতে খালাচহৈ অহা কয়েদীৰ কথাহে কৈছে।

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Jail):

তেখেত মই খালাচ হৈ অহা কয়েদীৰ কথা কব খোজো যে, তেওঁলোকে জেইলৰ পৰা ওলাই অহাৰ পিচত বাহিৰত ভাল জীৱন যাপন কৰিবৰ কাৰণে কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত আৰ্থিক সহায় আৰু শিক্ষা আদি দি পঠোৱাৰ আৱশ্যকীয় ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে। তেওঁলোকক কিছুদিন বাপি শিল্পৰ কোনো ক্ৰটি কৰা হোৱা নাই। কয়েদী সকলৰ স্বাস্থ্য ৰক্ষাৰ্থেও যথেষ্ট তদাৰক লোৱা হৈছে। গতিকে তেখেতে দেখুওৱা আশোঁৱাই বিলাকৰ মই যুক্তি দিছো বুলি ভাবি, তেখেতৰ কৰ্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো উঠাই লবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনালো।

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Uzir, are you going to withdraw your cut motion?

Shri HALADHAR UZIR [Tampur, (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Yes, Sir.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Then I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.4,11,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head "22.—Jails".

(The motion was put as question and adopted).

Demand No.4

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.50,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "23—Police". Sir, the explanation has already been given in the explanatory Note.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.50,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "23—Police". Now there are cut motions in the names of Shri Madhusudhan Das, Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee and Shri Tajuddin Ahmed.

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta): Only Shri Bhattacharjee will move the cut motion.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs 50,00,000 under Supplementary Demand No.4 Major head "23.—Police" at page 8 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.50,00,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Mr. SPEAKER: I want to tell one thing to the hon. Members that the scope of discussion in a cut motion is laid down in Rule 152 of the Rules and Procedure and Conduct of Business at page 35, and I hope that the hon. Members will strictly adhere to the Rules. They should not raise any question which is not connected with the Demand. The scope of discussion in this Demand is limited to (1) deputation of 8 additional Police Forces from other State (2) Raising of one additional Police Battalion, (3) Re-organisation of 1st, 2nd and 4th Battalion Border Security Force, (4) Re-organisation of Village Defence Set Up (5) increasing the strength of the District Armed and Un-armed Branch and (6) Additional requirement of transport and wireless equipment to meet the emergencies arising out of the Chinese aggression. The hon. Members can speak only on these items.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমি সর্বপ্রথমে একটি বিষয়ে মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করতে চাই। আমরা দেখছি যে, এ বিষয়ে গত বাজেটে ইতিপূর্বেই এই সদনে বিত্তমঞ্জুরী দেওয়া হয়েছে। এখন ১৯৬২-৬৩ সালের বাজেটে এর জন্য ৪৭,৭৫,৯১,৬'০০ টাকার মঞ্জুরী উল্লেখ আছে। কিন্তু সেই Originally Voted amount এর উপরেও আবার পরিপূরক বাজেট ৫০,০০,০০০ টাকা ধরা হয়েছে; এ সংখ্যাতে কিছু গোঁসাল হয়েছে কি না জানি না।

Explanatory Note এ দেখা যায় চীনা আক্রমণ কালে অন্যান্য প্রদেশের মিলিটারী ডেকে আনা হয়েছে এবং তজ্জন্য অনেক খরচ হয়েছে। সীমান্ত রক্ষা করার কাজে নিযুক্ত সৈনিকের খরচ আমরা নিজেদের বাজেট থেকে

দেওয়ার কারণ কি? অবশ্য এ খৰচ অবশ্য প্ৰয়োজনীয় বলেই মনে হয়। সে সম্পৰ্কে আমি ব্যক্তিগত ভাবে বলতে চাই যে, চীনা আক্ৰমণ আৰু অন্যান্য সীমান্ত ব্যাপাৰে বাহিৰ থেকে যে, **Battalion** এনেছেন তাৰ জন্য যে টকাৰ ব্যয় হয়েছে, সেটা বহন করার দায়ীৰ আমাদেৰ ৰাজ্যিক সরকারেৰ নয় ইহা কেন্দ্ৰীয় সরকার বহন কৰবেন। স্ততৰাং সে সম্পৰ্কে যথায়ুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত।

আমি বলতে চাই আমাদেৰ এ কাজেৰ মধ্যে আমাদেৰ যে, **Battalion** আনা হয়, তাহাও কেন্দ্ৰীয় সরকারেৰ বহন কৰা উচিত।

বৰ্তমান **Border Security Force** এৰ যে, **Organization** হয়েছে যদি সেটাই হয়, তাতে আমি কিছু বলতে চাই।

Border Security বললে যা বোঝা যায় সেই সম্পৰ্কে বলছি এবং **Border Security** ৰ দ্বাৰা কি কাজ হয়েছে তাৰ প্ৰতি দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰতে চাই। বৰ্ডাৰে যে সমস্ত ঘটনা ঘটেছে তাৰ দ্বাৰা বুঝতে পাৰছি যে, **Security** ৰ কাজ কি হচেছ? গত বছৰ অবশ্য বড় ঘটনা ঘটে নাই কিন্তু ছোট খাটো ঘটনা ঘটেছে। এই জন্যই আমৰ, বুঝতে পাৰছি না বোৰ্ডাৰ সিকিউৰিটি কি কাজ কৰছে। **Border Security Force** থাকা স্বত্বেও এ পাৰেৰ গৰু ওপাৰে চলে যায়, চুৰি ইত্যাদিৰ শেষ নাই। পাকিস্তান সীমান্ত সম্পৰ্কে আজ আমাদেৰ আৰও বেশী অবহিত হওয়া প্ৰয়োজন। এ সম্পৰ্কে আলোচনা কৰতে গেলে আমৰা দেখতে পাই যে, যে কোনো সময়ে কি ঘটনা ঘটতে পাৰে তাৰ কোন ঠিকানা নাই। এই খাসীয়া-জয়ন্তীয়া সীমান্ত অৱস্থিত আমাদেৰ প্ৰায় থেকে ১১০ টি গৰু আৰু ৩ টি মেয়ে ধৰে নিয়ে যেতে পাৰে এই **Border Force** থকা স্বত্বেও এটা অভ্যস্ত দুঃখেৰ কথা। স্ততৰাং **Border Security Force** কে কি ভাবে **active** এবং **efficient** কৰতে পাৰা যায় সেটা চিন্তা কৰা উচিত। বৰ্ডাৰেৰ লোকের গৰু চুৰিৰ ভয়ে ৰাতি ঘুমাতে পাৰে না। গৰু খাটোৰ সংগে বেধে মানুষকে ৰাত কাটাতে হয়। এই হল বৰ্ডাৰেৰ অবস্থা। কাজেই এটা বিশেষ ভাবে চিন্তা কৰা উচিত যে, **Border Security** কেমন ভাবে **active** কৰা যায়। থানা গুলি **reinforced** কৰা ভাল। আমাদেৰ কাটিগড়া থানা পাক সীমান্তবৰ্তী একটী কি থানা। এই থানাতে **Steam Launch** না থাকায় অনেক অসুবিধা হয়। এই সবেৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰে থানা গুলিকে শক্তিশালী কৰতে হয়। অবশ্যি বৰ্তমান যিনি কাটিগড়া থানাৰ তাৰ প্ৰাপ্ত অফিসাৰ আছেন তিনি নিজেৰ জীবন বিপন্ন কৰেও কাজ কৰে চলেছেন। কিন্তু এই সব কাজেৰ জন্য সব **equipment** থাকা উচিত। আমি এই বিষয়ে সদনেৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰি।

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে বিটো **Supplimentary Demand** আনিছে সেই টকাতো বহন কৰিব লাগিছিল কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে। **Demand** টো হৈছে "The additional requirement of transport and W. T. sets to meet the emergency."

এই পুলিচ বেটেলিয়নটো যদি ভায়া আন্দোলনৰ সময়ত অনা হৈছিল তেনে-হলে তাৰ খৰচটো মোৰা মাৰ্চ চেচনতে ধৰিব লাগিছিল। কিন্তু **Supplimentary Grant** আনাৰ কাৰণে বুজা যায় যে, বৰ্তমান জৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাৰ কাৰণে এই বেটেলিয়ন আনিব লগা হৈছিল। জৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাৰ কাৰণে অনা বেটেলিয়নৰ খৰচ অসম চৰকাৰে বহন কৰা উচিত নহয়। এইটো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে বহন কৰিব লাগে। নগালেণ্ড গোলমালৰ সময়ত কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে অসম চৰকাৰৰ লগত কোনো কথা আলোচনা কৰা নাই। গতিকে এইটো ভালকৈ প্ৰমাণ হয় যে, **Border Security Battalion** দিয়াৰ দায়ীৰ

কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰৰ। পাকিস্তান Border Security-ৰ দায়িত্বও কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰৰ, কাৰণ দেশৰ সীমা তেওঁলোকে নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰিছে। Defence কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰৰ। গতিকে এই খৰচ কিয় অসম চৰকাৰে বহন কৰিব লাগে? গতিকে এই খৰচৰ টকা কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰৰ পৰা আদায় কৰি লব লাগে। Defence Fund ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ। এই fund ৰ পৰা দেশ বন্ধাৰ সকলো খৰচ দিয়া হৈছে।

Mr. SPEAKER : ভাৰত চৰকাৰে দিলেও সেইটো পাট কৰি লব লাগিব।

Shri MADHUSUDHAN DAS (Barpeta) : ই এটি অন্যায় কথা, এইটো কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰে পাট কৰা উচিত। গতিকে মই শ্ৰীভট্টাচাৰ্য্যৰ কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিলো।

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীভাৰাপদ ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য আৰু আন এজন সদস্য শ্ৰীমধু-সুধন দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই এই গ্ৰাণ্টটোৰ সম্পৰ্কে দুটা সমালোচনা দাঙি ধৰিছে। এটা হৈছে যে, জৰুৰী অৱস্থাৰ কাৰণে যি অতিৰিক্ত পুলিচ বাহিনী বাহিবৰ পৰা আনিব লগা হৈছে তাৰ খৰচ টো কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰে বহন কৰিব লাগে আৰু দ্বিতীয়টো সমালোচনা হৈছে বডাৰ চিকিউৰিটি আৰু নগালেণ্ড গোলমাল কিয় চম্বালিব পৰা নাই।

প্ৰথমটোৰ সম্পৰ্কে হল যে, আজি যি ৫০ লাখ টকা বিচৰা হৈছে তাৰ সবহভাগ প্ৰায় ৪৫ লাখ ১৬ হাজাৰ টকা ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ পৰা পাম বুলি আশা কৰিছে আৰু সেই বিষয়ে তেওঁলোকৰ লগত লেখা-লিখিও হৈছে আৰু এই টকা পাম বুলি আশ্বাস পাইছে।

কিন্তু যিহেতু টকাটো Contingency fund ৰ পৰা খৰচ কৰা হৈ গৈছে সেই কাৰণে এইটো Assembly ত দাখিল কৰিব লাগিব।

দ্বিতীয় প্ৰশ্নটো, নগা সমস্যা সম্পৰ্কে শান্তি বন্ধা কৰিবৰ কাৰণে পুলিচ বাহিনী বৰা হৈছে, তাৰ খৰচটো কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰে বহন কৰিব লাগে। কিন্তু কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰে সেই টকাতো অসম চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰাপ্য বুলি নীতিগত হিচাবে স্বীকাৰ কৰা নাই। এতিয়া মধ্য প্ৰদেশ আদিত দকাইত দমনৰ কাৰণে অতিৰিক্ত পুলিচ বৰা হৈছে। সেইটো আভ্যন্তৰিণ কথা বুলি বিবেচনা কৰি সেই খৰচটোও কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰে বহন কৰিব বুলি স্বীকাৰ কৰি লোৱা নাই।

তৃতীয়তে মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীভাৰাপদ ভট্টাচাৰ্য্যই Border Security Force সম্পৰ্কে যি সমালোচনা কৰিছে সেইটো সচাকৈয়ে দুঃখৰ বিষয়। আমাৰ সীমান্তত ১৯৪৭ চনৰে পৰা এতিয়ালৈকে বহুত গোলমাল হৈ আছে। এতিয়া বৰং কম হৈছে বুলি ক'ব পাৰি। এই বিষয়টো সদনত আগতেও আলোচনা হৈ গৈছে। ১৯৫৮ চনৰ পোৰ্টেই বন্ধবটো আৰু ১৯৫৯ চনৰ প্ৰায় ৯ মাহ আমাৰ সীমান্তত দৈনিক গুলিয়া-গুলি চলিছিল। আমাৰেই দুৰ্ভাগ্য যে, আমাৰ চুবুৰীয়া বাই পাকিস্তানৰ লগত আমাৰ বন্ধু নাই। আমি শুনিবলৈ পাইছো যে, পাকিস্তানৰ পৰা অস্ত্ৰ সস্ত্ৰ আৰু আন নোট দি দুৰ্বৃত্ত নগা সকলক নগা লেওঁলৈ পঠাইছে। গতিকে আমি সীমান্ত

পৰ্য্যবেক্ষণৰ কথা বিশেষ ভাৱে চিন্তা কৰিব লাগিব আৰু Border Security Force আৰু শক্তিশালী কৰিব লাগিব আৰু বাট-পথ আদি নিৰ্মাণ কৰিব লাগিব। সেই বাবে আমি অতিৰিক্ত খৰচ পাত্তিও কৰিব লাগিব। এই কথাত মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীভট্টাচাৰ্য্যৰ লগত আমাৰ দ্বিতীয় মত নাই। এই সন্ধান পোৱাৰ পিচত আশা-কৰে মাননীয় সদস্যই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো উঠাই লব।

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Bhattacharjee, are you going to withdraw your cut motion?

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Yes, Sir.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.50,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "23.—Police".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Demand No.5

Mr SPEAKER: Shri Ahmed.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.32,975 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "26—Miscellaneous Department—I—Directorate of Small Savings".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.32,975 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "26.—Miscellaneous Department—I—Directorate of Small Savings".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Sir, I want to draw your attention to the point raised by both Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee and Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta about the discrepancy in amount between Supplementary Demand No 4 and the original Budget. But neither the Finance Minister nor the Chief Minister clarified the position.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Sir, in all most all the demands, the discrepancies are there with the original Budget.

Mr. SPEAKER: Alright, the Minister will explain it later on.

Demand No.6

Mr SPEAKER: Shri Chaliha.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.5,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "26—Miscellaneous Department—II—Trade Adviser and Directorate of Movements".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.5,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "26—Miscellaneous Department—II—Trade Adviser and Directorate of Movements." There is only one Cut Motion to be moved by Shri Tajuddin Ahmed. But he is absent.

I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.5,500, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head "26.—Miscellaneous Department—II—Trade Adviser and Directorate of Movements".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat). On a point of order, Sir, how can we proceed with this discussion on those demands unless the figures which are wrong, on the basis of which we are going to discuss the matter, are clarified and made correct?

Mr. SPEAKER: I have given the Minister time to explain the position.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI: But, Sir, we have already passed Demand No.4.

Mr. SPEAKER: The point is, if there be any discrepancy in any demand, the demand will be stayed.

Demand No.7

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Borooah.

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH (Minister, Education): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.21,75,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "28—Education—I—General Education."

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved. There are so many Cut Motions to be moved by Shri Dulal Chandra Barua, Shri Tajuddin Ahmed and Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta. Shri Barua.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.21,75,500, under Supplementary Demand No.7, Major head "28.—Education—I—General Education", at page 11 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs.21,75,500 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, in supporting the Cut Motion I want to make a few observations. Sir, it is needless to say before this House that this Government may well be termed as Government of additional officers and additional grants.

Sir, at the beginning, the Government never foresee what expenditure they have to make, and at last they come with these supplementary demands. Sir, all along, these things are happening. Anyhow, Sir, as

regards Explanatory Note No 1, I want to make some observations, that is about Contingency Fund for giving non-recurring grants on test-relief basis to the aided educational institutions damaged by floods. Sir, it is very unfortunate that floods occur in our State every year and for that we have to make additional expenditure and therefore, we all agree to such kind of unforeseen expenditure. But, Sir, in many cases, it has been observed that in giving flood relief grants so many discriminations take place. Therefore, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Education Minister that at the time of distributing such kind of grants report from the Inspectors and Deputy Commissioners should be obtained so that grants can be given without discrimination and without any anomaly as it is observed in most of the cases.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Education Minister that while giving grants, the areas which are actually affected by flood should be ascertained first. This point should be considered very carefully so that deserving ones only may get grants. Sir, I raise this point particularly, because it is seen that many institutions severely damaged by flood, did not get grants, and this exhibits the Government's discriminatory policy in this regard.

Sir, regarding Explanatory Note No.2, I see no reason why the Government could not foresee such kind of expenditure at the time of making the Budget. These expenditures should be assessed yearly. Sir, we do agree that unless and until we offer facilities to the Students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backwards Classes it is not possible for them to continue their studies. Sir, provision has been made under the Constitution to give these students financial help. This is in conformity with the prevailing economic condition of these students. But, Sir, my point is that when these scholarships are to be given, as under the scheme of the Government of India, why our State Government could not make provision of these expenditures on scholarship to the students of these classes in time in the Budget? Therefore, I request the Education Minister, through you, Sir, to look into the matter so that in future assessment of expenditure on scholarships is made beforehand.

Sir, regarding Explanatory Note No.3, I have got nothing to say.

As regards explanatory Note No.4. I want to submit, Sir, that it fails to give us a clear picture about the expenditure under the head of merit scholarship to the children of Primary and Secondary School Teachers. When it is the Scheme taken up by the Government of India, I fail to understand why our State Government is to meet this expenditure from our Contingency Fund. I want to have clarification from the hon. Minister, Education about the impact of this Demand on the State Budget. What is the instruction from the Government of India to the State Government in respect of this Scheme? As it is really an important Scheme for helping impart higher education to the children of the Primary and Higher Secondary School Teachers, Government could have foreseen the said expenditure after obtaining early clarification from the Government of India.

This is my submission, Sir.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Sir, in this demand also there is some discrepancy.

Mr. SPEAKER : In Grant No. 4, certain discrepancy has been pointed out to me by Shri Tarapada Bhattacheryya. But from a comparison of the original Budget I have found that there is no discrepancy at all. This is the Budget of Government of Assam, Finance Department, Vol. II. Estimate of the amount is required in connection with the administration of Civil Police Department. The voted amount is Rs.4,76,15,800.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : Sir, this is also a Budget of the Finance Department. This figure does not tally with that.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri) : Sir, two sets of books were supplied last year due to two Budget Session. Hence the discrepancy.

Mr. SPEAKER : Yes, so, Mr. Bhattacheryya, you have compared with the wrong figure. I have the original Budget on my table and I find that there is no discrepancy in the figures.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding) : Sir, I beg to move my cut motion that the total provision of Rs. 21,75,500 under Supplementary Demand No. 7 Major-head "28—Education—I—General Education" at page 11 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1 i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.21,75,500 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Education Minister to the Explanatory Notes which runs—This amount of Rs.10,00,000 (Rupees ten lakhs) only has been taken as advance from the contingency fund for repairing institutions damaged by the floods in the year 1962 for repairs or reconstructions of their buildings. The supplementary demand is for regularisation of the advance taken.

Sir, I do not like to bring the whole facts before this House. I want to cite examples of two schools only—Bortola and Dikhowmukh. Whether many advance were like these School which had no existence at all.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) : Is he speaking on Rs.10 lakhs ?

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA : This is about maldistribution of this ten lakhs of rupees. That is why, I am bringing some illustration. That is I mean to say whether the said amount has been granted to some schools which have no existence, or to Bonafide Schools actually suffered in flood.

***Shri DEV KANT BAROOAH (Minister, Education) :** Mr. Speaker Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Member from Jorhat for giving me an opportunity to explain to the hon. Member the situation under which all these amounts were taken out of the contingency fund. I quite agree with the hon. Member that only unforeseen expenditure should come up in Supplementary Demand as far as possible. Sir, there are situations when it is obligatory on the part of the Government to spend money in discharging their trust and responsibility.

In this connection, I may explain to the hon. Member of this House that these expenditures were unavoidable. The amount had to be spent in connection with the damages caused by the flood. The flood came after

the Budget Session. It was being the act of the God, we could not anticipate this expenditure for inclusion in the Budget. So we had to spend from the consolidated fund. To make sure that the money was properly utilised, a procedure has been laid down in which the Deputy Commissioner, Sub-divisional Officers, and Inspectors of Schools were to make investigation to ascertain the requirements of the Schools. If the damage is genuine the actual requirement will be ascertained with the help of P.W.D.

Sir, there will be a committee both in the district and Sub-divisional level with the local M.L.As and non-official members. They will select a school, so, there is no chance of unnecessary expenditure; because the requirements will be processed by both official and non-official.

Mr. SPEAKER : Are you going to introduce this system ?

Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH : Yes Sir.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) : It is in respect of this particular grant that is grant relating to flood damage.

***Shri DEV KANT BOROOAH :** Yes.

Secondly, I like to inform the hon. Member that this Government is endeavouring to give as much facility as possible to the Backward, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students which they are entitled under the Constitution. Sir, we could not anticipate the number of boys of different categories that would come up for scholarships after the different University Examinations. We have to work out on the basis of the last year. So the quantum of boys and also the money could not be fixed. We could not know, what will be the number of boys belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in order that the boys may get their scholarships in time. That is why, we took this money from the Consolidated Fund.

Thirdly, Sir, there is a scheme sponsored by the Government of India for scholarships for the children of Primary and Secondary school teachers. These are merit scholarships, the value being from Rs.50 for Intermediate to Rs.100 for M. Sc., and technical college like Engineering and other technical colleges. This money would be available from the Government of India. Because the scheme is sponsored by them. Fifteen scholarships have been allowed for Assam; we advertised these scholarships in the local newspapers. If my memory serves me aright they were advertised in the Natun Assamiya and Assam Tribune. On the basis of that, application were received and have been forwarded to the Government of India. The scholarships are meant only for the student who secure first class, that is to say, he must get 60 per cent marks in the subject and must not receive any other scholarship from the Government. So, in order that payment of these scholarships may not be delayed for the children of primary and secondary school teachers, we have taken this money from the Consolidated Funds and this money would be reimbursed from the Government of India in due time. There is inordinate delay in getting whatever amount the

Government of India gives us. Therefore in order that the boys would not be handicapped—I mean those boys who are eligible and meritorious, we have adopted this procedure. I hope, Sir, this will satisfy the hon. Members and they will be pleased to withdraw the cut motion.

SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his cut motion?

(The cut motion stands withdrawn with the leave of the House).

The main question is that an additional amount of Rs.21,75,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head “28.—Education—I—General Education”.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Demand No.8.—

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical): Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.9,95,154, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head “29.—Medical”.

Sir, the purpose for which this additional amount is necessary has been explained in the explanatory notes already printed and circulated.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are two cut motions from Dr. H. Meswar Deb Choudhury and Shri Tajuddin Ahmed. Shri Tajuddin Ahmed is absent.

Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY (Patacharkuchi): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.9,95,154 under Supplementary Demand No. 8, Major head “29—Medical” at page 13 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re.1 *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.9,95,154 do stand reduced by Re.1.

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই এই বিষয়ে মাত্ৰ এটা কথা কব খুজিছো। সেইটো হৈছে যে, তেখেতে মেডিকেল কলেজ আদিত Premedical Course আদি খোলাৰ কাৰণে অতি-বিলম্ব মঞ্জুৰী বিচাৰিছে। Explanatory Note ত পাওঁ যে এই-শিতানত ১,৩০,০০০ টকা Originally voted এতিয়া আৰু ৬৫,০০১ টকাৰ মঞ্জুৰী বিচাৰিছে। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে টকা আমাক বহুতেই লাগে; আৰু যিমান পৰা যায় সিমানেই খটাব লাগে। দেশৰ মানুহৰ স্বাস্থ্য ভাল হলে সকলোপিনে দেশৰ মঙ্গল হ'ল। টকা লগা কথাটোত মোৰ আপত্তি একো নাই। কিন্তু এই সময়ত কিয় লগা হৈছে মই আগতেও কৈছো যে, চৰকাৰী বিভাগবিলাকৰ মাজত Co-ordination থকা দৰ্কাৰ কিন্তু আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ সেইটোৱেই অভাব। Agriculture আৰু E and D-ৰ মাজত যেনেকৈ Co-ordination থাকিব লাগে তেনেকৈ মেডিকেল আৰু শিক্ষা বিভাগবোৰো নিশ্চয় Co-ordination থাকিব লাগে; কিন্তু দুংখেৰে সৈতে মই কব বিচাৰিছো যে, এই বিভাগ বিলাকৰ কোনো Co-ordination নাই।

তাৰ প্ৰমাণ হিচাবে মই কওঁ যে, এই Higher Secondary Pre-University Class হোৱাৰ কথাটো ১৯৫৮ চনতে সিদ্ধান্ত হ'ল। তাৰ পিচত সেই ছাত্ৰ ছাত্ৰী সকলে পাচ কৰিলে তেওঁলোকৰ Medical আৰু Engineering পঢ়াৰ কাৰণেও Pre-Medical আৰু Pre-Engineering Class হ'ব বুলি ভাবিব লাগিছিল। তাৰ কাৰণে আগতেই চাব লাগিছিল। আৰু সেই উদ্দেশ্যে আজি ৪।৫ বছৰৰ পিচত পৰিপূৰক বাজেটত তাৰ কাৰণে মঞ্জুৰী বিচৰা কি দৰ্শন থাকিব পাৰে মই বুজি নাপাওঁ। এই মঞ্জুৰীৰ কথা আগতেই ভাবিব লাগিছিল।

এনেকৈ আগতীয়াকৈ হ'ব লগা সিদ্ধান্ত বিলাক শেষলৈ পেলাই থোৱাৰ ফলত এই শিক্ষানুষ্ঠান বিলাকত নানা ধৰণৰ বেমেজালী ঘটছে। সময়মতে সিদ্ধান্ত নকৰাত আমাৰ প্ৰথম বিভাগত পাচ কৰা ছাত্ৰ ছাত্ৰী সকল মেডিকেল বা Engineering পঢ়াৰ কাৰণে বৈ থাকিব নোৱাৰি। B. Sc. আদি পঢ়িবলৈ গুচি যোৱাত এই বিলাক অনুষ্ঠানত দ্বিতীয় আৰু তৃতীয় বিভাগৰ ছাত্ৰ ছাত্ৰীক ল'বলগা হ'ল।

সেই কাৰণে মই আশাকৰো এই বিলাক বেমেজালীৰ পৰা হাত সাৰিবলৈ অন্যান্য বিভাগৰ লগত সমন্বয় ৰক্ষা কৰিছে Supplementary বাজেট আনিব লাগে।

মই আজিও অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে সকলো কাম সময় মতে কৰিবলৈ সকলো বিভাগৰ লগত সমন্বয় ৰখা হয় আৰু তাৰ দ্বাৰা আমাৰ ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীক দুৰ্গতিৰ পৰা মুক্ত কৰা হয়।

Mr. SPEAKER: The cut motion is moved.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical): Sir, I am extremely sorry to remark that the arguments that have been advanced in support of the cut motion have been misplaced. I think the University of Gauhati is the proper authority which can answer these charges.

Mr. SPEAKER: The charges are for lack of co-ordination between the University and the Medical Department.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, there is full co-operation so far as the Government Departments are concerned. That I can boldly say. Of course, the critics who want to simply criticise may say that there is no co-operation. But in their heart of hearts they know that there is full co-ordination amongst the Government Departments. So far as the University is concerned, it took this decision as it was necessary and we had to fall in line with them. The question of lack of co-ordination does not arise. There is full co-ordination. We required this amount for a purpose which was most urgent. It was good of the hon. Mover of the cut motion to admit that this was necessary. His objection was that it should have been anticipated in time.

Mr. SPEAKER: He said 'could have been foreseen'.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Sir, the amount which we required could not be foreseen when the Budget estimates were prepared. I hope the hon. Members will realise that this Government could not anticipate that such a situation would arise during the current year. I hope, Sir, I believe the hon. Leader of the Opposition group has understood me. I pause for a reply Sir. As there is no protest, I am certain that he has understood the position. I am glad that he has understood me. Sir, we are always clear; some times my friends do not see with a clear vision, and hence this controversy. However, Sir, I have explained the position that it could not be foreseen. I think, after this, my hon. Friend will see his way to withdraw his cut motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. Mover leave of the House to withdraw his Cut Motion?

(Voices—Yes, yes)

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

Now I put the question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.9,95,154 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head "29.—Medical".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 9.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move, Sir, that an additional amount of Rs.14,44,834 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head "30—Public Health."

Sir, the purpose for which this extra amount is necessary has been explained fully in the Explanatory Note appended to the motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.14,44,834 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "30.—Public Health".

Then there is a cut motion.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Sir, I do not propose to move the Cut Motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.14,44,834 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head "30—Public Health."

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 10

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no Cut Motion to Grant No. 10.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Mr. Speaker Sir. On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.78,710 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "31.—Agriculture".

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion is moved that an additional amount of Rs.78,710 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head "31.—Agriculture".

(The Motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 11

On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.48,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "32.—Rural Development".

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.48,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "32.—Rural Development".

(The Motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 12

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.9,16,054 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "33.—Animal Husbandry".

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.9,16,054 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of head "33.—Animal Husbandry".

There is one Cut Motion. The Member is absent. Then I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.9,16,054 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "33.—Animal Husbandry".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No.13

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.2,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "37.—I.—C. P. D., N. E. S., and L. D. Works.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.2,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "36.—I.—C.D.P., N. E. S. and L. D. Works."

There is one Cut motion. Mr. Tazuddin Ahmed is absent. Then I put the question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.2,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head-37.-I.—C. D. P. N. E. S. and L. D. Works.

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No.14

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.30,63,675 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "37.—II—Community Development Project—National Extension Service—C.—Local Development Works".

Mr. SPEAKER : Grant No 14 is moved. There is no Cut Motion. Then I put the question. The question is that an additional amount Rs.30,63,675 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray of certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of "37.-11—Community Development Projects—National Extension Service—C—Local Development Works".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No.15

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.4,25,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "39.—Miscellaneous Social and Development Organisations—Directorate of Publicity".

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion is moved. There is one Cut motion. Shri Tazuddin Ahmed is absent. Then I put the question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.4,25,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head per cent 39.—Miscellaneous Social and Developmental Organisations—Directorate of Publicity".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 16

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.60,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "39.—Miscellaneous Social and Developmental Organisations—IV—Directorate of Social Welfare, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion is moved. There is no Cut Motion. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.60,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "39.—Miscellaneous Social and Developmental Organisations—IV.—Directorate of Social Welfare, etc."

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 17

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Minister State, of P. W. D.) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an

additional amount of Rs.74,32,516 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "50.—Public Works etc. and 52.—Capital Outlay Works within the Revenue Accounts (excluding establishment and Tools and Plant)".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion is moved. There is no Cut Motion. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.74,32,516 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "50.—Public Works etc., and 52.—Capital Outlay Works within the Revenue Account (excluding establishment and Tools and Plant)".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 18

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Minister State, P. W. D.): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.18,45,330 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "50.—Public Works—Establishment and Tools and Plants, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: Grant No.18 is moved. There is no Cut Motion. I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.18,45,330 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "50.—Public Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant, etc."

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 19

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Revenue): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.13,25,150 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "64.—Famine Relief".

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no Cut Motion. I put the that main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.13,25,150 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1963, for the administration of the head "64—Famine Relief".

(The Motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 20

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.4,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "65.—Pension and other Retirement Benefits and 66.—Territorial and Political Pensions, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.4,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head '65—Pensions and other Retirement Benefits and 66.—Territorial and Political Pensions, etc."

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 21

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister, Medical): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.33,064 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "68.—Stationery and Printing".

Mr. SPEAKER: There is one Cut Motion. Shri Tazuddin Ahmed is absent. So I put the main question: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.33,064 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the head—"68.—Stationery and Printing".

(The Motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 22

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Revenue): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.5,86,876 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "70.—Forests".

Mr. SPEAKER: Grant No. 22 is moved. There are several Cut Motions. Shri Mathius Tudu, Shri, Ram Prasad Das, Shri Tazuddin Ahmed all absent. Then I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.5,86,876 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, for the administration of the head "70.—Forests".

(The Motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 23

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T.A.D.): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.2,400 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1963 for the administration of the head "71.—Miscellaneous— I—Expenditure on Account of State Pensioner and Detenus, etc."

Sbri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): I want to move my cut Motion. Sir, I move that the total provision of Rs.2,400 under Supplementary Demand No.23, Major head—"71—Miscellaneous (1) Expenditure on Account of State Prisoners and Detenus", at page 38 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re.1 *i. e.*, the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs.2,400 do stand reduced by Rs.1.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is really very amusing to find what has been written here in these Explanatory Notes which read "In view of the political situation prevailing in the Mizo District, it has been decided to place more funds at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioner, Mizo Hills,

to enable him to meet the expenses for 'Political presents and entertainment of Chiefs and Envoys'". It is really at the same time astonishing to find that the Government is going to settle the political situation by giving bribes.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are certain tribal customs which require giving of prizes.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: It would have been another matter if the money was going to be spent in connection with some development projects which they actually require. There is already discontentment among the people of the Mizo Hills district and the Chief Minister has already told about it. Is it that in the name of political situation some appeasement policy is being followed by the Government? Therefore, Sir, I feel that instead of spending this amount in the name of entertainment of so-called political leaders and envoys who actually try to exploit the situation by taking advantage of the negligence on the part of the Government, the amount should be spent in some developmental activities in the Hills. I, therefore, appeal to the Chief Minister to see that this money is actually spent on developmental work. By taking a policy of appeasement and bribery no economic, social or educational problem can be solved in this particular area. So, a definite policy should be taken in this matter. Though this amount is not a very large one, yet it involves a matter of policy. Plans and programmes of this type create only political discontentment in the minds of the people of these backward areas and the problem is never solved.

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.): Mr. Speaker Sir, the contention that has been expressed by hon. Member, Shri Dulal Chandra Barua accusing the Government that the Government is adopting, a policy of appeasement rather than trying actually to solve the problems of the tribal people, I am afraid I shall not be able to agree with. In his reply to the budget debate the Finance Minister has replied exhaustively on the steps that the Government has been taking and is also proposing to take for the development of the tribal areas in Assam. So far as this Grant is concerned, it is probably known to the hon. Member that there are no good road communications in the Mizo Hills district and that particularly in the interior areas of the district, movement is much more difficult. Therefore, the District Officers cannot reach the interior areas as and when they want to visit these areas. It is only once a year or even once in two years the Deputy Commissioner or the head of the district is able to visit a particular place. Naturally, Sir, as in some towns and cities when a dignitary arrives, the local population usually entertains him or welcomes him by holding certain functions; in the same way in these remote hill districts when the District Officer goes, the villagers entertain him or want to entertain him in a befitting way in whatever manner it is possible. Therefore, when a head of the district visits some remote areas in the interior, it is necessary for the officer also to give something in return. Sir, it would be wrong to say that it is for the purpose of appeasement. It would be wrong to accuse like that. It is only with a view to help these officers who cannot visit frequently these areas or can do so after a very very long time only. Such delayed visits are not intended but the result of circumstances. For this reason, the allotment of this additional amount should not be objectionable to the hon. Member. I believe, Sir, I have been able to explain the reasons of this Supplementary Demand and I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his cut motion.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): I am just speaking on the Explanatory Note. But the head reads "71—Miscellaneous—1—Expenditure on Account of State Prisoners and Detenus, etc." It does not tally with the explanatory Note. Moreover, the grant originally voted

Mr. SPEAKER: Where from are you reading?

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.): That is the head, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: You are contending with the head, not with the tail?

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA: Head and tail together. I cannot accept it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I put the main question—That the total provision of Rs.2,400 under Supplementary Demand No.23, Major head "71—Miscellaneous—(1)—Expenditure on Account of State Prisoners and detenus", at page 38 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re.1 *i. e.* the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.2,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(The motion was negatived.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.2,400 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "71—Miscellaneous—1—Expenditure on Account of State Prisoner and Detenus, etc."

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 24

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.1,55,405 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "71—Miscellaneous—II—Donation for charitable purpose, etc."

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Rudrapaul, are you moving your cut motion?

Shri RAMPIRIT RUDRAPAUL (Hailakandi): No, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Thank you. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,55,405 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "71—Miscellaneous—II—Donation for charitable purpose, etc."

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Grant No. 25

Shri CHATRASING TERON (Minister, T. A. D.): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.97,577 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "71—Miscellaneous—III—(Contribution)".

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no cut motion for Grant No.25. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.97,577 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "71—Miscellaneous—III (Contributions)."

(The motion was put as question and adopted)

Grant No.26

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.21,09,200, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "78.—A—Expenditure in connection with the National Emergency, 1962—Civil Defence".

Mr. SPEAKER: There are many cut motions.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 26,500 under Supplementary Demand No.26, Major head "78.—A—Expenditure in connection with the National Emergency, 1962—Civil Defence (A)—Civil Defence Directorate", at page 42 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.* the amount of the whole supplementary demand of Rs.21,29,200 do stand reduced by Re.1.

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, চীনা আক্রমণের জন্য Civil Defence বিষয়টা সম্পর্কে আমাদের রাজ্যে গুরুত্ব দেওয়া দরকার কারণ এটা জনসাধারণের নিরাপত্তার জন্য অত্যন্ত প্রয়োজনীয় বিষয়। কিন্তু দুঃখের বিষয় এই Civil Defence Organisation টা এখনো শক্তিশালী এবং সক্রিয় হয় নাই। এই সদনের আলোচনা থেকে দেখতে পাই যে আসামে হোম গার্ড অনুষ্ঠানটি সকল জায়গায় করা হয় নাই। বিশেষ করে কাছাড় জিলা নথ কাছাড়-মিকির হিলস এই হোম গার্ড গঠনের কোন ব্যবস্থা করা হয় নাই। এই চীনা আক্রমণের পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে Civil Defence অনুষ্ঠানটা আসামের সকল জায়গায় সক্রিয় ভাবে হওয়া উচিত।

এখন Civil Defence Organisation র Director মহাশয় একজন সরকারের retired লোক। আমি বলছি এই বিভাগটা শক্তিশালী করার প্রয়োজন এবং সেইজন্য সরকারকে অনুরোধ করি যেন এই অবসরপ্রাপ্ত পুলিশ কর্মচারী জনের পরিবর্তে একজন তরুন, কর্মঠ ও দেশপ্রেমিক Regular Cadre এর লোক নিয়োগ করে অনুষ্ঠানটি সক্রিয় এবং শক্তিশালী করে গড়ে তোলেন।

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): Sir, I do not want to move my cut motion. As my friend, Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee, has spoken about the Civil Defence Directorate, I want to make certain observations. Sir, my friend has rightly observed that at this critical time we should give due importance to the Civil Defence Directorate, but at the same time, we should consider one major factor that we should not incur unnecessary expenditure. Now, Sir, what we find that the Civil Defence Director, against whom, individually, I have nothing to say, is a retired Police personnel, and the expenditure incurred on him is unnecessary. There are additional Deputy Inspector General who could have been entrusted with this work by considering the economic aspects. Now, it is understood that a special pay of Rs.2,200 is sanctioned to this Director, and I think, the hon. Members know what significant work has been done by this Civil Defence

Director in respect of Civil Defence uptill now. Regarding this appointment, people are whispering that as the present Civil Defence Director has some recent matrimonial alliance with the Finance Minister, he has been put in charge of this post and has been granted a special pay. (*Voices*)

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Barua, you should avoid such references.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat) : Now, Sir, as regards the expenditure on Civil Defence in North-East Frontier Agency, we spent a lot of money, but it is now understood that the North-East Frontier Agency Authority has assured us that this amount will be re-imbursed. My humble submission is that when the North-East Frontier Agency Authority has assured us of re-imbursing the money what is the necessity of bringing the Supplementary Demand. The Defence Ministry and the External Affairs Minister will take care of Civil Defence measures in North-East Frontier Agency. It is clearly evident that Sir, while we have taken Civil Defence measures in North-East Frontier Agency, our Government have failed to pay compensation to the evacuees from Tezpur who left their hearth and homes and sustained loss of properties at the time of emergency. I want to suggest to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Finance Minister to consider the payment of certain compensation to those who lost movable and immovable properties at the time of last emergency at Tezpur and other places at least to some extent by taking subvention from the Centre.

Coming to (b) of the Explanatory Notes of Demand, I find that a sum of Rs.84,000 has been earmarked for purchase of seven Jeeps belonging to the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee. It is most amusing why these Jeeps have been purchased from the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee. These Jeeps had been donated by some big businessmen during the time of last Election. Is it not a direct move by the Party in power to give financial assistance to the Party to which they belong, and just to have political propaganda in the name of emergency? I want to know in which Districts and Subdivisions these Jeeps have been placed. Did the Government examine the condition of the Jeeps at the time of purchase? What is the present condition of Jeeps? At the time of purchase, the Government should have considered those factors and the public criticism also. When the people will see that these Jeeps had been purchased from the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee although there are Jeeps available in the market or they can be had from some other sources, there is enough reason to suspect. I want to have clarification from the Chief Minister in this respect and on the points I have raised in this connection.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : Sir, I am not going to repeat the arguments put forward by my Hon. friends from this side as regard the Jeep deal and the Civil Defence Directorate. Sir, the Assam Reserve Police Organisation of the Civil Defence has drawn my attention. This amount of Rs.1,45,000 has been spent unnecessarily. I do not blame anybody, because we have no experience of work. This Assam Reserve Police Organisation was ultimately found to be unnecessary and even the Prime Minister of India had to say that this is an unnecessary expenditure. Sir, when we saw that some officers were appointed and they were making preparation for precaution of air-raids and some trenches were also dug and there was also public announcement from the District Administrators that if people will not

dig trenches they will be fined to the extent of Rs.50. Ultimately we saw that it was found useless and we are hearing about air-umbrella and all like that, and this amount which we spent was quite unnecessary. How we are going to get back this amount? I hope in future the Government will be very careful in spending such huge sum unnecessarily.

Sir, with these words, I move my cut motion and also support the contentions made by my Hon. friends from this side while they talked about the Jeep Deal and the Civil Defence Directorate.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member, Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee about the necessity of tightening up the Civil Defence measures. He raised the question of raising of Home Guards in Cachar and Mizo Districts in course of another debate and I promised that we would raise this Home Guards all over the State and in those districts where Home Guards have not been raised. I also explained that immediately along with the aggression, we first gave priority to those Districts of Assam which are contiguous to the North East Frontier Agency area and because of that priority in certain districts, Home Guards have been raised and in some districts Home Guards have not been raised.

With regard to the Director, Civil Defence, I am extremely sorry that this gentleman has been brought into criticism unnecessarily and, I should say, unfairly also. So far as this appointment is concerned, it was not a decision of one man. Actually we decided as a whole. There is various matters connected with that appointment. First thing, we wanted a man who had experience and knowledge about the State. There was no point in appointing a man who has no experience. There is no point in appointing a man who does not know the State, *i.e.*, about the set up of the State, the relation, the knowledge of the officers and about the administration. Sir, we gave our best thought to this matter and we found that this gentleman whom we appointed and who was the Inspector General of Police, was the fittest person for the job, and therefore, we appointed him. Even to-day Sir, inspite of the criticisms which have been made both inside the House and outside, we do not think that there was any other better man than the present Director of Civil Defence. So, Sir, I make no secret about it and I repeat that we did not find a better man than this gentleman, inspite of the criticisms that have been made both here and in the Calcutta Press. If the hon. Members can suggest any better person, we shall certainly consider it.

Now, with regard to the purchase of Jeeps, the hon. Members are aware that for building up Shella a large number of Jeeps all over Assam had been requisitioned. Even we had to send all our Police Jeeps for the purpose. The latest demand for the Army was such that we had to give all the Government Jeeps also. Some of the Jeeps have since been returned not because they are not required but because the mechanical conditions of the Jeeps were not found suitable for climbing the roads of Shella and Bomdila. Even now you will find that various Government departments are in short of Jeeps. Now, the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee has offered about 7 Jeeps. We have got these Jeeps examined and they were found suitable.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Are these Jeeps given as donation?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): No, we propose to purchase them. They may give one or two Jeeps as donation but the bulk will be purchased. Sir, as you know, now-a-days no new Jeep can be purchased without the permission of Defence Ministry.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Whether these Jeeps were used during the election?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): These Jeeps were used during the election.

Now, Sir, a question has been raised by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition about air raid precaution. It is true that the matter has become a controversial one. Sir, there has been so much change in the technique of aerial warfare that it was doubtful whether the precautions which were taken during the Second War would be suitable at present also. Therefore, our Prime Minister has made no secret about it. The criticism was not directed against Assam. What happened is that since the emergency started, in many places where there was absolutely no possibility of air raid, precautionary measures were taken and large number of trenches were dug. Seeing this, the Prime Minister's reaction was unfavourable. The latest position is that the Government of India have taken the assistance of an expert from the United Kingdom as to what should be the best air raid precaution and that expert has submitted his report. It is not that air raid precaution would not be necessary. It is necessary but the method would be different.

Sir, I have tried to explain the points raised by the hon. Members.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): I want to know whether the Jeeps have already been purchased.

Mr. SPEAKER: No, they will be purchased as soon as the money is made available by this House. Is it not so?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Yes, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: As it is already half past four, I put the main question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.21,09,200, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "78—A—Expenditure in connection with the National Emergency, 1962—Civil Defence".

(The motion was put as question and adopted.)

Demand No.27

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,00,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1963, for the administration of the Head '96.—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development—(II—Development of Co-operative)".

(The question was adopted.)

Demand No. 28

The question is that an additional amount of Rs.3,72,500, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "96—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development—(III.—Development of Sericulture and Weaving and Cottage Industries)".

(The question was adopted.)

Demand No.29

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the Head "103.—Capital Outlay on Public Works Outside the Revenue Account".

(The question was adopted)

Demand No.30

The question is that an additional amount of Rs.4,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the Head "114.—Capital Outlay on Road and Water Transport Schemes—A.—Road Transport".

(The question was adopted)

Demand No.31

The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,10,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963, for the administration of the Head "119.—Capital Outlay on Forests."

(The question was adopted)

Demand No.32

The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,72,94,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the Head "124.—Outlay on Schemes of Government Training."

(The question was adopted)

Grant No.33

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.6,85,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the Head "Loans and Advances, etc., (II.—Agricultural Loans, etc.)".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 34

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.7,50,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963, for the administration of Head, "Loans and Advances, etc. (V.—Loans to Co-operatives)".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 35

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs 69,00,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc. (XII—Loans to Electricity Boards)".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 36

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs 2,10,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc. (XII—Advances to the Government servant, etc.).

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 37

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.75,000, be granted to the Minister in charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1963 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc. (XV—Lons for Development of Live Stock Industries)".

(The question was adopted)

Voting on Excess Demands for 1959-60**Grant No. 4**

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs. 45,243, be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "9.—Stamps".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No.5

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.,445 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "10—Forests".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 7

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,996 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head "12.—Taxes on Vehicles".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 29

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.54,23,089 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head —"50 —Civil Works" (Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment).

(The question was adopted)

Grant No.30

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.2,01,533 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "39 —Public Health, 50.—Civil Works and 81—Capital Accounts, etc."

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 33

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,84,491 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No.34

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.38,312 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "55—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions".

(The question was adopted)

Grant No.43

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is than an additional amount of Rs.167 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—VIII—Scheme for Control of Cloth and Yarn."

(The question was adopted)

Grant No.46

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.15,37,060 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "63.—B—Community Development Project, etc."

(The question was adopted)

Grant No.10

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.212 be granted to the Minister-in-charge for meeting certain excess expenditure during the year ending on the 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "71.—Capital Outlay on Scheme of Agricultural Improvement and Research."

(The question was adopted)

Item No. 6

[The Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963]

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a message from the Governor of Assam.

RAJ BHAVAN,

Shillong, the March 1963.

Under the provision of Article 207(I) of the Constitution of India, I, Vishnu Sahay, Governor of Assam, recommend the introduction in the Assam Legislative Assembly of the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963.

VISHNU SAHAY,

Governor of Assam.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963 (relating to Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1962-63).

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill (relating to Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1962-63 ; be introduced.

(The question was adopted)

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a message from the Governor :

RAJ BHAVAN,

Shillong, the March, 1963

Under the provision of Article 207 (I) of the Constitution of India, I, Vishnu Sahay, Governor of Assam, recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963, be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

VISHNU SAHAY,

Governor of Assam.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg leave to move that the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration :

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I beg to move that consideration of the Assam Appropriation (No II) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration clause by clause.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration clause by clause.

(As there was no amendment, the question was adopted.)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 1963 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

(The long and short title of the Bill and the Preamble do form part of the Bill).

The Assam Appropriation (No III) Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a Governor's message:

“Under the provision of Article 207(I) of the Constitution of India, I, Vishnu Sahay, Governor of Assam, recommend the introduction in the Assam Legislative Assembly of the Assam Appropriation (No III) Bill, 1963.

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam.

The next message from the Governor:

“Under the provision of Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India, I, Vishnu Sahay, Governor of Assam, recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No. III) Bill, 1963, be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No. III) Bill, 1963 (relating to the Excess Demands for 1959-60).

Secretary, Legislative Assembly:—The Assam Appropriation (No. III) Bill, 1963.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Bill be introduced.
(The motion was put as question and adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No. III) Bill, 1963 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Bill be taken into consideration.
(The motion was put as question and adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No. III) Bill, 1963 be passed

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Appropriation (No. III) Bill, 1963 be passed.
(The motion was put as question and adopted).

(The question is that the short and long title of the Bill do form part of the Bill).

(The short and long title of the Bill do stand part of the Bill).

The Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a Governor's message:

“I recommend under Article 207(I) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport): Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Motor Vehicle Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Motor Vehicle Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted.).

Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There are 2 messages, one is from the President and the other from the Governor of Assam. I will read out the copy of telegram No. Parl 6(11—XX)/63, dated the 14th March, 1963 from the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi:

“Your letter FTX-36/63 February 20th. President’s sanction under proviso to Article 304(B) of Constitution to introduction of Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 in State Legislature Accorded”.

Now I will read out the message from the Governor:

“Raj Bhavan, Shillong,
the 18th March, 1963.

I recommend under Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam”.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that leave may be granted to introduce the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

(The question was adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted).

The Assam Finance (Sales-Tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a message from the Governor:

“Raj Bhavan, Shillong
the 18th March, 1963.

I recommend under Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Finance Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Finance Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that leave may be granted to introduce the Assam Finance (Sales-tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

(The question was adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Finance (Sales-tax) (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced.

(The question was adopted).

The Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There are 2 messages, one the President and the other from the Governor of Assam. I will read out the telegram from the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi:

"Your letter February 20th, President's sanction under proviso to Article 304(B) of Constitution to introduction of Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963 in State Legislature Accorded".

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum products including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that leave may be granted to introduce the Bill.

The question was adopted.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Bill be introduced.

(The question was adopted).

The Assam Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a message from the Governor:

"Raj Bhavan, Shillong,
the 18th March, 1963,

I recommend under Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India that Assam Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr SPEAKER: The question is that leave may be granted to introduce the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Bill be introduced.

(The question was adopted).

The Assam Urban Immovable Property Tax Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a message from the Governor:

“Raj Bhavan, Shillong,
the 18th March, 1963,

I recommend under Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Urban Immovable Property Tax Bill, 1963 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam”.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Urban Immovable Property Tax Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that leave may be granted to introduce the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Bill be introduced.

(The question was adopted).

The Assam Court Fees (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a message from the Governor:

“Raj Bhavan, Shillong,
the 18th March, 1963,

I recommend under Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Court Fees (Amendment) Bill, 1963 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly,

VISHNU SAHAY,
Governor of Assam.”

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Court Fees (Amendment) Bill, 1963.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that leave may be granted to introduce the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Bill be introduced.
(The question was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: Item No.15. There is no Governor's message.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): I am not introducing this Bill, Sir.

Laying out copies of report

Shri MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Sir, I beg to lay on the Library Table copy of the Fifth Annual Report of the National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd., 1961-62.

Mr. SPEAKER: The House stand adjourned till 10 A.M. day after tomorrow.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till Tuesday, the 21st March, 1963.

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

THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON N.E.F.A. WAS
PLACED BEFORE THE HOUSE ON
11TH MARCH, 1963

Appendix A

A

Report on

The visit to North-East Frontier Agency by
the Delegation of the Assam Legislative
Assembly in the Month of
December, 1962

INTRODUCTION

I have the pleasure to present the report on the visit to N.E.F.A. by a delegation of Members of this Assembly. The delegation visited Ziro, Daporijo, Along, Tuting and Pasighat in N.E.F.A. from 22nd to 29th December 1962. The report is their impression about their experiences there. The report might be interesting reading. It is submitted to the Members of the House for perusal.

N.F.F.A. has assumed importance after the Indo-Chinese conflict. This part of our country was not much looked after before, as everybody thought that the Himalaya was invincible and no attack from this side was ever apprehended. But the Chinese aggression has belied that notion and has exposed the area to us as vulnerable. The delegation has thrown certain suggestions on matters of political, administrative and social which deserve examination. I also accompanied the delegation as one of its members. I fully endorse the views expressed by the members of the delegation in this report. The members who constitute the delegation were:-

- (1) Sriman Prafulla Goswami.
- (2) Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami.
- (3) Shri Pulakeshi Sinha.
- (4) Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha.
- (5) Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami, and
- (6) Shri E. Pohshna.

We expect to send another delegation to N.E.F.A. and it has been suggested in the report that the delegation might visit the areas which have not been visited by this delegation, namely, Kameng, Lohit and Tirap Frontier Divisions. I am already in correspondence regarding sending of the delegation with the Chief Minister and the Governor. Most probably before long we shall be able to send the delegation.

The main purpose of such a delegation is to understand matters now prevailing in N.E.F.A. and also to bring home to the people of N.E.F.A. the good will which the people of the rest of India bear to them. This kind of delegation is no doubt helpful for bringing the people of N.E.F.A. much closer to the people of the rest of India. The strength of India and of Assam lies in the integration of these people both economically, socially and politically. The more we come closer to these people, the better for all concerned. The Chinese aggression has opened our eyes. For bringing unity among ourselves we must be emotionally attached with each other. That emotional attachment may develop only by frequent contacts and contacts prompted by a keen desire of service.

I hope this report will be read with interest.

Shillong,
The 5th March 1963.

M. M. CHOUDHURY,
Speaker,
Assam Legislative Assembly.

A REPORT OF N.E.F.A. VISIT

In the last Assembly Session the Chief Minister suggested for a delegation of the M.L.A.s to visit N. E. F. A. and study the situation there regarding defence efforts and also progress of its development. In accordance with that desire of the Chief Minister it was decided to send delegation of the M.L.A.s to visit this area and see things for themselves. Before such a delegation was sent the war situation took a very serious turn and the delegation was put off for some time. When the situation got eased a bit, the Chief Minister requested the Speaker to send the delegation and on the advice of the Chief Minister the delegation was divided into two batches as the plane could not carry all the members at a time. The first batch started for the tour on 22nd December 1962 from Gauhati.

The first batch of the delegation comprised of the following members:—

1. Sriman Prafulla Goswami,
2. Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami,
3. Shri Sarat Chandra Sinha,
4. Shri Pulakeshi Sinha,
5. Shri E. Pohshna, and
6. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami.

Three members of the Lok Sabha, namely (1) Shri Prafulla Chandra Barooah, (2) Shri Dharanidhar Basumatari, and (3) Shrimati Renuka Devi were also with the delegation. The Speaker was kind enough to accompany the delegation.

The following itinerary was prepared for us:—

December 1962—

22nd—Arrive Ziro.

23rd and 24th—Halt at Ziro.

25th—Leave for Daporijo.

Halt at Daporijo.

26th—Leave for Along.

27th—Halt at Along.

28th—Leave for Tuting and back to Pasighat. Halt at Pasighat

29th—Arrive Gauhati.

The whole journey was performed by an I.A.F. plane except the journey from Along to Tuting and Pasighat. The journey from Along to Tuting and Pasighat was performed by a Kaliga aeroplane arranged by the N.E.F.A. Administration.

The officers who were conducting and looking after our visits to N.E.F.A. did their best to look after our comfort and also to arrange our visits to different villages and places for having a clear idea about the people and things in N.E.F.A. At Ziro we met all the officers and discussed matters with them just after our arrival there. On 23rd of December, we went to a Paphla village named Talo, at a distance of about 15 miles from Ziro. The villagers gave us a cordial welcome and took us round the village and showed us their L. P. School. The L. P. School is the only public institution in that village and they were very proud of it. The building was not a very encouraging sight. It was a thatched cottage which could hardly protect the inmates from sun or rain. The accommodation of the house also was not sufficient. The villagers requested us to help them by providing a good school house for their children.

We addressed the villagers after we heard the Gaonbura who told us about the difficulties during the period of the Chinese invasion. They very much regretted that at the time of great emergency the officers under whose care they were living, left them. This was more or less a common complaint of the people of N.E.F.A. whom we met. The people also expressed their burning needs such as inadequacy of irrigation facilities, water-supply, want of communication, etc.

They were very critical about the Border Road Organisation (Tuskers) which has been entrusted with the construction of roads in the area, and the manner in which the officer left their posts during the time of Chinese invasion. They very much resented at the throwing of some jeeps into the gorges and the burning of camps when they left their posts.

On 21th we visited another village named Hong. It was an Apu Tani village. The village was a pretty big one and the population was near about six thousand. We have never seen in our life a village so congested with houses and people. There were lot of children. When we visited the village the children came running after us numbering about a thousand. Most of them were bare-bodied and not tidy. Almost the same rituals were repeated to us by the villagers as was done by the villagers at Talo. We laid stress on the people on the education of their children. The village was self-sufficient in rice. We saw the granaries on the outskirts detached from the main village. We asked for the reason why the paddy granaries were on the outskirts of the village. They said that this was so as a precautionary measure against fire.

On the 25th December, we arrived at Daporijo. From Daporijo we went to a village called Dulu, at a distance of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. This was a village of the Taini Tator tribe. We had to climb steep hills to reach the village. We spent the night there. The villagers constructed a good camp for us. We found the girls there more advanced than those of the Hong and Talo villages. The girls of the Hong and Talo villages were rather shy and hesitant to reply to queries made by us. The villages organised a group dance on the occasion of our visit, and the young girls of the village joined the dance. We had to keep up late at night with the villagers as the dance and rejoicing continued. In the morning we were given a very hearty send-off. The only demand from these people was more educational facilities both for girls and boys. They also expressed their need for extension of irrigation facilities to the fields for wet paddy cultivation.

From Daporijo we came to Along. Along is the headquarter station of the Siang Division. It has got a High School, a Weaving Institute and a Carpentry Training Class. During the emergency all these institutes were closed. In the High School we found only about 14 boys of Class X returning to school till then. The Carpentry Section was empty. In the Weaving Section we found the instructresses only. We visited a village named Kabu. This is a village inhabited by the Adi people. There are several students from that village reading in the High School; one also in college. The welcome given to us was very cordial and it was organised by the students of the village.

From Along we left Tuting. From Tuting airfield we went to Mapo village, situated within 20 kilometres from the McMahon Line. This village was occupied by the Chinese and have left by then. This area is mainly inhabited by Khambas. One of the stores of adventures narrated to us was how the suspension bridge at Situm was destroyed by certain villagers to prevent the onward march of the Chinese army towards Tuting. The A. P. O. of Tuting did not leave the station at the time of emergency. He is an *ex-Air Force* man and he expressed his decisions to leave the post of A. P. O. to join his Air Force service. From Tuting we came back to Pasighat. Pasighat is a developing town with the modern amenities and the people are far more advanced than those of any other place we visited.

The people have been almost kept aloof from coming into close contact with the rest of the people of India. The pace of education is gradually progressing. The female education has not received much encouragement from the side of the administration. The result has been that the girls are not coming in good number to the schools. In Ziro, we were told that only three girls were in all the 16 schools of Ziro region.

The people are mainly agriculturist. They cultivate mostly wet paddy. There are jhum cultivations in some places also. They do not grow much vegetables. Poultry also is in its infant stage. Pisciculture has been started in certain places. We were told that during the winter fish is not available locally. The supply is from the Assam plains through the contractors and is very much limited. We are told that people go mostly without fish during the winter, but in the rainy season in the hill streams fish is found in abundance. Dairy is unknown to the people. They do not milk their cows and also do not take milk. They do not plough with bullocks. The only utility of cows was for meat purpose. Mithons are most prized by the N.E.F.A. tribals. The status of a man is determined by the number of mithons he possesses. It is a costly animal. The price ranges from Rs. 400 to Rs 800 per head. Every family possesses at least one or two animals of the kind. Mithons are a beautiful animal and is very docile in character. In certain places mithons are also milked. The yield of milk is not much ; it is about 2½ to 3 seers but the fat content of this milk is high, and is stated to be about 30 per cent. We were very much charmingly impressed by this animal. The N.E.F.A. Administration may try a few breeding centres of this animal. Some cross breed may be tried with the local cows. In some autonomous districts of Assam also, mithon breeding may be tried both for meat and milk purposes. Vegetable gardening, as we feel, shou'd have been extensively tried, but it appears that it has not been receiving much attention from the administration though the area is ideally suited for vegetable growing. In matters of cottage industries there are good possibilities. Bamboo and cane which are abundant in some of the areas may be utilised for helping the people in their economic development. Weaving may be extensively organised with modern looms and the indigenous method may be improved and the produce may be designed suiting to modern tastes. Timber in certain places are available in abundance. But we saw nowhere of any attempt being made for utilisation of the forest wealth.

The administration has, so far we could see, done their best to keep contact with the people and to understand their difficulties. Every one of the officers we came across is very well conversant with the ways of life of

the people and each of them is heaving intimate contact with them even though the villages are situated at considerable distances from each other and difficult to reach because of lack of communicational facilities.

We very much feel the necessity of some social service organisation supplementing the administration in their rural upliftment works. We, of course, do not feel like advising definitely on this point because we do not know how the introduction of such social service might interfere with the administration or with the policy which the Government is now pursuing for N.E.F.A. Administration. But unless and until some such service organisations are allowed to work there, social upliftment of the people cannot be expected early.

Demand for more roads was voiced in every place we visited. The people represented to us that some roads may be constructed from N.E.F.A. connecting the plains of Assam so that they can develop their trade with Assam which they are now carrying on with great difficulty. They also made representation to us that roads connecting all the headquarters of N.E.F.A. should be constructed without further loss of time to strengthen if not for anything else, the defence of the country and also for integration.

The demand for schools was very emphatic. The people are very anxious to send their children to school and get them educated so that they may be fit and useful citizens of India capable of taking part in the administrative, economic and social affairs of the country. They are also anxious for expansion of female education in the area. Some of the tribes we came across seemed to be conservative in extending education to the girls. But nevertheless, the demand for more educational facilities for girls was voiced almost at every place we visited. The dearth of doctors also had been felt because of bad communication from village to village. In Along, there were about 14 doctors in the region, seven of them were posted in Along itself. But, as the doctors are to go to the distant villages for attending patients they are to walk for days together. In this way 7 doctors for Along have proved inadequate though this may not be appreciated by the people of other places. It was humorously stated by some of the people that the doctors while going to a patient walking for three to four days got himself unwell and as soon as he reached the patient's side, the doctor had to be treated. The implications are obvious.

For extension of wet paddy cultivation irrigation facilities need expansion. Introduction of electricity for facilitating irrigation may be very much appreciated by the people. In Tuting area, the population is only one per square mile. There is a huge tract of fallow land which can be converted into golden paddy field. The reclamation also may not be costly and difficult.

In some places, Home Guard training has been started. The people are not satisfied with Home Guard training alone. In most places, we visited, youngmen showed their anxiety to join the regular army. They want to be recruited in the regular army and are prepared for rendering their services for the defence of the country. They are anti-Chinese to a man. They believe that the Chinese are ruthless people and are without religion. Therefore, the Chinese should not be trusted and they are prepared to do whatever they can to keep the Chinese out from entering into their lands.

While meeting the people we refrained from asking very many questions that occurred in our minds because we might be misunderstood by the people and at the same time the Administration also may not relish. The policy so far being pursued by the N.E.F.A. Administration has not offered facilities to these people to come in contact with the people of the rest of India. This policy of isolation of the people of N.E.F.A. from the rest of India is not liked by the people themselves and they expressed their disapproval in various meetings and wanted free association with the people and particularly with the people of Assam. They want to cast their lot with the people of rest of India as free citizens of independent India. They do not want to be kept aloof as specimen of anthropological museum. We also feel that the policy of isolation and imposition of restrictions on free movement of the people to and from N. E. F. A. has outlived its purpose and a new outlook and a new policy for integrated development of the north-eastern region has become an imperative necessity.

The inhabitants of N. E. F. A. are sturdy, hardworking and brave people. They have immense regard for their customs, traditions and institutions. The mode of life of the people should not and cannot be disturbed abruptly and any attempt to impose such changes will entail resentment. The development of the people and the area should aim at creating conditions for gradual increase of demands in the minds of these people and generating abilities for their fulfilment by increase of resources of the people themselves. Changes will inevitably occur and there are already perceptible instances of changes in the mode of life of the people in some areas with the spread of education and increase of inter-relation of the people with other areas. The urge for change should be made widespread and there should be proper guidance to channelise this urge towards betterment of the people and of the country. The Social Service organisations can extend their services for the betterment of the people provided they are actuated by the spirit of service alone. The Social Service organisations working in these areas with the spirit of service cannot only contribute towards speedy development of the people but can also open the gateway for these people to come in closer contact with the people of rest of India which will certainly pave the way of friendship, amity and mutual understanding necessary for emotional integration. Reform measures should not be prescribed but should be emulated for the people of N. E. F. A. by gradual process of assimilation of ideas that may be opened up before them for their appreciation and acceptance.

As our visit was very brief it is difficult to suggest much for development of the administrative set-up now prevailing in this region. But one thing of which we are very clear about is the integration of the Service Cadre with the Indian Administrative Service and Assam Provincial Civil Service as the case may be and we do not feel the necessity of a separate Cadre of service for the administration of this part of our country. The integrated Cadre of service will provide scope for integration of the people and also for efficiency of the administrators. That was the practice in the British days and the effect was not unsatisfactory.

The people in the N. E. F. A. know broken Assamese and they call it "Naga Assamiya". This broken Assamese or "Naga Assamiya" is the medium of conversation of one tribe with another usually. The students are also having their instruction in the schools, except in Tuting, through Assamese medium. In their social customs and mode of life, there are

similarities in many respects with those of the tribal people living in other parts of Assam. The legend of the people also narrates of one common ancestor of the people of N. E. F. A. and Assam. The people of N. E. F. A. desire closer contact with the people of Assam and they consider the people of Assam to be their friends and kinsmen.

The innerline regulation might have some necessity in the past. But we believe there is no necessity of such regulation now. We do not suggest the abolition of this innerline regulation immediately but the matter may be examined how far the inner line regulation may be relaxed to facilitate freedom of movement to and from N. E. F. A. To bring these people out from isolation some frequent contacts from the people of the rest of India should be encouraged.

The people of N. E. F. A. who had to come to Assam as refugees during the Chinese invasion were very much impressed by these contacts and they expressed their strong desire to be allowed to come to Assam frequently. The Chinese invasion of our borders has also demonstrated the need for such co-operation and understanding of the people of Assam with the inhabitants of N. E. F. A. and also demonstrated the futility of the innerline regulations.

The Chinese aggression has roused us from our slumbers of complacency and we should profit by the lessons we had learnt. The outlook of N. E. F. A. Administration should also be re-oriented to fit in with the present needs of the country and the people living there and outside. There should be one integrated developmental plan for this north-eastern part of our country comprising N. E. F. A., Assam and the adjoining areas to strengthen the defence of the borders.

Before we conclude, we must express our grateful thanks to the Governor who was kind enough to give us the permission to visit the N. E. F. A. area and his Administration who organised our trip to N. E. F. A. and rendered all facilities to make the trip a successful one. We are also thankful to the officers who accompanied us during the tour.

Needless to mention that our Chief Minister also did his best to send the delegation of M. L. As to this beautiful area inhabited by beautiful people. The recent Chinese aggression has increased the importance of this area. The area has awoken from a long slumber and we are thankful to the Chief Minister that he gave us the opportunity for seeing things personally in N. E. F. A. As we could not cover the entire area, and more particularly the Kameng, Lohit and Tirap Divisions, we hope the Governor and the Chief Minister will be kind enough to send a second batch of the delegation to these areas to study the situation there.

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SRIMAN PRAFULLA GOSWAMI.

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