

**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 6th 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 eighty-eight Members.

**Oath of Allegiance**

The Following hon. Members were sworn in:—

1. Srijut Santosh Kumar Barua.
2. Srijut Hem Chandra Hazarika.
3. Pu Ch. Saprawnga.

(The Hon'ble Speaker then left the Chamber with the Secretary to receive His Excellency the Governor.)

**ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR**

**His Excellency the Governor (Shri JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM):**

**MR. SPEAKER, MY COLLEAGUES AND  
MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY,**

IT IS NOW nearly twelve months since I had the pleasure and the privilege of addressing the last Assembly which was elected about six years ago. I extend to you my hearty welcome and wish you every success in the discharge of the heavy responsibilities that you have to face as members of this House.

Before I touch upon other subjects, it is proper for me to refer to the untimely death of King George VI of Great Britain. The tributes to his memory, so handsomely paid by people all over the world, bear eloquent testimony to the qualities of late King George, both as a constitutional monarch and as a man. Our sincerest sympathies go to the bereaved young Queen, the Queen-Mother, other members of the Royal family and to the people of Great Britain.

This Assembly, in which I see many old friends as well as many others who have been elected for the first time, has a special importance. It has been elected under the new Constitution framed by the representatives of the people of India and is based on universal adult franchise. The general elections, involving the largest electorate the world has ever seen functioning, have been conducted in a remarkably successful manner and have fully justified the confidence in the people of India, which

the framers of our Constitution had reposed. One has only to look at the manner in which the vast masses have voted in different constituencies in this State and elsewhere, to be convinced of the freedom and fairness of the elections. I extend my warm congratulations to the lakhs of voters, the political parties and candidates contesting the elections and above all, to the thousands of officials and non-official workers who in various capacities, contributed their unstinted labour to make the first elections in a Free and Republican India such a great success within our State. Through the efforts of them all, the foundation of successful democratic Government in India has been truly and firmly laid.

### **International Situation**

The international situation continues to cause anxiety. The cease-fire negotiations in Korea are dragging on, while hostilities continue. There has been violence and bloodshed in Egypt and in Tunisia. Nearer home, there has been an attempt, although fortunately unsuccessful, to strike at the newly born democratic regime in Nepal. The insurgent activities in Burma have not ceased and developments on our North-East Frontier call for continued and increased vigilance on our part. The dispute with Pakistan over Kashmir is unhappily still with us, but our determination to find a peaceful solution based on the will of the people of Kashmir has been reiterated by the Prime Minister and we have agreed to an extension of the term of Dr. Graham. The foreign policy of India guided by the Prime Minister continues to be based on friendship and co-operation with every country. The keynote of our policy is to decide each issue on merits, in the light of what is or what should be the right line of action regardless of extraneous factors. This has enhanced our prestige among all countries, large and small, although economically and militarily we are not a strong power.

### **Border Problems**

The situation on the Assam-East Pakistan border has not been an easy one. There were warlike propaganda and preparation and massing of armed men by Pakistan on the border last year. My Government have also had to face occasional raids and incursions across the border and attempts at forcible occupation of our territory, as in the case of the river islands in Goalpara and on the Khasi Hills border. Attempts at economic strangulation and harassment of the

border people continued. The armed police of this State had to be substantially augmented to man border posts and prevent such raids and incursions. In order to find a solution in respect of the disputed areas, our Government have co-operated with the East Bengal Government in holding joint surveys and demarcation of the border which are now progressing.

### Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons

The rehabilitation of Muslim migrants who had either left the State or taken shelter in areas away from their homes during the disturbances in 1950, has been completed satisfactorily. In almost all cases, houses and immovable property of the returning migrants have been restored to their rightful owners. In addition, over 28 lacs of rupees have been spent by way of gratuitous relief or rehabilitation loans. The Minority Commission and District and Subdivisional Minority Boards established under the Prime Ministers' Agreement have worked satisfactorily and perfect communal harmony prevails in the State. The Evacuee Property Management Committee has been doing its work under the Act.

One of the major problems before the country has been the rehabilitation of displaced persons from Pakistan. It continues to demand high priority. Much of the good work done by the Prime Ministers' Agreement of 1950 was undone by developments in Pakistan last year and the consequent feeling of insecurity among minorities. Although no mass migration of the type which took place in 1950 has occurred, sporadic movements have continued and still continue adding to the complexity of the problem of rehabilitation. According to the census of 1951, the number in Assam of displaced persons from East Pakistan has been shown to be 2,74,455 of whom 93,965 were in Cachar and the remaining in the rest of our State. In the district of Cachar, the responsibility for relief and rehabilitation was undertaken by the Central Government direct. In the rest of Assam, it is estimated that about 24,000 families or nearly  $1\frac{1}{4}$  lac of persons have been permanently rehabilitated. These include agriculturists, artisans, business people and members of the middle classes belonging to professions and services. The total amount of rehabilitation loans issued by the Rehabilitation Department up to the 30th September 1951 amounted to Rs.45 lacs. Out of the 5 schemes for rehabilitation of agriculturists sanctioned by the Government of India costing approximately Rs.55 lacs, 4 schemes, *i.e.*, the schemes at Baghbar, Kauli, Goalpara and

Nowgong have been partly implemented. For the settlement of non-agriculturists, the schemes deserving mention, are the construction of new markets at Gauhati and Haibargaon in Nowgong and the construction of 36 stalls at Nalbari. In addition to the above schemes, the construction of a small township near Gauhati for rehabilitating about 500 families has been sanctioned, and three other townships, one at Shillong, one near Pandu and one at Rupshi in Goalpara, are under contemplation. A few important development schemes have also been sanctioned for developing the areas selected as rehabilitation centres or colonies, which will be of permanent benefit to the State. These schemes include improvement of communications, provision of drinking water, minor irrigation projects, construction of primary schools and provision of medical aid. Technical and vocational training to refugee trainees is being given in the Industrial Training Institute at Jorhat and refugee girls are being given 'dhai' training at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Nowgong. In the Paper Centre, Shillong, instruction is being given in paper making, printing and book-binding. A scheme for the establishment of a training *cum* work centre at Rupshi has been sanctioned. For looking after the destitute and unattached women and children, as well as, old and infirm displaced persons, 3 homes have been established, one each at Gauhati, Nowgong and Rupshi which contain in all about 250 inmates. The able-bodied among them are being taught useful arts and crafts. As regards the education of the children of displaced persons the schemes sanctioned by the Government of India for issue of free-studentships, cash grants and stipends are in progress.

### Law and Order

The law and order situation in the State showed great improvement during the last year, the most remarkable achievement of the Police in 1951 being the completion of the anti-terrorist campaign. The smashing up of the terrorist organization has resulted in the restoration of confidence among the rural people who were the worst victims and also in a significant fall in the figures of violent crime. Heavy responsibility also rested with the police for maintaining law and order during the general elections and escorting of the ballot boxes and performing various other duties. This responsibility has been discharged efficiently and smoothly. The co-operation of the general public and political leaders was also of great assistance to the police in fulfilling their task and not a single instance of breach of the peace or interference with the conduct of elections was reported.

The Police Wireless Organization has developed and it has proved its worth during the emergency of September-October 1951 and the general elections. To secure the borders of the State effectively, the question of improvement in the arms and equipment of the police including the provision of river-craft is under Government's active consideration. Government also set up a Re-organization Committee with comprehensive terms of reference and the Committee's recommendations which will be received shortly will be given due consideration.

The Village Defence Organization of which a beginning was made during the anti-terrorist operations, is being expanded as it has demonstrated its utility in the suppression of criminal elements in rural areas. Gradual progress in the introduction of police administration in Tribal areas has been made. The re-orientation of police training necessitated by the rapid expansion of the force has also been taken up.

### **Rehabilitation of Earthquake-affected Persons**

In my last address I mentioned the measures which were taken for providing immediate relief to the victims of the earthquake and the subsequent floods and also the steps my Government were taking to find suitable lands for the earthquake sufferers who were either displaced or whose fields were rendered unfit for cultivation. Apart from the areas thrown open in the Tangani and Garumara professional grazing reserves, nearly 30,000 bighas of additional lands were opened up for settlement in other professional and village grazing reserves. For the resettlement of a large number of families on the north of the Brahmaputra in the district of Lakhimpur including the transferred areas, the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, has prepared a scheme to rehabilitate about 5,500 such families on alternative suitable lands found out for them in several places and a sum of Rs.6.66 lacs has been ear-marked for this scheme which is in progress.

### **Financial Situation**

The Hon'ble Finance Minister will place before you the statement for the next financial year and will explain in the course of his speech, the budgetary position of the State. I shall only confine myself to saying that there is every need for husbanding our limited resources and preventing all wasteful expenditure. Government have estimated that the current year's revenue deficit would amount to nearly Rs.98 lacs but by pruning expenditure judiciously we expect to be able

to keep this deficit down to about Rs.63 lacs. The receipts during the course of the year have, on the whole, been better than what we hoped for. In the Budget Estimates for the year 1952-53, which will be presented to the House by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, it will be noticed that all essential developmental activities have been provided for in spite of the difficulties consequent upon the natural calamities during recent years. In allotting the available sums for developmental projects the needs of the rural population have been specially kept in mind. Provision of water supply, improvement of rural communications, better medical facilities, development of the schools, colleges and technical institutions are some of the objects of expenditure on which it is proposed to spend the amounts available after defraying the current expenditure of the administration. Government are also going ahead with a programme of equipping the Medical College at Dibrugarh.

The Budget Estimates for the next year will, however, reveal that it has not been possible to include all the schemes of development formulated under the State Five-year Programme, due to financial stringency. The Umtru Hydro-Electric Scheme to which Government attach great importance has however, found a place in the Budget. The total cost of the scheme will be nearly Rs.84½ lacs and in the Budget for 1952-53 provision has been made for over Rs.18 lacs. In spite of financial stringency, provision has been made in the next Budget for twenty road schemes and three embankment and drainage schemes for flood control which were included in the Five-year Programme and are considered to be of imperative necessity. The amount provided for them is Rs.23.48 lacs. Some other development schemes including the development of the Medical College and other technical institutions, extension of medical facilities by provincialising hospitals, which were originally taken up as Post-War Development Schemes and were financed by the Government of India till 1949-50, have been continued even after the stoppage of that Government's grant. Provision for these schemes has been made in the next year's Budget as normal development schemes of the State and the expenditure on them would amount to over Rs.75 lacs.

As mentioned in my address to the last Budget Session, the grant-in-aid under clause (3) of the second proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution was fixed provisionally at Rs.30 lacs. I am glad to inform the House that the Government of India after due consideration of the case submitted by my Government have agreed to raise the amount to Rs.40 lacs with effect from 1950-51.

### Food Situation

The last year has been one of unprecedented difficulty and strain so far as the food situation in the State is concerned. The loss of food-grains due to various natural calamities of the year 1950 was severe and estimated to be nearly  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lac tons. There was also considerable diversion of acreage from rice to jute and other money crops. On the other hand, the food commitments tended to rise due to the heavy increase in population as well as the influx of a large number of displaced persons from East Pakistan. The year 1951 started with practically no reserve. I had mentioned in my last address the steps Government had taken to intensify procurement in this State. Representations were sent to the Government of India to commence the import of food-grains from the beginning of the year but adequate and timely help could not be obtained and the situation deteriorated further owing to the heavy loss of the autumn paddy crops. This led to a steep rise in prices and the position became critical. On our renewed representation allotments by the Government of India were increased and all arrangements for speedy transport were made. The Government had to open as many as 487 cheap grain shops in rural and non-rationed areas to meet scarcity. Government also arranged to sell imported rice at subsidised rates undergoing heavy loss in the process. As a result of all these measures taken, and with the establishment of a continuous flow of food-grains from outside, the position slowly eased and came under control. The total quantity of food-grains imported reached the record figure of 1,14,000 tons. The State is not yet out of the wood as considerable damage to the winter paddy was also caused by floods in July and September 1951. The prospects for the current year are, therefore, not too bright and the situation would require constant vigilance. The commitments for the next year are estimated at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lac tons out of which only 70,000 tons are expected to be procured in the State and the Government of India had been requested for an allotment of 2 lac tons of food-grains at least half of which should be in rice. It is understood that, in the recent Food Conference, the Government of India have allotted 1,47,000 tons of food-grains for this State which includes 5,000 tons of rice to be rushed immediately. All efforts will have to be made to keep the situation under control by husbanding the entire resources of the State supplemented by the assistance to be received from the Government of India. In addition to the measures taken to intensify procurement, the paddy grown by tea garden labourers is being set off against their cereal ration, and Government have established an Enforcement

Branch to deal effectively with offenders. The Border Security Force is employed also to check smuggling and Government are going ahead with the improvement and construction of feeder roads in the paddy surplus areas to facilitate marketing and better procurement.

Shortages of supply of essential goods of all descriptions for which the State has to depend on the rest of India continued. The cloth and yarn position however eased to some extent and in spite of difficulties of transport, the supply of sugar, salt, cement etc., has been kept up as best as possible. The shortage of iron materials including corrugated iron sheets continued. We have, however, succeeded in securing an *ad hoc* additional quota of 500 tons of galvanised corrugated iron sheets for the procurement drive.

The food shortage is not peculiar to this State alone but has become the gravest problem the whole country has to face. In my last address I mentioned the great weakness in the economy of our State which has developed due to the increased dependence on imported food-grains. Even if the Government of India succeed in importing at the present colossal rate and making up deficits of States we would be nowhere near the solution of our economic problem. First of all, in order to pay for the food-grains imported into Assam the purchasing power of the State's population is drained away. Secondly, due to the transport difficulties, timely help is often impossible and on many occasions, the food imported deteriorates in transit or storage and there is discontent regarding the quality of the food-grains issued. Thirdly, the transport link with the rest of India is so slender and its capacity so limited that even if we are able to import a considerable quantity of food-grains we have to sacrifice many other essential commodities for which Assam is dependent on the rest of India. This intensifies the effect of the inflation in the State. The only way out of this crisis is to utilise all our resources until we can grow not merely sufficient food to feed ourselves but also to produce a surplus and thus restore stability and prosperity to the economic life of the State. My Government have, therefore, given the highest priority to Grow-More-Food schemes. These schemes are being pursued according to a planned programme which includes major and minor irrigation schemes, provision of improved seeds and plants, use and supply of manure, plant protection, utilisation of waste lands, introduction of double cropping and better cultural practices. The major irrigation schemes number no less than 47, intended to bring under cultivation over  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lac acres of land and costing ultimately well over one crore of rupees. Seven of these schemes have been completed in the current year, benefiting



38,000 acres of land and the remaining schemes are at various stages of implementation. In addition, there are minor irrigation schemes in which the local public contribute to the extent of 50 per cent. of the cost. Last year 955 such minor schemes were completed, benefiting 1,36,000 acres of land. The number of minor schemes to be taken up next year would be also of the same order as in the last year. The provision for Grow-More-Food schemes in the next year's Budget amount to Rs.71.67 lacs including Rs.6.40 lacs for mechanised cultivation and Rs.28 lacs for major irrigation projects.

The importance of grazing and other reserves to the economy of the State cannot be underestimated but realising the paramount need to increase food production Government have been compelled to throw open considerable areas from such reserves. They have also requisitioned and distributed large areas of surplus land of tea gardens for the same purpose. The lands have been allotted to landless and flood-affected people as well as to displaced persons. We are negotiating with the Government of India for the establishment of a pilot extension project to be financed by the Ford Foundation. The idea of the project is to make about one hundred villages in its orbit ideal ones in respect of improved agriculture, sanitation, education, co-operation and village leadership. Such a pilot project can serve as a model for the rest of the State and be gradually copied in other areas. Government have also under contemplation the introduction of rural *cum* urban community projects for the intensified and integrated development of areas more or less on the same lines under the Indo-United States Co-operative Programme. Recently, we have arranged with the Government of India for the supply of one hundred maunds of paddy seeds of Chinese origin which are reported to be of a high yielding variety and expected to do well in a high altitude and a cold climate. This seed will be experimentally grown in the hill districts so that if found successful, the cultivation of such paddy can be introduced in these districts which are normally deficit and cannot grow paddy.

It should, however, be remembered that agriculture in this State will remain a gamble with nature until and unless, the mighty rivers can be controlled. The State suffers from recurrent floods the intensity of which has become greater due to the effects of the earthquake. The floods not merely destroy cultivation or render areas uncultivable but also cause damage to food-grains stored in the houses of cultivators in the flood-affected areas. My Government hoped that some important river-valley projects would be taken up in Assam and surveys on the Monas and Dihang schemes were in fact

started. These surveys were however suspended after the earthquake and now Government are again in touch with the Government of India for the resumption of these preparatory measures. It should, however, be noted that the river-valley projects will be highly expensive and gigantic schemes, and we have to wait till the Government of India are in a position to find the necessary finances. But the ravages and the menace of floods in the State are so great that one cannot wait for the completion of long term major river-valley projects and my Government, therefore, drew up schemes for flood protection, drainage and irrigation works costing about rupees one crore under the Five-year Development Programme. We have represented to the Government of India, at the highest level, our present inability to undertake these schemes for lack of funds and asked for assistance. If the necessary financial assistance is extended by the Government of India such of these schemes as are capable of being taken up immediately will be undertaken and funds provided for by a supplementary Budget.

Government expect that public co-operation will always be available in fullest measure in order that all these efforts may produce the desired results.

### **Autonomous Districts and Tribal Areas**

The elections to the Autonomous District Councils to which the Tribal people were eagerly looking forward have been successfully completed in five out of six districts. The entire operation necessitated a good deal of planning and organization due to difficulties of communications. A large number of officers had to be drafted from outside these districts for conducting the elections. Thanks to the efforts of all concerned, the elections in these districts have been successfully completed in the midst of considerable enthusiasm amongst the voters. My Government are very eager to see that the District Councils begin their functions and have provided for funds being given as grants-in-aid to enable them to start work. These Councils will have large powers of administration and legislation and would be in a position not merely to protect the interests of the tribal communities but also to pave the way to their economic and cultural development in an atmosphere of complete autonomy and without any outside interference. Although, the ballot box is an innovation, democracy and freedom are ingrained in the life and tradition of the Tribal people and it is confidently hoped that these Councils will administer the affairs entrusted to them, properly and efficiently.

An important step forward in the administration of the Tribal areas since the Assembly last met, has been the constitution of the North Cachar and Mikir Hills district which came into being on the 17th of November 1951, on which date it was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at Diphu, the provisional headquarters of the new district.

In my last address, I referred to the Development Schemes which Government had already undertaken or were contemplating for the promotion of the welfare of the Tribal areas. The most important among these schemes are those for the improvement of communications within the Tribal areas and also connecting them with important centres in the plains. Some of the projects worth mentioning are the Amguri-Mokokchung Road, Silchar-Aijal Road and Mawphlang-Balat, Dawki-Muktapur and Jowai-Muktapur Roads. Satisfactory progress in the implementation of these schemes has been made. For the current year, the Government of India have sanctioned, thanks to the personal efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, a sum of Rs.39 lacs for the implementation of these schemes. In 1952-53 it is proposed to spend over Rs.22 lacs on the above and other roads. Other schemes deserving mention are the construction of a Shellac factory at Chaparmukh which will benefit the lac growing Mikirs and the improvement of water supply in Aijal, Haflong and Cherrapunjee. In addition to this, a special grant of Rs.10 lacs has been sanctioned by the Government of India for the Scheduled Tribes in Naga Hills District, the major portion of which has been spent on subsidies to self-help schemes for the improvement of communications within the district. The establishment of dispensaries, grants-in-aid to schools, scholarships to students, improvement of drinking water supply, etc., are also financed out of this grant. The questions of providing an electricity generating set for Kohima is also under consideration. The Government of India have sanctioned an *ex-gratia* amount of Rs.30 lacs for the payment of compensation for damage caused by the Allies during the last War in the Naga Hills. This payment has already commenced.

Certain schemes were also formulated by the State Government for the development of the areas inhabited by the Tribal people in the plains. Due to financial stringency the Government of India were not in a position to provide funds as grants-in-aids for the implementation of these schemes. As expected some of these schemes, however, have been taken up for implementation out of the State revenues and priority has been given to schemes for improvement of communications and rural water supply and provision of educational facilities.

### **Rural Development and Cottage Industries**

At the end of 1950-51 there were only 29 Rural Panchayats. It was not possible to provide funds for increasing this number in the current year's Budget. Government, however, being convinced of the vitally important nature of the development of rural self-Government and self-help, made provision for 22 new Panchayats by a supplementary demand. For the next year a provision of Rs.8.85 lacs has been made for 59 new Panchayats, thus at the end of 1952-53 this State will have 110 Panchayats against a total of 710 programmed for. The self-help enterprises have also been very popular. The amount available for grants this year was Rs.6 lacs including the provision of 3 lacs made in the Budget and the balance in the Rural Development funds. In the next year's Budget a provision of 5 lacs has been made for self-help grants.

This State is backward in the development of large-scale industries and due to various adverse factors quick industrialisation cannot be hoped for. Government have, therefore, been doing their best for the development of cottage and small-scale industries in order to provide for supplementary occupation to the agricultural population during the slack season and also to meet the unemployment situation caused by an increasing pressure on land. In addition to the activities of the Government soap factory, sericultural farms and other institutions, industrial loans are being provided to enable deserving individuals to take up and develop cottage industries which would benefit the middle and lower middle classes also. In the current year over Rs.98,000 was advanced and a provision of Rs.1 lac has been made in the Budget for the next year. Stipends have also been granted to students under-going various types of vocational and practical training. The activities of the Cottage Industries, Sericulture and Weaving Departments are being rapidly expanded in the Hills and Tribal areas to benefit the inhabitants who are economically the most backward.

### **Welfare of Labour**

In my last address, I mentioned about the Labour Welfare Centres started with the help of non-official agencies. A grant-in-aid of rupees two lakhs has been received from the Government of India which will be utilised in starting self-contained welfare centres and two workers training centres—one for men and another for women workers. The Plantations Labour Act recently passed by Parliament lays obligation on the employers to provide certain amenities. These include canteens, creches for the children of women workers, recreational facilities, educational facilities and housing facilities. Our Government

have been asked to advise on the framing of rules under the Act which on finalisation will come into effect conferring the benefits of the Act uniformly on all labourers. The Minimum Wages Committee for Plantation Labour set up under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, have submitted their recommendations which are under Government's consideration. Government hope to give effect to their decisions in this behalf by the 31st March 1952 as required under the Act. Government also propose to introduce a Compulsory Savings Scheme along with the implementation of the decision on minimum wages. In this connection a bill will be placed before the House for your consideration. The Assam Maternity Benefit Act has been amended to provide for extended benefits to expectant mothers and the rules framed under the Act have been brought into operation from the 1st January 1952. Another bill proposing further amendments will also be placed before the House.

Industry has accepted the proposal of my Government for the construction of improved houses for labour and 10,420 houses have already been completed. The scheme is continuing. The Government of India have advanced an interest-free loan of Rupees 10 lacs for housing of labour. The State Government is considering a scheme to advance loans to various industries out of this amount to enable them to complete their housing programme.

### **Anti-Corruption**

The problem of eradicating the evils of corruption from all walks of life has engaged the serious attention of Government. So far as Government servants are concerned the Anti-Corruption Department established in 1946 to undertake preliminary investigation in all cases of corrupt activity which come to the notice of Government, has continued to function under the general control of the Chief Secretary and the Inspector General of Police. Government have also established an Enforcement Branch for effective enforcement of Control Orders and detecting their breach by traders and others. In order to encourage the public to come forward boldly to lodge complaints of corruption against the staff posted in the districts, a complaint box is kept in each Deputy Commissioner's office and the Anti-Corruption Committees which were established last year took decisions after consideration of the complaints whether they were to be enquired into by the Police, by the departmental head or by Anti-Corruption Branch. Government are contemplating to revitalise these Committees which were dissolved just before the elections. Government rely also on the whole-hearted co-operation of every one in the State in root-

ing out this great evil so that society and administration can function in an atmosphere of purity and honesty.

### Legislative Programme

Among the new legislative measures that will be introduced in the current session is the Assam Opium Prohibition (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 1952. The amendment is intended to remove certain difficulties regarding interpretation which have arisen. I have already mentioned about the Assam Maternity Benefit (Second Amendment) Bill, 1952, which will be placed before you. In the original Act passed in 1944 the period of benefit (twelve weeks) to be given to expectant mothers in plantation estates has not been specifically laid down in Section 3 of the Act. Some verbal changes have also become necessary to remove doubts. The Assam Tea Plantation Compulsory Savings Scheme Bill, 1952, also features in the programme. After the recommendations of the Minimum Wages Committee are implemented, a labourer will be getting some increase in his daily wages. To prevent any further inflation and also to foster the habit of saving among labourers and to help them to draw on this saving during periods of difficulty it is proposed to introduce a compulsory savings scheme by this Bill.

### The Future

Our struggle for independence was not merely for political freedom but also for the attainment of economic freedom, for liberating the masses from exploitation and want, and providing for their cultural growth. The first four years of freedom have largely been occupied in meeting the gigantic problems that faced the country on the morrow of the attainment of independence. The party to which my Government belongs has always stood for certain ideals and placed before the country various programmes for social betterment and for improving the economic condition of the people. The pledges have been renewed on the eve of the elections and the masses are expectantly looking forward to the Government they have voted to power, to solve their basic problems of food, clothing, shelter, health, education and economic security. I have touched in some detail upon the achievements of the Government in different spheres in spite of the great difficulties of the post-partition period and chronic financial stringency. I have also broadly indicated their considered plans and programmes for the immediate future, as far as is possible on this occasion. Full details will be given by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech. There has been considerable construction of roads and buildings and the establishment of new institutions. In regard to education, progressively larger amounts are being

spent on all types of institutions from primary to university stage, including technical and vocational education. Considerable headway has also been made towards the development of co-operation, the provision and extension of medical aid and public health facilities, development of forests and forest resources and the nationalisation of road transport. In short, Government have been going ahead with development and extension in all fields.

In the sphere of Agrarian reform the Assam State Acquisition of Zamindari Bill, 1948, as amended on the suggestion of the Government of India, was passed in the Budget Session of 1951-52 and it received the President's assent in August 1951. The Management of State Act also came into force in 1949. It has not been possible, however, to implement the provisions of either of these two measures as some of the proprietors have instituted cases and the High Court passed an order staying further action pending disposal of these cases. As soon as these cases are disposed of, Government propose to take necessary steps for liquidation of zamindari and intermediary interests with the object of accelerating the much needed agrarian reform.

Apart from the intensification of the Grow-More-Food Schemes to which the highest priority has been given Government place great importance on the schemes of flood control by drainage and embankment measures. These are intended to save the population and their cultivation over large areas in the State and also to prevent the extension of areas of scarcity caused by flood damage. Government also consider the extension of the University, the development of the Medical College and similar expansion schemes to be essential for the welfare of the State, the implementation of which brooks no delay. I hope, the repeated representations made by my Government to the Government of India to extend the necessary financial assistance will bear fruit and we would be in a position to undertake the immediate schemes we have in mind. The task before us is to usher in a new era of prosperity and happiness for our people. This task is a gigantic one. For achieving it are needed untiring persistence, relentless hard work and the highest quality of leadership. The people have given their verdict at the polls and reposed their confidence in the new Government. I have confidence that they will rise to the occasion at this turning point of the history of the country, cheerfully carry the heavy burden of responsibility and hard work which will devolve on them and lead the people of our State to take their due share in shaping a glorious future for Assam and for India.

**Jai Hind**

**Motion on His Excellency's Address**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Under rule 20(2) of the Assembly Rules, I hereby report to the Assembly that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to make a speech, a copy of which is placed on each member's table.

I have received notice of a Motion from Shri Mohi Kanta Das, which is as follows:—

“That the Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to His Excellency the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House.”

I hereby fix Friday, the 7th March, Saturday, the 8th March and the first half of Monday, the 10th March as the dates for discussion of the Motion or matters referred to in His Excellency's speech. Notice of any amendment may be given so as to reach the Assembly Secretariat before 4 P. M. to-day.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, will you please extend the time for tabling amendments? We will be sitting here till 3 P. M. and to go through the whole Address will take time. If you can extend the time till 6 P. M. it will be better.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** All right, if it so pleases the Members, it will be done.

**Shri MOHI KANTA DAS:** Mr. Speaker Sir, in connection with the Address His Excellency the Governor delivered to this House in this Session, I beg to move that:

The Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to His Excellency the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to this House.

**Shri HEM CHANDRA CHAKRAVARTY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** It is not the practice to second the motion. I like to depart from this procedure as no motion need be seconded in this House. As such you need not take the trouble.

**The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** May I make a suggestion Sir, that the motion should be read from the Chair saying that the motion moved is:—

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I beg your pardon.

✓ **The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE:** My Hon'ble friend has begged leave of the House to move the motion and after the motion is read out by you, Sir, other hon. Members may take part and not before that.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Perfectly right.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The motion moved is that:  
“The Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to His Excellency the Governor for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House.”



## Election of Deputy Speaker

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** The next item in the agenda for today is the election of the Deputy Speaker. There are five nomination papers and I shall read out the particulars as required by clause (5) of Assembly Rule 5.

## Nomination paper No. 1

Name of Member nominated	...	Shri Rajendranath Barua, M. L. A.
Name of Proposer	... ..	Shri Dharanidhar Basuma- tari, M. L. A.
Name of Seconder	... ..	Shri Debeswar Rajkhowa, M. L. A.

## Nomination paper No. 2

Name of Member nominated...	...	Shri Rajendranath Barua, M. L. A.
Name of Proposer	... ..	Shri Hakim Chandra Rabha, M. L. A.
Name of Seconder	... ..	Shri Kobad Hussain Ahmed, M. L. A.

## Nomination paper No. 3

Name of Member nominated...	...	Shri Rajendranath Barua, M. L. A.
Name of Proposer	... ..	Shri Kistobin Rymbai, M. L. A.
Name of Seconder	... ..	Shri Joy Bhadra Hagjer, M. L. A.

## Nomination paper No. 4

Name of Member nominated	...	Shri Rajendranath Barua, M. L. A.
Name of Proposer	... ..	Hon'ble Shri Omeo Kumar Das, M. L. A.
Name of Seconder	... ..	Hon'ble Shri Mahendra Mohon Choudhury, M. L. A.

## Nomination paper No 5

Name of Member nominated ... ..	Shri Ajra Singh Khongphai, M. L. A.
Name of Proposer ... ..	Raja Ajit Narayan Dev of Sidli, M. L. A.
Name of Seconder ... ..	Shri Ghana Kanta Gogoi, M. L. A.

The first four nomination papers are in the name of one and the same person, namely, Shri Rajendranath Parua.

As more than one person has been proposed, the Assembly shall now proceed to elect the Deputy Speaker by ballot.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will be better if we could have been unanimous regarding the selection of a Deputy Speaker. I would request the Members sitting opposite to think over the matter.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I think, it is a bit too late for the day. We do not follow the method that is followed sometimes outside.

## (Voting then proceeded)

(After the voting, the Ballot box was opened by Secretary who counted the ballot papers and reported the result of counting to the Hon'ble Speaker.)

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Results of Votes:—

Shri Rajendranath Barua ... ..	84 Votes.
Shri Ajra Singh Khongphai ... ..	19 Votes.

Mr. Rajendranath Barua has been duly elected as Deputy Speaker by majority of votes cast.

(After a pause)

Mr. Leader, I want to know something. Whether these sorts of voting could not be done in the Secretary's room before the House sits or after it rises. The Members can go to the Secretary's room and vote, which will save a lot of time of the House. This procedure is followed in elections in some other place. If you approve, necessary amendment to the rules can be done. Present practice is rather a long one.

**The Hon'ble Sriji BISHNURAM MEDHI:** Sir, there may be some difficulty in having votes cast in the Secretary's room in all cases as the Secretary will have to be absent from the House. In case of important votings, such as, election of the Hon'ble Speaker and Deputy Speaker, it will be desirable, if it is done on the floor of this House. As regards other elections, these may be done in the Secretary's room.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The next item is—Felicitation, if any, to the Deputy Speaker.

**Felicitations to the Deputy Speaker**

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I on behalf of my party offer congratulations and felicitations to Srijut Rajendra Nath Barua who has been elected as Deputy Speaker of this House. He is a veteran and experienced Member of this House and I am quite sure that with his experience in the public life as well as in this House he will be able to conduct the deliberations of this House in the proper line whenever any occasion arises and he will be quite worthy of the trust that has been reposed on him in discharging his duties impartially.

With these few words I, again convey my congratulations to him.

**Mr. A. S. KHONGPHAI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a great privilege and honour to me to be able to offer our felicitations and congratulations to hon. Shri Rajendra Nath Barua on his election as the Deputy Speaker of this august House. We hope, Sir, we shall find in him when occasion arises, one who would keep the dignity of this House, as well as to look to the rights and privileges of the Members of all Parties.

With these few words I again offer my congratulations and felicitations to the Deputy Speaker.

**Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA:** I whole-heartedly thank the hon. Members for electing me as the Deputy Speaker of this House. Sir, I shall try my best, whenever called upon, to satisfy all the Parties of the House. Sir, the duty of the Deputy Speaker is perhaps a difficult one when he had to take the Chair and I hope with the co-operation of all the hon. Members of the House I shall be able to discharge my duty that has fallen on me.

I thank again, Sir, all the hon. Members for electing me to this House as the Deputy Speaker.

**Statement re: Private Members Business during the Budget Session of the Assembly.**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** In pursuance of Rule 18 of the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules, I hereby allot in consultation with the Hon'ble Chief Minister the following days for Private Members' Business during the present Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Tuesday, the 1st April	}	Motion and Resolutions.
Thursday, the 3rd April		

This order shall be subject to my revision, if necessary, from time to time.

**Statement re: Course of Government Business during the Budget Session of the Assembly.**

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** With your permission, Sir, I desire to make a Statement about the course of Government Business during this Session.

2. The Government Business which is to be taken up today is shown in the day's agenda which has been placed on each Member's table. I need not detail it again.

30 STATEMENT *RE*: COURSE OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS [6TH MAR.

3. The whole of the 7th and 8th March and the first half of the 10th March have been fixed for the debate, if any, on the address of His Excellency the Governor and discussion of matters referred to in the said address. The second half of the 10th March will be taken up in presenting the Budget for 1952-53

4. On the 13th, 14th and 15th March we propose to take up the following Government Business:—

(1) General discussion of the Budget.

(2) Discussion, if any, of estimates of expenditure charged upon the Consolidated Fund of the State.

(3) Presentation of Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for 1951-52.

5. On the 17th March, we propose to place certain rules framed under the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947 and to move the following Resolutions:

(1) Resolution for appropriation of grants from Savings under the head "50 and 68-B Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works." and "18-B Civil Works—Provincial (excluding Tools, Plant and Establishment)"

(2) Resolution for diversion of a grant of Rs.12,000 given to the Ram Krishna Mission Hospital at Laitumkhrach, Shillong, from the Savings of the grant provided for Local Board Dispensaries during 1951-52.

(3) Resolution for formation of a Committee to make rules for regulating the procedure and conduct of Business of the Assam Legislative Assembly under Article 208 (1) of the Constitution of India.

(4) Resolution for re-appropriation under "40.—Agriculture" for implementing the Key Village Farm Scheme.

On that day we also propose to introduce the following Bills and then to move that they be taken into consideration:—

(1) The Assam Finance Bill, 1952.

(2) The Assam Opium Prohibition (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 1952.

(3) The Assam Maternity Benefit (Second Amendment) Bill, 1952 (Provisional).

(4) The Assam Tea Plantations Compulsory Savings Fund Scheme Bill, 1952 (Provisional).

(5) The Assam Displaced Persons (Rehabilitation Loans) (Amendment) Bill, 1952 (Provisional).

If the motions for taking into consideration of the Bills mentioned above are accepted by the House on the 17th March, we propose that all these Bills be considered clause by clause and then be passed on the 29th and 31st March.

6. We propose to take up voting on Demands for Grants on the 18th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 24th and 25th March.

7. On the 28th March, we propose to take up the following Government Business:—

(1) Discussion, if any, of Supplementary Statement of Expenditure charged upon the Consolidated Fund of the State for 1951-52.

(2) Voting on Demands for Supplementary Grants.

8. On the 29th March we propose to introduce the Assam Appropriation Bills (Nos. 1 and 2) and to have them considered clause by clause and then passed on the 31st March.

On the 29th March we also propose to take up the following Government Business:—

(1) Consideration of amendments to the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, item by item and motion for their adoption in case there is notice of further amendments.

(2) Motion for (a) Consideration of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts for 1948-49 and (b) approval of the excess expenditure, if any, recommended by the Committee.

9. Any Government Business which remains unfinished on previous days will be taken up on the 31st March.

**Srijut HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** I have to make a submission, Sir, regarding the routine of the business. The Hon'ble Finance Minister will place his Budget on the 10th March and the general discussion will take place on the 13th, 14th and 15th March. The time given for studying the Budget and the Hon'ble Finance Minister's Budget Speech is too short. As a matter of fact we received a copy of the financial statement on the 20th February and most of us are very new to this House and as such we could not study the Budget as carefully as we should have done. Therefore my submission is that at least 7 clear days should be given after the presentation of the Budget to the Members so that they can study the Budget. If we place the Budget on the 8th March, we can begin taking up the Budget discussion on the 15th.

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** We have no objection to the presentation of the Budget on the 8th March, if the hon. Members on the other side agree not to take more time in discussing the motions fixed for the 7th March which is a half day, and on which day the House sits at 1-30 P. M. So, the Budget can be presented only in the afternoon of that day and then the Hon'ble Finance Minister may make his statement in support of the motion for presentation of the Budget. But for the general discussion of the Budget 15th March will not be suitable because we want to finish taking up voting on Demands for grants on or before the 31st March so that the Motion on the Appropriation and Finance Bills are passed before the year goes out.

That is the difficulty, otherwise we would not have objected. The Budget was received by my hon. Friends on the 28th of February, and only 15 days time is generally given, but they have got more than 15 days before the general discussion on the Budget begins. It is not a rule but a convention. They have got about 19 days' time, and according to the time schedule that has been fixed, the Budget will be presented on the 10th. If it is of any help to my Hon. Friend, we have no objection in presenting the Budget on the 8th, provided the Hon. Members do not take much time in discussing the motion on His Excellency's address.

**Srijut HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Sir, His Excellency's address is a very important one, and it will take sufficient time. What I would like to propose that if we sit after 3 P.M. on the 8th March, we can have the Financial Statement and then disperse, and if we can take up certain Government business fixed for the 17th say on the 18th and also certain business of 29th and 31st, on the 3rd April, I think, our proposal can be accommodated.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** I appreciate the difficulties of the Government Bench, and I think our Friends in the Opposition are also very well acquainted with these matters. I hope, the galaxy of intelligent people sitting in Opposition will help in carrying through the programme, and the programme that has been fixed by Government is not disorganised, and that they will take the advice in the spirit in which it is offered.

### Message Regarding Assent to Bills

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Information has been received from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Assam that, under the provisions of Article 200 of the Constitution of India, His Excellency the Governor has assented to the following Bills which were passed by the Assam Legislative Assembly in its meetings held in August-September, 1951:—

1. The Assam Maintenance of Public Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 1951.
2. The Assam Primary Education (Amendment) Bill, 1951
3. The Assam Local Self-Government (Second Amendment) Bill, 1951.
4. The Assam Displaced Persons Rehabilitation Loans (Amendment) Bill, 1951.
5. The Assam Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1951.
6. The Assam Maintenance of Public Order (Third Amendment) Bill, 1951.

Intimation has also been received from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Assam that the President of India has also assented under the provisions of Article 201 of the Constitution of India the following Bill which was passed by the Assam Legislative Assembly in its meetings held in August-September, 1951.

1. The Assam Requisition and Control of Vehicles (Second Amendment) Bill, 1951.

### Amendments to the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940

**The Hon'ble Shri SIDDHI NATH SARMAH :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present certain amendments\* to the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 under Section 133(3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

In rule 165, delete the word.....

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** I think, Mr. Sarma need not read it, as it has already been laid on the table. The Hon'ble Members have got the copy and they can go through the amendments. It will do, if the Hon'ble Minister simply present the Amendments.

### Election of Members to the Co-operative Section of the Assam Advisory Boards for Development

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Item No. 9. The Hon'ble Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury to move.

**The Hon'ble Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHOUDHURY :** Sir, I beg to move:—

“That this Assembly do elect four Members in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper to the Co-operative Section of Assam Advisory Boards for Development”. The Hon'ble Speaker is to announce the date and time for holding the election.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved.  
That this Assembly do elect four Members in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper to the Co-operative Section of Assam Advisory Boards for Development".

(After a pause)

The question is :  
"That this Assembly do elect four Members in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper to the Co-operative Section of Assam Advisory Boards for Development".

The Motion was adopted.

**Re: Fixation of date and time for holding election to various Boards and Committees**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Hon. Members will find from the agenda that there are numerous Boards and Committees to which election of representatives by the Members of the Assembly has been asked for. To facilitate matters I have directed the Secretary to issue a notice stating the dates, time and place for holding all these elections. There is, therefore, no need for announcing inside the House the date, time, etc., for holding elections to the various Boards and Committees with regard to items 9 to 21 of the agenda.

**Election of Members to the Industrial Section of the Assam Advisory Boards for Development**

**The Hon'ble Shri MAHENDRA MOHON CHOUDHURY :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this Assembly do elect four members in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper to the Industrial Section of Assam Advisory Boards for Development."

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That this Assembly do elect four members in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper to the Industrial Section of Assam Advisory Boards for Development."

(As there was no debate, the motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and adopted.)

**Election of Members to the Assam Text-Book Committee**

**The Hon'ble Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this Assembly do elect three Members in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper to the Assam Text-Book Committee."

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That this Assembly do elect three Members in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper to the Assam Text-Book Committee."  
(As there was no debate, the motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House, and adopted.)

**Election of Members to the State Primary Education Board.**

**The Hon'ble Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That this Assembly, under section 4 (b) of the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947, do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper, three Members to the State Primary Education Board."

**The Hon'ble The SPEAKER :** Motion moved.

"That this Assembly, under section 4 (b) of the Assam Primary Education Act, 1947, do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper, three Members to the State Primary Education Board."

*(After a pause)*

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

**Election of Members to the Gauhati University Court**

**The Hon'ble Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this Assembly, under section 9 (1) (XVI) of the Gauhati University Act, 1947 (Assam Act XVI of 1947), do elect five Members to the Court of the Gauhati University from amongst their own numbers to fill up the existing vacancies."

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That this Assembly, under section 9 (1) (XVI) of the Gauhati University Act, 1947 (Assam Act XVI of 1947), do elect five Members to the Court of the Gauhati University from amongst their own numbers to fill up the existing vacancies".

**The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** May I, Sir, make a suggestion in this connection ?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Yes.

**The Hon'ble Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE :** As the hon. Members are not taking part after your reading the Motion which is not generally done at this stage, just to save your trouble of standing up and sitting down so many times, you, Sir, after a little pause may put the question straightaway. That will save both time and trouble.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** But I do not think the hon. Members would like to depart from the procedure elsewhere as also the procedure formulated here. But I thank you and appreciate the kindness that prompted you to make this suggestion.

**Srijut GIRINDRANATH GOGOI :** The Hon'ble Minister is not in order in making such a suggestion. The procedure of the House should be maintained.



**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Any way, there is no disorder. Hon'ble Mr. Mookerjee was perfectly within his rights to make the suggestion. I would welcome such suggestions from the hon. Members.

The question is :

"That this Assembly, under section 9 (1)(XVI) of the Gauhati University Act, 1947 (Assam Act XVI of 1947), do elect five members to the Court of the Gauhati University from amongst their own numbers to fill up the existing vacancies."

The motion was adopted.

#### **Election of Members to the Assam Minority Commission**

**The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this Assembly do elect two M.L. As., to be members of the Assam Minority Commission—one to be elected by and from among the M.L. As. representing the major minority community, viz., Muslims and the other to be elected by and from among the other M.L. As."

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That this Assembly do elect two M.L. As., to be members of the Assam Minority Commission—one to be elected by and from among the M.L. As. representing the major minority community, viz., Muslims and the other to be elected by and from among the other M.L. As."

(As there was no debate, the Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House, and adopted.)

#### **Adjournment**

Assembly then adjourned for lunch till 1 P. M.

*After lunch*

#### **Election of Members to the District Minority Boards of Kamrup, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Goalpara, Darrang, Lakhimpur and Tezpur**

**The Hon'ble Shri MOTIRAM BORA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Muslim Members of this Assembly do elect according to the instructions contained in the voting paper three members belonging to the major minority community, i. e., Muslims, to each of the seven District Minority Boards, viz., Kamrup, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Goalpara, Darrang, Lakhimpur and Cachar."

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That the Muslim Members of this Assembly do elect according to the instructions contained in the voting paper three Members belonging to the major minority community, i. e., Muslims, to each of the seven District Minority Boards, viz., Kamrup, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Goalpara, Darrang, Lakhimpur and Cachar."

*(After a pause)*

As nobody is taking part, I should like to put the question.  
(The Motion was put and adopted.)

36 ELECTIONS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMITTEES [6TH MAR.]

**Election of a Member to the Assam Railway Local Advisory Committee.**

**The Hon'ble Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:—

“That this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper, one Member to the Assam Railway Local Advisory Committee”.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

“That this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper one Member to the Assam Railway Local Advisory Committee.”

(The Motion was put and adopted.)

**Election of a Member to Tezpur-Balipara Railway Local Advisory Committee.**

**The Hon'ble Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

“That this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper, one Member to Tezpur-Balipara Railway Local Advisory Committee.”

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

“That this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper, one Member to Tezpur-Balipara Railway Local Advisory Committee”.

(The Motion was put and adopted.)

**Election of Members to the Assam Roads Communication Board.**

**The Hon'ble Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Assembly recommends that the Assam Roads Communication Board, which was constituted by a Motion moved in the March Session of the Legislative Assembly, 1949 be reconstituted with following as Members, and that the Members do hold office for the life time of this Legislative Assembly:—

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| (1) Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Department   | ... Chairman.                        |
| (2) Hon'ble Minister, Forests   | ... Member.                          |
| (3) Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department.  | ... Member.                          |
| (4) Additional Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department.   | Member.                              |
| (5-7) Superintending Engineers, Public Works Department.  | <i>Ex-Officio</i> joint Secretaries. |
| (8) Chairman or the Representative of the Assam Branch of the Indian Tea Association to be nominated by the Government. | Member.                              |
| (9) Chairman or the Representative of the Assam Tea Planters' Associations to be nominated by the Government.           | Ditto.                               |

- (10-17) Eight Members of the Assembly to be elected by a majority vote. Member.
- (18-19) Two Members from among Chairmen of Local Boards to be nominated by the Government. Ditto.
- (20-22) Three gentlemen to be co-opted by the Government. Ditto.
- (23) One Member of Parliament from Assam to be co-opted by the Government (at the instance of the Government of India) as a Member in non-voting capacity". Ditto.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That the Assembly recommends that the Assam Roads Communication Board, which was constituted by a Motion moved in the March Session of the Legislative Assembly, 1949 be reconstituted with following as Members, and that the Members do hold office for the life time of this Legislative Assembly :—

- (1) Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Department ... Chairman.
- (2) Hon'ble Minister, Forests ... ... Member.
- (3) Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department. Ditto.
- (4) Additional Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department. Ditto.
- (5-7) Superintending Engineers, Public Works Department. *Ex-officio* Joint Secretaries.
- (8) Chairman or the Representative of the Assam Branch of Indian Tea Association to be nominated by the Government. Member.
- (9) Chairman or the Representative of the Assam Tea Planters' Association to be nominated by the Government. Ditto.
- (10-17) Eight Members of the Assembly to be elected by a majority vote. Ditto.
- (18-19) Two Members from among Chairmen of Local Boards to be nominated by the Government. Ditto.
- (20-22) Three gentlemen to be co-opted by the Government. Ditto.
- (23) One Member of the Parliament from Assam to be co-opted by the Government (at the instance of the Government of India) as a Member in non-voting capacity". Ditto.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to place before the Hon'ble Minister, the view point of this Group. Eight members of this Assembly are to be elected by a majority vote. In this House, the Opposition is very small in number, but it has a meaning or significance. In almost all the committees the voting will be by majority vote, but in this particular Committee it will be difficult for members of the Opposition to get in. And that will be possible if election is done by means of single transferable vote.

**The Hon'ble Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is of opinion that the method cannot be changed.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the circumstances, if the issue is decided by a majority of vote there is no chance of any of the Members of the Opposition to represent themselves in any of the Committees. The Opposition should have a right to represent themselves and put forward their grievances. Now, Sir, as a gesture of good-will, I hope the Government will agree to allot such number of seats to the Members in the Opposition as may be agreed upon by amicable arrangement.

**The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI:** If there is a question of amicable settlement, that should be done outside the floor of this House. It is very difficult to say anything at this stage.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** As the Leader and the Member in-charge has opposed it, Mr. Goswami may meet the Chief Whip of the other party and will consult with him.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is :

“That the Assembly recommends that the Assam Roads Communication Board, which was constituted by a Motion moved in the March Session of the Legislative Assembly, 1949 be reconstituted with following as Members, and that the Members do hold office for the life time of this Legislative Assembly :—

- |   |     |   |
|---|-----|---|
| (1) Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Department   | ... | Chairman.                               |
| (2) Hon'ble Minister, Forests   | ... | Member.                                 |
| (3) Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department   | ... | Ditto                                   |
| (4) Additional Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department.   | ... | Ditto                                   |
| (5-7) Superintending Engineers, Public Works Department   | ... | <i>Ex-officio</i><br>Joint Secretaries. |
| (8) Chairman or the Representative of the Assam Branch of Indian Tea Association to be nominated by the Government. | ... | Member.                                 |
| (9) Chairman or the Representative of the Assam Tea Planters' Associations to be nominated by the Government.       | ... | Ditto                                   |
| (10-17) Eight Members of the Assembly to be elected by a majority vote.   | ... | Ditto                                   |
| (18-19) Two Members from among Chairmen of Local Boards to be nominated by the Government.                          | ... | Ditto                                   |
| (20-22) Three gentlemen to be co-opted by the Government  | ... | Ditto                                   |

- (23) One Member of the Parliament from Assam to be co-opted... Member. by the Government (at the instance of the Government of India) as a Member in non-voting capacity.”  
The Motion was adopted.

**Election of Members to the Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee.**

**The Hon'ble Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

“That this Assembly recommends that a Committee be formed for the life time of this Assembly to be called the ‘Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee’ with the following Members:—

- |  |     |     |            |
|--|-----|-----|------------|
| (1) Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Department  | ... | ... | President. |
| (2) Superintending Engineer (Embankment and Drainage)  | ... | ... | Secretary. |
| (3) Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Assam   | ... | ... | Member.    |
| (4) Additional Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Assam.   | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (5) Hon'ble Minister, Agriculture  | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (6) Hon'ble Minister, Forests and Electricity  | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (7) Secretary, Finance Department  | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (8) Secretary, Tribal Areas Department   | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (9) Eight Members of the Legislative Assembly (to be elected by the Assembly).   | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (10) One Member to be nominated by Government from Messrs. R. S. N. and Co.  | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (11) Additional Director of Agriculture (to be invited by Government when meetings are held to attend in a non-voting capacity.) | ... | ... | Ditto      |

The Committee is to advise Government on all important Schemes and also to fix priority of Embankment and Drainage Schemes which Government propose to undertake from time to time and this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper eight Members of the Assembly to the said Advisory Committee (Seven Members from the Plains Districts and one Member from the Hill districts).”

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

“That this Assembly recommends that a Committee be formed for the life time of this Assembly to be called the ‘Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee’ with the following Members:—

- |  |     |     |            |
|--|-----|-----|------------|
| (1) Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Department                                  | ... | ... | President. |
| (2) Superintending Engineer (Embankment and Drainage)                          | ... | ... | Secretary. |
| (3) Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Assam                             | ... | ... | Member.    |
| (4) Additional Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Assam.                 | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (5) Hon'ble Minister, Agriculture  | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (6) Hon'ble Minister, Forests and Electricity                                  | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (7) Secretary, Finance Department  | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (8) Secretary, Tribal Areas Department   | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (9) Eight Members of the Legislative Assembly (to be elected by the Assembly). | ... | ... | Ditto      |
| (10) One Member to be nominated by Government from Messrs. R. S. N. and Co.    | ... | ... | Ditto      |

- (11) Additional Director of Agriculture (to be invited by ... Member. Government when meetings are held to attend in a non-voting capacity).

The Committee is to advise Government on all important Schemes and also to fix priority of Embankment and Drainage Schemes which Government propose to undertake from time to time and this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper eight Members of the Assembly to the said Advisory Committee (Seven Members from the Plains Districts and one Member from the Hill districts)".

**Srijut HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** On a point of information. In case of the eight Members of the Legislative Assembly it is not written whether they will be elected by majority vote or by single transferable vote.

**The Hon'ble Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** According to the instructions as contained in the voting paper.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** I put the question. The question is:

"That this Assembly recommends that a Committee be formed for the life time of this Assembly to be called the 'Assam Embankment and Drainage Works Advisory Committee' with the following Members:—

- |  |     |     |            |
|--|-----|-----|------------|
| (1) Hon'ble Minister, Public Works Department  | ... | ... | President. |
| (2) Superintending Engineer (Embankment and Drainage)  | ... | ... | Secretary  |
| (3) Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Assam   | ... | ... | Member     |
| (4) Additional Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Assam  | ... | ... | "          |
| (5) Hon'ble Minister, Agriculture  | ... | ... | "          |
| (6) Hon'ble Minister, Forests and Electricity  | ... | ... | "          |
| (7) Secretary, Finance Department  | ... | ... | "          |
| (8) Secretary, Tribal Areas Department   | ... | ... | "          |
| (9) Eight Members of the Legislative Assembly (to be elected by the Assembly).   | ... | ... | "          |
| (10) One Member to be nominated by Government from Messrs. R. S. N. and Co.  | ... | ... | "          |
| (11) Additional Director of Agriculture (to be invited by Government when meetings are held to attend in a non-voting capacity). | ... | ... | "          |

The Committee is to advise Government on all important Schemes and also to fix priority of Embankment and Drainage Schemes which Government propose to undertake from time to time and this Assembly do elect in accordance with the instructions contained in the voting paper eight Members of the Assembly to the said Advisory Committee (Seven Members from the Plains Districts and one Member from the Hill Districts.)"

(The Motion was adopted.)

### Election of Members to the Public Accounts Committee

**The Hon'ble Shri MOTI RAM BORA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That this Assembly do elect six Members to the Public Accounts Committee under Rule 112 of the Assembly Rules for the year 1952-53".

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Motion moved :  
 "That this Assembly do elect six Members to the Public Accounts Committee under Rule 112 of the Assembly Rules for 1952-53".

(After a pause)

Then I put the question. The question is :  
 "That this Assembly do elect six Members to the Public Accounts Committee under Rule 112 of the Assembly Rules for the year 1952-53".  
 (The Motion was adopted.)

**Presentation of Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts for the year 1948-49.**

**The Hon'ble Srijut MOTI RAM BORA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts for the year 1948-49.

A copy of the Report is placed on the table of each hon. Member.

**Presentation of Notifications under Section 296 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1923.**

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR :** I beg to present the following Notifications under section 296 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1923 :—

\*(i) Notification No.LML.66/46/93, dated the 20th December 1951.

\*\**(ii)* Notification No.LML.3/51(I)32, dated the 4th January, 1952.

Copies have been laid on the table.

**Laying out of copies of the Report on the Working of the Assam Public Service Commission for 1950-51**

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay out under Article 323(2) of the Constitution of India copy of the "Report on the Working of the Assam Public Service Commission for the year 1950-51" together with Memorandum explaining, as respect the cases, if any, where the advice of the Commission was not accepted and the reasons for such non-acceptance.

The copy of the Memorandum as well as the Report has been placed before the hon. Members.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not see any time allotted for the discussion of the Report on the working of the Commission.

**The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI :** Under the Constitution there is no provision for discussion, but if any Motion is moved by any Member then that can be taken up for discussion if the Motion is in order and allowed by the Hon'ble the Speaker.

\*Appendix 2

\*\*Appendix 3

**Shri HARESWR GOSWAMI:** We can move a Motion afterwards also.

**The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI:** We have got a copy of a letter from the Government of India regarding discussion, if any, on the working of the Public Service Commission. If you want, Sir, I can read that letter.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Yes.

**The Hon'ble Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI:** That letter is from the Parliament Secretariat and is addressed to the Secretary, Legislative Assembly. "With reference to your letter No 6100-L.A./AS23/50, dated the 2nd September, 1950 on the subject noted above, I am directed to state that the point referred to in the said letter regarding discussion of the Report of the Union Public Service Commission laid on the table of the House, has not arisen at the Centre as the Report of the Union Public Service Commission has not so far been laid before Parliament. I am to say that Article 323(2) of the Constitution does not seem to envisage that the Legislature to whom the Report of the Public Service Commission and the Memorandum of the Government thereon are submitted should take any formal action with reference thereto. The Report and the Memorandum are submitted only for the information of the Legislature. It is unnecessary, therefore, to set apart any time for the discussion of the Report. It is, however, open to a Member of the Legislature to raise a discussion on any point in the Report or the Memorandum in accordance with the rules of the Legislature".

That is what I had already stated. If any hon. Member wants a discussion he will have to move a separate Motion.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The House stands adjourned to 1-30 p. m. tomorrow.

#### Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 1-30 p. m. on Friday, the 7th March, 1952.

SHILLONG:  
The 3rd May, 1952.

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



APPENDIX 1

The Hon'ble Srijut SIDDHI NATH SARMA to move:—

Sir,  
I beg to lay the following amendments to the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 on the table:—

(1) In rule 165, delete the word 'Royal' occurring before the word 'Mail' in the 3rd line of sub-rule (b).

[Transport and Industries Department Notification No.TIPT.10/49/19, dated the 21st January 1950.]

(2) 1. In rule 3 of the said Rules, the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

“provided that no such authorisation shall be granted by a licensing authority until the applicant produces a medical certificate in form F-A to show that he is qualified to use a first aid box.

Provided further that if any person duly authorised immediately before the date of this notification to drive a public service vehicle fails, within a period of twelve months from the date of this notification, to produce a medical certificate in accordance with the first proviso, he shall be liable to be declared disqualified under sub-section (1) of Section 16 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, from holding a license to drive a public service vehicle.”

2. In the list of Forms prescribed in the said Rules the following shall be added, namely:—

FORM OF MEDICAL CERTIFICATE SHOWING COMPETENCY IN FIRST AID WORK

(to be granted by a registered Medical Practitioner)

I certify that.....son of.....  
aged about.....years is qualified to use a first aid box intelligently.

Dated ..... (Signature) .....

(Full Name) .....

(Designation) .....

3. After rule 164 of the said Rules, the following shall be added, viz.—

“164-A. Every public service vehicle shall carry a first aid box fully equipped.”

[Transport and Industries Department Notification No.TIMV.122/49/194, dated the 6th July 1950.]

(3) 1. In Rule 2(f) at page 1 for “Assam Transport Vehicles” read “Assam State Transport Vehicles” and for “Area Manager or Workshop Superintendent of the Assam Transport” read “Assistant Engineers and Station Superintendents in charge of State Transport Workshops.”

2. In Rule 46(a) at page 8 for the words “Director, Assam Transport” read “Director, Assam Transport and Secretary, Board of Control, State Transport.”

3. In Rule 46(c) at page 8 for the “Assam Transport Vehicles” read “Assam State Transport Vehicles.”

4. In the ‘Note’ below Rule 46(h) at page 8 for “Assam Transport Vehicles” read “Assam State Transport Vehicles.”

[Transport and Industries Department Notification No.TIMV.305/49/9, dated the 29th March 1951.]

(4) (1) *Insert* the words "or any Central Excise and Land Customs Officer in Uniform not below the rank of an Inspector" after the words "Sub-Inspector" in sub-rule (a) of rule 112.

(2) *Insert* the words "or Central Excise and Land Customs Officer as the case may be" after the words "Police Officer" occurring in the second line in sub-rule (a) and wherever they occur subsequently in sub-rules (b) and (c).

[Transport and Industries Department Notification No.TIMV.101/51/6, dated the 26th July 1951.]

(5) *Substitute* the following for the existing rule 75:—

"75. (a) The permit fee for each private carrier vehicle shall be Rs.60 per annum or Rs.25 for every four months or part thereof. Permit fees for other motor vehicles shall be paid annually in one instalment, but in cases where the annual fee exceeds Rs.1,500, the fees may be paid in quarterly instalments, at such rate or rates as the State Government may specify by Notification in the official Gazette. In case of annual payment, fees shall be paid within fifteen days of the commencement of the permit year, and in case of quarterly payment, fees shall be paid fifteen days before the commencement of the quarter to which the fees relate, failing which composition fees for late payment shall be imposed at the rates prescribed below:—

(1) In respect of annual payment:—

(i) First fifteen days—No penalty.

(ii) After fifteen days—penalty at Rs.10 for each vehicle upto one month.

(iii) After thirty days—Rs.20 upto two months after which action shall be taken under sub-rule (c) and the permit shall be liable to suspension or cancellation.

Provided that no permit fee shall be chargeable for the unexpired period of any permit cancelled for no fault of the permit holder in cases in which the permit holder has paid up the fees due upto the date of cancellation of the permit.

(2) In respect of quarterly payment:—

(i) Penalty at Rs.5 for each vehicle if payment is not made within fifteen days before the commencement of the quarter to which the fees relate.

(ii) Penalty at Rs.10 if payment is made after fifteen days upto one month, after which action shall be taken under sub-rule (c) and the permit shall be liable to suspension or cancellation.

(b) The Secretary, State Transport Authority or Regional Transport Authority, as the case may be, may write off the composition fee in special circumstances.

(c) If any holder of a permit fails or refuses without reasonable cause to pay the permit fee fixed, when due, the fee shall be realised as an arrear of Land Revenue.

[Transport and Industries Department Notification No.TIMV.7/46/296, dated the 5th September 1951.]

## APPENDIX 2

The 20th December 1951

**No.LML.66/56/93.**—It is hereby notified for general information that in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 296(2) (i) of the Assam Municipal Act, 1923 (Assam Act I of 1923), as subsequently amended, which was extended to the Tihu Small Town by Notification No.LML.66/46/69, dated 5th May 1951, the Governor of Assam is pleased to make the following rules for the division of the said Small Town into wards with the number of members to be elected for each of such wards :—

**Tihu Small Town**

1. The Tihu Small Town shall be divided into four wards with the following boundaries :—

**WARD No.I**

North—Sarkari path of village Barbari covered by dag No.62. Tihu Feeder Road covered by dag No.330. Sarkari Path of Nakhra village covered by dag No.521.

South—Periodic dag Nos.14/kh, 54/kh, 53/kh, 17/kh, 292/kh, 49/kh, 47/kh; 48/kh, 45/kh, 44/kh and sarkari path covered by dag No.287 of Tihu town (the proposed road from Tihu Feeder Road to the cremation ground).

East—Periodic dag Nos.88, 92, 113, 117, 129, 131, 159, 163 of village Nakhra, Sarkari dag Nos.524, 525 of village Nakhra and Tihu river covered by dag No.1 and Tihu Feeder Road covered by dag No.136 of Tihu town.

West—Periodic dag Nos.115, 204, 203, 209/ga, 210/ga, 211/ga, 212, 315, 323, 319, Sarkari dag No.332 of village Barbari. Tihu river covered by dag No.1 of Tihu town.

**WARD No.II**

North—Periodic dags Nos.14/kh, 54/kh, 53/kh, 17/kh, 292/kh, 49/kh, 47/kh, 48/kh, 45/kh, 44/kh and sarkari dag No.287 (the proposed road from Tihu Feeder Road to the cremation ground).

South—Railway line covered by dag No.69 of Tihu town.

East—Tihu Feeder road covered by dag No.136.

West—Tihu river covered by dag No.11, Nispikhiraj dag No.288 of Tihu Town.

**WARD No.III**

North—Tihu river covered by dag No.1 of Tihu Town.

South—Sarkari dag Nos. 230, 286, and Periodic dag Nos.230, 286 and periodic dag Nos. 254, 255, 257, 264 of Tihu Town (village path from dag No. 286 of Tihu to Mathurapur village).

East—Boundary of Mathurapur village.

West—Tihu Feeder road covered by dag No.136 of Tihu Town.

**WARD No.IV**

North—Sarkari path covered by dag Nos.230, 286, periodic dag Nos.353, 355, 377, 371, 380, 259, 263, of Tihu Town (village path from dag No. 286 of Tihu to Mathurapur village).

South—Railway line covered by dag No. 69.

East—Village boundary of Mathurapur village.

West—Tihu Feeder road covered by dag No.136 of Tihu Town.

2. There shall be one elected member from each of these wards.

E. H. PAKYNTTEIN,  
for Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, L.S.-G. Deptt.

### APPENDIX 3

The 4th January 1952

**No.LML,3/51(1)/32.**—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 296(2) (xii) of the Assam Municipal Act, 1923 (Assam Act I of 1923), as subsequently amended, the Governor of Assam is pleased to make the following addition to the rules published under this Department Notification No.1041-E, dated the 8th March 1924, to exempt the Military Cemeteries from payment of Municipal taxes:—

104A.—No tax of any kind will be assessed by any municipality in the State of Assam in respect of any military cemetery.

A. N. KIDWAI,  
Secy. to the Govt. of Assam,  
Edn., L.S.-G. & Medl. Deptts.