



**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 Thursday, the 7th March, 1963.

PRESENT

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury, B.L., Speaker in the Chair, ten Ministers, two Ministers of States, three Deputy Ministers and sixty-nine Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Re: Scarcity of Paper

Shri DEBENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati) asked :

*4. Will the Minister-in-charge of Printing and Stationery be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware of the scarcity of paper in our State ?

(b) If so, steps have been taken to remove the scarcity ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply) replied :

4. (a)—No report of scarcity of paper has been received.

(b)—Does not arise.

Shri DEBENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati): May I know from the Hon. Minister as to the price of paper required for the students in Assam ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I cannot say at the moment unless I ascertain the fact.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question has nothing to do with the price of paper.

Shri DEBENDRA NATH SARMA: What is the requirement of paper for the State, Sir ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: It is a new question, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is not a new question. The House has the right to know the total supply of paper in the State.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Supply): It is not the Supply Department which deal with this subject. Paper is a decentralised commodity and it is supplied from the paper mills through agents and distributors on trade account.

Shri DEBENDRA NATH SARMA (Gauhati): Sir, will the Government make an enquiry whether there is scarcity of paper in the State?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: That may be done, Sir.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora): Sir, is it known to the Government that for want of a scheme the trade and journalists are suffering for the paper scarcity?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: That may be so, Sir, but we have no information.

Shri DEBENDRA NATH SARMA: May I know, Sir, whether Government has any control over the mills?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Our State Government has no control over them.

(Starred Question No.5 standing in the name of Shri Enowel Pohshna was not put and answered as the hon. Member was absent).

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Re: Grade IV employees of Karimganj Court

Shri RAMDEB MALAH [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

1. Will the Finance Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Third and Fourth Grade Employees of Karimganj Civil Court have not yet been made permanent?
- (b) If so, why?
- (c) When these posts are likely to be made permanent?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that only two night guards have in the meantime been appointed permanently?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister) replied:

1. (a)—Yes.

(b)—As materials necessary for taking decision are not available here and are being collected from the District Judge, Cachar. On receipt of the same, Government decision will be taken.

(c) This will be done as early as possible.

(d)—Three IV Grade employees including those referred to in the question have been made permanent.

Shri RAMDEB MALAH [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : May I know, Sir from the hon. Minister from what year this Civil Court started functioning ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : I want notice.

Shri TARAPADA BHATTACHARJEE (Katigora) : Sir, what steps are taken for making the employees permanent ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : There is no question of taking steps. There are certain rules which have to be complied with before the employees of an office under the Government are made permanent. As soon as such rules and formalities are complied with necessary steps will be taken for making them permanent.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Barimganj-North) : Sir, from the printed reply it is clear that some personnel have been made permanent in the meantime and some have not been made permanent yet. May I know from the Finance Minister whether the Government will try to expedite making the temporary employees permanent as soon as the materials that they are calling for reach them, as those temporary employees have long been suffering ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I have asked for some materials from the District Judge and when they reach us we will consider the matter.

Adjournment Motion

Mr. SPEAKER : There is an Adjournment Motion of Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta which he tabled on the 4th March, 1963. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to apprise the House about the incident ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) :** The information which I have received is as follows :

On 26th February, 1963, one Sewbalakgiri Goswami, priest of Devasthan Siva Temple came to Nowgong and reported that a thatched temple over 'Sivalingam' at Devasthan near Howraghat was burnt on 25th February, 1963 at 7-30 p.m. by some miscreants and as a result 'Sivalingam' was partly damaged. A case was taken up at Murajhar Police Station. He suspected some local Muslims who had some long standing grudges against him. During investigation, 12 Muslims were arrested on suspicion.

There are many ruins of old temples in Devasthan which indicate that this was a place of worship since long. Two big Sivalingam were established there. One temple was made of G.I sheet with pucca plinth about a year ago and the other one was made of thatch, bamboo and wooden posts.

The residence of the priest is situated about 65 yds. south of the thatched temple. The neighbours are all immigrant Muslims. The Kacharis and Mikir generally worship there. There are only 40 houses of Hindus situated at a distance of half a mile from the place of occurrence.

On the night of occurrence, while the priest was talking with his neighbour one Umar Ali, at the residence of the priest, Umar Ali first saw fire on the thatched temple. Both raised alarm and the neighbouring Muslim flocked there. By that time the fire gutted the temple. The burning roof fell on the Sivalingam there which was damaged to some extent due to heat of the fire.

The Devasthan reserve land comprises of 170 bighas, 2 kathas, 13 lases of lands inside Kapasbari Mouza in Nowgong. Since 1940, some immigrant muslims tried to occupy plots of Devasthan reserve land and the Local Hindus protected. As a result there had been litigation between both the parties. In 1962, the Government ordered not to settle any plot of the Devasthan reserve land to anybody.

The priest alleged that prior to the incident, some local leading Muslims get miscreants to be seen him with a view to compel him to leave the place. But due to insufficient evidence the offenders could not be brought to book. This is why he has suspected the local Muslims.

On receipt of the information of the present case, precautionary measures were taken. Superintendent of Police, Nowgong, Additional District Magistrate of Nowgong, Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong, Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police, Mikir Hills visited the place of occurrence, it falls on the borders of two districts. The local people of both the communities formed a peace committee. It does not appear that there is any apprehension of breach of peace at present. The case is still under investigation.

Mr SPEAKER: The House has heard from the Hon'ble Chief Minister that the matter is still under investigation and most probably the investigation will be completed within a very short time. At the same time, Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta raised this matter while he participated in the debate on the Governor's Address. As the hon. Members know well, an adjournment motion is moved when all the avenues of discussing a particular matter are closed. It is only then an Adjournment Motion can be moved. In this case, the hon. Member concerned got an opportunity to discuss this matter while he participated in the debate on the Governor's Address. so he has no grievance on this score. According to May's Parliamentary Practice also—(I am quoting the relevant extract from page 3/1) "When the matter could be raised by moving an amendment to the Address in answer to the King's Speech" that cannot form the subject matter of an Adjournment Motion. In this case, though the hon. Member did not move any amendment, yet Mr. Das Gupta, while speaking on an amendment moved on the Governor's Address, discussed this point fully. The Chief Minister has also given full facts to the House and has said that this matter is still under investigation. I, therefore, rule this motion as out of order.

To-day is the last day of the debate on the Governor's Address and I have got a long list of speakers. As far as I can gather the Chief Minister will require about two hours time to reply. The Leader of the Opposition Front will also speak to-day and he should be given some allowance in regard to the time. I want to give him about 40 minutes. That means the entire afternoon session will be taken up by the Chief Minister and the Leader of the Opposition Front. Besides them, I have got a list of 13

speakers including Shri Tripathi the Minister for Development. Therefore, I shall have to race against time. I am afraid I shall have to cause displeasure to some hon. Members either by curtailing their time or denying them the opportunity to speak. But I shall try to accommodate as many Members as possible. The Members also should co-operate with me. They should make their observations very brief so that we can accommodate each and every Member who wants to participate in this debate.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries): In view of the scarcity of time I won't speak, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Thank you. Any other Member volunteering?

(No response)

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Umaruddin will speak now.

Shri MAHAMMAD UMARUDDIN (Dhubri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks moved by my friend, Mr. Agarwalla on the Governor's Address. The Governor's Address gives a comprehensive picture of the measures taken to meet the situation arising from the Chinese aggression. This has been the most important event last year. There are references to the various steps taken to strengthen our defences and meet the aggression effectively. In this connection, Sir, he has referred to certain organisations which have been set up at the State, District and Village levels. I am sure, if these organisations function properly we shall be able to gather strength, organise resistance and effectively meet any future aggression. But then, we have got also to strengthen the official machinery, particularly at the district level. In my opinion, the Deputy Commissioner should be relieved of his other duties and should be made exclusively responsible to look after the defence organisations and measures, such as the Home Guards, increased Food Production Campaign, and also to maintain peace and order in the State. At the same time, I believe there should be another officer of equal rank and authority to deal with Revenue and other matters that are normally done by the Deputy Commissioner. The Deputy Commissioner should be the man at the district level to act as a liaison between the Government and the people. He should be afforded enough time and should be given necessary instructions so that he can mix with the people and work in close collaboration with the various Panchayat Raj institutions and mobilise the people for effective defence efforts of the country. Sir, the most important factor is the unity in the country. Now, defence measures have two aspects—physical and emotional. No physical measures will succeed unless we can have in the country emotional unity, cohesion and harmony between the various sections of our people. Therefore, Sir, even though the Chinese have withdrawn their armies from NEFA (but not from Ladakh) and there are efforts under way for a peaceful settlement, we can apprehend that there may be another aggression. This apart, the Chinese, and for the matter of that the communists, have got one very subtle and insidious weapon. It is their invisible aggression through intrigues, machinations sabotage and so on, which we should guard against. It is no less dangerous than physical aggression.

Now, Sir, we know what is happening in the South East Asia in Vietnam, in Laos and in other places where the Chinese have been carrying on insidious propaganda creating disunity and disharmony among the people of those States by setting one section of people against another. This happened, Sir, in Korea and this has happened in Vietnam and I apprehend this is what the Chinese may too be doing from across borders creating trouble and disharmony among the people of our State and thus weakening the strength. We must take every bit of precaution against this—against all such elements,—communists, Pakistani infiltrators and other re-actionary forces within the State itself.

Now, Sir, I would refer to certain observations which have been made by some of the hon. Members here. Sir, at this time of crisis, certain matters have been brought to light and these have been given such a colouring that the consequences of this will be certainly the disruption of the unity and integrity of the people and thus weaken the strength of the country. In this connection, I will refer to the statement made by Shri Madhusudhan Das who stated that the former Muslim leaders who had taken shelter in Congress have been trying to increase the population of Muslim by importing Pakistani infiltrators with the ultimate object of annexing Assam with Pakistan. Such a statement is bound to create an atmosphere of distrust against a certain community. My friend, Shri Dulal Ch. B. has also made some remarks in this connection. He said that though certain steps had been taken against the communists but Pakistani infiltrators are more dangerous than the communist.

Sir, I invite your attention to certain propaganda which was published in the Hindustan Standard of 13th December, 1962 under the caption "Intriguing Roll of Section of Muslims". It stated "In Assam proper Pakistani intrigue has been going on for a long time. At the time of the massive Chinese attack most Muslims did not leave the threatened areas. It is reported that secret meetings were held, house marked with chalk and the Muslims told that they had nothing to fear". Then it said "When Tezpur was evacuated it is said that Pakistani flags went up and processions came out in nearby townships shouting slogans of "Pakistan Zindabad". These are Sir, very serious matters and I do hope Government will enquire into them and the Chief Minister would make a statement in this House on his findings. When the situation came to a head in Tezpur and evacuation was going on a rumour was set afloat that a certain tribal girl had been raped by some Muslims. I leave it to you, Sir, to imagine what effect such a propaganda could have in producing communal conflagration when we are faced with a grave emergency and with what object such mischievous rumour was circulated. This shows some communal elements were at work to cause antagonism against a certain community.

Sir, recently, Shri Din Dayal, the General Secretary of the Bharatiya Jan Sangh, who recently toured Assam, made a statement which was published in the Hindustan Standard dated 26th February, 1963. He stated "Pakistanis, who had infiltrated into Assam, played a prominent role in the disturbance at Silchar. The Assamese today were more afraid of the Pakistanis than the Chinese. Pakistanis infiltration was a great menace which threatened the internal security not only of Assam but also of India". He placed the number of Pakistani infiltrators at a million.

Sir, what is meant by this Pakistani infiltration? This has not been defined. Does it refer to a particular community or a particular class of people or does it mean Muslim infiltrators alone? Therefore, I would make it clear that if a certain community is the objective of this attack, it should be done after proper enquiries and on the basis of correct statistics. Otherwise, we create a situation fraught with troubles, a situation of distrust, suspicion and hatred and all this lead to the very disruption and disintegration of the country.

Then Sir, you would excuse me if I refer to some of your observations as published in the Amrit Bazar Patrika of the 18th February, 1962 on the subject of Pakistani infiltration. This reads, "Three lakh Pakistani infiltrators—A Riddle to Assam". I fully appreciate that the anxiety which you have expressed in the context of the prevailing situation in the State is shared by many reasonable persons who have got the good of the country at heart. Such a situation has arisen from the fact that the hon'ble Chief Minister gave the number of Pakistani infiltrators as Three lakhs. I am constrained to say that the number which has been given by the hon'ble Chief Minister did not take into account some very important and relevant factors. And it seems to have been worked out purely on the basis of Census figures without a local survey or combing on the basis of intelligence of suspected areas. Any such purely mathematical calculations without taking into account some important and relevant factors which are essential for the purpose of arriving at an accurate estimate would be misleading. Actually we do not know what number of people came in or went away during the last ten years. In the borders we have not been able to stop them; they come and go; there is hardly any means to keep any account or tally of such infiltrators. Therefore, any estimate of Pakistani infiltrators should be based on proper intelligence and intensive survey and not merely on mathematical calculations. In no case suspicion arising from larger increase of Muslim population in the Census of 1961 alone, should be the basis to arrive at such a figure. Now, I suppose the figure which was worked out by the Chief Minister was calculated on the following lines—

1951 Census Muslim population of the State	...	19,95,935
Increase at the All India rate of increase at 21.5 per cent.		24,25,000
1961 Muslim population	27,65,502
Difference	3,40,000

Allowing for Muslims from other parts of India staying temporarily in Assam, the strength of Pakistan infiltrators is estimated at about three lakhs. I am afraid, Sir, this number can by no means be accepted even as approximate.

The actual position is, however, something on the lines I am presently setting forth.

It is well-known that the population strength of the Muslims was greatly disturbed by the communal disturbance of 1950 which covered the greater part in Assam. In this connection, I would refer to a statement made by no less a person than Shri Jairamdas Daulatram, the then Governor of

Assam as published in the Statesman of 14th May, 1951. "He stated that according to the census of 1951, there were 276,824 displaced persons in Assam of whom 93,349 were in Cachar district. Of the 500,000 Hindu refugees who came to Assam after partition, nearly half have returned. Of the 53,000 families of Indian Muslims displaced in Assam during the last communal disturbances, about 36,000 families consisting of 129,476 persons, had returned to the original homes by the end of March 31, 1951".

Now, Sir, I would make this the basis of certain broad calculations. After the Nehru-Liquat Ali Agreement in the beginning of April, 1950, some displaced Muslims came before the census and majority after. Now taking the average number of a Muslim family as 6 we get a total of 3 lakhs and eighteen thousands displaced Muslims. If we deduct from this, 1,29,476 persons covering 36,000 families who returned before the Census we find that 1,88,000 persons were left out. In fact after the conclusion of the Nehru-Liquat Ali Pact, only two or three male members from each family came first and built up shelters, etc., for the members of their families; and the majority came back after peace and security were restored.

Now, Sir, if we add this 1,88,000 people who were left out of the Census we get a Muslim population of 21,84,000 in 1951. In other words, the actual Muslim population in the State would have been 21,84,000 or thereabout but for the migration due to the communal disturbances of 1950, and not 19,95,935.

The higher rate of increase of Muslim population is universally admitted. Sir, in this connection, I refer to pages 192 and 193 of the Census Report of 1931 in which the reasons for higher rate of increase of Muslim population with special reference to the district of Sylhet are exhaustively dealt with. That showed a higher increase by 10 per cent of Muslim population compared to non-Muslims. In any case generally also, Muslim population's rate of increase is higher by five to ten per cent than that of others. It will be, therefore, quite reasonable to take at least the rate of increase of Muslim population at twenty-five per cent as against the All-India increase of 21.5 per cent during the decade 1951-61. Thus the total Muslim population comes to about 27,30,000 in 1961 if 25 per cent increase is allowed on 21,84,000 as the correct population as per 1951 Census. But the censused Muslim population in 1961 being 27,65,000—the excess comes to 34,000 to 35,000 which may represent the Pakistani infiltrators. But unfortunately on a wrong assumption of a highly exaggerated number of Pakistanis being illegally staying in Assam, innocent Indian Muslims are being indiscriminately deported by the police under the summary powers given to them. It is, indeed, most unfortunate that such people are not given an opportunity before any authority or forum to prove their contention that they are not Pakistanis. Police Officers like Gestapo Chiefs apprehend them on the reports of their subordinate officers or informers and deport them summarily. Notwithstanding, various representations to Government no arrangement has been made providing safeguards against innocent people being victimised.

Now, Sir, a particular community having been made the target of bitter criticism, and the issue of the Pakistani infiltration having been given a political colour by interested parties, grave injustice has already been done and will continue to be done to members of this particular community. There is an old saying "when politics comes through the window, justice goes out of the door".

I, therefore, again appeal to the Chief Minister that in dealing with the Pakistani infiltrators he would be good enough to give them an opportunity to prove their bona fides or contention before a responsible forum.

Now let me explain the variations of Muslim population in the three districts *viz.*—Goalpara, Kamrup and Darrang affected by the communal disturbances of 1950.

With regard to Goalpara, the Muslim population increased at the rate of 1.5 per cent in 1941-51. During the same period the rate of increase of others was 15.9 per cent. But the rate of increase of Muslim population during the decade of 1931-41 was 20.9 per cent when there was no immigration in that district to affect the normal growth of population. This has been observed by the Superintendent of Census in his report in 1931 Census and also confirmed by the Superintendent of Census in 1951 census report. But the phenomenal fall in Muslim population during 1941-51 requires some explanation. In this connection I would like to refer to the opening Chapter of the Census Report of 1951 for the district of Goalpara wherein the Superintendent of Census observes,—“The most important factor responsible for this unusual phenomenon is the unprecedented communal disturbances that took place on a vast scale during the early part of 1950, when approximately 150,000 Muslims left this district. Though a number of them had returned by the time of Census was taken, a large number still remained outside”. Then he goes on to observe,—“While ‘others’, *i.e.*, all communities except Muslims, have shown a reasonable rate of growth during 1941-51, the Muslim community, which as a rule, gives a rate of increase higher than others, not merely has fallen below them in Urban Tract No. 5, Tract No. 16 and Tract No. 13 but on the contrary registered heavy decreases, *e. g.*, 8.4 per cent in Tract No. 11, 36.4 per cent in Tract No. 12 and 26.1 per cent in Tract No. 15. As these were the worst affected areas from which Muslims had migrated to Pakistan in large numbers, the number of Muslims recorded at the Census of 1951 has actually fallen from that of 1941 Census by 8.4 per cent in Tract No. 11, 36.4 per cent in Tract No. 12 and 26.1 per cent in Tract No. 15 on account of the stern action of the State Government against anti-social elements, and its sincere and generous efforts for the rehabilitation of the displaced Muslims, practically the entire number of Muslim migrants are bound to come back to the district during the coming decade, if they have not done so already. Thus if taking into account such unforeseen influx as that of Hindu refugees the population of the district is bound to show again a much higher rate of increase in the coming Census”.

Sir, the above remarks of the Superintendent of Census fully support my contention that the majority of 150,000 Muslim migrants who had gone over to Pakistan came back after the Census of 1951. Now, the “majority” may be anything half of above 1,50,000, say 80,000 to 90,000. Coming to actual Census figures of 1941 Census, we find a total Muslim population of 4,68,924. Allowing at least 20 per cent increase during the decade of 1941-51, the correct Muslim population would have been, but for the communal disturbances, 5,62,909 as against 4,75,825 as actually censused in 1951. This leaves a shortfall of about 87,000, and this is approximately the number that returned after the Census of 1951 as rightly anticipated by the Superintendent of Census. Unless this position is accepted, you will be confronted with the difficulty of explaining the heavy increase of Muslim population in the district of Goalpara in 1961 Census. This shows clearly that a higher rate of increase of Muslims in the affected districts of Goalpara, Kamrup and Darrang, cannot be construed as entirely due to Pakistani infiltration.

Similarly in Kamrup also the position is more or less the same. In this connection, I would refer you to the opening Chapter of the 1951 Census Report. You will find, Sir, in certain places, because of communal disturbances, the number of Muslim population came down. As for instance, in Sorbhog-Patacharkuchi area where there was an increase of Muslim population by 65.4 per cent in 1931-41 was reduced to 17.2 per cent in 1941-51. In Barpeta-Tarabari tract where there was an increase of 65.3 per cent in 1931-41 there was an increase of only 29.4 per cent in 1941-51. In Barama-Nalbari area where there was an increase of 43.5 per cent in 1931-41, in 1941-51 the increase came to only 4.3 per cent. In Rangiya, the increase was 50.8 per cent in 1931-41 and it was minus .03 per cent in 1941-51. Similarly, Sir, I can tell you that during the decade 1941-51 a large Muslim population went out of Assam from all these places due to the communal disturbances of 1950. Therefore, Sir, I find that the increase of population in Kamrup district should have been, in the decade between 1941-51; 40 to 45 per cent, if not more as against 18.7 per cent as recorded in 1951 Census. Sir, unless we take certain factors like post-riot immigration of displaced Muslims into account, it is difficult to account for the large increase of Muslim population in 1951-61. I would like to quote here an extract from the Census Report of 1951 for Kamrup. "The extraordinary increase in the population of the district in previous decades was due to the immigration of Mymensinghas, specially in Barpeta Subdivision where they have filled up large areas of waste lands and swamps near the Brahmaputra river. More than one-third of the record increase registered by the previous decade in this district was due to immigration which was responsible for the extremely high increase of 58.9 per cent in Barpeta thana. Immigration did continue to some extent even in the present decade and would have been responsible for a larger rate of increase but for the reverse stream of emigration of displaced Muslims on account of the widespread communal disturbances in Barpeta Subdivision and other parts of Kamrup as well during the early part of 1950. The table given below throws some light on the extremely moderate increase registered by Sorbhog, Nalbari, Rangiya as well as Barpeta. But for the refugees, the decrease in the stream of East Bengal immigrants coupled with the reverse stream of emigration of displaced Muslims would have produced a still lower percentage of increase for this district". It is thus obvious that the Muslim population in the district of Kamrup increased by at least 40 per cent if not more, that is 50 per cent in Barpeta and 30 per cent in Gauhati Subdivision during the decade 1941-51. If we allow the increase even at 40 per cent over the district Muslim population of 3,67,522 in 1941 Census, the actual Muslim population would have been about 5,14,000 as against 24,36,395 actually censused in 1951. Thus at least 80 to 84 thousands Muslims were omitted from the Census of 1951. At any rate, it will be safer to take a more modest figure of 60 to 64 thousands for the purpose of explaining the high increase in 1951-61.

Now, Sir, if you come to Darrang, you will find the same picture, that is, there was also heavy increase in Muslim population in 1931-41, *i.e.*, 65 per cent in Tezpur Subdivision and 84 per cent in Mangaldai Subdivision, which came down to 23 per cent in Mangaldai and 40 per cent in Tezpur in 1941-51. In the Census Report of 1951 for Darrang, it was recorded that as much as 309,981 bighas in Tezpur Subdivision and almost similar amount of land in Mangaldai Subdivision were settled with immigrants from outside the State during 1941-51. Therefore, Sir, if we take into account all these

factors in Darrang district also, there was increase of about 50 per cent of Muslim population and a fairly large number of Muslims was omitted in 1951 Census. The total Muslim population in Darrang being 1,20,592 in 1941, an increase of at least 50 per cent during 1941-51, would represent the correct Muslim population at least 1,80,000 if not more as against 1,53,521. Here in Darrang also there has been an omission of about 30,000 Muslims. If we take the 87,000 people in Goalpara, 64,000 in Kamrup and about 30,000 in Darrang, we get a total of 1,80,000 omitted from the Census of 1951.

As I have already indicated this 1,80,000 to 1,88,000 Muslims omitted from the Census of 1951, returned to Assam after that Census, and thus the actual Muslim population during 1941-51, would be 19,95,935 *plus* 1,88,000 to 1,80,000 approximately. Then allowing for 25 per cent during 1951-61, there could at least be an excess of 35,000 to 40,000 to be suspected as infiltrators and not three lakhs.

I would again request the Chief Minister to give this matter serious consideration and take into account various factors in accounting for the high increase of Muslim population in 1961 census, and not to attribute the increase to Pakistani infiltration alone. Then, Sir, as this matter has come up before this House and is a matter of controversy both inside and outside and may be used for political ends by interested parties, the problem must be tackled from an objective point of view. It will be most unfair if a certain community is allowed to be the target of unnecessary criticism and persecution and a victim of political machinations.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we could complete our discussion of the last emergency, the sky is again overcast with dark clouds. There are disquieting reports in the press that concentration of troops by the Chinese gangsters has been made in many areas, Pakistan has entered into an agreement with China giving about 13,000 square miles of our sacred soil. Sir, before I say about this new emergency, I would like to pay my tributes to those who showed their exemplary courage and behaviour during the last emergency at Tezpur, particularly to those Electric Supply workers who inspite of the evacuation order kept the lights burning throughout the night of that fateful day. I would like to pay my tributes to the State Transport workers who kept the wheels running all throughout the day and night and even after, by carrying the people to safer areas. Sir, my tribute goes to Mr. Hall, the Joint Agent of the Steamer Company who inspite of the order to leave did not leave his place and stuck to his post and carried the evacuees to the last man. My tribute goes to the crews of the Steamer Company and those young officers who showed valiant courage and love towards the people by sticking to their position to the last moment. Sir, I must pay my tribute to the people of Nowgong also, particularly the student community who had organised themselves, opened evacuee camps and gave food and shelter to those displaced persons who left everything, their hearth and homes. I pay my tribute to those young boys and girls who had shown great sympathy towards those people. My tribute goes to the people in the advanced areas. I am glad that our respected friend, Shri O. K. Das made mention of them. These people of Missamari, which is only 14 miles from the foothills, faced the danger with courage. The people of Charduar where there was imminent danger of Chinese troops coming through Bhalukpung had shown exemplary behaviour. Sir, I do not want to dilate more on these matters. I would request-

the Government and our leaders that let us keep up the morale and enthusiasm among the people when again, God forbids, we are going to face another danger. Sir, I strongly feel that the State like us which is bordered by the enemies almost on all sides, which has got tremendous problems of food shortage and infiltration of Pakistanis must sink all differences. Let all the political parties in Assam sink all their differences and build up a convention so that we can show to India that here is a State where the people can sink all their differences to stand the gravest emergency that a nation can face and let us strengthen the hands of our Government to fight out the enemies. This will not only instil inspiration in the minds of the people of the State but will also be a lesson to the other parts of the country. Sir, on the last occasion also I state that we had the proud privilege of defending the democracy and freedom of this country. Our young people took pride that they had the opportunity to show once for all to the world that they had defended the democracy and freedom of this country and the world as a whole. To-day India is not fighting alone for her democracy and freedom only but for the democracy and freedom of other countries who care for democracy. That is why I would appeal to the leaders of all other political parties to sink all their differences and to fight for a common cause. This is not the time for quarrelling away ourselves, and it is with this spirit Sir, I appeal to all to resolve their differences because God knows when the emergency will arise again. Sir, I am very thankful to the Governor to that he has dealt with the steps taken by the Government, to deal with this emergency. I only say one thing Sir, that the enthusiasm and a spirit of resistance must be built up without losing any time; otherwise, we shall be caught napping. For this I would request all to build up the morale of the people.

Sir, the other day I read in the newspapers that our Food Minister referred to the food position in the State. Sir, there is an unprecedented drought in the State resulting in the failure of two important crops. Naturally we will have food scarcity even in the midst of emergency. I would, therefore, request the Government to do whatever is possible to meet this situation by growing whatever crop is possible even now. I have pointed out this because at Tezpur some people wanted to cultivate some 'Char' land for growing Boro crop and they applied to the Agriculture Department for a tractor but they could not get it. They also wanted some power pumps but they could not get them. I am speaking this not with a view to criticise the Government but to point out that when there is a popular enthusiasm for growing more crops and Government should find out means to help these people who are enthusiastic. Sir, I must thank the Agriculture Department that last time during the emergency we could distribute 2,000 mds. of potatoes within 10 days in Tezpur, 14,000 packets of vegetable seeds and 10,000 seedlings because of the help rendered by the Agriculture Department. I feel, Sir, that the Agriculture Department will be able to meet this requirement of the people even now if they desire to do so because during the emergency period we have seen that everyone, all government employees from L. D. Assistants to the high officers rose to the occasion and did whatever was possible under the circumstances. As a result of this the price of paddy at Tezpur, did not go up beyond Rs. 22/- per maund even during the emergency. The prices of vegetables are still cheaper at Tezpur than any other parts of the State. This is because of the fact that during the emergency we could canalise the enthusiasm of the people and the people were also enthused. But that enthusiasm is not there now and so I would beseech the leaders of the various

political parties and the Government, to build up that enthusiasm even now, if possible, before another emergency arises. Sir, I do not like to take the time of the House as you have said that there are many more speakers. I am sorry, Sir, that I could not follow the discussion on the Governor's address in this House because I happened to be at Delhi. But what I feel is that instead of spending our energy in mutual quarrel we should direct our energy to meet the emergency situation. If we cannot forget our mutual differences even at this hour, it will be the greatest tragedy of the country and the State. With this humble submission Sir, I would beseech you and all the Members of this House to rise to the occasion.

Thank you sir,

Shri SIBAPRASAD SARMA (Mangaldoi) মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য শ্রীকমলা প্রসাদ আগবড়ালাই ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণৰ ওপৰত ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপনৰ নি প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো মই সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। গৱৰ্ণৰ বাহাদুৰে তেখেতৰ এই কালচোৱাত আমাৰ চৰকাৰে দেশবাসীৰ প্ৰতি কি কি উন্নয়ন মূলক কাম কৰিছে আৰু কিবোৰ জটিল সমস্যাৰ সন্মুখীন হৈছে তাৰ এটা চমু আভাস দিছে। যোৱা বছৰটো আমাৰ দেশ-বাসীৰ কাৰণে এটা ভয়াবহ মনত বাখিৰ লগীয়া বছৰ। এপ্ৰিল মাহত অসমৰ ঠায়ে ঠায়ে বিশেষকৈ মঙ্গলদৈত প্ৰবল ধুমহা হৈ ৰাইজৰ ঘৰ-বাৰী ভাঙিলে, তামোল, পান, নাবিকল, কল, কুঁহিয়াৰ আদি নষ্ট কৰিলে। তাৰ পাচত জুন জুলাইৰ বান পানীয়ে আহ ধানৰ খেতি আদি সমূলি নষ্ট কৰিলে আকৌ আগষ্ট মাহৰ প্ৰবল বান পানীয়ে ৰাইজৰ নতনকৈ লগোৱা খেতি আদি পুণৰ নষ্ট কৰি মানুহৰ গৰু-মহ আদি মাৰি উত্তৰাই নি জৰালা কৰিলে। এই দুৰ্যোগৰ সময়ত আমাৰ জাতীয় চৰকাৰে ৰাইজক বেনেকৰা সা-সুবিধা আদি দিয়া সম্ভৱ সেইটো চৰকাৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা আগবঢ়াইছিল আৰু মাননীয় মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী আৰু বিভাগীয় কেবাগৰাকী মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে মঙ্গলদৈৰ সেই বিধ্বস্ত অঞ্চলবোৰ পৰিদৰ্শন কৰি ৰাইজৰ মাজত আশাৰ সঞ্চাৰ কৰিছিল। মই তাৰ বাবে তেখেতসকলৰ শলাগ লৈছোঁ। এটাৰ পাচত এটাকৈ তিনিটা দৰ্যোগ যোৱাৰ পাচত আমি ভাবিছিলোঁ আৰু ৰোধ হয় বিপদ নাহিব; কিন্তু শেহতীয়াকৈ আহিল চীনৰ আক্ৰমণ। শৰাইঘাটৰ যুদ্ধৰ পাচত এনে আক্ৰমণৰ সন্মুখীন আমাৰ অসমীয়া ৰাইজ কেতিয়াও হব লগীয়া হোৱা নাছিল আৰু সেই বাবে আমাৰ ৰাইজ প্ৰস্তুতো নাছিল। তথাপি চীনে যেতিয়া বিশ্বাস-ঘাটকতা কৰি আক্ৰমণ কৰিলে তেতিয়া আমাৰ ৰাইজ বিনোৰত পৰিল আৰু আমাৰ জাতীয় চৰকাৰৰ লগত দল-উপদল নিৰ্বিশেষে সকলো ৰাইজ একত্ৰ হৈ চীনা আক্ৰমণৰ বিৰুদ্ধে ঠিয় দিবলৈ দৃঢ় প্ৰতিজ্ঞা হল। আনহাতে নেফা অঞ্চলৰ পৰা ভাগি অহা ভগনীয়া বিলাকক অসমৰ নানান ঠাইত আশ্ৰয় দি তেওঁলোকক সদাশয় ৰাইজে চৰকাৰৰ লগত সহযোগ কৰি থকা গোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি দিলে। আমাৰ মঙ্গলদৈ আৰু ওডালগুৰিতো তেনে ধৰণে শিবিৰ প্ৰতিষ্ঠা হৈছিল। এই শিবিৰবোৰত আমাৰ ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী সকলে ভগনীয়া সকলক আপ্ৰাণ চেষ্টাৰে যি শুশ্ৰূষা কৰিলে তাৰ বাবে ৰাইজৰ লগতে তেওঁলোকে ধন্যবাদৰ পাত্ৰ। আনহাতে আমাৰ এই সঙ্কটৰ কালত কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ মন্ত্ৰী আৰু বিভিন্ন ৰাজ্যৰ বিভিন্ন দলৰ সৰ্ব্ব ভাৰতীয় নেতাসকলে আহি আমাৰ এই দুৰ্দ্দশাত সহানুভূতি দেখুওৱাৰ বাবে মই অসমীয়া ৰাইজৰ পৰা তেখেত সকলৰ ওচৰত কৃতজ্ঞতা জ্ঞাপন কৰিছোঁ।

আমি সিদিনা মাত্ৰ জাতীয় সংহতিৰ বাবে প্ৰতিজ্ঞা পত্ৰত চহী কৰিও সমগ্ৰ ভাৰতবাসী সকলো ক্ষেত্ৰত একমত হব পৰা নাছিলোঁ। যদিও চীনা আক্ৰমণৰ ফলত উত্তৰ হোৱা দুৰ্যোগৰ সময়ত সমগ্ৰ ভাৰতবাসীয়ে সকলো ভেদা-ভেদ পাহৰি

এক হৈ চৰকাৰৰ লগত সহযোগ কৰি চীনৰ বিৰুদ্ধে ঠিয় হবলৈ সক্ষম হ'ল। বাইজৰ এই উৎসাহ উদ্দীপনা অটুত বাধি প্ৰতিবন্ধক ক্ষেত্ৰত গঠন কৰা স্বেচ্ছাসেৱক, এন, চি, চি, আৰু হম গাউ বাহিনী আদিক বাৰতীয় পৰামৰ্শ আৰু আহিলা প্ৰতিবন্ধক যোগান ধৰি বাইজক সবল কৰা চৰকাৰ পক্ষৰ কৰ্ত্তব্য। দেশৰ এনে দুৰ্দ্দিনৰ সময়ত অলপতে চিলচৰত হৈ হোৱা ঘটনা আমাৰ কাৰণে এটা কলঙ্কৰ চেকা বুলি ক'ব পাৰি। প্ৰতিবন্ধক বাবে দেশৰ জৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাৰ সন্মুখীন হবলৈ কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে অনেক নতুন কৰ কাটল লগাবলৈ বাধ্য হৈছে আৰু আমাৰ ৰাজ্যিক চৰকাৰেও হয়তো তেনে কৰ কাটল লগাব। এই ক্ষেত্ৰত বাইজে বৰ্দ্ধিত কৰ দিবলৈ অপাৰগ হলেও দেশৰ জৰুৰী অৱস্থালৈ চাই আমাৰ বাইজে তাত সহযোগ কৰিব বুলি মই বিশ্বাস কৰোঁ।

ৰাজ্যপালে তেখেতৰ ভাষণত দুৰ্নীতিৰ বিষয়ে উল্লেখ কৰিছে। সেই বাবে ময়ো চৰকাৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা এই দুৰ্নীতি নিৰ্মূল কৰাৰ বাবে বিশেষ ভাবে ব্যৱস্থা লবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনালোঁ। দেশৰ দুৰ্দ্দিনৰ সময়ত যেতিয়া বাইজে বৰ্দ্ধিত কৰ কাটল দিব লগাত পৰিছে সেই অৱস্থাত দুৰ্নীতি নিষিদ্ধবাদে চলি থকা সমিচীন হোৱা নাই। অসমৰ কোন অঞ্চলত কোন ধৰণৰ দুৰ্নীতি চলি আছে আমাক মাননীয় সদস্য সকলে নিশ্চয় জানে কাৰণ সমিষ্টৰ বাইজে নিৰ্ব্বাচিত সদস্যৰ ওচৰত সেই বিষয়ে সময়ে সময়ে অভিযোগ নিশ্চয় জনায়। কিন্তু আমাৰ বাইজে লিখিত ভাবে জনাবলৈ ভয় কৰে। কাজেই যদি আমি সকলোৱে দল উপদল পাহৰি চৰকাৰৰ লগত সহযোগী হৈ চেষ্টা কৰোঁ তেনেহলে বোধহয় দুৰ্নীতি নিৰ্মূল কৰিব পৰা হ'ব। জৰুৰী কালীন অৱস্থাত বাইজৰ খাদ্যবস্তু আৰু অন্যান্য সামগ্ৰীৰ দাম হঠাতে বাঢ়ি যাব ধৰাত চৰকাৰে বস্ত্ৰৰ দামৰ নিৰ্দ্ধাৰিত তালিকা দি তত্ত্বাৱধান লোৱাত বাইজৰ সেই অশান্তি দূৰ হৈছিল; কিন্তু ক্ৰমাগত কিছুমান বস্ত্ৰৰ দাম পুনঃ বাঢ়িবলৈ লৈছে। আমাৰ ব্যৱসায়ী আৰু কৰ্মচাৰীসকল বিদেশী নহয়, আমাৰ দেশৰেই মানুহ। গতিকে বাইজে যদি তৎপৰতাৰে চৰকাৰৰ লগত সহযোগ কৰে আৰু চৰকাৰেও যথোচিত ব্যৱস্থা হাতত হয়, তেন্তে নিশ্চয় দুৰ্নীতি নিৰ্মূল হ'ব আৰু তেতিয়াহে আমি সংচৰিত্ৰ লৈ দেশ আৰু সমাজক ৰক্ষা কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম হ'ব পাৰিম।

যোৱা বছৰৰ এপ্ৰিল মাহত মঙ্গলদৈত যেতিয়া ধুমুহা বতাহ হৈ বাইজৰ অশেষ ক্ষতি হৈছিল তেতিয়া ক্ষতিগ্ৰস্ত লোকসকলৰ বাবে এক কালীন সাহায্য চৰকাৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা আগবঢ়াইছিল আৰু সেই সাহায্যৰ টকা মহকুমাধিপতি মহোদয়ে পঞ্চায়তৰ সভাপতিসকল, বিভাগীয় বিষয়াসকল আৰু এম, এল, এ, সকলৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি কোন অঞ্চলত কেনেকো ক্ষতি হৈছিল সেই পৰিমাণে ক্ষতিগ্ৰস্ত হোৱা প্ৰত্যেক গাঁও পঞ্চায়তত সেই টকা ভাগ কৰি দিছিল। আৰু গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত সমূহে নিৰ্দ্ধাৰিত কৰি আটাইতকৈ ক্ষতিগ্ৰস্ত দুখীয়া লোকক সেই টকা ভগাই দিছিল আৰু তেনে কৰাৰ বাবে উক্ত বিতৰণ বাইজৰ মই জনাত মনঃপূত হৈছিল। কিন্তু যেতিয়া চৰকাৰৰ পৰা ক্ষতিগ্ৰস্ত সকলৰ ঘৰ দুৱাৰ আদি পুনৰ নিৰ্মাণৰ বাবে ৩ লাখ টকা ঋণ হিচাবে দিবৰ নিৰ্দ্দেশ দিছিল সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত মহকুমাধিপতি মহোদয়ক অনুৰোধ কৰা সত্ত্বেও সেই টকা আগৰ দৰে গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত বোৰৰ মাজত ভাগ কৰি দিয়া নহল আৰু উক্ত মহকুমাধিপতিৰ অফিচৰ পৰাই ধাৰ হিচাবে দিবলৈ আৰম্ভ কৰিলে। বিশ্বস্ত অঞ্চলৰ সকলো ঠাইৰ সকলো মানুহেই কাম কাজ এৰি মঙ্গলদৈ টাউনলৈ ধাৰৰ টকা বিচাৰি দিনৰ পাচত দিন মাহৰ পাচত মাহকৈ আহিবলৈ আৰম্ভ কৰিলে ফলত কিছুমান হেনো নেপাবলগীয়া মানুহেও টকা নিলে আৰু পাব লগীয়া সকলেই নিৰাশা হ'ব লগীয়া হ'ল আৰু দুৰ্নীতি পুৰা দমে চলিল বুলি বাইজে কয়। মহকুমাধিপতি মানুহজন যে সাধু তাত কোনো সন্দেহ নাই। অৱশ্যে এচ, ডি, অ, হিচাবে তেওঁৰ দৰ্কাৰী অভিজ্ঞতা কম। ফলত যোৱা

এমাহৰ আগলৈকে উক্ত বাবৰ টকা বাইজৰ মাজত সম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে বিতৰণ নহল আৰু নানা বেমেজালি লগাত শুনিব পাওঁ অফিচৰ Dealing Assistant জনক হেনো চূপেও কৰিছে আৰু বাকী থকা টকাবোৰ আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তক বিতৰণৰ বাবে দি দিয়া হৈছে। ধুনুহা যোৱাৰ পাচতে টকা মঞ্জুৰ হোৱাৰ লগে লগে আগৰ এক কালান দান ভগোৱাৰ দৰে ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰা হেতেন বাইজে উপযুক্ত জামীন দি নিৰ্দ্ধাৰিত দিনত টকা নি সময়মতে ঘৰ-দুৱাৰ বান্ধি লব পাবিলে হেতেন; কিন্তু তাকে নকৰাৰ ফলত আজি প্ৰায় এবছৰ হবহি উক্ত বেমেজালিৰ ওৰ নপৰিল। এইবোৰ হৈছে এক মাত্ৰ কিছুমান খামখিৰালাৰ কাৰণেহে। যোৱা বান পানীৰ সাহায্য স্বৰূপে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা ক্ষতিগ্ৰস্ত পৰিয়ালৰ খাবলৈ নোপোৱা সকলক সহায় কৰিবৰ কাৰণে চাউল আদি দিবৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি দিয়া সত্বেও কিছুমান ঠাইৰ মানুহে তেনে স্ৰবিধা নেপালে আৰু যিবোৰ ঠাইত দিয়া হৈছিল তেনে ঠাইত মাত্ৰ এদিনৰ হে খাদ্য পাইছিল বুলি অভিযোগ আহিছিল যদিও আন মহকুমাত তেনে ক্ষেত্ৰত মই জনাত ৬৭ দিনৰ খাদ্য মানুহক যোগান ধৰা হৈছিল। মঙ্গলদৈ বাইজৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা যি চাউল আদিৰ সাহায্য আহিছিল সেই বোৰো মহকুমাধিপতিৰ জৰীয়েই বিতৰণ কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছিল। তেনে ক্ষেত্ৰত চৰকাৰী সাহায্য যে নিচেই কম হৈছে তাত কোনো সন্দেহ নাই। আৰু বাইজ তাৰ বাবে অসন্তুষ্ট। বাইজে সেই বাবেই কোৱা কুই কৰিছিল যে দাতাই দিলেও বিধতাই নিদিয়ৈ অৰ্থাৎ চৰকাৰে দিলেও চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীসকলে নিদিয়ৈ। সেই বাবেই মই পৰামৰ্শ আগবঢ়াব বিচাৰিছো যে মহকুমা বিলাকক জিলা পৰ্যায়লৈ অতি সোনকালে নিয়াৰ দৰ্কাৰ। কাৰণ জিলাৰ সদৰত এজন ডি, চি, এজন এ, ডি, চি, এজন সদৰ এচ, ডি, অ, আদি বহুতো বিষয়া থাকে আৰু তেওঁলোকে বিশেষকৈ সেই সদৰ চাৰ ডিভিজনৰ কামহে কৰে, বিপদ বা দুৰ্ভোগৰ সময়ত তেওঁলোকে চাৰ ডিভিজনলৈ আহিবৰ সময় নেপায় বৰং কিছুমান কাৰ্গজ পাতি আদি তেওঁলোকৰ জৰীয়েত যাব লগীয়া হোৱাত বিনা কাৰণে মহকুমাৰ কাম কাজত বিলম্ব ঘটে। বছৰত এবাৰ বা দুবাৰ পৰিদৰ্শন কৰাৰ বাহিৰে তেওঁলোকে চাৰডিভিজনৰ বিশেষ মনোযোগ দিব নোৱাৰে। আনহাতে মহকুমাত অনেক ক্ষেত্ৰত অনভিজ্ঞ নতুন মহকুমাধিপতি থাকে আৰু তেওঁৰ হাতত সকলো ক্ষমতা নথকাৰ বাবে সকলো কাম ইচ্ছা মতে কৰিব নোৱাৰে। তেনেস্থলত জিলাৰ সদৰৰ এ, ডি এম, সকলক গুচাই দি প্ৰতি মহকুমাক জিলাৰ পৰ্যায়লৈ নি ডি, চি, একোজন দিলে কামৰ বহুতো বেমেজালি কমে আৰু বাইজৰ দুখ দুৰ্গতি নিবাৰণ হয়। আৰু চৰকাৰৰো সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত অধিক টকা খৰচ নহয়। সেই বাবে এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে বিশেষ গুৰুত্ব দিব বুলি আশা ৰাখিলোঁ।

আমাৰ দেশৰ খেতিৰ উন্নতিৰ বাবে যেনে স্ৰবিধাৰ প্ৰয়োজন আছিল। এতিয়াও বাইজে তেনে স্ৰবিধা পোৱা নাই বৰং যোৱা বানপানীও বিধ্বস্ত হোৱা মথাউৰী আদি নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণৰ কাম এতিয়াও সম্পূৰ্ণ হৈ উঠা নাই আৰু যিবোৰ ঠাইত নতুন মথাউৰী আৰু পানী যোগানৰ প্ৰয়োজন সেইবোৰ ঠিক ভাবে কৰাহেতেন, আমাৰ দেশৰ খাদ্যাভাব কমিলহেতেন। বিদেশৰ পৰা লাখ লাখ টকাৰ খাদ্য আমদানি কৰিব নালাগিলহেতেন। সেই বাবে খেতিৰ উন্নতিৰ বাবে চৰকাৰে এতিয়া দোৱা প্ৰচেষ্টাত কৈয়ো উন্নত ধৰণৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰাৰ প্ৰয়োজন হৈ পৰিছে।

মই আগেয়েও কৈ আহিছোঁ যে, মঙ্গলদৈত বহুতো সোটিক পাচ কৰা দৰা খৰচৰ অভাৱত উচ্চ শিক্ষা লাভ কৰিব নোৱাৰি নিবনুৱা হৈ বহি আছে। তেওঁলোকক আন কি পাঠশালা স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকতাৰ স্ৰবিধা দিবলৈও চাকৰিৰ

অভাব। আমাৰ বাইজে বহু বছৰ ধৰি কাৰীকৰী স্কুল (টেকনিকেল স্কুল) এখন মঙ্গলদৈত কৰিবলৈ বহুতো আবেদন নিবেদন কৰি আহিছে আৰু মাননীয় মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়কো একাধিক বাৰ নিবেদন জনাইছে। এই অনুষ্ঠান এতিয়ালৈকে হৈ নঠাত বাইজৰ মাজত অসন্তোষ দেখা দিছে। সেই বাবে মই পুনঃ চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ জনাওঁ যাতে মঙ্গলদৈত উক্ত অনুষ্ঠানটো সোনকালে কৰি দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা হয়।

দেশত নানা ধৰণৰ শিল্পানুষ্ঠান কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা হৈছে তেনে ক্ষেত্ৰত আমাৰ লৰাবোৰে কাৰীকৰী শিক্ষা পোৱাহেতেন নিবনুৱা সময়। ভালেখিনি সমাধান হল হেতেন। শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা জানিব পৰা গৈছে যে, আমাৰ অসমত এখন সৈনিক স্কুল খোলাৰ ব্যৱস্থা হৈছে। মোৰ বোধেৰে বৰ্তমান পৰিস্থিতিত চাই আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত এনে ধৰণৰ স্কুল দুই-তিনিখন খোলাৰ বিশেষ দৰ্কাৰ হৈ পৰিছে। কাৰণ আমাৰ ৰাজ্যখন সীমান্ত অঞ্চলত অৱস্থিত আৰু চীনৰ আক্ৰমণৰ সন্মুখীন আমিও হৈছিলো। এনে স্থলত মই জনাৰ ভিতৰত আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ মানুহ এই বিভাগত বহুত কম আৰু অকিচাৰ নাই বুলিলেও অত্যাঙ্কি কৰা নহয়। সৈনিক স্কুল খুলিলে আমাৰ ভবিষ্যত বংশৰ সকলে নিজৰ দেশ ৰক্ষা কৰাৰ দায়িত্ব বহন কৰাত সক্ষম হ'ব পাৰিব। আৰু তাৰ বাবে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি হলেও উক্ত কাম যাতে সোনকালে হয় তাৰ তৎপৰ ব্যৱস্থা লবলৈ আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত আশা ৰাখিলোঁ। মোৰ বহুতো কৰ লগীয়া আছিল যদিও সময়ৰ অভাৱত কোৱা সম্ভৱ পৰা নহল।

Shri KHOGENDRANATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, (Speaker—your time is only 15 minutes) definitely it is not possible on the part of the Governor to enter into elaborate details of every issue or every problem confronting Assam in his Address and to suggest solution of all of them. But Sir, it is equally true that his Address did not touch some of the very vital problems confronting Assam to-day, i. e., questions like intregation of North East Frontier Agency, Naga Land, Manipur and Tripura. Sir, this State of Assam stands as the Eastern gate of India. This being so, it is essential that all efforts should be directed to forge out an emotional integration of this vast region. Sir, while referring to this most important subject of integration, I feel tempted to give the House an idea of the areas and the square-miles of the different administrative units comprising the Eastern region. They are—

	Area	Population
North-East Frontier Agency	... 31,438 sq. miles	3,36,568
Naga Land	... 6,366 „ „	3,69,210
Manipur	... 8,628 „ „	7,87,037
Tripura	... 4,036 „ „	11,42,005

It is necessary at this moment that there should be emotional unity amongst the people living in this vast region so that all people may stand up as one man against any eventuality. Government should take up all necessary measures to forge out that feeling of unity which is so much necessary for integrating this vast region.

Secondly, Sir, our Assam and India has been aggressed upon by China with arms and invaded by Pakistan by peaceful methods. China has crossed over the Northern border and attacked our sacred soil. Sir, at least to face the first bullets, there should be a strong force which should, in my opinion, be recruited from Assam. There are 25 thousand villages in Assam; if we recruit 20 persons of the adult population from each of the villages, we get 5 lakhs of people. So, Sir, my contention is that there should be a strong force built up from among the various communities of Assam to meet the first attack either from China or Pakistan. For this purpose I suggest that compulsory military training should be introduced amongst the people of age group between 15:35 so that they may be able to face at least the first onslaught from either of the two directions. Then again, there should be a defence organisation in each of the villages and the Panchayats. Sir, from some years past Pak nationals are penetrating into Assam in such unperceptible methods that by now it has assumed the form of a severe type of malady like the Cancer in the human body. Cancer is preventible only at the initial stage if proper attention and care are taken. But when it is spreads out to the whole body, it becomes incurable. So, Sir, this severe malady in the form of Pak infiltration, on the body politics of Assam will be curable only if it is attacked with boldness and tactfulness and with sincerity of purpose and earnestness in efforts. For this purpose, I suggest there should be an absolutely separate organisation directly under the Chief Minister.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: (Mr. Speaker—Do you think that at present there is no such machinery?) There is some sort of a machinery, but it has not been able to tackle the problem effectively so far this machinery is not meant for that specific purpose only. For instance, we have now the intelligence branch or the Police Department. In case of a raid or dacoity, the Police or the C. I. D. runs to the spot with a view to make an enquiry on receipt of information. But my contention is that officers of this special branch should be readily available at the spot for spot enquiry and they should not leave the place till final eradication of the evil.

My next suggestion is that there should be declaration of rewards for such men as given correct information to Government regarding some illegal or antinational activities of persons. For instance, if any one helps in apprehending a thief or arresting a Pak infiltrator, he should be rewarded by Government. So also the Panchayats and other organisations should be rewarded. If they can help Government in such a way in removing Pak infiltrators. Here also I would like to refer to one point regarding the Tezpur incident. I do not propose to go into any greater detail about the affairs that prevailed in Tezpur during the evacuation, but I would like to pose a question: Whether is it or is it not a fact that there was hooliganism, dacoity and flying of foreign flags at Tezpur during the evacuation? One hon. Member has stated that notes worth Rs. 30 to 40 lakhs were burnt down during the evacuation in the Tezpur Treasury. Had the evacuation been orderly and methodical, the military should have been able to take over charge of the civil administration at Tezpur and all these anomalies would not have been there. Therefore, my suggestion is that Government should set up an enquiry committee with the Chief Justice of the High Court as the Chairman or any other committee to go into the whole matter of Tezpur evacuation. Government should make an enquiry to find out whether anything happened there. Some hon. Members mentioned that the evacuation was very smooth and

orderly, but I say something very disorderly and unmethodical and irregular happened there. Therefore, Sir, there should be an enquiry Committee set up by Government to look into this matter.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SARMA (Nalbari-East): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am very thankful to the Governor for his speech. It has virtually touched all the important and vital problems of the State and I agree with the observations made by the Governor; but I want to make a few words of praise to the Governor and the Chief Minister for their excellent manner they behave at the time of emergency more particularly the wise steps that have been taken in shifting the Branch Secretariat to Gaubati and also by making some posts of Commissioner of Divisions in the plains and also by placing the Ministers in all the important places throughout the length and breadth of the State, to keep up the morale of the people. The people highly appreciated these measures of the Government and more particularly that this Government did not fail at the time of peril.

Now Sir, we are very proud that our people, at the time of emergency maintained high morale. In the wake of Chinese aggression our brothers in the N. E. F. A. region came down to the plains leaving their heart and home with the hope of getting shelter in the home of another brother living in the plains and, as a matter of fact, they have been received with love and affection from the people of the plains. They left our state with a deep impression of love and affection and brotherhood. This feeling of brotherhood should continue for all time to come. Virtually they are the sentinals in the eastern borders and on this people depends the defence of the country. So, Sir, I say that we have no right to keep these people in darkness. They must be given the light of the modern civilization. In this respect the policy uptill now followed by the N. E. F. A. Administration is not at all hopeful and satisfactory. Dr. Verrier Elwin's book, the Philosophy for N. E. F. A., is not the last words and rather it should not be accepted as the last words on N. E. F. A. Administration. This book has drawn wide criticism throughout the length and breadth of the country and in the context of the present Chinese aggression, we must not allow this book to go uncontested. Therefore, I suggest that in the present context, the N. E. F. A. Administration should not be allowed to persue this policy.

Secondly, my submission is this that these people who are willing to mix up with the people of the plains should be allowed to do so. In this connection, I may say that the Ahom Kings were very much far-sighted. They mixed up with these people and they carried on matrimonial alliances and other connections although there had been some occassional depredation by these people of N. E. F. A.

Now, Sir, I may submit to this House a concrete instance. Sir, in this connection, I may point out that one Tapan Nath Baruah, Divisional Research Officer, Lohit Frontier Division published a map in his book In this map Dibrugarh is shown in the North Bank of the river Brahmaputra although we know that the Dibrugarh Town situated in the Southern Bank of the river Brahmaputra. Similar other mistakes have also been committed in respect of Jorhat and Gauhati and Bomdila. Now, Sir, after the publication of this map, this has become a public document not for the people of Assam only but for the whole

world. I do not know what the N. E. F. A. administration, in this way is going to do for the mass people. Therefore, I suggest that the inner line of N. E. F. A. should be abolished and the people should have free access to the N. E. F. A. areas. To do this, the whole N. E. F. A. policy should be reviewed and reconsidered. It is very disappointing that in the Address, the Governor as the Agent of the President has not uttered a single word as to what shape of thing coming to N. E. F. A. although many changes took place. The people of Assam are not prepared to give their consent to this state of affairs being carried out by the N. E. F. A. administration uptill now.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will you pass on the book to me ?

(The book was handed over to the Speaker).

Mr. SPEAKER: Jorhat and Gauhati have properly been shown.

There is some mistake in Dibrugarh Town.

Shri PABINDRA NATH SHARMA (Nalbari-East): Sir, Bomdila is also wrongly shown. Now I come to my next point.

Agriculture is the main stay of the people of our State. We have promised in 3rd year's plan to double the production. But I doubt very much whether we have been able to touch the fringe of this problem. People's enthusiasm should be aroused for taking more interest in agriculture (Mr. Speaker: Your time is up.) As the time is short at my disposal, I would only like to add in this respect by reproducing the suggestion given by the Centre that in all States agriculture should be under the special care of the Chief Minister. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to our Government to give due consideration to the suggestion given by the Centre.

Secondly, Sir, I am coming to one point about Pakistani infiltration. Much has been said about it and I never believe for a moment that this problem can be isolated from that of the Defence measures because we can never allow the number of foreigners to the extent of 3 lakhs to remain in a particular country which is our State. A figure has been given in the Parliament that in every two months one thousand Pakistanis who arrived here were arrested and prosecuted under the Foreigners' Act. If we do not solve the Problem of these 3 lakhs of Pakistanis at this moment then this problem will remain forever, even in 50 years this will not be solved. My point is why a scientific approach is not made to solve this problem. Our Prime Minister Shri Nehru said, that according to him it might take 4 to 5 years to tackle the problem of Chinese aggressors. If that is so, then why there can be no time limit to solve this problem? Why can it not be done in one or two years time? My suggestion to the Government is this that a Committee be formed with the Chief Minister as Chairman and some hon. Members as Members of this Committee, in the nature of a Special Committee, at least to find out ways and means to solve the problem and to find out whether there is any loophole in the Foreigners' Act, or in the directions given to the police in tackling the problem. If any such things are found they can be discussed in the committee to take necessary steps. But till now there is no such policy adopted by the Government. So, I believe that to solve this problem we must take certain concrete measure within a year or two.

With these words, Sir, I support the Motion.

Shri RAMDEB MALAH [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak a few words in support of the Motion.

The Governor in his Address at the outset mentioned of the measures taken during the time of emergency. He also mentioned that people of all walks of life, including women and students, rose to the occasion throughout the state and a large number of people contributed something for the Defence purpose. But Sir, I am sorry to find that uptill now no arrangement has been made for recruitment to the Defence force from the children staying in the gardens who are remaining unemployed at the moment. So, Sir, I think some steps should be taken to recruit some people from the Cachar gardens at least from those who are remaining idle now without works. So far they are not finding any opportunity to join the Defence force. If they can join the Army naturally they will strengthen the Defence measures. For this Sir, I would like to suggest that Government will be pleased to open some Home Guards training camps, Lok Sahayak Sena Camps and Emergency Commission coaching centre in Karimganj and Silchar. If three such centres are opened they will go a long way for the purpose of requirement to join in the Defence force.

Sir, the Governor was pleased to mention about border situation. It is true that in the Karimganj border area encroachment often takes place, specially in my constituency and I know that Pakistani military personnel do not care for the agreements between the two Governments of India and Pakistan. In the Lathitilla area when the Pakistani military personnel began encroachment and giving trouble to the people about 13 families left the area. The Subdivisional Officer and myself came to the spot to make a personal enquiry into the matter and found those families leaving the area and taking shelter in Lower Primary School. Such cases are often going on. I think some serious steps should be taken now to stop such encroachment in the Karimganj area specially which is surrounded by Pakistani people from two sides. Therefore, Sir, I approach the Government to place some able soldiers to look after the situation and to open more B.S.F. camps.

The Governor has also mentioned about primary education. I think a decision was taken by the Government to take over all the Cachar tea garden schools to give educational facilities to the children of the gardens. But I do not think anything has been done in this regard. So, Sir, I request the Government to take immediate steps to take over the garden schools to promote educational facilities to the children in the gardens. At present there is no such school in those gardens which can impart proper education to our children.

I think, Sir, some measures, such as, survey was made to establish a sugar mill at Gombira which is the best area for the purpose. If such an industry is started in this area, I think, the district of Cachar will get some benefit and some people of the area will get employment.

Sir, I would like to say that this Package Programme has been extended only to three places, namely Sonai, Lala and Ramkrishnagar. I would request Government to extend this Programme throughout the district so that every village, every area of the district may be developed equally. Otherwise, Sir, there is no meaning if one part develops and the other parts do not. In such a case the people will feel despondent about the development activities of our country. I especially request the Minister in-charge Agriculture and also the Minister in-charge of Co-operation to look into it.

Shri ABDUL JALIL CHOUDHURY (Badarpur): অধ্যক্ষ

মহোদয়, রাজ্য পালের ভাষণে বন্ধু শ্রীআগরওয়াল যে, ধন্যবাদ প্রস্তাব এই সदनে উপস্থিত করেছেন তাহা সমর্থন করতঃ দুই-চারটা কথা বলে স্বীয় কর্তব্য সমাধা করিতে দাঁড়িয়েছি।

আপদকালীন সময়ে আসামের জনসাধারণ জাতি ধর্ম নিবিশেষে দেশ রক্ষায় যে, ঐক্য ও সংহতির প্রমাণ দিয়াছে তার প্রতি আন্তরিক সম্মান জ্ঞাপন করিতেছি। জনগণের এই অটুট ঐক্য আজ আমাদের কাছে বিশ্ব সমাজে গৌরবান্বিত করেছে, আমাদের বাহিরের ও ভিতরের যে সব বিরোধী শক্তি ভীতিহীন গুজব ও মিথ্যা প্রচার দ্বারা জনগণকে বিভ্রান্ত করিতে আপ্রাণ চেষ্টা করিয়াছিল, রাজ্যের আবাল-বনিতা ইহাতে কর্ণপাত না করিয়া প্রতিরক্ষায় সরকারী ন্যতির অকুণ্ঠ সমর্থন দ্বারা জাতীয় শক্তির এক অভূতপূর্ব আদর্শ স্থাপন করিয়াছে। আমার মনে হয় ইহা অতুলনীয়।

তেজপুরের লোক অপসারণ দুর্ঘটনা নিয়া বেশ একটা সমালোচনা রাজ্য সরকারের পক্ষেও বিপক্ষে সভায় হইয়া গিয়াছে, আমি এই সম্পর্কে কেবল এইটুকু বলিতে চাই, যা ঘটনায় ঘটে গিয়াছে এবং যাহাদের নির্দেশে ঘটনাটি তাদের উপর আমরা সমবেত ভাবে আপদকালীন জরুরী অবস্থার সমস্ত উপায়ান্তরের পূর্ণ আস্থা অর্পণ করেছি এবং তদনুসারে তাহারা দেশের মঙ্গলের জন্যই ইহা করিয়াছিলেন। তবে মানুষের কাজে একটা বিচ্যুতী অস্বাভাবিক নয়; কিন্তু এই বিপদকালীন ভয়াবহ অবস্থায় তেজপুরে যে, এর চাইতে বেশী কিছু ঘটে নাই সেইজন্য রাজ্য সরকারের কার্যপদ্ধতি বরণীয়।

যাহা হউক এই বৈঠকে আমাদের প্রধান বিবেচ্য বিষয় হয়েছে প্রতিরক্ষাও দেশ রক্ষা ব্যাপার। কারণ দেশে কোন সময় যে, জরুরী অবস্থা দেখা দিবে এবং ইহা অতীতের চাইতে যে, আরও গুরুতর হইবে না ইহাকেই বলিতে পারিবে না। এবং এই ব্যাপারে চীনা আক্রমণের দান বলুন কিংবা ঐগ্ররীক দান জনগণের ঐক্যও দেশের সংহতী গড়িয়া উঠিয়াছে ইহাকে কয়েম রাখিয়া আরও শক্তিশালী করতঃ অধিক খাদ্য শস্য উৎপাদন ও সৈনিক শক্তি বৃদ্ধনে প্রয়োগ করার বিশেষ একটা কার্যকরী পরিকল্পনা আমাদের বিতর্কের মাধ্যমে পেশ করার দরকার যাহা রাজ্য সরকার বিবেচনা করে দরকার হলে ইহা সংশোধন করে সেই সংশোধিত গৃহীত প্রোগ্রাম নিয়া আমরা যাহাতে জনগণের ঐক্য হইতে দেশকে আরও অধিক শক্তিশালী করিয়া শত্রুকবলীত রাজ্যকে রক্ষা ও পুনরুদ্ধার করিতে পারি ইহা ছিল আমাদের কর্তব্য।

কিন্তু বিধানসভা আরম্ভ হওয়ার পর হইতে এই কয়েক দিনের বিতর্কে আমরা কি দেখিতে পাই, দেখিতে পাই দৈবঘটিত রাজ্যের ঐক্য ও সংহতী যাহাতে একেবারে নষ্ট ও নিশ্চিন্তা হয়ে যায় এমন বেশ কয়েকটি বক্তৃতা বিধান

সভার দেওয়া হইয়াছে। একটি বিশেষ সম্প্রদায়ের উপর ক্রোধ ও সন্দেহের কেবল নয় সংঘাতের ইঙ্গিত চলিয়াছে এবং কেহ কেহ দ্বিধাবিহীন চিত্তে ভাষায় ইহা প্রকাশ করে ফেললেন।

মহোদয়, আমি গত বৎসর এই সভায় যখন এই জাতীয় বক্তৃতা আরম্ভ হয় তখন ও বলেছিলাম যে, আমাদের বক্তৃতার উপর অনেক সময় দেশের শান্তি ও শৃঙ্খলা নির্ভর করে আমাদের বক্তৃতা সংঘটনে সহানুভূতিশীল হওয়া উচিত কিন্তু সংঘটন ও দূরের কথা বরং গঠিত সংহতী বিনষ্ট হওয়ার পথে।

মহোদয়! এই সভায় কাছাড়ের কলঙ্ক স্মৃতি শিলচরের সাম্প্রদায়িক দুর্বটনা নিয়া বেণ তর্ক বিতর্ক চলিয়াছে, ইহা যাহারা করিয়াছে তাহারা সাম্প্রদায়িক মনোবৃত্তিতে করিয়াছে ইহাতে সন্দেহ নাই।

তবে ইহার মূল কারণ এই, (১) চীনা আক্রমণের সঙ্গে সঙ্গে দেশের হিন্দু-মুসলমানের মধ্যে বিশেষ ভাবে আসাম ও কাছাড়ের ভিতর যে, মিলন ও একতা গড়িয়া উঠিয়াছে সংখ্যা পরিষ্ঠ সম্প্রদায়ের কিছুসংখ্যক লোকের (বিশেষ ভাবে কাছাড়ের) পছন্দ হইতেছে না মুখে যাহাই বলুক অন্তরে এই একাকৈ পুৰ্বই খারাপ পাইতেছে। উদাহরণ স্বরূপ বলিতে চাই, বদরপুর যখন সাধারণ সভায় সমবেত হিন্দু-মুসলমান জনৈক মুসলমানকে Defence ফাও কালেক্সন কমিটির সভাপতি করিয়া S.D.O. করিমগঞ্জের অনুমতি সহকারে টাকা পরমা ইত্যাদি বসন্তে উঠিত আরম্ভ হইলে তহার কয়েক দিন পরে বদরপুর বাজারের একাংশ লোক কেবল এই জন্য যে, এই কমিটির চেয়ারম্যান মুসলমান কেন? এই বলিয়া কমিটির রসিদ বহিতে চাঁদা দেওয়া সমবেত ভাবে বন্ধ করে দেয়। তাহারা চাঁদা না দিলে ও বদরপুর হইতে সহস্রাধিক টাকা এ সময়েই উঠাইয়া ষ্টেট বেঙ্কে জমা দেওয়া হইয়াছে কিন্তু লক্ষ্য করার বিষয় হচ্ছে ওঁদের মনোভাব, এবং যাহারা এই প্রশ্ন উত্থাপন করেছেন তাহাদের অনেকেই সভায় উপস্থিত ছিলেন এবং কেহ কেহ কালেকশন্ কমিটির সদস্য আছেন।

ইহা ভারতে নূতন নহে জাতীর পিতা মহাত্মা গান্ধী যখন হিন্দু-মুসলিম একা চেয়েছিলেন তখনও একদল লোক ইহার চরম বিরোধী ছিল।

কাছাড়ের বুদ্ধকালীন জরুরী অবস্থার সময়ও তাহাদের কর্তৃত্বপরতা বিদ্যমান ছিল কিন্তু প্রতারণার সংস্থাগুলো জগৎগনের মধ্যে কর্তৃত্ব থাকায় তাদের দুরভিসন্ধি কার্যকরী হইতে পারে নাই।

চীনা আক্রমণের স্থিতিবস্থার সুযোগ নিয়া পূজা ও মসজিদের নামে তাহাদের এই পুরাতন চেষ্টাকে নূতন করে কাছাড়ে ফুঁটাইয়া তুলিয়া গোটা আসামে একটি আগুন জালিয়া দিয়া আসামের সংহতী শক্তি নষ্ট করার একটি মাত্র ষড়যন্ত্র।

Mr. SPEAKER: মিঃ চৌধুরী, আপুনি দুই একজনের জন্য একটা Community কে দোষী সাব্যস্ত করেছেন কেন?

Shri ABDUL JALIL CHOUDHURY (Badarpur): অধ্যক্ষ মহাশয়, আসামের মুসলমান, অমুসলমান জাতবৃন্দ সকল যে সাম্প্রদায়িক নয় ইহা আসামের জন গণ শিলচরের এই ঘটনার পর সম্পূর্ণ প্রমাণ করে দিয়াছেন। মহাশয়! আপনি শুনিলে অবাক হবেন। কাছাড়ে আজও এমন শত

শত গ্রাম পড়িয়া রহিয়াছে বাহারা শিলচরে কি ঘটিয়াছে বলিতে পারে কেবল গোঁজব শুনিয়াছে যে, শিলচরে একটি দাঙ্গা হইয়া কয়েকজন মারা গিয়াছে । শিলচরের ঘটনা শিলচর টাউন ও তাহার পার্শ্ববর্তী কয়েকটি গ্রামের মধ্যে সীমা বদ্ধ । করিমগঞ্জ মহকুমায় ও এমনসব দুর্বৃত্তদের অভাব নেই তথাপিও আমরা স্থানীয় হিন্দু-মুসলিম নেতৃস্থানীয় লোক সমবেত ভাবে বলে দিয়েছি যে, আমাদের এখানে কি হিন্দু কি মুসলমান যে, ব্যক্তি কোন বিসৃঙ্খলার সৃষ্টি করিতে যাইবে অথবা উভয় সম্প্রদায়ের লোক মিলিত ভাবে তাদের দমন করার জন্য আমরা উভয় সম্প্রদায়ের নেতৃবর্গের প্রাণ দিতে হইলেও প্রাণ দিয়া দেশের আভ্যন্তরিন শান্তি বহাল রাখিব । তাই করিমগঞ্জে ইহার কোন প্রতিক্রিয়া দেখা দেয় নাই । শিলচরের নেতৃবর্গ যদি এইভাবে বাহির হইয়া পড়িতেন তবে আমার বিষয়টি এত বেশ গভীত না । মহোদয় ! এখন কাছাড়ের সমস্ত লোক এই কথা প্রমাণ করে দিয়াছে যে, আমরা কাছাড়বাসী হিন্দু মুসলমান সাম্প্রদায়িক নই কিন্তু আমাদের মধ্যে যে, কতিপয় সাম্প্রদায়িক লোক আছে দুই একজন বিরোধী দলের নেতা নিজেকে গভীরা তুলার জন্য যখন উপায়ান্তর না পায় তখন সাম্প্রদায়িকতার আশ্রয় লয় । এতে একটি দাঙ্গা সৃষ্টি হয় এই হল ইহার একটি কারণ । ২য় হলো কাছাড় মুসলিমদেরে চালিহা সরকারের আকর্ষণ সমর্থন ; ৩য় বর্তমান মন্ত্রী সভায় দুই জন যোগ্য মুসলমান মন্ত্রী গ্রহণ ; ৪র্থ গণনায় আসামের মুসলমানের সংখ্যা বর্দ্ধন এবং ৫ম হলো কাছাড় পেকেইজ প্রথাম শ্রীযুত চালিহার উদ্বোধন সভায় প্রায় ৩০ সহস্রাধিক জন-সমাবেশে কাছাড়ের মুসলমানদের প্রোগান "চালিহা সরকার জিন্দাবাদ" ইহার খেদ বেইমান ব্যতীত কাছাড়ের কোন ন্যায়পরায়ণ ব্যক্তি আমার এই সব কথা অস্বীকার করিতে পারিবে না ।

কাছাড়ের সহর ও সহর সমতুল্য গ্রামসমূহে ন্যায়পরায়ণ অমুসলমানের মুখেও শুনা যায় যে, শিলচরের দাঙ্গা পূর্ব পরিকল্পিত । জানি না তাহার মূলে কি আমি বলতে পারি না তবে এইবার উক্ত পূজা উপলক্ষে যে, জুলুস বাহির হয়েছে এত বড় জুলুস ইতি পূর্বে এই উপলক্ষে কখন ও হয় নাই বলে, লোকে বলে । ইহা ছাড়া সহরের জুলুস বাহির হয়ে একটি নির্দিষ্ট গ্রামের দিকে মেহেরপুর "রাঙ্গিরখাড়া"র দিকে যায় অথচ শিলচর পুলিশের জানা স্বত্বেও পুলিশের কোন উদ্বিধান তাহাদের সঙ্গে নাই । আবার এই সব লোকেই সেই নির্দিষ্ট গ্রাম হইতে সহরে ফিরিয়া আসে এবং আসিয়া এক সম্প্রদায়ের উপর মুক্তিভঙ্গের অভিযোগ দিয়া সহরের উশুঙ্খল যুবকদেরে উস্কাইয়া নিরাপরাধ ৫ জন মুসলমানকে ঘটনা স্থলে সহিদ করে ফেলে তথাপিও উক্ত সম্প্রদায়ের মধ্যে উত্তেজনা দেখা যায় নাই ।

আমি মাননীয় মুখ্য মন্ত্রী হইতে জানিতে চাই (১) উক্ত ঘটনায় কোন সম্প্রদায়ের কতজন লোক মারা গিয়াছে (২) ৩১ জানুয়ারী ঘটনার দিন রাত্রে পুলিশের প্রথাম উদ্ধতন কর্মচারী দ্বারা বহুত থাকাসত্বে ও শিলচর পুলিশ ইহা কার্য্যকরী করে নাই কেন ? (৩) আজ পর্যন্ত উক্ত ঘটনায় পরিপেক্ষীতে কোন সম্প্রদায়ের কতজন প্রাণ হইয়াছে ।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়; ইহাই হইতে আপনি অনুমান করতে পারবেন এই দাঙ্গা কি ভাবে এবং কেনন করে সম্প্রসারিত, হইল ।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়! শিলচরের ঘটনার পর মেথী গাওঁ যে ঘটনা ঘটয়াছে ইহা যে, আমি ঘণার চক্ষে দেখিতেছি এবং প্রতিবাদ করিতেছি তা নয় বরং এদের আমি ধর্ম বহির্ভূত বলিয়া মনে করি কারণ একটি লোকের অপরাধে অপরকে মারা এবং এক জায়গার অপরাধে অন্য নিরপরাধ জায়গার ও লোক হইতে প্রতিশোধ

লওয়া কেবল ইসলাম ধর্ম বহির্ভূত এবং প্রত্যেক ধর্ম বহির্ভূত। তাই তাদের এ হেন জন্ম মনোবৃত্তি অভিসম্পাদিত কার্য কলাপের প্রতি প্রতিবাদ, ঘৃণা, কোভ প্রকাশ করিতেছি।

আসামের মুসলমান গণ এখন মন্ত্রী সভার দুই জন মুসলমান মন্ত্রীর পদত্যাগ দাবী করিতে স্থির সিদ্ধান্ত করিয়াছিল কারণ এই দুই জনের দুরূহ একটি সম্প্রদায় সর্বদা অন্যায় ও অবৈধ দোষারূপ সন্দেহ ও অবিশ্বাসের পাত্র হয়ে বিধান সভার ও নিম্নজ্জ ভাষার লক্ষিত হইতে থাকিব ইহা তোষ্ঠা সম্প্রদায় নিরবে কেন বরদাস্ত করিবে; কিন্তু বর্তমান জরুরী অবস্থার মধ্যে পদত্যাগের দাবী কদাচ উচিত নহে বলে আমরা আসাম ও কাছাড়ের মুসলিম নেতৃবর্গ বিবেচনা করেছেন বলে আজ সমাজ নিরবে এই সব দোষারূপ সহ্য করিতেছে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, প্রতিরক্ষা সম্পর্কে দুইটি কথা বলিতে চাই। বর্তমান এই আপদকালীন সময়ে পুলিশের সহযোগে জাতীয় সম্পদরক্ষার্থে যে দক্ষতার পরিচয় দিয়াছে তাহাদের উন্নতির জন্য আরও বিশেষ যত্ন নেওয়া দরকার এবং তাদের আরও শক্তিশালী করা উচিত তাদের শিক্ষা ইত্যাদির জন্য দরকার হইলে বাজেটে আরও অধিক টাকা বরাদ্দ করে গ্রাম রক্ষী বাহিনীর উন্নতি লাভ করা দরকার। কাছাড়ে হোম গার্ড অর্গেনাইজেশন আরম্ভ করা একান্ত প্রয়োজন। আমার মতে কেবল একটি সৈনিক স্কুল দ্বারা সমাজের সমস্ত যুবককে শীঘ্র সৈনিক শিক্ষার ব্যবস্থা হইবে না বরং প্রত্যেকটি শিক্ষা কেন্দ্রে অর্থাৎ স্কুল কলেজে সৈনিক শিক্ষা বাধ্যতা মূলক করা দরকার যে তাতে রাষ্ট্র-ভাষার ব্যবস্থা স্কুলসমূহে গ্রহণ করা হইয়াছে কেন না রাষ্ট্রের ভাষা রক্ষার অনুপাতে রাষ্ট্র রক্ষা যে কত অধিক দরকারী তাহা সকলেই স্বীকার করিবেন। প্রতিরক্ষার ব্যাপারে আমি রাজ্য সরকারকে পরামর্শ দিতে চাই যেন তাহারা নেফার সহিত মিলিত হইয়া এই ব্যবস্থা সুদৃঢ় করা একান্ত কর্তব্য বরং আমার মতে নেফা আসাম ও ত্রীপুরার মিলিত ডিফেন্স ক্ষমতা আমাদের সীমা রক্ষায় ব্যবহার করা দরকার। ইহা কেবল চীনের আক্রমণ প্রতিরোধকল্পে বলিতেছি না বরং পাকিস্তানের সীমা আক্রমণ দমন করিতে হইলেও এই তিনটি শক্তির মিলিত প্রতিরক্ষা শক্তি দেশের জন্য ভাল কার্যকরী হইবে।

মহোদয়, আরও বহু কিছু বলার ছিল সময় খতম; সুযোগ পাইলে বাজেট বক্তৃতায় বলব।

Mr. SPEAKER : You should not make sweeping allegations against a particular community. You may say, "some members of the community" but do not blame the entire community.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been listening to the speeches of the hon. Members with respectful attention, both in support of the motion and also in support of the amendments from this side of the House. The Governor's Address which covers 22 pages is a catalogue of schemes and plans taken up by the Government during the last year. Strangely enough, the Governor has failed to give a clear picture about the achievements and the failures of these schemes. He is silent about the difficulties which he had to face, which the Government had to face, in execution of these various schemes. As regards the achievements, Sir, no one should speak on this floor of the

House but it should be left to the people to judge. The achievements are always felt by the people if they are actually there. But as regards failures, Sir, it is the duty of the Governor and the Government to take this House into confidence and tell the House the reasons for various failures. We are here to help the Government in proper administration and unless we know the difficulties faced by the Government in implementing the various schemes, we have very little to do here. So, it appears that Government do not take the Members into confidence when Government want us to accept their history of achievements and when Government conceal their failures from the Members.

In the year 1953, on the 7th of July Prime Minister Nehru on the floor of the Lok Sabha assured the people with these words "The Government will be guided by the people's will and if the Government makes mistakes it would confess having made them and try to rectify them". But this assurance was never followed by the Government. From the limited experience I gathered here in this House during this one year I have found that the Governors' Address have become progressively formal inspiring no hope and no confidence in the minds of the people. Sir, October, 1962 marks the end of an era in the history of our country. It marks the end of an era where slogans and speeches are considered to be the achievements. It marks the end of an era where only goodwill and not actual effective work was considered to be the real programme of the Government. We have spend 15 years of our Independence and I should say we have spent it not in a manner which is befitting to the dignity and the greatness of this vast country. This 15 years were very precious. This 15 years were utilized by a Government beyond the Himalayas by mobilising its military, human and natural resources to an extent when it has threatened the existence of the entire continent.

Sir, the Governor has referred to the emergency situation and different Civil Defence Organisations. It pains me, like many other hon. Members here to see that the Civil Defence Organisation in this strategic State of Assam has failed miserably. Sometimes I feel that this Civil Defence Organisation in the State of Assam is the weakest in the country. We have enemies in front of us, enemies behind us, enemies to our right, enemies to our left and enemies within us. So, in this peculiar State—in this problem State of Assam the Civil Defence Organisation ought to have been strongest. About Home Guard Organisation, Sir, some of the hon. Members, while speaking on this subject, gave importance to the number and some gave importance to qualities and some gave importance both in the number and qualities. But Sir, I wonder if there is really any Home Guard Organisation worth the name. At the time of recruitment of Home Guard when the scheme was taken up by Government, one gentleman was appointed as Director who is a retired old man. Sir, we know the reason why people are made to retire after serving for a particular period. In this State we have seen that some *ex-M.L.As* and some people who have no initiative to work are forced to work as Home Guard Commandants for political reasons. Those have become political appointments and they have no initiative. While, Sir, going to speak on the failure of the Home Guard Organisation I would like to draw your attention to a letter published in a local paper at Nowgong, viz., *Ganatantra*. This letter was published with the intention of

showing the hollowness of this organisation, because those persons who are put in charge of this organisation have not taken this organisation seriously, earnestly and sincerely. This is the letter, Sir, I have personal knowledge also.

Mr. SPEAKER : You can give the gist of the letter or place the letter on the table of the House.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): I find in this letter that the whole incident has been given clearly.

নগাঁওত হম গাৰ্ড প্রশিক্ষণ—

সম্পাদক ডাঙৰীয়া, দেশৰ জৰুৰীকালীন অবস্থাব কাৰণে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা এই নগাঁও জিলাৰ বিভিন্ন গাঁও সভাৰ জৰিয়তে হম গাৰ্ড প্রশিক্ষণ কালিনত ২৮টকা কৰি বান্ধ দিব আৰু এই জিলা এৰি আন জিলালৈ হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনী চৰকাৰৰ নিৰ্দেশমতে যাব লগা হলে প্ৰতি মাহে ৭৫ টকা কৰি দৰ্শনা দিয়া। হব বুলি জাননী মৰ্মে এই জিলাৰ কলিয়াবৰ, ধিং, জাজৰি, দক্ষিণ পাট, তুলসীমুখ, কামপুৰ, ভোটাৰি গাঁও, মৰি গাঁও আৰু বিভিন্ন গাঁৱৰ তদুপৰি যোৰহাট জিলাৰো মুঠ ২৫০ জন ল'ৰাই হম গাৰ্ডত ভৰ্তি হবলৈ আহে। চৰকাৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা প্ৰাক্তন এম, এল, এ, ডাঙৰীয়া বাম নাথ শৰ্মাই পুলিচ বিজাৰ্ডৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰতি জন ল'ৰাকে জোখ কৰাই আৰু ডাক্তৰৰ দ্বাৰাই পৰীক্ষাও কৰাই। যি সকল ল'ৰা ডাক্তৰৰ বিপট মতে আৰু পুলিছৰ জোখৰ দ্বাৰা হম গাৰ্ডৰ যোগ্যতাৰ সমৰ্থন পালে সেই সকল ল'ৰাই হম গাৰ্ডত আজি ২ মাহৰ আগতে ভৰ্তি হল। সেই মতেই ২৫০ জন ল'ৰাই ২ মাহ ধৰি প্রশিক্ষণ লৈ থকা হয়, মহ গাৰ্ড বাহিনীৰ যুৱক সকলে কিছু দিনৰ পাছত চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি মতে পাব লগীয়া বান্ধ নোপোৱাত হম গাৰ্ড বিভাগৰ অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়া প্ৰাক্তন এম, এল, এ শ্ৰী বাম নাথ শৰ্মা। দেৱক লগ ধৰি কোৱা হয়। শৰ্মা ডাঙৰীয়াইয়ো হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনাক আশ্বাস দি কয় যে এই বিষয়ে জিলা উপায়ুক্তক চৰকাৰলৈ তোমালোকৰ দিব লগীয়া বান্ধৰ কাৰণে লিখিবলৈ জনাইছে। হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনীয়ে তেখেতৰ আশ্বাসত ধাৰ ধৰি খাই আৰু দুৰৰ ল'ৰা সকলে ভাৱ কৰি থাকি কিছু দিন অপেক্ষা কৰি থাকি মহাজনৰ তগদাত উপায় বিহীন হৈ পুনৰ অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়াক লগ ধৰি সোধাত কয় যে তোমালোকৰ বান্ধৰ যি সংখ্যক টকা চৰকাৰৰ পৰা আহিবলগীয়া তেনে সংখ্যক নহাত পুনৰ উপায়ুক্তক চৰকাৰলৈ লিখিবলৈ কৈছে। যদি ১১।১।৬৩ তাৰিখৰ ভিতৰত কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নহয় মই নিজে শিলংলৈ গৈ ইয়াৰ ভাল ব্যৱস্থা কৰিম। সেই তাৰিখ পাব হৈ যোৱাত কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নোহোৱাত হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনীৰ অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ ওচৰলৈ যোৱা হল কিন্তু অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়াই হম গাৰ্ড তেখেতৰ তালৈ যাবলৈ মানাহে কৰি দিলে। এই বিষয়ে একো কব নোৱাৰো বুলিহে কলে।

অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ পৰা এনে ধৰণৰ হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনীয়ে উত্তৰ পাই জিলা উপায়ুক্ত মহোদয়ক লগ ধৰি হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনীৰ দংখ দুৰ্গতিৰ কথা আৰু অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়াৰ আশ্বাসৰ কথা বিবৰি কোৱা হয়। উপায়ুক্ত অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়াই এই বিষয়ে কোনো আলোচনা কৰা নাই বুলি কয়। যদি চৰকাৰে হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনীক বান্ধ দিম বুলি নজনাই দেশ বন্ধাৰ দায়িত্ব এই গণতন্ত্ৰ দেশৰ সকলো নাগৰিকৰ গাত দায়িত্ব বুলি গাঁও সমূহলৈ নিৰ্দেশ নিদিলে কিয়? হম গাৰ্ড বাহিনীয়ে ধাৰ ধৰি কৰি বৰ্তমানে মহাজনৰ তগদাত উপায়বিহীন হোৱা হৈছে। এনে ধৰণৰ চৰকাৰৰ কৰ্মকৰ্ত্তা সকলৰ নীতিয়ে ভবিষ্যত দেশক কোন ফালে গতি কৰাই কব পৰা টান হব।

This is a very serious incident. Now, Sir, you can imagine the repercussion that will have in the villages, the reactions when we go to Home Guards for defence purposes, when we want to inspire the young-men to join in Home Guards. If these things are allowed to go on in the name of the Home Guard Organisation. When these people go back to villages and relate their experience, what reactions will have in the minds of the people. These people wanted me to accompany them to the Deputy Commissioner. I refused to do so. Because it may be interpreted by my political enemies as political manoeuvre. So far my friends in this side are concerned, they are very serious since the beginning of the Emergency. All my colleagues, hon. Members in this side have sincerely offered their services at the disposal of the Government and they did it seriously, but the hon. Members of the Ruling party opposite have most shamelessly used this opportunity in mobilising their verdict. Sir, I now come to the most blackest spot of the history of this generation, i.e., Tezpur evacuation. The Government has made a mass of it. It is not a matter of a particular political party. I am convinced that was a most important event. The whole town with 50 to 60 thousand people had been evacuated under Government order leaving their hearth and homes seeking shelter in different areas. It is a thing which can be compared with any such event in international history.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Does the hon. Member want to mean that such evacuation took place only in this country, as the hon. Member mentions that this has created an international history?

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): The hon. Leader of the House has misunderstood me. It can be compared to any such international incident. That was my statement. Now, Sir, here instead of taking the people into confidence the responsible persons attempted to conceal the actual state of affairs from the public. It is nobody's personal affair. It is not an affair belonging to a particular party. I would like now to refer to an open letter by Shri Biswadev Sarma. It was widely circulated. I will read out some important portions of it.

Mr. SPEAKER: It cannot be allowed to read out papers and report in delivering speeches. If you give the gist of the letter, it is alright. Otherwise, you can place the letter on the table of the House. You should also feel that you are taking your own time. You might be in a position to speak on some important subjects.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI : Sir, I am reading out some important portion of the letter.

1st para. "After explaining the whole situation at Tezpur as to what happened on 19th and 20th November last, I expected that you would with all fairness clarify this evacuation order passed by Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed and Mr. K. P. Tripathi which resulted in complete paralysis of both Central and State Administration at Tezpur for two days 20th and 21st November. I thought that as a true Congressman and a believer in truth you will take the people into confidence who till the last moment showed the courage unbelievable under these circumstances."

2nd para. "I immediately rang you up at Shillong while you were busy in cabinet meeting and told you to come down to Tezpur immediately. Later Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed told me that due to my request they had to cancel the cabinet meeting and came to Tezpur."

Last three para. "You have admitted before Dheborji that you were not consulted before order of evacuation. The evacuation order, as shown to me by the Deputy Commissioner, was meant for women and children, then why the Ministers fled away? To whose care they left the people at Tezpur, to the Chinese or to the Pakistani Muslims, you must answer this.

The State Government headed by you Mr. Chaliha keeping away all these from the outside world in order to justify that the actions of the two Ministers may not come to light. But truth will emerge out of itself. Until these two Ministers are dismissed, you have not right to take any steps on any officer under you or the Central Government. They are not only cowards, they are traitors to the Nation.

The people of India know that in spite of all my help I was not allowed to see the Prime Minister by Mr. Chaliha and Mr. Tripathi who are now busy in white washing the whole episode. The people of Tezpur will never forget this and they are determined not only to fight the Chinese but to fight the home enemies also may what come."

Sir, Mr. Sarma did not know that public memory is very short and I must say, Mr. Sarma's memory is also to short because he has withdrawn his letter. After all it has done the harm. The letter of Mr. Sarma is very important to the people in the sense that the Chief Minister himself has admitted that Mr. Sarma was doing good work at Tezpur in organising public during the emergency and he was taken into confidence and this is evident from the fact that even the cabinet meeting had to be cancelled after receiving a telephonic message from Mr. Sarma. He was the man who was most trusted so far as Tezpur organisation was concerned. Sir, we have now seen what has happened to him.

After that the Chief Minister made a public statement and in the statement he admitted that everything was done according to the direction of the Central Government. Now, again, Sir, there was a news published in the Statesman Paper on the 6th January and that was a statement made by K. P. Tripathi who wanted us to believe that the prisoners at Tezpur jail were released only to find out room for accommodation of the Chinese who were arrested on that day. It is strange. Are we to believe that such a huge number of Chinese were arrested on that day for which prisoners numbering about 160 had to be released just to find out accommodation?

Mr. SPEAKER: On which date?

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): On 20th November. Now, Sir, the Chief Minister also in a statement wanted us to believe that when the removal of the records was possible, currency could not be removed because there was no means of communication from Tezpur to some other safe place, when the bank and currency notes could be

brought from Bomdila to Nowgong, currency from Tezpur could not be removed to Nowgong. These are the things which the Chief Minister and other Ministers wanted the conscious public to believe. Besides, the statements of the different Ministers were contradictory on vital points. Sir, I think it is a very serious thing and not only I myself but the people have taken it seriously.

Now, Sir, many things have been spoken about the Pakistani infiltration. I sometime feel that some of the Members belonging to a particular community become very sensitive when we talk about Pakistani infiltration. This is not a communal matter but a national matter as referred by the hon. Member Shri Omeo Kumar Das the other day. People talk about it with great alarm. They have not forgotten the past history I do not like to repeat it. There was a time when 99 per cent people of that community behaved in a way which created suspicion in the minds of others who wanted independence of this country. But these people were not patriotic. They did not consider themselves to be citizens of India. After the Independence also this suspicion is still fresh in the minds of the people about the behaviour of some of the people I must say 99 per cent of the people of that community. May we not expect the leaders of that particular community to be very careful in their movement, in their talk and in their way of doing things. The hon. Member, Shri Umaruddin went to the extent of defending Pakistani infiltration in a clear way. This really gives some room for suspicion. Why should the fact which has been admitted by Government be challenged by the hon. Member on the floor of the House. Not only that he went to the extent of challenging the statement of the Chief Minister. This is very strange.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): The hon. Member also challenged my statement a few minutes back.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): I do not belong to his party but Mr. Umaruddin belongs to his party.

Mr. SPEAKER: Whenever an hon. Member speaks, he speaks on his own behalf and not on behalf of the party.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI: But in a democracy party counts. Mr. Umaruddin went to the extent of challenging the increase of population.

MAHAMMED UMARUDDIN (Dhubri): He has misunderstood me.

Mr. SPEAKER: You have no right to misunderstand an hon. Member.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI: This is what I understood. The population of Assam has increased by 33.40 per cent. If we look into the census figure of certain districts in Pakistan, say Mymensingh, we will see that the population there has increased by only 21 per cent.

Now, if the Muslim population here is increased to a great extent in natural course of events, in Pakistan also—say in Mymensingh, Rangpur and other places of Bengal, this population must increase to some extent. But it does not increase in the same ratio as in other parts of East Pakistan. Sir we should not confuse the Pakistani infiltration problem as communal problem. When we talk of Pakistani infiltration, we talk about infiltration only. But when members belonging to a particular community come before this House with defensive arguments, then it causes some doubts and naturally it should cause. Sir, may I request the Chief Minister to find out the statistic, regarding the number of offences committed by Muslims against Hindus in this State and the number of offences committed by Hindus against Muslim.

Shri MAHAMMED UMARUDDIN (Dhubri) : What sort of offences ?

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat) : Criminal offences such as tresspasses, kidnapping, murders, decoities and the like. If the Chief Minister collects the data, definitely he will see that though the Muslims are in minority, offences committed by them in this State against the Hindus are major.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member, without placing facts before this House, is bringing serious allegation against a particular community of this State. I wonder whether it is proper for an honourable to make such a statement without placing proper facts. I am raising this both as a point of order as well as a matter of propriety also.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Goswami, you have just made a statement that the offences committed by the Muslims against Hindus are greater than the offences committed by the Hindus against the Muslim in this State. From what data you have made this statement ?

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI : This is from my personal experience.

Mr. SPEAKER : Personal experience must be based on certain facts. So, what are your facts ?

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI : This is from my personal experience, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : I quite agree with the Chief Minister that such kinds of allegations brought by hon. Members against one community or other do not serve any purpose and also do not serve the cause for which these arguments are advanced. At the same time it creates some amount of ill-feeling and disaffection between communities and communities. Mr. Goswami has failed to satisfy me with sufficient facts in support of his observations. Therefore, I order expunction of this portion of his speech from the proceedings. In this connection I request the hon. Members that a delicate issue like this should be dealt with carefully. We all want that communal unity and harmony always find first place in our national life. Therefore, our action and utterances must not be in such a manner which may disturb them. I have heard with some

amount of pain from many of the hon. Members who had taken part in the debate speaking about communal disturbances and at times they have crossed the limit in placing the blame on one community or the other and have been using this platform and the right of their freedom of speech which the constitution guarantees rather very liberally. This must not be done. We may not come under the Defence of India Rules for making a speech in this House, but we should remember that whatever our utterances may be inside the House have also something to do outside. Therefore, we must not say some thing here which may create some amount of defeatism in the minds the of people or which may weaken even indirectly our war efforts and disturb the process of integration of our country. I am quite one with the Chief Minister that in future such speeches should not be made by the hon. Members.

Actually, I was thinking that some hon. Members raised this point, and I was surprised that none of them had done it. So, I am glad and grateful to the Chief Minister for raising this point, and has given me an opportunity to express my opinion to this very vital issue.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Sir, my intention was not to create any communal feeling. I wanted to conclude by saying that from all this there is an apprehension of breach of peace in the minds of a particular community. So, I want to appeal the leaders that there should be an attempt to go into the interior and into the villages and a joint tour should be organised. We should try to rectify the wrong which has been done. I want to tell the House the origin of this communal feeling and suspicion in the minds of our people regarding this trouble. So, Sir, I think we should not become too much sensitive. Any action of a criminal offence should not be given a communal colour. There are criminals amongst Hindus and Muslims. There may be more criminal in a particular community. But when

Mr. SPEAKER: I have already expunged your speech. So, you need not give any further explanation to defend yourself.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI I expect that all the right thinking citizen and right thinking Members of this House to find out the right cause of this thing. In the last Budget Session also much time was taken by the Pakistani infiltration where we also created a bad atmosphere on the floor of this House which reflected outside also. So, we should try to speak carefully. Any talk of communism and casticism should be avoided. That is why I have been talking about this problem. We are here to find out the disease for the past happenings.

Mr. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 2 P.M. for lunch.

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

After Lunch

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI Sir, Assam is going to face a grave danger

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): On a point of clarification Sir, I was not present in the House when the hon. Member delivered his speech in the morning, but I am sorry to observe that he, in course of the speech, used my open letter to the Chief Minister which I have already withdrawn—a fact which has been admitted by the hon. Member himself. I, therefore, seek your protection and suggest that a convention should be set so that such a letter, once it is withdrawn, should not be read out in the House by any hon. Member.

Mr. SPEAKER: Alright, I shall look into it.

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Sir, Assam is going to face a grave danger after signing of border pact in between China and Pakistan. In Assam we have two sets of people owing extra-territorial allegiance. Looking to the figures given by the Government itself, we find that in Assam we have 3 lakhs of Pakistani infiltrators. Naturally, therefore, Sir, there are Pakistani agents here in India and their recognised friends, the Communists who also owe allegiance to foreign countries. We all know the nature of our communist friends—they always fish in troubled water. When Pakistan is our doubtful friend who has been causing a lot of anxiety and creating a lot of trouble to the entire country, specially to this State of Assam all these years, it is only natural therefore that as soon as an opportunity presents itself they will join hands with our open and declared enemy China. The Communists having allegiance to China and the Pakistani infiltrators and their harbourers owing allegiance to Pakistan will certainly combine and make a common cause against Assam and India. Now, Government should take a serious note of it. I personally do not see much difference between the two elements having allegiance to foreign countries. They may be put into the same basket with two different colours—one red and the other green. I also fail to understand how Government can make any distinction between the two groups of the Communists. One group of Communists owes allegiance to China and the other group owes allegiance to Russia. But when Russia and China will sit together to compromise their differences in the name of international communism, their differences will disappear. Sir, when we have a look back to their past history, we find that when in India we were crying the slogan in 1941-42 that we should not give our support to the last great war, our Communist friends gave a slogan entirely different from that of ours, they were giving the slogans that that war was the People's War and they sided entirely with America and Great Britain. Now, Sir, should we be at all surprised if we see the past history repeated once again, and these Communist friends make a common cause with the Pakistani infiltrators inside the State of Assam with a view to give advantage to the Communist China to occupy India. I hope our Government will take this matter very seriously, more seriously than even the Chinese aggression. Because, Sir, we now know the Chinese and their evil intention, they have made an open aggression into our country and we are up with arms to fight them. But this is not so with regard to the Pakistani infiltrators. These infiltrators are not open to public gaze so much as to their quiet and silent sympathisers and co-religionists. Nor has the Government declared a war against them as against the Chinese; they have their supporters and sympathisers inside this country with whose help and co-operation they silently creep into this country and quietly settle down unnoticed and unknown. So, Sir, when our open enemies, the Chinese, want to create confusion and chaos inside this country, they will be easily able to do so.

and all our efforts to give resistance to the Chinese will be of no avail. Another important point to which I would like to refer is about the distinction that has been made by our Government between the pro-Chinese and pro-Russian groups. We must clearly understand that there is no pro-Indian Communists, none of the Communist groups in India owe allegiance to this country; they are either pro-Chinese or pro-Russian—a fact which has been made clear by those Communists themselves who have recently been let off in the hope that they would help the war efforts and identify with the interest common to us all. Some of the Communists came to Shillong in a deputation and met the Chief Secretary of the Government and demanded from him certain facilities to their counterparts inside the jails. What does it show? It shows that even those Communists who had been let off as loyal to the country's cause still have no prickle of conscience to accept those Communists inside the jails as their own party members. This clearly proves the fact that whatever distinction the Government might make amongst the Communists they are in fact one and the same party without any difference whatsoever amongst them. Pro-Chinese and pro-Communist Russian they put on are only a part of Communist technique to camouflage their real intention with a view to hoodwink the lay people, and we must be careful about it.

Sir, so far as NEFA is concerned, I am not very much concerned at this moment as to whether NEFA is integrated with Assam or not. But I very seriously feel that the people of NEFA are nearer to Assam. So, when I think of integration of NEFA with any part of India, naturally I feel that it can be done only by integrating NEFA with Assam. We sometime feel that the people of NEFA are foreigners to us; Government have closed the door of NEFA to the people of Assam but the Government has not closed the door of NEFA towards the Himalayas. We are prevented as a result from going towards NEFA but the NEFA people can very easily go to Tibet and mix up with the Chinese living on that side of the border. When the population problem has drawn the attention of the people all over the world, when all the countries are in search of open space it is natural for these countries the main problem of which is over population, to try to find out open space for the surplus population. The density of population in NEFA is 10 per Sq. mile while that in Assam is 252 per sq. mile. For countries where density of population is a vital problem, it is natural to have an eye on NEFA. Will it not be unwise on our part to think that when there are large unoccupied tracts of land in NEFA, any practical-minded country, whose population problem is a vital problem, will not have an eye on NEFA? For the purpose of finding accommodation for their increased population they may at any moment come to NEFA and occupy those vacant areas. So, our interest should be to utilise these lands and other resources of NEFA for the benefit of the country. If we neglect to do so, other countries with more practical ideas will certainly come forward to utilise them. That is why, Sir, I am concerned with making NEFA vitally a part of India. Till now I feel we did not take enough steps towards that direction. When the Government of India will think in these terms, the question of integration of NEFA with Assam will come automatically. So, let the Central Government decide first and let this House press upon the Central Government to change their entire NEFA policy and abolish the present distinction between the I. A. S. and I. F. A. S. We should bring the administration of NEFA in line with the rest of India. Sometimes we find that the officers in NEFA are confused, they do not know their real function. They seem to think they have been posted there to

preserve the old custom and traditions of the NEFA people. Sir, Government have given too much importance to the old customs and traditions of the NEFA people. Customs and traditions are things that change according to enlightenment. We do not now observe many of the old customs and traditions that our forefathers observed. Similar change of ideas must take place in NEFA with the light of progress. Suitable environment should be created so that there is a thirst in the NEFA people for modernisation, to pursue a modern way of life. Unless we do that NEFA cannot be improved. When the NEFA people will see that the modern life is better than their present way of living, they will certainly change their old customs and traditions as we have done. So, Sir, my whole appeal is for modernisation of NEFA. Of course, due importance should be given to their customs and traditions but whole stress should not be on them alone.

Sir, unemployment is taking a serious turn in Assam. From the Census report we find that the number of unemployed youths both in urban and rural areas has increased. This problem shall have to be faced with practical ideas. From the Planning Commission's Report issued recently, we find that 33 per cent of the Indian people will live in starvation condition in 2000 A. D. This is really a very alarming situation, we have human materials, we have natural resources, we have land resources, if NEFA is considered as a part of Assam.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Is the hon. Member referring to F. A. O. figures or the Planning Commission's figures?

Shri LAKSHMI PRASAD GOSWAMI (Laharighat): Planning Commission's figures. This report was published in the Statesman. The report said that the Planning Commission had lately been devoting thought to the question how long it would take before every Indian would have at least enough to eat. Below that in headline it was stated that 33 per cent of Indians to be below bread-line in 2000 A. D. This was published in the Statesman dated 28th January 1963. Now, Sir, we should give serious thought about our unemployed youths scattered in town and villages of Assam. No amount of propaganda will help unless we can tackle this problem, and improve the economic condition of our people.

Sir, with these few words I appeal to the Government to create an atmosphere of urgency in this State. D. I. Rules will not help us unless we use these rules in making the people work more for the benefit of this State and for the benefit of the country as a whole.

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH (Sonai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks moved by my friend Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwalla on the Governor's Address.

The Government has devoted as many as 8 pages to narrate the various defence measures taken by the Government in response to the Chinese aggression. The civil defence measures are very appropriate and timely. Many hon. Members have spoken about them at some length and I have nothing more to add. Simply I would like to refer that our Government have been kind enough to take some beneficial measures relating to the Jawans as regards land settlement, educational facilities for their children and so on. This is very encouraging for the new recruits, Sir. The Governor has referred that our Assamese people had given hospitality to the

NEFA evacuees. In our recent NEFA tour, we were told by the NEFA people that they had been very much impressed by the hospitality of their Assamese brothers and sisters. This is really a matter of pride for the people of Assam. In our last tour we got the impression that the NEFA people were more inclined to abolish the Inner Line System, which they think, is inimical to the social and economic relationship between the Assamese and the NEFA people. According to them, the NEFA people and the Indians came from the same stock. The Indians are known to them as "Herrings" or "Highlongs".

The Apatanis and Dufflas and also Indians according to them, are of the same origin, they are three brothers. The Indians are more advanced because they live in the plains and so they get ample scope to develop themselves through the art of writing in banana leaves. These people desire that they should be linked up with Assam socially and economically.

Sir, the Governor mentioned that the Chinese aggression brought us an unprecedented unity and integration amongst our people. It is really very encouraging thing for the internal development of the country, but the recent incident in Silchar gave a serious set back to our national unity which our leaders are so earnestly trying to bring. Sir, when all the people of India are progressing towards National unity and National integration, the people of Silchar are retreating back to the old hated communal feelings. It is really very disgraceful and humiliating for the people of Silchar.

But, Sir, the people of Silchar are generally known as most hospitable and polite people for long ages. There was never any trouble, never any disturbance, there was no hostility in the history of Cachar except for the last few years. The Union Home Minister also referred to this issue and said that he was very much disturbed over this issue. So, I feel that there must be some defects and we must endeavour to find out these defects so that these may be rectified without delay. Shri Omeo Kumar Das also referred to this matter and pointed out that there must be some defects which must be found out by and on the spot study for rectification. I quite agree with him.

Sir, so far as this particular incident is concerned, I may say that the people of Cachar did not even dream that in such an auspicious day like Sri Panchami, such an ugly incident would occur. Apart from this sacred observation, the people were very much enthusiastic to receive the V.I.Ps. in connection with the Package Programme and they were in a mood of satisfaction for the whole week. The people of Cachar had a great enthusiasm for this programme and there was an unprecedented gathering in the inauguration meeting. In this peaceful atmosphere, this unhappy incident occurred. Therefore the people have some suspicion as to how this eventually could happen. Therefore, the question is whether it was motivated or whether it was a spontaneous. This is a very difficult question to answer. However, it can be easily presumed why a particular set of people, and more particularly a leader like Zilani Sahib who is most respected and who is extremely popular amongst all the communities of Cachar could be victimised.

Why this leading personality was searched out from a house where he was given shelter and why he was chased away like anything even upto the hospital chamber where he was admitted as wounded breaking the hospital doors and furnitures and why his last life was attempted to be taken away even inside the hospital chamber ?

Sir, in this issue, I must say that there must be some motives. Sir, the Chinese are our greatest enemies, but even the Chinese have shown some hospitality towards the wounded Jawans who were captured. We are told they were shown adequate hospitality. Sir, I will like to refer to a particular question that the procession took place from 3 P.M. and continued till 8 P.M. and in some places upto 10 P.M. There was no Golmal, there was no disturbance and there was no obstruction upto 8 P.M. But as soon as a processionist truck carrying a particular person proceeding towards Meherpur from the town returned, this riot took place.

Mr. SPEAKER : Your time is up.

Shri PULAKESHI SINGH (Sonai) : Sir, I want a few minutes more. Sir, so far I know this particular truck proceeded from Bilpar. This particular man had his wife in the front seat but on his way to Meherpur village got his wife down from the truck. After a few minutes the truck returned, with his return suddenly rumours spread that Hindu processionists have been pelted and assaulted. From this incident it may be inferred that this was motivated otherwise why only one community had been victimised. That particular man is none but the powerful dictator of the Cachar Sangram Parishad who caused havoc and panicky in the district last year.

Sir, I want to refer to another point. The subsequent repercussion in Betukandi and in other parts is very painful and disgraceful where many innocent people were victimised. I feel for the victims. I therefore suggest that these people should be properly rehabilitated at an early date.

Sir, Rangirkhari area is a place where there is legalised prostitute whereas in no towns of the State legalised prostitution is allowed. I request, Sir, that, this legalised prostitution should be removed as early as possible.

Then, Sir, Rangirkhari is a place where various other kinds of mischief usually take place. So, there should be a police out-post there.

Then, Sir, in the Governor's speech it has been mentioned that 25,000 home guards will be recruited and 18,000 has already been recruited all over the State, but it is a pity that not a single man has been recruited as yet in the district of Cachar. Cachar is a problem district and so in this district there should be recruitment of home guards as early as possible which would help to solve the problems somehow.

Another thing I want to point out is that the number of Commissioners for the State has been increased and so one of them should be placed in Cachar alone without tagging any hill district with it.

Another point I want to say is that in the heart of the town we have got a cattle market where the people all over the district come for sale and purchase of cattle. This cattle market should be removed to a suburb area.

Next, Sir, I want to suggest is this. During the last Sangram movement also I have found that hooliganism cannot be rooted out because of our officials being biased. Many of our officials are biased, specially those in the C.I.D. branch of the police. So, my humble suggestion is that such officials with biased mind should not be placed there and instead C I. D. officials should be recruited from outside the State. In my constituency an incident of stabbing took place and as soon as it was reported to the police out post to investigate this case, but when the police officer found that the persons responsible for the incident were against his choice he began to make delay in taking up the matter. Before he submitted his report military force like S. R. P. came to the spot. This is the mentality of our officials.

With these few words, Sir, I fully support the Motion of my friend Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwala.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in this debate on the Governor's address. I also thank them for their criticisms as well as valuable speeches which they have made in course of their speeches. I find that about 41 hon. Members participated in this debate and they covered quite a large number of subjects. It will be my sincere endeavour to the points referred to in the course of the debate to the best of my ability. I however submit that I am not quite sure whether it would be possible for me within the time limit to touch each and every point although I will endeavour to do so. I tried to follow the debate with all the attention it deserves although unfortunately at time I had to go out when my colleagues kept notes of the debate at my request. I have gone through the notes as well as the proceedings. Therefore I can assure the hon. Members that the views expressed by them have been taken into consideration. I must congratulate the hon. Members for expressing their opinion very frankly and I value their criticisms also because I take it that the criticisms are well intentioned, their object is to draw the attention of the Government on various deficiencies and mistakes. I also consider this to be a very good opportunity for me to place before this House the Government view points on various matters.

Sir, the country as a whole has been passing through a difficult period. We are the inhabitants of a frontier State and our difficulties are more. Our difficulties are more because of the natural calamities and because we happen to belong to the eastern-most corner of the country where the aggression has taken place. You must have heard various speeches given by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and he has been trying to impress on us that the danger is not over. I personally feel that the danger is more now. In such a difficult situation the hon. Members will appreciate the amount of strain we have put on the administration, why on the administration alone, on the increase of population of the State as a whole. In spite of that I am glad that the people are rising to the occasion and I am very grateful to the labour population of the State. The way they have been maintaining peace, the way they have been doing their work and the manner in which they have been contributing to the National Defence Fund are really exemplary. It is only the other day we got a contribution of Rs.750 from some tea garden population. This amount was saved by the labour population by forgoing the monthly cinema shows which they used to have every

month before. Since the emergency started they told the management that they wanted to forgo the usual cinema shows and the saving thus derived should go to the National Defence Fund. This is a very inspiring example of a section of our population whom we have all the time ignored in our society. Sir, I am very glad that some of the hon. Members have mentioned about the Government servant. The Governor's address did not make any mention about the Government servant because we thought that by doing so the Government wanted to claim some credit for it. I am very glad indeed to hear from some hon. Members about the very hard and sincere work done by the Government servant in a very loyal manner throughout the State during this period of emergency. Similarly, with all the respect I must say that the political parties of our State also are behaving in a very exemplary manner.

They have unity of purpose which they have shown and their efforts for the Defence measures wherever possible. These are also very encouraging signs. There is some criticisms that we have been utilising some of these National Defence measures for the purpose of strengthening political ends. I will talk on this subject later on but I do not believe that this statement has been made very seriously.

Similarly our agriculturists who suffered terribly during the year 1962 on account of the two devastating floods. Our State had never such floods during the course of last fifty years. To tell you frankly, I made an aerial survey of the second flood and I thought that perhaps all the people have been washed away. That was the impression which I got and you have seen from the Governor's speech the colossal destruction which these floods have brought to our agriculturists. Crops valued at not less than Rs. 23 crores have been damaged or lost. Subsequently also, the terrible effect of the insects, particularly in the district of Cachar as well as in North Lakhimpur, may be in other places also, damaged considerably. But in spite of that our people have not lost heart. They have been exerting fully. Hon. Members have said here—the hon. Member from Patanchakuchi stated that vegetables are being grown extensively. So far as vegetables are concerned, the problem of marketing has come. Therefore, Sir, these are indications of a very healthy society, a very healthy State. But unfortunately the happenings of Cachar had saddened our hearts. I am very glad that this communal trouble in Cachar has received unanimous condemnation from this House. I also feel that our people as a whole irrespective of caste, creed, or community, are very good people, really good people. I feel very proud of our people whether Hindus, Muslims, people of Cachar or North Lakhimpur. They are really very good people and the sinful acts are not resorted by the general people. These sinful acts are resorted to may be by a handful of destructive elements, frustrative elements, communal elements whom we have to suppress ruthlessly without any sympathy for them and we have to suppress them definitely with the strongest hand. Sir, in this connection I feel that we have also a duty and that duty has also to be discharged. We have to exercise great restraint in our speeches whether inside the House or outside the House. Unless that restraint is not there, wanting, I will perhaps not be wrong to say that we may even be responsible for flaring up communal riots in the State. To tell you very frankly, I was sad to hear some of the speeches delivered in this House and I am very glad that you took notice of some of the speeches and you have also advised the hon. Members about it.

Now, Sir, the most important question before the country is defence. One part of it is of course not without our scope, I mean, the military part. I have no doubt that whatever is possible is being done by the Government of India or by the Defence Ministry in that behalf. The other part which falls on us, I mean, the Civil Defence part is linked with production of both agricultural and industrial goods. The other connected part is of course within our jurisdiction and we have to strengthen these measures very effectively and as fast as possible. We are a poor State, our country is also a poor country. Therefore may be that many things which we have to do will have to be done very inadequately. There is no alternative for it. Therefore, whether it is the home-guards or other civil defence matters, we must be prepared to do with whatever resources that may be available. So far as the defence condition of our State is concerned, since some years past on account of successive demands on the public exchequer just to save the people of Assam, well the condition of the present State it will be known to you from the Finance Minister the day when he presents the Budget for the ensuing year. Now, Sir, I fully agree that whether it is home-guards or the Defence Committees or the Revenue Advisory Council, these have to be strengthened considerably and for that purpose we have to provide equipments, we have to provide arms and financial resources also, transport and various other things which we shall have to provide. We hope that for all these measures necessary assistance from the Government of India would be forthcoming. So far as the Civil Defence is concerned, particularly we have been assured by the Government of India that they would bear the expenses. With regard to home guards also the other day when I had a talk with the Union Home Minister, he told me that our case would be favourably considered. I hope with these resources forthcoming, we shall be able to develop these organisations to the standard which we have in mind.

Very valuable services have been rendered by the Village Defence organisations when the emergency started. It was possible for the Government to cover up our lines of communications like railways, post and telegraph and the bridges with the help of the village defence parties and their services are really commendable and I hope that my views are shared by the other hon. Members of this House also.

Sir, here it may be appropriate on my part to reply to some of the criticisms with regard to undue privileges alleged to have been given to the Congress Party in our State. Sir, I would place everything before the hon. Members and I am quite certain I will be able to satisfy them that we have done nothing for the Congress party in our State and that we have not taken any advantage of the situation to strengthen the Congress Party. It is true that in the Subdivisional Defence Committees the Secretaries, of course were nominated from the Congress Party. Sir, as you would understand that we did not mean that people from other parties should not be included. In any case, the party which is in power has a special responsibility also. Therefore, it is true that in the matter of nominating the Secretaries we nominated were, I suppose, mostly from Congress Party.

The other allegation that we have given special privileges to the visitors belonging to the Congress Party who have come to Assam and denied those privileges to the leaders of other parties. Sir, that is not correct; we have not done so. If any Congress M.P.s came here at their

own initiative and at their own arrangements, if Circuit House accommodation was available they availed of it and we have done nothing more for them. Therefore, Sir, the hon. Members know that the Public Accounts Committee, the Accountant General is there and all the organisations are there and we shall be able to satisfy all these organisation that we have not done anything for the Congress Party.

The hon. Members have rightly emphasised the need of greater recruitment from the people of this State to the Defence Services. That is a matter we have already taken up with the Defence Minister and we have been assured that recruitment from Assam will be increased. I would request the hon. Members to encourage our people to join the Defence forces.

Sir, I fully agree with the hon. Member, Shri Omeo Kumar Das that we have not been able to do enough in the matter of collection of National Defence Fund and other investments. It is true, and there are reasons also. We got so much involved in the emergency situation, as we fell in the front line of this attack and also with other matters that we had no time or leisure to give our attention to this collection. But I fully agree with the hon. Member that we did not want to be held in an inferior position in India by failing to discharge our duties in the matter of National Defence. Therefore, I would appeal to everybody in our State to intensify the Defence Fund collections.

This question of Pakistani infiltration has been engaging the attention of the House as well as of the country for some time. Naturally with this emergency situation our attention to this subject is drawn more. Therefore, I would like to apprise the hon. Members with regard to the measures which have been taken. But, Sir, with your permission I would not like to disclose the figures as to the number of people we have deported and some figures which in my opinion it will not be fair in the public interest to disclose. But I shall be prepared to place these figures before you and you would appreciate the undesirability of disclosing these figures at this time.

The hon. Members are aware of the background of this problem. Therefore I will not go to the background. Now, with regard to the estimated figure of Pakistani people who are staying in our State without authority, we come to a certain figure. Similarly the Government of India have also arrived at a certain figure. I place before this august House that we estimate the figure to be below 3 lakhs. Similarly Government of India announced in the Parliament that the number is estimated at about 3 lakhs. Sir, this figure is contested on one side by some people that the estimated figure is much more. On the other side it is contested that this figure is much lower. Now, what is the correct figure. I admit that whatever figures we have arrived at and have to be placed before the august House is a figure arrived at on an indirect estimate. My hon. friend Shri Umar Uddin gave some indications and I think he is right in wondering as to how we arrived at. For the time being so far as we are concerned we stick to this figure. Now, the point is whether it is 3 lakhs, 2 lakhs or 1 lakh or 10 thousand, the fact remains that there are Pakistani people who are staying in the State without authority and they will have to go.

If they are more than that, they have to go. Sir, certain measures have already been taken and I would like to tell this august House what are those measures. Now what is the set up of organisation for tackling this problem. The set up of Assam Police for this purpose is like this.

Seventy-three B. O. Ps of the Border Security force constituted the 1st line of operation against Pak infiltration. Border Security Force personnel carried out normal patrols to check violation of the Indo-Pak border and undertook intensive patrolling to check infiltration of Pak nationals. This line of action is more for prevention than detection of Pak infiltrants in Assam.

The second line of operation against the Pak infiltration centres round 26 Patrol Posts near the border between the B. O. Ps of the Border Security Force and the nearest police stations. These Patrol Posts carry out preventive patrols as well as detection of existing infiltrants in Assam. The work of these patrol posts is handicapped due to non-availability of suitable motor boats. Efforts to make improvised country boats are continuing.

The Police Station which forms the very basis of Police work is also the nerve centre of operations against Pak infiltration. This work has, however, caused tremendous strain on the already overworked Police Station staff and it will not be possible to carry on this extra burden, particularly in preponderately large Muslim pockets of Cachar, Goalpara, Kamrup, Nowgong, Darrang and Lakhimpur districts.

The District Special Branch which has been reinforced by extra hands bears the brunt of operations against Pak infiltration. Collection of intelligence, planning and directing operations at Police Stations and Patrol Posts, scrutiny of reports received from officers at various levels, issue of quit India notices under Section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 and finally issue of orders under Section 11(3) of the Foreigners Act for deportation of Pak infiltrants are done by the District Special Branch.

The Special Branch at the C. I. D. Headquarters and the confidential Branch of the Inspector General of Police's office are responsible for communicating Government orders, supervision of operations against Pak infiltration in the districts, enquiries into innumerable complaints most of them frivolous from Pak nationals and other interested parties, examination of various points of law which crop up from time to time and preparation of materials against cases taken to the High Court or to the Supreme Court by parties concerned. It has already been indicated that the Assam Police carried on operations against Pak infiltration for several years without any extra staff and when some staff was created specifically for this purpose, bodies were just not available without denuding already overworked Police Stations of Assam. Now in 1962 some additional staff was sanctioned by the Government of India. Hon. Member, Shri Dulal Chandra Barua complained that those posts have not been filled up. I would like to explain the position. For this special work, a raw man recruited straightaway will be of no use. Therefore, we have to draw people from the existing Police staff. We cannot draw them wholesale from the Police stations by denuding the Police stations. Therefore, it took some time to fill up these posts, in search of experienced people. We have

promoted large number of people. For example by promoting Assistant Sub-Inspector's to Sub-Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors to Inspectors and so on. We have done the maximum that is possible, but in spite of that it took time for us to fill up all these posts and we have filled 80 per cent of these posts. The rest would be filled up shortly. Sir, in this connection I beg to submit that we have to carry on these works with the maximum co-operation with the Government of India. The Government of India issues instructions from time to time and we have to follow these instructions also. Therefore, I feel that we are on a right track. I share the worries and anxieties of the hon. Members about the undesirability of allowing these unauthorised people to live in this State, more particularly at a time like this. I share their view fully and also can assure them that we shall do the maximum that is possible. This is not a communal question. It is an economic question and it is more a question of security, but in our explanations and in our dealings we should behave in such a way that it does not degenerate into a communal problem. This is my submission to the hon. Members. Our senior hon. Member Shri Omeo Kumar Das has rightly stated yesterday that this is a delicate problem. It is delicate because of various reasons. Therefore I would request this august House to have confidence on us and I can assure them that we would tackle this problem affectively.

Sir, the question of North-East Frontier Agency since the emergency started or the Chinese aggression started has received serious attention of every man of this State. There are various suggestions in this behalf. One suggestion is that North-East Frontier Agency administration and Assam administration should integrate. I would in this connection refer to the resolution which was passed by this august House when the Nagaland Bill was considered. The resolution was "This Assembly is of the opinion that in the interest of national solidarity and also with a view to bringing about a co-ordinated development and better political stability of the eastern region of India there should an integrated political and administrative set-up of the various units within this area and that nothing should be done which may have an effect of weakening this unity.

Sir, I would like to view this matter from another angle. This administrative integration is an artificial thing. We should not bother where the line of boundary would be or about the jurisdiction of a particular officer of an administration. It is something artificial. What I mean is something still more deeper. One thing is certain that the fate and destiny of the diverse population inhabited in North Eastern Frontier Agency and as is tied together. If Chinese would have come they would have subordinate the people of plains as well as the people of the hills, the Bengalis, the Assamese, the Hindus the Muslims and everybody. Therefore, we have to bring home to the diverse population living in different parts of this region that, look here your destiny is tied together. If we are to live together, if we are to be stronger, we have to be united. We have to be united not merely through some artificial means of administrative intergration, but through integration of human relationship. That is very important and for that purpose what measures have to be adopted and how it has to be achieved. The first thing what is wanted is the integration of the human elements. Let us for the time being forget about administrative integration. Let us consider whether really we want this integration of come this diverse population or not,

If you want this, if you are really for it then, in my opinion, the first thing that is necessary which has to be cultivated is the mutual respect for all persons, for their language, custom and for everything. If you want to have it then forget all about the district boundaries administrative boundaries and the hostile elements who by firing a few shots of rifles debar people from entering into a particular region. It may be that if we try to establish contact it may mean some sacrifice of lives. But even then some contact is necessary. I do not worry now-a-days like my friend, the Leader of the Opposition, about this artificial administrative integration. Supposing that administrative integration is brought about but some people look to the east and some others look to the west what that administrative integration would mean? As against that if we can improve our relationship and bring about mutual respect for every man, for every language, custom and for everything, that will be a real integration and that alone will make us strong. Therefore, I want to tell this august House that I am having some discussions in this regard with the Governor and I am very thankful to him that he has been discussing this matter and he has been permitting as many people as possible who offer to visit North East Frontier Agency during these days. Of course, there are certain difficulties, difficulties of transport, accommodation and all. In some cases the problem has been acute.

Sir, it is the desire of every body that Assam should be developed—why Assam the entire North-Eastern region should be developed. I have already expressed my views as to how we can form a strong base. One aspect is of course, that whatever deficiencies exist today in this region, whether the deficiency of rail transport, air transport or water transport, have to be removed by undertaking suitable development plans. The deficiencies of industries and so on and so forth have to be removed, by undertaking suitable development projects. But the other aspect, which is no less important, is the human element. So long as the people do not unite, as long as they do not realise that their destiny is tied together and so long as the people do not forget and forgive, you cannot form a strong base by having some roads and improved communication and other development works. But these are, of course, very important. Recently I have visited Mizo district. The work that will have to be done in that district to bring it at least to the lowest standard of some other districts will be colossal. After my visit to that district my respect for the people of that district has grown because of various things. It is really a fine society. The people there are respectful and kind and are very systematic. I was surprised to see how an ordinary cultivator from a village presented his case before me in a very precise manner. He spoke neither a word less nor more. I feel strongly that it is high time that these backward districts should be developed and I have brought this matter to the notice of the Government of India that we shall have to go beyond our plan for developing these areas. The reasons why I have mentioned about this are two. First, if there is a sense of dissatisfaction and grievance because nothing has been done for them, they will feel that justice has been done, and if there is such a feeling, there cannot be integration. Therefore, this development question is very important.

Sir, with regard to the food situation, as I have said before, floods and insects have lowered the production of cereals in our State. So far as I remember our normal production of food is 16 lakh tons which came down to only 14.90 lakhs last year. This short-fall will have to be met from the assistance of the Government of India; whom we have already moved.

Generally speaking, trading community in our State at the time of emergency behaved well. There are odd cases who did not behave properly but generally speaking they behaved properly.

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA: On a point of information, Sir, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has not mentioned anything about the drought for which crops were damaged in many places such as Hojai, Mangaldai.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): The hon. Member is quite right. Quite a large area suffered due to drought. I am sorry for the omission.

Now, Sir, with regard to Tezpur situation I issued a statement some time in December in which I tried to explain the position. If you permit me, Sir, I would like to read out a few points from the statement just to refresh the memory of the hon Members. I am sorry, I could not issue the statement before for one reason. I had to mention in the statement some matters which contained in a top secret circular of the Government of India. I had to seek the permission of the Government of India before making any reference about it. This is what I said in the statement "I have been greatly pained and distressed by news items and articles in certain newspapers regarding the events and incidents, that took place at Tezpur on 19th to 21st November. Various baseless and completely unfounded allegations have been made both against the people and the local administration. It is singularly regrettable and unfortunate that even during this period of emergency, certain motivated sections have sought to malign the people and administration so uncharitably and unjustifiedly. I would like to stress with all emphasis that the people and administration of Tezpur behaved in an exemplary manner in the face of a very grave and serious situation. It is easy to be critical in retrospect from a distance but the extraordinary circumstances and developments that faced Tezpur on that fateful day should not be forgotten.

As is generally known, a grave threat to Tezpur developed on the 20th November, and there was danger of enemy occupation of this area. The people were warned by public announcement, of the serious situation and facilities for evacuation, particularly for women, children, the sick and the infirm were arranged to the south bank where necessary arrangements were made for their reception, transport and accommodation. Whatever the wording of this announcement, in the context of the extraordinary circumstances prevailing at the time and the grave peril that faced the area, this announcement was interpreted, and in my opinion quite reasonably, as advice for general evacuation. Accordingly most people of the town moved out in a smooth and orderly manner and were crossed by steamers to the south bank. The movement of thousands of people, including thousands of uprooted people from the North-Eastern Frontier Agency area across the river in a few hours, without any confusion, mishap or dislocation is a matter of great credit for which we can legitimately be very proud. A very small section of urban population stayed on in the town; some possibly because they did not appreciate the gravity of the situation while others because of their courage and conviction, for which they deserve our fullest admiration. A group of young men were of invaluable assistance to the local administration during this critical period. Evacuation and reoccupation are contingencies of war and the courage, fortitude and the strength with which people bear them determines the strength of the nation. Government, therefore, phrases both those who remained behind and those who evacuated in such orderly manner.

Side by side, certain steps were taken by the local administration fully in line with the Central Government's instructions in the event of such an emergency developing. The movement of records, the destruction of currency and the like were all part of such instructions and were very far from being the result of any panic or confusion. The impression that the officers generally ran-away is quite incorrect. What happened was under these Central Government instructions, there was withdrawal of non-essential administrative staff under threat of imminent enemy occupation. The skeleton staff and the top and important officials of the district remained and they continued to function throughout. The two State Ministers and a Deputy Central Minister who were in Tezpur that day remained till mid-night making all necessary arrangements for Tezpur and then travelled to Gauhati via Mangaldai on the North Bank to apprise the position to the Union Home Minister who was arriving the next morning. The exaggerated and undue importance focussed and put on these matters and on the jail-break and release of mental patients have tended to obscure the great courage and fortitude shown by the people, members of the Government and officers in an unprecedented situation. Essential utilities like electricity, waters supply, ferry and transport continued to function effectively throughout.

The news item that mental patients were all let out is completely wrong, because as many as 643 inmates of the mental hospital remained and were well looked after by the Superintendent and some of the staff of the mental hospital, who remained at their posts throughout. In view of the emergency, it was decided to release 179 prisoners convicted of minor offences and under trial prisoners. Unfortunately while the above categories were being released, on the morning of the 21st, a number of other convicts escaped taking advantage of the shortage of staff. Immediately after the situation changed on the morning of 21st November, a number of steps and actions were taken to restore normalcy as soon as possible and the top officials of the district such as the Commissioner, the New Deputy Commissioner, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Superintendent of Police, Additional District Magistrates and others, who remained at their posts, throughout this critical period, were able to effect such normalcy most expeditiously. A number of non-officials and organisations were also of very great assistance during this period.

In the light of our experiences in Tezpur, the State Government impressed on the Government of India the necessity of revising the instructions, and we are glad that they have done so. It would be extremely uncharitable and unfair to blame the people or local administration for what happened and I wish to state unequivocally that both the administration and particularly the people of Tezpur and its environs faced and dealt with an extremely grave and dangerous situation with rare courage and fortitude.

Lastly, I would request the patriotic people of Tezpur to remain undeterred by unwarranted allegations and criticisms indulged in by certain sections because their performances in this hour of crisis has received high commendations from various responsible and knowledgeable quarters. I would appeal to them to continue and intensify their efforts towards the cause of victory".

Sir, these are the things that we have to report. Now, the question which has often been raised by people as to why the two Ministers ran away from Tezpur on the day of evacuation of Tezpur, is that they had to go to

Mangaldai and then to Gauhati to meet the Union Home Minister on the next day. They remained at Tezpur upto midnight and then they left for Mangaldai. Another question raised is why the currency of the State Bank of Tezpur was destroyed and not removed. I like to say in this connection that the currency notes were destroyed according to the instructions given by the Government of India and as the situation demanded. We have received certain other complaints in connection with the Tezpur Evacuation. We have been greatly distressed to find some news items published in some News Papers like Hindusthan Standard and others regarding certain incidents of Tezpur Evacuation. We got all these enquired into except some items in connection with stealing of some charred and torn notes by a Peon of the State Bank of India. The Peon collected about Rs.500 worth notes. He was arrested and the case is still going on. This case is not only enquired into by our officers only, but it is enquired into by the Government of India organisation also. We have already been given the clear report on the subject. So, this is with regard to the currency. Now, Sir, these are the questions which our honourable members wanted to know and these are the cases which were registered at Tezpur. Sir, all told 17 cases were registered from 20th to 28th November 1962, out of which one is at Dalgaon Police Station, 2 at Soota Police Station, 2 at Dhekiajuli Police Station and the rest at Tezpur Police Station. There were cases of dacoities both by the Hindus as well as by the Muslims. In all cases of theft, most of the stolen property were recovered. What was reported to be a rape case, which was given wide publicity by some people was found to be baseless. The case was thoroughly enquired into and it was found to be false. So, Sir, this is the position about the particular case of Tezpur.

Shri SANTIRANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Mr. Speaker, Sir on a point of information. Sir, may I know from the Honourable Chief Minister who organised those thousands of people who crossed the Brahmaputra from Dhing and Nowgong side to Dhekiajuli and other parts of Darrang District on 21st November 1962 and what steps have been taken against them?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, Order I would request the hon. Member to allow Chief Minister to carry on with his speech uninterruptedly, as was decided earlier in the morning.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Hon. Member Shri Rathindra Nath Sen mentioned the other day about the Embankment and Drainage Organisation in the district of Cachar, amongst other things.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj North): Particularly Silchar Sub-division.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Although the hon. Member did not mention in so many words, his contention was that since that particular department, i. e., the Embankment and Drainage Organisation in Cachar is in-charge of a Muslim Minister, the department had been manipulated in such a way that it had become a Muslim predominant department. I therefore obtained all the figures with regard to the number of employees, number of contractors and so on, and the position is like this.

There are two Class 1 officers in the two Divisions of this department Embankment and Drainage General and Embankment and Drainage Investigations. One of the two officers is a Hindu and the other is Muslim.

Class II Officers : All told, there are 10 officers out of which 7 are Hindu and 3 are Muslim.

Grade III.—219 Hindus and 65 Muslims.

Grade IV.—280 Hindus, 71 Muslims and 19 Scheduled Tribes.

So out of the total of 594 employees, 445 are Hindus, 130 Muslims and 19 Scheduled Tribes. This is the position.

I have also got the number of contractors. There are 481 registered contractors in this Division out of which 257 are Hindus and 222 are Muslims and two Tribals. Out of them works were allotted during the 1962-1963 to 267 Hindu contractors and 147 Muslim contractors and two Tribal contractors. Sir, this is the position with regard to the allegation brought before the House by the hon. Member Shri Rathindra Nath Sen.

Shri RATHINDRA NATH SEN (Karimganj North) : For the information of the hon. Leader of the House, Sir, while speaking about the causes leading to the unfortunate happening at Silchar that took place recently, I referred to the Embankment and Drainage Division in particular and not to the district as a whole.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : I do not have the figures of Silchar separately. There are two Divisions of the department, Embankment and Drainage General and Embankment and Drainage Investigations. I do not follow exactly what the hon. Member wants.

Sir, the hon. Member Shri Omeo Kumar Das referred to certain matters with regard to the State Electricity Board, as well as some other departments also. As the questions raised by him are of some importance, I would like to take up the points raised by him.

With regard to the State Electricity Board the hon. Member mentioned that this Board had not been constituted according to the law. Sir, this is the law : The Assam State Electricity Board is constituted by the State Government according to Sec. 4 of the Electricity Supply Act, 1948, and the qualifications of the members are as per Sub-Section 4 (a).

4(a) "One shall be a person who has experience of, and has shown capacity in commercial matters and administration."

The Chairman of the Assam State Electricity Board, as the hon. Members are aware, is Shri B. C. Kapur, I. A. S., who has administrative experience of a considerably long period to his credit. The Chairman of the following Boards are also members of the I. C. S./I. A. S. Cadre.

(1) Andhra, (2) Bihar, (3) Gujrat, (4) Orissa, (5) Madhya Pradesh, (6) Maharashtra

(7) Rajasthan (8) Uttar Pradesh and (9) West Bengal.

(b) "One shall be an electrical engineer with wide experience."

Here also, Sir, Shri H. B. Gupta is an Electrical Engineer with wide experience. Before becoming a Chief Engineer in the Punjab State Electricity Board, he was incharge of the designs of the Bhakra Project Electrical System.

The Chief Engineers of the following Electricity Boards are the technical members of the State Electricity Boards:

Andhra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Mysore, West Bengal, Gujarat and Orissa.

4(c) "One shall be a person who has experience of accounting and financial matters in a public utility undertaking, Preferably an electricity supply undertaking."

The Finance Secretary is a member of the Board and has wide experience in financial matters.

The Finance Secretary to the Government in the following Electricity Boards is a member of the Board:

Andhra, Mysore, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar.

It would thus appear that the practice being followed regarding the constitution of the State Electricity Board is the one which is the most prevalent throughout the country. With regard to this, however, I fully appreciate that if we had much more experienced officers either in accounts or with regard to electricity matters, it would have been still better. As is known to the hon. Members of this august House, the question of finding suitable people is a very difficult one in our country at the moment. If we get more experienced people, we will certainly have them. I however cannot agree with the hon. Member that the Act has not been followed in our State.

Sir, the other question raised by the hon. Member is about obtaining or substituting the Umtyngar Thermal Project. These are the reasons for which the State Electricity Board took that position.

The scheme was estimated to cost Rs.193.13 lakhs out of which a provision of only Rs.59.50 lakhs was made in the Second Five Year Plan as most of the equipment was to be supplied on deferred terms basis. Only a small amount was spent on this project before the formation of the Board, for preliminary investigations. The Board decided to give up this project and take up the Umiam Hydel Project for the following reasons:—

(a) The project was to have two generating sets 3000 KW, out of which about 2000 to 2500 KW would be taken up by the Cement Factory.

- (b) Another 1500 KW would be consumed in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills District primarily at Shillong.
- (c) In case the Rope Way scheme is also taken up then this would have consumed about another 500 KW.

Therefore, there was inadequate power for taking up further industrial projects in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills and practically required amount is not available for reinforcing Umtru or Gauhati Zone.

Further the cost of generation was expected to be Rs.10.7 nP. per unit taking Umtynagar Project separately and therefore was more or less double of the present tariff at which power would have been supplied to the Cement Factory. The Board would have lost Rs.12 lakhs per annum on the average supplying power to the Cement Factory along.

The Scheme was to run Umtynagar and Umtru as an inter-connected scheme. The quantity of power available from Umtynagar for the Gauhati Zone was so limited that it was hardly worthwhile to connect it with Umtru with a cost of approximately Rs.52 lakhs which is a disproportionate transmission liability.

The Project was entirely dependent on Khasi coal which has high percentage of sulphur which is very hard on the boilers. Further the coal available in the Cherrapunjee area has not been fully surveyed making the regular coal supply for the cement factory as well as the Steam generating station uncertain. The increase in price of coal would have made the project even more uneconomic.

The scheme was not included in the hard core of the Second Five Year Plan with the result that there was no certainty of adequate Foreign Exchange for the implementation of the Umtynagar Project.

The Board therefore decided to take up the Umiyam Hydro Electric Project in place of the Umtynagar thermal Project. It was however ensured that there should be no delay in increasing the power availability in the State due to the inevitable delay in completion of hydro electric project, by insisting that the Refinery Authorities should provide two generating sets of 3000 KW each. The State Government had committed itself to supply power to the Refinery and this would have been done from Umtru-Umtynagar system. The Board has thus secured the proposed installed capacity from Umtynagar and Gauhati as well as the inclusion of a new major Hydro Electric Project in the State.

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Dhekiajuli): Sir the cost of generation in Umiyam is higher than the Umtynagar. Some of the facts obtained by the State Electricity Board are not correct. We have already a line from Cherrapunjee on grid system. Both Umiyam and Umtynagar were taken up in the year 1955-56. So I suppose that some mistakes must be there. I therefore submit that this whole matter should be investigated by experts. I have no reliance on the able administrative officer because we have already seen some bunglings.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Sir, I do not agree with the contention of the hon. Member because it is not the Indian Administrative Office alone, there is the Central Water and Power Commission which examine and scrutinise the whole scheme. Without the approval of the Central Water and Power Commission, not a single pie can be spent.

Now Sir, with regard to Kapili Project, I may tell the hon. Members that the investigation of this project was taken up by the Central Water and Power Commission in the year 1955. The Project report has been drawn up. But there has been a difference of opinion about one technical matter. The difference of opinion arises whether the Dam will be concrete Dam or a Rockfill Dam. Some foreign experts are coming in the month of April to give their opinion on this matter. So there is no question of abandoning the Kapili Project. It will naturally take some time for completion.

Sir, it is very unfortunate that in the whole of India so far as power generation is concerned, we are the poorest. Andhra may also be equally poor, but she is still better than us. Now what is the reason for this? The reason for this is that all other States of India except West Bengal did not have to suffer the consequence of the Partition. So far as we are concerned, immediately after the Independence, the partition itself poured so many serious problems to the State. Resources available for us was meagre and you can well imagine that our first plan was only for about 21 crores. With that 21 crores it was not possible for us to take up bigger projects. Now it is true that if the State has to develop, then the power potentiality has to be harnessed and the power generation has to be increased. For this purpose I feel that in course of coming years we shall have to go for still bigger projects and exploit all the possible resources. So far as the State Electricity Boards is concerned there may be defects here and there. No organisation can be perfect. But I have an impression in my mind that the State Electricity Board is trying to do its best to develop power in our State. Of course whatever difficulties are pointed out will have to be rectified.

The hon. Member also mentioned about certain revenue matters. We fully agree that lot of anomalies which exist today in the matter of settlement of land have to be removed. In the course of last few years against the encroachers steps have been taken under the Land Revenue Regulation and this policy is being pursued and will be pursued further. I will check up to see whether there are any pending cases of Tezpur for cancellation of annual pattas. These are figures from Tezpur. In all we have received 213 cases for cancellation of annual patta and out of them 224 cases have been disposed of and now the number of pending cases is only 8 and the Revenue Minister will look after the pending cases. I remember on the last occasion when the hon. member referred to this subject there was a large number of cases that were pending and now the position is clear that only 8 cases are pending.

Sir, hon. Member, Shri Madhusudan Das pointed out about the oil royalty question. I hope Shri Das has gone through the award fully and so far as we are concerned, the Governor has mentioned in his speech, we feel that this is a fair award and we are indeed very thankful to the Prime

Minister for undertaking the trouble in this respect. We are sorry that we had to trouble him for this, but we had no alternative when there was difference of opinion between the Oil Minister and the State Minister on the subject.

Hon. Shri Madhusudhan Das mentioned about certain allegation against one person in Barpeta. I have made note of it and will get the matter investigated. I have since called for information also about it.

Hon. Shri Omco Kumar Das mentioned about the necessity of giving assistance to the people of Misamari who on account of concentration of Defence Forces felt great difficulty to stay there. I have made note of it and will see what can be done.

Sir, the State Transport came into criticism particularly in the route to Jowai and Dawki and in some other places. This was brought to my notice when I visited Jewai on my way to Cachar on the last occasion. Since then I find enough improvement has been effected. Real difficulty lies in replacement of vehicles. We shall see that good vehicles are placed there. Hon. Members should appreciate that supply of new vehicles are restricted by the Defence authority. Now most of these vehicles are Tata Mercedes and Leylands and they have been requisitioned by the Defence authority. But we shall see that things improve.

Hon. Dr. Choudhury mentioned about the necessity of strengthening the number of staff in the lower category than in the number of Sub-Deputy Collectors and Block Development Officer's in his area. I fully agree that strengthening of such type of officers would not help much. But I must say that top officials particularly when posted in the district at the time of emergency and in normal times can handle things effectively because they can give a lot of guidance to the district officers when necessary and when there is no time to take the approval of the Government. So, we shall see that more such officials are placed at places where necessary during the time of emergency.

Now, Sir, with your permission I would like to deal with some individual question raised by hon. Members one by one. (The Speaker: What about the map where Dibrugarh has been shown in the north bank,) I will bring this matter to the notice of the proper authority.

With regard to the selling of vegetable the question was raised by Dr Choudhury as well as by Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi. There has been considerable increase in the production this year as a measure of emergency taken up by the Agriculture Department.

The question of early purchase of vegetables at Shillong, Tezpur and Gauhati has been taken up by the Agriculture Department with the Army authorities. It is expected that the cultivators would be in a position to get a fair return from the vegetables sold by them.

Shri Santi Ranjan Das Gupta: Mentioned in his speech about the movement of some Muslim people from Nowgong side to Tezpur and other places during the period of evacuation. According to information which I have received no Muslim from South Bank went to Tezpur or Dhekiajuli during that time, i. e. on November 20th or 21st. There was a rumour that some Muslims went to Dhekiajuli side but this was found to be not true.

Sir, a question was raised by Shri Tajuddin Ahmed regarding the Bhagnamari P. G. R. The Bhagnamari P. G. R. in Kamrup District was constituted with a total area of 28,444B—4 K—16 L. of land. Of these, an area of 2,567B—1K—16 L have since been eroded 2,409B—4K—6L has been completely damaged by sand deposit and 6,955B—2K—9 L are under water. Thus, it is seen that only 16512B—0K—1L is available for the purpose of grazing. During the recent years an area of 10047B—1K—3L of land was accreted to the reserve. Of this accreted area, 1811B—0K—4L of land has again been eroded, 3551B—0K—7L of land is yet sandy and unfit for either cultivation or grazing. However, 4685B—0K—14L of land is grassy and fit for both cultivation and grazing.

Sanction to the allotment of only 4,000 bighas suitable for cultivation was accorded on 21st April 1961 to the erosion effected landless and other landless people of Gauhati and Barpeta Subdivisions. It was ordered that allotment should not exceed 8 bighas of land (including homestead) per family. Settlement is to be made on annual basis. The Subdivisional Officer Gauhati did not give the settlement as ordered and suggested on 28th April 1961 that the said area of 4,000 bighas should be included in the grazing reserve in the interest of the cattle population of the locality. Government on 28th December 1961 upheld the previous Government decision regarding the settlement of the land and Subdivisional Officer, Kamrup was asked to make the settlement as already instructed. The allotment list submitted by the Subdivisional Officer, Kamrup to Deputy Commissioner was found defective and the Deputy Commissioner asked him on 29th November 1962 to make further verification of the list.

A new list of persons for allotment of land according to Government orders already issued has been asked to be prepared. The officer has also been asked to consult the Land settlement Advisory Board before final settlement of the land report to Government in due course.

Now, another question raised was about the Brahmaputra dyke. The Brahmaputra dyke from Silghat to Dhing is 36 miles in length. Due to erosion, construction of a retirement of the dyke for the portion from near about mile post 29 to butt against Dhing Bhuragaon Road near Dalaigaon has been taken up this year. Earthwork of the retirement for a length of about 9 miles has already been completed. Due to public opposition the remaining 9,000 ft. towards Silghat could not yet be completed. However, it has been decided to complete the remaining portion by taking along a village path to butt against the dyke at Mile 30¼ instead of at mile 29. The work is under progress and will be completed before the rainy season. In addition to this, closing of breaches occurred during 1962 floods in the reaches between (i) Chainage 73,300 to 73,510, (ii) Chainage 89,835 to 90,160 (iii) Chainage 10,400 to 10,800 has been done by charging the cost to estimates of restoration of flood damage. Further, it is proposed to raise and strengthen the dyke at an estimated cost of Rs. 7 lakhs during 1962-63.

Sir, the hon. Member Shri Dulal Chandra Barua in course of his speech mentioned about settlement of land with some Pakistanis in Dhrukuakhana Mouza. It is true that Shri Barua did complain to me about this and certain enquiries were made. Shri Barua now says that that enquiry is not dependable. The Police did not enquire into the matter properly. All that I can tell him is that I shall get the matter re-enquired by a responsible officer.

Another question which Shri Barua made was relating to something said by a Dufla Kataki in the Lohit Frontier Division. I checked with the Commissioner of N. E. F. A. The first point which came to light is that there is no Dufla in the Lohit Frontier Division.

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): I know well that there is no Dufla in the Lohit Frontier Division. I referred to local tribal.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): It was mentioned in the proceedings as Dufla Kataki. Sir, in this connection I beg to submit one very important thing. We have to keep in view that whatever is said in this House receives very widespread publicity. There may be some times some statement made by a particular person either in N. E. F. A. or somewhere else but when it is repeated in this House, such statements may become harmful for the country. Therefore, I would request, Sir, to consider whether we can advise the hon. Members about it. I personally feel that in some matters we have to exercise restraint. For example, today I saw some weakness. Well, as Chief Minister or as Bimala Prasad Chaliha this is a time when we should not exhibit our weakness to the outside world. That I suppose will be bad. From that point of view, I would request you to consider whether there is any advice we can give him in this matter.

Sir, Shri Emer on Morin raised the question of depredation by wild elephants in the Garo Hills. It has been ascertained from the Forest Department that they have a regular programme of Mela Chikar for catching wild elephants. In fact the Mela Chikar operation is already in progress in the Garo Hills district.

The hon. Member from Gauhati, Shri Debendra Nath Sarma mentioned rightly, I suppose, about the need of much greater attention for the Gauhati town. Really, Gauhati is posing a large number of problems because of its population which is increasing at such a fast rate. We are feeling very much worried about it. During my last visit to New Delhi also I take up this matter with the Home Minister as well as the Planning Commission. Now, the whole problem is with the Development machinery. This machinery has been created so that they can execute the work. I can assure the hon. Member that the seriousness of this problem has always been in the mind of Government and certainly we shall do whatever circumstances permit us to do.

Sir, about the shortage of seeds for the agricultural operations, the position is that the Department has produced about 7 thousand maunds of Ahu paddy seeds in the seed farms of the State. Normally this is enough to meet the usual requirement of the cultivators. This year, however, there was a programme for extension of about 25,000 acres of Ahu paddy and, as such, arrangements have been made for procurement of additional quantity of seeds as required for this additional area from the registered growers. There is also scarcity of Ahu and Bao seeds due to damage of last crop by extensive flood even in areas where the cultivators normally keep their own seeds. Efforts are being made to collect as much of seeds as possible to meet the requirement. It may be mentioned that the paddy seed will be supplied on loan in areas where Ahu or Bao would be cultivated for the first time. In areas where the crops are already established, seed will be supplied on cost price.

As regards vegetables, the Department had a target of an additional area of 1,500 acres and also an additional area of 1,000 acres for onion and 2,000 acres for potato. The target has already been achieved with regard to vegetable and onion and slightly falls short in regard to potato. Because of over-production in certain areas, there has been localised slump in the price. In order to protect the cultivators from the falling price, the Department negotiated with the army for purchase of vegetables from those areas in particular. Besides, the Department also arranged for marketing of vegetables in Gauhati and Shillong from the areas of over-production.

The hon. Member Mr. Thanhlira raised the question of concession given to the Jawans and Army personnel by exempting them from rent for the duration of emergency. In Mizo District land revenue and house tax are levied by the District Council and if necessary requests to the District Council may be made to allow such concession to the jawans from the Mizo District. Sir, this is a very valuable suggestion and we shall take up this matter with the District Council.

Shri R. THANHLIRA [Aijal-East (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : If it is not possible for the District Council to allow this concession, will the Government bear such concessions ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Sir, I do not think it would involve a heavy financial implication, though the whole thing depends upon the District Council. If the District Councils are in financial difficulty Government will try to help them and we may agree to share a portion of the expenditure in making this concession which will afterwards be taken up with the District Council. That is the whole point.

Shri R. THANHLIRA : Sir, according to the Governor's address the army personnel of other areas are going to be exempted from payment of rent. Would it also apply to the Service personnel from the Mizo District. If it is so why this concession is not applied to the people of the Mizo District who are in the Defence services.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): In my opinion that concession must be uniformly available to all jawans and therefore, Mizo District must get that facility whether it is from the District Council or from the Government or from the both. But for the fact that revenue is drawn by the District Councils there should not be any discrimination so far as the Jawans are concerned.

Sir, the Finance Minister in his Budget speech will apprise the House about the nature of measures taken to effect maximum economy in administration. Some instructions which have been issued as economy measures are placed before the House for information. Instructions have been issued accordingly for economic use of stationery and papers avoiding the use of costly paper and use of papers from old records for making envelopes, for drafts and rough calculations and economic uses of thin papers, carbon papers, stencil papers, etc., and also of trunk calls. Detailed instructions on various points to the different Departments have been issued for economic use of paper and printing, invitations to official functions, meeting, tour programmes and electricity and purchase by Government on civilian account of materials such as woolen goods, etc. The question of reduction in the number of copies of electoral rolls has been under consideration with a view to economise consumption of paper supplied by Government for printing of Electoral Rolls.

Sir, this is about the question by hon. Member Shri Pohshna -- to associate the District Councils and the Regional Councils for the implementation of development schemes for which they have the necessary technical personnel, the Government has during the Third Plan set apart an amount of Rs.75 lakhs to be distributed amongst all the Councils in an area cum-population basis. Certain members of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council from Jowai Subdivision had brought it to the notice of the Government that they were not happy with this grant because their Council had not taken them into confidence regarding the schemes proposed to be implemented in their Subdivision and apprehended that public co-operation which is the soul of these schemes might not be forthcoming when they could not explain to the people the importance of the schemes of which they had no knowledge. This might, therefore, defeat the very purpose of the grant. We wrote to the District Council requesting that the members be kept informed, and also suggesting, in the public interests, that public representatives and social workers be not only kept informed but also consulted in the preparation of the development and welfare schemes for the benefit of the people. The District Council replied that the members had been requested to suggest schemes.

This is another subject, Sir, which was raised by the hon. Member from Jowai. This is the position. The management and control of primary education in United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District is in the hands of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council. The Government transferred to the Council the Government Primary Schools on 1st April 1962. The Government gives grants-in-aid to the District Council to the extent of the existing level of expenditure incurred by the Government for the maintenance of Government Primary Schools, for giving grants-in-aid to Government Aided Primary Schools, for the improvement of Primary education under the control of a District Council and for expansion of Primary Schools as funds may permit annually.

This is another matter which was raised by Mr. Pohshna regarding exploration of coal in Jowai Subdivision. The investigation of Coal in Jowai Subdivision was taken up by the Geological Survey of India last year and a report on the work is still awaited. The work of investigation of limestone deposits near Garampani is at present being carried out by the Geological Survey of India at the instance of the Assam State Electricity Board. The Directorate of Geology and Mining also intends to carry out the prospecting of coal occurrences of the area in the near future. This is the brief information. There is some detailed information which I suppose I need not read out.

Sir, this is another question raised by the hon. Member from Jowai regarding supply of rice at subsidised rate to Jowai Subdivision.

The actual position is as follows: The Rice Transport Subsidy Scheme for the Border areas of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills Districts for the year 1961-63 has already been given effect to from 1st July 1962 for a period of 9 months upto 31st March, 1963. The scheme involves a total expenditure of Rs.3,79,800 out of which Rs.2,61,000 is earmarked for United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and the balance of Rs.1,18,800 for Garo Hills. Supply of rice at subsidised rate is being made only in those centres where the issue price of rice inclusive of transport cost and retailers profit margin is more than Rs.64.31 nP. per quintal. The pool price of subsidised

rice in those centres has also been fixed at Rs 64.31 nP. per quintal. For the next financial year, steps are being taken to call upon the Deputy Commissioners concerned to prepare schemes within the ceilings to be fixed for continuation of the scheme wherever necessary. It may also be mentioned that the pool price of rice in the border areas of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills District has been revised again with effect from 5th January 1963 due to overall increase in the price of rice and paddy in the State. The pool price has been fixed anew at Rs.66.98 nP. per quintal from that date.

Sir, this is about maintenance of price level. Wherever there is rise in price, particularly of rice, our plan is to open fair price shops in those areas and make supply. We propose to maintain this price level by organising fair price shops in those areas. At the moment we have more than 2,000 fair price shops all over the State. In addition to that so far the Gauhati town is concerned as well as Shillong, Dibrugarh and Tezpur are concerned there is a co-operative scheme under which there will be wholesale co-operative stores as well as primary co-operative stores to supply the commodities. Sir, in this connection, I may be permitted to say a few words about procurement. The procurement this year as compared to the last year is better but the rice production itself being poor, the procurement has not come to our expectation. There are many suggestions, even sometimes from very powerful quarters also to revise the procurement policy. We gave our best consideration to this matter and that at least up-till now we do not feel that the revision of the policy would be desirable, because if really the production is poor even if we give it to some agency how the position would improve. That is not likely to improve, moreover that would create more confusion and that would bring a set-back to our Co-operative organisation also.

Sir, the question of flood control measures have received great importance in this debate. We have been making special efforts with the Government of India to do something for the effective flood control. But I am sure that they have given importance to the subject, but the final decision as to what exactly the Government of India would do. But we are pursuing this matter. We realise the necessity of flood control measures and that without something very effective measures for flood control, the economy of the State cannot be stabilised.

Sir, hon. Members Shri Poshna also mentioned about shortage of doctors in various dispensaries. I am really very sorry that it is so. Sir, today we are short of 200 doctors, i.e., 200 posts of doctors we have not been able to fill up because doctors are not available. Therefore, it is true that in many places dispensaries are going without doctors. Sir, actually there are large number of questions which were raised during the debate and I have materials with me to reply but I cannot reply because the time is very short.

Mr. SPEAKER : You have already replied to all the main points.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) : But still there are many points which remain to be replied. But I do not think that the hon. Members will insist on my replying to all the points. Sir, I am thankful to you as well as to all the hon. Members for the patient hearing they have

given. I thank you and the hon. Members on my behalf as well as on behalf of my colleagues for their valuable suggestions. We fully realise that it is a time of emergency and a real emergency. It may be that we are getting used to the situation gradually living in this State and we are not feeling very much concerned about it. But so far as our State is concerned the present situation is a critical one which can be easily imagined and I need not relate about it. On the one hand there is cent per cent Chinese threat and on the other our neighbour is not friendly with us. There is again some unrest in the Nagaland. If there is unrest in the Nagaland, there cannot be any peace in Assam also. Therefore, from all these considerations we are really passing through a critical period. We from our side admit that on many occasions we might have made mistakes or we might have been misunderstood by the hon. Members. But we assure that what we mean is not good for ourselves but for the good of the whole country and the people as a whole. I am sure that if the responsibility is shared by all of us we shall be able to pass through this critical period. Sir, in spite of all the diversities I have mentioned, I feel that the future of Assam is really bright and I have no doubt in my mind about it. Therefore, if anybody says that because of this situation there is no future for Assam, I feel sorry for it. I feel that such pessimistic remarks are very undesirable for the whole of the State and the people.

With these few words I resume my seat.

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Barua, are you going to withdraw your amendment?

Shri DULAL CHANDRA BARUA (Jorhat): No, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: As the hon. Member is not willing to withdraw his amendment, I put the question. The question is "that at the end of the motion moved by Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwalla, relating to the Governor's Address the following may be added:—

1. But this Assembly regrets that the Governor's Address fails to give clear indication of the following:

(a) the reason for failure of Government to tackle the present Pak infiltration problem in the State of Assam.

(b) The present progress of the Kapili Power Project under the 3rd Five Year Plan.

(c) Failure to take up prompt action for complete integration of N.E.F.A. with the Administration of the State of the Assam, in view of popular demand and strategic importance of the area.

(d) the reasons of evacuation and other allied matters which led to chaotic condition in Tezpur on 19th and 20th November, 1962 due to impending danger from enemies.

(e) the present unrest condition of the State due to rising of communal troubles in some parts of the State specially in Cachar District.

(f) the reasons of failure of administration to tackle the unemployment problem in the State.

(g) the reasons for not providing lands to the landless and erosion affected people of the State.

(h) the reasons for failure to organise Civil Defence in the time of need and emergency.

(i) the steps taken by Government to arrest epidemic diseases in the State and steps taken for health education.

(j) the steps taken by Government to introduce new scheme of education both General and Technical keeping in view the present condition of the country.

(The motion was put to vote and it was lost).

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Das Gupta are you going to withdraw your motion?

Shri SANTI RANJAN DAS GUPTA (Lumding): Yes, Sir.

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

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

Shri KHC GEORGE NATH BARBUAH (Aimguri): Yes, Sir.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Madhusudhan Das, Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami, Shri Tajuddin Ahmed, Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha, Shri Tarapada Bhattacharjee, Shri Rothindra Nath Sen, Dr. Homewar Deb Choudhury, Shri Ran pirit Rudrapaul, Shri Ram Prasad Das, Shri Haladhar Uzir, are you going to withdraw your motion?

(Voices—Yes, yes).

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Now I put the main question moved by Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwalla. The question is "that the Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to this House on the 18th February, 1963", be passed.

(The motion was passed).

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 9 A.M. on Friday the 8th March, 1963.

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

