

**Proceedings of the First Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly
assembled after the first General Election under the Sovereign
Democratic Republican Constitution of India.**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A. M., on Thursday, the 20th March, 1952.

P R E S E N T

The Hon'ble Shri Kuladhar Chaliha, B. L., Speaker, in the Chair, the ten Hon'ble Ministers, two Deputy Ministers and seventy-nine Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which Answers were laid on the table.)

Revision of the Assam Local Self-Government Act

Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA asked :

3. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the compilation of Local Self-Government Act has been completed ?
(b) If not, how long it will take ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR replied :

3. (a)—The revision of the Assam Local Self-Government Act is in progress.

(b)—As the Act is a pretty long one, it is difficult to say how long it, as revised, will take to come up before the Assembly in the form of a Bill.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA : Is the revision of the Assam Municipal Act also contemplated ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : The question does not arise, but I may state that that also has been taken up.

Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA : May I know how much time will it take to finish the compilation of the Local Self-Government Act ?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : The answer is there, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : This is a very vague answer. The Hon'ble Minister should be able to give a little definite information.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : From the nature of things the answer is bound to be a bit vague. As I have already stated, this Act is considerably big and it is difficult to visualise how long it will take to revise it. However, all possible expedition will be made.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I don't think it is a satisfactory answer. The question was how long it would take to revise the Act and the Hon'ble Minister ought to give some idea of time.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: The least time it will take is about six months.

Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA: May I know, Sir, how long will it take to revise the Municipal Act?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It is a new question, but the same amount of time will, I think, be necessary.

Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA: Is it not a fact that the impending elections to the Municipal Boards should be postponed because they will have to be held on the basis of adult franchise?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It is a new question, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Do you want notice?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: Yes, Sir.

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, it has not yet been decided whether the elections to the Municipal Boards will be held on the basis of adult franchise or on the basis of payment of municipal rates. We are collecting the Acts of the different States and a Special Officer has been appointed to examine the whole question. After this examination is finished, the matter will be taken into consideration by the Government.

Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA: May I know how long ago the compilation of the Local Self-Government Act was undertaken?

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: About a year ago.

Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA: It will then take 1½ years.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR: It may take more. I only gave an approximate idea of the time.

Announcement made by the Hon'ble Speaker regarding His Excellency's reply to Shri Mohi Kanta Das's thanks-giving Motion

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I have got to make an announcement. I communicated the decision of the House regarding the Motion of Shri Mohi Kanta Das on the Governor's Address to His Excellency the Governor. His Excellency has communicated to me appreciation of the sentiments expressed by the Assembly.

head—M(f)—Civil Secretariat (Relief and Rehabilitation Department) (total), at page 44 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.62,87,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: In this case the subject is dealt with by the Hon'ble Finance, Minister. He will give the reply.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Very well.

Shri DALBIR SINGH LOHAR: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিবেচনীয় মাননীয় দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই তেখেতৰ Cut Motion বন্ধনিত যিখিনি সমালোচনা এই সদনত উপস্থাপিত কৰিছে, তাৰ মই যোৰ প্ৰতিবাদ নকৰিলে সমগ্ৰ অসমবাসী, অসম চৰকাৰ আৰু মই কৰা প্ৰতিনিধিত্বৰ প্ৰতি কৰ্তব্য কৰা নহব বুলিহে টিয় হৈছো। বাস্তৱ কোনো আভাস নথকাত তেখেতৰ এইটো সমালোচনা বুলিব নোৱাৰি, কিয়নো সমালোচনাবিলাক বাস্তৱৰ পৰিপন্থী। গতিকে মই এইটো সমালোচনা বুলি আখ্যা নিদি তেখেতৰ বিবৃতি বুলিয়েই কম।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, তেখেতৰ বিবৃতি বাস্তৱৰ লগত খাপ নাখায়, আনকি বাজেটৰ ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপন স্তম্ভত দেখুওৱা ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপনৰ আচনি ব্যয়বহুল হোৱাত গোটেই বাজেটখনতেই যিটো জটিল সমস্যাৰ উদ্ভব হৈছে তাক তেখেতে অবমাননা কৰিছে। বাজেট বন্ধত মাননীয় বিত্তমন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপন সম্বন্ধে উল্লেখ কৰা অসম চৰকাৰৰ কাৰ্যাবলীও তেখেতে মনোযোগেৰে নাচাই কেৱল আমাৰ বিত্তমন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ সৌজন্যতেই আঘাত কৰা নাই; নিজৰ মনোবৃত্তিৰে চিনাকি দিছে আৰু লগে লগে সমগ্ৰ অসমবাসীয়ে ভগনীয়াৰ প্ৰতি দেখুওৱা মহানুভৱতাৰ ওপৰত তেখেতে কলঙ্ক সানিছে।

তেখেত বৰ দৰদৰী। তেখেতৰ দৰদ কেৱল অসমৰ চাৰিসীমতেই আবদ্ধ নহয়, ইয়াৰ জেউতিয়ে পূব পাকিস্থানত কিয় একেবাৰে স্তম্ভৰ পশ্চিম পাকিস্থানলৈকে ঠালঠেঙুলি মেলিছে, (হাহি) কিন্তু বৰ মৰমাস্তিক বেজাৰৰ কথা যি, অসমৰ বানপানী, ভূমিকম্পাদি প্ৰাকৃতিক দুৰ্যোগত লাখ লাখ অসমবাসী গৃহহীন, অনুৰজ্জহীন, ভূমিহীন, বন্ধুহীন হৈ ৰাস্তাই ঘাটে, পৰ্বতে কন্দৰে হাবিয়ে বনিয়ে আশ্ৰয় লৈ হা ভাত হা কাপোৰ কৰি অন্যাই বনাই যুৰি ফুৰিছে আজিলৈকে ভাত কাপোৰৰ অভাবত কিমান হতাশ হৈ পৰিছে, ক'তা, তাৰ কথাতো তেখেতে যুনাফৰেও প্ৰকাশ নকৰিলে? আজি দুবছৰেওতো এই ঠলুৱা অসমবাসী সকলৰ সংস্থাপনৰ কোনো স্ৰব্যবস্থাই তেওঁলোকৰেই চৰকাৰে হাতত লব পৰা নাই; মোৰ বন্ধু দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই যদি ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপনৰ বিবৃতিৰ অন্তৰালত এইখিনিও আলোচনা কৰিলেহেতেন তেন্তে সঁচাকৈয়ে আমিও প্ৰশংসা নকৰি নোৱাৰিলোহেতেন। এই প্ৰাকৃতিক দুৰ্যোগত প্ৰপীড়িত ঠলুৱা দুৰ্ভাগীয়া লোকসকলৰ সংস্থাপন নোহোৱাৰ মূলতেই হৈছে এই ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপন সমস্যা; যি কাৰণে অসম চৰকাৰে এই প্ৰপীড়িত লোকসকলৰ পিনে পিঠি দিব লগা হৈছে। কিন্তু আমাৰ দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ অন্তৰত এই লোকসকলৰ দুৰ্দশাই অকলে স্পৰ্শ কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে। তেখেতক স্তম্ভৰ পশ্চিম আৰু পূব পাকিস্থানৰ ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপনৰ কথাই অভিভূত কৰিছে। সঁচাকৈয়ে মই তেখেতৰ এই ঠেক মনোবৃত্তিসম্পন্ন বিবৃতিৰ যোৰ প্ৰতিবাদ কৰিছো। মই আশাকৰো, সমগ্ৰ অসমবাসীৰ চকুত এই বিবৃতিৰ সাৰমৰ্ম সম্পূৰ্ণ কৈ প্ৰফুল্লিত হ'ব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বন্ধু দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই তেখেতৰ বিবৃতিৰ দ্বাৰা কেবল যে এই প্ৰপীড়িত ৰাইজৰেই অনিষ্ট কৰিছে এনে নহয়, ঠলুৱা অসমবাসী সকলৰ লগত অন্তৰৰ আদান প্ৰদান কৰি এটি সৌহাৰ্দপূৰ্ণ আবহাৱাৰ মাজত নিজক প্ৰতিস্থিত কৰিবলৈ অহা ভগনীয়াৰ সকলৰো যথেষ্ট অন্যায় সাধন কৰিছে। তেখেতৰ নিজৰ গচ্ছিত স্বাৰ্থ অক্ষুণ্ণ ৰাখিবলৈ কিছুমান অমূলক বিবৃতি কৰি ভগনীয়াৰ সকলক এটি ভিন দলভুক্ত কৰি ৰখাৰ প্ৰচেষ্টা বিৰল নহয়। এনেকুৱা কিছুমান

স্বার্থলোভী লোকে এফালেদি ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপনৰ বিষয়ে একো কৰা নাই বুলি চৰকাৰৰ দোষাবোপ কৰিব আৰু আনফালে নিবিহ পাকিস্থানবাসী সকলক গোপনে উচটাই দিব যে, ভাৰতত আন আন ৰাজ্যৰ তুলনাত অসমত ভগনীয়াই ৰাজস্বৰ ভোগ কৰিছে। গতিকে যিমান পাৰে ভগনীয়াৰ হৈ অহাইহে ধনী হোৱাৰ প্ৰধান উপায়। কিন্তু মই দাঙি কও যে অসমত থকা ভগনীয়াৰ সকলে অজ্ঞতাৰ এন্ধাৰত পৰি থাকি মাননীয় দাসৰ এনেকুৱা বিবৃতিৰ মৰ্ম উপলক্ষি কৰিব নোৱাৰা নহয়। ভগনীয়াৰ সংস্থাপন কাৰ্য কিমানখিনি আগ বাঢ়িছে, কোনঠাইৰ কাৰ্য্যভাৰ কোন চৰকাৰৰ হাতত আছে, কোনে কি কৰিছে, সেই বিষয়ে দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই মাথোন তেখেতৰ অজ্ঞতাৰহে পৰিচয় দিছে। অজ্ঞতাটোক সাধাৰণতে আমি গুন নোবোলো দোষ বুলিহে আখ্যা দিওঁ। মোৰ অকনো সন্দেহ নাই যে মাননীয় দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই ঘৰৰ পৰা ছিন্নগলৈ অহাৰ সময়ত ৰাস্তাত দুই চাৰিটা স্বার্থানুেষী মানুহৰ জৰিয়তে ভগনীয়া সংস্থাপন সম্বন্ধে যি দুই এটা দায়ীত্ববিহীন অপলাপ শুনি আহিছে তাকেই হে বিবৃতিকৰূপে সদনত দাখিল কৰিছে। নহলে তেখেতৰ জনা উচিত আছিল যে কাছাৰৰ সংস্থাপন কাৰ্য্য কেন্দ্ৰৰ তত্ত্বাবধানত সুসম্পন্ন হয়, অসম চৰকাৰ তাৰ কাৰণে দায়ী নহয়। তেখেতে বোধকৰে। আগৰ পৰা এই বিষয়ে একো খবৰ বখা নাই, আৰু শাজানে যে এসময়ত কেন্দ্ৰীয় সংস্থাপন মন্ত্ৰী কাছাৰলৈ যাওঁতে সেই ভগনীয়া সকলে আপত্তি কৰিছিল আৰু জনাইছিল যে অসম চৰকাৰৰ তত্ত্বাবধানত ভগনীয়া সংস্থাপনৰ কাম সুখপ্ৰদ হৈছে। গতিকে কাছাৰৰ সংস্থাপন কাৰ্য্যও অসম চৰকাৰক অপৰ্ণ কৰিব লাগে। এতিয়া দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ কথা হৈছে বিহাৰ, উৰিষ্যা, পশ্চিম বঙ্গ, কাছাৰ আদিত ভগনীয়া সংস্থাপনৰ ব্যাঘাট ঘটিছে আৰু তাৰ কাৰণে অসম চৰকাৰ দায়ী। এনেকুৱা উক্তি কৰাৰ কাৰণে যদি বিধান সভাত বিৰোধীদলৰ আবশ্যক তেন্তে গনতন্ত্ৰও এটা কলগ্ৰহ।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই কবপাৰো, যে নিজে পথৰ ভিখাৰী হৈ তালৈ লক্ষ্য নকৰি বাহিৰৰ কিছুমান ভগনীয়াক সকলো সুবিধা দান কৰাটো অকল অসম চৰকাৰৰেই নহয়, সমগ্ৰ অসম-বাসীৰেই এটা মহানুভবতাৰ চিন। হয়তো দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই মুখেৰে ব্যক্ত নকৰিব পাৰে। অন্তৰেই তেখেতেও অনুভৱ কৰে। তেখেতৰ বিবৃতিৰ পৰা প্ৰকাশ পাইছে যে মোৰ বন্ধুৱে চৰকাৰৰ কাৰ্য্যভাৰ অনুভৱ কৰে। কাৰ্য্যভাৰী কথা একোকেই নাজানে। এইটো দুখৰ কথা ভগনীয়া সংস্থাপনৰ অনুকূলে কৰা কাৰ্য্যভাৰী মহোদয়ৰ বাজেট বক্তৃতা আৰু মোৰ ব্যক্তিগত হলেও তেখেতৰ প্ৰতি মহানুভূতি দেখুৱাই বিভূষিত কৰাৰ বাবে মোৰ ব্যক্তিগত অভিজ্ঞতাৰ পৰা চৰকাৰৰ কাৰ্য্যভাৰী বিষয়ে তেখেতক অল্প নজনাতে তেখেতৰ প্ৰতি অন্যান্য কৰা হ'ব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বোধকৰো দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই নাজানে যে অসম চৰকাৰে গুৱাহাটীৰ নিচিনা এখন ঠাইত ৩৫০ খন লোকান্বেবে এখন বজাৰ বহুৱাব ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে, আৰু তাৰ বাবে প্ৰায় ৯ লাখ টকা ব্যয় কৰিবলৈ মনস্থ কৰিছে। তাৰ উপৰিও ৫০০ ভগনীয়াৰ পৰিয়ালৰ বাবে উক্ত বজাৰৰ ওচৰতে বাসস্থানৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে আৰু তাৰ বাবে প্ৰায় ৭,৫০,০০০ টকা খৰচ কৰিবলৈ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে।

দ্বিতীয়তে মোৰ বোধেৰে কমপক্ষেও ৫,০০০ ব ওপৰ ভগনীয়া খেতিয়কৰ বাবে অসমৰ কেইবা ঠাইতো যেনে বাঘবৰ, হাটলি, নগাওঁৰ চালনা বাগানত আৰু গোৱালপাৰা জিলাৰ কেইবা ঠাইতো খেতিৰ নাটি দি বসবাসৰ সুব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে, যিকালো ডিচেম্বৰ মাহৰ ভিতৰতে প্ৰায় ২৫,০০,০০০ টকা খৰচ কৰিছে। তাৰ লগতে প্ৰায় ১,৫০০ পৰিয়ালক খেতিবাতিৰ সুবিধাৰ কাৰণে কৃষিক্ষেত্ৰে দিয়া হৈছে। প্ৰায় ২,৯০০ পৰিয়ালক বেপাৰ বাণিজ্যৰ বাবে সুবিধা দিয়া হৈছে।

তাৰ পিচত ছিলঃ চহৰত ৮,৫০,০০০ টকা খৰচ কৰি এই ভগনীয়া সকলৰ বাবে ৩৫০ টাৰো অধিক ঘৰৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে।

ইয়াৰ উপৰিও প্ৰায় ১৭৪ জন আইনজীৱি আৰু চিকিৎসক পৰিয়ালক ৩,০০০ টকা পৰ্য্যন্ত ঋণ দি তেওঁলোকৰ পুনৰসংস্থাপনৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে।

৬০০ ৰো অধিক ভগনিয়াবক চৰকাৰী চাকৰী দিয়া হৈছে।

ইয়াৰ পৰা সহজে অনুমান কৰিব পাৰি যে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে ১০,৫০০ ভগনিয়াৰ পৰিয়ালৰ পুনৰসংস্থাপনৰ ব্যৱস্থা ইতিপূৰ্বেই কৰিছে।

তাৰ পিচত, গুৱাহাটী, কপাহি আৰু নগাওঁ, এই তিনি ঠাইত ২৫০ জনকৈ সৰ্বহাৰা বিশেষকৈ তিব্বোতা বুঢ়া আৰু কেচুৱাৰ খোৱা পিন্ধা আদি সকলো জ্বাৰস্বা কৰিব লগাত পৰিছে। আমাৰ চৰকাৰে এই ভগনিয়া সকলক যে কেৱল খোৱা পিন্ধা আৰু বাণিজ্য ব্যবসায়তেইহে সহায় কৰিছে এনে নহয় তেওঁলোকৰ ভবিষ্যত উন্নতিৰ আলম স্বৰূপ শিক্ষাৰ পিনেও তীক্ষ্ণ দৃষ্টি ৰাখিছে। তাৰ কাৰণে আন আন সুবিধা দিয়াৰ উপৰিও প্ৰায় ২০ গৰাকী ভগনিয়াৰ ছোৱালীক মাহে ২৫ টকা হিচাবে বৃত্তি দি ৰাই ট্ৰেইনিং লবৰ কাৰণে নগাওঁৰ মাতৃ-শিশু-মঙ্গল কেন্দ্ৰলৈ শিক্ষা লাভ কৰিবলৈ পঠিয়াইছে। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও ভগনিয়া ছাত্ৰসকলৰ শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে বৃত্তি আৰু পুৰা মাচুল মাফ দিওতে চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা প্ৰায় ১,০৭,০০০ টকা ব্যয় কৰিব লগা হৈছে। মই জনাত এই সুবিধা প্ৰায় ১,৪০০ জন ছাত্ৰই ভোগ কৰি আছে।

ইয়াৰ পৰাই ভালকৈ অনুমান কৰিব পাৰি যে অকল এই কাৰণেই ১৯৫২ চনলৈকে প্ৰায় ১,১২,০০,০০০ টকা চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা ব্যয় কৰা হৈছে—তাৰে প্ৰায় ৩৬,০০,০০০ টকা বিলিকৰ কাৰণে আৰু ৭৬,০০,০০০ টকা ধূণ স্বৰূপে দিয়া হৈছে।

ইমানখিনি অসম চৰকাৰৰ মহানুভবতা আৰু অসমবাসীৰ ত্যাগ মাননীয় দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই স্বীকাৰ নকৰি ভগনিয়াৰ মুখপাত্ৰ হোৱাৰ ভাও ধৰি নিজৰ স্বার্থান্বেষণৰ বৃথা প্ৰয়াস কৰাতহে মই বৰ দুখ পাইছো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, পূব আৰু পশ্চিম পাকিস্থানৰ পৰা অহা ভগনিয়া সকলৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে ইমান সাহায্য আৰু সুবিধা কৰি দিয়াত শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই কৃতজ্ঞতাহে প্ৰকাশ কৰিব লাগিছিল। কিন্তু তাৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে তেখেতে আজি চৰকাৰৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰিছে। মই দুখেৰে সৈতে কওঁ যে পাকিস্থানৰ পৰা অহা ভগনিয়া কাৰণে যিমান কাম আমাৰ চৰকাৰে কৰিছে সেইবিলাকৰ লগত যদি তুলনা কৰি চায় তেনেহলে দেখিব যে অসমৰ প্ৰপাতিত সন্তান সকলৰ কাৰণে একোৱেই কৰা হোৱা নাই। ইয়াত অনেক পাৰ্থক্য দেখিবলৈ পাব। ভগনিয়া ছোৱালীক মাহে ২৫ টকাকৈ বৃত্তি দি নগাঁৱৰ welfare centre ৰ নাৰ্চ শ্ৰেণীত পঢ়িবলৈ সুবিধা দিছে। আৰু শিলঙতো বহুত ছোৱালীক তাঁত শালৰ কাম শিকিবৰ বাবে বৃত্তি দিয়া হৈছে। প্ৰায়বিলাক ডাক্তৰকে Private practice কৰিবৰ কাৰণে ধূণ দিয়া হৈছে। ব্যৱসায়ী সকলকো সেইদৰে বেহা বেপাৰ আদিৰ কাৰণে ধূণ দিয়া হৈছে। কিন্তু অসমৰ সন্তান সকল যি আজি বানপানী আৰু ভূমিকম্পত বিধ্বস্ত হৈ হাহাকাৰ কৰিব লাগিছে তেওঁলোকক তেনে কোনো সুবিধা দিয়া হোৱা নাই। মই জনাৰ ভিতৰত অসমৰ বিধ্বস্ত অঞ্চলৰ কোনো ছোৱালীকে এই দৰে ২৫ টকা বৃত্তি দি পঢ়িবলৈ সুবিধা দিয়া নাই। এই প্ৰদেশৰ কোনো উকীল বা ডাক্তৰকো ইমান অথ সাহায্য দিয়া নাই। ভূমিকম্প বিধ্বস্ত হোৱা অঞ্চলৰ যেনে ছৈখোৱা, সদিয়া, কবু, মৰককচেলেং, উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰ বা ধেমাজী আদি ঠাইৰ বিধ্বস্ত লোক সকলেও ইমান সুবিধা পোৱা নাই। যি সুবিধা আজি ভগনিয়া সকলে পাইছে ইমানখিনি সুবিধা কৰি দিয়া স্বত্বেও শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই সমানোচনা কৰাত মই বৰ দুঃখিত হৈছো। সেই কাৰণে মই তেখেতৰ কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো কেতিয়াও সমৰ্থন কৰিব নোৱাৰো। মই কওঁ যে ছৈখোৱা, ধেমাজী, সদিয়া আদি ঠাইত চৰকাৰে কি কৰিছে তাক যদি তেখেতে তুলনা কৰিলেহেতেন, তেনেহলে দেখিলেহেতেন যে চৰকাৰে বানপানী আৰু ভূমিকম্প বিধ্বস্ত সকলৰ কাৰণে কিমান কৰিছে আৰু তাৰ তুলনাত ভগনিয়া সকলৰ কাৰণে কিমান বেচি কৰিছে। ইয়াকে কে মই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰিছো।

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH: মননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মোৰ মাননীয় বন্ধু শ্ৰীযুত দাসে যি কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে মই সেই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱৰ বিৰোধিতা কৰিছো। আমাৰ অসমৰ ভগনিয়াৰ সকলৰ প্ৰতি এই সদনৰ সকলোৰে সম্পূৰ্ণ সহানুভূতি আছে। কেৱল এই সদনৰ সদস্যৰে নহয়, এই ৰাজ্যৰ প্ৰকৃত যিবিলাক অধিবাসী সেইসকলৰো এই ভগনিয়াৰ সকলৰ প্ৰতি সহানুভূতি আছে। ভগনিয়াৰ সকলে এই ৰাজ্যৰ এক অংশৰ দুৰৱস্থাৰ সময়ত যেতিয়া আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত আশ্ৰয় লয়হি তেতিয়া তেওঁবিলাকক আমাৰ চৰকাৰেহে যে সাহায্য কৰিছিল এনে নহয়, আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ যিমান অধিবাসী আছিল সকলোৱেই তেওঁলোকৰ প্ৰত্যেককে সহায় সুবিধা আৰু প্ৰয়োজনীয় সাহায্য দিবৰ কাৰণে অলপো কঠোৰতা কৰা নাছিল। আমাৰ ৰাজ্যতো বানপানী আৰু ভূমিকম্পত লাখ লাখ মানুহ বিপন্ন হোৱা স্বত্বেও সেই দুৰ্দশাগ্ৰস্ত মানুহলৈ পিঠি দি বাহিৰৰ পৰা অহা মানুহবিলাকৰ সুখ সুবিধাৰ কাৰণে সকলোৱে সমানে যত্ন লৈছিল। এনে অৱস্থাতো যদি কোনোৱে কয় যে এই চৰকাৰে ভগনিয়াৰ সকলক কোনো সহানুভূতি দেখুওৱা নাই আৰু তেওঁলোকক সাহায্য কৰিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে মন দিয়া নাই, তেন্তে আমি সটাকৈ বৰ দুঃখ পাম।

কৰিমগঞ্জ কেম্পত থকা ভগনিয়াৰ সকলক চৰকাৰে মাটিৰ যোগাৰ দিব পৰা নাই বুলি তেখেতে অভিযোগ আনিছে। মাটিৰ সমস্যাটো আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত এটা ডাঙৰ সমস্যা হৈ পৰিছে। এই কথা এই সদনৰ ৰাজ্জেট বিতৰ্কৰ প্ৰসঙ্গতে পৰিক্ৰমকৈ ফুটি ওলাইছে। ৰাজ্জেট বিতৰ্কত এই সদনৰ সকলো সদস্যই মাটিৰ সমস্যালৈ আগলিউৱাটো বিশেষকৈ মন কৰিবলগীয়া কথা। ইয়াৰ পৰা স্পষ্টকৈ বুজিব পাৰি যে এই ৰাজ্যত মাটিৰ অভাৱ আভাৱৰ পৰা নাই। যদিও আজি আমাৰ লাখ লাখ মানুহে মাটিৰ অভাৱৰ কাৰণেই আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ উন্নতি সাধিব পৰা নাই, তথাপি বাহিৰৰ পৰা অহা দুৰ্গত মানুহবিলাকক সহায় সহানুভূতি কৰা কথাটো অতি সোনকালে অনুভৱ কৰিব পাৰি। আমাৰ চৰকাৰে ভগনিয়াৰ সকলৰ প্ৰতি যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে সি যে অতি সন্তোষজনক তাক অলপ মন কৰিলেই বুজিব পৰা যায়। যোৱা নভেম্বৰ মাহত যেতিয়া মই কাছাৰ জিলাৰ ভগনিয়াৰ কেম্প চাবলৈ গৈছিলো তেতিয়া কেম্পৰ ভগনিয়াৰ সকলে সভা পাতি মোক অনুৰোধ কৰিছিল যে সেই কেম্পটো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ পৰা অসম চৰকাৰে লব লাগে। কাৰণ অসম চৰকাৰে যি সুবিধা আৰু সাহায্য দিছে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে তাক দিব পৰা নাই। আমাৰ চৰকাৰে যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে সেইটো যদি বেয়া হ'লহেতেন তেনেহলে ভগনিয়া সকলে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ তলৰ পৰা অসম চৰকাৰৰ তললৈ আহিবলৈ নিবিচাৰিলে হেঁতেন। হাইলাকাদি আৰু কৰিমগঞ্জৰ কেম্পবোৰো মই চাই আহিছো আৰু দেখি আহিছো যে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে যিমানদূৰ সম্ভৱ সকলোখিনি কৰিছে যদিও তেওঁলোকে সন্তোষিত হ'ব পৰা নাই। অৱশ্যে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে যিবোৰ সহায় আৰু সুবিধা দিছে সেইবোৰ ভগনিয়াৰ সকলে সদব্যৱহাৰ কৰিব পাৰিছেনে নাই ক'ব নোৱাৰো। তাত এটা কথা শুনি আহিলো যে পাকিস্থানৰ পৰা অহা ভগনিয়াৰ সকলে তাতো ঘৰ-দুৱাৰ ৰাখিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিছে। ইয়াত কেৱল চালি এখনৰ দৰে সাজি কোনোমতে সোমাই থাকি বাকী টকা পাকিস্থানলৈ পঠাই দিছে। এনে কাৰ্য্য কৰিবলৈ হলে এই ভগনিয়াৰ সকলক সন্তুষ্ট কৰা কিমানদূৰ সম্ভৱপৰ হ'ব ক'ব নোৱাৰো। গতিকে চৰকাৰৰ কাৰ্য্যৰ সমালোচনা কৰাৰ আগতে এইবিলাক কথাও ভাবি চোৱা উচিত হ'ব। আজি আমাৰ চৰকাৰে যি উদ্দেশ্যৰে টকা খৰচ কৰিছে, সেই টকা সেই উদ্দেশ্যত খৰচ হোৱা নাই আৰু সেই উদ্দেশ্যৰ অপব্যৱহাৰ হৈছে। এইদৰে, চৰকাৰে দিয়া টকা অপব্যয় আৰু অপব্যৱহাৰ নকৰি, যাতে এই টকাৰ প্ৰকৃত ব্যৱহাৰ লয় তাৰ কাৰণে ভগনিয়াৰ বিলাক আৰু অন্যান্য সহানুভূতিপূৰ্ণ লোক সকল যত্নপৰ হোৱা দৰ্কাৰ। কাছাৰৰ কাটাগড়া থানাৰ ভগনিয়াৰ বিলাকে তেওঁবিলাকৰ অভিযোগত কৈছিল যে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা তেওঁলোকে ঔষধালয় পোৱা নাই, খোৱা পানীৰ সুব্যৱস্থা পোৱা নাই, আৰু এইবিলাকৰ দিহা অতিশীঘ্ৰে কৰিব লাগে আৰু খেতিৰ কাৰণে মাটি দিব লাগে। মাননীয় সদস্য সকলক মই এইটোকেই নিবেদন কৰিব খুজিছো যে, আমাৰ ৰাজ্যলৈ যিবিলাক ভগনিয়াৰ আহিছে সেইবিলাকক সংস্থাপন কৰা কাৰ্য্য সহজ নহয়; ই এটা ডাঙৰ কাৰ্য্য—কাৰণ ভগনিয়াৰ (Refugee) সকলৰ ভিতৰত আহিছে কিছুমান খেতিয়ক, কিছুমান কাৰিকৰ, কিছুমান হয়তো ডাক্তৰ আৰু নানান ব্যৱসায় কৰা মানুহ; সি বিলাকক অভিকৃতি মতে

ব্যৱসায় দিয়া অকল চৰকাৰৰ সম্ভৱ নহয়; এই বিভিন্ন অভিকচিৰ ভগনিয়াৰ বিলাকৰ সংস্থাপন বিষয়ত, কেৱল চৰকাৰৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি থাকিলেই কেতিয়াও সমস্যা সমাধান হ'ব নোৱাৰিব। এই বিষয়ত সহানুভূতিশীল মাননীয় সদস্য সকলৰ বাহিৰেও অন্যান্য সদাশয় লোক সকল যত্নপৰ হ'ব লাগিব যাতে তেওঁবিলাকৰ সৰ্বতোপ্ৰকাৰৰ মঙ্গলজনক কাৰ্যত তেওঁবিলাকৰ সহায় হয়।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই বিষয়ত চৰকাৰে যি খিনি কাৰ্য্যৰ আচনি হাতত লৈছে, বিভিন্নমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে মাননীয় সদস্য সকলৰ আগত সেই খিনিৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছেই। এই আচনি বিলাকত দেখা যায় যে চৰকাৰে যি উদ্দেশ্য লৈ এই কাৰ্য্য হাতত লৈছে, তাৰ কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰোতে নিশ্চয় সময় লাগিব আৰু এই বিৰাট বিভিন্ন কচি অভিকচি বিলাকৰ লগত খাপ খোৱাকৈ আচনি বিলাক কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিবলৈ হলে সদনৰ সহানুভূতিপূৰ্ণ সকলো সদস্য আৰু বাহিৰা সদাশয় লোক সকলৰ আন্তৰিকতা আৰু সহযোগিতা দৰ্কাৰ হ'ব আৰু দেখুৱাব লাগিব। তাকে নকৰি যদি, চৰকাৰৰ এই সজ্ঞ আচনি বিলাকত কেৱল সমালোচনাৰ উপৰি সমালোচনাইহে ক'ব হয় তেন্তে এইবিলাক কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত কৰাত যথেষ্ট পলম হ'ব আৰু যিমান সোনকালে এই কাৰ্য্যৰ প্ৰয়োজন সিমান সোনকালে সম্পূৰ্ণ হৈ নুঠিব। সেই কাৰণে মই আমাৰ মাননীয় দাস বন্ধুক অনুৰোধ কৰিব খোজো যে যিবিলাক ভগনিয়াৰ আহি আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত সোমাইছেহি, সেই সকলৰ প্ৰতি আমাৰ চৰকাৰে যি সহানুভূতি দেখুৱাইছে আৰু এই সদনৰ সদস্য সকলৰ যি সহানুভূতি আছে, সেই সহানুভূতিত কোনো প্ৰকাৰৰ অঘাত নকৰাকৈ সমালোচনাৰ অবতাবনা কৰিলেহে ভাল পাওঁ আৰু তেনে কৰিলেহে Refugee বিলাকৰ প্ৰকৃত সহায় কৰা হ'ব বুলি ভাবো। সেই কাৰণে, মই শ্ৰীযুত দাস দেৱৰ এই বিষয়ৰ কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ প্ৰতি তীব্ৰ প্ৰতিবাদ কৰি বিবোধিতা কৰিছো।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am extremely sorry that our hon. Friend, Mr. Lohar, has contraposed the problem of the destitute refugees and the problem of the flood and earthquake stricken people of this Province. These two problems are not to be contraposed to one another; both are our problems and we must solve both of them. I am in agreement with him when he said that we have been failing to do justice and to give necessary relief and aid to the flood and earthquake stricken indigenous people of this Province. I personally saw something of this when I was arrested in October 1950; I was taken to the Gauhati Jail and I saw there a big room, a hall, full of powdered milk which came from outside India for giving relief to the earthquake stricken people of Assam and when I was transferred from the Gauhati Jail in April, 1951, I still saw a lot of this powdered milk stocked. These tins of powdered milk were meant to be given free as relief to the stricken people of North Lakhimpur, Sadiya and so on, but they were rotting in the Gauhati Jail. These things do happen and there are really many instances of such mishandling. But while it is true that this Government has failed to do justice to these people, it is also equally true that this Government has been showing a step-motherly affection to the refugees. These refugees are here not out of their own choice. They are not responsible for having to leave their dear homes, their green fields and their ancestral properties. It is due to the political settlement that they had to come here and to go to many other places. This problem of giving relief and rehabilitation to the refugees is not a question of showing philanthropy, it is not a question of good neighbourliness, it is not a question of magnanimity—It is a sacred duty of every Indian—(hear, hear)—to do justice to these brethren who have been wronged in various ways by a political settlement for which the Party in Power is responsible. Now, having created this problem, having made these people homeless, having made these people suffer, this Government is taking a course as though they are only doing a sort of kindness towards them and not doing a duty. I do not know whether the figures that my hon. Friend, Mr. Lohar, has suggested are Government figures. I think the Treasur

Benchés will enlighten us on that. But though I come from Gauhati, I have not seen refugee Bazar which has been constructed there at the cost of rupees 9 lakhs. I do hope to see it in future perhaps. I have not also seen any township which has been built up at the cost of 8 lakhs of rupees or so. I think, this will be built up in some future date. But God knows after how many decades? After how many years you will do this for the refugees? Where are they today? Are they not to-day taking shelter in some shattered cottages, or even under the trees? Are they not being treated as beggars and even as political pawns by the Party in power? Whenever they go to any body for getting relief, whenever they approach any officer for relief, the first thing that officer is doing is to demand a bribe. I say this not in an irresponsible way, but with sufficient knowledge of facts and with a full sense of responsibility. When it was said that several lakhs of rupees have been loaned out as relief and rehabilitation loans to refugees, may I ask whether the hon. Members on the other side will care to enquire into the matter as to how many lakhs of this money has really gone into the pockets of the relief and rehabilitation officers? Have not many of these Relief and Rehabilitation officers created some faked refugees, non-existent refugees and sanctioned loans to them and have appropriated this loan to themselves along with other touts? Will the hon. Members on the other side take the trouble of enquiring into the matter? Have not such representations been given to the Hon'ble Chief Minister or even to His Excellency the Governor from the refugees protesting against such fake loaning out? Are not the refugees here in Shillong itself living in a most deplorable condition? There are refugees who have roadside small stalls and have now been served with eviction notices. These small stall holders did not make any encroachment, but they took due licenses from Municipalities. If the Government do not make any alternative arrangement for these people, who will make it? There is a refugee camp in Shillong itself. Has any hon. Member of the other side of the House visited it to see whether these refugees are living there floating in milk and honey? Will they not be very sincerely touched when they see the plight of these refugees? If they take the trouble of visiting the Silpukhuri and Ulubari refugee colonies at Gauhati they will see that these people with high culture and tradition are living there in miserable huts. Even there the Municipal authorities are giving them notices to dismantle the huts as in their opinion they are not sanitary and hygienic huts. When we talk or discuss about the refugees, we should have the real feeling and understanding of their problems. These refugees are not liabilities to this State. They have come not only with their mouths but every one of these refugees have got two hands and they can work, if they are properly employed. They then will not be liability but asset. If we sincerely want to solve the refugee problem, I think, the entire House will be in agreement with the Cut Motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Das, and will seriously consider the problems of the refugees in order to find out ways and means for their smooth living. Even at this stage, if we do not understand their problems and if we do not approach them with a sincere heart and in right earnest, we will be treated as traitors in the annals of the country.

Maulana ABDUL JALIL: Mr. Speaker Sir, আপ তো মুখে হিন্দুস্তানীমে কহনে নহী দেঙ্গে। ইসলিয়ে মই বাঙ্গলা জবানমে কুছ বোলনা চাহতা হই।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: আপ কোণ সী জবানমে বোলেন্গে। আপ বাংলা মে হী বোল সকতে হেয়।

Maulana ABDUL JALIL: Mr. Speaker Sir, আমার বন্ধু শ্রীযুত রনেন্দ্র মোহন দাসের বাস্তহারা সম্পর্কে cut motion দ্বারা গবর্ণমেন্টের সমালোচনা শুনিয়া আমি বাস্তবিকই মর্নাহত, কারণ কংগ্রেস গবর্ণমেন্ট যে আশ্রিত দিগের জন্য কিছুই করেন নাই এই কথা আমি কেন, যে কোন কৃতজ্ঞ ব্যক্তি স্বীকার করিবেন না কংগ্রেস গবর্ণমেন্ট বাহা করিয়াছে তাহা চক্ষে বুলি দিয়া ও স্বীকার করা যায় না। ভারতের বহু জায়গায় ১৯৪৬ ইংরাজী হইতে সাম্প্রদায়িক ডাঙ্গা হাঙ্গামা দেখা দিয়াছিল কিন্তু গৌরবের বিষয় যে আমার আসাম রাজ্য এবিষয়ে বিশৃঙ্খল নিষ্কলঙ্ক ছিল কিন্তু গত ১৯৫০ ইংরাজীতে আসামের উপর সাম্প্রদায়িক ডাঙ্গা ও বাস্তহারা সমস্যা এক সঙ্গে পড়িলে আসাম গবর্ণমেন্ট এ দায়িত্বপূর্ণ বিষয়টাকে আয়ত্তাধীনে আনিয়া বিশৃঙ্খলা দূর করতঃ আজ পর্যন্ত আশ্রয় প্রার্থী সম্বন্ধে বাহা করিয়াছে তাহা প্রশংসারযোগ্য;

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Who are doing all these? Therefore, an Enquiry Commission headed by the Hon'ble Sri Prakasha had to be appointed by the Government of India.

Maulana ABDUL JALIL: আপনি করিমগঞ্জের লোক হয়ে কেবল বিলাতী ভাষায় কথা বলেন কেন ?

Sri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: I can speak in Bengali, if the Hon'ble Speaker permits me.

Maulana ABDUL JALIL: আমার ব্যক্তগত কথায় আপনার এতো মাথা ব্যথা কেন ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: মোলানা সাহেব, আপকো তো মুবাসে বাঁতে কবনী চাহিয়ে। উনসে নহী।

Maulana ABDUL JALIL: মঁই তো আপ হী সে কহ বহা হঁ। মঁই তো উনসে নহী বোল বহা হঁ।

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: He is also a refugee. The hon. Refugee Member is fortunate to be a Member of this House.

Maulana ABDUL JALIL: কিন্তু আমার বিরোধী দলের মিঃ দাস ইহা একেবারে স্বীকার করিতেছেন দেখিয়া পারশ্য ভাষায় প্রবাদ বাক্য “নিমক খুরদন ও নিমকদান শিকস্তন” অর্থাৎ লবণ খাইয়া লবণাধার ভাঙ্গিয়া ফেলার কথা মনে হয়। ইংরাজের আত্মঘাতী নীতির ফলে বাস্তহারাদের দুখঃ দুর্দশা উপলব্ধি করার ক্ষমতা বোধহয় মাননীয় মিঃ দাস হইতে আমার একটু বেশী হবে কারণ ভুক্তভোগী। তবে আমার বন্ধু গবর্ণমেন্টের বিরুদ্ধে cut motion দিয়ে বাস্তহারাদের যে উপকার দেখাইতেছেন ইহাতে তাহা হইবে না বরং অপকার হওয়ার সম্ভাবনা; কারণ এই সমস্যা বড়তা বা গবর্ণমেন্টের বিরোধিতা দ্বারা সমাধা হইতে পারেনা। একমাত্র গবর্ণমেন্টেই ইহার সমাধা করিতে পারে এবং করিতেছে। বোধকরি আমার বন্ধু মিঃ দাসের কাছাড় জেলার হরিটিকর ও পাঁচগামে বাস্তহারা পুনর্বসতি সম্পর্কে অভিজ্ঞতা নাই এবং হবেই বা কিরূপ তিনি কেবল তাহার করিমগঞ্জের মাইজগামের বাস্তহারাদের কথা জানেন বদরপুরের সহস্রাধিক বাস্তহারা বা কাছাড়ের অন্যান্য জায়গায় আশ্রয় প্রার্থীদের নামই লন নাই আশ্রয় প্রার্থী ভাইবোনদের প্রতি সহানুভূতি ও সৌহার্দ্য প্রদর্শন মানুষমাত্রেরই কর্তব্য কিন্তু কংগ্রেসের মত উদার প্রতিষ্ঠান যে বিশেষ জাতি ধর্ম ও নরনারী নিবিবশেষে সম্প্রতী সহানুভূতি এবং ব্যক্তি স্বাধীনতার আদর্শ নিয়া চলছেন তাহাকে বাস্তহারাদের প্রতি সহানুভূতি আজ শিক্ষা দিতে হইবেন।

আমি জানিনা আমার বন্ধুগণ বাস্তহারা সমস্যা এবং স্থানীয় নাগরিকদের সমস্যা এই দুইটি বিষয়ে পৃথক পৃথক সমালোচনা করে এবং দুইটিকে দুই চক্ষে দেখে আর কতদিন দেশীবিদেশীরা পুশু জীবিত রেখে বাস্তহারাদের সমস্যা জটিল হইতে জটিলতর করিতে থাকিবেন; আমি মনেকরি

আশ্রিতদের যাহারা এদেশে থাকার শেষ সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণ করিয়াছেন এবং গত নিব্বাচনে ভোটাধিকার লাভ করিয়াছেন তাহারা এদেশের নাগরিক ; গবর্ণমেন্টের উপর বিধান সভাতে মেম্বার গণের যে দাবী করে সেভাবে উক্ত গবর্ণমেন্টের উপর তাহাদের ও দাবী বিন্দু বিসর্গ ও তার জন্য হইতে পারে না। তাই যাহাদের ধর নাই ধর দিতে হবে, জমি নাই জমি দিতে হবে, শিক্ষার অভাব হইলে শিক্ষা দিতে হবে অর্থাৎ মানুষ হিসাবে পাঁচিরা থাকার সর্বপ্রকার সুযোগ পাওয়ার দাবী থাকিবে ; কিন্তু যদি এহেন অবস্থা আদি আসামের মূল অধিবাসীদের মধ্যে দেখা দেয় এবং শত শত নাগরিকদের অবস্থা এরচেয়েও আর না যে হাল দেখা যায় তবে তাহাদের ও ঠিক যেইরূপ দাবী গবর্ণমেন্টের উপর আছে। তখন পুরাতন ও নুতন মিরনু ও বাস্তহারা জমিহীন বাড়ীহীন একই পর্যায়ের লোক হইবে এবং হিসাবে পরিগণিত হইবে একযোগে প্রতিনিধি হিসাবে গবর্ণমেন্টের সম্মুখে তাহাদের দাবী পেশ করিলে সর্বদ্বন্দ্বীত স্কন্দর ও কলপসু হইবে বলিয়া আমি আশা করি এবং দেশী বিদেশীর মধ্যে পারস্পরিক সম্প্রীতি ও আন্তরিকতা বৃদ্ধি পাইবে সন্দেহ নাই এবং বাস্তহারা সমস্যা শীঘ্র সামাধা হইতে পারে, কিন্তু মিঃ দাসের উদ্দেশ্য গবর্ণমেন্টের সমালোচনা বাহা বিরোধী দলের পুরাতন রোগ অথচ আশ্রিতগণ যখন শুনেবে যে উনি তাহাদের সম্পর্কে গবর্ণমেন্টের সমালোচনা করিয়াছেন তখন কিছু লোক তাহার সমর্থক হয়ে একটা দলের সৃষ্টি করিতে পারিবে যদি উদ্দেশ্য হয়, তবে বলিতে থাকুন মানুষ মানুষের ষিকন্ধে কি না বলিতে পারে, এবং কতনা কিছু করিতে পারে গবর্ণমেন্ট মানুষের দ্বারা তেরী। জানিনা আমার বন্ধু বাস্তহারা সম্পর্কে যে সব কথা গবর্ণমেন্টের বিরুদ্ধে বলিয়াছেন, কেবল কাছাড়ের উদ্দেশ্যে বলিয়াছেন না আসামের অন্যান্য স্থান ও উহার ভিতরে যদি অন্যান্য স্থান সম্পর্ক বলিয়া থাকেন তবে গবর্ণমেন্ট বাহা করিয়াছেন অর্থ মন্ত্রীর বিবৃতি বিদ্যমান আছে এবং কাছাড় সম্পর্কে আসাম গবর্ণমেন্টকে দোষ দেওয়া বাতুলতা বৈ আর কিছু নয়। কিন্তু তিনি বলিয়াছেন কেন্দ্রীয় গবর্ণমেন্ট কাছাড়ে বাস্তহারাদের সম্পর্কে বাহা করিয়াছে তাহা সম্ভোগ জনক নয়, তবে জানিনা আর কোন গবর্ণমেন্ট তাহাদের সম্ভোগ করিতে পারিবে তাই আমি মনে করি বাস্তহারাদের নাম দিয়া আমার সরকারের বিরুদ্ধে আনিয়া যে বিবৃতি দিয়াছেন উহা ভিত্তিহীন এবং বাস্তহারা সমস্যা সমাধানের পথ পরিষ্কার করিয়া দিবেন এবং গবর্ণমেন্টের পুনর্বসতি সম্পর্কে বরাদ্দ করা টাকায় সমর্থন করিবেন।

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while delivering my Budget speech the other day I had very elaborately dwelt on the relief and rehabilitation works of this Government. There I had taken particular care to show what this Government is doing for the refugees in Assam. My hon. Friend Mr. Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, while delivering his speech to-day in support of the Cut Motion brought by my hon. Friend Mr. Das, blamed the Government saying that this Government is giving step-motherly attention to the refugee problem and that this Government is not giving serious attention to this problem as it should have done. For the information of the hon. Member and for the information of the whole House I should tell them that this problem of relief and rehabilitation has been given the consideration that it deserves, by this Government. We consider it as a duty of this Government, rather a sacred duty, to rehabilitate those refugees or displaced persons, and with this end in view, Sir Government has already spent till now, more than 1 crore 12 lakhs of rupees in Assam. (*A Voice* : What is the result.) I invite my hon. Friends to come to Goalpara District to see how the rehabilitation work started by this Government is going on instead of criticising the Government that they have not done anything in this respect. I will take them with me, if they like, to show them the different rehabilitation centres there, namely, at Abhayapur, Chapar, Gauripur, Lengtisinga, Majaralgachar, etc. I will show them how the persons rehabilitated in those centres are generally satisfied with the rehabilitation work of this Government and how at Majaralgachar hundreds of them are doing cultivation. I am sure my hon. Friends have not gone to those places to see things with their own eyes. It is better to fix a day and then let them once come with me to see

different centres there where actual rehabilitation work is going on. It is really bad to criticise Government in this way and I feel that an injustice is being done to the Government by making such criticism. I am really sorry that my hon. Friend is coming forward with vague allegation which has no basis.

Another thing is that my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranendra Mohon Das, says that the refugee rehabilitation work done by other States is much better than this Government. This is simply very surprising to me. He, being a Member of this House, must have some responsibility in making statements inside this House. He has forgotten about the reports that appeared in the newspapers concerning the rehabilitation works done in several other States. Probably he has forgotten how hundreds of refugees in several States are making a row and how hundreds of them had to leave the places of rehabilitation. Do we not get such reports occasionally in the newspaper? But no such report against the work of this Government has so far appeared. There has been no employment of Police and Military against refugees in Assam. In our State the relationship between the people of Assam and the refugees is quite good and cordial. The refugees are behaving in a way to which no serious exception can be taken by Government and this Government is also doing all that is possible to relieve the distress of the suffering humanity. My Friend says that hundreds of refugees have been suffering in Assam. Without ascertaining the true facts, my hon. Friend is bringing allegation against this Government which is unjust and which only is likely to harm the refugees themselves. If he has any interest for the cause of the refugees he should rather try to bring about a good relationship, a better relationship, between the refugees and our people instead of antagonising the refugees against this Government or Government against the refugees which will not be helpful to either. He should appreciate what is being done for the refugees, and if there is anything found lacking or defective, that can be easily rectified if brought to our notice. I should like to request him to compare the works done by other States with that of this Government with an open mind and without any prejudice and without any political bias.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : When has the Hon'ble Minister returned from Orissa ?

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA : I need not return from Orissa for this. I have seen reports on Orissa in the newspapers, Sir, and I have not seen any report so far against this Government in this respect (*laughter*). If my hon. Friend cared to read between the lines of my Budget speech, he would have seen that what I wanted to make out is this that, so far as this Government is concerned, the responsibility that we have taken for the refugees that are in Assam is still ours and we shall scrupulously observe our obligations for these refugees. But attempts are being made from some outside quarters to foist more refugees in Assam. I am taking exception to that, Sir.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : It should be made clear from which quarters.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : It is an insinuation, Sir.

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA : Well, if there is no such attempt, it is well and good. What I want to emphasise is that if more refugees are sought to be brought into Assam, the problem will be made more complicated. That is what I wanted to make clear in my speech. I did not mean to say that we shall not do our mite for those refugees who are already in Assam. In short we are not in a position to accept new refugees.

Now, Sir, my Friend, Srijut Gauri Sankar Bhattacharyya said that Police is taking steps against refugees who are erecting stalls by the road side. Sir, in Gauhati subdivision some refugees nearabout Pandu, erected some stalls on road side lands and some shops were also opened. The Public Works Department, according to rules, served some notices on them. Some refugees saw me in this connection and I allowed to continue temporarily till suitable action for their rehabilitation is made elsewhere. We have no other information beyond this, Sir. We have no information from any other places that the refugees are being harassed by the local officers, or by the Local Boards or Municipal Board or Public Works Department. If such instances are brought to my notice, I will certainly see what can be done in such matters. So far nothing of the sort is being done. If my Friend gives some concrete examples, I will certainly examine them and give due consideration to them.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : What about the Shil-long road-side stalls ?

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA : I am coming to that shortly. Sir, I am afraid, my Friend has not seen the Refugee Bazar at Gauhati town which is being constructed there. I returned from Gauhati yesterday. I have seen that the work is briskly going on. The stalls are being constructed by the contractors. Sir, it is such a big scheme that it cannot be expected to be completed in a few weeks. I hope, Sir, it will be completed in a few months. So, Sir, it is very surprising to me to hear that nothing is being done in this respect. So far as the township scheme is concerned, Sir, the responsibility rests with the Government of India. Whenever there is any township plan, the plan is sent to the Government of India for their approval. The necessary approval of the Government of India has since been received and necessary action is being taken for distribution of lands to the refugees for their residence. My Friend, Srijut Ranendra Mohan Das, said something about a camp in Karimganj—(Srijut Ranendra Mohan Das—about the Majigram camp). Sir, so far as the question of relief and rehabilitation of the refugees in Cachar District is concerned, the responsibility entirely rests with the Government of India. As regards the settlement of land with the refugees in that side is concerned, no information has reached my ears that lands are not being given to the refugees there, or that the lands which are being given is inadequate.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : The land that is given is mostly disputed land.

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA : If there is dispute, it will have to be settled. If it comes to our notice, we will try to solve the dispute. But it has not come to my notice so far, Sir.

Next my Friend has also referred to the case of some displaced Professors. Sir, for the information of the House, I may say that Prof. Digen Dutta has been employed as a Professor of English in the Cotton College. Prof. Upendra Nath Dutta has been appointed as a Professor of Physics and Prof. Naren Dev has been appointed as a Professor of Chemistry outside the cadre.

(Shri Ranendra Mohan Das,—Prof. Naren Dev was not appointed yet.)

The case of these refugee Professors are always in the mind of the Government.

Now, Sir, I have already stated before the House that about one crore and twelve lakhs of rupees have so far been spent in this State for these refugees.

The detailed information is given as follows:—

Rupees 36 lakhs on relief, including feeding, accommodation, transport, medical aid, etc.

Rupees 76 lakhs on rehabilitation loans. Total one crore and twelve lakhs.

One thousand four hundred students received help from Government in the shape of free studentship, etc., to the extent of Rs.1,07,000.

So far as the district of Cachar is concerned, the Government of India give us the following information. About 8,100 agriculturist families have so far been rehabilitated there at a cost of Rs.48 lakhs. Four thousand families of traders, artisans, businessmen, etc., have been given loans amounting to Rs.34 lakhs; 220 families of small scale industrialist, doctors, etc., have been given loan amounting to Rs.4 lakhs.

Thus, Sir, from what I have stated now and what I stated in the course of my budget speech, it will be abundantly clear how sympathetically the Government have treated this problem of suffering humanity. This Government cannot ignore this problem and we are doing whatever is possible to alleviate the sufferings of these unfortunate people to the best of our ability and as far as circumstances permit. Even in this town of Shillong, the capital of our State, about 400 families, mostly, artisans, traders, Professors, doctors, lawyers, etc., are going to get land. Is it a small thing, Sir? I do not know how many other States have given land to the refugees in the capital of their States. But this Government is going ahead of other States and providing lands to 400 refugee families in the capital of this State (A Voice:—What about refugee stall-keepers?).

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: These are matters of detail.

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA: Yes, Sir, and I have already stated that if particular matters are brought to my notice by any hon. Member, I am ready to give due consideration to them. If it is specifically brought to my notice with all necessary informations that refugee stall-keepers are going to be disturbed in the town of Shillong, I will certainly consider this question and look into the matter, but my information is that Shillong Municipal authority is taking action against all unauthorised occupiers and no discrimination made against refugees. I therefore say, Sir, that this Government is not only sincere, but very serious to solve this problem of rehabilitation of distressed refugees. We have done whatever was possible to be done and we shall do more. In view of this assurance I would request my hon. Friend to withdraw his Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Is the hon. Member withdrawing his Motion?

Shri RANENDRA MOHON DAS: I am ready to withdraw my Motion if Hon'ble Mr. Mookerjee says that the refugee rehabilitation work in Assam is going on well.

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I won't play to the gallery.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Do you want to withdraw your Motion?

Shri RANENDRA MOHON DAS: No, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is: "That the provision of Rs.77,300 under Grant No.10, major head—25.—General Administration, minor head—M(f)—Civil Secretariat (Relief and Rehabilitation Department) (total), at page 44 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.62,87,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

The motion was negatived.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Which other motions are going to be moved?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : I shall move Cut Motion No.8, which is of a general nature and the other hon. Members may speak on it.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : In that case other Motions stand withdrawn.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 62,87,300 under Grant No. 10, major head—25.—General Administration, at page 30 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.62,87,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

By this I want to raise a general discussion.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been discussing Grant No. 10.—General Administration, and for some pre-occupation I could not follow the discussions that have just ended. However, General Administration is the most important and vital subject; it is the nerve-centre of the whole administration. Sir, unless General Administration can stand the test of criticisms that are being generally levelled against it, it would be wrong on our part to-day to pass this item of demand.

Sir, we were complaining all the time that in the time of an emergency like this when we are passing through a financial crisis, it is not only bad but criminal to have a top-heavy administration. Sir, as I was coming from Gauhati I was working out certain figures and I found from the Budget figures that for 1,914 persons under the General Administration, who get a salary or pay of less than Rs.500, 16 lakhs of rupees had been allotted and for people getting more than Rs.500, beginning from His Excellency the Governor down to the Extra Assistant Commissioners, who number 223, a sum of Rs.15 lakhs had been provided. Sir, these figures speak for themselves. That is why my charge stands that the administration is really top-heavy. I do not, of course, say that these 223 persons are not wanted for the efficiency of administration, but what I maintain is that some of these posts are unnecessary. I do not understand why we should have over and above the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Assistant Deputy Commissioner and so many other deputies. In this way posts are being created at the top the incumbents of which draw salaries ranging from Rs.1,000 to Rs.2,000 per month whereas the poor officers are given scales of pay from Rs.22 to Rs.150. In these days when there is an economic crisis the prices of essential things have gone up and there is no tendency for prices to go down immediately (*Voices*: coming down) these are going up also.

Sir, then we find that these poor officers are not being looked after or cared for in the way they deserve. These officers are the backbone of the administration. We cannot have an efficient administration unless these poor people are satisfied and they have a full stomach. When I speak of the poor officers my mind goes to the typists and copyists in many offices. These people have been meted out a differential treatment and they have not been given the scale. They do not enjoy the same privilege as other ministerial officers. Why are they treated in a step-motherly way? I do not understand why we have the archaic Government Servants Conduct Rules. These rules were framed during the British Raj. They do not get the scope to express their minds. I had the privilege to be the President of an Assam Ministerial Officers Conference where they passed a resolution expressing certain grievances, but that was immediately taken away. The fundamental rights of these people have been violated in this way. There should be freedom of speech and action and freedom to do what we feel like doing.

In my Budget speech and my speech to the amendment to the motion of thanks I said that the size of the Cabinet in Assam is too big. Not only no convincing reply but no reply even has been given to that. People are clamouring against this, this is agitating their minds. Why should we have a cabinet of ten?

I do not understand why the post of Commissioner should again be revived? In 1938 the Congress was most vociferous in decrying this, but it is being revived now.

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Congress's function is...

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: You were not in the Congress then. You used to sit in the middle with the Planters.

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: I was.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: When we look at the post of Commissioner—one thing that strikes me at page 46 of the Budget is that the Commissioner's post has been created with Rs.3,000 per month. This comes to Rs.36,000 per year. He will be given one Superintendent. If the Commissioner's post is essential, may I know why the staff is not increased? Is it not a decoration merely? I admit in the general administration we have not been spending much money as compared to the Police and other things. Even in general administration there are certain unnecessary posts which could be abolished. In page 39, Secretaries to Government which were 4 in number in 1951-52 will go upto 7. Necessity for this increase has not been explained. I do not know why these 3 extra posts are necessary.

When I come to the Publicity Department I do not understand why Rs.46,697 are estimated for having a paper. I do not know what purpose it is serving. It serves one purpose—The Deputy Director or some such persons can move with the Ministers and take the snap and cover their tourage. But this does not help the people.

Red-tapism is increasing—it takes months to get a reply from certain departments. I want to give constructive suggestions regarding general administration. There should be a system of efficiency audit in general administration. The system of appointing near and dear ones to some posts should be stopped. If efficiency audit system is introduced we will have a better administration. We do not want to live in a bureaucratic atmosphere. We must democratise the services. I would suggest that there should be periodic meetings not only of the Heads of Departments but also of the staff and head of the department of a particular department. There should be free exchange of views between the staff working under the head and the head. Then we will feel that we are in a different atmosphere and the tone of the administration will be better. In my last speech on the Budget I referred to some political interference and some words have been expressed by the Hon'ble Finance Minister. We do not have any system of espionage. We do not get information from silver-tongued people. We collect it from the people and we belong to the people. This Assembly does not meet every day, it does not meet even every month it will meet perhaps twice in a year. We have the right to come here with our information to place before this House and to know whether these are true or not. I would rather abuse to a certain extent the privileges within this Assembly than misuse power outside. The other day I levelled five allegations against the Government, and tried to place the facts before the Hon'ble Finance Minister, yet we are dubbed as speaking with an irresponsible tongue and that we use to libellous allegations. I do not know what were the true allegations. I can assure this House that we have come here at the behest of the people and

we will be here to serve the people to our last breath. We cannot be gagged by such utterances. I can only say that it betrays a spirit of intolerance towards the Opposition. I did not expect such a thing, Sir.

Sir, the other day I came with certain allegations. Today I have come with another allegation. This allegation, Sir, is a very important one. Sir, some months back a leaflet was freely distributed regarding certain action of our Hon'ble Chief Minister. Sir, I did not take that leaflet seriously. Now I have got with me a photographed copy of a letter written by our Hon'ble Chief Minister to one Shri Mahabir Jalan. Sir, that letter was dated 22nd August 1951, from Shillong and it bears the official emboss of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. We want our Hon'ble Chief Minister to be above board. We do not want that criticisms should be levelled against him because it affects the administration and it affects the morale of the people. We want our Hon'ble Chief Minister to be a man of sparkling integrity so that we can feel proud of him and can boast of him. Here in the concluding part of this letter he says—"I have already recommended your application for allotment of Sulphate of Ammonia and written a Demi-official to the Hon'ble Food Minister, India. My Private Secretary had already intimated about this to your Calcutta office—Yours sincerely, B. R. Medhi". This letter was addressed to Shri Mahabir Jalan, Jalan Nagar Tea Estate, Dibrugarh.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : What is it about, did you say ?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : It is about allotment of Sulphate of Ammonia, to support my statement about interference. But my point, Sir, is to impress upon this House, why should we show interest for certain people and for certain application. Let them take their own course, let them come to the normal place and this will be judged there. There should not be any sort of interference from any quarters in such things. I mention this here not because I have a grudge against any people, but to draw the attention specially of the Hon'ble Chief Minister that there must not be such interference from him. My whole intention is that we must allow our Departments to work in their own way. If we interfere in this way, service will suffer, the country will suffer and the people will suffer. Sir, as other friends will also speak on this subject, I do not want to take much time of the House.

The Cut Motion that I move is :

"That the total provision of Rs.62,87,300 under Grant No.10, major head—'25—General Administration', at page 30 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.62,87,300 do stand reduced by Re.1."

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Cut Motion moved is :

"That the total provision of Rs.62,87,300 under grant No.10, major head.—25—General Administration, at page 30 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.62,87,300 do stand reduced by Re.1."

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : May I make a suggestion, Sir, that the photographed copy of the letter read out by Mr. Goswami should be kept with you for record and to enable the Hon'ble Chief Minister to reply to the points raised therefrom by my hon. Friend ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Yes, will you please give it to me ?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Yes, you may have it, Sir, but I would like to have it back please.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : No, I cannot assure you that.

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE : Before any other hon. Member takes part in the deliberation, may I ask one question, Sir? I want to know the sense of the House as to whether the Hon'ble Chief Minister or any other Hon'ble Minister should or should not reply to the letters addressed to them? Is it a crime to have communication with the public?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The reply will be given by the Hon'ble Leader of the House and the sense of the House is not necessary.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, although I have a similar Motion to move, I will not move that Motion, but will speak in support of the Motion moved by our Leader. Sir, in supporting this Motion I want to criticise the policy of the Government towards its political opponents. It is not with any object of ill feeling that I say this, though the Hon'ble Finance Minister the other day in reply to the general discussion of the Budget was most undignified and malicious in his words.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Will you kindly spare yourself from using those words?

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : But I want to return to him a few of his own coins!

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Not necessarily.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : All right Sir. Now, I am standing here in support of this Motion not with any ill-feeling though our Hon'ble Finance Minister that day in reply to the general discussion on the Budget was very vehement and he used rather very strong words and rebuked me and the Party to which I have the honour to belong in the strongest possible terms. I do not want to reply to him in the same words; because I know, when a man loses his mental balance, he speaks whatever he likes. I know from the scriptures, the Bhagavat Gita:—

“ক্রোধাত্তবতি সন্মোহঃ সন্মোহাৎ স্মৃতিবিব্রমঃ ।
স্মৃতিব্রণাদ্ বুদ্ধিনাশো বুদ্ধিনাশাৎ প্রণশ্যতি ॥”

I should like to pray in the tune of the New Testament “Forgive him, Father, because he knoweth not what he does”

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Our Communist Friend has taken to religion!

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Our angel from Karachi has yet to know something more about Communism!

Now, in order to help our Hon'ble Finance Minister in getting back his mental balance, I should like to assure him that I am not particularly worried about the anti-Communist campaign of my friend, Mr. Daben Bora, brother of the Hon'ble Minister. It would have been quite understandable if he would have been only anti-Communist. But the point is that he is not only anti-Communist; he is anti-people.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Excuse me. Are we discussing a certain hon. Member of the Treasury Benches?

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I am speaking about the salary which we are going to pay to some of them.

The Honble the SPEAKER : Please concentrate on the subject.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I am not at all prejudiced, Sir. I am concentrating on the subject and in doing so, I am discussing about the salary which we are going to pay to the Ministers. When I am saying that I am surely not angry with the Hon'ble Finance Minister or his brother because his brother was the head of the so-called anti-terrorist campaign in Kamrup. As a matter of fact, it was not an anti-terrorist campaign. To prove this, I am just quoting a statement of no less a person of eminence than Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, M. A., B. L., P. R. S., Barrister-at-Law, former Judge of the Calcutta High Court and Advocate of the Supreme Court of India. He said, "In the press statement made by the Superintendent of Police, Kamrup District (I mean, Mr. Deben Bora), who was in-charge of the North Bank Police operation in that District, it appears that the Police have arrested over 2,000 persons in course of these operations. Out of them, the Police Superintendent expects that only about 100 persons may ultimately be detained and the rest will be set at liberty." This statement.....

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI : Such discussions can arise only in connection with Police Budget and not in the general administration of the Budget. I think, it is out of order to discuss these things here.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : You cannot bring in these arguments now. You will have opportunity to do so when the Police grant comes up for discussion.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : As I did not get an opportunity to reply to the charges made against me and my Party by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in his reply in connection with speeches made by hon. Members on His Excellency's Address and to the charges of the Hon'ble Finance Minister in reply to the budget discussions, I should like to reply them here.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : You cannot speak on other subjects. You should concentrate your discussion in the general administration of the Budget.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : So far as the Police Operations and the Ministry's conduct in that affair is concerned.

(A Voice: Are we attending a class on Communism?) It appears that I shall have to take a class on Communism with some of my hon. Friends in my leisure hours!

Maulavi ABDUL JALIL : তিনি যে ক্লাসের কথা বলেছেন তার শিক্ষক কে হবে—না বাশিয়। থেকে আসবে ?

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Perhaps, some one from Karachi or Dacca as well !

As I said, Sir, in supporting the Cut Motion, I am only placing before the House a general demand of the people, which is the country-wide demand. That demand is for the removal of the warrants and internment and externment orders from political workers and the repeal of the obnoxious Assam Maintenance of Public Order Act.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I am afraid, you are talking on a different subject. How can you speak about it now ? You may do so when the Police grant will come up before the House.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I am afraid, Sir, I have been misunderstood.

During his reply on His Excellency's address, the Hon'ble Chief Minister maliciously accused the Communist Party.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: You should not reiterate the same thing. I should rule you out.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: The motion is about the general administration, Sir, and it relates to the pay and allowances of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. *(Laughter).*

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: You are digressing yourself so much that it is difficult to allow you to continue.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I am speaking about the salary and allowances of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister abused us, the hon. Members on this side of the House, in very strong terms. He was speaking maliciously about the Communist Party and its activities and said that this Party was responsible for burglary, dacoity and murders.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I am afraid you have not been able to differentiate.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Now, when we are going to pay big sums from our Public Exchequer as pay and allowances to our Hon'ble Chief Minister and other Members of his Cabinet, we should be in a position to understand whether we are paying this money to proper and fit persons who are to-day running the administration of the country.

When on the floor of this hon. House, no less a person than the Hon'ble Chief Minister made quite irresponsible and untrue statements, may I ask him whether he can prove such allegations in the Court of law? I am afraid, we are asked to vote the salaries of dignitaries.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will you be good enough to be quite? It seems you are too much obsessed by your or your friends' sufferings, but it will be better to be relevant to the subject.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Now, our Opposition Leader in support of his Motion had said that huge sums of money were being spent to maintain the top-strata of services and that the amount we are paying to them is Rs.15 lakhs or so. Whether we are justified to pay this huge sum to these people or not, is the question. This money surely comes from the pocket of our people and naturally we as their representatives must ask the Hon'ble Chief Minister to be sensible in his remarks. So, Sir, I humbly state that when the Hon'ble Chief Minister makes certain remarks, he should be very careful in doing so and he should know that he is speaking as the Leader of this hon. House and a dignified person like our Chief Minister should not make wild accusations—none of which can be proved by him even in the Court of Law. Then, how can we say that we are doing justice and we are running the administration properly?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will you please conclude?

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I am concluding, Sir, in two minutes. I want to say that the Hon'ble Chief Minister, when he referred to the happenings of Naliapool case the other day he as a Chief Minister, was giving vent to certain things which ought not to have been given, because the Hon'ble High Court has set aside that case and if those unfortunate persons are going to be retried, then it means that the case is *subjudice*. The Hon'ble Chief Minister gave an untrue statement. I have got with me the High Court Paper Book and a copy of the judgment of the High Court. I have not seen any remark made therein that in the body of Govinda Das acid or anything of that sort was found, and yet our Hon'ble Chief Minister said that acid was found in his body. This malicious statement ought not to have been made here.....

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: On a point of information, Sir, I never made such a remark that acid was found in the body of any one.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: So far as medical report is concerned, Sir, it is so reported.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: You are digressing so much that it is difficult to allow you to go on in this way and therefore you should conclude please.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: It is difficult to say, Sir, on what point I am digressing while the subject matter comes under so many different heads. At any rate, I can assure him, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, and his other Colleagues that violence is not the creed of the Communist Party.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: It is not relevant and I rule it out. You are to confine yourself to the Grant under discussion only.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: When anti-propaganda is being made, I must say what is true. I can say this that such persons of the type of our Hon'ble Chief Minister we are not going to kill. They should not be afraid of that. They will not be kept in a concentration camp, but will be sent to a mental hospital when we come to power.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Only a few minutes more for this Grant.

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: We have saved some time, Sir, from the Question hour. So, from that hour you can give some time here.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: All right.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: I like to speak a few words only, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Very well, you can speak.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, has said that as far as Hon'ble Chief Minister is concerned, they would not kill him when we shall be in power. But I am sure we shall get Hon'ble Mr. Mookerjee in our side when we are in power (*loud laughter*). (*A voice: How do you say this, from his past antecedent?*)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Why this particular reference is made? I think you should refrain from making such reference. I find both the Hon'ble Supply Minister and the speaker are coming from the Cachar District.

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Our relationship is very sweet, Sir, therefore he says so (*laughter*).

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Yes Sir, I do agree. I support the Cut Motion moved, as well as what has been said by my hon. Friend. Mr Gauri Sankar Bhattacharyya.

It pains me to note that the practice of the Congress Party so differs from its profession. The Party which cried almost the top of the house in 1937-38 for the abolition of Commissionership as a redundant adjunct to the machinery of the Government and fought very hard with the then Government and was successful in abolishing the post, should now take the lead in getting the post restored.

What are the reasons for adding a new burden to the camel's back already overburdened? If the administration has deteriorated, the remedy lies elsewhere for toning it up. On the other day an hon. Friend behind the Treasury benches also objected to these redundant posts. Will he please rise now to support me in my Cut Motion moved for the same object?

Sir, in 1937 the Assam Congress Party went ahead of rest of India by securing abolition for the post of Commissioner, as this officer was then regarded as no better than a post office. Sir, a post office has at least the duty of checking the correct-ness of the stamps used and putting its seal thereon, but to day the Commissioner, if appointed, will be no better than a courtier for the Hon'ble Minister, so that his work also may not be discerned in the files that he would hand over.

There is no chance of improving the fibre of the administration until and unless the Hon'ble Ministers, guided by self and party interest, stay their hands of the administrative services.

Sir, we have seen hundreds of Inspectors, Superintendents, officers being appointed during these years. Compare the number of officers during the preparation days in any department, with Sylhet attached to Assam and to-day their number, with Sylhet detached. Has the administration improved in any way with all these appointment of inspection and supervision staff? The more the number of officers the more the liability of the tax-payers, the more the delay in the disposal of files, the more the harassment for public and the more the chances for corruption.

Now, Sir, I would like to add a few words with regard to corruption, and I shall finish.

We are glad to note from the statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister made after assumption of office, that he is determined to stamp out corruption and expects whole hearted co-operation from all quarters.

Sir, I know of several cases in which some prominent Congressmen of Karimganj are implicated in offences of black marketing. But when sanction for prosecution against them was sought for from higher quarters of Shillong, it was refused.....

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNU RAM MEDHI: No sanction is necessary from Government for prosecuting Congressmen.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : It is necessary as he is the Secretary of Co-operative Society. I also know of cases where the officer who dared to move for the prosecution of a Congressman was punished with transfer. The reaction of such a policy of punishing the prosecutor has been a total apathy on the part of the honest officers to do their works conscientiously, specially when a Congressman or a pseudo-Congressman in Gandhi Cap is involved. Sir, may I ask the Hon'ble Chief Minister to prove his sincerity by sanctioning prosecution of those Congressmen against whom charges have been submitted for black marketing and other corruption? Will he dare to launch enquiry and prosecution, against those merchants from whom he received handsome donation during election? Will he dare to overhaul the entire machinery and the system in which there are so many loopholes for corruption and nepotism ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 1 P. M.

Adjournment.

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 1 P. M.

After lunch.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Shri Ranendra Mohan Das I am sure you will be short.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : Yes, Sir, I shall finish in two minutes' time.

Sir, some high officials, against whom serious charges of corruption were levelled, are being rewarded with promotions, while honest officers with no Ministerial backing on their side, are rotting without recognition. Officers know it is not their merit that counts,—their salvation lies only in their ability to establish some relations with some Minister. It is no wonder that public services would deteriorate against this background.

Sir, during my short tenure of this Assembly life, I could gather a series of scandalous affairs by which the Assam Government earned a reputation in wasting public funds. May I ask—

1. Who will account for Rs. 26,89,000 squandered in the Home Guard Organisation?
2. Who is there to account for a loss of Rs. 21,87,667 towards Standard Cloth?
3. How could an unknown person fraudulently withdraw Rs. 25,000 from the Imperial Bank without connivance of some authority?
4. Who is responsible for a loss of Rs. 13,65,234 due to deterioration of stock with distributing Agents?
5. Who will be held responsible for Rs. 8,35,435 incurred for purchase of spindles for a Cotton Mill—which amounted to a practical loss ?
6. Who will be held liable for a loss of Rs. 6,00,000 for a bogus scheme of direct purchase of cloth and distribution through Trading Co-operatives, and a demurrage of Rs. 1,52,269 towards cloth ?
7. Who is responsible for a wrongful loss of Rs. 17,00,000 due to criminal negligence on the part of our officers at the time of division of assets and liabilities with Pakistan ?
8. Lastly, but by far the most scandalous instance of huge wastage of public money is, in Shillong-Jowai-Silchar-Agartola roads amounting to, not less than a crore of rupees, a first-rate scandle in this part of the country ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The construction of this road is under the responsibility of the Central Government.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : Sir, I request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to set up an Enquiry Commission to find out the person or persons involved in those scandles and put him before the Court of Justice irrespective of his prestige, position and status. If strong action is taken in these cases, corruption in the lower rank of services will disappear automatically.

Sir, the impartial enquiry commission if works faithfully, I am sure many rotten things will come out of the State of Assam which "Horatio" could ever dream of.

But, if no action is taken by our Government on these matters, we the Opposition party in the House would not be able to associate ourselves with the Government in asking for more help from the Government of India for the State of Assam where bribery, corruption, nepotism and wastage have become the order of the day.

Sir, with these words, I support the Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Shri Bimala Kanta Borah.

Shri BIMALA KANTA BORAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard the speeches delivered by my hon. Friends in the Opposition Bench with rapt attention. I expected that the Leader of the Opposition would talk on the subject of general administration. But about $\frac{1}{4}$ th of his speech was devoted to the subject and rest to spurious attacks on the Government. That is not really the way we should proceed. Of course, the less I say about Shri Gauri Sankar Bhattacharyya, the better for me. It appears he has lost his sleep and appetite for the last two days over the thought of only finding fault with the Government, especially the Finance Minister, who bitterly criticised his conduct on the floor of the House. According to Doctors, it is a mental malady, always incurable. With these remarks, Sir, I shall now proceed to the main question.

Sir, with regard to the question of appointment of a Commissioner of Divisions, my Friend, the Leader of the Opposition made two statements with which I fully agree. He says that the efficiency of the administration should be increased and tone of administration improved. These are the words with which we are in full agreement with him. Now, Sir, this post has a bad association with it. Probably some other name would not have offended my hon. Friends. It is contended from the other side that the Congress Party which so vehemently pressed for its abolition and succeeded in doing so, is now trying to revive it when they are now in the power. Sir, they are only overlooking facts against the real set up of the country. In the British regime, the administration was very simple. The Deputy Commissioners had to deal with revenue matters mostly. At that time Deputy Commissioners had sufficient time to look into the administrative details properly and the Commissioner was not necessary. But the condition of the country is not the same today as it was before. Now, we have a large number of Departments. We have now become free people. A large number of Departments had to be created to meet the needs of a free people, and the Deputy Commissioners are not now in a position to look into the working of all the Departments as properly as it is desired. They have no time to look after these Departments and to check the accounts of the Nazarat. A large number of cases of defalcation has come to notice. Moreover, my Friends in the Opposition were criticising the Government for slackness in the administration, but at the same time they are opposed to the creation of this post, the object of which is to

increase the efficiency of the administration. I can understand their mind ; because if Government do not take measures to increase the efficiency of the administration, it will give them scope for blackmailing the Government inside and outside the House. Sir, the Deputy Commissioners are now-a-days so much overworked that they have no time to check the accounts and supervise other works properly. Moreover, after the partition of the country, many experienced officers have either retired from service or left this Province, and young Officers had to be appointed in the rank of Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police to run the administration, and we cannot expect so much efficiency from these young inexperienced men and that is the reason for all this slackness in the administration. If we have a good officer like the Commissioner—or call him a Special Officer as you like, I don't mind—this officer will visit district after district and shall be able to guide those who are inexperienced and check those who are over-zealous. Therefore, Sir, this post is a great necessity. There was a time when the visit of a great official used to make the district officers feel cautious about their duties. There is a Bengali saying which reads thus :

“মখন দেখিবে ভাই,
 গহরতে কটু নাই
 মারে মারে পানী মাত্র আছে
 তখন জানিবে ভাই
 পুজাদের মঙ্গলার্থে
 আগানের নাট আসিয়াছে”

In the past when Governors and Commissioners used to visit the districts and the Municipalities, all became vigilant and offices were kept in tiptop condition, but today, there is absolute chaos everywhere because there is no proper supervision. If we really stand for good administration we must have officers to do all this. It is no use criticising the Government. Therefore my submission in this connection is that the appointment of a Commissioner is absolutely necessary ; it is vather over-due. Without that we cannot hope to raise the tone of administration which the Leader of the Opposition wants and at the same, we cannot satisfy our countrymen.

Lastly, Sir, I should like to say one or two words about the state of affairs in the past. In the British days when a bureaucratic system of Government prevailed, there was a great fear in the minds of the officers. A British officer sitting in Shillong could run the whole administration smoothly because every one was afraid of him. I have seen people going to see an English Deputy Commissioner coming away from his Bungalow within three minutes because he could not understand him. I have seen some people saying “Yes, Sir, no, Sir” and then going away without being able to understand the English Deputy Commissioner. But now, Sir, we have regular “বিন্নী মেল” (Bionimal) in the Deputy Commissioners bungalow. The Deputy Commissioner is President of so many organisations. He is President of the School Committees, President of the Co-ordination Board, Food and Textile Committee and what not. The only Committee of which he is not the President are the Durgapuja and Saraswati Puja Committees. Sir, is it humanly possible for one man to be president of so many organisations? That is the reason why there was a defalcation of Rs.60,000 in Nowgong Nazarat, a defalcation of Rs.21,000 in the Magistrates office and Rs. 4,000 in the stamp duty revenue in Nowgong Treasury. Mere speeches on the floor of this House will not solve our problems. Hard words will not break the ice. We want some experienced officer to go round for supervision and guidance and we will find that everything will be in tiptop condition ; accumulation will disappear and arrears will be cleared. With these few words I oppose the Cut Motion.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS: Sir, from the very beginning of the sitting of this Assembly, I have marked with rapt attention the attitude with which my hon. Friends in the Opposition have been carrying on the deliberations in this House. Sometimes they are found to attack some Ministers for doing this thing or that thing and sometimes they are accusing them for certain policy or programme of the Government. They are always pointing out the defects of the administration, but they have not said word how to remove these defects. It would have been certainly helpful to any one of this House and to the Government if certain constructive suggestions were made, but nothing of that type is found in their speeches. The same thing I have noticed in today's debate on the question of rehabilitation of refugees. Only I am speaking about the attitude of my hon. Friends in the opposite which they are maintaining throughout the whole session of this Assembly. As for example, what was the trend of discussion regarding the subject that was debated on the floor of the House this morning? Did my hon. Friends in the Opposition utter a single word in appreciation of what the Government has done for the rehabilitation of refugees? They spoke only about certain things which were not fulfilled and which the Government have been finding difficulty to solve from the very beginning. The rehabilitation of refugees is a stupendous work and it will require more time. Granting that those defects are there and Government have not been able to solve the grievances of the displaced people, still they did not give any suggestion whatsoever to solve those problems very quickly.

Next as regards general administration, I found that they have criticised the Government for having top-heavy administration. There is no doubt that there are defects in the administration, but my hon. Friends in the Opposition did not give any suggestion in what way the top-heaviness may be removed and what kind of scheme they contemplate for the purpose of removing the top-heaviness. Hon. Ministers during this session have been requested to examine carefully the various points raised in the debate by the other Members of the House and to find out if the suggestions made by them can be acted upon; but, Sir, I did not find anything in any of the speeches of my Friends opposite as to how to remove the defects in the administration. Again they have attacked the proposal of the Government to create the post of Commissioner. They say that the post of Commissioner was for certain reasons abolished and therefore there is no necessity of the post. But this post was abolished under certain circumstances which may not exist now. New circumstances have arisen which necessitates the post of a Commissioner. We have full confidence in the Government decision to create this post for certain purposes and it is our duty to allow Government to try this experiment. Government have already stated that district offices need supervision of an able officer so that efficiency and promptness may be assured. But, Sir, what is the meaning of opposing this proposal? I have observed from the very beginning of the Session the attitude of my hon. Friends sitting in the Opposition. Their idea is to make the floor of this House a platform for propagating their political ideas for the consumption of the people outside. I for one oppose that attitude. Sir, this is not the place which we can treat as a platform for purpose of propaganda. This House should be treated as a sacred place where we should put our heads together for the purpose of formulating plans and programmes which will go to the benefit of not only the electorate but to the people in general. In that spirit I appeal to my hon. Friends in the Opposition as well as in this side of the House so that the larger interest of the country may be served. Instead of that if we go on like this simply criticising the action of the Government we shall be left in a state of utter helplessness. Therefore I appeal to my hon. Friends in the Opposition that this House should be treated as a sacred place and not as a political platform. Let us appreciate the true difficulties of our State and the various

problems facing us today, so that not only we can give a clear account to our electorate but also to the people for whom we have come here. With these few words I oppose the Cut Motion.

The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I be permitted to say a few words? My name appears to be very sweet to one of my hon. Friends in the Opposition Benches, who uttered it many a time and as there were some charges against the Ministry as a whole I think in the fitness of things I should speak a few words.

Sir, I am really surprised to hear the words "step-motherly treatment" used by the Opposition Members so often on the floor of this House. I venture to say that the treatment of the Government is not step-motherly towards any party or hon. Member, but the Members, who are thinking in that line are themselves step-sons. I would request them to shake off this mentality and not to term and treat this Government as step-mother, but their own natural mother! If they can take this attitude, I am sure they will be of real help to the people of this State.

Sir, some hon. Members took exception to the speeches of the Leader of the House as well as that of my Hon'ble Colleague, the Finance Minister, and they have termed them as wild and untrue. Sir, if my hon. Friends in the Opposition think that they have got the right of making all sorts of wild and untrue allegations and to go on merrily levelling all possible imaginable and unimaginable false charges against this Government and that the Members of the Treasury Benches will keep mum without refuting them and they will be let loose to say anything and everything they like, they are entirely mistaken. They are infants in arms. They should not behave in the way they are behaving now. If one really wants good treatment from others, he must know how to treat others well (Shri Gauri Sankar Bhattacharyya:—You are threatening). Sir, far from it, my point is this that if one really wants good treatment he should behave properly and then deserve it. If, on the other hand, hon. Members accuse Government in season and out of season without any rhyme or reason accusing this Government for some imaginary omissions and commissions of the past as well as coined lapses of the present, how can it be expected that Government will behave like a deaf and dumb and will not reply to this wild, untrue and malicious charges? Do the hon. Members in the Opposition think that simply because they sit in the Opposition they have got the proud privilege of levelling all sorts of wild and untrue charges against the Government and the Government have no right to refute the same? Certainly they should not. I hope, Sir, that in the future whenever my hon. Friends take their stand to deliver speeches they should not indulge in hearsay and better be careful so as not to make wild and false statements on the floor of this House only to vilify the Government maliciously. If they do that, I can assure them, Sir, on behalf of my colleagues that they will never hear any unpalatable words from us. Sir, there are diseases which need unpalatable medicines for their remedy. (*A Voice*:—He is speaking like a school teacher). No harm, Sir, because I see that some of my hon. Friends are quite new and are behaving in such a way that they require some training and lessons on manners. My hon. Friends are now talking sweet. I am not taking exception to what nuisance they say, but some Members of this side are taking everything seriously and that is the trouble. I know, Sir, that they have come here to make their party propaganda. Sir, they had high hopes before the election, but all those have been belied. That is why they are so very aggressive and restless. It has been very rightly said by my hon. Friend, Mr. Bimalakanta Bora, that one of our Friends in the Opposition Bench could not sleep and take his meals for the last two days because some words hit him very hard at the right point and it became simply impossible for him to swallow all these and so long as he could not vomit the replies on the floor of the House he could not be at rest.....

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: You are taking them out and eating them.

✓ **The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE**: That shows his mentality, Sir. The hon. Member requires some ready treatment. Sir, when I said that something was vomitted in reply, the hon. Member said that I was eating them. That shows the culture of the hon. Member. That shows his manners.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Mr. Bhattacharyya you must withdraw your expression.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I withdraw so far as the literal meaning is concerned, but I meant it in a metaphorical sense.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: People are not capable of understanding the metaphorical sense.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: He also used them in the metaphorical sense.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: No, you must withdraw your expression.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: All right, Sir, I withdraw.

✓ **The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE**: Thank you, Sir. The other day it was rightly said by my hon. Friend, Maulavi Moinul Haque Chaudhury, that Mr. Bhattacharyya had entered this House with a pair of scissors in his pocket. Those scissors were snatched away for sometime by some of the hon. Members in the Opposition and were freely used against my hon. Friend, the Finance Minister. Now I find that the scissors have come back to the owner and he is using them very freely for his own purpose. Sir, I do not know why he is carrying scissors in his pocket. I hope my hon. Friend, Maulavi Moinul Haque Chaudhury, who managed to find them out, will enlighten us in his next speech the real object of it.

Now, Sir, the other day the Government were blamed that as some officers in the State have to do different kinds of work, their efficiency suffer. As if they were something like "what not" officers. They tried to impress that as so many things were being looked after by an officer that it was not possible for him to do justice to his work. To-day we have been accused of entertaining more officers than necessary. There was a time, Sir, when an I.C.S. Deputy Commissioner had to officiate as a Civil Surgeon. What is my Friend's idea? Is it that there should be only one officer who will do the work of S. P., D. C., Civil Surgeon, etc. and what not? It is really surprising that in one breath our Friends in the Opposition advised us to do one thing and in the next they change it to suit their purpose namely to accuse the Government. (*A Voice*—For your convenience). Sir, are these signs of responsibility? Hon'ble Mr. Bora termed my Friends the other day as responsible, but Sir, I do not think so. If they were responsible, they would not have indulged in making such irresponsible statements so often on the floor of this House. They say that there should not be ten Ministers and so many officers (*A voice*—in that case your job will go). Does not matter, Sir. I won't be a burden to the State like my idle unemployed Friend. I have enough work to do. However, Sir, my Friends say that many complaints are made by the public also. There are one hundred and eight legislators in the Assembly. Public also complain and enquire—are so many members necessary? These are the complaints of irresponsible section. My Friend also charged us that we

are getting very high salaries. We work for 365 days of the year, my Friends in all work not more than 60 days and they get Rs.150 a month whereas we get Rs.810 net as salary. We are engaged all the time and we cannot take to other occupations, whereas my Friends can and as a matter of fact do. So our pay should not be grudged by our Friends in the Opposition Benches. It is very easy to play in the gallery, but we as responsible representatives of the people should not play into the gallery. We should not make people laugh at our action and utterances. My Friends must remember that they are the representatives of the people and should not indulge in making untrue statements. They must give constructive suggestions so that the lot of the people may be improved. This aspect should not be overlooked and I would request them again to give us constructive suggestions. If after a reasonable time they find that the Government do not take notice of their practical and constructive suggestions, they can certainly criticise the Government at that stage. My Friends should not make all sort of untrue statements simply because of the fact that the present leader of the Government happened to be the head of the previous Government as well.

I would not take any more time, but, Sir, I would once again request my Friends in the Opposition not to play into the gallery, but to give us constructive suggestions and watch whether we have come here to do good to our people by our selfless and ungrudging services or only to count our days and take our salaries. There are some members in the Cabinet, Sir, who used to earn more than 3 or 4 times the money they get as Minister. My Friends should rise upto the occasion and should behave like responsible representatives of the people and give their best to ameliorate the condition of people and should not try to find faults with the Government by indulging in making untrue statements based on hearsay or wild imagination.

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really a bit surprised for the labour that has been taken by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition in taking photo of my letter. I think he or some one on his behalf had spent a sum of Rs.10 at least in taking the photo. He could have got the copy of the letter, had he cared to write a letter to me, and could have utilised the balance of this money in benefiting the poor brethren.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I did not spend a single pie even.

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: Three pies worth of a post-card would have been sufficient. The spend-thrift manner in which money is being wasted in this fashion by my Friends or some one on his behalf could have been avoided. We as Congressmen are here for the benefit of the poorer class.

The letter addressed to the Minister of Agriculture, Government of India, through the Chief Minister was submitted to my Secretariat. It impresses the need for allotment of ammonium sulphate for use of their tea gardens. The party has got a large number of tea gardens under their Managing Agents and complained that they have not been getting sulphate of ammonia from any of the distributing agents all of whom have got their business in Calcutta. The party submitted an application—that application was addressed to the Minister of Agriculture, Government of India, and I had no other alternative but to forward the same. It was accompanied by a letter with a request to me to forward the letter to the Minister of Agriculture. On that letter I passed an order to the Secretary, Major Industries, to the effect that the application addressed to the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of India, by Assam Fertiliser Company Limited, of which Jalan Industries are also the Managing Agents, may be forwarded to the Government of India recommending allotment of the required quantity of sulphate of ammonia for their own use for

purpose of preparing manure for use in their own gardens. This Government which is interested in increased production of tea in the State strongly recommended to the Government of India for allotment of the required quantity of sulphate of ammonia which is essentially necessary for manuring the garden. Even as a matter of courtesy, I, as a popular Minister, have to send a reply to the firm in reply to their letter. This does not in any way indicate that there was any interference.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: If you allow me to explain, Sir, what I mean to say is this. I do not dispute the merit of the case.....

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: But I am not yielding, Sir. That was the reference my hon. Friend made and I am replying to that. My Friend could easily have got a copy of this letter from me instead of undergoing the trouble of taking photograph of the same. A courtesy demands a reply from a popular Minister, but the Leader of Opposition wants to make it out as an interference on the part of myself.

Then, Sir, my hon. Friend has tried to make out a point that the Congress Government is unmindful of reduction of the salaries of highly paid officers and of increasing the pay of the low paid officers—at least that was the substance of his contention.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: It will be helpful to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Sir, if I explain my point to him.

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: Nothing more was said then and I will reply to what he has said. He has no right to reply. If my hon. Friend wants some more information regarding that letter, I will gladly give it to him.

Now, Sir, regarding this charge that there is no indication on the part of the Congress Government to reduce the pay and emoluments of the highly paid officers and to increase the pay of the low paid officers, I can only say: that it is known to all hon. Members of the House that the Congress Government have been anxious to increase the emoluments of the low paid officers (by reduction of salary of higher grade officer) as far as possible consistent with the Constitution and the various rules and orders in force, and consistent with their position and dignity of office. With that purpose in view, after assumption of office by the Congress in 1946, and to remove the glaring differences in the salaries of these officers, and to fix the salary of lower grade officers on the basis of minimum living wage, a Pay Committee was constituted. I may inform the hon. Members that before we assumed office, the peons and orderlies were drawing pay of Rs.12 to Rs.17 per month in the plains districts and in Shillong it was Rs.14 to Rs.19 with an increment of $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of a rupee. Government set up a Pay Committee and this Pay Committee after considering all these factors came to certain decision. And when these decisions were given effect to, there was a marked increase in the pay of these low paid officers. As you know, these posts were divided into three grades and their pay varies from Rs.22 to Rs.28 in the Districts to Rs.25 to Rs.30 and Rs.28 to Rs.40. This is the basic pay calculated on the basis of the living index as 160. At the time we gave effect to these decisions, it was found that living index is higher than 160; naturally we had to give them some other reliefs in the shape of dearness allowance and free rations. From all this, it will appear that we are not unmindful to the fate of our low paid officers. In this connection I may mention that this free ration is mostly availed of by the 4th grade officers and what amount has been spent by Government to give free ration and dearness allowance to its officers

will be seen from the Budget speech I made in 1949-50. In free ration alone Government had to spend about Rs.31,94,000 for the benefit of those officers whose pay is about Rs.100. The dearness allowance for those officers whose pay was below Rs.250 was Rs.35,84,000 in 1948-49 and Rs.47,28,000 in 1949-50. The dearness allowance for those drawing between Rs.250 and Rs.500 was only 6 lakhs and odd, and the amount paid to those drawing above Rs.500 although the cost of living was the same, was only Rs.1,20,000. As regards the rice concession to those drawing pay at Rs.300 and below, the cost involved was Rs.4,28,000. So all these facts will indicate that the Government is fully conscious of the difficulties of their officers.

Now, in regard to the higher grade officers, Government have decided that the maximum pay should not be more than Rs.1,500 per mensem however highly placed the officer may be provided he is governed by the rule making power of the State. But as regards the salary of His Excellency the Governor, it is not the subject matter for voting here in this House as it has been laid down in the Constitution. Many European I. C. S. officers left the country. The Indian I. C. S. officers who are still in service, Government do not think it fair to violate the rules and provision under which their pay was fixed at the time of appointment, but the number of such officers is very few. The maximum pay of all officers governed by the rules framed by the State Government has been fixed at Rs.1,500. In view of all this, it will appear that we have been trying to reduce the expenditure on higher grade officers. My Friend's contention that we have not tried to reduce the pay of highly paid officers does not stand a moment's scrutiny.

Now, I will give an idea to the House of the financial implications for giving effect to the revised scales of pay. I mentioned earlier in my speech. I will read from page 15 of the Budget Speech for 1949-50..... "The ultimate financial effect calculated on the basis of the revised scales of pay will be an extra expenditure to the extent of about 33 lakhs, and it is of interest to know that out of this 33 lakhs, about 27 lakhs will go to benefit officers with lower scales of pay, namely—Lower Division Assistants in the districts and Heads of Departments, Process Servers, Chaprasis, Orderlies, etc., Mandals and Forests Guards, Jail Warders, Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police, Constables, Lower School Service Class I, Sub-Assistant Surgeons (Medical and Public Health), Overseers, Computers and Draftsmen.

From the facts stated above, it is clear that the major portion of the benefit of the increased revised scales of pay goes to officers with lower scales of pay. It may be mentioned that when the revised scales are fully operative, 8 lakhs 45 thousands, out of 33 lakhs will go to Constables alone."

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: What is the increase per head ?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: I shall give the whole picture.

Under these circumstances, it is clearly stated that this Government as far as possible, consistent with efficiency and.....

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: What is the *per capita* income of lower grade officers ?

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: You will get the information if you go carefully through my budget speech.

Our anxiety to give relief to the lower grade Government servants will be realised from the fact that soon after we assumed Office, we appointed a Pay

Committee and in 1948 the Pay Committee's Report was submitted to Government and the Government gave effect to it from 1st April, 1948. But this could not solve the whole situation ; unless we can reduce the price of commodities, like rice, dal, mustard oil, etc., it will not be possible to give real relief, because we cannot afford to give more in the shape of pay and dearness allowance to the Government servants, which must be within our resources. At present 2/3 of our revenue is spent in the pay of officers.

In election manifestoes, some parties have stated that the minimum pay should be Rs.100 per mensem, but they did not take into consideration the amount which would be required for this purpose.

As regards the post of Development Commissioner, you will find from the Budget that that post was abolished and as regards the posts of Chief Secretary and an Additional Chief Secretary, I may inform the House that the Additional Chief Secretary's post will be discontinued in the month of May, if not earlier.

A post of Commissioner was created and his pay was shown as Rs.3,000 per mensem but that post was not filled up.

"In view of the critical food situation in the country there is urgent need of whole-time attention of food production drive. In order to give full impetus to the schemes relating to grow-more-food campaign, I feel the need of appointing a whole-time Food Commissioner who may also exercise the powers of the Commissioner so that he may inspect and supervise the working of the district offices in order to tighten up the district administration and to increase its efficiency which is essential for implementation of Government policy and programme. There has been a lot of irregularities in the districts in reference to treasury work, as has been revealed by the audit reports. It is also felt that for want of a sense of feeling of responsibility, full quantum of work is not being done by the officers and hence arrears are accumulating. The creation of this post is expected to speed up the work in the districts and to make the district administration more efficient to cope with the increased amount of work. As an experimental measure, a post of Food Commissioner and Commissioner may be created for about a year."

This was the order passed by me, but as a matter of fact, the Chief Secretary was also appointed Food Commissioner in addition to his own duties and no Commissioner was appointed. But we are thinking now that it is essentially necessary to appoint an officer, whether you call him a Commissioner or not. For the present we are not appointing a whole-time Commissioner, but we are appointing a Special Officer who will have the powers of the Food Commissioner and some of the powers of the Commissioner so that he can go and inspect district offices in order to see how best work could be realised, how best the district administration should be run and to see that the plans and programmes of Government are implemented.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition was citing about the posts of Commissioners Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners, in such a way as if he does not want the existence of any of these posts. I do not know how he envisages to run the administration without them. As a matter of fact, it has been stated on the floor of this House by the hon. Members of the Opposition that there is accumulation of work in the districts. It must be admitted that our endeavour is to convert the State from a Police State to an welfare State. In doing so, we must not only look for maintenance of law and order but also to procure and distribute evenly essential commodities and the District Officers have to be very busy in these works and other welfare works with the result that they cannot check the works of the subordinate officers, the volume of which has increased. There must be some one to go to the district offices to see how the works can be speeded up and efficiency of our subordinate officers may be increased.

As regards promotion, promotion from one grade to the other is done in consultation with the Public Service Commission. Efficiency is always considered as the criterion for promotion. There is also efficiency bar in the pay scales in the same grade. This efficiency bar can only be crossed if the officer concerned works properly and efficiently.

Allegations made regarding appointments of relations of Hon'ble Ministers in Government Departments is baseless. Out of the thousands of appointments made, my I ask how many of the Hon'ble Ministers' relations have been appointed? It is further stated that the Hon'ble Ministers' relations get preference in promotion without caring to know whether they are efficient. Of course, it sounds very well to make such irresponsible statements taking the privilege of the House. I am surprised to hear the hon. Leader of the Opposition making such allegation, but he should give specific instances in support of the statement. Without making such statements on the floor of the House, he can very well inform us to rectify such defects, if any, if he really cares to remove defects in the administration. He should draw the attention of Government to see that such things do not happen. Grievances from any quarter should be brought to the notice of the Government for their consideration so that they may be removed. That is what I advise.

Another point that should be taken note of is that in the debate we should strictly be relevant to the subject matter under discussion. It is not humanly possible to deal with all aspects of the Budget under a head of one Grant and no statement need be made without caring to know whether the statement is relevant to a particular Cut Motion. If one goes on dealing with all aspects of the Budget under a Cut Motion and delivers a speech for propaganda, it is very difficult to reply to it. So, in every case we ought to be relevant in our statements before this House.

Owing to the development of the Autonomous Districts the work has increased tremendously so much so that appointment of another Minister is necessary for this purpose alone. The real work to develop the tribal areas which are comparatively so backward needs whole time attention of one man. Sir, no Minister can sit idle in the headquarters. Every Minister must go to the interior to learn things for themselves and to contact the people in the spot to know how things are going on there. And as such the number of Ministers had to be increased. To carry on the administration there must be sufficient number of Ministers to go to different places, to rouse the activity of the people, to make them active, to persuade them to direct their energies to constructive works. As a matter of fact, when the number of Members in this House was 71, the number of Ministers was 8 and Deputy Ministers 2 and a few Parliamentary Secretaries. Now, with the changed situation, we cannot leave aside the question of development of the country but speedy development of the State under a plan is essential and needs the service of additional hand. Under the circumstances the need for increasing the number of Ministers will be fully appreciated.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Does the hon. Mover want to press his Cut Motion to the vote of the House?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Yes, Sir.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the total provision of Rs.62,87,300 under Grant No.10, major head-25—General Administration, at page 30 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.62,87,300 do stand reduced by Re.1."

The question was negatived.

Now, I put the main question. The question is that a sum not exceeding Rs.62,87,300 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March, 1953 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.20.

(41.—Veterinary)

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum not exceeding Rs.5,82,400 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March, 1953 for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum not exceeding Rs.5,82,400 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March, 1953 for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHAUDHURY : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই প্রস্তাব কৰো যে—

The provision of Rs.5,82,400 under Grant No.20, major head—41.—Veterinary, at page 163 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.5,82,400 do stand reduced by Re.1.

আমাৰ এই বছৰৰ বাজেটত পশুচিকিৎসা বিভাগত যি টকা ধৰিছে সেই টকা মই বৰ কম হৈছে বুলি ভাবো। এই বিষয়ৰ আমাৰ যিজন মন্ত্রী আছে তেখেত বৰ সবল মানুহ আৰু তেখেতে এই বিভাগত ঠিকা আদি দিয়া কামৰ দৰে সুবিধা নলয়, আৰু অন্য মন্ত্রী সকলৰ দৰে নিজৰ বিভাগ-লৈ টনা আজোৰাৰ দৰে পশু চিকিৎসাত বোধ হয় টনা আজোৰা কৰি বেচি টকা খবচ কৰিব নোখোজে।

আমি সদায় কৈ আহিছো যে আমাৰ কৃষিৰ উন্নতি কৰিব লাগে, অধিক শস্য উৎপন্ন কৰিব লাগে ইত্যাদি। কিন্তু গৰু-ম'হৰ উন্নতি নহলে, অধিক শস্য উৎপন্ন আৰু কৃষিৰ উন্নতি কেনেকৈ হব ? সেই কাৰণে আমাৰ গৰু-ম'হৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে চেষ্টা কৰা উচিত। গৰু-ম'হৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ ঘাঁড় বাথিব লাগে আৰু লগে লগে ঔষধ পাতিৰ ব্যবস্থা কৰিব লাগে। সেই কাৰণে এইখিনি কৰিবলৈ এই পাঁচ লাখ টকা একেবাৰে কম হব।

আমাৰ দেশত পশুচিকিৎসাৰ ব্যৱস্থা নিচেই কম ; ইয়াত পশুচিকিৎসক উলিওৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা নাছিল। অৱশ্যে এতিয়া পশুচিকিৎসা কলেজ স্থাপন কৰা হৈছে ; আৰু তাৰ কাৰণে কংগ্ৰেছ চৰকাৰৰ গৌৰৱক ধন্যবাদ দিছো আৰু তাৰপৰা আমি যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে ভাঙৰ পাম বুলি আশা কৰো ; কিন্তু ঔষধ পাতি তৈয়াৰ কৰিব পৰা ব্যৱস্থা নাই। এতিয়া যিবিলাক পশুচিকিৎসালয় আছে সেইবিলাক উন্নত ধৰণৰ নহয়। তাৰো সৰহ ভাগেই চহৰতে আছে ; গাঁওত থকা বিলাক বহুত দূৰে দূৰে। এই বিলাক হব লাগিছিল গাঁৱত কাৰণ চহৰত ঘোৰা, কুকুৰ আদিয়ে থাকে গৰু ম'হ নেথাকে বা বৰ কম থাকে। গৰু ম'হ বেচি থাকে গাঁৱৰ খেতিয়কৰ ঘৰত আৰু বেমাৰো বেচি হয় গাঁৱত।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : গাঁৱত পশু চিকিৎসালয় নাইনেকি ?
(voice—তেখেতৰ গাঁৱতে আছে)

Dr. HOMESWAR DEV CHAUDHURY: হয় আছে। কিন্তু কিমান ওচৰত? হাজো, নলবাৰী আৰু পাটীচাবকুচিত আছে। কিন্তু সেইটো মোৰ গাঁৱত থাকিলেই গাঁৱত থকা নুবুজায়। টিছ নলবাৰীৰ পৰা ১৬ মাইল দূৰ। যদি কেতিয়াবা গৰু-ম'হৰ বেমাৰ হয় টিছৰ পৰা ইমান দূৰ গৈয়ো ডাক্তৰ বিচাৰি নেপায়। যেতিয়া ডাঙৰ বেমাৰ হয়, যেনে হিমবেজিক, চেপটিচেৰ্মীয়া, এল থ্রাক্স, ফুট এণ্ড মাউথ বেমাৰ চিনিবলৈ (ডোয়াগ্‌নাইজ) আদিৰ কাৰণে মাইক্ৰচকপৰ দৰকাৰ আৰু ভাল চিকিৎসাৰ দৰকাৰ হয়। তেতিয়া তেজ আৰু শ্লাইদ গুৱাহাটীলৈ আনিব লাগে; উভডি গৈ ডাক্তৰ খানাত ঔষধ নহলে, আকৌ গুৱাহাটীলৈ আহিব লাগে, আৰু তাৰ পৰা অনা-নিয়া কৰোতেই গৰু-মহ মৰি যায়।

পশু চিকিৎসাৰ কাৰণে গুৱাহাটী হৈছে প্ৰধান কেন্দ্ৰ, কাৰণ কলেজ আৰু ডিপাৰ্টমেণ্টৰ হেড অফিচ তাতে আছে। কিন্তু হিমবেজিক, চেপটিচেৰ্মীয়া আদি বেমাৰৰ কাৰণে তাতে ঔষধ পোৱা নাযায়। এইবেমাৰৰ Serum তৈয়াৰ কৰিবলৈ ব্যৱস্থা এতিয়াও কৰা নাই। এই হেতুকেই এই বেমাৰে আমাৰ অনেক গৰু ম'হ মাৰি-লে যায়। তাৰ বাহিৰেও 'ৰিণ্ডাবপেট' আদি বেমাৰতো আমাৰ গো জাতি ধ্বংস হ'ব লাগিছে। বিশেষকৈ, মই কামৰূপৰ বিভিন্ন অঞ্চলৰ কথাই উল্লেখ কৰিছো। গৰুৰ বেমাৰ আজাৰ হলে, ঔষধ বিচাৰিলে 'চিৰাম' নাই বুলি সততে উত্তৰ পোৱা হয় আৰু 'চিৰাম'ৰ কাৰণে কলিকতালৈ লিখিব লাগিব বুলি কয়। এই সন্দেহে গুৱাহাটীৰ পৰা কলিকতালৈ লিখা, ঔষধ পাতি কলিকতাৰ পৰা গুৱাহাটী পোৱা এই এটা বৰ দীৰ্ঘলীয়া course আৰু ইতিমধ্যে গৰু ম'হ মৰি আদায় হয়গৈ। সেইকাৰণে, এই 'চিৰাম' আৰু আৱশ্যকীয় ঔষধ পাতি পুস্তত কৰা লেবৰেটৰী অথবা 'ৰিচাৰ্চ' আমাৰ ইয়াতে উন্নত ধৰণেৰে কৰা একান্ত দৰ্কাৰ। সেই কাৰণে, এই উন্নতিৰ ব্যৱস্থা যাতে অতি সোনকালে হয় তাৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয়ে বিবেচনা কৰি-চাব বুলি আশা কৰিলো। এই উদ্দেশ্যেৰে বৰ্তমান যিখিনি টকা মঞ্জুৰী কৰিছে, সি মোৰ বোধেৰে একো নহয়, কমকৈও তাৰ ৫/৬ গুণ হোৱাৰ দৰ্কাৰ।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় তাৰ পিচত ভেটেবিনেৰী বিভাগৰ কিছু বেমেজালি আৰু অসুবিধাৰ কথা কওঁ। যোৱা ১৯৪৯চনৰে পৰা এই বিভাগত কাম কৰা কেইজন মান ডাক্তৰে আজিলৈকে Travelling Allowance পোৱা নাই। কোনে নাই পোৱা, সিবিলাকৰ নাম এতিয়াও নকও। বহুতো ডাক্তৰে Travelling Allowance পোৱা নাই। আশা কৰো মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে এই বিষয়ে ভাবি চাব।

তাৰ পিচত, এই বিভাগৰ, সিবিলাক Field Assistant আছে, সিবিলাকক থকা ঘৰৰ ভাৰা দিয়া হোৱা নাই। ইমান কম দৰ্শনহাৰে তেওলোকে ঘৰ ভাৰা দি ঘৰ চলোৱা কিমান কষ্টকৰ সেইটো মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে ভাবি চাব আৰু ঘৰ ভাৰা দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা অতি সোনকালে কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো।

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA: ডাক্তৰ কেইজনৰ নাম দিলে ভাল হয়। বিশেষকৈ যি কেইজনে ইমানদিনে Travelling Allowance পোৱা নাই। নাম দিলেহে বিচাৰ কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা হ'ব।

Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHOUDHURY: তেখেত সকলৰ নাম মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক পিচত দিমা এতিয়া এই হাউচত দিলে ভাল নেদেখি।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The names of the two Doctors, who have not received their Travelling Allowance should be given to the Hon'ble Minister in charge.

Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHAUDHURY : মননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ছবকাবৰ পক্ষৰ প্ৰতিনিধি সকল আৰু কংগ্ৰেছ পাৰ্টিৰ 'চিফ ছইপ' ডাঙৰীয়াই কোৱা মনত আছে যে বিপক্ষ দলৰ পৰা constructive suggestion গাধাপণতঃ নাই। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মোৰ এই কৰ্ত্ত্বণ প্ৰস্তাৱটো, এটা constructive suggestion হিচাবে তেখেত সকললৈ আগ বঢ়ালো। আশা কৰো ইয়াৰ যুজ্জ্বলতা বিবেচনা কৰিব।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Cut motion moved is that the provision of Rs.5,82,400 under Grant No.20, major head—41 Veterinary, at page 163 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1 *i.e.* the amount of the whole grant of Rs.5 82,400 do stand reduced by Re.1.

The Hon'ble Maulavi Abdul Matlib Mazumdar.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for raising the discussion in regard to the services rendered by the Veterinary Department. Sir, when Congress assumed power in 1946, we found that the Department of Veterinary was facing many difficulties. It was not in a position to meet the needs of the people efficiently. Sir, the difficulties were that the staff was very inadequate. Our State had to move from door to door for getting our students trained outside, because at that time we had no Veterinary College of our own. We used to be allotted some seats in other States which were quite inadequate.

Then Sir, to combat diseases like Rinderpest, etc., we had no medicine here. Our State had to get medicine from outside—from Mukteswar, Bombay, etc. The difficulty of transport was there. While on transit, the medicine used to lose its potency. When we got them and used them on the cattle, sometimes it did not produce the desired result, as the potency had been lost in transit.

Then Sir, it was found that unless we made arrangements for preparing our medicine here, it would not be possible to combat the diseases. We built our Vaccine Depot and began to prepare medicines. We also passed a legislation for mass inoculation of the cattle. We saw spectacular result in taking up such measures, as in places where thousand of cattle used to die from such fell diseases, after mass inoculation, this epidemic was eliminated. Rinderpest, Sir, is now a thing of the past. We trained about 100 Field Assistants because, Sir, it was not possible to get doctors all the time. Then there were other matters for which we have taken steps. We are now making arrangements for other biological products to get our poultry and other like animal.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The Hon'ble Minister may please state what steps are being taken about the establishment of a Laboratory referred to by the mover of the motion.

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR : Sir, I shall give reply to that point also. Sir, our Government cannot afford to spend as much money as the situation demands. We are to do all these within the financial limitations. I have already mentioned that we are taking steps for preparing the necessary medicines. As regards the 'foot and mouth' disease, we had the expert's opinion, Sir. They say there is no preventive medicine and that only the treatment in such cases mitigate the suffering.

It is also admitted that in order to give full relief to our cattle population, which is the back-bone of our cultivators, more money is necessary, but at the same time it must be appreciated that we are increasing our grants for that department progressively. It should also be remembered, Sir, that we are working

within some limitations, we cannot spend as much as we like, but, Sir, we are gradually reinforcing the income of this Department. We have taken up new expenditure in regard to the college equipments and the laboratory about which you mentioned yourself. The Department of Veterinary is progressing.

Then, Sir, regarding Travelling Allowance to our doctors, about which mention was made by the hon. member. Government thought that if our officers were given more facilities for touring in the sub-division better work could be expected. But many of the Local Boards due to their financial stringency, could not give as much Travelling Allowance to the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons as was demanded. This has been brought to the notice of the Government and we are taking steps to see that in future our doctors get all the Travelling Allowance that is necessary. Then, Sir, my friend mentioned about timely payment to the Field Assistants. We also received complaints from certain quarters and we have empowered the Inspectors to make payments to the Field Assistants. But even here we are handicapped for want of sufficient number of Inspectors. We shall however try to mitigate the difficulty of the Field Assistants.

So, Sir, it will be seen that we are doing everything that is possible. My hon. friend has given some concrete suggestions and we will try to work up to them as far as possible. In view of this I hope my hon. friend will withdraw his motion.

Dr. HOMESWAR DEB CHAUDHURY: On hearing the Hon'ble Minister I would like to withdraw my cut motion.

(The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The question is that a sum not exceeding Rs.5,82,400 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1953 for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary".

(The motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.30

(53.—Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes)

The Hon'ble Shri RAMNATH DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum not exceeding Rs.18,61,600 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1953 for the administration of the head "53.—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes".

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved is that a sum not exceeding Rs.18,61,600 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1953 for the administration of the head "53.—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes".

There is a cut motion in the name of Shri Gauri Sankar Bhattacharyya. I hope the hon. member will be very brief.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.18,61,600 under Grant No.30, major head 53.—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes at page 228 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e. the amount of the whole grant of Rs.18,61,600 do stand reduced by Re.1.

This cut motion, Sir, is a symbolic one. My objection is not to the greatness of the amount but to the smallness of it. I think, Sir, if we are to solve the problem of poverty in our country we shall have to industrialise our country. Without industrialising our country we will not be able to solve the problem of middle-class unemployment which is becoming more and more acute every day and we shall not be able to give food, shelter and clothing to our people. In this connection, Sir, I was thinking of giving some concrete suggestions and I was very much encouraged by the attitude and expression of the hon. Chief Whip of the Congress Party, but I am also a bit hesitant due to the caution given by our Hon'ble Minister of Supply that 'উপদেশোহি মূৰ্খানিঃ প্রকোপায় ন শাস্তয়ে।'

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Don't bother about the Hon'ble Minister of Supply's advice.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Then I won't bother about his advice (The Hon'ble Mookerjee : He is following me, I find !). I tried to understand the Hon'ble Supply Minister, but I failed !

Sir, it was very well said in the Explanation given in the Budget Memorandum that electricity almost symbolised civilisation. We are in complete agreement with this statement; but then, what do we find? We can understand the amount of attention Government give to the development of electric energy if we look round the country! It is very good that this Hydro-Electric Scheme at Umtru has been adopted. I welcome it. What we press for is that such schemes should be extended and the Umtru scheme should be executed as thoroughly and as quickly as possible. This Government should also take measures to nationalise, or at least to take over control of the Hydro-Electric Company here at Shillong. It is funny to find that when through hydro-electric processes power can be generated in other countries at very cheap rates here in Shillong the citizens are to pay 8 annas without rebate for the general consumption and four and half annas per unit for industrial concerns. But as we know from the records of other countries, e. g., U. S. A. and U. S. S. R we see that as a result of Tennessee Valley Project in U. S. A. and Nippar-Dam in the Soviet Union, electric power has become very cheap and this has come to immense service of man. The socialist production with the help of power is also distributed in the Soviet Union according to the system of Socialised distribution. We suggest it to the Government that instead of giving a 'Jora' here and a 'Tali' there, it should have a distinct and definite perspective. When from this side of the House we are demanding that the Government should have a long view of things, we are not asking that the country should be made socialist to-morrow. There should be a perspective. If we have such a very clear perspective then we can take very correct steps and these steps will be in the right directions. Our complaint is that Government lacks such a perspective. We can not follow a mixed economy as proposed that day by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. As an ideal—as a perspective, there is no such thing as mixed economy. If our perspective is for the improvement of the entire population, this is not mixed economy. This a transitional economy so that we can take strides towards socialism. This a transitional economy" the Hon'ble Chief Minister means 'transitional' economy we have nothing to say. We may then have a clear scheme of industrialising the country. Government should nationalise electric concerns in Gauhati, Shillong, Dhubri and other places. It was said that the owners of the Jorhat Electric Company have been telling us that this concern should be nationalised and that we are hesitating. I do not see why the Hon'ble the Finance Minister should hesitate if by it we can improve cottage industry, etc., in that area. The Hon'ble Finance Minister said that some of the Schedule Districts like Khasi Hills and

Garo Hills have become a liability to us after the Partition. I think, if we have really a clear scheme these districts instead of being a liability will be great assets, because hydro-electric power in the Assam Hills is a latent and potent power. If that hydro-electric power is properly harnessed, Assam will be one of the most prosperous States not only here in India but in the whole world. We find that police buildings in the Sixth Schedule areas along will cost one lakh ninty nine thousand ; for the expansion of national cadet corps scheme Rs.49,000 and odd will be necessary. So far as these hill districts are concerned we find that Government have not taken any concrete and positive constructive step. If this Government is really sympathetic, it must actually do something. They have taken up the scheme of constructing one jail building here and a police station there. We must see that cottage industries run with electric power be developed in these places and by so doing, we will be able to change our country from agricultural into an industrial one. With this few words, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.18,61,600 under the grant No. 30—major head-53 Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes at page 228 of the Budget be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.* the amount of the whole grant of Rs.18,61,600 do stand reduced by Re.1

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.18,61,600 under Grant No.30, major head 53.—capital outlay on Electricity Schemes at page 228 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1 *i.e.* the amount of the whole grant of Rs.18,61,600 do stand reduced by Re.1

The Hon'ble Shri RAMNATH DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir the Hon'ble the Mover of the cut motion has gone beyond the scope of his Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : You will reply whether the Government are prepared to purchase its ante-diluvion machinery.

The Hon'ble Shri RAMNATH DAS : At the outset he said that his complaint was not for the greatness of the amount provided in the Budget but for its smallness. I think he has not understood or tried to understand what is the amount estimated for the execution of the scheme as a whole. It comes to about 85 lakhs of rupees. The scheme will run upto 1955-56. The amount at present provided in the Budget is the amount for the current year and not for the whole Scheme for the whole period.

Therefore Sir, his complaint regarding the smallness of the amount should not stand. Secondly, he has said that Government has got no perspective or ideal before them with which they should proceed. I think Sir, he should have realised that the Government has undertaken this scheme with an ideal. When any scheme is undertaken by Government, it is done so with an ideal before it. Therefore, his complaint regarding that point also should not stand.

Sir, my friend Mr. Bhattacharyya wants us to nationalise all the electrical concerns in Assam.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I did not say all, I said some of the important ones.

The Hon'ble Shri RAMNATH DAS : That may be so Sir. He has made reference to the Jorhat Electrical concern about which the Hon'ble Finance Minister said the other day that the Jorhat Electrical concern requested Government to take that over, but Government did not like to consider the proposal because the machineries are very old. If that concern is taken over by

Government then, not to speak of others, Mr. Bhattacharyya himself will be the first critic to jump and attack the Government for purchasing a concern the machineries of which have already become old.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: What about the Shillong Hydro-Electric concern?

The Hon'ble Shri RAM NATH DAS: As regards his suggestion for nationalisation of the Shillong Hydro-Electric concern, we feel that we should not disturb it unless circumstances compel us to do so.

Now, Sir, I would like to say that my friend in this cut motion should not have argued against the non nationalisation of the Shillong Hydro-Electric concern nor against the non purchase of the Jorhat Electric concern. His cut motion is to have a general discussion about the Umtru-Hydro-Electric "project and also the amount provided for this Scheme in the Budget. He therefore Sir, by going to alter points has traversed beyond the jurisdiction of his cut motion.

With these few words Sir, I would request my hon. friend to withdraw his motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Are you withdrawing it?

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Yes, Sir.

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

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Then I put the main motion.

The question is that a sum not exceeding Rs.18,61,600 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1953 for the administration of the head "53.—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes".

(The Motion was adopted).

GRANT No. 34
(57.—MISCELLANEOUS)

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA: On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir to move that a sum not exceeding Rs.81,19,200 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1953 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous."

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum not exceeding Rs.81,19,200 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1953 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous".

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI: On a point of order, Sir, there are many items under this head "Miscellaneous", for example Home, Local Self-Government, Supply, Textile, Transport, etc. So unless there is a specific motion for a specific item there cannot be a general discussion on this head.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: But my motion is on a specific item, namely maintenance of destitute families of political sufferers.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes, you can move it.

Shri RANENDRA MOHON DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.40,000 under Grant No. 34, major head—57—Miscellaneous, minor head—A—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenus at page 235 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1 i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.81,19,200 do stand reduced by Re. 1. The object is to raise a discussion on maintenance of destitute families of political sufferers.

Sir, It will be noticed that in every country of the East and West, soldiers who have fought a war of liberation are honoured in various ways, and the State takes the opportunity of making some provision for them. Recently in China we could know, the Government took first steps to provide for all those who fought in revolution. But sadly enough the reverse is the case in our country. But on the other hand we find those oppressive officers of the British regime are still in high positions in the State. It is really a wonder if the Congress of Mahatma Gandhiji is ruling the Country. It had forgotten its ideals, foresaken its ideals that animated them during the period of struggle. Not even a memorial has been erected in the name of the heroes of liberation.

Sir, it is not the Congress only that had waged its struggle. There have been other parties too. There were heroes of Bengal partition movement. There were the so called terrorists and there was the Indian National Army under the leadership of Netaji Subhas Bose.

Sir, there are many among them who are really destitute. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that our Government should declare its policy like West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, the East Punjab and other States of India and take up the maintenance of these destitute families of political sufferers.

Of course Government has made provision for some who helped in the struggle and also for others who did not do anything in the struggle for independence. We find Government is distributing lands, permits and so on and so forth.

But it cannot be denied that the real fighters and their destitute families are not getting this help from the Government, it is the opportunists who had never been in this struggle of freedom and ruled the roost in British days, some of them now decorating the front bench of Government side, are shamelessly rulling the roost even to-day.

Sir, Government should know that, simply provision for some Ministers or Deputy High Commissioners would not bring salvation to the poor destitute families of real political sufferers of those dark days.

With these words I beg to move my cut motion for the acceptance of the House.

Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 40,000 under Grant No. 34.—major head—57.—Miscellaneous, minor head— A.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Deteneus at page 235 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 81,19,200 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the provision of Rs. 40,000 under Grant No. 34, major head—57— Miscellaneous, minor head—A.—.Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Deteneus at page 235 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 81,19,200 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA: The Hon'ble Chief Minister will reply.

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI : The Cut Motion that the provision under Grant No. 34, major head—57.—Miscellaneous, minor head—A.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenous—was moved to be reduced, but it appears that the Cut Motion is on one head and the discussion is on another head.

Shri RANENDRA MOHON DAS : It has been allowed by the Hon'ble Speaker.

The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI : I do not want to take cover on this technical mistake, but I have pointed out the mistake so that such mistake do not occur in the future.

Now, as regards the political sufferers, as early as in the year 1948, it was decided by the Government to give some concessions to the sufferers in consistence with the finances of the Province and a Press Note was issued in this connection. I think, the hon. Mover of the Cut Motion did not care to know full details as far as the political sufferers are concerned. I do not say that whatever relief was given was sufficient but it was a symbolic relief as appreciation of the services rendered by these political sufferers but in view of the financial condition of the Province, although the Government was anxious, no further relief could be given.

I would read a relevant portion of a Press Note issued on the 8th September 1948 :—

“ The Government of Assam have so far given relief to those (or their heirs or dependents) who suffered in life, limb or possession on account of active participation in the National Struggle for Independence under Mahatma's leadership. These reliefs were granted as follows :—

“ (1) Return of collective fines.

“ (2) Return of moveable properties proved to have been seized during the struggle—such as guns, cycles, etc., —or adequate compensation in lieu.

“ (3) Grant of allowances to those who were detained without allowance or without adequate allowance.

“ (4) Gratuities to the families of those who were either killed or permanently maimed during the struggle.

“ (5) Scholarships to deserving school going dependents of the persons referred to in (4)

“ (6) Reinstatement of persons who resigned or lost their services in the struggle.

“ (7) Instructions to Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers to the settle land with those sufferers who were agriculturists and had insufficient land.

“ There is a feeling among the sufferers that enough has not been done. Government have gone into the matter again and have decided upon the following forms of the additional relief :—

(I) “ In the case of those who lost their lives during the struggle—

“ (a) pensions of Rs. 20 per mensem to widows (or helpless mothers) of such persons for life or till remarriage.

“ (b) scholarships to children of school or college-going age till 21/18 years in the case of boys/girls or earlier discontinuance of studies or in the case of girls marriage.

“(II) In the case of those who are permanently maimed or disabled and thereby deprived of earning capacity—a monthly pension of Rs.25 (according to the degree of actual disablement during the struggle) for life.

“(III) In the case of those who did not suffer in life or limb (or earning capacity due to disablement) and yet are without employment though physically and educationally qualified, Government are prepared to consider them for absorption in various development schemes according to capacity and ability and for this purpose to consider condonation of age to the extent of 5 years and waiving of application fees normally payable in those cases in which applications with fees are required to be submitted to Assam Public Service Commission.”

At present age limit for condonation has been raised to 35.

A board was constituted for this purpose in order to see that relief is given to the deserving persons.

Besides, this policy was formulated in an all-India basis under instructions from the Government of India.

In this connection, let me read another letter of the 19th March, 1948, issued by the Secretary, Government of Assam, Revenue Department, to the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers of Plains Districts :—

“A great number of people of this Province actively participated in the political movements of 1930 and 1942 inaugurated by the Indian National Congress and in consequence many of them suffered imprisonment, some died, some have been incapacitated by the injuries received and there are still others whose property was confiscated and sold. The majority of the above categories have been rendered poor and destitute owing to their active and prolonged participation in the political movement. Government desire that these people or their families should be helped and given encouragement into a profession in so far as such a profession depends on having sufficient economic holding for their livelihood.

“I am accordingly to request that such political sufferers of the categories mentioned above as have no sufficient land or have less than 30 bighas should be provided with land sufficient for the maintenance of their families.

“Government will also consider applications for larger areas than 25 or 30 bighas if ten or more such persons join together and apply for a plot of land for purposes of collective or co-operative cultivation.”

Amongst other relief suggested by the Government of India in their letter of 17th December, 1948, I should like to mention some :—

“(i) Persons who were dismissed or removed from service because of their association with the national movements will be eligible, to a grant, with retrospective effect from the date of the termination of such appointments, of such pensions or gratuity as would have been admissible to them on those dates had they been retired from service on grounds of ill-health. Persons who were granted a compassionate allowance less than that admissible on the foregoing basis, will be eligible for a corresponding increase.

“(ii) Civil pensioners whose pensions were forfeited because of their association with the national movements shall have their pensions restored with retrospective effect from the respective dates of their forfeiture.

“The benefit of the relief specified under paragraph (i) above will also be extended to *ex-Government* servants who resigned their appointments—whether such resignation was voluntary or forced—provided it is proved that such resignation was preceded or followed by actual participation in the national movement, was attributed to such participation and was not dictated by any other consideration.

Claims from the heirs and successors of those *ex*-Government servants or *ex*-Government pensioners who are no longer alive, for grant to them of the relief which would have been admissible to the deceased had they been alive, will not be entertained. This restriction would not, however, apply to the outstanding claims.

This Government also agreed to grant these relief to the political sufferers. The nation appreciates the services of those martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the attainment of our freedom. There is a proposal to start some sort of a trust board to which some allotment of money may be made and raised for giving relief to political sufferers just like the one for the benefit of the Soldiers and Sailors Board. The proposal is receiving the consideration of this Government.

My hon. Friend was under a wrong impression that this Government is callous in dealing with the cases of those political sufferers. I think, in view of what I have just now stated, he will remove that wrong impression from his mind and rather he will appreciate the action taken by this Government in giving relief to those political sufferers who rendered valuable service to the country.

In view of this, Sir, I hope my hon. Friend will withdraw his Motion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member got the leave of the House to withdraw his Motion? (*Voices:* Yes, Sir).

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

There are three ways of putting in Cut Motion—on the General Demand, on a specific item of the Demand and if there be any omission of an amount. The House will be entitled to all these three ways of putting in Cut Motion. This is my ruling.

The question is that a sum not exceeding Rs.81,19,200 be granted to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March, 1953 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous". (The Motion was adopted).

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 1-30 P.M. on Friday the 21st March, 1952.

SHILLONG :
The 13th June, 1952.

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