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Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

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

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

No. 27

The 1st April, 1968



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The 1st April, 1968

Proceedings of The Fourth Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled after the Fourth General Elections under the Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution of India

**The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong,
at 10 A.M. on monday, the 1st April, 1968.**

P R E S E N T

**Shri Hareswar Goswami, B. A. (Cal.), M.A. (Cantab.), Barrister
at-Law, Speaker, in the Chair, Eleven Ministers, Six Minis-
ters of State, Three Deputy Ministers and Seventy Five
Members.**

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Re : Match-Splint Factory at Bijni

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

* 241, Will the Minister, Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a quantity of Simalu logs from the buffer stock of the Bijni Match Factory has been misused as fuel and packing materials ?

(b) If so, the loss incurred in this regard ?

(c) What were the circumstances that led to this loss ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that there had been over-stocking of the buffer-stock ?

(e) Whether responsibility has been fixed for the loss in the affairs of the Bijni Match Factory ?

Shri Biswadev Sarma (Minister, Industry) replied :

241. (a) No. The rejected logs were used as fuel for the boiler.

(b) Rupees 6,720.00 p.

(c) In the month of February, 1966 the Forest Department was requested to supply Simalu logs for the Match Splint Factory, Bijni for the year 1966-67 on monthly basis, i. e. 3,000 cft. per month. But the Forest Department had supplied the whole quantity of logs, about 35,918 cft. at a time in spite of the corporation's

advice. So the whole quantity of logs could not be utilised in time and hence about 12,000 cft. of logs dried up and become unsuitable for splint. As such these rejected logs were utilised as fuel for the boiler of the Factory. Therefore, the corporation had to incur a loss of Rs. 1. 50 paise per maund of logs out of the cost price of Rs. 4.00 p. per maund.

(d) No.

(e) Correspondence is being made with the Forest Department in this regard.

Shri Dulal Ghandra Barua : Sir, I want to know who is that expert who prepared the project report before starting the factory ?

Shri Biswadev Sarma : The question is not with regard to the preparation of project report, it is only regarding supply of Simalu logs from the Forest, Depart.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, for setting up of a factory, a project report is generally required, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether it is due to the defective project report that such a heavy loss was incurred ?

Shri Biswadev Sarma : Loss was not incurred due to defective project report.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, is it a fact that no coordination was sought from the Forest Department by the factory ? If so, whether the hon' Minister will see that

there be the coordination between the Forest Department and the factory in future ?

Shri Biswadev Sarma : So far my information goes, the loss is not due to non-coordination of the Forest Department. It is due to the fault of the contractors.

M. Shamsul Huda : Whether the loss was incurred due to delay in supply of logs by the Forest Department ?

Shri Biswadev Sarma : As I have already said, the loss was not due to delay in supplying logs by the Forest Department. The mischief is done to the contradens.

Re : Reserve Forests in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri Bhadreswar Gogoi asked :

* 247. Will the Minister of Forests be pleased to state—

(a) How many Reserve Forests are there in Dibrugarh Sub-division and what are their names ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that some landless cultivators have encroached in some Reserve Forests of the Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

(c) If true, in which Reserve Forest they encroached and since when ?

(d) Does the Government arrange to throw open some lands in Reserve Forests for these encroachers ?

(e) If it is done, in which of the Reserve Forests ?

(f) Did the Government throw open such Reserve Forests in other districts of Assam ?

(g) If it is so, how many Reserve Forests thrown open ?

Shri Ranendra Basumatari (Minister of State, Forests) replied :

247. (a)—Forty-five members. A list of names is placed on the table of the House.

(b)—Some people encroached the Reserve Forest land but it is not known whether they are landless.

(c)—(1) Mesaki, (2) Saikhowa, (3) Tarani, (4) Telpani, (5) Namdang, (6) Jokai, (7) Gali, (8) Poba, (9) Dibru, (10) Deopani Reserved Forests since 1962-63.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—One in Nowgong Division and one in Sibsagar Division.

Shri Bhadreswar Gogoi : বেদখলকাৰী বিলাকে চৰকাৰক জনাই বেদখল কৰে। এই কথা সচানে ?

Shri Ranendra Basumatari : নহয়।

Shri Bhadreswar Gogoi : এতিয়াও বেদখল চলি আছে এই কথা সচানে ?

Shri Ranendra Basumatari : কৰবাত যদি আছে খবৰ পালে ব্যৱস্থা লোৱা হব। যিবিলাক ৰিজার্ভ ফৰেষ্ট বেদখলত আছে তাৰ উচ্ছেদৰ 'অৰ্ডাৰ' দিয়া হৈছে।

Re : Direct Settlement of Fisheries

Shri Atul Chandra Gaswami : asked :

* ২৫৩ মাননীয় মীন মহল বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে অনুগ্রহ কৰি জনাবনে—

- (ক) ১৯৬৬-৬৭ আৰু ১৯৬৭-৬৮ চনত অসমৰ কেইখন ৰাজহ বিল পোনপটীয়া বন্দবস্তী দিয়া হৈছে ? সেই বিল কেইখনৰ নাম কি কি ?
- (খ) পোনপটীয়া বন্দবস্তীৰ পূৰ্বে সেই বিলবোৰ কিমান টকাত বন্দোবস্তী দিয়া হৈছিল আৰু পোনপটীয়াকৈ দিয়াত কিমান টকাত দিয়া হৈছে ?
- (গ) ৰাজহ বিলবোৰ পোনপটীয়া বন্দবস্তী দিয়াৰ কাৰণ কি ?
- (ঘ) ১৯৬৬-৬৭ আৰু ১৯৬৭-৬৮ চনত পোনপটীয়া বন্দবস্তী পোৱা লোক সকলৰ নাম কি ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hajarika (Minister, Fisheries) replied :

২৫ত। (ক)—১৯৬৬-৬৭ চনত ৭ খন আৰু ১৯৬৭-৬৮ চনত ৩৯ খন ৰাজহ বিলৰ ভিতৰত ভূতপূৰ্ব চৰকাৰৰ দিনত ৩৩ খন আৰু চলিত চৰকাৰৰ দিনত ১৩ খন পোনপটীয়াভাৱে বন্দবস্তী দিয়া হয়। উক্ত বিলবোৰৰ নাম আৰু বন্দবস্তী পোৱা লোকসকলৰ নাম, আগৰ বছেৰেকীয়া ৰাজহ আৰু পোনপটীয়াভাৱে বন্দবস্তী দিয়াৰ সময়ত ৰাজহ ইত্যাদি Annexures 'A' আৰু 'B' ত সন্নিবিষ্ট কৰা হৈছে আৰু সদনৰ মেজত ৰখা হৈছে।

(খ) বন্দবস্তী দিয়া বেছিভাগেই মীন সমৰায় সমীতি আৰু এই সমীতিবোৰ অনুসূচিত আৰু অনুমত সম্প্রদায়ৰ লোকেৰে গঠিত। এওঁলোকে ডাকত **বিল পোৱাটো সম্ভৱ নহয়**, কাৰণ ডাকত বিলবোৰ বছেৰেকীয়া মূল্য ব্যক্তিগত ধনী মহলদাৰসকলে অস্বাভাৱিকভাৱে বৃদ্ধি কৰে। ধনী মহাজনসকলৰ ভিতৰত বহুতো ৰাজ্যৰ বাহিৰৰ মানুহো থাকে। ফলত স্থানীয় লোক বঞ্চিত হয়। কেইজন ব্যক্তিগত লোকক দিয়া হৈছিল, কাৰণ এই লোকসকলে মহলদাৰ হৈ থাকোঁতে নানা ধৰণৰ ক্ষতিৰ সন্মুখীন হৈছিল আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ বেছিভাগেই অনুসূচিত আৰু অনুমত সম্প্রদায়ৰ লোক।

(গ) এই বিষয়ে (ক) প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰতেই উল্লেখ কৰা হৈছে।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : কাৰিকুৰী আৰু মেৰবিল কাক দিয়া হৈছে ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazairka : কাৰিকুৰী নন্দিনী ফিচাৰী গ্ৰুপ'ৰ শ্ৰীফনীৰাম নামৰ এজনক দিয়া হৈছে ৮ হাজাৰ টকাত।

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya : গোৱালপাৰা টামবাডা, দলনি আৰু ভীৰা মহল কাক কাক দিয়া হৈছে।

Mr. Speaker : এই প্ৰশ্নটোত এই বিল কেইখনৰ নাম নাই।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : কিছুমান বিল পোনপটীয়া ভাৱে বা ব্যক্তিগত ভাৱে বাইজে বন্দবস্ত কৰি লোৱাৰ কথা চৰকাৰে জানেনে?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : ক'ব নোৱাৰোঁ। কিছুমান বিলৰ মাহ বাইজে মাৰি থাৱ পাৰে যিবিলাক বেজিষ্টাৰ নহয়।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : বাইজে কৰবাত কাৰবাক বন্দবস্তী দিয়া বিল আছেনেকি?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : নাই, যদি কোনোৱে ভিতৰুৱা ভাৱে বেচিছে ক'ব নোৱাৰোঁ।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : ভিতৰুৱা ভাৱে কেনেকৈ বেচা-কিনা হয়?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) : ফিচাৰীবিলাক সাধাৰণতে 'বেজিষ্টাৰড' কিন্তু বহু সময়ত নতুন ফিচাৰী—যেনেকৈ ধৰক নৈয়ে সুতি এৰি দিয়াৰ পিচত হয়; সেইবিলাক বেজিষ্টাৰ নোহোৱালৈকে কত্থু নাথাকে। কোনো কোনো ঠাইত তাৰ স্থানীয় বাইজে তাত মাহ মাৰি থায়।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : গৰঙা ডিফলু ফিচাৰীৰ কথা চৰকাৰে জানেনে?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : স্থানীয় বাইজে মাহ মাৰি থায় বুলি শুনিছোঁ।

Mr. Speaker : Is it a registered fishery?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : নহয়।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : দহ বছৰমান ধৰি এজন মানুহকে লৈ থাকিবলৈ দিয়া হৈছে.....

Mr Speaker : প্ৰশ্নটো আপুনি relevant কৰিব খুজিলে প্ৰথমতে Registered fishery হ'ব লাগিব আৰু তাৰ Settlement চৰকাৰে দিব লাগিব। বাইজে

দিছে—এই কথা প্রাসঙ্গিক নহব। কাজেই আপোনা প্রশ্ন হব লাগিব—‘ফিচাৰী’-খন কিয় বেজিষ্টি নকৰে।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : কিয় এইবিলাক বেজিষ্টি কৰা হোৱা নাই ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : বিপট আহিলেই বিবেচনা কৰি চোৱা হব।

M. Shamsul Huda : ব্যক্তি বিশেষক ব্যক্তিগত হিচাবে কিয় Direct Settlement দিয়া হৈছে। এই পদ্ধতি বন্ধ কৰিব পৰা নাই কিয় ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা চৰকাৰৰ আছে।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : কাৰিকুৰি বিলখন কিয় দিয়া হল Direct Settlement ত আৰু তেনেকৈ দিয়া কিমান বিল আছে ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : কেইখনমান তেনে বিল আছে ; সেই বিলাকৰ পৰা ৰাজহবা খন বৃদ্ধি হব পাবে —আৰু.....

Mr. Speaker : নন্দনী ফিচাৰি গ্ৰুপটোক Direct Settlement দিয়া হৈছেনে নাই ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : হয় দিয়া হৈছে।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : এই কথা আগতে কেৱো নাই কিয় ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : এইবছৰ দিয়া হোৱা নাই, যোৱা বছৰত দিয়া হৈছিল।

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : বিলবিলাকৰ পোনপটীয়া বন্দোবস্তী ব্যক্তিগত মানুহক আৰু সমবায় সমিতিক দিব পৰা যায় বুলি “ফিসাৰী” আইন মতে ব্যৱস্থা আছে। সেই অনুসৰি মীন বিভাগে আগতে তেনেকুৱা বন্দোবস্তী দিছিল। সমবায় সমিট আৰু কিছুমানে ব্যক্তিগত হিচাপেও বন্দোবস্তী পাইছিল। এই বিলাক কথা লৈ সমালোচনা হল আৰু তাৰ পিছত মন্ত্ৰী সভাই আলোচনা কৰি সিদ্ধান্ত ললে যে বিলবিলাক পোনপটীয়া তাৰে বন্দোবস্তী দিয়া সীমিত কৰা হব। সেই সিদ্ধান্ত অনুসৰি পোনপটীয়া বন্দোবস্তী সাধাৰণভাৱে দিয়া নহব

আৰু মাছমৰীয়া লোক সকলৰ সমবায় সমিতিক ২৩ শতকৰা ৫০ ভাগ মাছ-মৰীয়া লোকৰ সভা থাকিব, বন্দোবস্তী দিয়া হব। মীন মহলৰ শতকৰা ৮০ ভাগ মাছমৰীয়া লোক সকলৰ সমবায় সমিতিক বন্দোবস্তী দিয়া হব আৰু বিশভাগ পাব ব্যক্তিগত মানুহে। বন্দোবস্তী ক্ষেত্ৰত যদি ডাকত কোনো পোৱা নহল তেনেহলে ব্যক্তিগত মানুহকো দিব পাৰে। আৰু যদি কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত দেখা যায় যে কোনো ব্যক্তিগত মানুহে মীনমহল সম্পৰ্কত নতুন ভাল আঁচনি মতে কাম কৰিব খুজিছে সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত ব্যক্তিগত মানুহক বন্দোবস্তী দিব পাৰিব। এই বছৰৰ বন্দোবস্তী সেইমতে দিয়া হৈছে।

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya : পোনপটীয়া বন্দোবস্তীৰ পিছত কিছুমানে আমাৰ গোৱালপাৰা জিলাত চিকিউৰিটিৰ টকা জমা দিব পৰা নাই এইটো কথা চৰকাৰে জানে নেকি?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : সেইটো কব নোৱাৰো।

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya : কিছুমান সমিতিয়ে গোৱালপাৰা জিলাত security money আৰু ১ম কিস্তি দিব পৰা নাই।

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : সেই সকলৰ বিষয়ে বিবেচনা কৰা নহব।

M. Shamsul Huda: নন্দিনী গ্ৰুপ মীন মহলত কোনো বিল ব্যক্তিগত ভাবে বন্দোবস্তী দিয়া হৈছে নেকি?

Mr. Speaker : এই বছৰত দিয়া হোৱা নাই এই কল কৰাৰ আগতে দিছিল।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : নগাওঁ জিলাত আৰু কোনো বিল পোনপটীয়া ভাবে ব্যক্তিগত নামত দিয়া হৈছে নেকী?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : দিয়া হোৱা নাই।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : নগাওঁ জিলাত হয়বৰ গাওঁ হাইস্কুলৰ কোনো ছাত্ৰৰ নামত কোনো বিল পোনপটীয়া ভাবে বন্দোবস্তী দিয়া হৈছে নেকী?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : দিয়া হোৱা নাই।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে অনুসন্ধান কৰি চাব নে?

(No reply)

Re : Recruitment of employees in F.C.I.

Shri Motilal Nayak asked :

*২৫৫। মাননীয় খাদ্যমন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে অনুগ্রহ কৰি জনাবনে—

(ক) F.C.I. খোলাৰ পৰা মেনেজাৰকে ধৰি কিমানজন মানুহ এতিয়ালৈকে লোৱা হ'ল।

(খ) আৰু এইবিলাক কি “বেচিচত” লৈছে, স্থায়ী অসমীয়া মানুহ কিমান ললে ?
অইন চাকৰীৰ পৰা এৰি অহা কিমানজন নতুন (Fresh) মানুহ ভৰ্ত্তি হ'ল ? এইবোৰৰ লিষ্ট এখন সদনৰ টেবিলত ৰাখে যেন।

Shri Romesh Chandra Barooah (Minister, Supply) replied :

২৫৫. (ক) ২১৯ জন।

(খ) এই কৰ্মচাৰীসকলক অস্থায়ী ভিত্তিত লোৱা হৈছে। এই কৰ্মচাৰীসকলৰ ২১৭ জন অসমীয়া অইন চাকৰিৰ পৰা ভৰ্ত্তি কৰা কৰ্মচাৰীৰ সংখ্যা ১০৬ জন। এই সম্পৰ্কে এখন তালিকা সদনৰ মেজত ৰখা হৈছে।

Shri Motilal Nayak : ইয়াত অনুশোচিত শ্ৰেণীৰ প্ৰাৰ্থী আছে নে নাই ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah : সেই brake up টো মোৰ হাতত নাই ?

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : F.C.I. ৰ Rules and Regulation অসম চৰকাৰৰ Rules মতে হয় নেকি বিশেষকৈ চাকৰিৰালৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ?

Shri Romesh Chandra Baruah : সেইটো মই নাজানো।

Shri Jagannath Singh : The Minister said that certain number of Assamiyas are there. Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to define what he meant by “Assamiya” ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : It has been defined many times on the floor of this House. All permanent residents of Assam are “Assamiyas”.

Shri Kabir Chandra Roy Pradhani : F.C.I. ধান সংগ্ৰহ সম্পৰ্কত মানুহ কিছুমান Checker নিয়োগ কৰা হৈছিল, সেইবিলাক বাহিৰৰ নে ইয়াৰ মানুহ ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : সেই brake up টো মোৰ হাতত নাই।

Mr. Speaker : I would request the members to look at the question and then put supplementaries. The principles which hold good for admission of the main question are also the principles for admission of supplementaries. That should be remembered.

Shri Mohidhar Pegu : F.C.I কৰ্মচাৰী সকলক দৰমহা ক'ব পৰা দিয়ে ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ পৰা দিয়া হয়।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : The Minister has said that the Government of Assam has no control over the employment policy of the F.C.I. By considering the acute unemployment problem in the State does not Government consider it proper to have at least some control in this respect ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : I don't think Government can have such control over an autonomous body like the F.C.I.

Shri Durgeswar Saikia : কি basis ত লোৱা হয়।

Shri Ronesh Chandra Baruah : অস্থায়ী basis ত লোৱা হয়।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : May I know whether in respect of appointment of higher officers from the Assam Cadre, Government's approval is necessary ?

Shri Remesh Chandra Barua : Yes, it is necessary.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : May I know whether in respect of appointment of retired Government officers, any recommendation from the Government of Assam had been sought for by the F.C.I. ?

Shri Romesh Chandra Barua : So far as I am aware, no such recommendation was sought for.

Re : Procurement of paddy by F.C.I., Lakhimpur District

Shri Romesh Mohan Kouli asked :

*256. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) The total procurement of paddy by the F.C.I. during this season within Lakhimpur District ?
- (b) The name of the procuring agents of F.C. I. in the Lakhimpur District ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah (Minister, Supply) replied :

256. (a) The total quantity of paddy procured by the F.C.I. in the Lakhimpur District during the current kharif year stand at 2,57,998.95 quintals up to 8th March 1968.

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

Shri Remesh Mohan Kuli : May I know the names of the procuring agents in the Lakhimpur district ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Baruah : A statement has been placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Ramesh Mohan Kuli : May I know the names of the procuring agents in the Dibrugarh subdivision ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Baruah : Lohit Marketing Society, Namrup Fertiliser Co-operative Marketing Society, Tingkhong Co-operative Marketing Society, Dibrugarh Small Traders Co-operative Marketing Society, Shri Samdeo Singh, Shri

Southmal Baity, Shri Bidyadhar Agarwalla and Shri Rowthmal Agarwalla.

Shri Ramesh Mohan Kuli : May I know who is the procuring agent for the Dhemaji area ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : That break-up is not with me, but Dhemaji is included in the Dibrugarh subdivision.

Shri Ramesh Mohan Kuli : May I know whether the procuring agent in the Dhemaji area is a co-operative or an individual ?

Mr. Speaker : The Minister has said that name is not with him.

Shri Durgeswar Saikia : What was the procurement 1st year in the Lakhimpur district ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : Last year's figures are not with me.

Shri Ramesh Mohan Kuli : Which of these agents are working in the Dhemaji area ?

Mr. Speaker : He wants to know who is the sub-agent for Dhemaji.

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : I have given the names of procuring sub-agents in the Dibrugarh subdivision and Dhemaji is in the Dibrugarh subdivision.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : The F.C.I. is procuring paddy through its agents, who are either co-operative societies or individuals. May we know whether a co-operative or an

individual is operating in the Dhemaji area and what is the name of that co-operative or the individual ?

Shri Ramesh Chandra Barua : The Chairman of the Dhemaji co-operative Marketing Society Ltd. is one of the agents.

Shri Ramesh Mohan Kuli : May I know what was the target for the Lakhimpur district ?

Shri Romesh Chandra Barua : The target of procurement for North Lakhimpur including the Dhemaji area is 4,40,000 quintals.

**Re : Member of the Sub-Committee of Land
Settlement Advisory Board**

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

*257. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Government propose to take atleast one member from the opposition parties in the Sub-Committee of the Land Settlement Advisory Boards ?
- (b) If so, whether the Government has issued instructions to this effect ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that at the meeting of the Land Settlement Advisory Board of Nowgong on 4th February, 1968 some members of the Board vehemently objected to the inclusion of Legislators belonging to the S.S.P. and R.C.P.I. in the Sub-Committee ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that because of this objection no Sub-Committee could be formed with legislators ?

(e) If so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister, Revenue) replied :

257, (a) Sub Committees are constituted by the Subdivisional Land Settlement Advisory Committee for examining specific cases. The question of appointing persons to the Sub-Committee by Government does not arise.

(b)—Does not arise in view of reply in (a) above.

(c)—There was difference of opinion among the members of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee held on 4th February, 1968 about the inclusion of names in a Sub-Committee proposed to be formed for scrutinising the petitions of landless agricultural workers for settlement of land at Nakhuti, Sarisabari and Sonajuri and hence the Committee empowered Deputy Commissioner to select the persons with the help of his Revenue staff for settlement on certain principle and priorities.

(d)—The reason for difference of of opinion amongst the members is not known.

(e)—Does not arise in view of reply in (b) above.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : May I know whether it is a fact that differences of opinion cropped up, as I had mentioned the other day while taking part in the debate under this particular head, because of the increased number of members of the ruling party ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Chaudhury : That is not the reason. The reason is otherwise.

M. Shamsul Huda : Whether it is a fact that on that day particular members of the ruling party objected to the inclusion of the members of the opposition parties ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : Yes, Sir.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : What was the reason for their objection ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Chaudhury : They know it best.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : When Government have framed rules under the Land Revenue Manual that members of this august House, irrespective of their party affiliations, are entitled to be members of the land settlement advisory committees, how can the members of the opposition parties be deprived of the right to be members of the sub-committee ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : The objection was not to the inclusion of the members of the opposition parties as such, but as far as I know the objection was to the inclusion of certain particular members.

M. Shamsul Huda : Is it not a fact that they objected to the inclusion of certain members only because they belonged to the opposition party ?

M. Shamsul Huda : Sir, is it a fact that they objected to inclusion of those members only because they belonged to opposition party.

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : I do not know exactly.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Will the Minister enquire into it, because it is a violation of the rules and in contravention of the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker : What are the names of the persons, If you can give the names of those persons then only it can be looked into.

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : Sir, the point is, according to the rules of the Land Settlement Committee which has been framed by the Government, the Land Settlement Committee has been given power to appoint Sub-Committees, and in the course of discussion for selection of members to a sub-committee, if they quarrel among themselves the Government cannot help.

Shri Sadhan Rajan Sarkar : Sir, is it a fact that the Members of the Opposition Party objected to inclusion of Members from Government side.

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : Sir, those informations are not with me. It might be in the proceedings of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : এই Sub-Committee ত বিপ্লবী কমিউনিষ্ট নেতা শ্রী চামচুণ হুদা আৰু সংযুক্ত চটিয়েলিষ্ট সদস্য শ্রীঅতুল গোস্বামীক লব লগা হোৱাত হে সেই Sub-Committee নহ'ল, এই কথা সচাঁনে ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : Sub-Committee নোহোৱাৰ সেইটো কাৰণ নহয়, কাৰণ তাতো কমিউনিষ্ট সদস্য ফনী বৰা আছে ।

Dr. Suendra Nath Das : May I know the basis on which the members of the Land Settlement Advisory Boards are selected ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : I have already replied to that question several times,

M. Shamsul Huda : ৰাজ্যিক পৰ্যায়ত মাটি পটুন দিয়াত সহায় কৰিবৰ বাবে এইবোৰ কৰিছে কিন্তু জিলা পৰ্যায়ত বাবে কৰা নাই

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত Land Settlement Advisory Committee এ চৰকাৰৰ মাটি নীতিক বিৰোধিতা কৰে বাবে তেনে কৰা হৈছে ।

Re : Number of District Judges, Munsiffs and Assistant Sessions Judges in the State

Shri Bhadra Kanta Gogoi asked :

*258. Will the Minister-in-Charge of Law be pleased to State ?

(a) How many officers of the District Judge cadre are there in the State ?

(b) Their names with the place of their posting ?

*259. Will the Minister-in-charge of Law be pleased to state—

(a) How many officers of the Munsiff cadre are there in the State ?

(b) Their names and where they are posted ?

*260. Will the Minister-in-charge of Law be pleased to state—

(a) How many officers of the Assistant Sessions Judge cadre are there in the State ?

(b) Their names and where they are posted ?

Shri Abdul Matlib Mazumdar (Minister, Law) replied :

258. (a) Seven.

(b)—A statement is placed on each Member's Table.

259. (a)—25 (Twenty-five) including three leave reserve.

(b)—A statement is placed on each Member's Table, Sir,
I have found after scruting that the High Court has
not given another post and so the number should be
17.

260. (a)—Eight.

(b)—A statement, is placed on each Member's Table.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, I could not follow the
replies,

Shri Abdul Matlib Mazumder : (a) Eight (b) A state-
ment is placed on each Member's table.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, may I know whether
under the rule that has been framed in respect of posting
of these officials under the Judiciary, independent hand
has been given to the High Court ?

Shri Abdul Matlib Mazumder : The Government employs
them on the recommendation of the High Court. That
is the rule. Everything is there in the Assam Judicial
Service Rules.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, may I know whether
matters relating to their service rules as well as their pro-
spect of promotion are dealt by the State Government on
the recommendation of the High Court or by the High
Court itself ?

Shri Abdul Matlib Mazumder : The High Court sends recommendation to the Government and on that recommendation, the Government employ them.

Shri Moneswar Boro : আমাৰ অসমৰ District Judge, Assistant Sessions Judge আৰু Munsiff ৰ ভিতৰত Scheduled castes আৰু Scheduled Tribes ৰ কিমান জন আছে জানিব পাৰোনে ? এইবোৰ পদৰ বাবে কি qualification লাগে আৰু কি ভিত্তিত নিয়োগ কৰা হয় ?

Mr. Speaker : Regarding the question of District Judges, it is laid down in the Constitution. Mr. Mazumder, can you give the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst the Judges, Munsiffs and Assistant District Judges ?

Shri Abdul Matlib Mazumder : Sir, I do not have the detailed list. I find that there is one Assistant Session Judge by name Mr. Sangma who belongs to Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Nakul Chandra Das : Sir, as is in the case of Government service, can there be a prescribed quota of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent from Scheduled Castes and 12 per cent from Scheduled Tribes in appointing these Judges and Assistant Session Judges in the Judicial Service ?

Shri Abdul Matlib Mazumder : It depends on the Assam Judicial Service Rules.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, once we discussed about these rules and the Chief Minister stated that to have a legal locus standi, the concurrence of the A.P.S.C. was necessary and that the A.P.S.C. gave its concurrence but afterwards it was withdrawn. Sir, may I know when without the con-

currence of the A.P.S.C. the rules have been framed and accepted by the Government, whether these rules have any legal locus standi ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) : Sir, this matter was examined and it was held that the Service Rules were in order.

Shri Sailen Medhi : Sir, as the Minister has stated that on the recommendation of the High Court, the Government recruit District Judges and Sub-Judges, I want to know whether so far as their transfer is concerned the Assam Government has to take the recommendation of the High Court *sue moto*.

Mr. Speaker : As a Lawyer of the High Court you know that a case went upto the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court's decision will be binding.

Shri Bisnuram Medhi : Is the Government aware that these rules were not framed by the High Court but by the Chief Justice himself ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : Sir so far as the Government is concerned, when anything is sent by the Chief Justice it is taken as having the seal of the High Court.

Shri Bisnuram Medhi : Will the Government make an enquiry if it has the seal of approval of the High Court ?

There are two divisions and to have the decision of the High Court it must be a decision of a full court, particularly regarding the rules to be valid must be approved by the High Court and not by the Chief Justice alone.

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : We will see to it whether it is a fact,

Mr. Speaker : One is recommendation of the Chief Justice as Chief Justice, another is recommendation of the High Court which must be a decision of the full Court.

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : That may be so. So far as the rules are concerned, the rules are notified and unless these are challenged in a court of law because of any defect, we can do nothing.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, the general procedure is that even if the High Court is empowered to frame the rules in respect of the Judicial Service Government concurrence is necessary. Whether it is a fact that the then Chief Justice of Assam and Nagaland High Court circulated the rules and regulations to all the Members of the august House without taking the approval of the Government ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : Sir, that I do not know.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : I am informed by reliable source that these rules are published without the approval of the Government.

Mr. Speaker : As the Chief Minister has stated the rules are notified and they become rules and have been operating as rules. Now there is a legal authority in framing the rules which is the proper forum to agitate against them.

Shri Bishnuram Medhi : The question is that after taking the information, the action should be taken.

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : We can only ask the Chief

Justice, but to what extent he will give the information, we cannot say. Sometimes even the judges differ in their views.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, whether the approval of the Government is required or whether the High Court can do it without the approval of the Government ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : So, far I remember rules are drafted in consultation with the High Court and after getting the recommendations of the High Court, Government take action.

**Re : Land under Forcible Occupation of East
Pakistan Authorities**

Shri Matilal Nayak asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that big areas of land in Assam under forcible occupation of East Pakistan authority ?
- (b) What is the actual area under Pakistan's occupation ?
- (c) Where these areas are located ?
- (d) What steps have been taken by the Government to clear out there areas from Pakistan's forcible occupation ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) replied :

261. (a).—According to the claim of the Assam Government East Pakistan has retained possession of some land in the Lathitilla Dumabari area on the Cachar-Sylhet border which it has illegally occupied at various times since 1962. The present Military Working Boundary

agreement, which is of a purely temporary nature, also gives East Pakistan Control over this area till final demarcation.

(b)—Approximately 748 bighas. exact area would be known only at the time of final demarcation on the ground.

(c)—South of Patharia Reserved Forest under Pathar Kandi Police station in Cachar District.

(d)—There was some basic disagreement with Pakistan about final demarcation of the Indo-Pak boundary in this area and the same has since been pending settlement between the two countries at the Central Government's level. According to the present Military working boundary agreement, East Pakistan have temporarily gained control over this area. The Government of India have been pursuing this matter with the Central Government of Pakistan for resolving the differences as early as possible.

Shri Rathindra Nath Sen : Is there any progress whatsoever in this arrangement with the East Pakistan authorities in respect of demarcation of that area ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) No, Sir, there has been no progress.

Shri Rathindra Nath Sen : May we expect that this can be finalised ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : Sir, it is very difficult to say as this is a matter which the Govt. of India is pursuing with the Government of Pakistan.

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya : May I know from the Chief Minister whether any chunk of land, whether big or small of Goalpara district, is under occupation of Pakistan ?

Mr. Speaker : This question relates to Lathitilla-Dumabari area.

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : Sir, certain areas which, after demarcation, have fallen under Pakistan. But its administrative control continues to be with us. Similarly, in Goalpara district also, I remember about one area, though according to the demarcation, it has fallen on our side, but its administrative control is still with Pakistan. According to the agreement, besides demarcation these will have to be a formal handing over of these areas by both sides.

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikya : Is it a fact that lands in Goalpara district were occupied by Pakistan since 1948 ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : Sir, in order to give correct and detailed information to this question, I would require notice. This question refers only to Lathitilla- Dumabari area.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : The Chief Minister has stated that even after demarcation, East Pakistan has occupied some land in the Lathitilla - Dumabari area in 1962. May I know from the Chief Minister what are the definite steps the Govt. of Assam has taken to demarcate the boundary with the East Pakistan Government ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : Sir, this is a matter which we actually cannot take up direct with Pakistan Govern-

ment. These matters are taken up by the Union Government with the Government of Pakistan. The latest information is that the Government of India have again recently proposed to the Government of Pakistan for holding a meeting to discuss these matters at any level acceptable to both sides.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Govt. has refused to honour the demarcation and whether demarcation was done on the Nehru Liaquat Ali agreement, according to that agreement even major portion of Lathitilla-Dumabari area as well as some areas in Goalpara district are still under occupation of Pakistan. Therefore, may I know on what basis the Govt. of Assam or the Govt. of India are going to take up the issue of demarcation of boundary with Pakistan ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : So far I remember, the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact is not the agreement under which the boundary disputes were to be settled. But so far as the Lathitilla-Dumabari area is concerned, there is difference between the interpretation of Pakistan and India. According to Radcliff Award in that area, Radcliff Award drew a line and Pakistan is insisting that the boundary should be according to that line. But in that Radcliff Award, it is also mentioned that in case any disagreement with East Pakistan both at the D.L. Rs.' and State Governments levels, the matter should be referred to the Govt. of India. So the matter has been referred to the Govt. of India for taking up with the Govt. of Pakistan.

According to the Radcliff Award, it is clearly mentioned that wherever the definition of the line differs, in that case the definition would prevail. I would like to read out from the records.....

Mr, Speaker : I think, Mr. Chaliha, we can go the next question. You will find it out afterwards.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, this is very important ?

Mr. Speaker : I have not said it is not important, But instead of wasting time in this question, let us take up the next question.

Shri Giasuddin Ahmed : In answer to question (a) it is said that East Pakistan has forcibly retained possession of some land in the Lathitilla-Dumabari area May I know when these lands were forcibly occupied and what measures the Government took to prevent them ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : Sir, in 1962, Pakistan was raising claims over these areas under the Radcliff Award and actually they advanced into these areas in 1962. Hon. Members would.....

Shri Premadhar Borah : পাকিস্তান Authority য়ে আমাৰ সীমান্ত যোৰ জুলুম কৰি আমাৰ অংশ এটা যদি অধিকাৰ কৰে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে কেন্দ্ৰক জনাই বহি থাকিবনে যোৰ কৰি বেদখলকাৰীক খেদাই পঠাব ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : পৰাপক্ষত চৰকাৰে যি নীতি অনুসৰণ কৰিছে, সেইটো হল, যিকোনো কথাত বিবাদ হলে প্ৰথমতে sector Commanders সকলৰ ভিতৰত আলোচনা হয়। ইয়াতো দুটা কথা আছে যেনে সীমা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ হোৱা আৰু সীমা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ নোহোৱা ঠাই। যি বিলাকত সীমা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ

হোৱা নাই তেনেঠাইত নিয়ম হৈছে, তেনে বিবাদ লাগিলে sector Commander ৰ ভিতৰত আলোচনা হৈ সীকান্ত নোহোৱালৈ এটা Military সীমা বান্ধি লয় তাৰ ওপৰতে যুক্তি কৰে। ইয়াৰ ভিতৰতে দুই চৰকাৰৰ ভিতৰত আলোচনা চলায়।

Shri Phani Bora : ঠিক সিদ্ধান্ত কি হব বুলি চৰকাৰে ভাবে ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : আমাৰ পাকিস্থানৰ লগত সীমা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ হৈ গৈছে, কেৱল লাঠিতিলা আৰু ডুমাৰাৰীহে বাকী আছে।

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Re : Brothels at Darrang Mela

Shri Maneswar Boro asked :

211. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there are some brothels at Darrang Mela in Kamrup District ?
- (b) If so, whether these brothels are getting Licences from the State Government ?
- (c) What are the steps Government have so far taken to stop such brothels at Darrang Mela ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to stop it forthwith ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) replied :

211. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Under the law there is no question of Government granting licence to the brothels.

(c)—Raids are conducted there to detect prostitution and illicit sale of liquor.

(d)—Yes. Necessary steps would be taken but to remove an evil of this nature some time will be necessary.

Re : Compensation for detention of a Public Service Vehicle by Traffic Sergeant, Gauhati

Dr. Surendra Nath Das asked :

212. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Chief Secretary received a pleader's notice U/ S. 80 C. P. C. demanding compensation for illegally and wrongfully detaining a Public Service Vehicle and its driver by Traffic Sergeant Shri M. K. Bhuyan of Gauhati Police Station ?

(b) Whether any action has been taken in the matter ?

(c) If so, what action has been taken ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliba (Chief Minister) replied :

212. (a) -- No.

(b) & (c)—Do not arise.

Re : Total number of Mizo Police personnel dismissed after March, 1966

Shri John F. Manliana asked :

213. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of Mizo Police personnel dismissed after the March, 1966 disturbances ?

(b) Whether any proceedings were conducted into case before dismissal ?

- (c) Whether the Government is aware that a few personnel who were suspended earlier to March, 1966 on disciplinary grounds were also dismissed as disloyal citizens after disturbances under the Defence of India Rules ?
- (d) If so, whether the Government will be pleased to reconsider those cases ?

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) replied :

213. (a) - One hundred and thirty Mizo Police personnel were dismissed from service after the March, 1966 disturbances.

(b) - No. They were dismissed under sub-clause (c) of the provision to clause (2) of Article 311 of the Constitution.

(c) - No.

(d) - Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Re : Retrenchment of Tea Garden labourers of Cachar

Shri Tazamul Ali Laskar asked :

মাননীয় শ্রমমন্ত্রী মহোদয় অনুগ্রহ পূর্বক জানাইবেন কি ?

২১৪। (ক) কাছাড়ের চা বাগানের ম্যানেজাররা ইচ্ছা করিলেই যে কোন শ্রমিককে সাময়িক ভাবে বরখাস্ত, কর্মচ্যুত ইত্যাদি করিতে পারেন। সরকার অবগত আছেন কি না যে এই ব্যাপারে প্রতিকার পাইতে হইলে যে বিচার পদ্ধতি প্রচলিত আছে, তাহা দীর্ঘসূত্রী? যাহার ফলে শ্রমিকরা অশেষ নির্যাতনের সম্মুখীন হয়। ইহার প্রতিকারের জন্য কাছাড় জিলায় অন্তত ৩ (তিন) মাসের মধ্যে বিচার শেষ করার কোন ব্যবস্থার কথা সরকার ভাবিতেছেন কি না ?

(খ) ভাবিয়া থাকিলে, তাহা কি ?

শ্রমমন্ত্রী শ্রীকামাখ্যা প্রসাদ ত্রিপাটি মহোদয়ের উত্তর :

২১৪। যেহেতু মালিকপক্ষ কোন শ্রমিককে বরখাস্ত, বা কর্মচ্যুত করিতে হইলে, প্রণীত 'Standing Orders' এর বিধি অনুসারে করিতে হয়,—তাই অভিযোগগুলি ঠিক নহে। 'Standing Orders' এর বিধি অনুসারে নিষ্পত্তিমূলক বিচার পদ্ধতির কোন নির্দিষ্ট সময় নির্দেশ নাই।

(খ) প্রশ্ন উঠে না।

Re: Acquisition of land by Government of Naka-chari Mauza of Sibsagar District for Settlement

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

215. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Government has acquired lands from the Debrapara Grant under the Naka-chari Mouza in the district of Sibsagar for settlement?
- (b) If so, why the Government has not yet given settlement of these lands?
- (c) Whether at the time of settlement of these lands, the Government will consider the cases of the landless peasants occupying lands there for a number of years?
- (d) If not, why?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : (Minister, Revenue) replied :

215. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The land has already been allotted.

(c)—Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above

(d)—Does not arise.

Re : Waste land of New Sonoal Tea Estate

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there are some plots of waste land under the New Sonoal Tea Estate in the Katani-gaon Mouza under the Jorhat Subdivision in the district of Sibsagar ?
- (b) If so, what is the area of the lands ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact the 60 families of village labourers and landless peasants have been occupying and cultivating the lands for about 25 years ?
- (d) Whether these families have prayed for settlement of these lands with them ?
- (e) Whether the Government has arranged to requisition and settle these lands with the petitioners ?
- (f) Whether the Government is aware that the Manager of the said Tea Estate without giving any notice to the occupants has harvested their crops with labourers of his garden, got arrested and assaulted the occupants by his labourers, and has raised fencing around the entire area of the land concerned ?
- (g) If so, what steps the Government has taken against the Manager for having taken the law into his own hands ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury : (Minister, Revenue)
replied :

216. (a)—According to 1:2 formula agreed to by Government and Tea Industry the garden has got no surplus land now.

(d)—Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

(c)—About 115 acres of lands are under the occupation of about 85. Ex-tea garden labourers and local villagers for a number of years ranging from 4/5 years to 20/25 years.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Land cannot be requisitioned as per 1:2 formula.

(f)—No. But it is a fact that the relation between these people and the garden authority is not good. There are cases and cross-cases between them and the matter is under police investigation of Moriani Police Station.

(g)—Does not arise.

Re : Test Relief Works of Howli-Kaurapara Road

Shrimati Pranita Talukdar asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Test Relief Works of Howli-Kaurapara Road under Gobardhana A. P. has been started engaging Bihari labourers ?

(b) If so, why labourers from outside the State have been engaged ?

(c) What action Government propose to take in in this regard ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister, Revenue)
replied :

217. (a)—No. Bihari labourer was engaged in the Test Relief Works.

(b) and (c)—Do not arise.

**Re : Damage caused by Hailstorm at Kokrajhar
Subdivision**

Shri Mathius Tudu asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that heavy hailstorm caused damage to a part of Kokrajhar Subdivision during the month of December, 1967 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the extent of damage done to the crops by this hailstrom is very heavy ?
- (c) Whether any relief measures have been taken ?
- (d) If so, what are they ?
- (e) Whether provision has been made for seed loan to the affected people ?
- (f) If so, whether the loan has been issued to any of them for Ahu cultivation ?
- (g) If not, whether Government be pleased to arrange for early distribution of Seed Loan for Ahu cultivation ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister, Revenue)
replied :

218. (a)—No hailstorm occurred in December, 1967 in this

Subdivision but a severe hailstorm occurred in some parts of the Subdivision on 25th November, 1967 and caused heavy damage to standing crops.

(b)—The said hailstorm caused damage to crops upto 75 per cent in some places.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The following amounts were sanctioned for this purpose and since distributed—

	Rs.
(i) Seed Loan. 	20,000
(ii) Rehabilitation Loan 	30,000
(iii) Book grant to affected students 	3,000

(e)—Does not arise in view of reply against (d) above.

(f)—Yes, the Seed Loan has been issued for raising Ahu and Buro crops.

(g) - Does not arise in view of reply against (d) and (f) above.

Re : Shifting of Boitamari Circle Office

Shri Mathura Mohan Sinha asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government have received public representations from Boitamari for shifting the Boitamari Circle Office from Abhayapuri to Moligaon (Boitamari) ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the local public have agreed to provide necessary buildings and quarters for the office and the officers on rent for functioning of the said office ?

- (c) If so, whether Government will consider the proposal for the convenience of the general public ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister-in-charge of Revenue) replied :

219. (a)—Yes. The permanent Headquarter of Boitamari Circle has already been decided to be at Moligaon.

(b)—Government is not aware of this.

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

Re : Conversion of Hatigarh and Pabitara Reserves of Nowgong into Game Sanctuary

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

220. Will the Minister, Forests be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Government has any proposal for conversion of the Hatigarh and the Pabitara Reserves of Nowgong into Game Sanctuary ?

(b) When the Government received the proposal ?

(c) What is the total area of land under those Reserves ?

(d) For what number of Wild animals this area is meant ?

(e) Whether Government will abandon the idea in the interest of the landless cultivators of the State ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister-in-charge, Forests) replied :

220. (a)—Yes:

(b)—On 20th December, 1964, 22nd September, 1967, 26th September, 1967, and 27th September, 1970.

(c)—4000 acres.

(d)—The area is meant for about 14 rhinos, a few deer and wild pigs now. There is scope for increase in the wild animals.

(e)—No.

Appointment of Local People in various Industries

Shri Matilal Nayak asked :

221. Will the Minister, Industries be pleased to state what steps have been taken by the Government of Assam for employment of local people in Noonmati Refinery, O.N.G.C, Naharkatia and the State Electricity Board ?

Shri Biswadev Sarma (Minister of Industries) replied :

221. It is well known that this matter has been receiving serious and constant attention of Government for several years past and that it is also causing Government a lot of anxiety. The unemployment problem in our State which was not so marked about 8,9 or 10 years back has now become acute and this is due to a variety of reasons. Government have set up two Engineering Colleges six Polytechnic Institutes and twelve Industrial Training Institutes. In addition to the above there are also training cum-production centres under the Industries Department. The Labour Department also has a scheme for training of apprentices. The outturn from all these institutes has been quite satisfactory but now we appear to have reached the point of saturation with the result that many of our trained En-

gineers and Technicians are not finding employment. In addition to these there are hundreds of boys out from the Colleges and Universities looking for employment. The problem therefore is a very big one and concerted efforts of every body will be necessary to ease the situation. Government are very keen that as many local boys as possible should be absorbed in the Oil Refinery, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, the Fertilizer Corporation at Namrup, in the State Electricity Board and also in all other public and private sector undertakings. To achieve this objective Government have appointed a Liaison Officer whose function is to keep contact with the Industries and to promote employment of local people. Government have also appointed one official and one-official member in the Selection Committee for appointment in O.N.G.C. The Liaison Officer of Industries is also looking after local interest in the Namrup Fertilizer Corporation and also in the State Electricity Board. In this connection it is, however, pointed out that it is not possible for the Government to make it compulsory for the industrial undertakings to appoint local boys, but in spite of this Government have impressed upon the industrial undertakings to take in local boys as far as possible and to help Government in solving the unemployment problem. A point has often been raised that we do not have qualified and experienced technicians and engineers who could be suitably absorbed by the industries in the State. This point has also been examined and steps are being taken by the concerning departments

to train up boys to suit the needs of industries. In the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1955 Government has clearly laid down that Government would expect promoters of industries to give the following assurance amongst others so that they may qualify themselves financial and other assistance promised in the said Resolution :

- (1) Employment facilities for local people.
- (2) Training facilities for local persons.
- (3) Provision for subscription for local capital within reasonable limits.

Lastly it may be mentioned that Government are constantly reviewing this problem and that it is hoped the problem of unemployment will gradually ease.

Re : Paper pulp Mill in the State

Rani Manjula Devi asked :

222. Will the Minister, Industries be pleased to state -

- (a) Whether the proposed paper pulp mill will be installed during the current plan period in the State of Assam ?
- (b) Whether this proposed paper pulp mill will be installed in the district of Goalpara or Garo Hills, where bamboo is available in abundance ?
- (c) If so, when ?

Shri Biswadev Sarma (Minister, Industries) replied :

222. (a)—It depends on the availability of funds.

(b)—The site is not yet selected.

(c)—Does not arise.

Re : Admission in to Medical Colleges

Shri Mathura Mohan Sinha asked :

223. Will the Minister, in-charge of Health be pleased to state—

(a) How many students had been selected for admission into the Medical Colleges at Gauhati and Dibrugarh this year ?

(d) Among them what is number of students from Goalpara District ?

(e) From Goalpara district, how many of them from other Back-ward classes, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes ?

Shri Satindra Mohan Dev : (Minister in charge, Health, e c) replied :

223. (a)—Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh	...	265
Medical College, Gauhati	...	110

(b)—15 students.

(c)—1. Other Backward Classes	....	....	1
2. Scheduled Tribes (Plains)	....	....	6
3. Scheduled Tribes (Hills)	....	....	Nil
4. Scheduled Castes	....	....	1
			<hr/>
		Total....	8

Re : Repair of Guimora State Dispensary at Palasbari

Shri Abala Kanta Goswami asked :

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

- (a) When the Dispensary Building and residential quarters of Guimora State Dispensary in Palasbari Constituency were last repaired ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that the Buildings mentioned above now require urgent repairs ?
- (c) If so, whether the Government will take early steps for repairing ?

Shri Satindra Mohan Dev (Minister-in-charge of Health)
replied :

224. (a)—In 1960-61.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes, subject to availability of funds.

Re : Medical Out-Centre at Belsiri running without medicines

Shri Mohi Kanta Das asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Medical Out-Centre at Belsiri Chapari within Dhekiajuli Primary Health Centre is running without medicines ?
- (d) If so, whether the Government will be pleased to provide the Centre with necessary medicines ?

Shri Satindra Mohan Dev (Minister-in-charge of Health)
replied :

225. (a)—The Medical Out-Centre at Belsiri Chapari is short

some medicines like Sulphaquanedine, Influenza and Vitamin Tablets.

(d)—The Civil Surgeon has supplied the necessary medicines.

Re : Estimates of Chuliakata Bhengnamari bundh with Gobardhana A.P.

Shri Matilal Nayak asked :

226. Will the Minister-in-charge of Panchayat be pleased to state—

- (a) What was the estimates of the Chuliakata Bhengnamari bundh with Gobardhana Anchalik Panchayat ?
- (b) Whether Rs.500 (Rupees five hundred) was paid to one person who never worked on it ?
- (c) Why the local people who worked on the bundh were not paid any money ?
- (d) What has happened to Rs.1,000 (Rupees one thousand) only not paid yet ?
- (e) Will the Government enquire into this matter ?

Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika (Minister of State, Panchayat & C. D.) replied :

226. (a) - Rupees 4,779.30 P. out of which the amount payable in cash was estimated at Rs.1,900.

(b)—No.

(c) & (d)—As the work has not been completed, no payment could be made.

(e)—Does not arise.

Re : Black topping of Pulla Road at North Kamrup Division

Dr. Bhumidhar Barman asked :

227. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the people of Chamata and its adjoining area are representing the Government through Executive Engineer, North Kamrup Division for black topping the portion of Pulla road passing through Balipathar ?

(b) If so, what steps Government have taken so far ?

Shri Altaf Hossain Mazumder (Minister of State, P.W.D. (R. and B.)] replied :

227. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The proposal for black topping a portion of the road has been included in the tentative list for consideration for inclusion in the 4th Five Year Plan.

Re : Weight and Measures Act

Shri Soneswar Bora asked :

২২৮। মাননীয় যোগান বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে অনুগ্রহ কৰি জনাবনে—

(ক) অসমত জোখ-মাখ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণৰ আইন (Weight and Measures Act) কেতিয়া প্ৰণয়ন হ'ল আৰু এই আইন কেতিয়াৰ পৰা প্ৰয়োগ হৈছে ?

(খ) অসমত জোখ মাখ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণৰ আইনখন অসমৰ সকলো জিলাতে প্ৰয়োগ হৈছেনে ? আৰু কি কি বস্তুৰ ওপৰত প্ৰয়োগ নহয় জনাবনে ?

(গ) অসমৰ বাজধানী শ্বিলং চহৰত অসম জোখ-মাখ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণৰ আইন প্ৰয়োগ

হয়নে ? আৰু যদি হয়, সকলো বস্তুতে হয়নে ? যদি নহয়, কি কি বস্তুৰ ওপৰত এই আইন প্ৰয়োগ নহয় ?

(ঘ) যদি সকলো বস্তু বা সামগ্ৰীতে নহয়, ইয়াৰ কাৰণ কি ?

Shri Dandi Ram Dutta (Deputy Minister, Agriculture) replied :

১২৮। (ক) — ১৯৫৮ চনত প্ৰণয়ন হয় আৰু ১৯৫৯ চনৰ পৰা ১৯৬৫ চনৰ ভিতৰত ৰাজ্যৰ বিভিন্ন এলেকাত আৰু বিভিন্ন বিষয়ত প্ৰয়োগ কৰা হয়।

(খ) — সকলো জিলাত আৰু সকলো বস্তুৰ ওপৰতে প্ৰয়োগ হৈছে।

(গ) — হয়। সকলো বস্তুতে এই আইনখন প্ৰয়োগ হয়।

(ঘ) — প্ৰশ্ন নুঠে।

Re : Number of D. D. P. Is in the State

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

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

(a) What is the number of D. D. P. Is in Assam ?

(b) What are their duties and functions ?

(c) Whether any powers both financial and administrative have been delegated to them ?

(d) If not, why ?

Shri Syed Ahmed Ali (Minister of State, Education) replied :

229. (a) — There are 6. D. D. P. Is in Assam ?

(b) — One D. D. P. I. in-charge of Planning, one D. D. P. I. in-charge of Article 275 Schemes, he is also ex-officio Secretary of the Post-Matric Scholarship Advisory Board, and in which capacity he deals

with all matters relating to Post-Matric Scholarship, one D. D. P. I. in-charge of Women Education, one D. D. P. I. in-charge of N. C. C., two D. D. P. Is in-charge of General Education, one of whom mainly deals with Grants-in-aid to Schools and other deals with College education, scholarships, other than Post-matric scholarships, various examinations conducted by the Directorate, etc. At present the post of D. D. P. I. in-charge of N. C. C. is vacant and this branch has been looked after by the D. D. P. I., Planning in addition to his duties.

- (c)—The D. D. P. Is assist the D. P. I. and the Additional D. P. I. in respect of the work allotted to them. Financial power has been delegated to the D. D. P. I. in-charge of Article 275 and D. D. P. I., N. C. C. in respect of others there is no delegation of financial powers.

Allotment of duties among the D. D. P. Is done by the Head of the Department, i. e., D. P. I. A formal delegation of powers with responsibilities is not possible since the head of the Department is ultimately responsible to Government for everything done in the Department.

- (d)—Does not arise.

**Re : Directorate of Sports and Physical Education
in the State**

M. Shamsul Huda asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Government has been running a Directorate of Sports and Physical Education ?
- (b) What was the Budget provision of money for this Directorate for the financial year 1967-68 ?
- (c) What is the Budget allocation of this Directorate for the coming year 1968-69 ?
- (d) Whether there has been specific Budget allocation of money for this Directorate ?
- (e) If not, why ?

Shri Syed Ahmed Ali (Minister of State, Education) replied :

230. (a)—Yes, there is a Directorate of Sports and Physical Education under the Education Departments.

(b)—The Budget provision for Directorate for the financial year 1967-68 is Rs. 35,000.00.

(c)—Budget allocation of this Directorate for the financial year 1968-69 is Rs. 55,000.00 (proposed estimate).

(d)—Yes, there has been a specific Budget provision for this Directorate under the Head of Accounts "28.—Education—F—General—4—Miscellaneous—M—Schemes for Games and Sports—General".

(e)—Does not arise.

Further Supplementaries to Starred question No
254 replied on 30th March 1968

Re : Direct Settlement of
Fisheries

Mr. Speaker : St. question No. 254 was put but due to want of time some supplementaries were pending, and now I start with that question. Any more supplementaries, please ?

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : এই মীনমহল বিলাকৰ direct settlement কাক দিয়া হৈছে, সেইটো মন্ত্ৰীয়ে দিব পাৰেনে ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : আগৰ লিষ্ট খন সদনৰ মেজত দিয়া হৈছে—কোনো Individual ক এই বছৰ দিয়া হোৱা নাই ।

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : এই বছৰ গাইঙটীয়া কৈ কিমানে পাইছে ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : ১৯৬৬-৬৭ চনতহে দিয়া হৈছে । ১৯৬৭-৬৮ চনত দিয়া হোৱা নাই ।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : আগদিনা মন্ত্ৰীয়ে কৈছে যে গাইঙটীয়া ভাবে দিয়া হয়—এতিয়া কৈছে দিয়া হোৱা নাই কোনটো সত্য ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : মহোদয়, এইবছৰ দিয়া হোৱা নাই ।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : ১৯৬৭-৬৮ চনৰ পোনপটীয়া কৈ বন্দোবস্তী দিয়া লোকসকলৰ নাম দিব পাৰেনে ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : মহোদয়, সেইটো প্রশ্নৰ নম্বৰ ২৫৩, আৰু বৰ্তমান প্রশ্ন হৈছে ২৫৪ নম্বৰৰ ।

Shri Maneswar Boro : অসমত থকা সন্নাধিকাৰ সকলৰ বলুত মাটি আছে তাত মীনমহল কিমান আছে আৰু চৰকাৰে তাৰ পৰা কিমান ৰাজহ পায় ?

Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister Revenue) :

সেই প্রশ্নৰ বেলেগে নোটিচ লাগিব ।

Shri Sahadat Ali Jotdar : গোৱালপাৰাত কিছুমান মীনমহলৰ Extension দিয়া হৈছে সেইবিলাক কোন কোন মীনমহল ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : Extension দিয়া লিষ্টখন মোৰ লগত নাই। কিন্তু গোৱালপাৰাৰ কেইখনমানৰ কথা মই কব পাৰো— গঙ্গাধৰ নৈৰ pt. III আৰু IV যি মীনমহল আছে, তাক পাকিস্তানৰ লগত যুদ্ধৰ সময়ত Curfew থকা কাৰণে সেই সময়ত মাছ মাৰিব পৰা নাছিল; সেই-কাৰণে এবছৰৰ কাৰণে Extension দিয়া হৈছে।

ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰ নদীৰ pt. II, III, দুবছৰৰ কাৰণে Extension দিয়া হৈছে— কাৰণ সেই মীনমহলৰ সীমা, বহলেই ২০ মাইল ধৰা হৈছে কিন্তু ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ বহল ইমান হব নোৱাৰে। এই কাৰণে দুজনৰ ভিতৰত গোলমালৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। এই সীমা আগতে (ঐকমতে) থকা নিদ্ধাৰণ নোহোৱাত গোলমালৰ সৃষ্টি হোৱাত Extension দিয়া কথা মোৰ অলপ মনত পৰে।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : তেখেতৰ এলেকাত যি মীনমহল আছে সেইবিলাক Extension দিয়া হৈছেনে ? যদি হৈছে কাক দিয়া হৈছে আৰু কিয় দিয়া হৈছে ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ ফালে থকা সোণাই খণ্ডৰ সেইটো ২ বছৰৰ কাৰণে দিয়া হৈছে। তাৰ দৈৰ্ঘ্য ১১ মাইল কিন্তু ৬ মাইল ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ লগত সংলগ্ন হৈছে এই কাৰণে মহলদাৰৰ ক্ষতি হোৱাত সেই কাৰণে ২ বছৰৰ কাৰণে দিয়া হৈছে।

Shri Kabir Roy Pradhani : তাত চোচায়েটিৰ দখল আছিলনে নাই ?

Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika : আছিল। তেওঁলোকৰ লোকচানৰ কাৰণে ১ বছৰৰ কাৰণে সময় দিয়া হৈছে—কাৰণ তাৰ কাৰণে মহলদাৰে Remission বিচাৰি আহিছিল, চৰকাৰৰ বাতুলৰ ক্ষতি নহবৰ কাৰণেই সেই সময় দিছো।

Re: Accounts of the Kaliabor Development Block

Shri Atul Chandra Goswami : ২৮.৩.৬৮ ত বিধান সভাৰ মজিয়াত

কলিয়াবৰ Development block ৰ ১৮৬৬ ৰ পৰা ৩০৬৬ ৰ একাউণ্টেট জেনেৰেলৰ দ্বাৰা যি audit কৰা হৈছিল তাত Part II Section A ত infructuous expenditure in connection with construction of Gram Sevak's quarters সম্পৰ্কত কোৱা হৈছে যে 12,697 টকা অসামৰ্থক খৰছ হৈছে। Part II B—Sale Proceeds of cement not credited to Govt account. এই চিমেণ্ট 480 bags আনোতে জখলা বন্ধাৰ পৰা হাটবৰলৈ ৫ কিঃ মিঃ ৰ কাৰণে ১০১ টকা carrying charge দিয়া হৈছে।

Irregularities in connection with the execution of pilot project. Page 6 para 5 (a) Discrepancy between cash book and Acquittance Roll এই খিনি কথালৈ লক্ষ্য কৰিলে বুজিব এই block ত কেনে বেমেজালী চলিছে। মই জানিব পাবোনে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়া সকলৰ ওপৰত কিবা ব্যৱস্থা লৈছে নে নাই?

Shri Devendranath Hazarika : Gram sevak quarter সম্পৰ্কে সদস্যৰ এটা বেলেগ প্ৰশ্ন আছে, এইটো প্ৰশ্ন সময়ত আহিব। তেতিয়াই এই বিষয়ে উত্তৰ দিয়া হব।

Mr Speaker : সদস্য গৰাকীয়ে বৰ্তমানে যি প্ৰশ্ন সুধিছে সেই বিষয়ৰ প্ৰশ্ন এটা আহিব লগা আছে বুলিয়েই বৰ্তমানৰ প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰ নিদিব সেইটো হব নোৱাৰে। গতিকে এতিয়া আপুনি কিমান দূৰ জানে এটা উত্তৰ দিব লাগে।

Shri Devendra nath Hazarika : নগাৰৰ উপায়ুক্তক এই বিষয়ে এটা ৰিপৰ্ট দিবলৈ জনোৱা হৈছে আৰু audit report ৰ objection বিষয়েও A. G. লৈ B.D.O. ই উত্তৰ দিছে। কিমানদূৰ A.G. য়ে মানি লৈ objection ৰ পৰা বেহাই দিয়ে তাৰ পিচতহে কি ব্যৱস্থা লোৱা হব কব পৰা যাব।

(Some hon. Members from the opposition stoodup to speak)

Mr. Speaker : This question has arisen out of a question and therefore I allowed Shri Goswami to speak, But if

you go on putting questions again then there will be no end. If you want, this question may again be brought before the House for a discussion. Otherwise I want to stick to the time.

**Re : Redcliffe Award with reference to Lathitila
-Dumabari**

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : (Chief Minister) Sir, with your permission I want to read the relevant portion of Redcliffe Award which has reference to Lathitila-Dumabari in Cachar. 'In those circumstances I think that some exchange of territories must be effected if a workable division is to result. Some of the non Muslim thanas must go to East Bengal and some Muslim territories and Hailakandi must be retained by Assam. Accordingly I decide and award as follows :

A line shall be drawn from the point where the boundary between the thanas of Patharkandi and Kulaura meets the frontier of Tripura State and shall run north along the boundary between those thanas, then along the boundary between the thanas of Patharkandi and Barlakha, and then along the boundary between the thanas of Karimganj and Barlakha, and then along the boundary between the thanas of Karimganj and Beani Bazar to the point where that boundary meets the river Kusiara. The line shall then turn to the east taking the river Kusiara as the boundary and run to the point where that river meets the boundary between the District of Sylhet and Cachar. The centre line of the main stream or channel shall constitute the boundary.

So much of the district of Sylhet as lies to the west and north of this line shall be detached from the Province of Assam and transferred to the Province of East Bengal. No other part of the Province of Assam shall be transferred." Sir, para 14 is more important. "For purposes of illustration a map marked A is attached on which the line is delineated. In the event of any divergence between the line as delineated on the map and as described in Paragraph 13, the written description is to prevail."

Shri Kehoram Hazarika : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, পঞ্চায়ত election ৰ বিষয়ে যি আলোচনা হৈছিল, সেই বিষয়ে কি হল ?

Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় মাননীয় সদস্যই ইচ্ছা কৰা অনুযায়ী পৰহি মই বিভিন্ন দলৰ নেতা সকলৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰিছিলো। তেওঁলোকৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি এই সিদ্ধান্ত কৰা হল যে অসমৰ কিছুমান মহকুমাত নিৰ্বাচন হৈ গল যেতিয়া নিৰ্বাচনৰ কাম পিচুৰাই দিব নোৱাৰি।

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, পঞ্চায়ত নিৰ্বাচনৰ বিষয়ে আমি এটা স্পষ্ট উত্তৰ আশা কৰিছিলো।

Mr. Speaker : এই বিষয়ে যদি কিবা আলোচনা কৰিব খোজে তেন্তে নোটিছ দিব লাগিব। আপোনালোকে notice দিয়ক, তেতিয়াহে মই কিবা এটা কৰিব পাৰিম। এতিয়া এই বিষয়ৰ কথা লৈ House ৰ সময় নষ্ট নকৰিব।

I want to maintain the sanctity of the zero hour

Do not waste the time of the House during the zero hour. It is 11.10 and you can take it up again at 11. 15. in the chamber of the Minister. Therefore why should you bring this particular matter before the House during the zero hour particularly when this matter does not concern other hon. Members.

Re : Beating of Satyagrahis at the Jorhat Jail

Shri Soneswar Bora : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যোৰা ২৫ তাৰিখে গোলাঘাটত যি ৮১ জন সত্যাগ্ৰহীক বন্দী কৰা লৈ তাৰ দলপতি শ্ৰীপ্ৰফুল্ল বাজখোৱা এখন গাওঁ পঞ্চায়তৰ সভাপতি আৰু উপ দলপতি শ্ৰীদেৱ বৰুৱাক জেলৰ ভিতৰত লাঠিৰে মাৰপিত কৰে আৰু বাকীবোৰকো ফলা খৰীৰে মাৰিবলৈ উচতাই দিয়ে।

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্যই যিটো সম্বাদ দিছে সেইটো শুনি দুখ পাইছো। তেখেতে যদি অনুগ্ৰহ কৰি চিঠিখন দিয়ে। তেন্তে মই খবৰ কৰিব পাৰিম।

Mr. Speaker . আপুনি চিঠিখন দি দিব।

Re : Looting of fish dealers at Bongaigaon

Shri Kandarpa Narayan Banikaya : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বঙ্গাইগাৱত fish dealer loot কৰিছে। মোলৈ এখন টেলিগ্ৰাম দিছে মই পঢ়ি দিওঁ।

Mr. Speaker : Do you want to read out each and every telegram ? Please pass it on to the Chief Minister.

Re : Secret Session

Mr. Speaker : Now, regarding Dulal Barua's proposal for holding a secret session I have forwarded the letter to the Chief Minister. I think he will discuss the matter with me to-day.

Adjournment Motion—Occurrences at Tinsukia

Mr. Speaker : I have received a notice for Adjournment Motion. The Chief Minister at 9.25 rang me up that he would like to make a statement. Now, Mr. Dulal Chandra Barua will speak about the admissibility of the motion and then the Chief Minister will give the statement.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Mr. Speaker Sir, under 56 of the ...

Mr. Speaker : Mr. Barua you need not mention about rule and other things. You are only to make your point clear.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Yes Sir, the subject matter which I placed before you fulfil all the conditions of Rule 56 and free from the restriction embodied under Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly. It is a definite matter of recent occurrence, and a matter of urgent public importance. Sir, my real contention to bring this motion in the form of an adjournment motion so that the Govt. is cautioned that there are anti-social elements in our State who are trying to create disorder throughout the State. In the past also in various ways we cautioned the Govt. about this fact. As you know Sir, our State is confronted with various problems, like political problems, economic problems and so and so forth. Our State is surrounded by the hostile nations. The hon. Chief Minister is aware of the fact that one section of the population with the help of anti-social elements is trying to create confusion and bring disorder throughout the State. Their ultimate aim is a very serious one. This is motivated, there is a political motive behind it. If they can create confusion and caotic conditions throughout the State with this kind of communalism and sectionalism then they can press Government of India to impose President's Rule here in our State. Inspite of repeated warnings and reminders we could not

feel the gravity of the situation. Till this time no action has been taken against the anti-social elements in the State.

Mr. Speaker : Mr. Barua, don't go too long. Speak about the admissibility of the motion.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Yes Sir, We want to have a threadbare discussion not only on the issue of the Tinsukia, but also on the basis of development of these anti-social activities throughout the State. By considering the gravity of the situation and the conspiracy going on just to create confusion and to create caotic conditions in the State; so that these elements can demand from the Government of India to impose Presidents's Rule for their own benefit, a discussion is very urgently wanted. Therefore, I am giving stress on that. Even in 1947 when there was communal frenzy in other places, Assam remained calm and quiet. We have a tradition of amity and co-operation. But some people came from outside are trying to push our innocent people to such kind of communal tension. If you varify you will find that our people are peaceful and they were never doing anything in this line, but some people who are coming from outside are trying to create ill feeling amongst our people. Therefore, I urge upon through an Adjournment Motion so that we can find a very suitable scope to discuss these matters. Lastly, I again request you to allow us to discuss this matter through an Adjournment Motion.

Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma : এই ৰাজ্যখনত শান্তি শৃঙ্খলা আৰু সাম্প্ৰদায়িক সম্প্ৰীতি ৰক্ষাৰ কাৰণে এই স্থগীত প্ৰস্তাৱটো অনা হৈছে আৰু সেইটো মই সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ। শান্তি শৃঙ্খলা ৰক্ষাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ৰাজ্যখনত নিশ্চয়তা নোহোৱা

হৈছে। ৰাজ্যখনত ধাৰাবাহিকভাৱে বিভিন্ন ঠাইত যি ঘটনা ঘটি গৈছে তাৰ আভ্যন্তৰীণ অৱস্থালৈ মন কৰিলে দেখা যায় ইয়াৰ অন্তৰালত কোনো দলীয় চক্ৰান্ত আৰু ষড়যন্ত্ৰ নিহিত আছে। গুৱাহাটীত হল; তাৰ পিচত কাছাৰত আকৌ এতিয়া তিনিচুকীয়াত ইয়াৰ পুনৰাভিনয় হৈছে। ইয়াৰ পৰা এইটো প্ৰমানিত হৈছে যে এই কুঅভিসন্ধিত বাহিৰৰ পৰা চক্ৰান্ত আৰু ষড়যন্ত্ৰ চলাইছে। এই বিলাকত

Mr. Speaker : আপুনি আকৌ একেখিনি কথালৈকে আহিছে।

Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma : ইয়াত চৰকাৰ ব্যৰ্থ হৈছে। ৰাজ্যখনৰ নিৰাপত্তা জনসাধাৰণৰ শান্তি আৰু নিৰাপত্তা নোহোৱা হৈছে চৰকাৰে শান্তি আৰু শৃঙ্খলা ৰক্ষাত বিহিত ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

Mr. Speaker : আপুনি স্থগীত প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ এদমিটিবিহিটি ওপৰত কবলৈ এই পৰামৰ্শ হৈ আগবঢ়াইছে।

Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma : সেইটো যাতে চৰকাৰে ৰক্ষা কৰে তাৰ কাৰণে এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো অনা হৈছে আৰু মই সমৰ্থন কৰিছো।

Shri Giasuddin Ahmed : Sir, In support of the contention in favour of the adjournment motion moved by my friend, Shri Dulal Chandra Barua, I would like to submit that the matter is definitely of urgent public importance. The security and integrity of this country depends on internal peace. We apprehended after the Gauhati incident series of similar incidents would occur to jeopardise the security and integrity of the State. It is expected that this House should be up and doing and take serious measures so that similar incident may not occur in future. It is of very urgent public importance and this motion should be admitted and should be discussed and necessary steps should be taken to prevent recurrence in future.

Shri Sainen Medhi : এই স্বগীত প্রস্তাবটোৰ এডমিটিভিলিটি সম্পৰ্কত কব খুজিছো। সদনৰ বৈঠক চলি থকা সময় ছোৱাত ছুটা অপ্ৰীতিকৰ ঘটনা হৈ গৈছে। প্রথমটো কৰিমগঞ্জত দ্বিতীয়টো তিনিচুকীয়াত আৰু এই ছুটা ঘটনাৰ আগৰটো গুৱাহাটীত অৱশ্যে সেই সময়ত অধিবেশন বহা নাছিল। এই ঘটনা বিলাকৰ lasting solution হব লাগে। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে 'দেলীগেচন' গল; শান্তিৰ বানী প্রচাৰ কৰিলে—ইমানতেই শেষ হব নালাগে। স্থায়ী 'চলিউচন' লাগে। তাৰ কাৰণে কিছুমান নিদোষী মানুহক ধৰি বা কিছুমান চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীক অদল-বদল কৰিলেই সমস্যাৰ সমাধান নহয়। এই বিষয়ত গভীৰ চিন্তাৰ প্রয়োজন আৰু সেইমতে চিন্তা কৰি ৰাজ্যখনৰ বিভিন্ন সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ ইটোৰ সিটোৰ মাজত যি সন্দেহৰ ভাৱ সৃষ্টি হৈছে সেইটো দূৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে সমস্যাৰ সমাধান নহব।

Mr. Speaker : Mr. Medhi, donot you think that you are going against your own adjournment motion when this motion will be taken as a substansive motion.

Shri Sainen Medhi : সেই কাৰণেই এই স্বগীত প্রস্তাবটো আনিব লগীয়া হৈছে। চিৰস্থায়ী ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে সমস্যাৰ সমাধান নহব। সেইকাৰণেই মই মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীজুলাল বৰুৱাই যিটো স্বগীত প্রস্তাব আনিছে সেইতো সমৰ্থন কৰিছো। এই সমস্যাটোত গুৰুত্ব দিব লাগে আৰু সদনত ইয়াৰ যথাযথ আলোচনা হব লাগে।

Shri Mohendra Mohan Choudhury (Minister Parliamentary Affairs) : Sir, the matter which has been referred by Shri Dulal Chandra Barua is no doubt is a very serious one and also a great public importance and also of recent occurrence, and this House should give due consideration to find out ways and means how these incident should be stopped altogether and how the internal peace of the country will fully maintained. As I have mentioned on several occasions on a motion of this kind that simply it

is a great public importance and recent occurrence and also very vital to the State, this motion, because of these conditions, cannot be discussed as an adjournment motion. My friend Shri Giasuddin Ahmed has already stated that we are having a series of such incidents in the recent times in our State. Therefore, Sir, without going on to any other point I want to submit that the matter is a part of similar incident, how this matter can be discussed as an adjournment motion. The Chief Minister has already given notice which is submitted this morning and will make a statement on this incident. After the statement is made that the matter can be discussed as substantive motion, then of course, the House can discuss this motion. Therefore, instead of allowing this as an adjournment motion we must find out some other means to discuss it.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, I have attentively heard the argument put forward by the Minister incharge of Parliamentary Affairs and he agreed fully that this matter is to be discussed, by considering the important significant of the same through which we are to find out some solution. But on the other hand he has picked up a point from the speech of my friend Shri Giasuddin Ahmed, and has been trying to rule it out by saying that this is not the single incident. There are series of incident have been taken place in these State. But our adjournment motion is aiming not only to raise discussion on this matter but also to censure the Govt for its miserable failure in maintaining law and order in the State.

As my friend Shri Medhi has pointed out that since the House is in session, about two incidents have been discussed one is about the Gauhati incident and other is about the Karimganj incident. The later has happended when the house is in session. These two incidents and the discussion there on by the August House would have been the eye opener to the Govt.

I know almost all the Ministers including the Government officials are aware of these facts but they are unmindful of the responsibility entrusted to them and therefore unwilling to take action in the line as suggested by us. Even when the House is in session and when the Members both from the Opposition as well as from the Government sides are hammering on these points these incidents happen. What does it mean. It means complete failure of the Government in the matter of maintenance of law and order in the State, maintenance of communal harmony in the State. I do not mean to say that these are problems only peculiar to Assam. Such things are happening in other States also. But what I mean to say is that in view of the special problems confronted by this State, and also its peculiar geographical situation Government should be particularly careful to see that these things do not happen. But the Government have miserably failed in this task. You will agree Sir, unless communal harmony can be properly maintained in this frontier State of ours the security and integrity of our State are likely to be seriously endangered because the certain foreign elements are interested in formenting the spirit of dissen-

tion and divisiveness among our people. Therefore, by simply issuing some statements and attempting to shift the responsibility to others the problem cannot be solved. As I have already stated, a big political conspiracy is going on against the people of Assam. Therefore my point is that even in spite of the fact that the Government is aware of this political conspiracy engineered and backed by powerful hands, why did the Government do not take sufficient precautionary measures ? We therefore do not like to discuss this matter in the form of an ordinary motion. As our intention is to establish the failure of the Government to take sufficient precautionary measure in time to put a stop to these communal incidents occurring repeatedly in the State at quick intervals, we do want to discuss this matter through an Adjournment Motion and thereby establish our contention that this Government is guilty of total failure to foresee things, realise the gravity of the situation well ahead of a situation which endangers the security and integrity of the State, and thereby to censure the Government. If we cannot take some effective measure by discussing these things by way of an adjournment motion, what faith will the people have on this House ? It is not for me to point out the different organisations working in our State to bring about a situation of chaos and disorder. The Government is also aware of the activities of these agencies, the C. I. D., the Intelligence Branch of the Government - all are aware of developments in this direction. But in spite of that why the the Government could not take any precautionary mea-

tures ? Considering all these aspects of the matter I cannot agree to the contention of the Hon. Minister-in Charge of Parliamentary Affairs that this matter can be discussed in some other form. Hon. Minister has agreed with us that this is a serious matter and that it should be discussed in the House but he differs from us only with regard to the method of discussing the matter. My point is that this is a very serious matter and that the Government completely failed to tackle the matter in the manner it should have done in spite of the serious happenings that happened only sometime ago at Gauhati and Karimganj. Therefore, Sir, I request you to allow this Adjournment Motion to be considered by the House.

Mr. Speaker : I propose to hear the Chief Minister's statement first.

**Statement by Chief Minister—Occurrences at
Tinsukia.**

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : (Chief Minister) - Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have report to the House of some incidents which took place at Tinsukina on 30.3.68. At about 1.00 p.m. a person was seen taking about 10 k.g. of beef and a raw hide in a gunny bag by some people. These people wanted to take him to the Thana and while they were actually proceeding towards the Thana the number of people swelled to a crowd of about 600. On getting the information a Police party went out and found the man being man-handled by the crowd. They rescued him and brought him

to the Thana with the big of beef. The crowd however followed the police party and demanded the man to be handed over to them.

Meanwhile the Magistrate at Tinsukia and the Circle Inspector arrived at the Thana and tried to persuade the crowd to leave. While this was being done the crowd continued to swell and further entry was tried to be stopped by closing the gates. The crowd which was getting excited, soon started becoming violent by pelting stones and shouting communal slogans. The Magistrate, the Circle Inspector of Police and some Policemen received injuries due to pelting of stones.

Immediately on getting information of a situation developing, the Additional Deputy Commissioner-in-charge and the Superintendent of Police arrived Tinsukia at about 3.30 p.m. and took the crowd to the Dak Bungalow compound in order to avoid a situation in the Thana. The crowd, still excited and shouting communal slogans, agreed to send ten of their representatives for discussion with the A.D.C.-in-charge and the S.P. but by then information of trouble starting in the bazar area reached the A.D.C. A group of hooligans set fire to a stationery shop (belonging to Muslim) and another group ransacked baskets of some vegetables and egg dealers. Some other groups attempted forcible entry into and looting of some bigger (Muslim) firms in the town but this was averted by timely police intervention. In the process policemen became the target of attack and subjected to pelting of stones.

On getting information of such serious situation in the Bazar, discussion in the Dak Bungalow had to be abandoned and the crowd was asked to leave. This crowd also became violent then and started pelting stones. When they were being pushed out from the Dak Bungalow they divided into groups some attacking the Police pickets and Policemen on patrol duty and some menacingly advancing towards the Thana to attack it.

Immediately, seeing that the situation may go beyond control, curfew was clamped in the town at about 4.00 p. m. Police parties went all round under command of Magistrate and independently to control the situation and enforce the orders. For about an hour batches of hooligans had to be chased and dispersed by Police and at four places lathi charge and brusing of teargas shells had to be resorted to.

A strong mob of about 1,000 had brought out the furniture of a Madrassa and defying teargas burnt the same on the street before police reinforcement arrived at the spot and dispersed it.

With arrival of further reinforcement from Dibrugarh the situation was fully brought under control by about 5.00 p.m. and curfew was fully enforced by 5.30 p.m.

At about 8.00 p.m. a report of attempted arson was received and immediately police picket was sent to the spot. No other report was received during the night of 30.3.68. Altogether 60 persons were taken to custody that day.

Early next morning reports of pelting of stones were received. Some other similar reports were received till mid-day but there was no incident except for these. Including some miscreants and ring-leaders and persons violating curfew orders 233 persons were rounded up yesterday. 26 Policemen and 21 other persons received injuries in course of those disturbances. But I am informed by the D.C. that none of them are in hospital, which means the injuries are not serious. The curfew order which was in force since 4 p.m. of 30th March, 1968 has been relaxed to-day from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. to-day (1.4.68). The curfew which was in force since 4P. M. of 30th March, 1968 has been relaxed to-day from 8 A.M. upto 5 P.M. There is the Higher Secondary School Leaving Certificate going on and in order to facilitate the examination the relaxation of curfew has been made.

With regard to the other matters, which the Hon. Members have stated, I think the Hon. Members will appreciate that so far as the administration is concerned, very prompt action was taken, and actually we do not want to tolerate any disturbance whether communal or otherwise. So far as the long term plan for eradicating these evils from our society is concerned it is welcome and this matter requires a good deal of thinking and proper action against them, but I do not think that so far as this matter is concerned this has got any relation to that. This purely a question of law and order and Government has taken adequate step and I do not think that it comes under the purview of an adjournment motion.

Mr. Speaker : I reserve my ruling on this point, I should like to inform the House that yesterday on receipt of the news, I sent a team of Members of the Assembly to Tinsukia. They have left to-day and I am expecting also to hear from them. However, I shall give my ruling on this to-morrow.

Opinion of the Advocate General on the question of rent for Ministers Residences.

Mr. Speaker : The House remembers that there was a debate on Ministers' salaries and other amenities and I said that it would be better to take the opinion of the Advocate General. The Advocate General has sent his opinion and I have received it yesterday. I have decided to circulate this also after being printed to the Hon. Members. This is the opinion.

"The following two questions have been referred to me for my opinion :

"1. Whether the rules framed under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowance Act, 1958 while prescribing the cost of maintenance for the residence of a Minister etc. with the grounds appertenant there to, may also prescribe the maximum rent that may be paid in respect of a house, rented by the Government from a private person for such residence ? In other words whether the cost of maintenance envisaged in sub-section (2) also includes the rent payable for such a house ?

"2. Whether the proviso to section 3 of the said Act which prescribes certain house rent allowances to be paid to a Minister etc. if he does not occupy the free-furnished residence provided by the Government can by implication control the maximum rent that may be paid when the Government rents a house for the residence of such a Minister etc. from a private person.

"As regards the first question, on a plain reading of section 3, it seems to me that the cost of maintenance as envisaged in sub-section (2) in respect of the free-furnished residence of a Minister etc. does not include the rent payable in respect of such residence. Sub-section (1) of section 3 while imposing on the Government the obligation to provide a Minister etc. with a free-furnished residence has not laid down any policy regarding the type of residence or furniture to be provided to him. Sub-section (1) therefore entirely leaves it to the discretion of the Executive to determine what type of furnished residence should be provided to a Minister, a Minister of State or a Deputy Minister as the case may be and the only legislative policy that may be spelt out from that sub-section is that the free furnished residence so provided should be suitable for his residence in keeping with his dignity. If the intention of the Legislature was to provide for a maximum rent that may be paid in respect of a house rented from a private person for the residence of a Minister, it would have indicated that intention in sub-section (1) itself. In the

absence of any such indication, it seems to be that the rules framed under sub-section (2) regarding the cost of maintenance of the free-furnished residence and the grounds appertenant there to that may be paid out of public fund, cannot be implication regulate the rent payable of such residence.

“Regarding question No. 2, the general rule about the construction of a proviso is that when the main provision is clear, its effect cannot be cut down by the proviso. But where it is not clear, the proviso can properly be looked into to ascertain the meaning and scope of the main provision (Hindusthan Ideal Insurance Co. Vs. Life Insurance Corporation of India, A. I. R. 1963 S. C. 1083). The same rule was formulated by the Supreme Court in the following words in the case of “Tahsildar Sing Vs-State of U. P. “A. I. R. 1959 S. C, page 1012 : “unless the words are clear, the Court should not so construe the proviso as to attribute an intention to the Legislature to give with one hand and take away with another. To put in other words, a sincere attempt should be made to reconcile the enacting clause and the proviso to avoid repugnancy between the two.”

“In my opinion sub-section (1) and the proviso to sub-section (2) operate in two distinct circumstances, and there is no such ambiguity in sub-section (1) as to make it necessary to look into the proviso to ascertain its meaning. There is also no inherent repugnancy between the two to need reconciliation. As I have already indicated sub section (1) to

section 3 imposes an obligation on the Executive to provide a Minister, A Minister of State or a Deputy Minister with a free-furnished residence. When such residence is offered in a Government-owned building, the building would have a standard rent to be fixed under the rules of the P.W.D. and but for sub-section (1) the Minister etc. occupying it, would have to pay the standard rent. In view of sub-section (1) While he is exempt from such payment, there is a national payment of that rent by the Government on his behalf. The standard rent in respect of such government building may very well exceed the amount mentioned in the proviso to section 3. That being the case, there is no reason why the same consideration should not apply to a house rented by the Government from a private person for the residence of a Minister etc. on account of non-availability of a suitable Government building. The proviso to section 3 contemplates an entirely different situation and that arises where a Minister etc chooses to stay in his own residence or in a residence arranged by him instead of the free-furnished residence provided by the Government. Sub-section (1) and the proviso therefore operate in two mutually exclusive circumstances and the proviso cannot by implication be regarded as laying down any criteria regarding the maximum rent that may be paid by the Government in respect of a house rented from a private person for the purpose of a Minister's residence.

Sd/B.C. Barua
Advocate General,
Dt. 30.3.68

This will be circulated to the hon. Members.

Announcement by the Speaker—the Constitution of the Legislative Committees

Now, I have to announce the results of election to the Committee on Public Accounts and Committee on Estimates. The number of candidates being equal to the number of seats vacant the following have been elected unanimously :

Public Accounts Committee

1. Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya,
2. Shri Pushpadhar Chaliha.
3. Shri Azizur Rahman Choudhury,
4. Shri Tilok Gogoi,
5. Shri Zahirul Islam,
6. Shri Dulal Chandra Barua,
7. Shri Molia Tanti.

Estimates Committee

1. Shri Phani Bora,
2. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami,
3. Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta,
4. Shri Prafull Choudhury,
5. Shri Sadhan Ranjan Sarkar,
6. Shri Ataur Rahman,
7. Shri Paramanand Gogoi,
8. Shri Bhubaneswar Barman.
9. Shri Sailen Medhi,
10. Shri Matilal Nayak.

Under Rule 198 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I appoint Shri Gaurishankar Bhattacharyya as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and Shri Ataur Rahman as Chairman of the Estimates Committee.

In pursuance of Rule 251 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly I nominate the following Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly to form the Committee on Subordinate Legislation :

1. Shri Jogen Saikia
2. Shri Jalaluddin Ahmed
3. Shri Jagannath Sinha
4. Shri Gajen Tanti
5. Shri Benoy Krishna Ghose
6. Shri Ramesh Mohan Kouli
7. Shri Dr. Bhumidhar Barman

In pursuance of Sub-rule (1) of the Rule 198 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I appoint Shri Jogen Saikia to be the Chairman of the said Committee.

The Committee will function for one year with effect from 1st April, 1968:

Committee on Government Assurances

In pursuance of Rule 257 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following Members of the Assam Le-

gislative Assembly to form the Committee on Government Assurances :

1. Rani Manjula Devi
2. Shri Nakul Chandra Das
3. Shri Shamsul Huda
4. Shri Lakshya Dhar Gogoi
5. Shri Promode Chandra Gogoi
6. Shri Dhani Ram Rongpi
7. Shri Ratneswar Konwar

In pursuance of Sub-rule (1) of the Rule 198 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I appoint Rani Manjula Devi to be the Chairman of the said Committee.

The Committee will function for one year with effect from 1st April, 1968.

Library Committee : In pursuance of Rule 313 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following Members to constitute the Library Committee for the year 1967-68

1. Shri Rothindra Nath Sen
2. Shri Bishnulal Upadhyaya
3. Shri Mathura Mohan Sinha
4. Shri Abala Kanta Goswami
5. Mrs. Pranita Talukdar
6. Md. Matlebuddin

Shri Rothindra Nath Sen is appointed to be the Chairman of the Committee.

**Calling Attention to a matter of Urgent Public
Importance Detection and arrest of Currency
note forgers at Sibsagar.**

Md. Azad Ali : Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Chief Minister under Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly to the news item published in the Assam Tribune, dated 29th February, 1968 under the caption "Forged Currency Notes Detected at Sibsagar, few arrests made."

Sir, a number of cases of possession of forged ten-rupee currency notes was detected at the Sibsagar Branch of the State Bank of India recently. A few arrests were made by police in connection with those cases. Meanwhile it is gathered that a large number of forged ten-rupee notes is in circulation. We want to know about it from the Chief Minister.

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha, (Chief Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the Call Attention Notice, I have to report as follows :

The following forged ten rupee notes were detected in the receipt Counter of State Bank of India, Sibsagar Branch in February, 1968.

1) On 15.2.1968 one forged ten rupee note No. K/15 873904 was detected in the Receipt Counter of the State Bank of India, Sibsagar Branch while one Bhimlal, Peon of Sibsagar Municipal Board was depositing an amount of Rs. 1,359.70. On receipt of the report from the Agent of the State Bank of India, Sibsagar, case No. 25(2)68 under

section 489 (B) I. P. C. was registered at Sibsagar Police Station

(2) On 16.2.68 three forged ten rupee notes (Numbers furnished below) were detected in the Receipt Counter of State Bank of India, Sibsagar Branch while one Jagannath Muddhra of M/S Pirdhon Chhogolal, Sibsagar was depositing Rs. 25,000.00.

K/15-873908, K/15-87304 and K/15.873903.

On receipt of the report from the Agent of State Bank of India, Sibsagar Case No. 26 (2) 68 under section 489 (B) I. P.C. was registered at Sibsagar Police Station.

Shri Jagan-nath Mundhra has been arrested and the houses and premises of the firm searched by Police.

(3) On 17.2.68 the Agent, State Bank of India, Sibsagar Branch submitted a report to O. C., Sibsagar Police Station that the following two forged ten rupee notes were detected in the Receipt Counter of State Bank of India, Sibsagar while one Shew Chand of M/S Tilok Chan Sumermal of Sibsagar was depositing an amount of Rs. 10,006.25.

K/15-873904 and R/15-873905.

Case No. 27 (2) 68 under section 489 (B) I. P. C. was registered at Sibsagar Police Station. Shri Shew Chana has been arrested and the houses and premises of this firm also searched by police.

(5) On 21.2.68 the following three forged ten rupee notes were detected in Receipt Counter of State Bank of India, Sibsagar while Tirtha Kanta Bora, Head Pos'man of Si-

Sibsagar Post Office was depositing an amount of Rs. 20,700.00.

K/15 873901, K/15-873908 and K/15-873908.

On receipt of the report from the Agent, State Bank of India, Sibsagar Branch Case No. 34 (2) 68 under section 489 (B) I.P.C. was registered at Sibsagar Police Station.

All the above noted four cases are pending investigation and senior Police Officers are supervising the investigation.

**The Assam Maintenance of Public Order
(Autonomous Districts (Amendment) Bill, 1968**

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha (Chief Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Maintenance of Public Order (Autonomous Districts) (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

Mr. Speaker : Has the Chief Minister leave of the House to introduce the Assam Maintenance of Public Order (Autonomous Districts) (Amendment Bill) 1968 ?

(The House indicated assent)

Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha : I introduce the Assam Maintenance of Public Order (Autonomous Districts) (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

The Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill 1968

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : (Minister, Finance)

Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill 1968,

Mr. Speaker - I have a message from the Governor of Assam.

Raj Bhawan
Shillong

The 21st March, 1968

I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Sd/ Vishnu Sahay
Governor of Assam.

Mr. Speaker : Has the Minister-in-charge leave of the House to introduce the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968 ?

(The House indicated assent)

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : I introduce the Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968

The Assam Amusements and Betting Tax (Amendment) Bill 1968.

Shri Kamakhya prasad Tripathi (Minister, Finance) : Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Amusement and Betting Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

(The Secretary read out the Title of the Bill)

Mr. Speaker : I have a message from the Governor which reads as follows :—

Raj Bhawan

Shillong

The 21st March, 1968.

I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Amusement and Betting Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968 be introduced and moved in the current budget session of the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Sd/-Vishnu Sahay

Governor of Assam.

Mr. Speaker : Has the Minister-in-charge leave of the House to introduce the Assam Amusements and Betting Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968 ?

(The House indicated assent)

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : I introduce the Assam Amusement and Betting Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

The Assam Purchase Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi, (Minister, Finance) :

Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Purchase Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

Mr. Speaker : I have a message from the Governor dated the 21st March, 1968 : " I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Purchase Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Sd/-Bishnu Sahay

Governor of Assam.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Has the Minister leave of the House to introduce the Assam Purchase Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968 ?

(The House indicated assent)

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Sir I introduce the Assam Purchase Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968. (The Secretary read out the Title of the Bill)

Mr. Speaker : The Bill is introduced.

**The Assam Agricultural Income Tax (Amendment)
Bill, 1968**

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi (Minister, Finance) :

Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Agricultural Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

Mr. Speaker : There is a message from the Governor dated the 21st March, 1968. "I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Agricultural Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968, be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Sd/-Vishnu Sahay

Governor of Assam.

Has the Minister-in-charge leave of the House to introduce the Assam Agricultural Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968 ?

(The House indicated assent)

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Sir, I introduce the Assam Agricultural Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

Mr. Speaker : The bill is introduced.

(The Secretary read out the Title of the Bill)

The Assam Agricultural University Bill, 1968.

Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami (Minister, Agriculture) :

Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Agricultural University Bill, 1968.

Mr. Speaker : Has the Minister-in-charge leave of the House to introduce the Assam Agricultural University Bill, 1968.

(The House indicated assent)

Shri Lakshmi Prasad Goswami : Sir, I introduce the Assam Agricultural University Bill, 1968.

(The Secretary read out the Title of the Bill,

The Assam finance Bill, 1968

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi Minister, (Finance) : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1968, be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved. There is an amendment, Mr. Sailen Medhi.

Shri Sailen Medhi : Sir, I beg to move my amendment. In clause (2) in paragraph B (a) the letters and the figure "Rs. 1,500" shall be substituted by the letters and figures "Rs. 3,500." Sir, this bill has been introduced to fix the rate of Assam Agricultural Income-tax and the Assam Purchase tax for the year 1968. The Finance Minister has

brought this bill to fix criteria of taxation on the income of agricultural products. In the Assam Purchase tax Act also there are some anomalies in the fixation of taxes. On what basis the taxes will be imposed has now come for consideration. The Government has introduced the new bill to tax those persons who are purchasing raw hides and jute. We have seen Sir, that Government mainly imposes tax on the tea industry as the tea industry is considered as agriculture for the purpose of imposing taxes. In the matter of imposing taxes our Finance Minister has tried to avoid our agriculturists who are poor and are not in a position to pay. Even then I would say that here in Assam we do not have any big farmers, or big land holders who are engaging themselves in agriculture. There were some agriculturist land-lords formerly, but now after the abolition of Zamindari we do not have any big farmers. Even then there are some who are holding big plots of land depriving our poor cultivators, and it is our duty to impose taxes on them. We have seen that the tea gardens are allowed to retain huge areas of land for re-plantation and extension. Sir, Government has sought to impose taxes on Joint Hindu Family whose annual income from land is Rs. 1500 or more. Sir, most of our agriculturists earn more than Rs. 1500/-. But our agriculturists need re-orientation in Agriculture. They want modern machinery and implements to develop their agriculture. If our agriculturists are taxed as proposed it will bring hardship on them. I want to say that Government is not encouraging any progressive taxation in this way, but Government is encour

aging a way of taxation by which the poor agriculturists will face difficulty. Therefore, the whole purpose of this Bill is to agricultural tax and fix a tax on those who are purchasing raw hides and raw jutes from the agriculturists.

Sir, the next point, I have to make in this connection is that those who are purchasing raw hides and raw jutes are exempted from tax if they do their business in raw hides and raw jutes inter districts and even if they export their raw hides and raw jutes to any other State or to any foreign country. Their tax is to be also refunded which they once imposed. Therefore, I do not see that purchase of raw hides and raw jutes is being encouraged by this Government. If a person who has any business in raw hides and raw jute, and if that person is also doing business in export of raw hides and raw jutes to other countries, he is liable to get back his purchase tax. Here, Sir, If the Government is not in a position to refund the tax, then these persons will not do any business in raw hides and raw jutes and even for purpose of exporting them outside. In Assam also there are some businessmen who try to do business in such a way so that they can pool and encourage raw hides and raw jutes inside Assam. In their case, Government is not going to levy any tax. But the Govt. is repaying the tax on those who are indulging business outside. Therefore, the whole purpose of this Bill is not properly considered. So, I want during this consideration stage, to bring some amendment clause by clause, to this Bill. With these words, I criticise th's Bill, and some amendments will be brought

after wards to this Assam Purchase Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1968.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the contention expressed by my friend, Mr. Medhi, I want to make a few observation in respect of this Bill. When we have seen that the Bill is coming up, immediately it has struck my mind as on what raw materials the Government is going to levy such kind of tax. Sir, you are fully aware that unless there is agricultural development and through that Agricultural development unless there is economic development of the State there cannot be any such kind of tax to be imposed. I could not follow on whose commodities the proposed taxes are going to be levied. You know, Sir, that the rate of taxation in the State, in comparison with other States except Punjab & Maharashtra, is the highest. Taking the year 1950-1952 as the basis, the percentage of taxation has increased to 600 per cent. But what we have seen? Out of that the taxes are levied on such commodities or on the people with a view to give economic benefit either through industrial development or through agricultural development. But as Govt. has totally failed to bring up the common people, the common cultivators to certain standard of their living through agricultural development schemes, I do not find any justification why this Govt. has been going to levy taxes on the agricultural commodities. Here, in Clause (b), the Finance Minister has stated that in case of other individual firms and other association of persons ! Now, it means this—as

there is no such kind of big firms except the tea gardens or as there is no such kind of agricultural association, as has been mentioned in this Bill, the ultimate blow will be on the poor cultivators who are not in a position to bear the tax—who are pulling on their life from hand to mouth. This Government, though they are advocating for the socialistic pattern of society, they are working against that basic principle.

Sir, what is socialistic pattern of the Society ? It means economic equality must be there. Those people who are wealthy, who are capitalists, they should be pulled down to a certain extent. At the same time, those people who have been suffering for years together due to the economic frustration—those people who have been kept for years together under the duress of the capitalists, should be pulled up to that extent. But the only means by which this can be done is by levying taxes on the capitalist section of the people who are exploiting the commoners in different ways. From that income derived from such taxation Govt. can give some economic relief to the people through financial assistance or by undertaking some other development projects, then to some extent, it will be helpful and their ideology would be maintained. But in actual practice this has not been so.

Now, here in Clause (ii), sub-clause B & A, it has been mentioned 'on the first Rs. 1500 total income.' That means the individual income. Before coming up with such kind of proposal for taxation, I want to ask the honourable Finance Minister to make a clear assessment about the per

capita income of the people of the State. As I have already mentioned, taxation in the State is the highest and the per capita income is the lowest in the State. Therefore, in such a State where the taxation is already highest and the per capita income is the lowest and there is no economic development through which the standard of living of the people can be raised, there is no justification for imposition of such a tax. Sir, as has been seen, taxation here includes taxation on the farms and tea gardens but as you know maximum tax evasion is going on in the tea gardens and uptil now no effective steps have been taken by either the State Government or the Central Government against such evasion. Here taxation is sought to be levied, as it appears from page 2 of the Bill, on raw jute and raw hide. In this connection I would like to submit that the entire burden of this tax will indirectly be on the shoulder of the growers but this tax ought to have been imposed on the capitalist section of the society who are dealing in these articles. Sir, even the existing taxes would have been sufficient to augment the income of the State if Government would have geared up the tax collection machinery. But unfortunately no effective steps have so far been taken by Government to gear up the collection machinery so that the tax evaders could have been detected and brought to book, Our Finance Minister cannot give a single instance by which we can be convinced that vigorous steps have been taken by Government to stop such kind of evasion of taxes. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister what steps the Government has taken to gear up

the collection machinery to collect the arrears of taxes and then how does he propose to implement the Act, whether any machinery has been set up for the purpose.

Sir, as I have mentioned already, tax will be imposed on the first Rs. 1,500 income. But if you analyse it, you will find that it will adversely affect the common people. Sir, you are coming from a cultivator's family and I also belong to such a family. We are five brothers and we have got some limited land our annual income from cultivation is say Rs. 2,000/-or a little more. But we have our dependants. Therefore, you are to see whether this income is an excess over our expenditure and whether it is sufficient or not for the family needs and whether the family has another source of income. Assuming that a family has not other source of income except from agriculture then this tax will impose a heavy burden on the family and they will starve.

Therefore, coming to the aims and objects of the Bill I am convinced that the entire burden will be on the shoulder of the cultivators. They are neither being given any incentive for the agricultural development nor are they being helped in any other way to enable them to maintain their livelihood. Therefore, this tax will be an obstruction on their progress. So, I would suggest that before levying any tax, the first thing we are to see whether the commodity on which the tax is going to be levied is growing abundantly in the State as a result of various developmental schemes undertaken by the Government ; otherwise Government has no moral right to impose any tax on the cultivators.

Sir, we are entering our Fourth Five-year Plan and we have passed nearly 21 years of our independence. What is the basic aim of independence ? Mere change of power from the foreign rullers to the native democrats is not sufficient ; there are other corrolaries and what are these ? Political independence has no meaning unless there is economic independence. Unless a country is economically independent you cannot call it an independent country. Sir, we have already sold our heads to the foreign countries even for food stuff and other necessities.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : How long will you take ?

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Some more time ;

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The House stands adjourned till 2 P.M. Mr. Barua will speak.

ADJOURNMENT

The House then adjourned for lunch till 2 p.m.

(After Lunch)

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I was dealing with about the justification of levying more taxes on the raw agricultural products which will cause great hardship to the common people. Sir, as I have already mentioned the justification in respect of increase in taxation will be there when the income as well as the paying capacity of the people can be increased through various plans and schemes taken up by the Government. Sir, as I have already said the taxation here in the State is the highest while the per capita income is the lowest and the

cost of living index also is the highest in comparison with other States of India. Sir, in this connection I want to say the total tax revenue of the State was in the year 1950-51 Rs. 6.49 crores, in the year 1967-68 Rs. 38.25 crores. There is an increase by 6 hundred percent within 17 years which means in respect of tax collection from excess total tax revenue of the State. Similarly per capita tax raised from Rs. 7 in the year 1950-51 to Rs. 27 in the year 1967-68 that is an increase by 4 hundred percent. The State National income at the constant price of Rs. 1948-49 was Rs. 273.6 crores, but in the year 1965-66 it is Rs. 356.1 crores. The rate of taxation in the year 1950-51 was 3 percent of the State National income. In 1967-68 the rate of taxation comes about 10 percent which has caused extreme hardship to the common people. The target of per capita income ought to have been increase by Rs. 259 in the year 1960-61 that is the last year of the Second Plan Period and Rs. 380 in the year 1965-66 that is the last year of the Third Plan Period against All India average of Rs. 333. But the actual achievement in the year 1966-67 was Rs. 253.5 and Rs. 272.2 in the year 1965-66 i.e a short fall of target by Rs. 36. Therefore, in the ultimate analysis it is seen that there is a loss in the per capita income during the Third Plan Period. From all these it is seen that the Govt. could not reach the target during these Plan Periods. Therefore, my whole contention is that unless there is proper avenue for increase of per capita income is opened for the common people there cannot be any justification for raising or levying any tax on the agri-

cultural commodities. As I have already mentioned that neither we are in a position to give economic benefit to the people through agricultural development, nor through any industrial development. Therefore, I feel that unless there is such kind of development there cannot be any justification of levying tax which will surely fall upon the shoulder of the common people.

At the same time, there is always a tendency to evade the taxes. Then, Sir, the production of agricultural commodities, particularly jute, is not sufficient. There is no large-scale farming of jute. It is only in the Nowgong district, a few areas of the Barpeta subdivision of the Kamrup district and in the Darrang district jute is grown, but not abundantly. The production is even insufficient to meet the requirements of the people of this State. Therefore, if the rate of taxation on this particular commodity becomes high, prices will go up and the internal demand is bound to fall. Jute will then pass into the hands of big merchants coming from outside. Though it is laid down that the tax will be applicable to jute taken outside the State by these merchants, they will naturally try to purchase this commodity at lower prices and this will hit the growers. Then, Sir, another effect of this taxation will be to discourage the growers to grow more jute. Since Government have failed to encourage people to take large scale farming. I think they should not levy this tax on this commodity. Considering all these aspects, I feel, Sir, that the taxation policy of the Government should be kept in abeyance till

the people are economically become sound. Government should rather see how production can be increased. Instead of destroying the incentive of the growers by levying taxes, Government should encourage them to produce more jute. I, therefore, feel, Sir, this is not the opportune time to levy this tax. Our Government should explore other avenues ; for instance, they can find more money by gearing up the tax collection machinery to check evasion, which is going on throughout the State. If this and other measures are taken, the economic condition of the State will improve and we need not go for fresh taxation. With these few observations I resume my seat.

M. Shamsul Huda : মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ আগত বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে Agricultural Income Tax আৰু Purchase Tax লগাবৰ কাৰণে যিখন বিল ডাঙি ধৰিছে সেইখন সাংঘাতিক বস্তু। এই বিলখনৰ মাজেদি বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীৰ সংস্থাৰ মূৰ্তি ফুটি উঠিছে।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : এই টেক্স ১৯৩৯ চনৰ পৰাই অসমত প্ৰচলিত হৈ আহিছে। যিবিলাক মানুহৰ অবস্থা নাই সেইবিলাকৰ ওপৰত কৰৰ বোজা জাপি দিব খোজা নাই।

M. Shamsul Huda : উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, Merchant of Vanice নাটক আপোনালোকে পঢ়িছে। তাত Shylock ৰ কথা পাইছে। আমাৰ বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়া Shylock ৰ নিছিনা হৈ পৰিছে। ইয়াৰ পৰা ধাৰ দিয়া কাবুলিক উচ্ছেদ কৰাৰ সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱা হৈছে। কিন্তু আমাৰ বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীয়ে কাবুলীতকৈয়ো বেচি শোষণ কৰিবলৈ ওলাইছে।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : আমাৰ টেক্স কাবুলীৰ নিছিনা নহয়। যিমান নিয়া হয় সিমানে দিয়া হয়।

M. Shamsul Huda : যি সকলৰ টেক্স দিয়া ক্ষমতা থাকে। তেওঁলোকৰ

পৰা লব লাগে আৰু যি দিব নোৱাৰে তেওঁলোকক দিবহে লগা হয়। এই নীতি সকলো দেশেই মানি চলিছে। এই বিলত কোৱা হৈছে—

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi: ৩৫০০ টকা বছৰি উপাৰ্জন হলেহে টেক্স লগোৱা হ'ব, কিন্তু ৩৪০০ টকা লৈকে টেক্স নাই। এই টেক্স লগোৱা হ'ব উপাৰ্জনৰ পৰা ১৫০০ টকা বাদ দিয়াৰ পিছতহে টেক্স লগোৱা হয়।

M. Shamsul Huda: অন্যান্য ক্ষেত্ৰত **Income Tax** লগোৱা আৰু খেতিয়কৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত লগোৱা একে পৰ্যায়ৰ হোৱা নাই। আন ক্ষেত্ৰত ৩৬০০ টকাৰ **income** ৰ ওপৰতহে লগোৱা হয়; কিন্তু, খেতিয়কৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ৩৫০০ টকা উপাৰ্জন হলেই এই টেক্স লোৱা হয়। ইয়াত কোৱা হৈছে **on the next 35'00 of the total income** এই **total** কথাৰ অৰ্থ কি? বেচি টকাৰ উপাৰ্জনৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত চৰকাৰে ক'ব **gross income** ৰ ওপৰত টেক্স লোৱা হ'ব।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi: **Income tax net income** ৰ ওপৰতহে লগোৱা হয়।

Shri Shamsul Huda: অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই বিলৰ জৰিয়তে খেতিয়ক সকলক উদগনী দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা হোৱা নাই। পক্ষান্তৰে এইটো বুজা যায় যে কৃষক সকল যদি কৃষিত আৱদ্ধ থাকে তেনেহলে **tax** দি মৰিব লাগিব। গতিকে, তেওঁলোকে অন্যফালে যোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগিব। বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰীয়ে এই বিলৰ দ্বাৰা ক'ব লগোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে। কিন্তু তেখেতে ক'ব পাৰিবনে কৃষকৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ উন্নতি হৈছে বুলি? কেতিয়াও হোৱা নাই। কৃষিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত টকা খৰচ কৰিছে হয়, কিন্তু উন্নতি হোৱা নাই। জলসিঞ্চনৰ বাবে টকা খৰচ কৰিছে, আৰু ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে কিন্তু খেতিৰ উন্নতি হোৱা নাই। আনহাতে যিমান উৎপন্ন হয় সেইবোৰ বজাৰত আধামূলীয়াকৈ বেচিব লাগে। ১৯৬০ চনৰে পৰা এই **tax** আদায় কৰি আছে কিন্তু কৃষিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত অবনতি হৈছে উন্নতি হোৱা নাই। এনে অৱস্থাত এই ক'ব লগোৱা ঘোৰ অন্যায় হৈছে। সেইবাবে বিধান সভায় গ্ৰহণ কৰাৰ আগতে জন-সাধাৰণৰ মতামতৰ কাৰণে **circulation** কৰিব লাগে।

যোৱা বাজেট অধিবেশনত Purchase tax আইন আনোতে তেখেতে কৈছিল যে খৰিদ্ধাৰৰ ওপৰত এই tax লগাইছে। তেখেতে বুকুত হাত দি কওক-চোন কেইজন খৰিদ্ধাৰে এই tax দিছে? বজাৰত যেতিয়া মৰাপাটৰ দাম মোনে ৩৮ টকা, তেতিয়া খৰিদ্ধাৰে দিছে ৩৬ টকা আজি যদি এমোন পাটৰ উৎপাদন খৰচ ৬০ টকা হয় তাৰ আধা দামত বিক্ৰী কৰিব লগা হৈছে। যদি quintal ত ৫ টকা purchase tax লগাই তেন্তে সেই টকা খৰিদ্ধাৰে খেতিয়কৰ পৰা কাটি ৰাখিব। তাৰ ফলত খেতিয়কে বজাৰত দাম কম পাইছে আৰু খৰিদ্ধাৰ সকলে স্বেচ্ছাই দাম নিৰ্ণয় কৰিছে আৰু আনহাতে খৰিদ্ধাৰৰ লগতে চৰকাৰেও প্ৰতি quintal ত ৩ টকাকৈ tax লগাইছে। সেইবাবে আমি প্ৰতিবাদ কৰিছো যে এই বিলৰ আলোচনা বন্ধ কৰি জনসাধাৰণৰ পৰা মতামত গ্ৰহণ কৰিব লাগে আৰু খেতিয়কৰ উন্নতি হৈছে নে নাই তাৰ এটা report call কৰক আৰু যদি justify হয় তেনেহলে এই বিল পুনৰ সদনত দাঙি ধৰিব পাৰিব। কিন্তু তেতিয়ালৈকে এই বিল বন্ধ কৰিব লাগে।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think there is a great deal of confusion prevailing in this House. This is not a new tax. The Finance Bill is presented every year stating the rate of taxes and it is going on for many years, the rate which we have prescribed. The point is, this rate was of last year, this year also it is same and the year before last year was the same and no new Shylock has imposed some new taxes as my hon. friend Shri Shamsul Huda has said. Therefore, there is a great deal of confusion prevailing, but this Shylock is quite different here because, the other Shylock extracted money for his own purpose but here this Shylock collects money for the peoples purpose.

Shri Dufal Chandra Barua : Sir, the people are ready to give taxes provided if something can be given through industrial and agricultural development.

Shri Kamakhya prasad Tripathi : I am coming to that. Hon.member is for moral justification of taxes. I was replying to Shri Shamsul Huda that the Govt. is slightly different from Shylock in this sense, there it is like the Sea by it gives back Govt. as much as it takes. Now, secondly, what we are giving to the rich ? I have quoted figures to show that per capita tax on richer class is Rs.17,00/—whereas the per-capita tax on rural people is Rs.5/—only, that is, Rs.5—against Rs.17,00/—and so, this Assam Government is the most Socialistic Govt. in whole of India from the tax point

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, I want the basis of calculation how he calculated. May calculation does not show that figure.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Sir, this is relevant in this sense but figure quoted on the basis of certain statistical calculation by the department of Statistics on the survey in Assam and per capita on rural areas is only Rs.5/—but per-capita on industrial or business classes come to Rs.17,00/—From this point, this Govt. is the most Socialistic Govt. in the whole of India. Therefore from the point of view of taxation this is the most socialistic Government in the whole of India.

Shri Bisnu Ram Medhi : May I request the Finance Minister to explain why the rebate on purchase tax is allowed to those who want to take away products like jute and other things and not to those who want to keep it here in Assam for industrial development of the State ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : That is a valid question.

Now we have levied tax @ Rs. 3 p.c. Hon.Member Shri Shamsul Huda was wrong when he said that we levy tax on jute @ 5 p.c. Last year it was Rs. 5 per quintal but this year we want to reduce it to 3 p.c.

Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma : এই আইনৰ দ্বাৰা খেতিয়ক সকলৰ ওপৰত হেঁচা পৰিব।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : আপুনি শুনিলোক ; তাৰ পিচত কৰ যদি কিবা অৱান্তৰ কথা ইয়াত কোৱা হয়। সেইখিনি পিচত কোৱাৰ অধিকাৰ আছে। মই কৈছিলো যে, যোৱাবছৰ প্ৰতি কুইণ্টলত ৫ ধাৰ্য়া তৈছিল আৰু তাৰপৰা ১ কোটি ৭ লাখ টকা পোৱা হৈছিল ; কিন্তু এতিয়া প্ৰতি কুণ্টলত তিনিটকালৈ কমোৱা হৈছে—আৰু তাৰ ফলত আমি পাম ৫৭ লাখ। টেকচ কমালে আনে ভাল পায় ; কিন্তু দেখা গৈছে—আপোনালোকে বেয়াহে পাইছে। এই এক্সখন যোৱাবছৰ, এই সদনত আপোনালোকে পাচ কৰিছিল।

Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma : মেজৰিটিৰ দ্বাৰা পাচ কৰিছিল ; আমি বাধা দিছিলো। আমি ইয়াৰ বিৰুদ্ধে মত দিছিলো।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : এইকথা কোৱা তেখেতৰ উচিত হোৱা নাই ; আৰু মাননীয় সদস্যই সদনৰ মৰ্যাদা ক্ষুণ্ণ কৰিছে।

Shri Giasuddin Ahmed : 'মেজৰিটি' পাৰ্টীয়ে জোৰকৰি পাচ কৰিছে বুলি কোৱাত সদনক অৱমাননা কৰা হোৱা নাই।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : এইটো 'মেজৰিটি' আৰু মাইনৰিটি পাৰ্টীৰ ভিতৰত হৈছে ; মেজৰিটি পাৰ্টীয়ে জোৰ কৰা কথা নাই।

Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma : এইটোত আমি বিৰোধীতা কৰা স্বত্বেও পাচ কৰি লৈ গৈছিল।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : দুয়োপক্ষৰ ভিতৰতেই এইবিলাক হৈছে ; এইবিলাক কৈ লাভ নাই। যোৱা বছৰ প্ৰতি কুইণ্টলত ৫, আৰু এইবছৰত তিনিটকালৈ কমাই দিয়া হৈছে।

(Voice— সেইটো একেবাৰে উঠাই দিয়ক)

পৰাহলে ভাল পামোহেতেন। ফ্ৰান্সত 'মনাক' বুলি এখন ৰাজ্য আছে তাত টেকচ্ নাই আৰু এই ৰাজ্যখন গেমলিংৰ আয়ৰপৰা চলে।

(Voice—আমাৰ ইয়াতো গেমলিংৰ ৰাজ্য হৈছে)

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Now I could understand the intention of this Government as to in what way they are going to convert it into a gambling State. Are we to understand that because of the incentive from the Hon. Finance Minister, this arrow-shooting business has been going on in such a wide scale and in which some of the Ministers themselves are interested

(Voices—No minister takes part in arrow-shooting) ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : No, whereas the Monaco Government tax gambling as the source of its only income, this Government have not taxed gambling. This is prove positive of this Government's intention. The intention of this Government is not to run on tainted money. Therefore so far as the policy of this Government is concerned, the intention of the Government is to reduce the tax. Therefore the hon. Members should not oppose it.

Now the relevant question raised by Shri Medhi was whether we tax the people who purchase jute etc. for inter-state commerce and not those who purchase for enternal consumption. We levy tax @ 3 p. c. and the Central Government also levy @ 3 p. c. on declared goods, and jute is a declared goods. Now, if there is now inter-state trade on jute, then the person doing the trade will be charged sale-tax by the Government of India whereas a person purchasing

jute for internal consumption, will be levied by the Government of Assam.

Shri Bisnuram Medhi : There by you discourage internal trade because there is tax rebate.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Hon. Member should understand that no discrimination in tax is involved. If a man purchases jute then some percentage of tax will be levied by the Assam Government as it is purchased in and if it goes out of Assam, the Central tax agency will collect the levy. Therefore we give a rebate to them. Last year we could not implement the Act and therefore could not collect a single pie. Formerly there was no tax levied on jute. But in the meantime Bengal Government and the Bihar Government have also began to levy tax on jute. Therefore the Government of India has now permitted to levy this tax also on the condition that we agree to a rebate on inter-state commerce. Therefore on the jute which will be sold for local consumption, we will collect at the rate 3 p.c and the jute which will be for inter-state sale, that will also pay @ 3 p. c. but this levy will be collected by the Government of India. Then, there is a formula according to which the tax so levied by the Govt of India will be re-distributed and our part will be given back to us by the Government of India. Therefore this is merely a change in the method of taxing and collecting the tax. There will also be no difference in so far as the incidence of the tax is concerned. The incidence will be the same either for internal consumption or external use. Therefore the Hon. Members should agree that here

is an attempt by the State Government and the Central Government to reduce the burden on jute because when the Government of India found that every State was going on taxing jute on varying rates, and as jute is an industry which depends greatly on export, they had to direct an uniform levy by all States. Therefore this uniform levy has been brought about by their direction so that all may not levy tax on jute more than 3 p. c.

M. Shamsul Huda : মাননীয় বিত্ত মন্ত্রীয়ে আমাক total আয় নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণৰ কথাটো বুজাই দিব নে? Total আয় বুলিলে খৰছ থিনি বাদ দিয়া হয় নে নহয়?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : total আয় হল খেতিকাৰ খৰছটো বাদ দি যি থাকে। খৰছটো আয়ত বুলি যদি ধৰা যায় তেনেহলে এইটো মহম্মদ তুগলকৰ ৰাজ্যৰ নিচিনা হৈ যাব।

M. Shamsul Huda : আপুনি ইয়াত এইটো প্রচ্ছন্নভাৱে লিখিছে, সেই কাৰণে আমি এই বিষয়ে কথাটো পৰিষ্কাৰ ভাৱে জানিব খুজিছো।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : মাননীয় সদস্য সকলে চাব আমি ৩৫০০ টকাৰ পৰা ১৫০০ টকা বাদ দি ২০০০ টকাৰ ওপৰতহে টেক্স লগাব খুজিছো। তাৰ পিছত মাননীয় সদস্যসকলে কৈছে যে বিলটোত জনসাধাৰণৰ মতামতৰ কাৰণে দিব লাগে। মই ভাবো মাননীয় সদস্যসকলে এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো অন্তৰ্ভব পৰা দিয়া নাই মুখৰ পৰাহে দিছে। যি সকল মাননীয় সদস্যই ভাবিছে যে ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা খেতিয়কৰ প্ৰতি ঘোৰ অত্যাচাৰ কৰিছে চৰকাৰে, সেইসকল পৰিছে মাননীয় সদস্যই নাজানে যে এই টেক্সৰ হেচা মুখ্যত চাহ শিল্পৰ ওপৰত আৰু চাহ শিল্পৰ বাহিৰে কম পৰিছে। and for this reason this has been brought about.

Then coming back again to the taxation of agricultural income, hon. Members have said that upto 1500 rupees

there is exemption, but if it is Rs. 2000, there is no exemption. It is not correct. The taxation level is 3,500. Unless your net income is Rs. 3,500, you are not taxable, but once you come within the taxable limit of Rs. 3,500 net income then you will not be taxed wholly on Rs. 3,500, you will be taxed on 3,500 minus Rs. 1500, i.e. on Rs. 2000.

Shri Shamsul Huda : On a point of clarification

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, on a point of clarification, as the Minister has just now stated that this tax aims at just to levy on the tea produce, as the Government of India is also levying some taxes on it, under what provision of the Constitution the Government of Assam is going to levy tax on this produce ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : There is an agreement between the State and the Centre whereby 40 per cent produce is regarded as industrial production and 60 percent regarded as agricultural production and we are permitted to tax upto 60 percent of the income and they are taxing 40 percent of the income. This is the arrangement between us. Therefore we have a substantial income from taxing it.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : When this has been decided ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : This has been prevalent for a long time.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, as the Minister has said that this has been prevalent for a long time, may I know what is the total revenue we are getting annually out of this taxation.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : I think it is about Rs. 3 crores.

I was trying to tell the Hon. Members what is the number of people actually, who are being taxed in the entire State who are not tea-owners. This will be a relevant figure. This is a big figure of 379.

Shri Bisnuram Medhi : What is the total income out of it last year ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : I have not got the figure or income. The figure is not high.

Shri Bisnuram Medhi : If the figure is very insignificant, we can neglect it. Let us know the amount so collected last year.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : This figure is not with me. The debate wanted to know whether we would be taxing the agricultural population widely. I am merely giving you to know that 379 persons only in the whole State are being taxed. Now it will be appreciated that if 379 people only are taxed in the agricultural sector, then it must be admitted that the rural agricultural population, which is poor or of middle or even higher class, is completely left untouched. Therefore, to say that by this tax the Government has been carrying on an oppression on the poor cultivators of Assam would not be fair, and I hope now that the Hon. Members will agree with me that the incidence of this taxation has not fallen on the agricultural population as such. Therefore, we have not tried to get taxation from

the rural sector. I would refer to Hon. Members my Budget Speech in which I said that in this year nearly 90 crores of additional income would be pumped into the agricultural sector, but we are not going to tax it, because we want that this additional income should be utilised not for the purpose of consumption, but for the purpose of modernisation of our agriculture. If it is modernised by irrigation, seed, manures, etc., in that case, the total production generated out of this investment may run into many crores of rupees, which will lead to the prosperity of Assam, and it is for this reason we have not tried to catch this income which has been generated out of the rise in price of agricultural produce.

Some members have stated that the agricultural population are getting poorer. I was looking to the price parity figures. Price parity figure means the price charged by the agriculturists for the price paid. You will find that the price parity is in favour of the agriculturists, because the price of agricultural goods have increased 230 percent, whereas the price of industrial goods has increased by less than 200 percent, it is 175 or so. Therefore, the agriculturist is charging more money, when he is selling agricultural goods and he is paying less price while purchasing industrial goods. It is for this reason that for the last three years the parity has been in favour of agriculturists. It is not against the agriculturists. Therefore, if the State Government has tried to get a slice out of the increased income of the agriculturists, it would have been justified, but we have not tried to do so. The second

question has been raised as to what we are going to return to the agriculturists. The per capita taxation in our rural sector is only Rs. 5, yet 97 p. c. of the expenditure of Assam Government is for the rural sector and only 3 p. c. is for the urban sector. Now, if we take 100 and pay back 97 for the rural sector and utilise 3 for the urban sector whereas we have taken 95 p. c. from the urban sector and pay back only 3 p. c. to the urban sector and we have taken 5 p. c. from the rural sector and pay 95 p. c. to them - are we not pro-agriculturists? The whole taxation and expenditure policy of the Government has been pro-agriculturists.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Sir, may I know from the honourable Minister how it is so?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : These are the figures I have quoted from a recognised school:

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : I do not know how the honourable Minister has quoted such figures on what basis. Of course, according to convention we are to accept whatever figure is given by the Minister. But, I say that these figures are not correct.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : What is the source of your calculation?

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : The source of my calculation on the basis of figures that have been given by the honourable Minister. It is my own calculation based on the figures

given by the Minister, and I believe it to be true. It is 7 p. c. , I mean Rs, 7, on the constant price. It has come to Rs. 27 in 1950-51 and now it has gone upto Rs. 34 during 1967-68:

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : We have to come by certain recognised school. The figures quoted by me are brought from the Statistical Department. The honourable member has said that the per capita taxation in the rural area in business or industries is Rs. 7 and I said that it is Rs. 5, so there is difference of Rs 2. The difference is immaterial. Therefore, I say that the taxation policy of the Government is extremely socialistic in nature.

Shri Giasuddin Ahmed : Sir, while calculating the per capita taxation of rural areas, whether non taxable commodities are taken into consideration.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Yes, every thing is taken into account. Now, let us take Rs. 7 and Rs. 5 both are to be correct.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : I think the honourable Minister has taken the figures on the base of 1948-49 ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Quite true. Therefore, I say so far as the taxation policy of the Government is concerned, it is based on socialistic principle and so far as the expenditure policy is concerned, it is extremely of rural based, because 25 p. c. of the entire expenditure of Government is for the rural areas. It would be appreciated very much, if the honourable members could understand whatever is said.

Now, the hon.members have suggested that Rs. 3,500 should be increased to Rs. 3,600. I do not say that there is no logic in it, in point of fact, there is logic in it, viz. there should be something more. Obviously to this point we have not applied our mind for two reasons. Firstly, Government of India has set up the Finance commission. This Finance Commission will be coming to examine our accounts and we do not want to give them any chance to say—“Look, your figures at present are less -or, you have so much of income etc. etc.” What we want to do is to keep our taxation structure as it is so that Government of India may come to a quick conclusion on the basis of which the commission will determine our big gap between revenue income and revenue expenditure. It is for this reason why we have not touched the taxation figures.

Secondly, Government of India has set up the Bhootlingam Committee. This Committee has reported to the Government of India that income of Rs.7,500 should be exempted from taxation. Now, the honourable members want that it should be raised to Rs. 3,600. What should I follow ? Government of India have not yet come to any decision on the matter. Bhootalingam has suggested a revolutionary reform in taxation structure. For instance he has suggested 10 p. c. of tax should be levied on all items on excise so that the outturn will be about 1500 crores of rupees. Therefore, if the Government of India accepted what the Bhootalingam Committee has suggested the whole taxation structure of the Government of India will be changed. It is

for this reason we have not applied our minds this year to reform our taxation structure. If we revise our taxation policy as has been advanced by Shri Shamsul Huda, the whole structure will have to be changed. So, we will examine this next year in the light of what the Government of India does and then we will be able to come to certain conclusion. So, I request the honourable members to bear with me for this year only so that we may gain something to revise this and come to a rational conclusion based on the principles which the Government of India may introduce. This year we have started with a deficit of 13 crores and of that we have given Rs. 7 crores by way of D.A. We could not collect taxes to the tune of one crore of rupees last year and we also did not get the royalty as promised by the Government of India. So the honourable members will appreciate the great efforts made by the Finance Department to fill up the gap and to keep the deficit at a reasonable margin from what it was last year. Thank you, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The question is that the Assam Finance Bill, 1968, be taken into consideration.

.....The House divided.....

Result of the division :

Ayes—42

Noes—22

The motion is passed.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi (Minister, Finance) : I move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1968, be taken clause by clause.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Motion moved. There is an amendment, who will move ?

Shri Sailen Medhi : I move the amendment to Clause 2 of the Assam Finance Bill, 1968. wherein it is intended to impose taxes on agricultural income and also purchase tax for financial year 1968-69. Our Finance Minister has clarified everything just now on the position of taxes, we want to clarify further the position regarding finance tax on agricultural income and purchase tax on raw jute and raw hide. Here, in Clause 2, in paragraph B (a), the letters and figures "Rs. 1500" shall be substituted by the letters and figures "Rs. 3500". As clarified by the Finance Minister the tax will be nil on those people whose income is Rs.1500 per annum and on the next slab i.e. Rs.3500 (total income), the tax will be 4 paise per rupee. On reaching Rs.3500 a person is going to be taxed but the amount of Rs.1500 will be deducted from that. After (a), (b), (c), (d) & (f), if we come to (e), then the tax is levied on Rs.11,000 and the rate will be 15 paise per rupee. So, we will see, in our State that a person whose income is Rs.11000 or Rs.12000 a year he is to be considered not a tea grower but a peasant who cultivate paddy or any other rabi crops. Their income is generally from Rs.1500 to Rs.11000 or Rs.12000 per year. So this tax, although the Finance Minister has said that it is meant for tea garden owners, will eventually fall on the shoulders of the agriculturists who are engaged in growing paddy and other agricultural products. So, our contention is this that unless the agriculturists who are cultivating paddy and other crops are differentiated with that of tea industria-

lists, the whole purpose of imposing taxes will, in future, be that the tea garden owners will take advantage of the Act; and in the matter of interpretation the tea garden owners will get the benefit from this Act. On the other hand, the real cultivators of our villages will be in great jeopardy. So we want that the amount of Rs. 1500 should be raised so that the slabs of income will increase automatically where actually the cultivators whose income is higher will be ultimately taxed. Unless that differentiation is made, the tea garden owners will be placed at par with the actual cultivators, although the Finance Minister has stated that they are taking this Bill only to extract money from the tea industry. But here if we place the goat and the tiger in the same cage, definitely the tiger will eat up the goat and its belly will be satisfied. So, in this way, if we want to impose things, the slab income of agriculturists should be raised to such an extent so that it will automatically touch the rich persons, as the taxes can be imposed on the rich persons rather than on the poor peasants. So, if the purpose of the Bill is to levy taxes on the agriculturists whose income is higher than the general income of the cultivators, then the whole purpose of the Bill be served i.e. by raising the amount from Rs. 1500 to Rs. 3500 in Clause B (a) of the Assam Finance Bill.

So far as the second point is concerned, in Clause 3, the rate at which the tax is to be levied on purchase of raw jute shall be 3 per centum ad volorem. Sir, we want to remove the raw jute from the levy of taxes. We want to leave out raw jute for the time being. But the Govern-

ment want to levy taxes on purchase of raw jute and hides. We know we do not have any leather industry here and therefore for the time being we can levy tax on raw hide because raw hide is purchased by the businessmen who are dealing in it. But in the case of jute if any tax is levied on raw jute then, as my friend Shri Huda pointed out, it will not be borne by the purchaser of raw jute. The purchaser of raw jute will not pay the tax from his own pocket and he will try to realise it from the poor cultivators. Therefore we want to exempt raw jute for the time being from taxation and we want to impose tax on raw hide only. We want to leave raw jute out of taxation for the time being for the betterment of our cultivators. Therefore, we have brought this amendment to clause 3 with that end in view. (Mr. Deputy Speaker vacated the Chair and Mr. Speaker occupied it) with these few words I move this amendment.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the amendment moved by my friend Shri Medhi I want to say a few more things in this regard. Here the amendment is that in clause 2 paragraph B (a) the letters and figures "Rs. 1,500" shall be substituted by the letters and figures "Rs 3,500". Sir it seems, as the hon. Finance Minister has just now pointed out, Government has no intention to impose the burden of taxation on the poor cultivators. But we find that the aim is not actually so, as stated by the Finance Minister but their whole intention is to impose the tax on the tea products as well as jute. It

is not clear to my mind how he is thinking in that way by fixing the total income at such a level. That is way we have given the amendment that instead of Rs. 1,500 the income should be Rs. 3,500. Now, it would have been better for the Government that instead of imposing a new tax on jute at this stage if they could have tried to get something from the tea products. As we have stated earlier, a major portion of the revenue from tea produced areas in the State is taken away by the Government of India. Therefore, instead of imposing a new tax the Government of Assam should press the Government of India to give us the major share of this revenue and if they could do it, it would be very much helpful. Sir, I feel pity at the expression given by the Finance Minister that they are not in a position to settle up the issue with regard to oil royalty with the Government of India. Sir, this oil royalty issue has a big background. Last time when the royalty was fixed at Rs. 77.50 P we demanded that it should be more. We have brought this matter to the notice of the Government on various occasions but always we get the assurance from the Government that they would take up this matter with the Government of India for an immediate increase of this royalty. But it is disappointing to see that nothing has so far been done in this regard and we do not know what is the outcome of this discussion. On the other hand this Government is incurring heavy expenditure on certain things which ought to have been borne by the Government of India itself. Since the Naga trouble started, Assam Govern-

ment is spending crores of rupees in the name of maintaining law and order in Nagaland and Nagaland border. We suggested this and I remember our erstwhile Finance Minister gave us assurance that the said amount would be realised from the Government of India without further delay. But nothing has so far been done in this regard also. Therefore, as our esteemed hon.Member Mr.Medhi has very correctly said, though the intention of the Government may not be to burden the poor producers with taxes yet, ultimately the burden will fall on their shoulder. So, I fully endorse the views of Mr. Medhi when he said that the merchants who will purchase raw jute from the local producers will not pay the tax from their own pockets but they will either directly or indirectly realise the tax from the poor producers of the State. The machinery which will be used to check this thing will ultimately fail and the burden will come to the poor cultivators. Therefore, by considering all these things and also by considering the economic condition of the State I suggest that the present rate of revenue from tea which is taken by the Government of India, at least 95% of it should be given to the State for the purpose of development work.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Does the hon.Member know that the Government of India's contribution to our development work is Rs.230 crores which is much more than the total income which we might get from the tea industry either by way of income-tax or any other tax.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : May be more, but we must see our background what we are getting in comparison with

other States. What we are getting in respect of Industrial Development. It may be 10 times more but till we must try to convince the Govt. of India about our position. We cannot proceed on. We are speaking many things in the name of industrial development, but practically there is no industry.

Shri Kamakhya prasad Tripathi : The hon. member has developed a fashion to say that there is no industry in our State. The total expenditure for industrial development last year was Rs.50 crores. It is not correct to say that there is no industrial development. The type of industries we are having here is capital oriented and not employment oriented.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : The amount spent is different thing and products we are getting from those industrial projects is also different. I request the hon. Finance Minister to have a comparative study of the amount that has been spent by the Government of India in respect of other States for industrial development. We are getting only 1/4th in comparison with Punjab, Maharastra and Gujarat.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : For the public sector for instance 5,000 crores has been provided for investment. Out of that very little came to the State of Assam. For instance the Industrial Finance Corporation have only 6 crores of rupees for Assam whereas for Bombay and Calcutta the investment was much more. So far Oil Industry is concerned the investment has been fairly high.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : To Oil Industry you cannot say that Govt. is offering proper treatment. We must get higher in comparison with other States. My whole intention is to

raise this point that there must be certain stage for levying taxes. Our hon. Finance Minister is expert in economics. He has explained the economic theory amply. In Maharashtra and Punjab people are paying more taxes while we know that, at the same time we must also see the rate of industrial development there. Their per capita income is the highest in India and therefore they can pay more taxes.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : So far as Industrial Development is concerned, Punjab is not approaching very fast. Only small scale industries are there. In Punjab their agriculture is so profitable for which the per capita income has gone high.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : If you add income, I mean national income of agriculture plus industrial development I think Punjab will be the highest. Therefore, I feel that this is not the opportune moment to realise tax from these products and before that we must give proper footing to the agriculturists so that they can produce more jute and if we can produce maximum quantity of jute only then we can import. With this I submit that our amendment should be accepted by the August House.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Sir, now new points have been made.

Mr. Speaker : Mr. Huda wants to speak.

*Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharjya : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to place another aspect of the matter in connection with

this Act. Thirty years ago when the agriculturist income was first imposed, at that time also this was the exemption limit, this was the rate of taxes and in the meantime, 30 years have passed. Now, what we are doing in making the exemption limit should be raised. So far as higher salaries are concerned, they should remain untouched.

Sir, trying to intervene the Finance Minister correctly said that not only in the cases of agriculturists all cereals and other commodities by the agriculturists in Tea was not of the same time of the same financial standard of the same paying capacity. There are some who are rich and capable enough and there are again others who are almost of the marginal point of view. Now, as you know, Sir, the money as such, has got little value now-a-days when the gold has been replaced by paper, it has practically no value, only medium of exchange of value. Now, it is time when the agriculturist having made income upto Rs. 15,00/- were exempted. They were exempted because of the purchasing power of that money. At that time, 30 years ago Rs. 15,00/- exempted. Exemption of 15,00 mds of paddy for the producers of paddy. Today, Rs 15,00/- exemption will mean of an exemption of not even 70 mds because already the price of paddy has gone up to Rs. 45/- per md. in some areas of Assam. So, when we think and took from the point of exemption let us consider actually that we are going to give exemption to the agriculturists. That being the case, if we forget the monetary side and if we go back to visualize it from the point of view of Barter system in

the terms of real goods in terms of production only, than $1\frac{2}{5}$ of the previous exemption is proposed here. I think, Sir, no law and order is necessary if some amount of social services to the people of the State is given and it cannot claim that it has given so much of services, and that State is not in a position to claim during these thirty years ago. That is one aspect. The second, even those who have been doing tea and other cash crops. Many of them also are not getting any benefit so far as the smaller ones are concerned. Some companies who are having such an uneconomic gardens are not industrial planters. They are poor Planters who has got not income of something like Rs. 3,000/- or Rs. 4,000/- per year. Therefore as these people do need some amount of protection and as some of these gardens have already ceased to be gardens because of the uneconomic production and income. Therefore even if it gives some benefit to the marginal or uneconomic gardens or to the owners of such gardens we should not grudge. Then so far as the hides and skins and raw-jute are concerned, Sir, we know that so far as hides and skins is concerned a particular type of people only take to this business. They have got quite a number of social handicaps inspite of the fight that is being waged against untouchability and against the social discrimination, it is a fact that we have not been able to overcome the social prejudices against this section of the people who do business on hides and skins. Even though in law they may not be pharias now, even though in law they may not be dispised as untouchables, as people in the lowest rung of the social level, so far as the reality

is concerned, those people who take to this sort of business are really looked down upon by many people, and therefore that social discrimination should be compensated atleast with some amount of monetary benefit. In this age of all powerful money those who have no money never become respected. If by giving some exemption we can raise the dealers in hides and skins in social esteem, at least from the mental point of view, that will be a great social service. So far as the jute growers are concerned, we know what great hardship they have to undergo. Now it will be seen that while in the last few years, particularly, since the last two years, there is going on a spiralling in the price of cereals, the contrary is the case in respect of jute particularly from the last year. There was a time when jute growing was very remunerative and it was considered a very profitable cash crop. Now when the price of jute has gone down to Rs. 40 and when the price of paddy has gone up to Rs. 45 per maund, it is just an ordinary law of economics that the cultivators will be prone to go in for cereal cultivation. It is good in one sense because afterall, more jute brings us more money and the cereals give us food. Then if we have to keep a balance of our economy, we cannot allow our cash crops to venish from our State. We have, as you know, only two cash crop in our State—tea and jute. So far as tea is concerned, we get very little from it, so far as the State finances are concerned. Even if there be some reduction in the acerage of tea cultivation, though that might affect the Central Government's finances, it will have very little direct bearing on the State finances, rather if due to some policy of the State Govern-

ment some of the tea gardens are converted into the fields for production of cereals, probably that will be a piece of very necessary legislation. For the Central Government which is doing injustice in respect of our share of tea revenue and trying to give us only an infinitesimal share of that revenue, if they see that the State Government and the State Legislature have adopted a policy of bringing more and more lands now kept apart in the name of tea under cereal production, then the Central Government will be persuaded to see that if we want to persuade the State Government now to pursue this policy of narrowing down the tea areas, then we shall have to give some greater share of the tea revenue to the State. Even if they do not see reason as a result of that policy then probably we shall have to advise our State Government to take drastic policy in this regard of narrowing down the tea acreage and bringing more and more of the tea grants kept reserved for tea under various grabs. From that point of view as well we are to see that we are going to encourage our agriculturists to take to various types of cultivations such as jute, mustard, chillis, Arahars and other pulses. We cannot persuade them to do that if we do not give them some economic incentives. I am telling you Sir, a small experience of mine which I had an occasion to have last year while I was touring in the interior villages of my constituency. I found to my great surprise that many fields which at one time used for growing paddy only full of chillis and 'dhanias' and such other things. These people who were cultivating these

crops are indigenus Assamese people. I enquired as to how they could take to this type of cultivations.

(A voice from Govt. Benches—on large scale ?)

Yes, on quite a large scale. I was surprised because they did not do it before. They said to then to me that cultivation of this type of crops do not require any book knowledge. Nor any propaganda was made amongst them to take to this cultivation. They had done it because they had seen that it is more paying from their experiences. Some immigrant peasants came at first to this area. They were a very hard-working lot. But they used to grow more of these cash crops, more of these winter crops than paddy and that they found that smaller investment in these crops gives greater return. Therefore having seen them getting the high return from low investment for a few years, these indigenus cultivators also thought that they should also emulate them and started to cultivate these crops gradually expanding the area of cultivation. They assured me that cultivation of these crops was more paying. and we are seeing that it is more paying. They gave me some account of Dhanias, Chilly and some other things and they said that it was much more profitable to grow Dhanias and Chilly than Ahu paddy on these fields, as these fields are not fit for two crops. These are fit for one crop. If these people are to be encouraged to take to a particular type of cultivation, they shall have to see that it is profitable; simply propaganda in the name of patriotism or simply telling them that this will be more bene-

ficial to the country will not prompt them to take to that type of cultivation and they will say that if patriotism is to be practised, they should be for all, not only for us, the poor cultivators. There must be patriotism plus 5 percent, otherwise patriotism becomes only a meaningless jargon. I want to impress upon the House that if we want our peasantry to take to a particular line on the production, we shall have to encourage them not only in the name of patriotism but also from the point of view of profit. That profit may come in two ways. One is their produce should give them remunerative price and the second thing is that they should get some amount of tax relief. This second aspect of the matter was not given stress to in the Bill not so much as the first one. Therefore, if the Hon. Minister would have proposed even a little higher rate in the higher slab, I would not have at all objected to. As a matter of fact when we brought this amendment, we will see, Sir, that we have touched only the bottom. So far as the lower slabs are concerned, we have not brought any amendment at all. So we are one with him in making it at a sliding scale, i.e. in raising slabs, but only our request is so far as bottom is concerned. So far as the poor marginal and the lower middle peasantry is concerned, they should get some relief. There is another aspect of the matter; that aspect is the cost of collection. Unfortunately, our Agricultural Income Tax Collection machinery is not as efficient or as successful as the Indian Income Tax Collection machinery. This I say not with any aspersion towards our men - towards the officers and employees of our Tax Collec-

ting Department. Somehow or other our tax collecting machinery has not yet come to the standard of the Indian Income Tax Collection Department. Now unless and until we improve the quality and raise the quantity of our tax collecting machinery and if we ask them to go on charging for taxes also from peasants having only 1500 rupees of net income, we shall see that this piece of legislation in most cases will remain only on paper. As a matter of fact if we are to be really scrupulous and if we want this particular proposal to be effective cent percent, then quite a large number of atleast the middle peasantry or the lower middle peasantry will have to be touched. What after all the value of Rs. 1500 in terms of goods now a days. The peasant is not even a poor peasant. He must be stated impoverished peasant, if he has an annual income of Rs 1500 only, i.e. Rs. 125.00 per month. He is not a poor peasant, he is an impoverished peasant, who has not got Rs. 125/- income per month. Therefore, as a matter of fact if this particular proposal is not meant to remain on paper if it is meant to be effective, then the entire peasantry will have to be touched by the Agricultural Income Tax Collection Department which has not been done up to. After all what is our experience how many peasant village are really touched by the Agricultural Income Tax Department. If we make an objective assessment we find that in every village on the average peasant families are made to pay tax, other are there is a lot of discrimination given at the lowest rung of the Tax Collectors. Here there is a law by

which he can fall upon one who has got only Rs. 125/- income per month. If he pleases, he can make him escape, he may not ask him to pay. If he is ill disposed, he can pounce upon him. Therefore here there is a scope for discrimination. Now whether you will like to give so much of the power of discrimination in the lowest rung of the tax collecting machinery, or whether you will like to raise this level at all so that those are liable to pay tax do not escape.

You will find now a days that numerous families have sprung up who have more than Rs. 150 as income per mensem because of the rise in the price of agricultural commodities as because of various other social legislations, various projects taken by the Govt. like the Community Development Project, Co-operative machinery, and there has been some impact of all these things in the countryside and there is now growing a class of rich peasants in our villages. Probably it is known to all. I am not able to give the statistics, because this statistic is not handy with me, but I hope the Hon. Members of this House, I think, have got this experience that our countryside has changed to some extent. Previously there were a few families in the village, who were called some sort of Zaminders, now as a result of our Ceiling Act and as a result of our Adhikar Act and as a result of some other agrarian legislations many of them have ceased to be zaminders of the old type. They have now gradually become a class who may be roughly called Kullaks. I have used this term Kullaks, this is a Russian term and we have used it in

our political parlance. This term may not fit properly, but roughly and gradually this word may represent that class. Now this class actually holds the centre of power in the village. You are making a school, some one from this class will be the Chairman or the President of the Managing Committee of that school and others will be members of the Managing Committee. Say you are starting a cooperating society, someone from that class will be the President or the Secretary or executive members. You are having a field management committee, they will be the members and office bearers of that field management committee.

You are having a Panchayat—there also someone will be President and someone will be the Vice President. This is the principle of the village Panchayat. So, we find here all the three pillars of the village society, on which we expect to build a socialistic rural society. But that socialism is being grabbed by a class of Kullacks, because they control all the pillars on which the cauldron of democratic society and democracy are being boiled. This is a great danger for the cause of democratic socialism. Because those who are in towns or in urban areas are in limited numbers. They are ostentatious. Their houses are going up and up, they keep vehicles and they take peculiar dress. So, it is very easy to find them out in the very process of society. In the very growth of the capitalist class, there rises the working classes to fight in the rural areas. So far as the rural areas are concerned - though the country is vast and the rich

class is so powerful, they hold sway over the village people in such a manner even the franchise which has given the people to exercise right to vote, has become some sort of guided democracy. They formally accept the guided democracy of Ayubkhan or Sukarno. We have actually brought our society to that guided democracy. But unfortunately he is hated and he has so much fear that it has become necessary to fight. If you want to fight, fight with whom? It is for monopoly. If monopoly is a power, a prestige or an influence that is to be spread? If you can spread, you can create a wider base of prosperous, at least, a well-to-do peasant in respect of keeping political and economical countryside from the grip of Kullacks. If possible, let it go to the poor peasant and let the poor people develop the position of self-sufficiency and self-reliance. I think in the long run, this loss will be more compensated,

Here, our Finance Minister is confronted with a big problem and the problem is that he has got a deficit budget. When he made the budget at that time, definitely he visualised this income. If this slab is raised he may be surprised to know that the deficit may be more next year. So it will be fair on the part of the Finance Minister to push up finance. If the Finance Minister is sensible, there may be a sensible answer to our complaints. If the slab is raised from Rs. 3,500 to Rs. 3,600, if none of them are ready to escape, if taxation is really implemented, if there is no discrimination, I think, the concession which will be given at the bottom, the Finance Minister will not

be loser even by a pie. I do not say that when propose a departure from the past with some amount of love and affection for the conservatism of last 30 years it will only mean any loss. Probably a time has come when we have sometimes to think of a little radical change. Even though the amendment is there only for reform of the problem and not so much of basic revolution. I think our learned Finance Minister will be able to appreciate the clue and drive in that way in which we are pointing and he will be able to see reasons. We assure him if he agrees to our proposal, to give our cooperation from this side so that our tax collection will be enhanced and not a pie will be lost, rather may be one crore more.

Shri Shamsul Huda : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, অসম ফাইনান্স বিল ডাঙি খৰি বিত্তমন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৃষিজাত বস্তুৰ পৰা ক্ৰয় কৰ আদায় কৰিবলৈ বিছাৰিছে। তেখেতে কৈছে যে এই কৰ চাহশিল্পৰ ওপৰত পৰিব। তেওঁ এই কথা মুখতে কৈছে কিন্তু বিলে এই কথা কোৱা নাই। বিলে চাহ শিল্পৰ বাহিৰে সকলো সবল আৰু দুখীয়া খেতিয়কক কৰৰ পৰা বাদ দিব তেনেধৰণৰ specific কথা নাই। বৰঞ্চ দেখা যায় চাহ শিল্পৰ লগতে দুখীয়া খেতিয়কৰ প্ৰতিজনৰ ওপৰত “এফেক্ট” কৰিব। এই বিল খন যদি দুৰ্ভাগ্যক্ৰমে পাচ হয় তেনেহলে মহান্দ্ৰ তুগলকৰ ৰাজত্বত যেনেকৈ খেতিয়ক হাড়-হাল নোহোৱা হৈ জঙ্গলত গৈছিলে, ঠিক সেই অৱস্থা হব। আনহাতে সমগ্ৰ কৃষি বিভাগ আৰু কৃষক সকলৰ অৱস্থা উন্নত কৰাৰ সকলো চেষ্টা ব্যৰ্থ হব। আৰু সামগ্ৰিক ভাবে তাৰ পতন হব। বিলত যি ১৩০০ টকা খৰচ বাদ দিয়াৰ কথা হৈছে সেইটো মই হলে কব বিছাৰিছো যে ৩৫০০ টকা খৰচ হিচাপে বাদ দিব লাগে। কিন্তু বিলত মাত্ৰ ১৫০০ টকা বাদ দিব বুলি কোৱা হৈছে। এই ১৫০০ টকা বাদ দিলে এটা খেতিয়ক পৰিয়াল যাৰ অন্তত : ৫ জন মানুহ যদি থাকে তেনেহলে আজিৰ অৱস্থাত যি দেখা যায়, এজন মানুহ খাবৰ কাৰণে ৫০ টকা হিচাপে লাগিলে ৫ জনৰ মাহে ২৩০ টকা

লাগে আৰু বছৰি ৩০০০ টকা লাগে। গতিকে সেই ক্ষেত্ৰত বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই ১১০০ টকা বাদ দি প্ৰতিজন খেতিয়কৰ ছাল ছিগি লোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে। তেখেতে চাহ খেতিৰ কথা কৈছে। চাহ খেতিয়ক সকলে ১৫ লাখ টকা লাভ কৰে

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : মাননীয় সদস্যই বোধ কৰে এইটোও জানে যে চাহ শিল্পত marginal লাভ কৰা বাগিচাও আছে।

Shri Shamsul Huda : কোনো কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত হ'ব পাৰে। কিন্তু আমাৰ সাধাৰণ খেতিয়কৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ১৫০০ টকা বাদ দিয়াৰ কথাতহে মই আপতি কৰিব খুজিছো। চাহ বাগিচাৰ মালিকৰ কথা হৈছে কোম্পানী বিলাকৰ কথা.....

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : চাহ শিল্পতো ব্যক্তিগত মানুহ মালিক আছে।

M. Shamsul Huda : ইয়াত clause যিটো নিৰ্ণয় কৰা হৈছে তাৰ দ্বাৰা দুখীয়া খেতিয়কক জুকলা কৰিব। গোটেই অসমত ২।১ জন খেতিয়ক ওলাব পাৰে যি সকলে ২০০০/৪০০০ টকাতকৈ বেচি টকাৰ বস্তু উৎপাদন কৰে। গতিকে সেইসকল দুখীয়া খেতিয়ক বাচি থাকিবৰ কাৰণে ১৫০০ টকা বাদ দিয়াৰ ঠাইত ৩৫০০ কৰিব লাগে। আনহাতে মই ক'ব বিহাৰিছো এই শুদ্ধবৰ্ণি যদি বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীয়ে গ্ৰহণ নকৰে তেনেহলে ইয়াৰ বিষয়ে জনসাধাৰণৰ মতামত ল'বৰ কাৰণে পঠাব লাগিব।

ইয়াত দুটা কথা হৈছে Raw Jute ৰ ওপৰত tax লগোৱা হৈছে।

মই খেতিয়কৰ ল'ৰা—মই জানো অবশ্যে ১।২ মোন মৰাপাট বিক্ৰি কৰে খেতিয়ক সকলৰ মৰাপাটৰ গড়ে ২/১ টকা কম দিছে। সেইকথা জনসাধাৰণে নেজানে। ব্যৱসায়ীয়ে নাজানে। উৎপাদকে মোনে দুইটকা ট্যাক্স দিবলগীয়া হৈছে।

এটা কথা ইয়াতে লিখিছে যে এই বাজ্যৰ ভিতৰত ট্যাক্স লাগিব—কিন্তু বাহিৰলৈ গলে টাক্স নালাগে। আমাৰ মৰাপাটৰ পশ্চিমবঙ্গ খৰিদ্ধাৰ তেওঁলোকে কিছুমান মানুহ ৰাখি থৈছে। খৰিদ্ধাৰ সকল বাহিৰৰ, গতিকে সেইসকলৰ পৰা ট্যাক্স নলয়। সেই কাৰণে প্ৰত্যেক খেতিয়কে মৰাপাটৰ ট্যাক্স দিব লগীয়া হৈছে। আগৰ বছৰ ৰাষ্ট্ৰপতিৰ পৰা সন্মতি নাপালেও ট্যাক্স দিবলগীয়া হৈছে। মৰাপাটৰ

দাম যোৱা বহু বেচি আছিল। তাৰ কাৰণে বেচি টাক দিছে। কিন্তু এইবাব ৩ টকা কম হৈছে।

ইয়াত Objects & Reasons ত Raw Jutes & Hides বুলি ধৰিছে তাৰ পৰা Raw Jute খোলা কথাটো যি আছে সেইটো উঠাই দিব লাগে। যদি তেখেতে এই সংশোধনী গ্ৰহণ নকৰে, তেন্তে জনসাধাৰণৰ মাজত এইবুলি প্ৰচাৰ কৰিব লাগে।

* Shri Kamini Mohan Sarma : মাননীয় চেম্বাৰমেন ডাঙৰীয়া, এই বিলখন অনাহকতে কৰিছে। ইয়াৰ ওপৰত শ্ৰীযুত চৈলেন মেধিয়ে যিটো সংশোধন আনিছে সেইটো মই সমৰ্থন কৰিছো। এই বিলখন যদি এই সদনত পাচকৰি দিয়া হয়, তেনেহলে সামগ্ৰিকভাৱে অসমৰ বিৰাট সংখ্যক খেতিয়কক স্পৰ্শ কৰিব আৰু সাধাৰণ খেতিয়কসকলৰ ওপৰত এটা বৰ নোৱাৰা বোজা পৰিব যাৰ ফলত তেওলোক এটা ভয়াবহ অৱস্থাৰ সমুখীন হব। যেতিয়া চৰকাৰী বিষয়াই কৰ আদায় কৰিবলৈ যাৰ তেতিয়া তেওলোকে নানাবকম অত্যাচাৰ খেতিয়কক কৰিব। আনহাতে, যিদৰে দৈনন্দিন প্ৰয়োজনীয় বস্তু-বাহানিৰ দাম বাঢ়ি গৈছে তাৰফলত খেতিয়কসকল জুৰুলা হৈ আছে—তাৰ ওপৰত, প্ৰত্যক্ষ বা পৰোক্ষ কৰ বঢ়ালে তেওলোকৰ অৱস্থা কি হব পাৰে অনুমান কৰিব নোৱাৰি। সকলোৱে জানে—যিমান কঠোৰ পৰিশ্ৰম কৰি আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে উৎপাদন বঢ়ায়। তাৰ ওপৰত যদি চৰকাৰে কৰ লগায় তেনেহলে খেতিয়ক সকলে কৃষিকৰ্ম বাদ দি ঘৰ এৰি জংঘললৈ যাব লাগিব। যোৱাবহুৰ মৰাপাটৰ ওপৰত টেকচ লগালে; আৰু এই টেকচৰ ভাৰ কিনোতাৰ ওপৰত পৰিব বুলি কৈছিল। কিন্তু দেখা গৈছে যে এই টেকচ বিক্ৰি যি কৰে তেওলোকেই দিবলগীয়া হৈছে। কিনোতাসকলে মৰাপাট নিকিনো বুলি কয় আৰু তাৰ ফলত তেওলোকে কম দামত দিবলগা হয়। এই মৰাপাট বাৱসায়ত চৰকাৰে যি সা সুবিধা দিব লাগিছিল খেতিয়কক সেই সুবিধা একোৱেই দিবপৰা নাই। আকৌ খেতিয়ক সকলৰ অতিৰিক্ত বা অনাৱৰ্ত্তিৰ কালত খেতিৰ কাৰণে যি সুবিধা পাব লাগে সেইবিলাক নোপোৱাৰ ফলত কঠোৰ পৰিশ্ৰম কৰিও উৎপাদন বঢ়াব পৰা নাই আৰু যি অলপ কৰিছে তাতো যদি তাৰ ওপৰত কৰ লগোৱা হয়, কি দুৰৱস্থা

তেওলোকৰ হব চৰকাৰে চকু দিয়া নাই। সকলোৰে জ্ঞানে এহাল বোৱা গৰুৰ দাম কিমান? ১২০০ টকাৰ কমে এহাল বোৱা গৰু নাপায়। তাৰপিছত বিধান আদি, সংগ্ৰহ কৰিব লাগে। একহাল গৰুয়ে যদি ১০ বিঘা মাটিত খেতি কৰিবলগীয়া হয় তেনেহলে তিনিজন মানুহে খাটিব লাগিব। এটা খেতিয়ক পৰিয়ালত ৫ জন হিচাপে ধৰি ললে দেখা যায় পৰিয়াল প্রতি ১০ বিঘা মাটিত খেতি কৰা ধৰিলে তাৰ আয়ৰ দ্বাৰা পৰিয়ালটো বেচিদিন চলিব নোৱাৰে। এনে অৱস্থাত যদি এইধৰণৰ টেকচ, খেতিয়ক জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত লগোৱা হয় তেনেহলে দুখীয়া খেতিয়ক বাচিব নোৱাৰে। আমাৰ মানুহে কয় যে কলিৰ শেষত মানুহৰ অৱস্থা শোচনীয় হব। দুখ দুগতিৰ অন্ত নাথাকিব। বজাৰ ঘৰৰ পৰা হেচা পৰিব গাওঁৰ মানুহ ওলাই গৈ জঙ্গলত সোমাব। আজি খেতিয়ক জনসাধাৰণে আৰু টেকচ, দিব নোৱাৰে তাৰ উপৰি যদি এই টেকচ, দিবলগা হয় তেনেহলে খেতিয়ক জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত জুলুম কৰা হব। দুখীয়া খেতিয়কে নাওল, গৰু বেচিবলগীয়া হব আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ গাৰহাল নাইকীয়া কৰিবৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হব। গতিকে এইখন আইন পাচ কৰিবৰ আগে জনসাধাৰণৰ মতামত লব লাগিব। জনসাধাৰণৰ মতামত নোলোৱাকৈ এই টেকচ, বহোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিলে মাৰাত্মক ভুল কৰা হব। সাধাৰণ খেতিয়ক একেবাৰে ধ্বংস হৈ যাব। গতিকে মই ইয়াৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰিছো আৰু আহ্বান জনাইছো যাতে এইখন জনসাধাৰণৰ মতামত সপক্ষে এৰি দিয়া হয়।

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathy (Minister, Finance) : I am thankful to the speech of Shri Gaurisanker Bhattacharjee which is a constructive one, and I am sympathetically inclined. In point of fact I myself felt that non-revision of the lower slab has been the result of mental lethargy. I would also request Shri Bhattacharjee to bear with me for this year. The main reasons why we have not revised the slabs this year are two—one is the Bhootalingam Committee which had been set up by the Government of India. This Committee had been set up in order to advise the Govern-

ment of India on the tax levies, and certain revolutionary suggestions have been recommended by this Committee— one suggestion is that the exemption limit should be raised to Rs. 7500/. Now obviously if we revise to 3600/- and then again raise it to Rs. 7500/- in case Government of India accept it we will have to do it in two stages. Normally tax structure should not be regularly revised. There should be a fixity about tax structure because this is the barometer against which the progress reports are judged. Therefore, we have to wait and find out what the Government of India do with regard to Boothalingam Committee's report. Second point is that there should be a coparity between income-tax and agricultural income tax because both are in relation to income. We have so long in our country evolved these two tax structures based on the same principle. Now, if Government of India revise their exemption limit upward to Rs. 7500/- it would not be wise for us to limit it at Rs. 3500/- We hope that the Government of India would be able to finalise their decision on this report in the course of this year so that whatever they decide will be reflected in the budget next year. We are also thinking in the same line, and, I can assure the House that in the light of the decision of the Government of India as well as on our own we would look into this matter and whatever is our decision will be reflected in our budget and tax policy next year. So I would request Shri Bhattacharjee to bear with me for only this year so that we may gain sometime to re-

wise this and come to a rational conclusion based on the principles which the Government of India may introduce. The second question which is also very important is that they have set up the Finance Commission. This Finance Commission will be coming to examine our accounts and we do not want to give them any chance with regard to our income and expenditure so that they may catch us and ultimately say "You have so much of income". What we want to do is to present the income and expenditure account as they are so that they may be able to come to a quick conclusion on the basis of which our big gap between revenue income and revenue expenditure might be bridged by them. It is for these reasons mainly that we have not touched these rates. As soon as these two hurdles

Mr. Chairman : Mr. Tripathy, how long will you take to finish ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : I shall finish in five minutes. As soon as these two hurdles are crossed I have no doubt that we will be in a position to examine this and come to certain conclusion in the light of what the Hon'ble Members have said. With regard to the point about jute, one point which has been made is that so far as jute going outside the State is concerned, we do not tax them. It is not true. What has been decided is to avoid double taxation because as soon as jute goes outside the State it goes under the purview of central taxation. We have also levied 3 percent; they have also levied 3 per-

cent. So, as soon as it becomes inter-state what we have to do is to refund. We will raise this but it will be shown in Govt of India account. If it does not go out then it will be shown in our account. So, by this process the income, that is taxation on jute as such, whether it is inside or outside will remain the same. So, there will be no discrimination. Point No. 2 is that whatever taxation on jute whether by us or by them we will be getting this share. If it is by the Govt of India, then by the formula already evolved on this we will be getting our share. If it is ours then we will be getting our own. Therefore, we have this tax. Now, what will be the advantage to us if we do not levy the tax. So long the Govt. of India did not tax raw jute there was a logic in not taxing. But when the Govt. of India itself has come forward to tax and when other State Governments also have come forward, like Bengal and Bihar, to tax, then for Assam to say we do not want this income, it does not have any meaning. Therefore, in the present stage, when jute has become a taxable commodity, it is not wise for Assam Government to forego this income which might come out of that. So, I humbly beg to submit that the logic in non-taxation of jute which was valid then is no longer valid. Now as 5 rupees per quintal is much higher we have reduced it to 3 rupees. That means from one crore seven lakhs, our income will come down to 57 lakhs. So nearly half- 50 percent will be the income. Therefore, I say it is really a proposal for reduction rather than increased in taxation.

The third point was with regard to hides. The point that was raised was that the tax will hit the people who deal in this commodity as they are underdeveloped classes. It is in the social interest that we should permit higher incomes because in the modern society, social status is co-terminus with the nature of income of particular category. Now, on this point also the same logic applies. Now, inter-state sales-tax, if it is applied and if we do not tax, the levy will be 3 percent and the inter-state sales-tax also is 3 percent. Therefore we are not asking for more than what the Govt. of India sales-tax require. Therefore, we are trying to bring it here so that whatever transaction takes place here and whatever transaction is amenable at 3 percent and whatever transaction falls outside, it is also amenable to 3 percent. Finally, it will be appreciated that we have levied this tax at the point of last purchase and not first purchase because there are millions of transactions going on throughout the country and in every village. It is absurd to think of catching them. Therefore, the idea is to catch it at the last stage. Therefore, the levy is at the last stage and outside. As regard level of prices I humbly beg to submit that where there is competition, there is upward pressure. Now, in the purchase of hides as well as in the purchase of jute, there is tremendous upward pressure because of the competition. Therefore, although we levy a tax of 3 percent, this 3 percent will not be able to project itself downward to that extent. It may to some extent. But because of the competition going on in the market this will continue to exert the pressure, and therefore, all the duties

will never be passed on to the purchaser. Part of the duty will have to be absorbed by the exporter or the higher purchaser. Therefore, the amount of fear which the hon. Members have expressed in the implementation of these duties, to my mind, is not correct. After all, taxes have to be paid. In a democratic free society it is not merely an obligation to pay taxes, it is also a privilege to pay taxes.

Hon. Shri Barua himself said that we are depending on foreign countries for wheat. Now, if we want to generate everything in our country, what is necessary? Obviously investment capital is necessary. If investment capital is necessary, where is it to come from? Is it to come from U.S.A. or Russia or somewhere? Is it to be created here. Obviously, Sir, capital formation has to take place here. There are two ways for capital formation - either it is capital investment in the Government's hands or in private hands. If it is to be in the Government's hands, taxation has to take place and that is one of the methods by which capital formation is to take place. Therefore, capital formation in the hands of the Government is wise. Since we have a socialistic pattern of society, it is, therefore, wise to have capital formation in the hands of the Government. Therefore, I would humbly beseech hon. Members not to prevent capital formation in the hands of the Govt. but to enable capital formation in the hands of the Govt. and wherever there is prosperity it should be shared by Government and the people. I am glad that Shri Bhattacharyya has pointed out to hon. Members how a 'Kullak class' is arising in the rural sector. Now, if a 'Kullak' class has aris-

en in the rural sector it is wise that the prosperity is shared by giving such benefits to the peasantry who are not capable of finding these benefits by themselves. For that reason, it is necessary for Government in the growing society to tax the rich and feed the poor in the rural sectors, and this sort of syphoning back from top to the bottom is wise. This is what I am trying to do. For that reason, I crave the indulgence and support of the hon. Members in this matter, Thank you.

One point I wanted to point out. Shri Barua raised this question, I forgot. He raised that so much money is being spent on the Border Security and other things and the Govt. of India is not reimbursing. I am giving the figures: Border Security Force, we spent 25,85,534, reimbursement 25,50,384, outstanding Rs. 50,000.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : Which year ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : 1966-67.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : This is the expenditure, I think for 1966-67. But we have spent money on that account since 1950-1952 I want the total expenditure.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : I am giving the figure of one year.

Shri Dulal Chandra Barua : I am not concerned with one year reimbursement, but the huge amount we have spent.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Operations against Naga Hostiles during 1962, 1963 and 1965-66, 1,74,37,430, reimbursement one crore forty lakhs, outstanding 34,37,433; U.P,

Battalion 20,35,11,809 expenditure, reimbursement 27 lakhs, amount outstanding 8,11,809, Out side Special Police Battalion in connection with North-eastern, 14,34,35, 890 reimbursement, 19th Battalion, U.P. 202 rupees reimbursement, balance Nil, then 18th Battalion U. P. reimbursement rupees 639 balance Nil, Establishment of Checkposts 38,79,670, reimbursement is Rs 31,07,000 and the balance is Rs. 7,72,000. Additional V.D.P. Rs. 2,89,564 reimbursement Rs. 2,89,564 and the balance is Nil, Then A. P. Battalion Rs: 35,31,932, reimbursement Rs. 35,31,000 and the balance is Rs. 932. Therefore, our prospect of reimbursement is quite good.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharjee: What is the total outstanding ?

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi: Total outstanding is 83 lakhs or Rs. 84 lakhs and this relates to 1966 apart from one item which is for 1962-65,

Mr. Chairman: I put the amendment. The question is that in clause 2 in paragraph B(a) the letters and figures "Rs. 1,500" shall be substituted by the letters and figures "Rs. 5,500."

(The House divided)

Mr. Chairman (Shri Rathindra Nath Sen) : Order order,
The result is Noes 46

Ayes 18 The amendment is lost.

Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi : Sir, I correct my statement the accumulated arrears is till 31.3.67.

Statement by the Minister Industries—Small
Industries Development Corporation

Mr. Chairman (Shri Rathindra Nath Sen) : Mr. Sarma.

(Voice—The House is to be adjourned)

No, there was a commitment from our Industry Minister that he will give a statement on the points raised by Shri Dulal Chandra Barua, on Monday. He says that he will not take much time.

Shri Biswadev Sarma (Minister Industries) : On Saturday hon. Member Shri Dulal Chandra Barua raised certain points regarding Small Industries Corporation. I like to give a statement on that. The SIDC set up has been recently overhauled. There was only a part time Managing Director previously. Now a fulltime M. D. has been appointed who has good administrative and managerial experience. The General Manager and Chief Engineer has been redesignated Chief Engineer only so as to engage him entirely in engineering matters. With these reforms it is hoped that things will improve. The Board of Directors also has been strengthened so as to bring in greater initiative and drive and technical experience.

The agreement with M/S William Jacks had been found defective though the agreement originally approved by the Board of Directors was in order. A Board of Directors' sub committee was appointed to go into the matter. The Sub-Committee has recently submitted its report. The agreement with M/S William Jacks has subsequently been

rescinded. The Board of Directors sub committee which included the Secretary, Finance Department, did not squarely fix the responsibility anywhere. However, it is proposed to go into the matter further in consultation with the Vigilance Commissioner so as to fix the ultimate responsibility.

It is true that the factory is closed. It had to be closed because the anticipated demand for Jax Board did not materialise. It was expected there will be sufficient demand from the tea gardens, the P.W.D, and the M.E.S. But sufficient demand did not come from the tea gardens and the P.W.D. had stated that as only the contractors buy building materials they had hardly any say in the matter. The M.E.S. however, recently made it a specified material. The cost of production had also gone up because of higher labour charges. It is however not correct to say that goods worth 3 lakhs of rupees are lying in stock. The quantity of stock available is 49,471 sft. which is valued at Rs. 8,904 (According to the telephonic message received from the General Manager, A. S. I. D. C.) the rest of the accumulated stock has been sold.

As regards the Match Splint factory at Bijni, it is not correct to say that there are no drying chambers. The first dryer was installed in Dec'65. The second one was installed in the middle of 1967, to increase production. As regards the C. I. sheet Plant also it is not correct to say that the machine is defective. A proper corrugating machine could not be supplied by manufacturers in the country in spite of our efforts. So two small machines were got

manufactured in Assam at a cost of Rs. 3,800/- The C. I. sheet Plant corrugated about 220 M. T. of sheet upto now and in my last visit to the Industrial Estate, Gauhati I found the machine working.

The Mirror Manufacturing Plan could not go into production because of the lack of an expert in silvering. The post was advertised a number of times and no suitable hand could be obtained. No such person is available within Assam. This difficulty was not foreseen. The proposal is under examination whether we can have a man trained so that the plant can be worked. It is not correct to say that Rs. 40,000 which is stated to be the money spent on this project is lost. Actually, out of this, value of tools and equipment is only Rs. 690/- and the value of plain glass is Rs 49,700. The plain glass is not an asset which deteriorates or depreciates. Therefore, there is no loss on that account. Mention has also been made of the sizing plant and calendering plant at Badarpur alleging that these are defective. It is learnt on enquiry from the General Manager, A. S.I. D. C. that the sizing machine is working very satisfactorily and there are no defects. In the calendering machine, though it is working satisfactorily now, there was some defect for which there was once a failure. This has now been repaired.

As far as the Tube Lights are concerned, it is not a fact that a large amount of money was paid to the suppliers as air freight. The whole matter was inquired into by a Director not associated with the Industries Dept.,

viz, Shri T. P. Barua, Managing Director, A. F. C. He, after going through the records, found that there was no extra expenditure on the air freight nor there was any irregularity in the payment of bills. This is what I wanted to state.

ADJOURNMENT

The Assembly then adjourned till 10 A. M. on
Tuesday the 2nd April 1968.

Shillong
The 1st April. 1968

U. Tahbildar
Secretary,
Legislative Assembly, Assam.