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DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN  
CONSTITUTION  
OF INDIA

### BUDGET SESSION

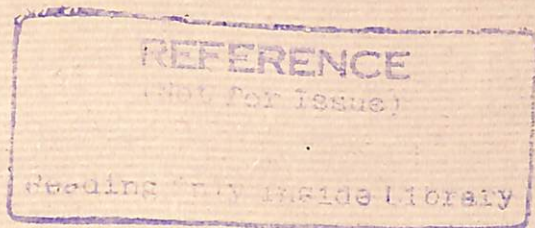
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DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY, 1985  
(Budget Session)  
Volume—VII  
No. 1

Dated the 6th March, 1985

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

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Dispur, Gauhati on Wednesday, the 6th March, 1985 with the Hon'ble Speaker in the Chair, 16 (Sixteen) Ministers, 13 (Thirteen) Ministers of State, and 49 (Fortynine) Members present.

Mr. SPEAKER—Here is an announcement

Hon'ble members present.

The Governor is addressing the House at 10.10 A. M. He is coming by the eastern gate of the Assembly premises at 10.05 A. M. Myself, Deputy Speaker and the Secretary will be going to receive him at the gate. The instructions as to how the Governor has to be received in the House have been laid on each member's table. As soon as the Governor comes I think, we should comply with these instructions. In the meantime, the Address will be distributed to the members.

With your permission now, I leave the House to receive the Governor at the gate.

(Mr. Speaker left the House at 10.02 A.M to receive the Governor)

(Mr. Speaker re-entered the House escorting the Governor at 10.07 A.M. and the Hon'ble Members stood in attention)



Shri Bhisma Narain Singh (Governor of Assam)  
Mr. Speaker and Hon'ble Members,

It gives me great pleasure to-day to be with you and to wish you all success in your deliberations.

It also gives me immense satisfaction to note that the Government's ceaseless efforts have led to a substantial transformation in the life of the State and a new atmosphere of confidence has built up all around. The hangover of the past convulsions has become a distant memory and a new trend has been convincingly set for the State's long awaited economic take off. The last year has been by all standards a year of definite triumph of sanity and wisdom over momentary passions and of creative forces over the forces of disruption. The Government's efforts to rebuild the society and the economy have captured the people's imagination and have led to gradual realisation of their hopes and aspirations. I am sure the Government will, in the days ahead, add more meaning and content to the welcome developments and take the State to even greater heights.

#### Law & Order

The new sense of confidence generated in the popular mind by the Government's emphasis on positive values has brought the people back to the arena of constructive endeavours. Even in the efforts to widen the security cover, the emphasis has been on building up of an atmosphere of positive development. The Hon'ble Members will perhaps recall that the Police Commission was set up in June last year to suggest measures for enhancing the competence of the police set up in the context of this changed outlook. Important recent steps of routine manner to strengthen the police set up included carving out of Nalbari and Guwahati Police Districts, opening of three more police stations and two new outposts and raising of four Task Force Battalions. Two Assam Special Reserve Police Battalions have also been raised with trained Home Guards. These measures to



efforts to mobilise the people to work for the values of peace and communal harmony which had gone under severe strain during the currency of the prolonged agitation. Apart from the State Level National Integration Committee, similar committees have been set up at the Sub-divisional level also to build up a sustained endeavour. The Government will continue to attach high priority for maintenance of social peace and harmony and further intensification of the endeavour is on the anvil. I hope all sections of this August House will involve themselves in these efforts.

### **Foreigner's issue and infiltration**

The State Government have always shared the people's anxiety for a solution of the foreigners issue and I am happy that the Prime Minister has reiterated his desire for an early settlement. Effective measures have in the meantime been taken toward off any future influx and the present anti-influx set up includes 9<sup>o</sup> Border Out Post, 147 Watch Posts, 15 Patrol Posts and 6 Passport Check Posts all along the Indo-Bangladesh Border. Patrolling in the riverine areas is also being done with 20 Engine Boats, 2 Country Boats and 18 Power Driven Boats. There will not be any let up in the Government's vigilance against infiltration and the administration will continue to make sincere efforts to locate the past infiltrators without causing harassment to genuine citizens. The twenty Tribunals set up under the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 are functioning in full swing, of the 525 cases referred to them, 83 cases were disposed of and the rest were pending as on 31st December last. On the same date, 5,649 cases were pending with Investigating Officers for enquiry and report. Constitution of appellate tribunals to review the progress of the tribunals is being taken up and a high level Committee has also been formed in each Revenue Division. Meanwhile, intensive revision of electoral rolls in all the 126 L. A. constituencies has been undertaken as per the Election Commission procedure and the Draft Roll is expected to



### Relation with neighbouring State and Union Territories

The State Government has been vigorously pursuing the policy of maintaining the best relations with the sister States in the North Eastern Region and sorting out the boundary questions with them amicably. The ground demarcation of Assam-Arunachal Pradesh boundary has been undertaken by the Survey of India as earlier agreed to by both Governments. As many as 82 pillar positions in the Dibrugarh-Lohit district portion have also been verified to their satisfaction. All ground pillar positions in the Banfera-Pongma river portion of the Assam-Nagaland border have been identified. The portion between Pongma and Towkok rivers is also under consideration. The Nagaland Government have been requested regarding continuation of demarcation work between Towkok and Diphu rivers as per the 1910 notification in the current working season. Efforts to maintain complete normalcy all along the inter-State borders and to explore wider avenues for co-operation with the sister States will continue in the days ahead.

### Administrative reorganisation

The State Government, prompted by its commitment to make the administration fully effective as an instrument for service has initiated series of steps to infuse greater dynamism into the machinery. The Administrative Reforms Commission, now assessing the adequacy and competence of the State administrative system, will submit its recommendations within a year. Consequent on the carving out of new districts and subdivisions, the number of Mahkuma Parishads had been raised to 31. A committee has been set up to go into the question of activating the Blocks and to ensure their viability and functional independence.

### New administrative measures

The State Government is committed to ensure a clean administration and imaginative steps are being planned to weed out corruption from public life. A Lokayukta Bill is being placed soon for consideration of this August House as a part of the Government's serious endeavour to fight corruption. Stress has been laid on greater dedication, discipline and integrity on the part of the State employees and training facilities in the Administrative Staff College are being improved with greater emphasis on these values.



Steps will also be taken to improve the service conditions of the employees subject to overall constraints and limitations. A separate cell in the State Secretariat is overseeing preliminary works for construction of the State's permanent capital in Pragjyotishpur and the State Government's request for a grant-in-aid of Rs. 200 crores for the capital project is under the consideration of the Central Government. Bringing the administration closer to the people has been an integral part of the State policy and the State Government's decision to fully implement the Official Language Act is in conformity with this objective. The Government have also declared that the Bodo Language will be used as an associate official language in Kokrajhar district and the Udalguri Sub-division for purposes specified in the schedule to the Assam Official Language Act, 1960. The Government will continue to lay considerable stress on bridging the gaps between the remote habitations and the centres of authority and necessary steps will continue to be taken in this respect.

### Economic Situation

A new sense of urgency has dawned in the sphere of economic development and the State Government's stress on expeditious development has whipped up effervescent activities in different economic sectors. The State's economic life has shaken off the hangover of the long spell of stagnation and the development climate has looked up to a great extent as a result of serious endeavours. There have been however moments of stresses and strains too, primarily because of fluctuations and uncertainties in the national scene. The price situation, for instance, is still under considerable pressure but as the Hon'ble Members will appreciate, the price situation is largely conditioned by the situation in the rest of the country. Assam depends largely on other States for essential commodities and the price situation at the sources obviously influence the trends in our State. The State Government is actively considering to constitute a State owned Civil Supplies Corporation in addition to the existing machinery of Staffed for procurements and distribution of essential commodities at reasonable prices. The Planning Commission has sanctioned Rupees one crore for the purpose. Efforts have also been geared up to maintain an even flow of supply and distribution of essential commodities and to keep constant vigil against economic offenders.



## Economic Development & Planning

The State Government's sincere desire to ensure a speedier take off in the economic sphere has been reflected in the formulation of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Formulated within the parametres of the National Objectives of work, food and productivity, the State plan primarily lays stress on accelerating and achieving high and substantial rate of economic growth thus widening avenues for gainful employment, raising income levels and standard of living. It also aims at securing more equitable distribution of income to minimise poverty. It also envisages greater self sufficiency and a more harmonious balance between different regions and different sectors of the economy. Stress has been laid on better facilities for educational, medical and cultural development as means for enhancement of the quality of human life. A comprehensive draft Five Year Plan for Rs. 371895.65 lakhs has already been submitted to the Planning Commission. The Government also aims at immediate intensification of its development efforts and has formulated and submitted to the Planning Commission an annual plan for Rs. 57929.17 lakhs for the coming year.

### Welfare Activities

Apart from setting the correct trends for the State's gradual recovery from the accumulated problems of poverty and inequality and formulating long term plans with an eye to the future, the State Government have also been taking various decisions from time to time in tune with the popular aspirations. In addition to the special schemes included in the overall programme in different sectors of development, it has also been decided to implement the following in the coming year.

(a) A net work of rural forums will be established covering the interior countryside and arrangements will be made for exposure of the farmers not only to the modern methods of farming but also to other modern development through regular discussions, film and slide shows, demonstration lectures etc. A mini library of informative publications and periodicals will be built up around the rural forum for the benefit of the villagers in addition to the projected rural libraries.



(b) Well equipped children's corners will be developed in the district libraries with a constant flow of educative literature for the children. Regular shows of children's films, puppet shows and exhibitions, etc., will be organised in the children's corners. Benefits of free immunization will be further extended to cover the babies in the remotest areas to ensure full and timely coverage.

(c) The information services of the State Government will be reorganised into an effective medium for exposure of the mofussil areas to the modern developments and information centres will be built up in the district and sub-divisional headquarters for the benefit of the general public. These centres will also assist job seekers by providing information on competitive examinations, etc.

(d) The Official Language Act will be fully implemented and Government offices in the Brahmaputra valley will start using Assamese for all official works from ensuing Rangali Bihu. Use of Bengali, English and Bodo for administrative works in Cachar district, the hill areas and the Kokrajhar district and Udalguri Sub-divisions respectively will be started from the same day in addition.

(e) Excursions of young students will be organised to the wild life sanctuaries, the hill areas and other places of tourist interest in order to inculcate in their minds love for nature and wild life. Similar excursions of school and college students will be organised to interior villages and places of historical importance by the Government to infuse into the young minds a respect for varied culture and the past traditions.

(f) Candidates unemployed for five years after passing the qualifying examinations will be exempted from payment of application fees while applying for jobs in the State Government departments.

(g) Assam Houses will be constructed in Bombay, Madras and Vellore and preference will be given in the matter of accommodation in these Houses to patients visiting these places for treatment.

(h) Government facilities will be given to skilled village weavers, artisans, etc., to organise group exhibitions in the towns and the Government on its own will endeavour to provide them with wider accommodation in State and national level exhibitions.



(i) State awards will be instituted for best performance in different performing arts and for students securing outstanding positions in the important examinations conducted by the Universities and the Secondary Education Boards in the State.

(j) Efforts will be made to build up youth clubs in rural areas as centres of cultural activities and informal education. The Government will provide each club with modern aids including a Television set.

### 20-point Programme

The year under review has witnessed a great spurt in the activities covered by the 20-point programme and the State's performance in some of the vital sectors has fetched enviable applause. Imaginative measure to speed up the process of implementation have led to wider coverage and the State Government aims at further improving upon the performance in the coming year. A basic document identifying schemes and projects under each point and fixing targets had been compiled to provide a frame of reference and an adequate information base. The State targets have been dis-aggregated district and sub-division-wise and even block-wise wherever practicable and system of regular monthly reporting on achievements has been developed. Monitoring at the grass-root level is being done by committees at Block and District levels consisting of officials, public representatives and representatives of the weaker sections. 20-Point monitoring cell with computer facility has been established in the Chief Minister's Secretariat to review the implementation for the whole State. Continuous monitoring and interaction between these committees and departmental functionaries has facilitated very encouraging results as convincingly reflected in the state's brilliant performance during the current year in different vital points like IRDP, NREP surplus land distribution, economic assistance to Scheduled Caste families, improvement of slum areas environment, provision for house building sites for economically weaker section, tree plantation, sterilisation, establishment of Public Health Centres and sanctioning ICDS blocks.

The Integrated Rural Development Programme has showed particularly impressive progress as reflected in the coverage of 1,05,179 families against the target



of 80,000 families. I am happy to say that Assam surpassed all other States and Union Secretaries in IRDP in December last. Earlier too, since April, 1984, the Staets' position was either 2nd or 3rd in the country. The performance has been no less spectacular in the NREP in which Assam surpassed all other States and Union Territories in July, 1984 and was amongst the best three also in December, 1984. in the current year till the end of January, 1985, 54.56 lakhs mandays of employment against the target of 58.40 lakhs mandays has been generated. Rural landless employment generation programme was started in mid-November last year and 16.33 lakhs mandays has already been achieved under it.

### Welfare of Weaker Sections

Apart from the benefits of the general programmes special weightage has also been given to the peculiar problems of the minorities and the listed backward groups and communities. Their problems are being studied and special measures taken exclusively for them. A research unit is being set up soon to collect data in respect of the minorities and the Assam Minorities Development Board will implement Prime Minister's directives and the suggestions of the Minorities Commission. The Directorate of Social Welfare and Probation, Direcorate of Tea Garden and Ex-Tea Garden Tribes and the Directorate of Tribal Research Institute, along with other development Corporations for Scheduled Tribes (P), Other Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes are also rendering service in various spheres besides managing residual relief and rehabilitation work. The Directorate of Social Welfare and Probation has taken up several important programme, of which the old age Pension Scheme, introduce in 1983, deserves special mention. The scheme has so far covered 19674 persons out of the target of 21,000 persons and will cover 30 thousand in the coming year. The important programmes for Hill Areas include those relating to education and welfare of handicapped, Balwadi programme and training-cum-production centres. Stress has been given also on child welfare. 103 children have been admitted in SOS village at Bhakatgaon in Darrang District and another SOS village has been set up in Hojai in Nagaon District. 19 backward Gaon Panchayats in the most backward tribal areas have been selected for development under the Assam Tribal Development Authority.



The Char Development Authority has undertaken several schemes including mechanised ploughing in selected blocks. It is expected that 20 thousand bighas of land in Char Areas will be ploughed at Government cost extending direct benefit to the people of Char Areas during the current year itself.

In appreciation of the backwardness of weaker communities and groups the Government have also adopted a policy and issued instructions for reservation of seats in Technical, Medical, etc., institutions for candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes, Other Backward Classes. These tribes and groups are also being given special treatment in the implementation of the general welfare schemes.

### **Agricultural Development**

Agriculture is the mainstay of our economy and naturally, the State Government have been giving very high priority to agricultural development with special stress on the point covered by the 20-point programme, Special Rice production, Oil seed Development assistance to Small and Marginal Farms and special measures for tribal and Scheduled Caste areas. The strategy aims at wider HYV and Rabi coverage for self-sufficiency. By the end of the current plan, HYV coverage is expected to reach 13.60 lakh hectares. Under the 20-point programmes schemes have been taken up to develop cultivation of maize, ginger, oil seeds, pulses, fruits, paddy and wheat and other cash crops with special stress on improvement of the lot of tribal and Scheduled Castes farmers and adoption of dry land farming technology. Hon'ble Members will be glad to know that assistance in the form of 27,771 quintals of different pulse seeds and 490 quintals of oil seeds has been distributed to the small and marginal farmers during 1984-85 under the Special Assistance Scheme.

### **Irrigation**

Irrigation development has assumed great significance in the context of our ambitious targets in agriculture. In 1984-85 the total investment in this sector is likely to be around Rs. 50-90 crores with a likely achievement of 34,700 hectares bringing the status of Irrigation development



to 17.27 per cent of the estimated need of the State. The current year's programme has taken special care of the requirements for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes by earmarking for their areas 36.81 per cent of the allocation for General areas. In order to sustain this massive programme, the on-going schemes are being completed expeditiously to fetch early benefits of investments. New schemes worth around Rs. 27.00 crores are being processed for sanction under Minor Irrigation Sector. In the Hill areas, two Medium Irrigation Schemes and 27 Minor Irrigation Schemes are presently at various stages of execution and eleven new Minor schemes are proposed to be taken up during the current year. The Command Area Development concept to develop irrigation has also been given greater attention with the creation of two CAD authorities and positioning of field level set-up.

### **Plantation crops**

Plantation on agricultural high land in plain Districts of the State has been taken up and preliminary work has been started in Chandiapur and Boko circles. Plots are being allotted for the purpose also in Sibsagar, Nagaon, Kamrup and Kokrajhar Districts. Rubber and Coffee cultivation in hill areas is being intensified as a measure to wean away the tribal farmers from the wasteful jhum method of cultivation.

### **Flood Control**

Adequate stress has also been given on implementation of flood control scheme in the two valleys and in the hill areas of the State. The anticipated achievements for 1984-85 and targets for 1985-86 in terms of protection coverage are 61000 and 47800 hectares respectively. This will result in much relief to the people inhabiting flood prone areas and will naturally contribute towards agricultural development in these areas.

### **Employment**

The problem of unemployment has been receiving serious attention and the State Government has been making serious endeavours in this respect. However creation of employment opportunities depends on general



economic development for which the State Government has been taking all possible measures. The Seventh Five-Year Plan too has been formulated with the basic objectives of accelerating and achieving high and substantial rate of economic growth, enlarging opportunities for gainful employment, encouragement to educated youths to take up self employment to educated youths to take up self employment ventures and emphasis on entrepreneurship training and for providing technical know-how.

For immediate amelioration of the condition of unemployed graduates, the scheme of unemployment allowance has been extended to cover 3400 jobless graduates during the current year. At the same time, 11,788 job seekers have been provided with employment, 2051 of them being ex-servicemen, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes, physically handicapped persons or women. Ten new Employment Exchanges have been opened. One Women Industrial Training Institute has been established at Tinsukia and opening of 6 more Industrial Training Institutes is being considered.

### **Industrial Development**

I am happy to say that the Industrial climate is showing signs of a new dawn. The broad strategy for Industrial Development during the Seventh Plan envisages development of adequate infrastructure and encouragement to industries like Electronics and promotion of industries based on local resources and identified needs. Assam Electronic Development Corporation has been established in 1984 and 25 registrations have been given to set up Electronic industry in Assam. Production of Black and White T. V. sets has already been started by a SSI unit in Gauhati. Construction of three Spinning Mills based on Polyester fibre from BRPL is progressing and while one of them will be commissioned by the end of 1985, the other two will start production 1986. A Cigarette project joint venture of AIDC with Golden Tobacco and a Mini Steel Plant have already gone into commercial production. Massive infrastructure development is being undertaken in the 'No Industry' districts of North Cachar Hills and Lakhimpur. The AIDC has identified 5 projects viz., (i) Polyester film, (ii) Polyester, Filament yarn, (iii) Galvanised Plain & Corrugated Iron sheets Plant, (iv) Weaving Complex with preloom and post-loom facilities and (v) Mini Cement Plant for implementation during the Seventh Plan.



Assam State Textile Development Corporation will also set up another Weaving Complex with Pre & post-loom facilities. During 1985-86, Assam Gas Company will start work for supply of domestic gas in Nazira and Sibsagar towns. The target of establishing 1000 small scale Industrial Units during the current year has already been exceeded and a target of 1100 SSI units has been fixed for the coming year. The composite Loan Scheme announced by the Late Prime Minister has been a resounding success in the State and the current year's target of 8200 cases is likely to be achieved.

### **Sericulture & Handloom**

Sericulture and weaving play an important role in the State's socio-economic life, particularly in rural areas, where about 3.5 lakh persons are engaged in the crafts. Seven Sericulture Schemes in Plain areas and eight Schemes in Hill areas are presently in operation. The current year's targets in production of Eri Cut Cocoon Mulberry Raw Silk and Tassar Raw Silk are expected to be achieved and more ambitious targets have been fixed for the coming year. Hand-loom provide principal or subsidiary occupation to about eight lakh families in the countryside and special attention is being paid to modernisation and commercialisation of the craft. It is proposed to provide grants-in-aid to the Assam Khadi & Village Industries Board for execution of five major schemes in the coming year. In order to demonstrate the State's brilliant strides in the handloom sector, a National Handloom Expo '85, has been organised in Gauhati amidst intense enthusiasm.

### **Co-operative movement**

With about 80 per cent families brought under the co-operative fold the co-operative movement has been playing a vital role in the State's economy. Apart from landing adequate support for improvement and modernisation agribased processing activities, the multifunctional Gaon Panchayat level co-operative Societies (GPSS) are rendering package of important services to the members



covering credit for agricultural production, distribution of essential commodities, supply of inputs, procurement and marketing of agricultural produce and grant of consumption credit to poor tribal families in the rural areas in the plains. The Assam State Co-operative Marketing and Consumers Federation (STATFED) had started production of Vanaspati under the trade name of Tripti. Another Sugar Mill in the Co-operative sector with a daily crushing capacity of 1250 MT is coming up at Kampur. The coming year will see the establishment of four spinning mills in the Co-operative sector. In the sector of storage and warehousing, three warehouses at Tinsukia, Jonai and Udalguri have been completed and onstruction of three more is progressing satisfactorily. The Co-operative movement is gaining momentum also in the hill areas with 35 Large Areas Multipurpose Societies rendering credit and consumer services to about 15,000 members.

### **Power**

Activities in the power sector have also increased considerably and the per capita consumption of 30 units at the beginning of the Sixth Plan period is expected to rise to 40 units when the Seventh Plan starts. The installed capacity of 141.5 M. W. at the beginning of the Sixth Plan period is also likely to rise to 486.5 M. W. by the beginning of the Seventh Plan period. The Seventh Plan target is to raise the total installed capacity further to 782.5 M. W. I am glad to say that two more units of 60 M. W. each of the Bongaigaon Thermal Project are expected to be commissioned in March, 1985 and June, 1985 respectively. The 22 M. W. Namrup Waste Heat Project will also be commissioned in April, 1985 to be followed by the Lakwa Thermal Power Station (Extension) of 15 M. W. in September, 1985 and Karbi Longpi Hydroelectric Project with two units of 50 M. W. each in June, 1988 and December, 1988 respectively. Laying of transmission lines and construction of distribution sub-stations are also going on satisfactorily. Under Rural Electrification scheme every year 3000 villages will be electrified and 1000 irrigation pump sets will be energised.

### **Communication & Transport**

Development of communication net work is of vital interest to our State and naturally continues to receive high priority. During the current year construction of 500 K. M.



roads in general areas and 100 K. M. roads in Hill areas is likely to be completed and about 206 K. M. roads in general areas are expected to be surfaced. 213 KM. unsurfaced and 50 KM. surfaced roads are expected to be completed in the hill areas. During the coming year, highest priority will be given to construction of missing links and completion of bridges and culverts. At the end of the Sixth Plans 11631 villages are expected to be well connected by roads of which 500 villages are being connected by the end of current year itself. Assam State Transport Corporation will have 32 new buses, in addition to 76 buses already acquired, of the end of the current year. 10 super-delux night service for long distance passengers have already been introduced. Pandu-noonmati city bus route in Guwahati covering a distance of 16 Km. has been nationalised in the current year giving great relief to the citizens. Similar stress is being given also on development of Inland Water Transport.

### **Tourism**

Development of tourism has also received attention and the measures in this sector aim at ensuring a constant flow of tourists. A Tourists lodge at Tezpur and a picnic cottage near Guwahati have been completed and another Tourist lodge at Silchar is almost complete. In the Central Sector, the foundation stone of an Youth Hostel at Guwahati has been laid by the Vice-President of India in the current year.

### **Forest and Forest Produce**

Forests occupy a place of prominence in the economy of our State and the Government have been always anxious to preserve and expand the state's forests. An additional area of 18105 hectares has been brought under plantation during the current year and it is proposed to cover 26330 hectares more in the next year. Under the 20 point programme, 384.6 lakh trees have been planted till December last against the target of 400 lakhs for the year. Measures to protect forest resources from poachers, encroachers and smugglers have been further intensified and an 'Assam Forest Protection Force' is being raised with 700 personnel under a Commandant. Number of seats in the Assam Forest School has also been raised from 64 to 84 during the current year. It is proposed to construct 62



buildings and 71 Km. of new roads and to improve 424 Km. roads in the forests in the next year. Special survey of forest villagers has also been taken up during the current year.

### Education

In the sphere of education, the Government's emphasis has been on both expansion and qualitative improvement. Universalisation of elementary education has been the Government's constant concern and the incentive programme of free mid day meal to primary students in the hill and tea-garden areas has generated wide enthusiasm. The programme will cover other areas in the coming year. An Education Cell and an Advisory Board have been set up to ensure greater attention to tea garden areas. A Higher Secondary Education Council has been set up to oversee the plus two stage and utmost importance is being given to vocationalisation. Important institutions on the anvil include a Regional Science Museum in Guwahati, a Regional Institute of Technology at Jorhat and a State Council for Educational Research and Training which will start functioning very soon. Steps are being taken to introduce computer education in selected Secondary Schools. The State will have one Polytechnic in each district during the Seventh Plan and two such institutions will be started next year itself. A new education policy is also being formulated to facilitate all round improvement in the education sphere. The important developments in the field of sports included brilliant performance of our boys and girls in national events, holding of national and international cricket matches in Guwahati, cash awards to promising youngsters and pension to the sportsman of yester years. A regional Centre of Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports will be set up next year in Guwahati. The Government also proposes to establish 100 Rural Libraries. The first ever Book Fair in the region organised by the Publication Board in December last in collaboration with the National Book Trust evoked tremendous response and it has been decided to have more such fairs in the days ahead.

### Health and Family Welfare

The current year's programme for having 360 health sub-centres, 7 Primary Health Centres, 3 Community Health Centres and 20 Subsidiary Health Centres is likely to be



achieved fully. The programme for the coming year envisages establishment of 100 sub-centres, 20 Primary Health centres and 5 community Health Centres. The 200 bedded M. M. Choudhury Hospital started functioning in April last. One Eye Bank in each Medical College and two mobile units at Barpeta and Goalpara have been sanctioned and the next year will see the birth of a Regional Eye Institute in Guwahati. Very satisfactory progress was achieved in family welfare last year and efforts have been made to maintain the same degree of performance during the current year. Assam bagged first prize in family welfare for 1983-84. Ten new ANM Training Schools with thirty trainees capacity have also been established. The Government continues to give stress on rural drinking water supply and 2386 villages have been provided with the facilities this year. 2082 more villages are proposed to be covered next year with preference to rural areas with predominantly Scheduled Caste and tribal population.

### **Science and Technology**

Special steps have been taken to popularise science and technology programmes through seminars, conferences and involvement of voluntary agencies. Stress has been laid on establishment of an environmental information system, environmental impact assessment and land use planning. Steps are also on for use of renewable energy and the programme will cover the hill areas too during the Seventh Plan.

### **Urban Development**

Various urban development plans have been initiated by the Government and master plans have been prepared for all the important towns. Schemes for road, market and residential land development are under implementation in Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Tezpur and Silchar. In the sphere of slum improvement, the current year's target of 13,500 slum dwellers has already been achieved and a total of 1,23,000 slum population identified. A few major drainage schemes are also under implementation. Town Committees have been formed at Lunding and Udalguri.

### **Animal Husbandry and Veterinary**

The State Government's concern for speedier welfare and development of the State is reflected also in the activities of other departments like Animal Husbandry and



veterinary, Fisheries Dairy Development, etc. The programmes, primarily meant to help eradicate rural poverty, are particularly integrated with the schemes for economic development of Scheduled Castes and Tribes and other Weaker sections. The Animal Husbandry programmes include benefit oriented schemes which will involve Rs. 112 lakhs in the coming year for distribution of Milk cows, pigs, poultry etc. Two lakh cross breed cows have been produced and two lakh more will be produced next year. 20 thousand duck units have been distributed to the backward people and widows and one thousand goat units will also be distributed in the coming year. The year will also see establishment of eleven veterinary Dispensaries, twenty first aid centres, six Artificial Insemination Centres and eight Artificial Insemination Sub-Centres. Other important schemes include composite farming involving pisciculture and poultry etc. The daily target of milk supply is proposed to be raised by five per cent.

### Land Reforms

Land reforms have always received high priority and works in this sphere are maintaining steady progress. Updating of tenants record of right has been completed in the plain districts except Darrang and Sonitpur and these two districts are likely to be completed in the coming year. Resettlement operation in the erstwhile permanently settled areas is continuing. So far about 5.86 lakh acres of ceiling surplus have been distributed to more than 3 lakh families. Revenue administration has been geared up for implementation of the provision of chapter X of the Assam Land Revenue Regulation in Tribal belts and blocks.

### Natural Calamities

The year under review had its share of natural calamities. Devastating floods resulted in damages to the tune of Rs. 158.77 crores. Funds worth Rs. 31.34 crores have been released so far and rates of rehabilitation grants have also been raised during the year. The recent earthquake in Cachar damaged property worth Rs 6.20 crores apart from killing 14 persons and injuring 377-22 of them seriously. The Government have released Rs. 2.00 lakhs for relief and Rs. 40.00 lakhs as relief grant for reconstruction of damaged houses. Amounts of Rs. 25 lakhs and Rs. 30 thousand were received from the Prime Minis-



ter's Relief Fund and the Governor's Relief Fund respectively for distribution to flood victims. Another amount of Rs. 5.00 lakhs was received from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for the Cachar tremor victims.

I have briefly outlined only some of the major programmes undertaken by the State Government in order of provide the August House a synoptic view of the policies pursued and going to be pursued by the Government. The task of proper and adequate development of the State and betterment of human life in our part of the country with its own peculiar constraints calls for concerted efforts and involvement of all sections of the population. I am sure that with the willing help and co-operation of all section of the population. I am sure that with the willing help and co-operation of all sections of this House, the challenging task of building Assam as a better place will be comfortably fulfilled.

During this session of the House apart from presentation of the budget, some bills are also proposed to be placed before the Hon'ble Members for thier consideration and passage. I am confident that the deliberations during this session will immensely benefit the State Government in properly planning and effectively executing necessary steps to accelerate the pace of development in different spheres of life. Before concluding, I would once again convey you my best wishes for a session of fruitful and constructive discussions.

Thank you.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

(The Governor left the House)

Mr. SPEAKER—Now under sub-rule 2 of Rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I hereby report that the Governor has been please to make a speech. A copy of the speech has been laid on the table and copies of the speech have been distributed to the Hon'ble Members also.

Now, I request the Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble Members of the House, Chief Secretary, Commissioners and Secretaries to the Government, Heads of Departments and other officials and Press reporters to meet the Hon'ble Governor at Tea. The House stands adjourned for half an hour.

(The House rose on adjournment at 11.02 A. M.)



## After Adjournment

Shri BINOY KUMAR BASUMATARY:— Sir, a point of order. Under Rule 310 of our Rules, we want to know from you whether you had allowed D. C. Kamrup to sit inside the Chamber. Sir, the Rule says 'The admission of persons, other than members, to any part of the Assembly Chamber during the sitting of the Assembly shall be regulated in accordance with orders made by the Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER:—I do not know that he was sitting here.

Shri BINOY KUMAR BASUMATARY:—He should be brought here and should be censured. (Interruptions)

Mr. SPEAKER:—I did not know about it. Since the honourable member has reported the matter I shall look into it. It is not within my knowledge. Now, item No. 2.

I have received also a motion of thanks on the Governor's address from Shri Debananda Konwar and seconded by Mr. Silvius Condpán. Now Shri Konwar to move.

## Motion of thanks on Governor's address

Shri DEBANANDA KONWAR:—Sir, I beg to move "that the Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled in this Session are grateful to the Governor for the address he has been pleased to deliver to the House to-day, the 6th March, 1985".

Shri SILVIUS CONDPAN:—Sir, I rise to second the motion moved by my friend Shri Konwar on the address of the Governor delivered to-day in the House.

## Report of the Business Advisory Committee

Mr. SPEAKER:—The motion has now been moved. I allot 11th, 12th and 13th March, 1985 for discussion on the motion of thanks on the Governor's address. Amendments to the motion of thanks will be received by the Assembly Secretariat upto 4 p. m. to-day.



Now, under Rule 230 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I called a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee on 16th February, 1985 in my Chamber at Dispur. The Committee after discussion decided that the meeting of the Budget Session of the Assembly commencing on and from 6th March, 1985 should continue till 11th April, 1985. There will be altogether 25 working days out of which 23 days will be devoted for transaction of Govt. Business and 2 days for transaction of Private Member's Business. Out of this Government 3 days will be devoted for Debate on Governor's Address, one day for Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1984-85 and Passing of Appropriation Bill, relating to Supplementary Demands for Grants and Supplementary Appropriation for 1984-85, 3 days for General Discussion on the Budget, 9 days for Voting on Demands for Grants including passing of the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1985 6 days for consideration and passing of Government Bills and remaining one day for other Government Business.

The Committee also decided that the Demands for Grants, listed for the day should be disposed of on the same day as in the past.

A copy of the Calendar for the meetings of the current session of the Assembly as settled by the Committee has already been circulated amongst the Hon'ble members of the House.

I hope this has the Approval of the House.

(VOICE:—Yes, yes).....

#### PANEL OF CHAIRMAN

Now Item No. 4.

Under Rule 9(i) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I hereby nominate the following members to constitute the Panel of Chairmen for the present Session of the Assembly:—

1. Shri Altaf Hussain Mazumdar
2. Shri Silvius Condpan



3. Shri Hemen Das
4. Shri Devananda Konwar

### CONSTITUTION OF LEGISLATURE COMMITTEES

Under Rule 228 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Business Advisory Committee:—

1. Minister, Parliamentary affairs
2. Shri K. C. Gogoi, Minister
3. Shri Golok Rajbanshi, Minister
4. Shri Hemen Das
5. Shri Binoy Kumar Basumatary
6. Shri Mukut Sarma, Minister

The Speaker shall be the Chairman of the Committee. The Committee will function from 7th March, 1985.

Under Rule 259 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Rules Committee.

1. Shri Devananda Konwar
2. Shri Nabin Chandra Kath Hazarika
3. Shri Debesh Chakravarty
4. Shri Lekhan Lahan
5. Shri Jiba Kanta Gogoi
6. Shri Silvius Condpan
7. Shri Hassanuddin Ahmed

8. Shri Munin Sarmah



Speaker shall be the ex-officio Chairman of the Committee. The Committee will function from 24th March, 1985 for a period of one year.

Under Rule 312 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the House Committee.

1. Shri Rajendra Nath Phukan
2. Shri Durgeswar Patir
3. Shri Kiran Bora
4. Smti. Mridula Saharia
5. Shri Golam Subhany Choudhury
6. Shri Purna Boro
7. Shri Satya Tanti
8. Shri Mir Abdul Halim
9. Shri Main Uddin

Under Rule 198(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business. I appoint Shri Rajendra Nath Phukan as the Chairman of the Committee. This Committee will function with effect from 22nd March 1985 for a period of one year.

Under Rule 251 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Committee on Subordinate Legislation :

1. Shri Nabin Chandra Kath Hazarika, Deputy Speaker
2. Shri Mohammad Hussain
3. Shri Md. Bazlul Basit
4. Shri Kaizasong



5. Shri Joynal Abedin
6. Shri Ramesh Phukan
7. Shri Bimal Gayari

Under Rule 198 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I appoint Shri Nabin Chandra Kath Hazarika; Deputy Speaker as Chairman of the Committee.

### CONSTITUTION OF LEGISLATURE COMMITTEES

The Committee will function from 29th March 1985 for a period of one year.

Under Rule 246 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Committee of Privileges :

1. Shri Nabin Chandra Kath Hazarika, Deputy Speaker
2. Shri Abdul Muhib Mazumdar, Minister, Parliamentary Affairs.
3. Shri Golok Rajbanshi, Minister
4. Shri Mohammad Ali
5. Shri Altaf Hussain Majumdar
6. Md. Abdul Matlib
7. Shri Mathura Deka

Under Rule 198(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I appoint Shri Nabin Chandra Kath Hazarika, Deputy Speaker as the Chairman of the Committee. This Committee will function from 29th March 1985 for a period of one year.

Under Rule 257 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Committee on Government Assurances :



1. Shri Abu Nasar Ohid
2. Shri Subal Chandra Das
3. Shri Upendra Nath Sanatan
4. Shri Kirti Dutta
5. Shri Barkat Ullah.
6. Shri Mohan Basumatari
7. Shri Kartik Sarkar

Under Rule 198 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I appoint Shri Abu Nasar Ohid as Chairman of the Committee. The Committee will function from 24th March 1985 for a period of one year.

Under Rule 239 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Committee on Petitions :

1. Md. Abdul Matlib
2. Shri Dinesh Prasad Goala
3. Shri Jagat Patgiri
4. Shri Purna Boro
5. Shri Tarini Boro

Under Rule 198 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I appoint Shri Abdul Matlib as Chairman of the Committee will function from 24th March 1985 for a period of one year.

Under Rule 313 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, I nominate the following members to constitute the Library Committee :

1. Smti. Mridula Saharia
2. Shri Afazuddin Ahmed
3. Shri Rames Phukan
4. Shri Joynal Abedin



5. Shri Mathura Deka
6. Shri Ketaki Prasad Dutta
7. Shri Main Uddin
8. Shri Abdus Sobhan
9. Shri Hem Prakash Narayan

Under Rule 198 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I appoint Shrimati Mridula Saharia as Chairman of the Committee. This Committee will function with effect from 24th March 1985 for a period of one year.

#### LAYING OF ORDINANCES

Item No. 5 Shri KESHAB CHANDRA GOGOI

Shri KESHAB CHANDRA GOGOI (Minister Revenue)  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the Assam (Requisition and Acquisition) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1984 (Assam Ordinance No. VII of 1984).

Mr. SPEAKER : Item No. 6 Shri MOHAMMAD IDRIS.

Shri MOHAMMAD IDRIS (Minister, Finance) :  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the Assam Official Language (Amendment) Ordinance, 1984 (Assam Ordinance No. VIII of 1984).

Mr. SPEAKER : Item No. 7 Shri JAGANATH SINHA

Shri JAGANATH SINHA (Minister, Town & Country Planning) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the Assam Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Ordinance, 1985 (Assam Ordinance No. I of 1985).

#### OBITUARY REFERENCE

Mr. SPEAKER : I rise to condole the death of Shri Asoka Mehta, former Union Minister.

Born on October 3, 1911, Shri Mehta received his education in Wilson College and University School of Economics in Bombay. While he was a student he plunged himself into freedom struggle by leaving his studies.



He was imprisoned five times for 7 years on account of joining the "Civil Disobedience Movement" Individual Satyagraha" and Quit India Movement" during the period from 1932-1942. He was elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time in 1954 and was re-elected in 1957 and 1967. He was appointed as the Deputy Chairman of the planning Commission in 1963. He was appointed as Union Minister of planning in 1966 and was re-appointed as Union Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare in March, 1967.

Shri Mehta was an active Member of the Socialist party of India and later he became the Chairman of the Praja Socialist party from June, 1959 to June, 1963.

He also founded the Hind Mazdoor Sabha in 1949. He also served as a Member of many Enquiry Committee and represented India in U. N. General Assembly.

Shri Mehta was a distinguished economist and wrote a number of books chief among them are Politics of Planned Economy, Communal Triangle in India and studies in socialism. He had a deep conviction in secularism.

This distinguished economist and a dedicated worker passed away in the early hours of 11th December at the age of 73. In his death, country lost a veteran freedom fighter. I now request all Hon'ble Members to rise in their seats to observe two minutes Silence as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

(Members observed two minutes Silence)

**The House stands adjourned till 10.00 A.M. on Monday the 11th March 1985**

#### A D J O U R N M E N T

The House then Rose at 11-48 A.M. and stood adjourned till 10 A.M. on Monday, the 11th March, 1985.

Dated Dispur:  
The 6th March, 1985.

P. D. BARUA,  
Secretary,  
Assam Legislative Assembly.