



Proceedings of the Fourth Session of the Second Assam Legislative Assembly assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A.M., on Monday the 15th March, 1948.

P R E S E N T

The Hon'ble Mr. Lakshesvar Borooah, Speaker, in the Chair, seven Hon'ble Ministers and forty-nine Members.

Oath of Allegiance

The following hon. Members were sworn in :—

1. Mr. Harendra Nath Sarma.
2. Maulavi Abual Majid Ziaosh Shams.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Withdrawal of Motor Vehicles now supplied to Districts and Departmental Heads

Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN asked :

63. (a) Do Government propose to consider withdrawal of the Motor Vehicles now supplied to different Districts and Departmental Heads ?

(b) Do Government propose to supply one to each of the Sadar and Subdivisional Hospitals and Police Stations ?

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI replied :

63. (a)—Government propose to consider whether vehicles now allotted to Departmental Heads should not be withdrawn.

(b)—There is no such proposal at present.

Road communication from Bojengdoba to Tura and Tura to Baghmara

Mr. MANIRAM MARAK asked :

64. (a) Are Government aware that the Garo Hills District is partially cut off from the rest of the Indian Union ?

(b) Do Government propose to expedite the road communication from Bojengdoba to Tura and Tura to Baghmara ?

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY replied :

64. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. It has been decided to construct a road from Medhipara to Tura via Phulbari which has been given a very high priority.

The improvement work on the Tura Bojengdoba-Raikan Road is progressing from both ends.

*Mr. MANIRAM MARAK: Sir, my Question (b) was: "Do Government propose to expedite the road communication from Bajengdoba to Tura and Tura to Baghmara"? I have not got the reply to this Question.

*The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: That road also is in our programme. So, if it has not been taken up already it will be taken up as soon as possible by the Department.

Charitable Dispensary at Nalbari

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR asked :

65. Are Government aware—

- (a) That the Charitable Dispensary at Nalbari is one of the most important Local Board dispensaries in the Gauhati Subdivision enjoying the rare privilege of having a doctor with M. B. qualification attached to it?
- (b) That it is situated within the Nalbari Small Town Committee and serves the people of a thickly populated locality?
- (c) That the Dispensary cannot satisfy the growing demand of the people for better and more efficient medical aid?
- (d) That there is no hospital in the vast area on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra of the Gauhati subdivision?
- (e) That the Civil Hospital at Gauhati being located at a great distance and being separated by the Brahmaputra can hardly satisfy the demand for medical aid of the vast population of the northern part of the Gauhati Subdivision?
- (f) That the Civil Hospital at Gauhati which is taken advantage of generally by outsiders, can hardly serve the indigenous population inhabiting in the distant villages of the north bank which lack in good communication?
- (g) That the local people are making all possible endeavours to raise the status of the Dispensary at Nalbari to that of a hospital and have formed a Committee called 'Nalbari Indoor Hospital Committee' with the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup as its President which has moved the Medical Department for aid for the said purpose?
- (h) That in furtherance of this noble cause one, Srijut Rameswar Maskara, a generous merchant of Nalbari, has donated a sum of Rs. 15,000 for the construction of a big building for the proposed Hospital and that the construction of the said building is nearing completion?

(i) That any amount of Local Board contribution or public donation can hardly be expected to enable the Hospital Committee in fulfilling their object?

66. With a view to meet this demand of the people do Government propose to take early steps to convert the Nalbari Dispensary into a Hospital or to help the Gauhati Local Board to do so?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS replied:

65. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—May be so.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—The Civil Hospital at Gauhati is meant to serve all, though it is possible that all village population of the north bank may not be able to take advantage of it for want of good communications.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—Government have heard of the donation but progress of construction of the buildings is not known to them.

(i)—This is a matter of opinion.

66.—No. Government will however consider the question of rendering more help if the Local Board take practical steps for converting the dispensary into a hospital by making substantial non-recurring and recurring grants.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Sir, as regards question No.66, will Government be pleased to let me know what kind of practical steps Government expect from the Gauhati Local Board?

***The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** The time to be taken by the Gauhati Local Board to convert this dispensary into a hospital.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: In what way, Sir?

***The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** The ways are known to the Local Board concerned, Sir.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Are Government aware, Sir, that the Gauhati Local Board is running 27 dispensaries from their own fund without getting any grant from the Government?

***The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** That is not a fact, Sir. But it is a fact that the Gauhati Local Board has been running the largest number of dispensaries.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: In consideration of the fact, Sir, that the Gauhati Local Board is running the largest number of dispensaries, do Government grant them any special grant?

***The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** The Gauhati Local Board is already getting a special grant from the Government, Sir, and that is the largest amount of medical aid.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: Sir, are we to understand that the Government is going to give some special grant to convert the Nalbari Dispensary into a hospital?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS: That matter will be duly considered, Sir, by the Government if the Local Board takes steps to convert this dispensary into a hospital.

***Srijut SIDDHINATH SARMA:** Sir, the Gauhati Local Board is not getting any special grant for running their dispensaries, but they get only the usual grant from Government.

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS: I have already granted Rs. 2,000 as a special grant to that Board.

Budget discussion

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Now general discussion of the Budget.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: Sir, before we enter into any general discussion of the Budget, I like to bring to the notice of Government the fact that the copies of the Budget have been supplied to the hon. Members very late. But according to the rule at least 14 days before the general discussion of the Budget the copies should be supplied. In the previous years, Sir, we used to get copies of the Budget atleast a month earlier. Now when the date for general discussion of the Budget has been fixed from to-day we have been put to very much inconvenience to take part in the discussion, while the Budget concerns several crores of rupees, because we have been given a very short period of time to study the whole Budget.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Sir, I desired to send the copies of the Budget to the hon. Members earlier, but owing to the separation of Sylhet and other allied matters the Budget could not be prepared partly on account of the discussion that was going between the Centre and ourselves regarding grants that were to be received from the Centre, and so the figures prepared for the Budget could not be finalised earlier. That is the reason for the delay in preparation of the Budget. My hon. Friend says, that previously copies of the Budget used to be sent to hon. Members at least one month earlier. It is not so. Under the rules such copies are to be sent 14 days before the Demands for Grants are moved in the House and not 14 days before the general discussion of the Budget.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: On a point of explanation, Sir. I was a member of the Council and I remember we used to get it. That is my personal experience.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: The fact is that the Council sometimes sat later than the Assembly.

Maulavi ABDUL HAI: Unfortunately the Council and the Assembly used to sit at the same time for the Budget Session. When the Budget was discussed here in the Assembly, it was also discussed there in the Council.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: Although the Assembly and the Council sat simultaneously, the general discussion of the Budget did not take place at the same time.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: For the general discussion of the Budget there was sufficient time I think. If the hon. Member is serious, he can object to the late submission of the Budget. The rule is that the Budget should be supplied to the hon. Members at least 14 days before the first day on which the demands for grants are taken up.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: The rule is that the Budget should be supplied at least 14 days before the first day fixed for voting on the demands and, as a matter of fact, we have complied with that rule.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Before we start discussion on the Budget, I would like to inform the hon. Members that there is only one Reporter in Vernacular—Mr. Sarma. He is unavoidably absent to-day as his son is seriously ill. So, I request hon. Members not to deliver their speeches in Assamese but to speak in English.

Hon. Members will remember that I stated before the House the other day that Leaders of different Parties would kindly submit the list of hon. Members who like to speak and I fixed the 12th instant as the date for submission of such list. I received on this fixed date names of two hon. Members—Messrs. Morley and P. M. Sarwan. Unfortunately, the Congress Party have submitted their list only to-day. Therefore, I would give preference to Messrs. Morley and Sarwan.

Then again, there is another point, The Hon'ble Finance Minister will reply on the 18th March 1948. So, hon. Members will get only two days to take part in the discussion, viz., 15th and 16th. The Congress Party have given four names in their list, for 18th, viz., Srijut Manisankar Basumatari, Mr. Maniram Marak, Srijut Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati and Maulavi Abdul Halim. I am afraid, I shall not be able to allow them to speak on the 18th; they may speak either to-day or to-morrow.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Sir, we feel very much inconvenience owing to the absence of the reporter in Vernacular. We have been requesting the Government to make arrangement for getting a number of reporters trained in Vernacular. We do not know what they have done in this respect. We find that in the absence of the sole reporter in Vernacular, hon. Members have been asked to deliver their speeches in English. This means that our proposal has not yet been given effect to. Do Government propose to make early arrangement to train some reporters in Vernacular even now? I would request you, Sir, to move the Government in this matter. Government should note that most of the hon. Members desire to speak in Assamese.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I thank the hon. Member for the suggestion. I have taken steps to train Vernacular Reporters. There is at present only one Vernacular Reporter and he has been asked to start a training class after the breaking of this March Session. One gentleman will be sent to the United Provinces to learn Hindusthani reporting.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, no list has been submitted by the Secretary of our party about the number of hon. Members of our party who will speak on the general discussion of the Budget. Number of members present is small and it is hoped that they all will get some

time to speak. There are only eight Members present today and all are willing to speak. As usual, the Leader of the Opposition should have the last say, from non-official side and I hope, you will extend some concession to me as regards time limit, and allot some time on the 15th or 16th for other members of my group.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : They may speak on the 18th.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : Eighteenth has been reserved for the Hon'ble Finance Minister to reply. So, I may be allowed to speak on the 16th or 18th. I think every day we will get about 45 minutes from the Question time and normally three hours will be available for this purpose, and if you fix the time accordingly, that will be all right.

***Maulavi ABDUL HAI :** I did not submit the names of the hon. Members of our party as was fixed, because their number is only 5 or 6. To-day we have got 8 Members and all are willing to speak.

***Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS :** Sir, I have arrived only to-day and want to speak.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Very well.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : From the list I find there are 26 hon. Members from the Congress Party, then there are Mr. Morley and Mr. Sarwan and eight from the Muslim League Party. So, there will be 36 hon. Members in all who will participate in the discussion. We have got 7 hours allotted for this purpose and dividing this by 36, we can roughly give 10½ minutes to each hon. Member.

***The Hon'ble Sriyut BISHNU RAM MEDHI :** As a matter of fact, the hon. Leader of the Opposition is expected to take a little more time.

***Mr. C. W. MORLEY-:** May I have a little more time, Sir, as I am the only speaker from our side ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I want to know whether the House would agree to sit half an hour more these days. In that case I can give more than 10 minutes to each. hon. Member.

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : I will be obliged, Sir, if you would give me a little more time, as I will be stating some very important suggestions—not to criticise the Government but to give some constructive suggestions to them.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : May I know whether the House is prepared to sit half an hour more these days ?

Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA : I don't think, there will be any necessity for sitting half an hour more. Some hon. Members may not take 10 minutes and as such, the hon. Leaders of Parties may have a little concession in respect of time. As Mr. Morley has said, he is the only one from their side who will speak. He deserves extension of time.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think, some hon. Members will find it difficult to speak in English so they may be allowed to speak in Assamese and they will give translation of their speech.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I have already said that the Vernacular Reporter is absent to-day.

Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : My idea is that you may be pleased to allow the Members to speak in Assamese if any of them like to do so but they will submit translation in English of their speeches to the Reporters.

***Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Let those who want to speak in Assamese speak to-morrow.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Yes, let us hope that Mr. Sarma will be available to-morrow.

Each hon. Member taking part in the Budget discussion will get ten minutes. The Leaders of different Parties will get some concession. They will get more time to speak.

Is Mr. Morley prepared to speak to-day ?

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : Yes, Sir, I am prepared to speak now.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Finance Minister is fortunate in having the unique privilege of presenting the first Budget of the province of Assam in a free India. We hasten to congratulate him on this occasion and also on the very able manner in which he has reviewed the financial position. We inevitably have some criticisms to make, but I prefer to leave these to the more austere portions of my speech.

The period of transition to Independence has been a very critical one and with rising tension elsewhere, it is a matter for great satisfaction to us all that Assam has remained peaceful and quiet. To the Ministry great credit is due for the effective steps which have been taken for the maintenance of law and order, and we should like to include in this message of congratulation, the numerous Government Officers who have had to shoulder heavy responsibilities during this period. It is very satisfactory to note from the Budget proposals that the strengthening of the Police Forces is receiving very close attention. The cost of disorder, both in lives and property, is enormous, and we believe that it would be a very foolish policy to deprive the public security services of any assistance which they may legitimately need.

We are most anxious that determined efforts should be made to establish friendly and cordial relations with the neighbouring Province of East Bengal in the Dominion of Pakistan. There has been evidence of minor friction ; we would urge that no efforts should be spared to create an atmosphere of friendliness, which would make possible the negotiation of agreements beneficial to both Provinces. With this end in view we venture to suggest that the Hon'ble Prime Minister should endeavour to arrange a meeting with the Prime Minister of East Bengal so that all sources of friction can be removed and satisfactory arrangements made for the interchange of goods with Pakistan, and for the transit of goods through the territories of that Dominion. In North East India all Provinces have many common interests, and when in Europe countries which have for centuries been completely separate can get together to negotiate agreements for their mutual welfare, it should be well within the capacity of our statesmen here. At the moment the most urgent problem is to secure a method of bringing in and sending out goods, necessary for the

maintenance of trade in Assam ; the imposition of new impediments of Trade cannot but have the most serious consequences for this Province.

For some time past Assam has been suffering from virtual collapse of the Railway system serving the Province. This is only partially due to the division of the Railway into distinct sections controlled by the two Dominions. Part of the collapse is due to the inability of the Railway Administration to surmount their present difficulties, the lack of discipline and initiative in the Railway staff, and a cynical indifference to the needs of the public. Railways which carried prodigious quantities of goods during the war are now content to carry an insignificant volume of traffic. I trust that when hon. Members contemplate nationalisation of schemes, they will recollect the very low factor of efficiency achieved by our Railways. For the public, travelling conditions have reached an intolerable state. Carriages are ill equipped and usually in a filthy state. Over-crowding, ticketless travel and unpunctuality have become the order of the day. We realise that this is not a responsibility of the Provincial Government and we recognise that the Provincial Government have rendered a valuable service in constituting a Transport Board. We do hope, however, that the Government will press with determination and vigour, the urgent necessity for a new deal on the Railways.

Turning to the actual Budget Estimates, there are a number of significant features which require comment. The year 1947 opened with a considerable increased balance, totalling in all 306 lakhs. The separation of Sylhet has caused a general decline in normal receipts and to a lesser extent in expenditure. It is recognised that there are difficulties in reducing the expenditure on the central Headquarters staff with a reduction in area, but it is a matter which merits attention. Revenue receipts in the Revised declined to 697 lakhs and Revenue expenditure to 762 lakhs. Large reductions occurred on both sides of the Capital Account, while the closing balance increased by 138 to 321 lakhs.

There are some points arising out of the Revised Estimates which necessitate careful examination. The explanation given by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, of the decision of the Government of India to give the Provinces only 20 per cent. share of the Jute Duty instead of the previous 62½ per cent. is most disquieting. In the year 1947-48 this reduction in Jute Duty, almost equalled the gain which had occurred in the share of Central Income-Tax.

It will be necessary for me at a later stage to refer to Post-war finance in greater detail, but there are obvious signs of lowered budgetary standards, when a single head of receipt can show a decline of 200 lakhs, which occurs under "LI-Extraordinary Receipts". When variations of this magnitude are tolerated, there can be no real and effective control by a Legislature of Government finance.

On the Expenditure side of the Revised Estimates for 1947-48, the outstanding omission is the failure of the Finance Department to see that details are supplied for the expenditure of 60 lakhs on "major industries", which is now shown in Head "72 Capital Outlay on Industrial Development". This relates to a provision of 202 lakhs which was provided in the Budget in spite of objections made last year against voting sums without any details being furnished. It will be recollected that in the Appendix to the Budget for the Post-war Development Schemes of the Government of Assam for 1947, at page 132 there was a note that the "details were under preparation". This point was taken in a Cut Motion moved on behalf of this Group. To-day we are still faced with a demand for money on this account and still no details have been supplied. For the Budget, it is true that we are given some very large figures dividing the expenditure between four Industries and a Miscellaneous

group, and showing the amounts required. We are entitled, both as tax-payers and as legislators, to receive a full statement showing the financial implications of these enterprises—how much capital expenditure will be incurred ; what the running costs are likely to be ; and what prospects there are of securing profit. This information must exist as we cannot believe that any Government would embark on large industrial undertakings without taking steps of common prudence. The only omission appears to be that Government are unprepared to take this House into their confidence.

There are a large number of important changes in the Revised, including expenditure on new schemes, which Government realised during the year to be necessary, and although Sessions of the Legislature were held in September, and again in November, no effort was made to secure the prior concurrence of the Legislature to these important changes, or to the new schemes of expenditure to which Government have committed themselves.

In the 1948-49 Budget the principal revenue heads give a figure of 442 lakhs, which differs only slightly from the Revised ; Service heads 49 lakhs and Central Grants 821 lakhs. The main variation occurs in the Central Grants, which are 629 lakhs higher than in the Revised. It is necessary to reflect that a year ago there was a serious over-estimation of these grants by over 2 crores, and the new figure, therefore, requires close scrutiny. We find from the speech of the Hon'ble Finance Minister of the Dominion of India, that a sum of Rs.30 crores has been provided for all Provinces, and even if some weightage is given to the Province of Assam, it is inconceivable that such a large percentage as 26 per cent. of the Dominion grant will be given to this Province. If only a third of this amount becomes available, should not this House have a voice in determining how the money is to be distributed among the various Post-war schemes ?

To give an idea of what Assam can expect from a total allocation of Rs.30 crores, allow me to point out that Assam's share of income tax is just over a crore, out of an available pool of Rs.37.87 crores. Can we reasonably expect to get even Rs.2 crores for Post-war Development in the coming year ? The Hon'ble Finance Minister referred to a passage in the speech of the Dominion Finance Minister in support of his optimistic forecast of a large grant, but I am afraid he overlooked the provision actually made in the Central Budget for this purpose. We have the greatest sympathy with this Province's claim for greater assistance, but we are less optimistic about the prospects of success. Assam's case has been ably presented both now and in the past but other Provinces are also pressing their claims and the Centre has its own large departments clamouring insistently for larger allocations. In these circumstances, we dispute the wisdom of budgeting for large expenditure in the belief that the Central Government will produce the large grants on which the present Budget is based. We are irresistibly reminded of the famous Mr. Micawber of whom Charles Dickens wrote, "I have known him come home to supper with a flood of tears, and a declaration that nothing was now left but a debtor's jail : and go to bed making a calculation of the expense of putting bow-windows to the house 'in case anything turned up' which was his favourite expression". If anything, the Hon'ble Finance Minister excels Mr. Micawber, as he appears to devote less time to the cautious estimation of financial prospects.

In the Capital Accounts there is an increase of 432 lakhs, mainly due to 300 lakhs Loan for Industrial Development and to 200 lakhs Ways and Means loans. These also appear as debits on the Capital Expenditure side leaving a net increase of Capital Receipts over expenditure of 38 lakhs. The closing balance declines by 112 lakhs compared with the previous year, as a result of a deficit of 150 lakhs in the Revenue Accounts.

On the Revenue Receipt side, there is an improvement of 19 lakhs in Central Income Tax, a decline of 7 lakhs on Excise and 8 lakhs in Forests.

We confess to some surprise at finding receipts from Sales Tax at only 5 lakhs in view of the large income derived elsewhere from this Tax, and we would also point to the high cost of collecting this comparatively small sum. A gigantic increase of 581 lakhs occurs under Post-war schemes, to which reference has already been made.

On the Expenditure side—Excise expenditure increases by 3 lakhs due to prohibition propaganda—non-official organisation, for which details are lacking. Police shows an increase of 57 lakhs, and Civil Works 40 lakhs. Capital outlay on Industrial Development accounts for 300 lakhs, and details have neither been supplied in the Budget nor in the Memorandum.

Government's trading activities have in the current year shown a large return with an increase of 55 lakhs on the original Budget to stand at 68 lakhs. We have repeatedly argued that in order to estimate the real state of these enterprises, commercial accounts, with a profit and loss statement and a balance sheet, are essential. It is, however, evident that large profits are being made in rice, and since taxes on the food of the poor are contrary to all accepted systems of taxation, surely the time has come for a review of the existing cesses? In the next year a further Capital return of 21 lakhs is expected, but judging from past results and the large quantities of rice being handled by Government procurement, a far higher figure is justified, always excluding the improbable event of a collapse in grain prices.

The most important part of the Budget relates to Post-War Development. To avoid any misunderstandings, allow me to repeat what has been said often enough before from these benches—that we are not opposed to Post-war Development and recognise the important part it must play in improving the standard of living in Assam. At the same time, inflationary forces exert a powerful influence today and this was emphasised by the Hon'ble Finance Minister of the Dominion Government in his recent Budget speech. Unless there is very judicious expenditure of public funds, little material benefit will be derived and the cost of living index, which has moved steadily higher during the year, will receive a further upward impulse. It is now recognised as sound economics to reserve heavy Capital expenditure for periods of depressions and though we may agree that the State of Assam will not permit of any long deferment of development schemes, great caution is necessary particularly on schemes which promise no direct productive return.

I have already referred to the excessively optimistic forecast of grants from the Centre, and expressed doubts regarding Assam's ability to secure over 25 per cent. of the available allocations to the Province. There is another pertinent point regarding Post-war finance. These grants are not free gifts; only a few weeks ago, in the speech of the Hon'ble Finance Minister of the Central Government reference was made to the grants being contingent on the Provinces contributing substantial amount from their own resources to these schemes. Nothing was contributed last year and nothing is being contributed this year. Will there not be a day of reckoning when the Centre will close down on its advance payments and the elaborate edifice of the Post-war Development will collapse? If the Province is mortgaging its rights for future assistance, should not there be a greater insistence on schemes which will at least be self-supporting? We are frankly perturbed at the large amount of recurring expenditure involved in many of the development schemes. Rural Development requires 160 lakhs recurring for rural centres alone, and 82 lakhs for the Rural Development organisation; and the same criticism applies to a large number of these Post-war Schemes. There is little use in appointing a prodigious staff

and building up an elaborate organisation, if it cannot be financed for a reasonable term of years. Expenditure on Forest development stands on an entirely different footing, and should, if wisely incurred, bring in income in future years. We are not opposing all experiments on uplift, but we feel that there should be on financial grounds, a better balance between productive and unproductive schemes.

Again though rural uplift is being regarded as a new idea, much of the expenditure in the Province in the past would have satisfied this definition. Some ten years ago large sums were expended on stud bulls, improvement of village roads and water supply. During the war years large sums were expended on Grow More Food schemes. Many of these achieved temporary success, but as long term schemes the results have been disappointing. In other Provinces in India extensive schemes of rural uplift have been tried and failed. Co-operation nearly everywhere has on balance brought more distress than good to the countryside. We do not subscribe to the view that in the field of rural uplift it is not in mortals to command success, but we would urge and urge very strongly that before embarking on these vast schemes there should be experiments on a restricted scale and research, so that a sound technique can be evolved.

The news that Assam has approved the idea of multi-purpose projects for the Brahmaputra and other rivers is most welcome and we desire to give our full support to these endeavours. We regard the decision as by far the most outstanding event in the recent history of Assam; we are confident that these schemes will do more than anything else to raise the standard of living in the Province, and start the process of a better adjustment between agriculture and industry. The Province should not, however, remain idle, while the Central Government is busy with the preparation and execution of these remarkable projects. There is much to be done if rapid industrialisation is to be assured. The first essential is a clear statement on industrial policy. Assam cannot by nationalisation alone, touch the fringe of the problem, and if private industry is to be developed it will need assurances that the labour and the risk involved in creating new industries is not to be rewarded by expropriation when such industries reach prosperity. The second requirement is the development of large industrial sites equipped with road and rail facilities, water supply both for drinking and industrial purposes, and other necessities for large and small scale industry. When cheap hydro-electricity is available from the grids drawing abundant power from the Hydro-electric Stations, industry can develop rapidly in these areas.

Under Agriculture we regret to find that no provision has been made for large scale tractor cultivation. From a recent Press Note it appears that no less than five Provinces have adopted large schemes for mechanised cultivation to grow more food, and surely in Assam there is ample scope for similar enterprise, particularly in view of Assam's deficiency in much of its food supply. We welcome the recognition by the Assam Government of the acute housing shortage in the Province, but we doubt whether a scheme of house-building loans is sufficient. To-day all large scale employers are expected to shirk its obligations. If Government were to work out schemes for each large urban centre for housing its employees, in well laid-out colonies, a substantial contribution would be made to the relief of pressure on housing in the large towns. Town planning has evidently not received any recognition in the Post-war Budget though this is not a matter which can be delayed if further deterioration of our towns is to be avoided. No adequate scheme for public health in towns can be successful if slums are permitted to develop and prevention is far better than the costly expedient of cure,

Before concluding, there are a few questions of a general nature which I should like to bring before this House. The ordinary man in the street and the business man is suffering from the multiplicity of controls which are still in force, and even the Departments concerned frequently are unaware of the precise orders in force. We recognise that controls have their value but we also realise that many of them have outlived their purpose. As an instance of the redundancy of controls allow me to refer to the Central control of petrol. Petrol is being produced in Assam, but transport is inadequate to allow the full quantity to be despatched to other provinces, with the result that at Dighoi production has been curtailed by more than 10,000 gallons a day — a quantity sufficient to enable petrol rationing to be lifted completely in Assam. What great benefits would be secured if more goods could move by road. What saving in manpower and in form filling if petrol rationing could be lifted even for a few months. We hope that the Assam Government will press for decontrol with energy and persistence. The Motor Vehicles Spare Parts Control Order has been lifted recently by the Central Government and we trust that this will result in a similar withdrawal in Assam. We recognise that the Central Government has adopted the policy of decontrol, and so long as adequate safeguards are retained against inflation, we regard this policy as sound. There are controls in force today which are of little value, and we would suggest that in the case of Provincial controls there should be a periodic examination after eliciting the views of the public or of this House. The elimination of such controls would relieve a great deal of pressure on Government offices and should permit in many cases of reduction of staff. There are many departments which increased, through war-time requirements, could with advantage be retrenched.

Another question of urgent importance is the improvement in the efficiency of Government Departments. Only too frequently months elapse before a reply is received on a simple reference. The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture stated a few days ago that a year was not a long time for Government to make a simple decision. Clearly this mentality must go. There is not merely a need for improvement in Government methods and organisation, but also the need for instilling into all Government Servants the importance of prompt disposal, the ready acceptance of responsibility and the exercise of initiative. Obstruction and not performance appears at present to be the key-note of much Government activity.

The criticisms and suggestions which I have advanced have not been put forward in any partisan spirit. We have no desire to cause the Ministry any embarrassment, but we believe that Democracy can only function if there is free and candid discussion. What Pericles said of Athenian Democracy over two thousand years ago retains its truth to-day:—

“We decide or debate carefully and in person all matters of policy, holding not that words and deeds go ill together, but that acts are foredoomed to failure, when undertaken undiscussed.”

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rejoice that the Constitution of 1935 given by an alien Government enables a representative of poor people to come once in a way to ventilate their sorrows and wrongs in this august House, the Assam Legislative Assembly. Two years ago the Assam Congress Party set up their Government to justly govern the Province of Assam—and with what success is known to the Congress Party and abides in the hearts and minds of the toiling poor people of Assam. How the Congress Party have carried on the administration and controlled and distributed food and clothing these two years and how the poor people have relished the

administration and the methods of control and distribution by the Congress-controlled Committees and Mauza Vigilance Committees is past history. And I wonder if the Government have not made history (which the poor people will ruefully peruse for many a day) in regard to the Government arrangements for the control and distribution of the bare necessities and means of life. And I wonder if the Government have had the time to give any thought to the little matter (some might consider irrelevant matter) of stamping out of corruption in the administration—especially in the lower cadres, and most especially in the Supply and Textile Departments.

I am surprised that Government have decontrolled certain essential commodities, without making proper arrangements for a steady supply of those commodities. For instance, cloth was recently decontrolled. As soon as that happened and dealers were permitted to sell cloth according to their pleasure and convenience, most of the cloth obtained by them even from Government stocks miraculously disappeared from the shops. Decontrol has meant that at least for the time being, so long as supply is not adequate, black-marketing which could not be checked by the Government and the Assam Congress Party has been legalised. Control of commodities in Assam is an absolute necessity more so than the control of the sales of new motor cars which the wealthy people want and the masses care little. Control of essential commodities is an absolute necessity in Assam when supply of all sorts of commodities is short and Assam's communications with other parts of India at present precarious; and along with it is the equal necessity of control of bad and corrupt Government Servants.

In these matters the poor people of Assam feel that the Government administration has been a hopeless muddle or worse, these two years—decontrol clinches the fact. It is hardly necessary to remind the Government of their duty to arrange for the supply of bare necessities of life to the poorer sections of people—decontrol means that the Government abdicate this their basic responsibility and the poor people are left to fend for themselves at the doors of black-marketers and anti-social sharks.

Those of us who represent the poorer sections of people cannot want decontrol but rigid control of Government officers who are in direct touch with poor people. Poor people also want that plenty of latitude be given to the higher officials such as Deputy Commissioners to bring their corrupt subordinates to book and to pounce upon and pin down to the ground the anti-social people. Poor people are clamouring for just distribution of commodities and availability of the means of livelihood.

I note that the Rural Panchayat Bill and the Adhiars Protection Bill are on the agenda of the present Assembly Session. Without going into details we welcome this gesture of the Government to do something for the poor people who live in the villages and are shouldering the burden, and toil to feed themselves and the town dwellers and rich people. I hope when these Bills will become law Government administration in the respective departments will not prove to be such hideous caricatures as the Congress controlled Mauza Vigilance Committees of the Supply administration have been.

In regard to educational matters I draw the attention of the House to the fact that in spite of the Compulsory Primary Education Act the Government till now have done next to nothing in regard to primary education among the tea garden tribes and castes settled in Assam.

Let this august House take note of the fact that the Central Government have been drawing 7 crores of rupees or more yearly from tea duty and the Assam Government are supplementing their income from tea by way of Agricultural Income-tax amounting to over 40 lakhs of rupees yearly, and several lakhs as excise from the consumption of liquor, from the ignorant tea coolies

whereas, the Government of Assam have not thought it worth their while till now to spend even a couple of thousands for the primary schools of the tea garden tribes. The Tea Industry is a good milch cow for the Central Government and the Government of Assam, but it would be well for the beneficiaries to see that the milch cow is not deprived of the means of existence, comfort and satisfaction or the milk might dry up in the udder.

It is an auspicious sign that tea garden tribes have themselves taken up the cry for education (little than thanks to the Government for grants to the primary schools that are not available and scholarships which are almost non-existent), and when 16 lakhs of people belonging to the tea garden tribes and castes will seriously take up this matter and other progressive steps, along with the other backward people of Assam, I dare say the Government will consider it inconvenient to dally any longer for instance with mass literacy by merely having an expensive Mass Literacy Department to carry on barren campaigns and arranging for holiday processions on the streets of town areas for propaganda purposes where no propaganda is necessary.

The policy in the administration pursued by the Government ever since the Assam Congress Party have controlled it, that is for the last two years, has not brought the expected relief to the suffering masses in Assam. That policy has been to strengthen the hands of the Assam Congress Party merely at the cost of mal-administration, corruption and inefficiency. Not that I quarrel with the Government's all consuming desire to strengthen the hold of their party on the people, but I want to lodge a solemn protest on the floor of this House because the cries of the suffering poor people of Assam are ascending to heaven and as a representative of poor people I must perforce join in that cry of the tea garden tribes and castes settled in Assam. As you know, and let me repeat it, these tea garden tribes are settled in the tea gardens and in the villages—11 lakhs are to be found on the estates and 6 lakhs in the villages. As regards those who reside on the tea estates, you will be surprised to hear me state that.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is almost up. Only one minute more.

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: I will speak only a few minutes more, Sir.

You will be surprised to hear me state that their condition in the British owned tea estates is progressively improving, but as regards those who reside in the villages and on the Indian owned tea estates their condition is intolerable and gradually deteriorating. This is due to the fact that wherever possible, blackmarketers, profiteers and corrupt officers and corrupt employees who are in direct touch with the people have denied to the unfortunate poor the necessary commodities and means of sustaining life.

Through their organisation, namely the Tea Labourers' Association, the tea garden tribes have asked for schools—they have asked for lands to grow more food—they have asked for a share in distributing food and cloths among themselves—what has been the response of the Government? When they have asked for bread, stones have been hurled on their devoted heads, when they have asked for fish, serpents have been let loose on them to their dismay.

I have not asked the Congress Government of Assam to work a miracle but it is my perilous duty to remonstrate against the piling of the filth of corruption and injustice in the Augean Stable of administration, maladministered, during the last two years. During the last two years I have suggested certain reliefs to the Government regarding primary schools, lands for the landless, and proper distribution of supplies and other matters. The response from the Government has been far from satisfactory. Once more in the name of democracy and humanity I

appeal to the Government to act direct and to give immediate relief to the tea garden tribes in the matter of primary schools, just quotas of essential commodities such as food and cloth, and land to the landless to grow more food. In these matters during the last two years the Government have bungled terribly. The tone of the Budget speech is encouraging. In that speech the people are called, "our real masters". The Government propose to translate into action Mahatma Gandhi's message of peace, non-violence, truth and service to the common man irrespective of his religion, caste, or creed and help in ushering a new era of peace, prosperity and happiness in India to serve as an example to the world. The Government express their desire to remove poverty, ill-health, illiteracy under-nourishment and unemployment in the Province and to improve the standard of living of the common man and to give him a contented and healthier life free from want and disease, always conscious of the fact that it is the poor masses mainly that contribute greatly towards the increased resources of the State. All this is the expressed intention of the Government in the Budget speech of Hon'ble Minister, Finance. I am, therefore, encouraged to ask the Government for an answer. I should like to go back and tell my people that the Government are doing (not merely talking about) certain good things for them to make life easier for them, that the Government are taking definite steps to enable them to have a share in the amenities of life, and that the Government are now determined to mete out even justice to all sections of people in regard to the rural development in the Province and the amelioration of the lot of the poor.

Best of laws administered by men wanting in good will and sympathy, become means of oppression,.....

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The Hon. Member has already exceeded 5 minutes, I cannot allow him any more.

Mr. P. M. SARWAN: I therefore request the administrators of the Province that the poor people may from now on be able to make that progress which the Government desire them to make in accordance with the wishes of Mahatma Gandhi.

Mr. LARSINGH KHYRIEM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here not to criticise the Budget presented by the Hon'ble Finance Minister. I rather congratulate him in solving the knotty financial problem of a province like ours. My main object is to ventilate the grievances of my people whom I have the honour to represent in this House.

Education.—The Hill people in general are educationally backward. Government have neglected us in the past. Our cry was something like a cry in the wilderness. Now if the Government is really anxious to raise us from the present position, it is high time now that more primary schools be opened in my Subdivision, i.e., the Jowai Subdivision which I am privileged to represent in this House. I am glad to say that through the efforts of the local people with a nominal grant from Government the Sohtba Primary School has been raised to Middle standard. This year the said school sent up 9 pupils for the Middle English Examination. Out of this 7 passed. This institution has been fighting hard for its existence. But its existence is being threatened always and it may collapse at any moment. My earnest prayer to Government is to take it over and make it a purely Government Middle School.

Agriculture.—Sir, in Jowai Subdivision the grow more food campaign launched by Government is in paper only. Actually people do not know the duties of the Agriculture Department. Is it to give advice or instruction to people by its officers or is it to go about in villages to give practical demonstration to cultivators? The people in general do not know what this Department is doing.

One thing only known is the distribution of bonemeal at concession rate. This year (1947-48) Government have given 8,000 maunds of bonemeal to the Khasi and Jaintia Hills. This is inadequate. As you know Jowai Subdivision is a rice-growing area whereas Khasi Hills is a potato-growing area. In Jowai Subdivision 50 to 60 per cent. of the fields are using bonemeal as a manure. Without it these lands have to be left uncultivated. Such is the consequence. Therefore Government is requested to give the Jowai Subdivision alone 10,000 maunds of bonemeal at concession rate in 1948-49.

The present system of giving contract to a dealer who is himself dealing in bonemeal is not a healthy one, as it leads to malpractices and corruption between the contractor and the officers of the Agricultural Department and thus defeating the help rendered by Government to cultivators. Further, the people are complaining of the present distribution. I urge upon the Government to see that fair and equitable distribution is done in future.

As regards the agriculture grant, I suggest that more grant be given in order that all people living in the *jhuming* areas can learn to do permanent wet rice cultivation. In doing so we protect our forest from erosion of *jhuming* land and thereby stop those people shifting from one place to another.

Supply.—From time immemorial War people used to get rice from Sylhet District. But since Sylhet became a part of Pakistan Dominion, they have no alternative but to approach Government to supply them with rice from Shillong. The Government is now supplying them rice at $3\frac{1}{2}$ seers per head per week. This is quite insufficient. As a result rice is drained from the uplands to meet this shortage. It is apprehended that this unusual drainage of rice to War side may lead to shortage in the Subdivision, which has already been affected by the smuggling of rice to Khyriem State. I may recall here that during war time when the price of everything was high, the price of rice in winter was between Rs. 13 and 14 only. Now due to this drainage, the price of rice has risen up to Rs. 20 to Rs. 23 per maund. It is expected the price will come up to Rs. 35 to Rs. 40 in summer. I am afraid Jowai Subdivision having no communication with the outside world now, may in the near future not only will not have sufficient paddy but the price also will tremendously rise up. The only solution is that Government should increase the ration of War people to 5 seers per head per week and to stop export of rice to Khyriem State.

Communication.—As a result of the division of India in two Dominions, the War people from Dawki to Narpuh are in difficulty now, having no communication to bring rice and other commodities from India. This being the frontier, the Government is requested to open immediately a road for these people from Dawki to Narpuh through the Indian territory.

Industries, Rural Development and Post-war Development.—In matters of industries, rural development and Post-war development, I demand that a fair share be given to my Subdivision from the available funds. The rural training centre and the agricultural farm were due to start since last year, but up till now, nothing is done;

Administration.—Sir, I hope the hon. Members as well as the Hon'ble Members of the Cabinet know that the peaceful relationship which existed between our people in the southern slopes and the people of Sylhet District (now formed part of Pakistan Dominion) have recently been disturbed by the unlawful action of the Pakistan people who, when our people go to the Bazaars to make purchases of their necessary things, forcibly take away through the help of the Muslim National Guards. Even porters from uplands when frequenting their Bazaar, carry rice for their own consumption. Such rice were also taken away by the Muslim National Guards.

Recently on two occasions the Muslim National Guards took away the rice ration of Nongtalang and Syndai people when transporting from Shillong *via* Pakistan Dominion to their respective villages. Those ignorant people had to go to Sylhet to request them to return the rice, but to their surprise they were bluntly told that they could not return the rice, instead they will only pay them half the actual price. These harrowing tales of difficulties and hardships unparalleled in any part of the Province demand immediate intervention by Government. Now, our people are living in fright and fear. The only way to free them from all these troubles and hardships is to open a road from Dawki to Narpuh.

Medical.—The Sutnga with its surrounding *elakas* has no medical facilities. There has been a constant move from the public as well as the District Officers to open a dispensary there, but unfortunately there has been no response from Government. Representation after representation could not move the heart of those in power. I am afraid my speech also will not be able to convince the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Medical. But whatever it might be, the fact remains that those people are really suffering in silence due to want of medical aid. Last year the Subdivisional Officer convened a meeting at Sutnga, where people from the surrounding villages attended. In the meeting the Subdivisional Officer told the people that they would soon get a dispensary and appealed to them to contribute towards the buildings in order that the work might be started soon. The people were very pleased and promised to supply the wooden materials and a sum of Rs.1,000. I understand the materials are being collected, but they might be rotten in neglect if the work is not started soon. Government is therefore strongly urged to start making the building before the monsoon sets in.

The headquarters of the Subdivision, I mean, Jowai, has no Lady Doctor. Our womenfolk have repeatedly demanded Government to attach one Lady Doctor to the hospital. But Government have in the past turned a deaf ear to their demand. In this new era we expect that our Government will imbibe a new spirit and fresh outlook and to implement the ever crying need of a Lady Doctor. Assam with its numerous projects ahead requires experts and men of ability to lay a strong foundation for her future.

In conclusion, Sir, the Government have so long neglected us in the past. It is high time now that the welfare of the tribals (Hills and Plains) in the matter of Education, Medical, Sanitation and Agriculture, be taken up in right earnest.

With these few words, Sir, I resume my seat.

***Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I regret the absence of our Assamese stenographer and the inability of Government to make any arrangement for vernacular reporting. They insist on us to deliver our speeches in English. Sir, the Bengal Government have published their Gazette in their own language, whereas we have not yet got sufficient number of Assamese stenographers. I shall deliver my speech in Assamese but help Government with a copy of my Assamese speech.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: That will be all right.

*Speech not corrected.

Srijut SARAT CHANDRA SINHA : মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, ১৫ আগষ্ট অতীত হোৱাৰ লগে লগেই সহজাত প্ৰশ্ন এটি আমাৰ মনত তুমুৰি মাৰিছে। সেই প্ৰশ্ন হৈছে যে আমি স্বাধীনতা লাভ কৰিছোঁ সঁচা, কিন্তু, ক'ত সেই স্বাধীনতাতো কি বস্তু আমি জানো উপলব্ধি কৰিব পাৰিছোঁ? দৈনন্দিন জীৱনত আগুৱে বেনেটকৈ দুখ-দৈন্য আৰু অভাৱ অনাটনত উৎপীড়িত হৈছিলোঁ—এতিয়াওতো তেনেকৈয়ে আছে।

তেন্তে ?

১৫ আগষ্ট সিদিনা মাত্ৰ পাৰ হৈ গল। এই কেই দিনৰ ভিতৰত এনে এটা আমূল পৰিৱৰ্ত্তন আমি আশা কৰিব নোৱাৰোঁ।

নতুন বছৰৰ বাজেট আমাৰ সৰ্বস্বত্ব সুন্দৰ হৈছে। মই আমাৰ মাননীয় ৰাজহ আৰু অৰ্থ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াক তাৰ বাবে অভিনন্দন জনাও। আমি স্বাধীনতা পোৱা এই কেই মাহৰ ভিতৰতেই অসমৰ এই বাজেট পাই আমি অনন্দিত হৈছোঁ। নতুন বছৰৰ বাজেটত নানা তৰহৰ উন্নয়ন মূলক আঁচনি গ্ৰহণ কৰা হৈছে। অৱশ্যে ইয়াৰ বেছি ভাগৰ কাৰণেই আমি কেন্দ্ৰৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰিছোঁ। আমাৰ বহুখৰী সমস্যাবিলাক আমি আমাৰ ৰাজহেৰে সমাধান কৰা টান কথা। কেন্দ্ৰৰ পৰা সহায় নেপালে আমাৰ উন্নয়ন কাৰ্য্যত ভালেখিনি আগভেটা পৰিব। আমি আশা কৰিছোঁ আমি সাহায্য পান আৰু আমাৰ আঁচনি বিলাক কাৰ্য্যকৰী হব। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, চাইকোট, কৃষি কলেজ, মেডিকেল কলেজ, ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰিং কলেজ, আদি অনুষ্ঠানবোৰৰ একোৱেই আমাৰ নাছিল। আজি আমি গঠন কৰিবলৈ হাতত লৈছোঁ। আৰু এই অনুষ্ঠান বিলাক আজি আমাক লাগেই আৰু একে উশাহতে লাগে।

বাজেট আলোচনা কৰোঁতে এই কথা কেইটালৈ আমি বিশেষ মন কৰিব লাগিব। বাজেটত অসমৰ বিবিধ সমস্যা সমাধানৰ ব্যৱস্থা যিমানেই নোৱাকক কৰি, আমাৰ অগ্ৰগতিত যথেষ্ট প্ৰতিবন্ধক আছে। গঠনমূলক ব্যৱস্থা অৱলম্বন কৰি যাতে প্ৰতিকাৰ কৰে, তাৰ বাবে এইবোৰলৈ মই গভণমেন্টৰ চোকা দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰোঁ।

প্ৰথমতঃ আমাৰ শাসনযন্ত্ৰটো তেনেই অনুপযুক্ত। বৃটিশ আমোলৰ এই শাসনযন্ত্ৰ—শোষণৰ যাবতীয় ফলি ইয়াত আছে। বৃটিশে এই যন্ত্ৰ পাতিছিল—ভাৰতবৰ্ষক শোষণ কৰিবলৈ—আৰু কৰিছেও। বৃটিশ গ'ল—কিন্তু যন্ত্ৰটো? আমি এই যন্ত্ৰেৰে কেতিয়াও ভাল ফল পোৱাৰ আশা কৰিব নোৱাৰোঁ। স্বাধীন ভাৰতৰ কাৰণে ই তেনেই অনুপযুক্ত—গোলামী মনোবৃত্তিৰ মানবে ইয়াক আমাৰ কাৰণে তেনেই অকামিলা কৰি তুলিছে। এটা বিৰাট বিপ্লৱ—তাৰ ভিতৰেদি স্বাধীনতা পালে এই মানবে ধৰা যন্ত্ৰটো ভাঙিচিঙি এটা উপযোগী শাসনযন্ত্ৰ উলিয়াব পৰা গল হেতেন। কিন্তু সেইটো হোৱা নাই। হৈছে old wine in a new bottle.

আমাৰ শাসন ব্যৱস্থাৰ শীৰ্ষত থকা ওখ খাপৰ বিষয়াসকল বহুত বেছি। তেওঁলোকে তেওঁলোকৰ তলখাপৰ বিষয়াসকলৰ তুলনাত বহুত বেছি দৰ্দ্ৰহা পায়। অসামঞ্জস্য ইমান বেছি যে ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ প্ৰতি কৰ্ত্তব্যলৈ লক্ষ্য নকৰি—তলখাপৰ বিষয়াসকলে ওখখাপৰ বিষয়াসকললৈ আন্তৰিক সহযোগীতাৰ অভাৱ দেখুৱা দৃষ্টান্ত বিৰল নহয়। ৰাষ্ট্ৰ নকৈ গঠন কৰাত আজি সকলোৰে যিমান ঐকান্তিকতা থকা দৰকাৰ—সিমান যে নাই—এই কথা কোনেও নুই নকৰে! উচ্চ বিষয়াসকলৰ মনত ত্যাগ আৰু সেৱাৰ প্ৰেৰণা যথেষ্ট অভাৱ পৰিলক্ষিত হৈছে। ব্ৰিটিশ আমোলৰ বিষয়া সকলে—যিসকলে শোষণ চলাইছিল—আজি হঠাতে কেনেকৈ সেই শোষণ পাহৰি সেৱাত লাগিব পাৰিব?

ব্ৰিটিশ আমোলৰ বিভাগ বিলাক কেনেকৈ চলিছে—উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে মই কৃষি বিভাগৰ কথা কওঁ। ডিবেক্টাৰ, ডিপুটি ডিবেক্টাৰ আদি ওখখাপৰ বিষয়া ওপৰত বহুত আছে—আৰু তলত আছে কৃষি প্ৰদৰ্শক আৰু কামদাৰ। ওপৰত থকা বিলাকে কি কি গবেষণা কৰি, আমাৰ খেতিৰ কিমান

উন্নতি সাধন কৰিছে—ক'ত ক'ত বিজ্ঞান সম্ভৱত প্ৰণালীৰে খেতি হৈছে—আৰু অসমৰ উৎপন্ন কিমান বঢ়াইছে আমি কব নোৱাৰোঁ। কিন্তু কামদাৰ আৰু কৃষি প্ৰদৰ্শক সকলৰ কাৰ্য্য আমি দেখিছোঁ। তেওঁলোকে আলুগুটি আৰু কৰি গুটি বেচে। তেওঁলোকে বেচা কৰিগুটিৰ বজা কৰিয়ে পাতৰ লাক নেবাঞ্চে আৰু আলুগুটিবিলাক নগজি—পচি যায়। অসমৰ সকলো কৃষকক যদি মই এই প্ৰশ্ন গোছো, আপোনালোক চৰকাৰৰ এই বিভাগৰ দ্বাৰা কিবা উপকৃত হৈছে নে? উত্তৰ আহিব, “হোৱা নাই”; পুনঃ যদি মই এই প্ৰশ্ন কৰোঁ, এই বিভাগটো থকাৰ পৰা অসমৰ উৎপন্ন বাঢ়িছে নে? “বঢ়া নাই”। তেন্তে? মই কোৱা নাই যে এই বিভাগটো থাকিব নেলাগে।

এই বিভাগৰ প্ৰয়োজনীয়তা কোনেও নুই কৰিব নোৱাৰে। কিন্তু পুনৰ্গঠিত কৰিব লাগে। নাক্ষাত্ৰ আমোলৰ নাঙ্গল আৰু প্ৰণালীৰে আমাৰ খেতিয়কে আজিও খেতি কৰি আহিছে। বিজ্ঞান সম্ভৱত প্ৰণালীৰে খেতিৰ ব্যৱস্থা হব লাগে। বিভাগৰ পৰা দিয়া ব্যৱস্থাৰ আদৰ্শস্থানীয় হব লাগে। গুৰ, দালি আৰু চেনিৰ সমস্যাৰ ওৰ পৰিব লাগে। স্বৰ্ণপ্ৰসবা অসমে অইন দেশৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰা বৰ লাজৰ কথা। কেৱল এই বিভাগৰেই কথা নহয়—অইন অইন বিভাগতে সেই একেই অৱস্থা।

দ্বিতীয় প্ৰতিবন্ধক হৈছে—এক শতাব্দীৰো অধিক কাল পৰাধীন হৈ থকাৰ ফলত আমাৰ মনত পৰাধীনতাৰ প্লানি আৰু দুৰ্নীতিয়ে এনেদৰে পুঞ্জীভূত হৈ বহিছে যে ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ প্ৰতি আমাৰ কৰ্ত্তব্য আমি ফটফটীয়াকৈ দেখা নেপাও। বাজেটত কিছুমান ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ অঙ্ক লিখা থাকিলেই দেশৰ উন্নতি নহয়—চৰকাৰ আৰু সমূহ ৰাইজৰ সমবেত চেষ্টা হলেই আমি আমাৰ ৰাষ্ট্ৰ সুন্দৰকৈ গঢ়িব পাৰিম। প্ৰাইমাৰী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক আৰু সাহায্য প্ৰাপ্ত হাইস্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ কাৰণে বাজেটত যি ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে তাৰ বাবে আমি সুখী হৈছোঁ—কিন্তু সন্তুষ্ট হোৱা নাই। শিক্ষাৰ প্ৰয়োজনীয়তা সম্বন্ধে আজি কালি আৰু বজ্জুতা দিব নেলাগে, কিন্তু কতো কাম নেপালে স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকৰ কাম লোৱা আৰু স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকৰ কাম লৈ বিভিন্ন বিভাগলৈ কামৰ কাৰণে দৰখাস্ত দিয়া কথা কাৰো অবিদিত নহয়। দেশ গঠনৰ মূলভেটি যি শিক্ষা—সেই শিক্ষাৰ গুৰি ধৰোতা শিক্ষক সকলৰ প্ৰতি অবহেলা অতি লাজৰ কথা হৈছে। মোলানা আজাদে যি প্ৰস্তাৱ তুলিছে—সি অতি সুন্দৰ হৈছে—প্ৰতিজন গ্ৰেজুৱেটে এটা শিক্ষায়তনত দুবছৰ চাকৰী কৰিলেহে অইন বিভাগলৈ যোৱাৰ যোগ্যতা পাব। মই ভাবো, বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে ছাৰ্টিফিকেট দিয়া গ্ৰেজুৱেট সকলৰ অন্ততঃ নিম্নতম মান এটা ঠিক কৰি দিব লাগে, যাতে তেওঁলোক কোনো অভাৱ অনাটনত পঢ়িব নেলাগে। একেভাবে কৃতকাৰ্য্য হোৱা এজনে ২৫০ টকা আৰু আন জনে ৭৫ টকা পোৱাৰ কোনো যুক্তি নাই। শিক্ষক সকলৰ বেতন সমশ্ৰেণীৰ অইন বিষয়াসকলতকৈ বেছি হব লাগে।

জমিদাৰী প্ৰথা উচ্ছেদ সম্পৰ্কে কেৱল এজন বিশেষ বিষয়া নিযুক্ত কৰা হৈছে—আৰু তেওঁৰ বিবৃতি পাবলৈ অপেক্ষা কৰা হৈছে। এই বিষয়ে গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে আৰু দেৰি কৰিব নেলাগে। মাজে মাজে নানা ৰকম বিবৃতি দিয়াৰ ফলত জমিদাৰ সকল সজাগ হৈ উঠিছে। আৰু মাটি পতন দিয়া কাম খুব জোৰেৰে চলাইছে। বনবিভাগৰ গছ কাটি খাস্তাং কৰিলেই। প্ৰধানতঃ দুটা কাৰণত তেওঁলোকে এনে কৰিছে—এটা হৈছে যি পোৱা যায় সেয়েই লাভ বুলি তেওঁলোকে ভাবিছে। আৰু আনটো হৈছে, আয় বেছি দেখুৱাব পাৰিলে ক্ষতিপূৰণ বেছি পোৱা যাব—এই ধাৰণা। অন্যান্য আৰু বহুতো কাৰণ আছে। জমিদাৰৰ কৰ্মচাৰী সকল অসমীয়া নহয়। অসম গভৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ মাৰ্চিনীতি তেওঁলোকে সমর্থন নকৰে। বঙ্গদেশৰ পৰা আত্মীয় স্বজন বন্ধুবান্ধবক মাতি আনি মাটি

দিবলৈ আগ্ৰহ থকা একো অস্বাভাবিক কথা নহয়। বহিঃবাণিজ্যৰ এই সোঁত অসমৰ ভিতৰলৈ বৈ আছেই। গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে নিৰ্দ্ধাৰিত ব্যৱস্থা যদি সোনকালে নকৰে অসমীয়া খেতিয়কৰ আৰ্থ বৰ্দ্ধন লাভন হব।

মই চাপৰ ইষ্টেটৰ কথা বিশেষকৈ উল্লেখ কৰোঁ। উচ্চ বিদ্যা আটাই কেইজন অনা অসমীয়া। জমিদাৰে আজি প্ৰায় ২০ বছৰ মান হল অসমলৈ অহা নাই। অসমৰ তথা তেওঁৰ নিজৰ ইষ্টেটৰ প্ৰজাবৃন্দৰ উন্নতিৰ লগত কিবা সংশ্লিষ্ট হব ল ভাল পাৰ খুলি নেভাৰো। তেওঁলোকৰ কাৰ্য্যৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰজা সাধাৰণৰ আৰ্থ বিশেষভাবে ক্ষুণ্ণ হৈছে। চৰকাৰে বিদ্যা পঠাই অনুসন্ধান কৰিলে জানিব জনহিতকৰ কামৰ প্ৰতি সহযোগিতা নাই—তেওঁলোকে বিচাৰে কেৱল নাটি পতন দিবলৈ—বনৰ পৰা নিবিবচাৰে কাঠ বেচিবলৈ—গাৰুৰ উন্নতি, সমাজৰ উন্নতি, প্ৰজাৰ উন্নতি, শিক্ষা দীক্ষা, জনস্বাস্থ্য,—তেওঁলোকক মেলাগে। ই কেৱল এটা ইষ্টেটৰ কথা নহয়। বহুলাংশে অইন ইষ্টেটতো ই খাটে।

গাৰু উন্নয়ন বিষয়ে একেবাৰে বিদ্যাবিলাকৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ নকৰি অসম মহিলা সমিতি, ছাত্ৰ কংগ্ৰেছ আৰু কৰ্মী সকলৰ অইন অইন অনুষ্ঠান বিলাককো কামত লগাব লাগে।

বাজেটত পুলিছ ট্ৰেইনিং কলেজৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা বৰ ভাল হৈছে। কিন্তু লগে লগে সামৰিক শিক্ষা কলেজ প্ৰতিষ্ঠা আৰু স্কুল-কলেজবোৰত সামৰিক শিক্ষাৰ ব্যৱস্থা হব লাগে।

সৰহ শস্য উৎপন্ন কৰাৰ প্ৰচেষ্টা খুব সুন্দৰ হৈছে। স্কুলবিলাকৰ জৰীয়েতে গাৰুত এই অভিযান চলোৱা সহজ। ছাত্ৰসকলক এই বিষয়ত উৎসাহ আৰু অনুপ্ৰেৰণা দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

Srijut CHANOO KHERIA: মাননীয় সভাপতি ডাঃবীৰা, অসমৰ অহা বছৰৰ আয়-ব্যয়ৰ হিচাব আলোচনা প্ৰসঙ্গত মই দুআঘাৰমান কবলৈ আগ বান্ধিলোঁ। পৃথিৱীৰ পৰিবৰ্তনৰ লগত বৰ্দ্ধত বাধা বিধিনি অতিক্ৰম কৰি আজি অসম স্বাধীন হৈছে। যোৱা দেৰ শ বছৰ পৰাধীনতাৰ নাগপাশত বন্দী হৈ অসমে নিজৰ সৰ্বস্ব হেৰুৱালে। এতিয়া আকৌ মুকলি হৈ নিজৰ ভবিষ্যৎ গঢ়িবলৈ আগ বাঢ়িছে। যোৱা পৃথিৱী ব্যাপী লগা মহাসমৰে পৃথিৱীখন জুৰুলা কৰাৰ লগে লগে অসম খন জুৰুলা কৰিলে। আজি দেশত ভাত কাপোৰৰ কাৰণে হাঁহাকাৰ।

দেশৰ আচল অবস্থা ভিতৰুৱা গাওঁ বিলাকলৈ গলেহে ভালকৈ অনুভব কৰিব পাৰি। দেশৰ জনসংখ্যাৰ শতকৰা ৯৬ জন কৃষক আৰু বনুৱা। এই কৃষক আৰু বনুৱাই দেশৰ মেৰুদণ্ড আৰু এওঁবিলাকেই অৱস্থা অতি শোচনীয়। আৰু এই কৃষক বিলাকৰো বেচিভাগেই মাটিহীন। গতিকে বৰ্তমান মাটিহীন কৃষক আৰু বনুৱাৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে সকলো প্ৰকাৰ চেষ্টা কৰা সকলোৰে কৰ্তব্য হৈ পৰিছে। বৰ্তমান গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে গাওঁ উন্নয়নৰ কাৰণে যি বিলাক আঁচনি লৈছে সেই আঁচনি বিলাক কাৰ্য্যকৰী হলে সচাকৈয়ে জনসাধাৰণৰ স্ব্থ সমৃদ্ধি বাঢ়িব।

গাওঁ উন্নয়নৰ লগে লগে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে মাটিহীন প্ৰজাৰ কাৰণে ঠায়ে ঠায়ে হাৰিবননি ভাঙি নতুন গাওঁ পাতি, স্কুল, হাস্পাতাল, পুখুৰী আৰু বাট-পথৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি মানুহ বহুৱাটো গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ প্ৰথম ও প্ৰধান কাম হব।

দেশত নিৰ্দ্ধাৰিত, কৰ্মহীন, ধোদ, চোৰ, ডকাইত, কানীয়া, ভদ্ৰা আৰু মদপী আদিৰ সংখ্যা বাঢ়ি যাব ধৰিছে। এই মানুহ বিলাক দেশৰ কলগুহ হৈ পৰিছে আৰু এওঁবিলাকৰ পৰাই দেশত অশান্তিৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। দেশত এই বিলাকৰ বৃদ্ধি হোৱাৰ যোৱা যুদ্ধও এটা কাৰণ। গতিকে এই বিধৰ মানুহৰ সূচক আৰু দেশৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে এটি উপনিবেশৰ আচনি গ্ৰহণ কৰি তাত খেতি বাতি শিল্প আদিৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিলে উক্ত মানুহ বিলাকৰ নৈতিক, আৰ্থিক আৰু সামাজিক উন্নতিৰ লগে লগে দেশৰ উন্নতিত বহুত দূৰ সহায় কৰিব। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক এই বিষয়ে ভাবি চাবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰিলো।

দুখীয়া কৃষক বনুৱাৰ সুবিধাৰ্থে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এখন আধিয়াৰ স্থাপনৰক্ষা আৰু নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ বিল ডাঙি ধৰিছে। এই বিল খন ডাঙি ধৰাৰ কাৰণে কিছুমান মানুহৰ চকুত চৌপনি নধৰা হৈছে। কাৰণ এই মানুহ বিলাক বৰ্ষমান দৰে আনৰ ওপৰত শোষণ কৰি থকাটো কৰ্তব্য বুলি ধৰি লৈছে। এওঁবিলাক তাগ স্বীকাৰ কৰিবলৈ কেতিয়াও অ'গ বাঢ়িব নোৱাৰে। এই শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহে চাকৰি আৰু ব্যৱসায় কৰাৰ উপৰিও মাটি আদি দি অন্যায় ভাবে ধান আৰু টকা আদায় কৰে। দুখীয়া মানুহ বিলাকে লৰা তিকতাৰে সৈতে বদ বৰদুণত বহু কষ্ট কৰিও দুবেলা দুমুঠি খাবলৈ নাপায়। আন হাতে মাটি গিৰীয়ে বিলাগিতা কৰি অনেক বৰ্ষমান অপব্যয় কৰে। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিল আনি সময় উপযোগী কাম কৰিছে। কৃষক-বনুৱাৰ ৰাজ বা ৰাম ৰাজ্যৰ সুপোন দেখা সকলোৱেই এই বিল খন সমৰ্থন কৰিব। কিন্তু চকুত খুই দি দুখীয়া জনসাধাৰণৰ কাৰণে কন্দা মানুহৰ পক্ষে বিৰোধিতা কৰা কোনো আচৰিত কথা নহয়। গতিকে Section 5 ৰ (i) নং ক্ৰছৰ তলত থকা “or by hired labourers or dependents” শব্দ কেইটা বাদ দি বিলখন কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিলেহে দুখীয়া জনসাধাৰণে সকাহ পাব।

অসম গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে গাওঁ পঞ্চায়ত বিল এখনো ডাঙি ধৰিছে। ইয়াৰ উদ্দেশ্য শাসনতন্ত্ৰ নিকেন্দ্ৰীভূত কৰা ও জনসাধাৰণক নিজৰ দায়িত্ব ও নিজৰ দেশৰ প্ৰতি কৰ্তব্য বোধ জন্মোৱা আৰু দেশৰ উন্নতি আৰু শান্তি স্থাপন কৰা। সচাটকৈয়ে এই ব্যৱস্থা কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিলে বৰ্তমান দেশত যি হাঁহাঁকাৰ, নিৰক্ষতা, অনুন্নতি আৰু দুনীতি আদিয়ে দেশখনক আগুৱাবলৈ বাধা দিছে তাৰ পৰা ৰক্ষা পোৱা যাব। পুৰণি ব্যৱস্থা মতে প্ৰত্যেক দিনেই অসমৰ গাওঁবিলাকৰ পৰা চহৰলৈ লাখ লাখ টকা অনাহকত আহিব ধৰিছে। এশ টকাৰ মোকদ্দমা এটা চহৰলৈ আহিলে ১,০০০ টকীয়া হৈ পৰে। এই দৰেই গাওঁ বিলাকৰ অধোগতি হৈছে। এই আইনৰ দ্বাৰা সমাজৰ, দেশৰ আৰু জাতিৰ উন্নতি হব, ই ধুকপ।

গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে pay সম্বন্ধে যি বন্দবস্ত কৰিছে তাত কম বেচিৰ প্ৰভেদ বেচি দেখা যায়। প্ৰাইমাৰী শিক্ষকৰ মাহিলি ৩০ টকা ও উচ্চ কৰ্মচাৰীৰ ১,৫০০ টকা এই ব্যৱস্থা মতে ৫০ গুণ কম বেচি হৈছে। বৰ্তমান দেশখন সমাজ বাদৰ ফালে আগ বাঢ়ি গৈছে। গতিকে ৩০ গুণ মান তাৰতম্য হোৱা হলে ভাল হ'ল হেঁতেন বোধ হয়। অৰ্থাৎ নিম্নতম ৩০ টকা ধৰিলে উচ্চতম ৯০০ টকা। আৰু উচ্চতম ১,৫০০ টকা ধৰিলে নিম্নতম ৫০ টকা হ'ল হেঁতেন। কিন্তু তেনে হ'বলৈ pay কমিটীত তো ৩০ টকীয়া বা ৫০ টকীয়া কৰ্মচাৰী নাছিল। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিষয়ে ভাবি চাব বুলি আশা কৰিলোঁ। মদ আৰু চাৰাপ, ভাং আদি আবকাৰি বোৰলৈ চাই, অতি সোনকালে এই মদ, ভাং আৰু ভাং খোৱা প্ৰথা দেশৰ পৰা উঠাব লাগে।

শিক্ষা সম্বন্ধে কনলৈ গৈ মই ইয়াকে কওঁ যে জাতি গঠনৰ প্ৰথম আছিল এই শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে যি টকা খৰচ কৰিবলৈ আগ বাঢ়োৱা হৈছে, ই ইয়াৰ দুগুণ হোৱা হলেহে শিক্ষাত দ্ৰুত গতিৰে আগ বাঢ়িব পৰা হ'লহেঁতেন। বাধ্যতামূলক শিক্ষা প্ৰবৰ্তন কৰাটো বাট নাচাই বৰ্তমান ৰাইজে আগ বাঢ়োৱা venture স্কুল বিলাক গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে চৰকাৰী কৰি লোৱা হলে প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাত বহুত সুবিধা হ'ল হেঁতেন। কাৰণ অসমত বৰ্তমান এনেকুৱা ১,৫০০ মান স্কুল জনসাধাৰণে ঘৰেৰে সৈতে আগবঢ়াই গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ মুখলৈ চাই আছে। এই venture স্কুল বিলাক গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে অতি সোনকালে হাতত লবলৈ বিবেচনা কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিলোঁ।

বাগিছাৰ বনুৱাৰ শিক্ষাৰ সম্বন্ধে আজিলৈকে কোনো সু-পৰিকল্পিত নীতি লোৱা হোৱা নাই। অসমৰ ৯৪৫ খন বাগিছাত ১১,০০,০০০ লাখ বনুৱাই কাম কৰে। আজিলৈকে তেওঁ-বিলাকৰ মাজৰ পৰা এজনো উচ্চ শিক্ষিত বনুৱা ডেকা উলিয়াব পৰা নাই। এই বাগিছাৰ বনুৱা

বিলাক আজিৰ পৰা ১০৭ বছৰৰ আগতেই অসমলৈ আহিছিল। তেওঁবিলাক যেনে দুৰবস্থাবে আহিছিল, এতিয়াও তেনে অবস্থাতে আছে। যোৱা Budget চেনতো এই বিষয়ে আলোচনা হৈছিল। এতিয়াও এই স্বাধীন অসমত বাগিছাৰ মেনেজাৰেই বনুৱাৰ ভাগ্য নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰে। ইউৰোপীয়ান concerned বাগিছাত কৈয়ো দেশীয় concerned বাগিছা বিলাকৰ অবস্থা শোচনীয়। এতিয়াও বহুত দেশী বিদেশী মেনেজাৰ বিলাকৰ মতিগতি সাল সলনি হোৱা নাই। মই জানি সুখী হৈছোঁ। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে যোৱা বছৰ ২ জন Labour Officer নিয়োগ কৰিছে আৰু এই বছৰো এজন Labour Officer আৰু কেইজন মান Inspector আৰু Investigator লবলৈ মনস্থ কৰিছে।

অসমৰ ৯৪৫ খন বাগিছাৰ ভিতৰত আধাতকৈও বেছি বাগিছাত আজিলৈকে স্কুল হোৱা নাই। যি বিলাকত আছে, তাকে কিছুমান ১০ বছৰ মানৰ আগৰে পৰা চলি আহিছে। এই স্কুল বিলাকৰ শিক্ষকক ৪৫ টকাৰ পৰা ৭৯।১০ অনালৈকে দৰমহা দিয়া হয়। আৰু বছৰেকত ১০,০০০ টকাৰ পৰা ১,৫০,০০০ টকালৈকে খৰচ হয়। এই স্কুলবিলাকত এতিয়ালৈকে লৰাৰ শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে ১,০০,০০০ টকাতকৈ বেছি খৰচ হৈছে। কিন্তু দুঃখৰ বিষয় আজিলৈকে কোনোবা এজনো উপযুক্ত শিক্ষা পাইছেনে নাই সন্দেহ। গতিকে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে প্ৰত্যেক বাগিছাতে লৰাৰ সংখ্যা অনুপাতে বাধ্যতামূলক ভাবে নিম্নপ্ৰাইমাৰী স্কুল দিবলৈ অতি সোন কালে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবলৈ আৰু পৰিচালনাৰ কাৰণে উপযুক্ত সংখ্যক পৰিদৰ্শক নিযুক্ত কৰিব বুলি অনুৰোধ কৰিলোঁ। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই স্কুল বিলাক হাতত নললে স্কুলবিলাক চলি থকাৰ কোনো মূল্য নাই।

চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ মতিগতি বহুতৰে আগৰ দৰেই আছে। এতিয়াও তেওঁ বিলাকে জনসাধাৰণৰ প্ৰভু বুলিয়েই ভাবি লৈছে। এতিয়াও বনুৱা উচ্চ কৰ্মচাৰীৰ মটৰ গাড়ী বাতি শিল্পপাতিৰ পদূলীতে বাগিখোৱা পোৱা যায় ও বনুৱা উচ্চ কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে বনুৱা কৰ্মী বিলাকৰ লগত আলাপ কৰিবলৈ অপমান বোধকৰা দেখা যায়।

চাহবনুৱা বিলাকক সংগঠিত কৰিবৰ কাৰণে বৰ্ত্তমান গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত। ব'বৈয়াত যি Labour Welfare Institute আছে তাত যোৱা নবেম্বৰ মাহত অসমৰ সকলো অঞ্চলৰে বনুৱা কৰ্মী বনুৱা সংগঠনৰ কাৰণে শিক্ষা দিয়া হৈছিল। গিৰিলাকক পাৰিতোষিক দি বনুৱাৰ সুখ সুবিধাৰ কাৰণে বিবেচনা কৰিব বুলি মই আশা কৰিলোঁ।

মোৰ বক্তব্য শেষ কৰাৰ আগতে মই আৰু এঘাৰ কথাকৈ শেষ কৰিম। বৰ্ত্তমান সকলো বিষয়তে সকলো ঠাইতে অন্যায়, অত্যাচাৰ, অবিচাৰ আৰু দুৰ্নীতি আদি চলিব ধৰিছে। চোৰাং বজাৰ, অধিক লাভ কৰা, দুচ খোৱা ইত্যাদি চলিব লাগিছে। এই বিলাকৰ পৰা দেশত অশান্তি বাঢ়িব ধৰিছে। চুৰি, ডকাইতি জুৱাচুৰি আদি অবিৰাম প্ৰতিবে চলিব লাগিছে। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে খাদ্য আৰু বস্ত্ৰ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰে। মানুহৰ ভাগ্য আৰু প্ৰতি মতি যেতিয়ালৈকে ভগবানে নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ নকৰিব তেতিয়ালৈকে দেশত অশান্তি চলি থাকিব। সেই হেতুকে ভগবানলৈ লক্ষ্য কৰি কোৱা হয় “দৈশ্বৰ আশ্ৰা তেৰা নাম সবকই সদমতি দে ভগবান”।

ইয়াকে কৈ মই মোৰ বক্তব্য শেষ কৰিলোঁ।

Mr. C. W. MORLEY: On a point of information, Sir. With regard to the speeches that have been made in Assamese, when can we get copies of these speeches?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Copies of the speeches?

Mr. C. W. MORLEY: It is very difficult for us to understand unless we have copies of these speeches.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Is it that Mr. Morley wants to have copies of the speeches from my Department ?

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : If possible, yes.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : After two days.

Mr. C. W. MORLEY : Thank you.

Mr. MANIRAM MARAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also beg to draw the attention of the Government to the acute water scarcity at the Upper Chanmari part of the little town of Tura. This water scarcity and the genuine grievances of the people have been pointed out several times before, but the Government has not made any arrangement or project to mitigate the sufferings of the people. On petitions and complaints the Public Works Department, Tura was ordered for survey and to draw up schemes which were duly done and submitted but it was the beginning and the end, and no genuine effort has ever been made to mitigate or remove the grievances of the people. At present the supply source and lines are totally neglected by the local authorities.

Sir, another point is the very slow progress in the construction of Phaikan-Bajingdoba-Tura Road. The usual plea is the non-availability of coolies. The real reason of the non-availability of coolies is not the scarcity of men but the low and irregular payment made to the workers and refusal of the contractors to pay sufficient money for purchasing rice and other necessities before the week-end. It is said that some of the contractors have not started the work at all. Moreover these contractors are not willing to pay more than Re.1 or Re.1-4-0 whereas Rs.2 is paid elsewhere. Most of the Garos do not work outside at the time of *jhum* clearing and harvesting, otherwise they are willing and available for work such as road construction on sub-contract system or as daily labourers.

Sir, another very urgent subject for the immediate concern of the popular Government is the Dalu-Baghmara road which was included in the project to be carried out with the Petrol Tax Fund. But up till now nothing has yet been started. On the other hand even annual repairs have been done in a half-hazard way. The Hon'ble Premier in his last visit has seen and studied the strategic position of this side of the district in relation to Pakistan which borders it in a semi-circle. Before the Partition there was free interchange of articles and the southern part of the district solely depends for rice and paddy on Mymensingh. But this has been stopped tightly by placing guards all along the borders. Hence the people are greatly suffering and even apprehend acute scarcity. The remedy lies chiefly in a good communication which also speaks for transports in times of trouble. I therefore earnestly pray that the Government attends to this urgent need of this part of the district.

Sir, yet another important point is the grant of Middle English scholarships to the Garo boys. At present there are only two competitive and one special scholarships for the Garo boys of three districts, *viz.*, the Garo Hills, Goalpara and Kamrup. Before the last war had broken out there were four competitive and one special scholarships. These two competitive scholarships for the Garo boys of three districts are very discouraging and quite inadequate and unjust. So, I earnestly pray that the pre-war number, *i. e.*, four competitive and one special scholarships at least should be restored. These five were originally sanctioned for the Garo Hills only but some time afterwards it was extended to the Garo boys of the other two districts also.

Sir, I hereby beg to draw the attention of the popular Government to the fact that there are plots of land suitable for wet-cultivation included in the forest reserves in the Garo Hills. In the present circumstances when we are intending to

make every effort to discourage *jhum* cultivation, every available plain portion suitable for wet-cultivation should be free from all restrictions and those plots in reserves should be deforested and the Government may kindly take measures to survey all these lands for the purpose. Most of these plots have only few reserved trees and are simply overgrown with grasses, reeds and *ekrahi*, etc. The said portions if deforested would give home and land to hundreds at least.

Sir, another fact to which I want to draw the attention of the Government is the irregularity and apathy of the officers of the Agriculture Department in the Garo Hills. The Inspectors and the Demonstrators have all along been busy at Tura and roundabout and never tour to the places like Sipbari, Baghmara, Nengkong, Karukol, etc., where their instructions, help and demonstration are greatly needed. There are places which are cultivated but crops are damaged by flood every year. In some interior villages such as Nengkong, Mandal, Daringre, Simsangiri where some private ventures have been undertaken to do wet-cultivation but for the destruction of crops by birds, rats, insects and animals they have to be abandoned. With some help from the Government and bigger number of ventures the private enterprises could have been more successful and worth attempting. The Government sends potatoes for seedling every year to the Garo Hills but not a single potato has ever reached Baghmara side. I therefore earnestly request the popular Government to post one Demonstrator permanently to the Baghmara side, and also allot a fair and equitable share for that side.

Again, Sir, Government may be aware that the postal and telegraph delivery still continues to be irregular and dilatory in the southern parts of the district. The mails are still going by Pakistan and telegrams and letters take 15 to 30 days and money orders take often more than 2 months to reach Baghmara. These facts have been pointed out and complained of several times and the Hon'ble Premier was acquainted with these during his last tour to the Garo Hills. But there has been no change or relief of the grievances. This is a very urgent necessity and I earnestly urge the popular Government to take immediate and satisfactory action. This much I speak, Sir. I resume my seat.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 12-55 p.m.

(After lunch)

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: সভাপতি মহোদয়, অহা বছৰৰ বাবে যুগুত কৰা বাজেটখন পঢ়ি মই সন্তোষ পাইছোঁ। ইয়াত বাইটেক পৰ্বত-ভৈয়াম সকলো ঠাইতে বসতি কৰা গাঁৱলীয়া সকলৰ সুখ-সুধুন্ধি বঢ়োৱাৰ আৰু সেইসকলৰ দুখ-দুৰ্গতি দূৰ কৰাৰ পিনে চকু ৰাখি বাজেটখন প্ৰস্তুত কৰা হৈছে—সেই কাৰণে অথসচিব মহোদয় আমাৰ শলাগৰ পাত্ৰ।

মই বাজেটখনৰ দোষ ধৰিবলৈ ঠিয় হোৱা নাই। কেইটামান লগতিয়াল কথাটো চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিবলৈহে ঠিয় হৈছোঁ।

১। কৃষি বিভাগ—সভাপতি মহোদয়, আমি দেখিছোঁ—চাউল কেইটাৰ বাহিৰে আন সকলো খোৱাবস্তুৰ বিষয়তে আমাৰ দেশখন তেনেই আনৰ মুখলৈ চাই থাকিব লগীয়া অৱস্থাত পৰি আছে। অকল দাইলৰ কাৰণে অসনে বছৰে প্ৰায় ৭৪ লাখ টকা আন প্ৰদেশলৈ পঠাব লাগে। গুড়, চেনী, মিঠা তেল আদিৰ কাৰণে তেনেদৰে লাখে লাখে টকা বাহিৰলৈ নিতৌ ওলাই যাব লাগিছে।

সবহ শস্য উৎপাদনৰ অভিজ্ঞান আৰম্ভ হোৱাৰ আজি বহু বছৰ হল আৰু এই অভিযানত টকাও পানীৰ দৰে খৰছ কৰা হৈছে। তথাপি এতিয়ালৈকে ই চকুত লগা কোনো ফল দেখুৱাব পৰা নাই।

(১) ইয়াৰ কাৰণে কৃষি বিভাগৰ বিষয়াসকল ঘাইকৈ জগৰীয়া বুলি ৰাইজে ভাবে। চাকৰিয়ালৰ সংখ্যা বাঢ়িছে গৈছে কিন্তু সেই অনুপাতে খাদ্য বস্তু বঢ়া নাই। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ চৰকাৰে বিচৰা উচিত। আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা সাহায্য পাবলৈ ব্যস্ত। কিন্তু কৃষিবিভাগে যথোচিত ভাবে সাহায্য কৰিবলৈ অৱহেলা কৰে। আমি যলৈকে যাওঁ তাতে শুনিবলৈ পাওঁ যে, কৃষি বিভাগে উচিত সময়ত গঁচ নিদিয়ৈ, গঁচৰ কাৰণে অতিপাত মূল্য খোজে আৰু প্ৰায় ক্ষেত্ৰতে তেজাল আৰু তেজাল নোহোৱা গঁচ নিদিয়ৈ। সেই দেখি বহু খেতিয়কে চৰকাৰী গঁচ লবলৈ ইচ্ছা নকৰা হৈছে। চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে তদন্ত কৰি ইয়াৰ প্ৰতিকাৰৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত।

(২) অধিক খাদ্য বস্তু উৎপাদনৰ আন এটি ডাঙৰ প্ৰতিবন্ধক হৈছে, খেতিৰ মাটিৰ অভাৱ। সবহকৈ খেতি কৰিব খোজা বহু খেতিয়ক আছে, ঘাইকৈ মোৰ সমষ্টিত—যিসকলে ইচ্ছা থকা সত্ত্বেও মাটিৰ অভাৱত খেতি কৰিব নোৱাৰি বছৰৰ প্ৰায় আধা সময় বহি বহি দুখেৰে দিন নিয়াব লগাত পৰিছে আৰু বহুতে আধিয়াবৰ দুখৰ জীৱণ কটাব লাগিছে। এই সকল খেতিয়কে উপযুক্ত পৰিমাণে খেতিৰ মাটি পালে খাদ্য বস্তুৰ অভাৱ অতি শীঘ্ৰে আতৰাব পাৰে। চৰকাৰে আমাৰ মাটি নোহোৱা খেতিয়ক সকলক সবহকৈ মাটি দিয়ক; তেতিয়া দেখিব খোৱা বস্তুৰে দেশ উপচি পৰিব।

(৩) সবহ শস্য উৎপাদনৰ আন এটি অন্তৰায় হৈছে—গাওঁত গৰু ম'হ উদং দিয়া দস্তৰ। উদং দিয়া গৰু ম'হৰ উৎপাদত খেতিয়কে বহু যত্নেৰে কৰা শস্য ৰক্ষা কৰিবলৈ টান পায়। সেই কাৰণে ইচ্ছা থকা সত্ত্বেও বহু খেতিয়কে উপযুক্ত পৰিমাণে শাক-পাচলি, মাহ, সব্ৰিয়হ, কুহিয়াৰ আদিৰ খেতি কৰিব নোৱাৰে। ইয়াৰ প্ৰতিকাৰৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে গৰু ম'হ উদং দিয়া দস্তৰ বন্ধ কৰিবলৈ প্ৰচাৰ কাৰ্য্য কৰিব লাগে আৰু খোৱাৰ সংখ্যা বঢ়াবলৈ আদেশ দিব লাগে।

(৪) লগতে আন এটি লাগতিয়াল কথাটো চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব খোজোঁ। কামৰূপ জিলাৰ বহু ঠাইত খেতিয়ক সকলে গুড় জুলীয়া অৱস্থাত ৰাখে; তেওঁলোকে শুকান গুড় তৈয়াৰ কৰিব নাজানে। গুড় জুলীয় অৱস্থাত ৰখা বাঞ্ছনীয় নহয়। মই আশা কৰোঁ। কৃষি বিভাগে কেইজনমান নিপুন খেতিয়কক এই বোৰ ঠাইলৈ পঠিয়াই দি শুকান গুড় তৈয়াৰ কৰিবলৈ শিকোৱাৰ দিহা কৰিব।

২। (১) শিক্ষাৰ অনুষ্ঠান বিলাক উপযুক্ত কৰ্মচাৰীৰ দ্বাৰা পৰিদৰ্শন (Inspection) হোৱা নিত্য বাঞ্ছনীয়—ইয়াক কোনোৱে অস্বীকাৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰে। কিন্তু দুখৰ বিষয়, সম্প্ৰতি ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী সকলে আৰু বহু নতুন শিক্ষকে পৰিদৰ্শন নো কি তাৰ ভুক্ত নাপায় বুলিলেও অত্যুক্তি কৰা নহয়। আমি ভাবোঁ কিছুমান সহকাৰী স্কুল চৰাইনস্পেক্টৰ (A.S.I.) সবহকৈ নিযুক্ত কৰি অন্ততঃ প্ৰাইমাৰি স্কুলবিলাক নিয়মিত ভাৱে পৰিদৰ্শনৰ ব্যৱস্থা অতি সোনকালে কৰা উচিত।

(২) বিদেশী শাসকে Divide and Rule নীতিৰ বশতঃ সম্প্ৰদায় আৰু ধৰ্ম্মৰ ভেটিত শিক্ষা বিভাগত কিছুমান চাকৰি সৃষ্টি কৰি থৈ গৈছে।

তেনেবোৰ চাকৰীয়ে সম্প্ৰদায় বিলাকৰ মাজত ঈৰ্ষা, অবিশ্বাস আৰু বিভেদ সৃষ্টিকৰে আৰু সাম্প্ৰদায়িক সম্প্ৰীতি স্থাপনত বিঘ্ন ঘটায়। আজি তেনে নীতি অনুসৰণ কৰাৰ সময় নাই। এতেকে ধৰ্ম্ম আৰু সাম্প্ৰদায়িক ভেটিত সৃষ্টি কৰা চাকৰিবোৰ ততালিকে তুলি দিব লাগে। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা মই পিছ পৰা সম্প্ৰদায় নাইবা পিছ পৰা ঠাইৰ লোকৰ কাৰণে শিক্ষাৰ বিশেষ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব নালাগে, তেনে কথা কোৱা নাই। সেই সকলক শিক্ষাত বিশেষ সুযোগ দিয়া আৰু সম্প্ৰদায় অনুসাৰে সুকীয়া শিক্ষক বা পৰিদৰ্শক নিযুক্ত কৰা—একে কথা নহয়। আৱশ্যক বোধ কৰিলে সংস্কৃত নাইবা আৰবিক আদি শিক্ষাৰ বিকাশ বিচৰা সকলে পৰিষদ বা বোৰ্ড পাতি সেইবিলাকৰ জৰীয়তে শিক্ষা বিভাগক পৰামৰ্শ দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পাৰে।

(৩) স্থলীয়া পাঠ্য পুথিৰ (Text-book) বিষয়েও ইয়াতে একাধাৰ কোৱা উচিত। আমি দেখিছোঁ আজিকালি স্থলীয়া পাঠ্য পুথিৰ ভিতৰত বহুততে অনেক অবাঞ্ছনীয় তুল আৰু অবৈজ্ঞানিক কথা ভৰি থাকে। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে দাবী কোন, বিচাৰ হোৱা উচিত। অপৰূপ বৃদ্ধিৰ লগা-ছোৱালীক সৰু কালতে তুল আৰু অবৈজ্ঞানিক শিক্ষা দিয়া এটি গুৰু অপৰাধ। চৰকাৰে, উপযুক্ত পাৰিশ্ৰমিক দি কোনো উপযুক্ত লোকৰ দ্বাৰা পাঠ্য পুথি বচাব ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

(৪) এইবেলি চৰকাৰে লোকেল বোৰ্ড আৰু মিউনিচিপালিটিৰ তলতীয়া পাইমাৰী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলক বৃদ্ধিহাৰে বানচ দিবলৈ স্থিৰ কৰিছে। কিন্তু উত্তৰ শ্ৰেণীৰ শিক্ষকে সমান হাৰে বানচ দিয়াৰ কাৰণ বুজা নাযায়। য'ৰ ভাৱা কৰি চহৰৰ অতিপাত খৰছৰ মাজত কাল কটোৱা মিউনিচিপালিটিৰ শিক্ষকসকলৰ কাৰণে বেলেগ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত আছিল। আমি আশা কৰোঁ চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে সুবিবেচনা কৰিব।

৩। চিকিৎসা বিভাগ—(১) কুষ্ঠ ৰোগীৰ সাহায্যৰ বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে কিছু পৰিমাণে মন দিছে—ই সুখৰ বিষয়। কিন্তু বৰভেটা কুষ্ঠাশ্রমত বছৰি ১৭,০০০ টকা দিয়াই যথেষ্ট হৈছে বুলিব নোৱাৰি। সেই আশ্রমে কেইজন ৰোগীক ঠাই দিব পাৰিব? কুষ্ঠ ৰোগীৰ সংখ্যা নিতৌ বাঢ়িব লাগিছে। সিহঁতক আইনৰ নলেবে একাশৰীয়া (Segregate) কৰাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নাই। সেই বিলাকে গাঁৱে ভুঞা আৰু চহৰে নগৰে অনাই বনাই ফুৰিব লাগিছে আৰু তাৰ দ্বাৰা ৰোগীৰ সংখ্যা বঢ়াব লাগিছে। এতেকে এই হতভাগীয়া ৰোগীৰ হিতৰ বাবে আৰু সমাজৰ ৰক্ষাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে ৰোগীৰ চিকিৎসা আৰু থকাৰ কাৰণে দুটা বা এটা ডাঙৰ আশ্রম (colony) অনতি বিলম্বে স্থাপন কৰিব লাগে আৰু আইনৰ নলেবে কুষ্ঠ ৰোগীবোৰক একাশৰীয়া (Segregate) কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

৪। মাননীয় সভাপতি মহোদয়, যুদ্ধোত্তৰ উন্নয়ন বিষয়ক আচনিবিলাক পঢ়ি চৰকাৰৰ মহৎ উদ্দেশ্যৰ প্ৰশংসা নকৰি নোৱাৰি। কিন্তু দটক ভাৰিচালে দেখা যায় চৰকাৰে কিছুমান ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ চাকৰি সৃষ্টি কৰাৰ ফালে যেন বেছি জোৰ দিছে আৰু তলৰ ফালে আৰু পুৰাতন কাৰ্যক্ষেত্ৰত খৰছৰ ফালে যেন বেছিকৈ চিন্তা কৰা নাই। দ্বিতীয়তে প্ৰায় একে শ্ৰেণীৰ বা একে বিভাগৰ দ্বাৰা চলিব পৰা বিষয় বিলাকৰ কাৰণেও বহু মুকীয়া বিভাগ (Department) আৰু চাকৰীৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে; ভাবিলে বোধ হয় যেন অসংখ্য বিভাগ (Department) আৰু চাকৰীৰ (Post) উজান হৈ উঠিছে। ভয় হয় এই বিভাগবোৰৰ হিচাব ৰাখিবৰ বাবে আন এটি মুকীয়া বিভাগ সৃষ্টিৰ আৱশ্যক হ'ব পাৰে।

আমি চৰকাৰক এনেদৰে বিভাগ সৃষ্টি আৰু ওপৰ ভাবী কৰি চাকৰি সৃষ্টি কৰা বিষয়ত দটক চিন্তা কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ। কিয়নো বৰ বৰ চাকৰি সৃষ্টি কৰা সহজ কিন্তু সেইসকলক পোহপাল দিয়া অসমৰ নিচিনা দুখীয়া প্ৰদেশৰ পক্ষে সহজ নহ'বও পাৰে।

শেষত নলবাৰী চৰবেজিষ্টা অফিছৰ বিষয়ে কথা এটি কৈ মোৰ বক্তব্য সামৰিম। এই অফিছ খন ১৯৩৮ চনত খোলা হয়। ইয়াত ১৯৪৩, ৪৪, ৪৫, ৪৬, আৰু ৪৭ চনত ক্ৰমান্বয়ে ৪,০১৩, ৩,৮৫৬, ৩,১৭১, ৪,০৮৯ আৰু ৩,৯৯৫ খন দলিল ৰেজেষ্ট্ৰী হয় আৰু ক্ৰমান্বয়ে ৬,৯২৬, ৮,২৯১, ৭,০৫৩, ৮,৯০৯ আৰু ৯,৩৬৮ টকা আয় হয়।

কিন্তু দুখৰ বিষয় এনে ৰেজেষ্ট্ৰী অফিছ এটিয়ে স্থানীয় চৰভেপুটীৰ অফিছ ঘৰৰ দীঃ ১৮ই' × পঃ ১২' পৰিমাণৰ কোঠালি এটাৰ পৰা বাহিৰ হৈ স্বতন্ত্ৰ ঘৰ এটি আজিলৈ লভিব নোৱাৰিলে; অইন কি এই সংকীৰ্ণ কোঠালীৰ মাজেদি মানুহ অহা যোৱা বাট এটি দিব লগীয়া হৈছে। মূল্যবান দলিল পত্ৰ আৰু টকা কড়ি ৰখাৰ কাৰণে এটি সুৰক্ষিত কোঠালি নাই।

চৰবেজিষ্টাৰ, কেবাণী, কপিষ্ট সকল আৰু অফিছ পিয়ন সকলোৰে চেপাৰেট মাছৰ দৰে থাকি কাম কৰিব লাগে। ৰেজেষ্ট্ৰী কৰিবলৈ অহা বাইজৰো বহিবলৈ বা ব'দ বৰষুণত আশ্ৰয় লবলৈ ঠাই নোহোৱাত কষ্টৰ সীমা নোহোৱা হৈছে। ইপিনে মোটিক ভিনু অমেটিক কপিষ্টৰ কামত লোৱাৰ হুকুম নগৰাত আৰু মোটিকৰ অভাৱত কপি কৰাৰ কামতো যোৱা অসুবিধা ঘটিব লাগিছে। তাতে আকৌ contingencyৰ টকা নিচেই কম হোৱাৰ গুণে কাগজ পেন্সিল কনাত আৰু ৰেজেষ্ট্ৰী নোহোৱা দলিলৰ ফি কিবৎ দিয়াত টকাৰ টান পৰিছে।

নই আশাকৰে। চৰকাৰে অনতিপলমে এই অফিছৰ কাৰণে এটি উপযুক্ত স্বতন্ত্ৰ ঘৰৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব, দলিল পত্ৰ আৰু টকা কড়ি বন্ধাৰ কাৰণে কেইটামান (Safe) লোহাৰ বাকচৰ দিহা কৰিব, contingencyৰ টকা বতাই দিব আৰু দলিল বেজেহী কৰা ৰাইজৰ আশ্ৰয়ৰ ঠাই এডোখৰৰো ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব।

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would congratulate the Hon'ble Finance Minister as it has been his coveted position this time which has made him instrumental in presenting the first Budget of a province of independent India. I would also congratulate him, Sir, because he has shown a deficit Budget. This budgeting on the expenditure side showing deficit is an outcome of a bold and forward policy of Government. If you want to have money, Sir, you can surely devise means so that that money can be obtained. To be able to spend money makes us efficient and solicitous in getting it from some sources. Unless we spend money we cannot have it also; and if we have no want or demand for money we cannot have it. In the past we did not show this sort of deficit budget and Bengal and such other Provinces having shown deficit in presenting their budgets, profited by getting money from the Centre. He has yet shown a bold optimism in the hope that he would get more money from the Centre. On this score also I congratulate him. This is surely, Sir, a boldness which befits our present position when we have achieved independence. But, then, Sir, I do not congratulate him for the reason that instead of following a new forward policy befitting independent India, he is more or less following on the same old process of budgeting, which was in vogue in the bureaucratic days. There are certain things which we must take for granted for some time to come perhaps. But even then we must show the beginning that there is a new spirit in India and for the matter of that a new spirit in Assam. The same budgeting on the expenditure side for the top-heavy Government is in force. We have got fat salaried officers to make our administration top-heavy. Those officers have still been drawing the same fat salaries to the detriment of other poor subordinate officers, who have to remain content with Rs.60 or so with which they are to maintain their families consisting of 5 members to 10 members in the average. Against this the fat salaried officers are still drawing Rs.500, 600, 700, and even much more than that. Before budgeting for the year under discussion, Sir, Government should have held a Cabinet Meeting to make it a principle to cut down the salaries of the highly paid officers with a democratic spirit now after achievement of independence and thereby the Government should have shown a boldness in budgeting and giving that saving to the persons or officers who are most needy. It is very well for Indian politicians and socialists to preach democracy and say that the Government is for the poor. They indulge in tall talk, but as a matter of fact, the same politicians, socialists and even the communists travel in second class and keep up a luxurious style. They eat things which the less fortunate people cannot eat at all. They lamented Mahatma Gandhi and few others there are very few people who indulge in talking in this sort of high principles and do actually follow them in practice.

Now, Sir, we have said enough that it is a democratic country and that we are going to be democratic. But in the Budget we have not seen that attitude. As I have already stated, we cannot help continuing in the line of bureaucratic Government for some time to come but still we should have shown some beginning. So, on that score surely I do not congratulate—rather find fault with—the Government. We know, Sir, that the report of the Pay Commission has been submitted to Government and they on that score will have to spend several lakhs of rupees to the extent of 75 lakhs or so to give effect to the recommendations.

But still then we know that the report of the Pay Commission is disappointing to the extreme. A graduate teacher in class III is to commence his salary, I think, from Rs.75. But according to the Pay Commission's recommendation he will start at Rs.80. That is a small salary, I should say.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNU RAM MEDHI:** I do not know where my hon. Friend has got the information.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZAIOSH SHAMS: That is the public opinion, it is rumoured.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member should not go into the details of the Pay Commission's Report.

***The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNU RAM MEDHI:** I should say the hon. Member is absolutely incorrect. Where has he got the information? The report has not yet been published.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: I sent a telegram from Dhubri saying that the decision of the Pay Commission is very disappointing.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member has got only a few minutes to finish his speech.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: How can I finish my speech, Sir? I have got many things to speak. I urge, Sir, that all officers of Government whatever their rank may be, whether they are ministerialists or non-ministerialists, should be given at least Rs.100 to start with. The graduate school masters of class III should start with Rs.120 or so. Government should decide in their joint Cabinet Meeting that, as there should be little difference between man and man, there should be little difference between one officer and another. All persons have got to live upon a certain income and on certain food. Because one happens to be a Minister or a Secretary in a big Government Department, he should get more pay and eat better food, and others who are less fortunate should get less pay and eat bad food—this should not be a reason to fix the pay of the officers. All men should be treated equally more or less.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is up.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: There are few Members, Sir, to speak to day and I should get some more time.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Only two minutes are allowed.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: We have seen, Sir, in the Post-War Development schemes that there are some fat salaried officers and provision has been made for the Development Officer who will get Rs.2,500 a month and the Secretary will get Rs.1,000 going up to Rs.1,500 or the like. This sort of provision should not have found place in the Post-War Development schemes. Then, Sir, only two crores have been set apart for purchasing machineries and other things for textile, sugar and paper mills, etc. This two crores of rupees seem

to be a huge sum, but considering the wants of Assam and the high cost of machineries required for development work, this sum is too small. I think the Hon'ble Finance Minister should have shown boldness and greater optimism in providing for more money.

Now, Sir, coming to my unfortunate district—Goalpara—I would raise the same old cry that it has been shabily treated systematically all along. Last time we received a reply to a Question put by an hon. Member that Sibsagar, Kamup and several other districts have got, 25 or 30 breeding bulls but Goalpara has got only 8.

Regarding grants-in-aid to our College, we have got no grant-in-aid for our Dhubri Bhoalanath College at all.

Then regarding power-pumps for irrigation in other districts, they have been given power-pumps but no power pump has been provided for our district. As regards grant-in-aid I should like to say again that there is a 'Girls' Muktab which is really a Middle English Madrassa; its grant-in-aid is very inadequate and has been run on private subscription. The Government department was approached and it was stated that through mistake they omitted to grant contribution for this Madrasa. This requires immediate Government aid because with private donation its capital expenditure cannot be met at all.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon'ble Member's extended time is also over.

Srijut HARESWAR DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the first budget in Free Assam and there are many pleasant departures from the previous ones for which the Hon'ble Finance Minister deserves congratulations. But it is not an unmixed blessing for all districts. Immediately after the introduction of the Budget a friend from Goalpara put me a question. He asked me to explain why Goalpara was going dry when money fell in showers in other districts. Hearing the question, I felt like laughing loudly and then I consulted the budget and I felt like weeping bitterly. Possibly I am not clear. I shall make myself clear with reference to a story. In a certain village there were two Tolls—Sanskrit Colleges. One day in the absence of the Principal of Toll number I, the students of Toll No. II went to the students of Toll No. I and asked them to explain a Sloka. The students of Toll No. I could not explain it. At this the students of Toll No. II ridiculed them, jeered at them and went away. When the Principal of Toll No. I came the students told him, "Well, Sir, we were today very much insulted by the students of Toll No. II" and narrated him the matter. The Principal asked them to supply him with the Sloka which they did. After reading it the Principal laughed loudly and then wept bitterly. The student asked him, "Well, Sir, how is it that you laughed loudly and then wept bitterly". The Principal said, "My boys I laughed loudly for the Sloka is so simple, and you could not explain it; I wept bitterly because I also cannot explain it." (Laughter). Well, that was my position. When I heard the question, I felt like laughing loudly as the question seemed to be a preposterous one but after perusal of the Budget I found that Goalpara has actually gone dry and I cannot explain why and so I felt like weeping bitterly.

Sir, one feature of the Budget is that it is a deficit Budget, for which I cannot congratulate the Hon'ble Finance Minister. That shows that he is not in the habit of visiting the town of Goalpara. If he did so we would have pointed out to him how officers with barely an income of Rs.100 a month spend Rs.200 and still have got surplus budget.

Another feature of the Budget for which he deserves congratulation is the recognition of the Ayurvedic system. But, Sir, both the Ayurvedic and the allopathic medicines are very costly. In the villages the poor people use homeopathic medicines and it is generally administered by untrained men like school teachers and others. In West Bengal homeopathy has been recognised by Government. So provision should have been made to train men in homeopathy in our province also specially when the Finance Minister is himself a student of the homeopathy (*Laughter*) as is evidenced from the fact that in providing money for the Goalpara district he followed the principle of homeopathy. (*Laughter*). But in other district he followed the principles of the allopathy.

Sir, in one matter the Finance Minister treated Goalpara equally with other districts and this is with regard to his promise to supply tear gas equipments to the district police. In one matter he gave great prominence to Goalpara and that is with regard to its Char areas being inhabited by armed gangs of violent nature engaged in organised smuggling to put down which he has provided 9 lakhs of rupees. I submit, Sir, these gangs generally reside near about Dhubri, and that is a cogent reason for the transfer of the headquarter station from Dhubri to Goalpara. (*Applause.*)

Now, with regard to the Land Settlement Policy of Government, the Finance Minister referred to the creation of Tribal Belts; this is laudable. But in certain parts of Goalpara these belts have injuriously affected many indigenous families, who are there from time immemorial, and are of the same social status as their tribal neighbours with whom they are living in peace and amity. By these belts they have suddenly been converted into foreigners in their own homes. I request Government to hold an enquiry and give them relief.

The Hon'ble Finance Minister has very candidly referred to the inaction of the Agriculture Department, but, Sir, it is not only the Agriculture Department which is inactive but there are other departments equally inactive, such as the Public Works Department and the Veterinary Department. A few months ago thousands of cattle died in Goalpara; numerous telegrams and representations were sent to Government but the Veterinary Department did not move. After a long time Veterinary officers reported that serum was not available; so they could not do anything to save the cattle. That was the explanation. In the Public Works Department also Road Projects which were taken up in 1946 are still in the same state, even earth work has not been done and in some cases alignments have not been shown. Contractors were given contracts but they could not work because even the alignments have not been made.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The hon. Member has got 3 minutes more.

Srijut HARESWAR DAS: I may be given 3 minutes extra. I shall take about 6 minutes.

Now, my hon. Friend. Maulavi Abul Kashem remarked that Goalpara district was a part of Bengal. I, as a native of Goalpara feel it my duty to point out his mistake. The history is like this. In ancient times Assam was known as the kingdom of Kamrupa, the boundary of which extended upto river Korotoya to the west. Korotoya passes through Dinajpur. So you will see that Goalpara stood at the very centre of Assam, but gradually for various reasons, mainly due to invasions, the boundary of Kamrup shrank from both ends and with the family partition of the two Houses of Bijni and Coochbehar, Goalpara and Kamrup got their present boundaries. But though the boundary of Kamrup shrank, it dominated Assam and continued to dominate it then, as it does now. (*Laughter*).

Goalpara came under the Mughals and from the Mughals it went to the East-India Company and from the East-India Company to the British Government. But for administrative convenience, it was administered from Rangpur till the formation of the Chief Commissionership of Assam. Now, possibly my Friend, the Maulavi Sahib committed this mistake due to the predominance of Bengali element in the town of Dhubri, and possibly he committed this mistake *bona fide*.

I shall point out to him the history of the town. The history is like this. From time immemorial Goalpara was the principal town of the district. During the time of the East-India Company salt merchants like Messrs. Raush and Bailie did business with the rest of Assam with their headquarters at Goalpara. In 1879-80 a dispute arose between Mr. Campbell and the Mechpara Zeminder. Mr. Campbell wanted the Zeminder to make the Goalpara hill a free gift to Government. The Zeminder refused. At this the vanity of Mr. Campbell was wounded and he removed the headquarters to Dhubri in 1880. Naturally Bengali officials, businessmen, lawyers and fortune-hunters flocked to the place and occupied the land which was almost vacant. Thus a new town grew where Bengali influence predominated. This possibly led the Maulavi Sahib to commit the mistake. Now, for strategic and other reasons the headquarters must now be shifted to Goalpara. It is not a case of transference but a case of restoration. It is a case of restoration, a setting right of a wrong done in the age of slavery. It is a claim under section 9 of the Specific Relief Act for recovery of possession.

Maulavi ABUAL MAJID ZIAOSH SHAMS: But it is time-barred.

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: সভাপতি ডাঙৰীয়া, বাজেট সম্পৰ্কে আলোচনা কৰাৰ আগতে মই একাধাৰ কথা ক'ব খোজো। সেইটো হৈছে এই যে বাজেট আলোচনা কৰাৰ নিমিত্তে যি ১০ মিনিট সময় নিদিষ্ট কৰা হৈছে—সেইটো সচাকৈয়ে ঠিক হোৱা নাই। যোৱা বছৰ মই মাননীয় স্পীকাৰ মহোদয়লৈ সোধাইছিলো যে এতিয়া আৰু বিপক্ষ দলৰ অনাস্থা আদি প্ৰস্তাৱ দিয়াৰ সম্ভাৱনা কম, কিয়নো কংগ্ৰেছ পাৰ্টি এতিয়া মেজৰিটি পাৰ্টি। বিশেষতঃ অন্যান্য প্ৰদেশত বাজেট ছেশ্যন দীঘলীয়াকৈ বহে আৰু বছৰৰ ভিতৰত কেইবাবাৰো বহি দেশৰ সমস্যা বিলাক আলোচনা কৰে। আমাৰ ইয়াত মাত্ৰ দুবাৰ বহে আৰু তাকো লৰা ধপৰাকৈ কাৰ্য্য সমাধা কৰে গতিকে এনেকৈ কম সময় ধৰা হয়। মই আশা কৰো আপুনি বাজেট আলোচনাৰ সময় বেচিকৈ দিব। তেহে অনাবৰ বল সভ্যসকলে সকলো কথা ক'বলৈ সুবিধা পাব।

এতিয়া বাজেটৰ কথা। জয়ে জয়ে মাননীয় অথ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক তেখেতৰ পৰিশ্ৰম আৰু স্মৃতিস্তিত বাজেটৰ বক্তৃত্যৰ বাবে মই ধন্যবাদ জনাইছোঁ। এই বাজেটত যিবিলাক আচনি ধৰা হৈছে সেইবিলাক বাস্তবিকৈ জাতীয় উন্নতিৰ নিমিত্তে সমৰোপযোগী হৈছে আৰু এইবিলাকে দেশৰ সকলো সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ সকলোতৰফৰ লোককে জাতিগঠনৰ কামত লাগি নিজৰ আৰু জাতিৰ উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ স্বেয়োগ দান কৰিছে। এতিয়া সকলোৱে সেৱাৰ ভাৱ লৈ কাম কৰিলে আমাৰ সকলোৰে মঙ্গল।

এইখিনিতে মই অনাবৰ বল মিষ্টাৰ চাৰৱানৰ কথা উল্লেখ নকৰি নোৱাৰিলো। তেখেতে কৈছে যে কংগ্ৰেছ পাৰ্টিয়ে পাৰ্টিৰ পাৰ্টিপ্ৰভাৱ বজাই ৰাখিবৰ আৰু নিজক শক্তি-শালি কৰিবৰ নিমিত্তে মাত্ৰ চেষ্টা কৰি আহিছে; প্ৰকৃততে জনগণৰ কোনো কাম কৰা নাই। বাস্তবিকৈ তেখেতৰ নিচিনা এজন দায়ীত্বশীল মেম্বৰে এনে কথা কোৱা একেবাৰে শোভা নাপায়, কিয়নো এই সময়ত অথাৎ ১৫ আগষ্টৰ পাচত এতিয়া সকলো লোক এটা হৈ জাতিৰ যি শক্তি (Energy) আছে তাক খটুৱাই কৃষি, শিল্প, বাণিজ্য, শিক্ষা আদি বিষয়ত দেহে-কেহে লাগি জাতীয় উন্নতি কৰাত লাগি যাব লাগে। এতিয়া গান্ধীৰ নিৰ্দেশত সংগঠনৰ কামত জাতিৰ শক্তি নিয়োগ কৰিবলৈ লোকক শিক্ষা দিব লাগে; কিন্তু মিষ্টাৰ চাৰৱানে ক'ব পাৰেনে তেখেতে কেতিয়াবা লোকক সেই উপদেশ দিছে বুলি? তেখেতে কেতিয়াও

তেনে কাম কৰা নাই বৰং কংগ্ৰেছ মন্ত্ৰী সকলৰ নিৰপেক্ষ হি পায় তাকে কৈ মিছা প্ৰচাৰ কৰি কুৰিছে মাত্ৰ। অৱশ্যে এনে কৰাত অকল মিষ্টাৰ চাৰৱানেই নহয় আৰু বহুত দল তেওঁৰ শাৰীত আছে।

বাজেটত বহুত আচনি ধৰা হৈছে, বহুত ধন খৰচৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে। কেৱল কিছুমান আচনি থাকিলেই নহয়; সেই বিলাকৰপৰা প্ৰকৃত উপকাৰ পাবলৈ হ'লে আমাৰ সকলোৰে সহযোগিতা লাগিব বাইজেও কাম কৰিব লাগিব আৰু যি সকল বিষয়ৰ ওপৰত এই আচনিবিলাক কাৰ্য্যকৰি কৰা ভাব পৰিব সেইবিলাকে নিজৰ কাম বুলি সেৱাৰ ভাব লৈ দেখে-কেহে খাটিব লাগিব; নহলে আচনিত্তে সকলো নিৰক্ষ থাকিব অৰ্থাৎ ম'ৰে আচনি ততে থাকিব। যোৱা বছৰ বহুত আচনি পোৱা হৈছিল কিন্তু কাম বিশেষ একো নহল, বহুত টকা lapse কৰিলে, অৰ্থাৎ খৰচ কৰিব নোৱাৰাত অৰলৈ গল। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে (P. W. D.) পাবলিক ৱৰ্কচ্ বিভাগৰ কথা ক'ব পাৰি। পোষ্টাৰ অৰ্থাৎ যুছোত্তৰ পৰি-কল্পনাত বহুত ব্যৱস্থা লোৱা হৈছিল কিন্তু নগাৰ্ৱৰ বাহিৰে কতো একো কাম হোৱা নাই বুলি জানিব পৰা গৈছে। নগাৰ্ৱত বানপানী হোৱাৰ নিমিত্তে মন্ত্ৰীসকলে লৰা-ধপৰা আৰু ভাগিদা দিয়াৰ নিমিত্তে কিছু কাম হয়। গতিকে দেখা যায় কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ অকৰ্ম্মন্যতাৰ বা গাফিলিৰ নিমিত্তে টকাবিলাক lapse কৰিলে। সেইদৰে যদি এইদৰো কৰা হয় তেন্তে অত্যন্ত দুখৰ বিষয় হ'ব। এই কাৰণে কোন জগৰীয়া? বিভাগীয় বৰমন্ত্ৰীয়া সকল আৰু মন্ত্ৰীসকল সকলোৱেই দায়ী। মন্ত্ৰীসকল দায়ী যেহেতু তেওঁলোকে Heads of the Departments অৰ্থাৎ বিভাগীয় বৰমন্ত্ৰীয়া বিষয়া সকলক চলাবপৰা নাই আৰু এই বৰ-মন্ত্ৰীয়া সকলে তেওঁলোকৰ তলতীয়া বিষয়া সকলৰ পৰা কাম আদায় কৰিব পৰা নাই। ই অৱশ্যে জাতিৰ পক্ষে শুভ লক্ষণ নহয়।

এই সম্পৰ্কে দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে এই আচনিবিলাকৰ বাবে ধৰা টকা বিলাক যাতে দেশৰ মানুহে কাম কৰি দেশতে ৰাখিব পাৰে তাৰ বাবে সদায় গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে তীক্ষ্ণ দৃষ্টি ৰাখিব লাগে। অসমীয়াৰ দুৰ্ভাগ্য যে প্ৰায়বিলাক বিভাগৰ ওপৰত অনা-অসমীয়া বিষয়া আছে। এই অনা-অসমীয়া বিলাকে এই দেশৰ ভালৰ নিমিত্তে বিশেষ মনোযোগ দিয়া দেখা নাযায় বৰং এওঁলোকে অসমীয়াৰ স্বার্থৰ বিৰুদ্ধেহে চলা দেখা যায়। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে মই পাবলিক ৱৰ্কচ্ বিভাগৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰিছোঁ। এই বিভাগৰ কৰ্ত্তা বাবু বমেশ চন্দ্ৰ চীফ ইঞ্জিনিয়াৰ। এই জন লোকৰ বিৰুদ্ধে দুৰ্নীতি (corruption) আদিৰ একো অভিযোগ নাই বৰং এওঁ এজন ধাৰ্মিক লোক বুলি হে জনাজাত। কিন্তু এওঁ অসমীয়া চাকৰিয়াল বিলাকক কেনেকৈ দাবই ৰাখিব, তেওঁলোকক কেনেকৈ discredit অপদস্থ কৰি প্ৰমোচন বন্ধ কৰিব পাৰে তাৰে চেষ্টা কৰি আহিছে। এই বিষয়ে সেই বিভাগৰ অনাৰেবোল মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিছোঁ—তেখেতে যেন চোঁকা দৃষ্টি ৰাখি সেই বিভাগৰ স্বার্থ ৰক্ষা কৰে। এই বিষয়ে আৰু এজন বিষয়াৰ কথা উল্লেখ নকৰি নোৱাৰিলো—অসমীয়াৰ স্বার্থ ৰক্ষা কৰে। এই বিষয়ে আৰু এজন বিষয়াৰ কথা উল্লেখ নকৰি নোৱাৰিলো—সকলোৱেই জানে যে যোগেনীয়া বিভাগৰ মিষ্টাৰ এছ্, কে, দত্ত মহাশয়ে কেনেকৈ তেওঁৰ যোগেনীয়া বিভাগত from top to bottom একেবাৰে ওপৰৰ পৰা তললৈকে এটিও অসমীয়াক ঠাই নিদি অসমীয়া-বিদ্বেষৰ যথেষ্ট পৰিচয় দিছিল; তাকে ক'ব তেওঁ corruption দুৰ্নীতি আৰু চোঁকা বজাৰত সহায় কৰিছিল; এই বিষয়ে গোটেই অসমত অনা-অসমীয়ালৈ এটা বিদ্ৰোহী ভাব সৃষ্টি কৰিছিল। এই নিমিত্তে মই মন্ত্ৰী সকলকো কওঁ আৰু এই অনা-অসমীয়া বিষয়া সকলকো কওঁ যেন এই দেশৰ প্ৰকৃত মালিক সকলক এই দৰে লাঞ্চিত আৰু বঞ্চনা নকৰে যেন।

বাজেটত জাতিৰ প্ৰতিবিশ্ব প্ৰতিকলিত হয়। এটা জাতিৰ ক্ৰমোন্নতিৰ বিকাশ সেই জাতিৰ বাজেটত বেচ ধৰিব পাৰি। এতেকে বাজেট জাতিৰ দপণ বুলি কোৱা হয়। গতিকে ইয়াত ধৰা আচনি বিলাক কৰোঁতে জাতিটোৰ চৰিত্ৰ, শক্তি, জীৱন-ৰূপনৰ প্ৰণালী (mode of living) অভ্যাস (habits) ইত্যাদি কথাটো সদায় চকু ৰাখি আচনিবিলাক তৈয়াৰ কৰি জাতীয় শক্তি প্ৰয়োগৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি অভাৱ অভিযোগ পূৰণ কৰি ক্ৰমে জাতিক ওপৰলৈ তুলি নিয়াটোৱেই বিচক্ষণতাৰ পৰিচায়ক। কিন্তু দুখৰ বিষয় আমাৰ এটা বেয়া অভ্যাস হৈ উঠিছে যে আমি সদায় সকলো কথাতে পশ্চিমৰ পৰা নিৰ্দ্দেশলৈ বাট চাই থাকোঁ, পশ্চিমৰ হাই কমাণ্ডৰ পৰা নিৰ্দ্দেশ নাপালে

আমি কোনো কথাতে আগ বাঢ়িব নোৱাৰোঁ। এইটো নিশ্চয় এটা জাতিৰ স্বাধীনতাৰ পৰিচায়কটো নহয়েই আৰু এনে পৰ নিৰ্ভৰশীলতা উন্নতিৰ পৰিপন্থী। এই বিষয়ে এটা উদাহৰণ দিব খোজোঁ। যেনে :—

আমাৰ দেশত অৱহাৰ দাইল নাই বুলি ছলস্থল লগাইছোঁ, কিন্তু আমাৰ অধিকাংশ লোকেই অৱহাৰ দাইল নোহোৱাকৈ চলিব পাৰে আৰু দৰা চলতে চলিও আছে। এই দেশৰ লোকৰ জীৱন ধাৰণৰ পুণালী একেবাৰে বেলেগ—এই দেশৰ মানুহে ভাত খায় আৰু আটা ময়দাৰ ঠাইত বৰা চাউল ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে, তাৰ লগতে লাগে মাছ, মাংস আৰু গাখীৰ। অৱশ্যে মই এইটো কোৱা নাই যে আটা ময়দা নানাথো বা অৱহাৰ দাইল আমাক নানাথো। কিন্তু এইটোহে কৈছোঁ যে অৱহাৰ দাইলৰ নিমিত্তে যিমানবোৰ আন্দোলন চলাইছোঁ আমাৰ ঘাই পুয়োজনীয় মাছ, গাখীৰ আৰু মাংসৰ নিমিত্তে প্ৰায় নিমাত বুলিলে ও বঢ়াই কোৱা নহয়। এতিয়া কেনেকৈ মাছ পুহি মাছৰ অভাৱ ওচাব পাৰি, কেনেকৈ হাহ-পাৰ-ছাগলি পুহি মাংসৰ অভাৱ দূৰ কৰিব পাৰি আৰু কেনেকৈ গৰু-মহ পুহি গাখীৰৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পাৰি তাৰ বন্দবস্ত আৰু জোৰ আন্দোলন কৰাৰ দৰকাৰ-কিন্তু কতা ? যদি সফলতা লাগে তেন্তে জাতিৰ অত্যন্ত আৰু অত্যন্ত আৱশ্যকীয় বিষয় বিলাকৰ অভাৱ মোচন কৰিবলৈ আন্দোলন কৰি জাতিৰ শক্তি নিয়োগ কৰাটোৱেই প্ৰথম দৰকাৰ ; নহলে জাতীয় শক্তি জাগৰণ সহজে কেতিয়াও নহয়।

এই গল অনুৰ কথা। অনুৰ লগতে বস্ত্ৰ পাহৰিলে নহব। অনু আৰু বস্ত্ৰ দুয়োটাৰে সমস্যা সমান। মহাত্মা গান্ধীৰ জীৱনৰ আটাইতকৈ ঘাই কথা বস্ত্ৰ সমস্যা দূৰ কৰা আৰু সেই নিমিত্তে গান্ধীজীয়ে নিজে সূতা কাটি সেই মহৎ আদৰ্শ দেশ বাসীৰ আগত ডাঙি ধৰিছিল আৰু তেওঁৰ সংগঠন কাৰ্য্য তালিকাৰ প্ৰথম দফা সূতা কটা আছিল। আমি মহাত্মা গান্ধীৰ আদৰ্শৰে চলিম বুলি কথাও দিছোঁ আৰু তেওঁৰ আদৰ্শৰে ৰাষ্ট্ৰ গঠন কৰিবলৈ আগ বাঢ়িছোঁ বুলি ঘোষণাও কৰিছোঁ কিন্তু কাৰ্য্য-ক্ষেত্ৰত একোবোৰ একোটা দেখা নগল। কপাহ খেতিৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা নাই, কপাহ যোগানৰ একো আয়োজন কৰা নাই। আমাৰ দেশত কাপোৰৰ বা সূতা কটা কল নাই। ঘৰে ঘৰে তাত-শাল অকামিলা হৈ বহি আছে। সূতাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰাটো গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ সৰ্ব্বপ্ৰথম কৰ্ত্তব্য। সূতাৰ কলৰ বাহিৰে সূতা কটাটো বাধ্য কৰাটো গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ নিত্য কৰ্ত্তব্য।

মই এই বিষয়ে এটা হিচাব দিলে সকলোৱে সূতাৰ অভাৱ কেনেকৈ সহজে মোচন কৰিব পাৰি উপলব্ধি কৰিব পাৰিব। নগাঁও জিলাত ৭০ (সত্তৰ) হেজাৰ স্কুলীয়া ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী আছে ; ইয়াৰ ১০ (দহ) হেজাৰ চানুকীলা বুলি বাদ দিলে বাকী ষাঠি হেজাৰে দিনে ১ এতোলাটকৈ সূতা কাটিলে মাহে একানুৰৈ বেইল (এক বেইলত ৫/০ পাঁচ মোনকৈ) সূতা ওলাব। নগাঁওত চৰকাৰে বান্ধি দিয়া সূতাৰ কোটা মাহে ৮৫ (পচাশী) বেইল তাকো মাহে মাত্ৰ ৩০ বেইলৰ পৰা ৬০ বেইললৈকৈ মাহে আহে। যদি সকলো সক্ষম লোকক সূতা কটা বাধ্যতামূলক কৰা হয় তেন্তে কি অদ্ভুত কাম হব তাক ভাবিব নোৱাৰি।

এতিয়া আমাৰ গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে ৯০ লাখ টকাৰ বোলে কাপোৰ-সূতাৰ কলৰ অৰ্ডাৰ দিছে—সি দৰুৱৰ আগতে স্থাপিত হোৱাৰ কোনো আশা নাই—অৰ্থাৎ “আহক বাৰিষা, কাটক পাত বৈয়া ভিনীহি খাই যা ভাত”।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : অনাবেষবোল মেম্বৰৰ সময় অতীত হৈ গল।

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN : মোৰ আৰু বহুত কথা কবলৈ বাকী থাকিল। অৱশ্যে মই যি বিলাক কথা কব খুজিছোঁ সেইবোৰ নিত্য দৰকাৰী কথা তাৰ পৰা গবৰ্ণমেণ্ট আৰু ৰাইজৰ উভয়ৰে উপকাৰ হব। আমাৰ ইয়াত চৰকাৰৰ পৰিকল্পিত কাপোৰ-সূতাৰ কল স্থাপিত নাই-নাই-বুলি আৰু দৰুৱৰ লাগিব। অসমৰ ঘৰে ঘৰে তাত-শাল ২৩ খনকৈ এনেয়ে সূতাৰ অভাৱত বহি আছে। এই সময়ত সূতাৰ যোগান দিলে বস্ত্ৰ-সমস্যাৰ লগে লগে

আধিক অৱস্থাবো যে অনেকখিনি সমাধান হব তাক নকলেও হব। এতিয়া জাতীয়-কৰণৰ কথা নাভাবি Private Enterprise অৰ্থাৎ লোক পুৰুষ্টক সহায় কৰাটো উচিত হব। কাপোৰ বোৱা কলৰ কথা বাদ দি সুতা কলৰ কথা তথাহে উচিত হব। গতিকে এই বিষয়ে মই গৱৰ্ণমেন্টক গভীৰ ভাৱে ভাবি চাবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনাবোঁ।

দ্বিতীয়তে মোমাই-তামুলীৰ দৰে সুতা কটাটো বাধ্যতামূলক কৰিব লাগে। মোমাই-তামুলী বৰবৰুৱাই সুতা কটাটো বাধ্যতামূলক কৰি দিছিল; তেওঁ এই নিয়ম কৰিছিল যে পুতিজনা তিৰুতাই সদায় চাৰিটাকৈ সুতলাহি কাটিব লাগিব। এতিয়াও মোৰ মনে গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে সুতা কটাটো পুথমে জুলীয়া ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী সকলৰ মাজত বাধ্যতামূলক কৰিব লাগে। নিশু-বিদ্যালয় বিলাকে আজি কালি vocational class অৰ্থাৎ কোনো এটা খাটনি কামৰ শ্ৰেণী খোলাটো বাধ্যতামূলক কৰিছে। গতিকে সেইটো সুতাকটা কঢ় খোলাৰ দিহা কৰি সেইদৰে কপাহ আৰু যতঁৰ বন্দবস্ত কৰি দিলেই সুতাৰ অভাৱ সবহখিনি দূৰ হব। মই হিচাব কৰি দেখুৱাইছোঁ যে ৬০ হেজাৰ লবাই যতঁৰত ১ তোলাকৈ সুতা কাটিলে মাহে ৯১ বেইল অৰ্থাৎ ৪৫৫ মোণ সুতা ওলাব। গোটেই অসমত পুতি মহকুমাত গড়ে পুতি ৫০ হেজাৰ যতঁৰ যদি স্কুল বিলাকত চলে তেন্তে মহাস্বাক্ষীৰ বেছিক বা বুনিয়াদি শিক্ষাদানৰ আশা সফল হ'ল হয়। গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে আৱশ্যক হলে ৰাইজৰ মতানুসংগ্ৰহ কৰি সুতাকটা বাধ্যতামূলক কৰিবলৈ আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰিব লাগে। লগে লগে কপাহৰ খেতিত যোৰ দিব লাগে আৰু যতঁৰ তৈয়াৰ কৰিবলৈ কাৰখানা খুলিবলৈ অৰ্থ সাহায্য কৰিব লাগে। sericulture অৰ্থাৎ এডিমুগা আৰু পাট পোহাৰ নিমিত্তে ৰাইজক অৰ্থ সাহায্য দি উদগনি আৰু মাৰ্কেটিঙৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

ইয়াৰ পাচত Veterinary Department অৰু কথা কওঁ। এই ডেটেৰীনেৰী বিভাগটো যদিও সকলো অত্যন্ত আৱশ্যকীয় বিভাগ বিলাকৰ ভিতৰৰে এটা বিভাগ তথাপি গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ কাৰ্য্যকলাপৰ পৰা দেখা যায় এই বিভাগটোত সদায় আওকান কৰি আহিছে। আমাৰ দেশৰ ভাত আৰু গাখীৰ, গৰু আৰু মহৰ ওপৰতে নিৰ্ভৰ কৰিছে, যি হেতু কে আমাৰ দেশত এতিয়াও যন্তৰদ্বাৰা কৃষিকাৰ্য্য হাতত লোৱা নাই। যেয়ে হলেও গাখীৰৰ নিমিত্তে গৰু মহ লাগিবই। কিন্তু বছৰি হেজাৰ হেজাৰ গৰু-মহ মৰিছে আৰু গৰু-মহ তিলিক তিলিক হৈ গৈছে; সিহঁতক ৰক্ষা কৰিবলৈ আৰু উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ একো যন্ত্ৰ লোৱা দেখা নাযায়। ই অতি দুখৰ কথা—এই বিলাক কথা আজি দহ বছৰ একেৰাহে গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ কাণত চিয়াৰি অহা হৈছে কিন্তু সকলো অৱণ্য বোদনত পৰিণত হৈছে।

দ্বিতীয়তে বেঙ্গল ডেটেৰীনেৰী কলেজত পঢ়িবলৈ পঠিওৱা ছাত্ৰ সকলক আজি সাত মাহ stipend বৃদ্ধি দিয়া হোৱা নাই।

তৃতীয়তে গৱৰ্ণমেন্ট ১৮-৮-১৯৪৬ইং তাৰিখে ডেটেৰীনেৰী এচিষ্টেণ্ট চাৰ্জৰন সকলৰ ডিপুটেশ্যনৰ আগত দিয়া প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি আজিলৈকে পালন কৰা নাই। সেই ডিপুটেশ্যনৰ আগত দিয়া প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি আছিল যে তেওঁলোকক চিভিল চাব্ এচিষ্টেণ্ট চাৰ্জৰন সকলৰ স্কেইলমতে দৰমহা, ঘৰ ভাৰা, আৰু ট্ৰেভেলিং আদি সকলো সুবিধা দিয়া হ'ব। ইয়াৰ পাচত প্ৰশ্নোত্তৰত অনাৰেবল অৰ্থ মন্ত্ৰী মহাশয়ৰ সন্মতিক্ৰমে এই উত্তৰ দিয়া হৈছিল যে ১৯৪৭ইং তাৰিখৰ পৰাহে তেওঁলোকক দিয়া প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি মতে দৰমহা আদি দিয়া হ'ব কিন্তু এতিয়ালৈকে সেই প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি ৰক্ষা কৰা নাই আৰু গৱৰ্ণমেন্ট একেৰাহে নিমাত। ই অৱশ্যে গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ পক্ষে প্ৰশংসাৰ কথা নহয়।

চতুৰ্থতে ডেটেৰীনেৰী হস্পিটালৰ ৫ খন আৰু ডেটেৰীনেৰী কলেজ এটা স্থাপন কৰাৰ কথা আছিল কিন্তু আজিলৈকে তাৰ কোনো উমদাম নাই।

দুইকছিন ডিপো গুৱাহাটীত হ'ব হ'ব কৰি আজিলৈকে হোৱা নাই—ইফালে গৰু গাই মৰি দুখীয়া ৰাইজৰ শেষ হ'ব লগা হ'ল গৈ।

এতেকে মোৰ মনে এই বিভাগটো পুনৰগঠন কৰিব লগা হৈছে। সোনকালে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে ভেটেবীনেৰী এচিষ্টেণ্ট চাৰ্জৰ্জন সকলক দিয়া প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি বক্ষা কৰি গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে ন্যায় বিচাৰৰ পৰিচয় দিব বুলি আশা কৰিলোঁ।

মৰাপাট (jute) সম্বন্ধে দুই চাৰিটা কথা নকৈ নোৱাৰিলো। ইণ্ডিয়া ডমিনিয়নত মৰাপাটৰ আদৰ আৰু আৱশ্যকতা একেবাৰে কম নহয় বৰং পূব-পাকিস্থান কাটি যোৱাত ইয়াৰ কদৰ বাঢ়িল। নগাঁও জিলা ইণ্ডিয়া ডমিনিয়নৰ মৰাপাট উৎপন্ন হোৱা জিলা বিলাকৰ ভিতৰত এখন প্ৰধান জিলা। অসমত বোধকৰো সকলোতকৈ বেচি ২০।২৫ লাখ মোণ মৰাপাট বছৰি উৎপন্ন হয়। কিন্তু এই বছৰ বেইলৱে ৰেগণৰ অভাৱত যবে মৰাপাট ততে পৰি থাকিব লগা হৈছে। যোৱা নভেম্বৰ মাহত মাৰোৱাৰী মহাজন সকলৰ এটা ডিপুটেশ্যনে অনাৰেবল প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী মহাশয়ক সকলো দুৰ্গতি বৰ্ণাই ৰেলৱে ৰেগণ যোগানৰ বন্দবস্ত কৰিবলৈ ধৰিছিলহি। আৰু তেখেতে তেতিয়াই মিঃ জন মাথাইলৈ টেলিগ্ৰাম কৰিলে; কিন্তু ফল একো নহল। কলিকতাত মৰাপাটৰ দাম হল মোণে ৩০।৩২ টকা আৰু নগাঁওত ১০।১৫ কিয়নো বেপাৰী সকলে কিনিব নোৱাৰে কাৰণ তেওঁলোকৰ ইমান ডাঙৰ গুদাম নাই যে লাখ লাখ মোণ মৰাপাট কিনি ভৰাই থয়। চালান দিব নোৱাৰিলে তেওঁলোকেই বা কিনিব কিয়? মোটৰ ওপৰত কৃষক সকলৰ মৰণ হৈছে। এতিয়া অলপতে পুতোক মোণ মৰাপাটৰ নিমিত্তে ৪ (চাৰি) টকা ওপৰকি ঘোচ দি এখন ফুট শিলঘাটলৈ পাইছে। নগাঁওৰ পৰা ৩২ মাইল মটৰ লৰীৰে মি শিলঘাটত ফুটত তুলি দিবগৈ লাগে। ইয়াৰ খৰছ আৰু অন্যান্য অৰ্থ বান্ধি নকলেও হব। মই আশা কৰো গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে সোনকালে ৰেগণৰ বন্দবস্ত কৰি খেতিয়ক সকলক বক্ষা কৰিব। তাকে নকৰিলে অহা বছৰলৈ মৰাপাটৰ খেতি বহুতে এৰিবলৈ বাধ্য হব।

শিক্ষা বিভাগৰ সম্বন্ধে দুটা কথা কব খোজো—প্ৰথমটো হৈছে—শিক্ষা বিভাগত সম্প্ৰদায়িক বা কমুন্যেল representation অৰ প্ৰচলন বন্ধ কৰি যি কোনো সম্প্ৰদায়ৰে প্ৰথম শ্ৰেণীৰ উৎকৃষ্ট লোক মাত্ৰ ভৰ্তি কৰাৰ প্ৰথা বলবৎ কৰিব লাগে। আমাৰ স্কুল কলেজ বিলাকত ক্ৰমে তৃতীয় খাপৰ লোক বিলাকে আশ্ৰয় লবলৈ বাধ্য হৈছে। কিয়নো প্ৰথম—communal representation দিয়াৰ নিমিত্তে, দ্বিতীয়তে শিক্ষা বিভাগত শিক্ষক আৰু প্ৰফেচৰ সকলৰ দৰমহাৰ হাৰ অত্যন্ত শোক লগা গতিকে উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে কব পাৰি যে ডেভেলপ্‌মেণ্ট অফিচাৰৰ দৰমহা ২৫০—৭৫০ লৈকে ধৰা হৈছে। তেওঁ গ্ৰেজুৱেট হবও পাৰে নহবও পাৰে কিন্তু এজন first class M.A. পাছ লোক মাষ্টৰ হব খুজিলে তেওঁ ৭৫ টকাত সোমাব লাগিব। সেই দৰে প্ৰফেচৰ বা লেকচাৰাৰ বিলাকৰ পক্ষেও দৰমহা শোক লগা অৱস্থা। গতিকে বৰ্তমান শিক্ষা বিভাগত যুনে ধৰিছে আৰু ভাল উচ্চ শিক্ষিত লোকৰ ক্ৰমে অভাৱ হৈ দেশৰ সৰ্ববনাশৰ উপক্ৰম হৈছে।

দ্বিতীয় কথা গবৰ্ণমেণ্ট সাহায্য প্ৰাপ্ত হাই স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ কথা। লোকৰ শিক্ষালৈ ধাউতি ক্ৰমে বাঢ়িছে আৰু বাঢ়িব ই অৱশ্যে স্বাভাৱিক। এই স্কুল বিলাকত মাজুল বঢ়োৱা স্বৰ্বেও শিক্ষক সকলৰ শোক লগা অৱস্থাৰ অন্ত নপৰিল। যদি গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে ভাবে যে দেশৰ লৰা-ছোৱালী বিলাকক secondary education দিয়াটো নিতান্ত দৰকাৰ আৰু গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ কৰ্তব্য তেন্তে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই শিক্ষক সকলৰ দৰমহা বঢ়াবলৈ কোনো এটা উপায় নিশ্চয় উলিয়াব লাগিব—টকা নাই বুলি বৰ্তমানৰ অৱস্থা চলি থাকিবলৈ দিয়াটো ভাল কথা হোৱা নাই।

এই সাহায্য প্ৰাপ্ত স্কুল বিলাকত দৰমহাৰ হাৰ এখনৰ লগত আন খমৰ মিল নাই। এই স্কুল বিলাকৰ মাষ্টৰ সকলৰ দৰমহাৰ স্কেইল সকলোতে সমান হব লাগে, আৰু মাষ্টৰ বিলাকৰ ট্ৰেন্সফাৰ বা বদলি কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। কিন্তু দৰমহাৰ সঙ্গ্ৰহ্যতা নাথাকিলে তাক কৰাৰ সম্ভৱ নহয় কাৰণ—এখন স্কুলত হয়তো সেই মাষ্টৰ জনে ৬০ ঘাঠি টকা পাই আহিছে—আৰু বদলি কৰা স্কুলৰ মাষ্টৰ জনে হয়তো ৫০ টকা পাই আহিছে—গতিকে দহ টকা বেচিকৈ দিবলৈ সেই স্কুল খন সমৰ্থ নহব পাৰে। বদলা-বদলিৰ প্ৰথা নথকাৰ কাৰণে অনেক সময়ত স্কুল বিলাক মহা-মজ্বিলত পৰে। গতিকে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিষয়ে অতি সোনকালে বিবেচনা কৰিব বুলি মই আশা কৰোঁ।

অনাথ মাউৰাবিলাকৰ যত্ন আৰু পোহ-পাল লোৱাটো পুৰোক্ত সভা দেশত আছে। আমাৰ ইয়াত গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ তেনে কোনো পুৰোক্ত বা কোনো আশুৰক সাহায্য দিয়াৰ কথা মই নেজানো। সম্প্ৰতি অসম মহিলা সভাই অনাথ আশুৰ পাতি সেই কাম হাতত লৈছে। মই জানিব পাৰিছোঁ। সেই অনুষ্ঠানৰ পৰা গবৰ্ণমেণ্টলৈ আবেদন জনাইছে। মই গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ। মহিলা সভাৰ পূৰ্ণনা যেন ভালকৈ পৰীক্ষা আৰু পৰিদৰ্শন কৰি চৰকাৰে অৰ্থ আৰু উপদেশেৰে সাহায্য দিয়ে।

বাজেটত এলোপ্যাথি, ইউনানী, আয়ুৰ্বেদীয় আৰু হোমিওপ্যাথিৰ সাহায্যৰ নিমিত্তে ধনৰ বা পৰিকল্পনাৰ কথা আছে, কিন্তু আমাৰ অসমীয়াৰ নিজৰ স্বকীয় এটা চিকিৎসাৰ প্ৰণালী (a separate system of treatment) আছে। এই দেশীয় চিকিৎসাসমতে ভাঙৰ, কবিতাজ বা হোমিওপ্যাথি ভাঙৰে ভাল কৰিব নোৱাৰা ৰোগ অতি অলপ সময়তে কম খৰছত ভাল কৰা সকলোৱেই দেখিছে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে নাকেদি তেজ নোৱা নেমাৰটোক অসমীয়া ওজা বা বেজে হাবিণী এৰা বোলে কবিতাজে নাশাৰ বোলে, ভাঙৰ সকলে তেজৰ কিবা এটা বস্তুৰ খাটিপৰাৰ নিমিত্তে হয় বুলি কয়, কিন্তু ভাঙৰে এই ৰোগ ভাল কৰা দেখা নাই কিন্তু অসমীয়া চিকিৎসাৰ দ্বাৰাই অতি সহজে ভাল হয়। এই দৰে তিব্বতীয় পুদৰ, বাধক, অৰ্শ, গ্ৰহণী, নিউমনিয়া আদি হৰেক বকম বেমাৰ গোৱে গোৱে এই চিকিৎসাৰ দ্বাৰা ভাল হৈ আছে। কিন্তু বিজ্ঞানৰ আগত আমাৰ দেশৰ শিল্প আদি বহুত ভাল বিদ্যা যেনেকৈ অকাৰণতে লোপ পাই গৈছে এই চিকিৎসা প্ৰণালীও লোপ পাই গৈছে। এতিয়াই যদি দেশত গিচৰিত হৈ থকা নিদান পুথি আৰু চলতি ঔষধ বিলাক সংগ্ৰহ কৰি ইয়াৰ অনুসন্ধান, ৰক্ষা আৰু উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ হাতত লোৱা নহয় দেশৰ এটা ডাঙৰ বিদ্যা আৰু বহুমূলীয়া ঔষধ বিলাক লোপ পাব।

এই বিষয়ে মই মাননীয় নেভিকেল মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক আৰু অৰ্থ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক কৈছিলো কিন্তু দুখৰ বিষয় যে তেখেত সকলে কাণ-সাৰকে কৰা নাই।

এই প্ৰণালীৰ সকলো বিলাক গছ গছনি আদিৰ এখন ভেমজ বা বনোমধি আদিৰ এখন herbarium বা বনোমধি বাগান কৰিব লাগিব আৰু নিদান আৰু দৰৱৰ জাই আৰু বিভিন্ন ৰোগৰ চিকিৎসাৰ পদ্ধতি বিলাক বেলেগ বেলেগ বৈদ্যসকলৰ পৰা সংগ্ৰহ কৰিব লাগিব; সেই নিমিত্তে বাজেটত টকা ধৰিব লাগিছিল। মই আশা কৰো গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিষয়ে মনোযোগ দি post-war plan অৰ পৰা টকা মঞ্জুৰ কৰি অমোঘ ঔষধ বিলাক ৰক্ষা কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

সংস্কৃত কলেজৰ প্ৰফেচৰ সকলক অতি কম দৰমহা দিয়া হয় বুলি মই জানিব পাৰিছোঁ। সংস্কৃত কলেজৰ প্ৰফেচৰ বিলাকৰ বিদ্যা বা জ্ঞান কোনো ইংলিচ কলেজৰ প্ৰফেচৰতকৈ কম বুলি ভবাটো ভুল। সংস্কৃত কলেজৰ প্ৰফেচৰ এজনক বোলে ৬০ টকা মাত্ৰ দৰমহা দিয়া হয়। অতি শোক লগা কথা। যদি সংস্কৃতৰ কিবা মূল্য আছে আৰু ভাল শিক্ষা হব লাগে তেন্তে তাক যথোচিত সন্মানেৰে ৰক্ষা কৰাই গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ কৰ্তব্য।

পলিটিকেল চাফাৰাৰ বা ৰাজনৈতিক দুৰ্ভোগকাৰী সকলৰ বিষয়েও গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এতিয়ালৈকে শেষ সিদ্ধান্ত কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে। কিছুমান আটক বন্দীক মাহে ৩০ টকাকৈ দি তাতে কৰ্তব্য শেষ কৰা যেন দেখা যায়। কিছুমানক উপযুক্ত স্বত্তেও একো নিদিলে। ইয়াৰ অৰ্থ একো বুজা নগল। আটাইতকৈ দুখৰ বিষয় এই যে যি বিলাক invalid বা জীৱনৰ নিমিত্তে অকৰ্ণণ্য হল, আৰু মাউৰা আটাইতকৈ দুখৰ বিষয় এই যে যি বিলাক invalid বা জীৱনৰ নিমিত্তে অকৰ্ণণ্য হল, আৰু মাউৰা অনাথ হৈ আছে সেই সকলে বহু দৰখাস্ত দিয়া স্বত্তেও আজিলৈকে কোনো ব্যৱস্থাকে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে কৰা নেদেখিলোঁ। যি সকলৰ ত্যাগৰ দ্বাৰা আমি স্বৰাজ স্থাপন কৰিব পাৰিছোঁ। সেই সকলক বা সেই সকলৰ অনাথ সকলক পাহৰি যোৱাটো বাস্তবিকৈ অত্যন্ত পৰিতাপৰ বিষয়। নগাঁওৰ শ্ৰীৰাটনৈৰ হাত এখন কটা গল, ভৰণ পোষণৰ কোনো উপায় নাই, ককাই-ভায়ে বেলেগাই দিছে। ৩০গাভিৰ দুটি মাউৰা লৰা আছে, পাঠশালা স্কুলত পঢ়ে, ককাকৰ লগত থাকে, একেবাৰে নিঃসহায়। ৩কনাই কোচৰ কেচুৱা এটা মাত্ৰ আছে ইত্যাদি ইত্যাদি। এই বিলাকৰ ও নগাঁওৰ আন

আন নিৰাশ্রয় অনাথ সকলৰ যি সকল শূহীদ হৈ গল সেই সকলৰ বিষয়ে মই বহুবাৰ গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক জনাইছোঁ। কিন্তু আজিলৈকে একো ব্যৱস্থা নহল। ইয়াতকৈ কিবা দুখৰ বিষয় আছেনে ?

অসমত বোকা, কলা আৰু কথা বিলাকৰ শিক্ষাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নাই। অতি সোনকালে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে এই বিষয়ে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবলৈ হাতত লব লাগে। খোণা মানুহক শিক্ষা-অভ্যাসৰ দ্বাৰা ভাল কৰিব পাৰি; তাৰ বিষয়ে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক ভাবিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰিলোঁ।

অসমীয়া ষ্টেনুগ্ৰাফাৰৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি কৰিবলৈ শিক্ষাৰ বিষয়ে এতিয়াও গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে ব্যৱস্থা হাতত নোলোৱাটো অত্যন্ত দুখ লগা কথা হৈছে। মই আশা কৰোঁ এই বিষয়ে কৃপনালি পৰিত্যাগ কৰি কামত আগ বাঢ়ে।

এতিয়া পোষ্টেল আৰু বেলৱেত অসমীয়া লবালৈ বহুত ঠাই ওলাব, কিন্তু অসমীয়াৰ ভিতৰত টেলিগ্ৰাফী আৰু ষ্টেশ্যন মাষ্টাৰৰ কোৰ্চ পাচ কৰা ল'ৰা নাই বুলি কামত ভিত্তি নকৰে। আমাৰ ল'ৰাই পঞ্জাব বা ছিটাগঙত এই বিলাক শিকি আহিবলৈ লাগে। তাতো seat নাপায়; গতিকে যোৰহাট টেকনিকেল স্কুলত Telegraphy and Station Master's Course আৰু ক্লাচ বুলি শিক্ষাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

কপিলী নদীৰ বান পানীৰ অত্যাচাৰ বন্ধ কৰাৰ বিষয়ে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ কাণ সাৰ দিয়া দেখা নাযায়। ডাঃ খোচলা আহোতে মই Short Term Plan এটাৰ কথা কৈছিলো আৰু Hon'ble Premier বকো কোৱা হৈছিল। তেতিয়া সকলো বিলাক কৰিবলৈ গাত লোৱা দেখা গৈছিল কিন্তু আজিলৈকে কোনো কাম কৰা দেখা নাপালে। সেই নিমিত্তে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ দায়িত্ব থাকি গল কিন্তু।

Sales tax অৰ বিষয়ে ৰাইজৰ মাজত বৰ অসন্তোষৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। নিমখ, হালধি গুড়িত টেক্স লৈছে। দেশত মা-বাপ নোহোৱাৰ নিচিনা হৈছে, মই আশা কৰোঁ অতি তৎপৰতাৰে অতি সোন কালে বিষয়া নিযুক্ত কৰি ইয়াৰ নিৰাকৰণ কৰিব। নহলে পুজা বিক্ষোভ হ'ব।

***Srijut MOTIRAM BORA:** Sir, is any useful purpose being served by these speeches when most of the Hon'ble Ministers are absent from the meeting ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: I quite agree with the hon. member. The Hon'ble Deputy Leader of Government must see that the Hon'ble Ministers are present during Budget discussion.

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with rapt attention I heard the Budget speech of the Hon'ble Minister of Finance and had a cursory view of this year's Budget within the short time allowed and as a consequence I have nothing but unstinted sympathy and support for the Hon'ble Finance Minister's heroic efforts under adverse circumstances to ensure an all-round progress and development of this province. I offer my heart-felt congratulation to him with the following observations:

I find, Sir, that the total expenditure on Education is about 10 per cent. of the whole and of this about 40 per cent. are allotted for non-Government institutions including those under Local Bodies. With the general top-heavy nature of our administration the distribution under different heads of the total amount of expenditure does not meet the yard-stick of social justice in view of the fact that as yet and for some years to come, the non-Government secondary schools and primary schools are mainly bearing the responsibility of imparting *de facto* basic

education to the children of the province without due recognition by the Government of their sacrifice for the noble cause. I hope Government will not be caught by the phobia of much heard basic education to the neglect of the non-Government institutions. Adequate expenditure on Education does not yield any cash return to the Government but it pays for all time to come and so this is the most useful investment of the Government for the development of this province.

My feeling is rather strong, Sir, due to the omission by the Hon'ble Minister of Finance in drawing the utmost attention of all to various departments, in mentioning Education.

I find, Sir, one small mistake has crept in the page No XV of Appendix A of the Memorandum of Budget Estimate for 1948-49 under the head "37—Education—Secondary direct grants to non-Government-secondary schools under the sub-head No 4 wherein though in the statement 20 more high schools are to be given science grants, figures tell of 12 only. I hope this would be adjusted.

For mass literacy Rs.1,36,000 have been provided but as yet I have not seen any visible activity for the purpose though I happen to be a member of the Provincial Committee.

The low paid Government servants have been pining their hopes to get the minimum living wage on the recommendations of the Pay Committee. I hope the recommendations would be published in the Gazette for general information to allay the hopes and fears of the expectants.

I am happy to see that an all out drive for meeting the deficit in food is taken up by the Government under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Minister of Food but I am at a loss to understand why the Agriculture Department could not spend a sum of about Rs.33 lakhs on Grow-More-Food Campaign. I think this is a departure from the human habit because with the sum available it is not at all difficult to spend and to spend wisely. I beg leave to suggest that after a survey of available waste lands settlement be given to landless native cultivators of the province to grow particular kinds of foodstuff and in this respect Reserve lands in Jamira, Gaisenhowri, Kalapahar, Chekharcham and many others in Cachar, to meet the growing demand for land, can be given to the actual cultivators in no time.

It is a happy augury that by introducing Adhiars Protection Bill the Government is going to give much needed relief to the suffering section of cultivators as an interim measure. But unless all intermediaries between the Government and the actual cultivators are removed, the Government will not derive the due income from land because a hungry populace is always a source of trouble to the state.

Sir, I am aware of the genuine endeavour of the Government to save the people from floods, famines and epidemics, but it is really heart rending to see that due to the redtapism of the local authority, the fact that 10,000 Namasudra families of the Egarasati Pargona of Karimganj are on the verge of starvation and the fact that a few have already died of starvation have not been informed to the Government properly. For that area both long term and short-time relief measures are immediately necessary. Sluice-gates in Kochua and Kushiara have not been included in the development scheme to save the area.

Sir, it is a known fact that by erecting a dam in the upper source of Barak, floods in Silchar subdivision can be prevented and hydro electricity can be generated to benefit even Shillong. Nothing has as yet been done regarding the opening of the silted mouth of Dhaleswari to check floods in the Hailakandi Subdivision.

Sir, I know that for our defence the Centre is responsible ; but even then the primary duty lies with the Provincial Government while our territory in the Patharia Forest Reserve was being violated by intruders from Pakistan ; probably

local authority in Cachar were being imbued with the spirit of non-violence. As a result of inadequate border guarding one deputy ranger was beaten by forest produce smugglers. Procurement staff had to take to their heels by the attack of smugglers.

Sir, it is a happy sign that Home Guards are being trained for the maintenance of internal peace and security but it would be ludicrous if any district Commandant do not come up to the actual physical measurement prescribed for the same. It is particularly unhappy that for the selection of Home Guards in Cachar a Board has been set up consisting of persons having re-actionary records. We cannot be complacent, Sir, when the internal peace and security of 10 lakhs of people having a not very friendly neighbour, are vitally concerned. In order to establish a really secular state, the Government should take stricter measures to drive out all sorts of religious fanaticism and the Government is to see that no disloyal citizen of Assam goes unpunished and to make it clear that Assam is meant only for those who are patriotic to the Indian Dominion.

In fine, Sir, I beg to suggest that regular propaganda measures be taken to utilise fully the native virtues of courage and undauntedness of various races in Assam by giving them full opportunity to be recruited in the Assam Regiment. As a frontier province our responsibility is immense and so the province should be on regular war footing; therefore, compulsory military training for students of Colleges and top classes of High Schools should be arranged. Sir, with the above observations, I resume my seat.

Srijut MOTIRAM BORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I must congratulate the Hon'ble the Finance Minister for the very lucid and elaborate speech with which he has presented the Budget. There is no doubt, Sir, he and his Finance Department have taken great pains in preparation of the Budget and also in making the intricate budgetary problem understandable to us, and our thanks are due to the Finance Department also.

Sir, the position of a Finance Minister is far from enviable. It is more so in a poor, backward and undeveloped Province like that of ours. The Finance Minister is expected to do the impossible task of reconciling all sorts of conflicting and impossible claims and with the meagre resources at his disposal he cannot satisfy all. But nevertheless, he is subjected to all sorts of uninformed and unsympathetic criticisms from every quarter. This is why I say, Sir, this unfortunate position of the Finance Minister should evoke sympathy from us all.

Sir, the Finance Minister has presented rather a dismal and a gloomy picture of the future of this Province. In presenting the Budget he has disclosed a very huge or rather a staggering deficit to the tune of one crore and seventy-five lakhs of rupees, in the next year's Budget. Of course, he has not spared his efforts to make up this deficit e. g. at his instance we have passed several measures of taxation. He has not left untouched any available source of revenue. Still, Sir, he is confronted with a huge deficit—a deficit to the extent of one crore and seventy-five lakhs, as I have already stated.

Now, Sir, finding no means of making up this deficit he is making a pitious and frantic appeal to the Central Government to come to our assistance. In a way, Sir, he has sought to assure us that this assistance will be forthcoming. I would have been very glad, Sir, if like him I could have persuaded myself to share in his optimism. Sir, from our experience of the past treatment that was meted out to us by the Central Government at the time of Meston Award and at the time of financial settlement by Sir Otto Niemeyer, I cannot have that feeling of optimism as our Finance Minister wants us to have. If you be pleased to look at the financial arrangement the province of ours has been subjected to

during the last few decades, you will be pleased to find what a shabby treatment was meted out to Assam by the Central Government. This province of ours can hardly afford to collect 4 crores of rupees and it is one of the undeveloped provinces in the Indian Union. The Central Government takes a sum—a staggering sum—of about Rs.10 crores from 3 items of revenue and all our efforts for assistance from them have gone unheeded. It is felt that there is a change of Government in the Centre and things will be better with this change in the Central Government. I am sorry to say, Sir, that I cannot persuade myself to share in that belief. If you look to the position with more care and attention, you will certainly, Sir, come to the same conclusion. Only on the first of March last the Central Government have come forward with a proposal to reduce our share of jute tax. Now this is the attitude shown to us by the Centre to reduce our share of jute tax by a stroke of pen without having any consultation with the Government of ours. We want that we be given adequate justice by the Centre, but instead this is the attitude they show to us. For this reason, Sir, we cannot be so much optimistic as the Hon'ble Finance Minister is. His attitude is the attitude of helpless subservency. If you, Sir, want justice, an equitable justice, to be done to our Province of Assam, this method of approach must be changed and this is my suggestion to the Government. If we can put sufficient pressure on the Central Government, they will have to take a reasonable frame of mind to do us equitable justice. Our Province is the only province in the Indian Union which produces petrol and naturally we expect a legitimate share of the Petrol duty. But the Central Government takes away the entire amount of petrol tax to the tune of several crores without giving any heed to our complaints. If we can put sufficient pressure on the Central Government they will have to give up that unsympathetic attitude and will have to take reasonable attitude towards us. We can give this pressure in an indirect way, that is, by refusing to grant or renew license to the operating company at the time of renewal of licence. On our doing so the Central Government will have to come to a reasonable agreement, otherwise whole duty will disappear and then we may succeed in getting a legitimate share of the tax.

Sir, this province of ours stands in somewhat advantageous positions. For instance, take the case of jute. After the unfortunate and disastrous partition of India, this Province of ours has become very important in this respect that it has become the major producer of jute in the Indian Union. So in respect of jute production we have come to occupy a strategic position. If we take advantage of this position, Sir, and devise ways and means to put pressure on the Centre, I believe that they will come to some settlement with us.

If we look at the draft proposals of the Constitution Committee of the Constituent Assembly, we will find that for some years they are going to continue the same financial adjustments as they had been doing in the past. I think, Sir, the same financial adjustments will continue till a Commission is appointed. But who knows that there will be a representative at least from this Province in that Commission? I cannot believe, Sir, that in that Commission also, when appointed, we would be given adequate justice. If Government establish a small committee of experts from this Province to find out ways and means, I am sure, Sir, we can devise ways by which we can make the Central Government to give reasonable consideration to our case and the unsympathetic attitude of the Centre will disappear then. That will be the proper method to get due justice from the Central authority. We can take advantage of the experience and shrewdness of the Leader of Opposition and if reasonably approached, I think, he will not grudge the help. The Hon'ble Finance Minister hopes to get some

financial adjustments from the Centre. He might get some doles here and there. But unless some adequate steps are taken to put pressure on the Centre, there will likely be unsatisfactory adjustments as usual.

About the agricultural income-tax, Sir, I want to make a few observations. The agricultural income-tax has been allowed to remain as it is. The Tea Industry in Assam is now in its boom period and it is now in very prosperous condition and fetching cent per cent. divided at the present moment. Taking this advantage the Central Government is going to impose an additional tax on this article. But in Assam we have failed to take any advantage to increase the agricultural income-tax in a judicious way. This we could have easily done and thus earned some more money which we could easily distribute among the most needy employees of the Government.

One other observation I am going to make is about the Excise Department. My attention has been drawn to a statement made in the Budget that Government made more income by increased consumption of liquor and *ganja*. Sir, ours is a Congress Government which is wedded to total prohibition. Our sister provinces like Madras, Bombay, etc., are allowing their countries to go dry at a tremendous sacrifice of their revenue. But here in Assam what are we doing? Instead of launching prohibition we are earning more money by increased consumption of liquor and *ganja*. This does not redound to the credit of Congress Government. If the Congress Government is wedded to the policy of total prohibition, they should have taken various steps to discourage consumption of liquor and *ganja* in the Province. There has recently been a change of portfolios of the Hon'ble Ministers and the portfolio of Excise is now taken up by Hon'ble Maulavi Md. Tayyebulla. Under his able guidance, Sir, I hope consumption of *ganja* and liquor will appreciably decline.

Now, I will make another observation with regard to the administration of the Public Works Department, if you would kindly allow me a few minutes more.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes.

Srijut MOTIRAM BORA: Sir, there is persistent rumour against the Public Works Department and it is spreading far and wide that in this department some persons in authority, as referred to by my hon. Friend Srijut Haladhar Bhuyan, are systematically making efforts to oust the Assamese employees from their legitimate claims for promotion. It is said that outsiders are being imported in to this department to the disadvantage and prejudice of the children of the soil on one plea or other and placed over their heads. If that is so and if the interests of the Assamese officers, at least those who are competent and deserve promotion, are to be sacrificed for these outsiders, then all that I can say on the floor of this House, is that the Assamese people will not tolerate it. I know the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Public Works Department is a very sympathetic person. But mere sympathy will not do. He will have to be very vigilant and watchful. Otherwise, attempts will be persistently made to oust the Assamese officers. I therefore request him to be very watchful so that the Assamese interests can be safeguarded in full measure. With these few observations, I beg to resume my seat.

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH SAMADDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I congratulate the Hon'ble Finance Minister for presenting the first Budget of Assam in Independent India with provisions for various nation-building works and programme.

The Government have undertaken a great plan for the upliftment of the mass illiterate people and backward societies and localities. The post-war reconstruction schemes provide good and direct communications, embankments, drainage and navigation between the centrally situated places and the most interior ones. But I am afraid that the present machinery of the Public Works Department would not be fully successful in the matter. The district of Nowgong is a victim of constant floods and the miseries of the Kopili Valley people are known to all. The Dharamtul area of the district is one of the worst affected areas in this Valley and the people of the locality are always demanding a bridge over the Trunk Road between Dharamtul and Ahotguri. Every year that portion of the Trunk Road is damaged by the floods which destroy all the crops of the people on the other side of the road. If a bridge is constructed in that area and also another is erected on the railway line, then not only the fear of the floods will be removed but also the miseries of the people of the locality will be remedied. Deputation after deputation waited on the Government for this purpose and I again earnestly appeal to them on the floor of this Assembly to look into the matter and remove grievances of the poor people of the Dharamtul area.

The river Kolong is flowing through the town of Nowgong, and most of the houses of the town standing on both the sides of the river are in danger of erosion by the river. I personally approached the Government in this matter. The Government and the Departmental officers assured me that they would take necessary steps to stop the erosion. But I am surprised to see the attitude of the department that although they have been assuring me for the last 4 or 5 months, no step has yet been taken. So, I draw the attention of Government to this matter in particular.

Sir, we have attained independence and a popular Government is now in power. But from our experience I can say that the old mentality of bureaucracy and the attitude of the officers towards the peaceful citizens have not changed. We have a strong Anti-Corruption Branch to detect the corrupt practices of the officers and the public as well. We have also taken programmes for an all round development of the mass people. But what have the Government done to stop the peculiar hobbies of the officers, like drinking, smuggling and other hobbies, which we the people of India consider very immoral? Some officers are accustomed to harass the public and to give privileges to their favourite persons in the discharge of their duties, I hope Government would take precautions and direct the Anti-Corruption Branch to stop these immoral practices and hobbies of their officers.

The Government have increased the pay of the teachers of Primary and Middle Vernacular Schools, but there is no suggestion whether the compulsory primary education will be introduced within this financial year or not. When the Compulsory Primary Education Bill was passed by this Assembly, we hoped that it would be brought into operation at the very beginning of 1948. But to our utter surprise we find that nothing is there in the budget speech of the Hon'ble Finance Minister about the main nation-building work which is most urgent and should have had the priority over every thing else. Government is going to increase the pay of

the teachers of the Secondary Schools. We know that almost all the teachers of the High Schools are compelled to take private tuition for their livelihood. Sometimes one teacher takes 5 or 6 such tuitions. To go to school and teach the students are nothing but a routine work of the teachers and there is no sincerity and earnestness to teach the students in the School. So, Government should see that the pay of the teachers of Secondary Schools is raised to such a scale that they have not to depend on private tuition and other businesses for their livelihood.

Almost all of our poor village brethren are suffering from malaria, Kala-azar, cholera and other diseases due to want of pure drinking water. I have found no such big programme to supply sufficient wells and tube-wells in the villages for the purpose. I know that the people of Nowgong are feeling acutely the want of such tube-wells and wells and tanks. I hope Government will immediately make provisions for sufficient number of tube-wells and wells to supply pure drinking water to the poor villagers, if the Government is sincere to stop the diseases amongst the villagers.

Ninty per cent. of our population depend on agriculture. There is a department for the purpose and the provision under the expenditure head of the department is not small. The Hon'ble Food Minister has launched a big programme for grow more food, but if we approach the officers of the department, probably they can give us very little help to grow more food or to grow other agricultural produce. We know that in every district there is a depot under the agricultural officers to supply good seeds to the public. But it is most peculiar that seeds are available there only when the season for sowing is over. To this most important point I draw the attention of the Government and request them to take immediate and proper steps to supply good seeds to the cultivators in time. The officers should visit all the localities in their jurisdiction from time to time and advise the public as to what crops are fit for the locality and for the season.

Sir, there are hundreds and hundreds of co-operative stores in the Province which were formed during the time of acute shortage of supply. These Stores are not functioning properly, because there is no check or audit by the department. There is a small number of Auditors or Inspectors in the Co-operative Department and due to that they are unable to audit and check all the stores. So, I draw the attention of the Government to that matter and ask them to increase the number of officers so that they can audit and check all the stores and societies for their proper functioning.

Sir, the people of the Scheduled Castes community are demanding for a long time that suitable officers of their community should be promoted to higher Government posts and suitable persons should be appointed in those posts. I hope Government would look into the matter and take steps to appoint suitable Scheduled Castes candidates in higher Government posts and thus remove the long standing grievances of the poorest community of the Province.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Presentation of the Supplementary Statement of expenditure for the year 1947-48

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : May I move Item No. 2 Sir ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Let the speeches be finished. The Hon'ble Minister may move before we rise.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : I need hardly emphasise the necessity of the Hon'ble Ministers being in their seats. The Hon'ble Minister of Forest is not here.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : May I be allowed to move the Motion now, Sir, as nobody is taking part in the Budget discussion ?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Yes.

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI : I beg to present the
 ‡Supplementary Statement of expenditure for the year 1947-48. Printed copies of the Statement have been placed in front of the hon. Members' tables.

Budget discussion

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : It seems nobody else is taking part in the general discussion of the Budget from the Congress side to-day. Mr. Harinarayan Burua's name appears in today's list. Will he speak ?

***The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS :** As he will be speaking in Assamese he will do so to-morrow as there is no facility for reporting his speeches to-day.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : It seems Mr. Dandeswar Hazarika is also not there in his seat.

***Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Then you better give chance to Mr. Sarwan.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Yes, Mr. Sarwan.

Mr. BENODE KUMAR J. SARWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Budget Estimates for 1948-49 as has been presented before this House has not fully satisfied the requirements of this Province. The provisions that are made are very poor for the various needs of the people. When we have acquired the Independence of India, we expected a much better Budget for 1948-49. We expected that there would be provisions in the Budget for improvement in various directions of the country, specially in the matter of Public Health, Sanitation, Water-supply, Dispensaries, Compulsory Free Primary Education, etc. When the urban areas have already got many advantages, we expected that particular attention would be given for the improvements of sanitation, hygiene, education, dispensaries, etc., for the rural areas. Sir I am particularly concerned with the improvement in all directions in the rural areas. As the urban areas are already improved attempts should be made by our Government that villages of Assam get the same facilities such as hospitals, water-supply, proper communication, sanitation, compulsory free primary education, etc., and for this purpose Government should have provided sufficient money. These facilities are very much required by the backward areas. The Government should think as their foremost duty to educate the masses by means of immediate introduction of compulsory free primary education, if we are to go forward so that we may make the masses literate in this country, so that illiteracy may totally disappear and the people can become civilized and wealthy like other civilized countries of the world. Regarding education, the European Gardens have started many schools for the children of the labour class according to the directions given to them in the circular

*Speech not corrected.

‡See Appendix 'D'.

issued by the Indian Tea Association. But if these schools are inspected by the Inspectors of Schools then the children will get better education. I draw the attention of the Government to take immediate steps to have these schools inspected by School Inspectors then only we can improve the education of labour children.

Now, as regards food and cloth supply in the European Gardens they deserve to be highly congratulated for the magnificent way they have been doing and looking after their labourers. In the hard and critical days they have provided them with food and clothes and they are still providing them at concession rates, so that the labourers can manage their livelihood and do not go hungry and naked. Their condition is far better than the Bustiwallas or villagers and this is due to the good management of the European Gardens.

Now, as regards communication. When there are no railway communication the Government should give more permits for bus services. I speak particularly, of my district of Darrang, where there are only few buses and so the people cannot get enough accommodation. More permits should be issued in order to avoid over crowding in the buses. For such over crowding there is danger of accidents taking place. There should be more buses for the routes from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur and from Tezpur to North Gauhati and so more permits should be issued. The steamers are not running regularly from Tezpur to Kakilamukh the way to North Lakhimpur and Jorhat and so there is no passenger steamer running regularly from Tezpur to Gauhati. So the Government should kindly take note of my recommendation and see that passengers do not suffer there for want of motor buses.

Regarding cloth supply Government should see that the people are getting cloths. The Textile Department should have done better to check corruptions. Profiteers should not have made such lot of money. Black-marketing is still going on, and I think as soon as cloths will be decontrolled Government will help our people so that they may not suffer for want of cloths.

Now, Sir, about Primary Schools of our province. I have to point out to the Government that scores of primary schools have been opened by the Tea Garden Tribes, but the Government are not giving them any aid. Scores of boys have gone beyond the primary stage of education, but the Government is not giving any scholarships. Hundreds and hundreds of ex-tea garden labourers are going about in search of Government waste lands but the Settlement Department of the Government are not treating this demand of the Tea Garden Tribes for lands with sympathy.

When there is no sympathetic response from the Government to the needs of the Tea Garden Tribes is it possible for anyone to speak well of the Congress Government? Let the Government come forward to the help of the Tea Garden Tribes and sympathetically respond to their needs; then surely everyone will have something to say in favour of the Government and the Congress Party.

I hope the Government will soon try and remove the grievances of the people as the people are expecting in these days when we have Independence of our country.

With these words, Sir, I close my speech.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : May I ask Mr. Phukan to speak?

Srijut NILMANI PHUKAN : I want to speak to-morrow, because I want to put some constructive suggestions which the Cabinet Ministers would like to have. And if I am to make some constructive suggestions, I shall have to speak from facts. I am not ready to-day with facts. So I crave your indulgence to speak to-morrow.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : The difficulty is that many of the hon. Members who are due to speak to-day are not speaking. Hon. Members will therefore get only five minutes for speeches to-morrow.

Srijut NILMANI PHUKAN : I have not come prepared with facts to-day. I can make a speech, but I do not like to speak to-day without facts.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Any hon. Member from the Opposition?

(Voices—No).

In to-day's list of the Congress Party, I find the names of Srijut Harinayaran Barua, Srijut Dandeswar Hazarika, Srijut Lakshmidhar Borah and Srijut Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati.

Is it the sense of the House that we should adjourn?

***Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN :** That what happens always on the first day of the general discussion.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER : Hon. Members will get five minutes to-morrow.

***Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV :** Babu Bidyapati Singha and Srijut Hareswar Das were to take part on Tuesday. They have spoken to day, so our proportion is all right. Ten members have already taken part.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M., on Tuesday, the 16th March, 1948.

SHILLONG :
The 30th April 1948. }

A. K. BARUA,
Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly.

*Speech not corrected.

APPENDIX D

LIST OF SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND FOR GRANTS FOR
1947-48*(To be discussed by the Assembly on the 29th March 1948)*

No. 1

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,14,615 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "8.—Provincial Excise".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	Rs. 5,67,600
II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for:—			Rs.
D—Compensation	...	...	2,14,615

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Owing to transport difficulties, movement of mollases, the cheapest ingredient for manufacture of country spirit from the United Provinces proved very unsatisfactory and meanwhile the Assam Distillery, the contractor for wholesale country spirit to Assam, had to maintain the supply of liquor by manufacturing it mainly from *gur*, the costliest ingredient. Had not this course been adopted, there would have been a total failure of supply of country spirit resulting in great loss to Provincial revenues to the extent of 20 lacs. Because of the supply having been maintained with manufacture from *gur*, the cost price finally fixed for the period from 1st April 1947 to 30th September 1947 was above the provisional rate. It thus became necessary to pay the Assam Distillery the difference between the provisional rate and the rate later fixed by Government as arrear cost price in the shape of compensation.

No. 2

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 9,673 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "9.—Stamps".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	Rs. 65,800
II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for:—			Rs.
D.—Value of stamps supplied from Central Stores	...	...	9,600
E.—Cost of stamps supplied from Provincial Stamp Stores			73
Total	...	...	9,673

EXPLANATORY NOTE

D.—The excess is owing to many emergent high demands of the treasuries had to be obtained by post to meet immediate needs and also increased sale of stamps which could not be anticipated.

E.—Due to rise in the over-printing charges

No. 3

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 2,92,435 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1948 for administration of the head under "10.—Forests".

Grant originally passed by the Assembly (Voted) Rs. 22,79,700
Non-Excluded Area.

II.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for :—

10.—Forests—

Rs.

A.—Conservancy and works :—	11,457
A-I.—Timber and other forest produce removed by Government Agency.	1,54,243
A-IV.—Rent of leased forests and payments to share-holders in forests damaged by Government.	1,65,700
B.—Establishment (Voted)—	29,591
B-1.—Salary of Superior officers	35,380
B-3.—Allowance and honoraria	18,753
B-4.—Contingencies	9,128
B-5.—Grants-in-aid and contribution, etc.	6,583
B-6.—Amount transferred to Khasi States Deposit Account	99,435
	27,300
D.—Charges in England	2,92,435
Total	

EXPLANATORY NOTES.

A.—Conservancy and works—

(I) The extra amount is required to meet the cost of forest produce supplied to the private parties during 1942-45 originally charged by the Divisional Forest Officer, Lakhimpur under I.D.T. but now transferred to A-I according to the Comptroller's instruction.

A-IV.—(2) This extra amount is required for the following :—

(a) Rupees 75,800 will have to be paid to the Sirdar of Sohbar representing 50 per cent. of the revenue derived from lime stone exported, vide Government letter No. R.M.43/46/22, dated the 11th August 1947 and also Rs. 35,067 has been demanded by the Divisional Forest Officer, Khasi and Jaintia Hills for payment to the Siems being half share of revenue derived from elephant hunting operations in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills Divisions.

(b) As far the balance it is mentioned that larger amount of revenue having been collected from the Zamindary forest, their (Zaminder's) share of revenue has become larger. Hence the extra amount is necessary

B.—Establishment (Voted)—

B-1.—Pay of officers	Rs.
...	29,591

This amount is required to meet the pay of Indian Forest Service Officers which is to be treated as voted expenditure with effect from 15th August 1947.

B-3.—Allowance and honoraria	Rs.
...	35,380

This is necessary to meet the travelling allowance of Indian Forest Service Officers on account of the above and also to meet transfer travelling allowance of Subordinates.

B-4.—Contingencies	Rs.
...	18,753

Mainly to meet the heavy repairing charges for the Departmental trucks. It is further stated that the main excess represents expenditure and incurred for thorough overhauling of certain departmental trucks. In Khasi and Jaintia Hills Division the expenditure for maintenance and up-keep of the departmental trucks has been estimated to be over Rs. 22,000. But against this expenditure revenue in shape of Truck hire is being realised and it is estimated that over Rs. 18,000 will accrue as revenue.

B-5.—Grants-in-aid, contribution, etc.	Rs.
...	9,128

More applications for free grant has since been received.

B-6.—Amount transferred to Khasi State Deposit Account	...	6,583
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The excess is due to less collection of import duty owing to transfer of a portion of the Sylhet District to the Pakistan Dominion.

D.—Charges in England—Due to change of classification	Rs.
...	27,300

No. 4

The Hon'ble Srijüt RAM NATH DAS to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 5,903 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "12.—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	Rs.
A. Charges for collections	...	4,81,300
B. Inspection of Motor Vehicles	...	5,850
	...	53
Total	...	5,903

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A.(i) A sum of Rs.2,265 is required for special pay of the Regional Transport Authorities owing to the reclassification of such charged expenditure as voted from 15th August 1947.

(ii) A sum of Rs. 3,585 is required under "allowances and honoraria" for increased tours by the Motor Vehicles Inspectors.

B. The excess of Rs. 53 is due to increased touring by the Motor Vehicles Inspector.

No. 5

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI to move :—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 27,430 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948 for the administration of the head "13.—Other taxes and duties".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	8,700

II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for :—

	Rs.
A. Collection charge—Sales Tax	23,210
Entertainment Tax, etc.—	
Cost of entertainment tax stamps supplied from Central Stores	4,220
Total	27,430

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. Collection charges —Sales Tax.—As the scheme for the levy of taxes was not fully worked out before the budget estimates were prepared for 1947-48, no provision could be made in that budget for this new Department. Hence it is necessary to provide the expenditure involved in setting up the Department by a supplementary grant.

Entertainment tax, etc.—Cost of entertainment tax stamps.—Due partly to the heavy and unexpected increase in sale and partly to the change in denominations of the Entertainment Tax Stamps which could not be foreseen. The supplementary grant of Rs. 4,220 is necessary.

No. 6

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 5,58,240 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain expenses which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1948 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

	Rs.
1. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	38,66,300
2. Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
(1) Head of the Province and Ministers— Hon'ble Ministers.	3,82,755

(2) Secretariat and Headquarter Establishment—

M.(a) Civil Secretariat—

Rs.

(i) Pay of Establishment	...	23,603
(ii) Allowance and Honorarium	...	29,326
(iii) Cost of maintaining the account of the Charitable Endowment Funds and Miscellaneous Trust Funds.		248

53,177

P.—Director of Land Records—

(1) Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	4,298
(2) Allowances	...	...	...	...	2,870
(3) Contingencies	...	...	...	...	140

7,308

U.—Other Establishments—

Provincial and District Soldiers', Sailors' and Air-men's Boards. 27,000

Y.—Charges in England 88,000

Grand total ... 5,58,240

EXPLANATORY NOTES

His Excellency the Governor, the Hon'ble Ministers and other high officials of this Government are frequently required to visit Delhi and other distant places on urgent official business. The Government have also to provide touring facilities to Government of India officers visiting Assam in connection with development schemes in which the province is vitally interested. In order to save time and trouble involved in motor and rail journeys, the Government have purchased an Aeroplane at a cost of Rs.2,88,827.

The Government have also decided to purchase another plane for use by His Excellency the Governor and by Hon'ble Ministers when it is not required by His Excellency and have placed orders for the same. The cost of this plane, as agreed upon, will be borne equally between this Government and the Government of India. It is estimated that this Government's share of the expenditure will come to about Rs. 1,60,000 out of which a sum of Rs. 59,667 has already been paid to the suppliers as an advance. As regards the balance which will have to be paid after the execution of orders, the necessary provisions will be made in the budget for 1948-49.

With regard to the maintenance of the planes, this Government will come to an agreement with M/S. Airways (India) Limited. The draft terms of the contract are now under the examination of the Director General of Civil Aviation, India, and the amount of money approved by him will be accepted by this Government. In the absence of these accurate figures, a very rough estimate of maintenance charges is made at Rs. 10,000 a month and according to this calculation Rs. 20,000 will be required on that account during the current year.

A sum of Rs. 18,125 is required for Insurance charges of the Aeroplanes.

M. (a) (i)—Due to entertainment of temporary staff.

M. (a) (ii)—Due to frequent tours by Secretariat Officers necessitated by recent political changes.

(iii)—Due to increase in the volume of work owing to addition of a new fund, viz., the Post-War Services Reconstruction Fund.

P. (1) & (2)—Due to change of classification of charged expenditure as Voted from 15th August 1947.

(3)—Due to increased expenditure on postage and telegram charge owing to increase in correspondences.

U.—The expenditure for these Boards was so long borne by the Government of India. The decision to share the expenditure with the Provincial Government was made after the Budget estimates for the current year was passed. The amount asked for represents 75 per cent. and 50 per cent. of the loss for Provincial and District Boards respectively to be borne by the Provincial Government.

Y.—Due to change of classification.

No. 7

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 50,075 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of head "28.—Jails and Convict Settlements."

Rs.

12,75,800

Grant originally voted by the Assembly

II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for—

					Rs.
A. District Jail—					1,735
1. Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	3,480
2. Contingencies	...	...	...	...	390
3. Deduct amount transferred to the Deposit account of the Khasi States.					500
4. Contribution to other Governments for maintenance of long-term prisoners.					6,105
Total					3,881
B. Charges for Police custody					
E. Works—					35,387
(1) Original works	...	...	...	...	4,636
(2) Repairs	...	...	...	...	66
(3) Rates and taxes	...	...	...	...
Total					40,089
Grand total					50,075

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. District Jail—

1. *Pay of Officers*.—Increase is due to posting of voted officers in place of charged officers.

2. *Contingencies*.—Due to high prices of miscellaneous articles and payment of the wages of outside Sweeper and expenditure has increased for improvement of the jail garden.

3. For increased number of Khasi State prisoners confined to the Jails of Assam.

4. Due to more debits raised by other Governments for maintenance of long-term prisoners.

E.—Works—

(1) Due to repairs of the godown of District Jails, Nowgong and for financing the repairs of jails in Assam.

(2) Due to indispensable annual repairs of the departmental buildings.

(3) Due to the increase of taxes by Municipality.

B. Due mainly to increase of expenditure under “Diet and Conveyance of under-trial prisoners” and increased contingencies charges.

—
No. 8

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 8,76,730 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of head “29.—Police”.

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	60,98,800

II. Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for :—

B. District Executive Force—District Police—

	Rs.
E. Special Police	6,59,850
K. Works - Original Works	82,930
Contingencies	50,000
L. Charges in England (Expenditure for the High Commissioner for India)	83,950
Grand total ...	<u>8,76,730</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

B. *District Executive Force—District Police*.—The excess is due to the purchase of 200 guns for the replacement of guns requisitioned in 1942-43 for the police or seized in 1944 for defence of the Frontier.

E. *Special Police*.—For details please see the list of new schemes enclosed.

K. *Works—Original Works*.—The fire brigade buildings are contemplated to be purchased for accommodation of various Police Establishments. In the present stringency of labour and building materials, new construction of buildings would involve huge expenditure. So with a view to economy, it is proposed to purchase the existing Fire Brigade buildings from Civil Defence at a cost of Rs. 82,930.

L. *Charges in England*.—Due to changes in classification.

No.9

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 1,196 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1948, for administration of the head "36.—Scientific Departments".

	Rs.
1. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	15,900
2. Sub-heads under which this Supplementary Grant will be accounted for—	
B.—Museums	1,196

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The sum is required for payment of arrear pay and dearness allowance of the museum employees which could not be drawn during the last financial year for want of necessary authority and also to meet the expenditure in connection with the shifting of the Coin cabinet from the Shillong treasury to the Gauhati museum.

No. 10

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 6,520 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the Administration of the head "37.—Education (European and Anglo-Indian Education)".

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	1,04,400
II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	
A.—Government Secondary Schools—	
(4) Contingencies—	Rs.
Boarding Charges	5,000
F. Charges in England (Expenditure by High Commissioner for India).	1,520
	6,520

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Due to increase in the number of boarders in the Pine Mount School during the current year and rise in price of articles the budget provision of Rs. 40,000 fell short of requirement by Rs. 5,000.

F. Due to change in classification.

No. 11

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 5,17,370 granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the Course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1948 for the administration of the head "37—Education".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	76,66,000
II. Sub-head under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	
(a) "37—Education—University"— ...	Rs. 5,00,000
Charges in England—Expenditure by the High Commissioner for India.	17,370
	<u>5,17,370</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(a) This represents the annual contribution payable by Government to the Gauhati University under section 37 of the Gauhati University Act, 1947. As there is no budget provision for the purpose the amount is being provided by a supplementary demand.

(b) Due to change in classification.

No. 12

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,30,362 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "38.—Medical".

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	18,61,200
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II.—Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—

A. Medical Establishment—				Rs.
(a) Superintendence—				
(1) Pay of officers	...	...	...	18,811
(2) Pay of establishment	...	...	...	13,145
(3) Allowances and Honoraria	...	...	...	7,733
(5) Contingencies—	...	...	...	5,219
B. Hospitals and Dispensaries—				
(a) Ordinary Dispensaries—				
4. Contingencies—	...	...	...	30,732
(e) Grants for Leprosy works	...	...	...	4,474
C. Grants for Medical purposes	...	...	...	25,000
D. Medical College and Schools—				
(b) Medical Schools—				
3. Allowances and honoraria	...	...	...	5,017
5. Contingencies—Contract	...	...	...	394
E. Mental Hospital—				40,265
4. Contingencies—Non-contract	...	...	...
(b) Share cost for the maintenance of the Mental Hospital, Ranchi	...	...	...	5,972
H. Charges in England (Expenditure by High Commissioner).				73,600
Total				<u>2,30,362</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The excess is due to the following reasons:—

A. (a) (1) Due to change of classification of pay of officers (*Charged*) into pay of officers (*Voted*).

(2) Due to entertainment of office Assistants for separation of Record.

(3) Due to change of classification of expenditure from charged to

voted.

(5) (i) Due to increased expenditure incurred in connection with maintenance of staff car and also in connection with purchase of wooden boxes for packing office files and other records meant for Sylhet (Pakistan) and more expenditure due to purchase of service stamps required for sending telegrams and letters during the period of division of India.

B. (a) 4. (i) The increase is due to the improvement of diet for the greater number of patients and also for rise in prices of some commodities as also on service postage stamps and also for increase in the dearness allowance allowed to the contingency menials.

(e) Due to special non-recurring grant made towards the maintenance of the Santipara Leper Colony in the Goalpara district. For details please see the list of new Schemes enclosed.

C. Due to extra grants to the Ganesh Das Women Hospital and to the Assam Aramghar at Shillong.

D. (b) 3. The increase is due to transfer of travelling allowance of officers and Assistants and also for scholarships and stipends.

* 5. The increase is due to pay and dearness allowance to contingency menials at increased rate and for service postage stamps and also for charges of parcels received.

E. 4. Due to gradual increase in number of patients and also for high prices of dietary articles such as rice and pulses.

(b) Share cost for the maintenance of the Mental Hospital, Ranchi.

H. Charges in England (Expenditure by High Commissioner)—due to change in classification.

—
No. 13

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.3,64,230 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come up in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1948 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	19,48,800 .
Additional amount now required	3,64,230
II. Sub-heads under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	
	Rs.
B.—Grants for Public Health purposes	5,250
C.—Epidemic Diseases—	
(a) Malaria	1,47,000
(b) Other Epidemics	39,000
F.—Works—	
Works—Original Works by Public Works Department ...	720
Public Health—Original works in-charge of Civil Offices	1,70,000
Charges in England	2,260
Total ...	3,64,230

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B.—Grants for Public Health purposes—

For details please see the list of next schemes enclosed.

C.—*Epidemic diseases*—(a) *Malaria*—The extra amount required under 'Contingencies' is due to the allotment by the Government of India of an additional quantity of Quinine.

(b) *Other epidemics*.—The extra amount required under 'Contingencies—Medical Stores and Diet for Patients' is mainly due to large expenditure on account of purchase of additional quantities of equipment and medical stores and additional dietary charges owing to increase of Kala-azar cases as a result of recrudescence of Kala-azar in the Province. Out of Rs. 39,000 a sum of Rs. 20,000 represents new expenditure, as it was required for equipment and Medical Stores for the newly constructed dispensaries, as explained in the list of new schemes enclosed. The balance represents ordinary expenditure.

F.—Works—

The extra amount required under 'Public Health—Original Works' is due to the construction of 22 dispensary buildings in the Province, and other works as per list of new schemes enclosed.

No. 14

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 92,150 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "40.—Agriculture".

					Rs.
					12,70,100
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	...	...
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for—					

B.—Superintendence—

					Rs.
					1,700
(a) Deposit account of Khasi States	...	...	...	...	20,000
(b) Flood relief work at Nowgong	...	...	...	...

J.—Other charges—

					Rs.
					62,000
(a) Seed Depot	...	...	...	...	8,450
L.—Charges in England...	...	...	...	...
Total					92,150

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B.—(a) The expenditure on Agricultural work in the States was less than estimated in the budget. The Agricultural Inspector was under suspension for about 4 months and work in the States could not be done according to programme. Hence the amount debitabie to the States was less.

(b) Provision for this originally did not exist in the budget.

J. (a)—The additional amount is required for purchase of Sugarcane Setts. The amount is recoverable by sale in subsequent year.

L.—Due to leave salary of Mr. L. K. Handique drawn in England.

No. 15

The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 12,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "41.—Veterinary."

	Rs.
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	4,00,600
II.—Sub-heads under which the additional amount will be accounted for—	
B.—Subordinate Establishment—	12,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The amount is required for the increased rate of pay, travelling allowance and House-rent allowances of the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons as sanctioned by Government and also due to purchase of medicines, etc., at higher prices owing to general rise in prices.

No.16

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional Sum of Rs. 22,360 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending on 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "43—Industries".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	4,19,200
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for:—	
D.—Works- repairs... ..	11,000
F.—Public Exhibition and Fairs	11,360
Total	22,360

EXPLANATORY NOTES

D.—As the restoration of the buildings of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Technical School, Jorhat, was urgently necessary after release by the military authorities, an expenditure of Rs.11,867-13-6 was sanctioned for this purpose. As there is no provision in the budget a supplementary grant, is essential.

F.—This Government decided to participate in the all India Exhibition, held at Calcutta from the middle of February, 1948 and sanctioned an expenditure of Rs.11,360 for this purpose. No provision exists in the budget to meet the expenditure, so a supplementary grant is indispensable.

No.17

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.9,482 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1948 for administration of the head "47—Miscellaneous Department".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs.
2,27,000

II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for :—

	Rs.
C.—Inspector of Steam Boilers (Voted)	7,187
E.—Jute Statistics	161
L.—Charges in England	2,134
Total	<u>9,482</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

— A. (i) Pay of Mr. F. Woodhouse was not provided in the Budget as he was appointed temporarily in August 1946 for six months and then his service was extended by periods upto 30th September 1947 at Rs. 350 per month.

(ii) Amount is required on account of entertainment of a temporary handyman which was not provided in the Budget. The major portion of his pay is adjusted from the saving from the pay of the draughtsman which post is at present lying vacant for want of a suitable candidate.

(iii) Increased expenditure is mainly due to the appointment of an additional Inspector, his Orderly and a Handyman which were not provided in the Budget and increased inspections by other Inspectors.

(iv) Increased expenditure is incurred on account of maintaining 2 trucks in the Department. Cost of petrol and mobil is very heavy *plus* the very big amount spent in repairs to the trucks. One of the trucks is an old one which needed much repairs at the very outset, but only minor repairs were done last year as it was not certain whether the trucks would be retained this year.

E.—The amount is necessary to meet the expenditure in connection with compilation of Jute Statistics by District Staff. The decision to compile Jute Statistics was made after the budget for the current year was framed.

L.—Due to change in classification.

No.18

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI to move :—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.4,45,387 be granted to the Minister-in-Charge to defray certain expenses which will come up in the course of payment

during the year ending 31st March, 1948 for the administration of the head "55—Superannuation Allowance and Pensions and 83—Payment of Commuted Value of Pension."

	Rs.
1. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	22,66,400
2. Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for :—	
A. Superannuation and retired allowances ...	26,960
H. Charges in England ...	3,16,000
83 —Payment of commuted value of pensions ...	1,02,427
Total ...	<u>4,45,387</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. Due to more retirements.

H. Due to change of classification from "Charged" to "Voted" while there is an equal amount of Savings under charged.

83.—Due to more applications for commutation and commutation drawn in England.

—
No.19

The Hon'ble Maulana MD. TAYYEBULLA to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.67,351 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1948, for the administration of the head "56—Stationary and Printing".

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs.5,33,800.

II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

I.—Stationary.

	Rs.
A. Stationary supplied from Central Stores. ...	40,000
II.—Printing.	
D.—Government Press ...	27,351
Total ...	<u>67,351</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. Stationary supplied from Central Stores—As the allotment falls for short of the requirement, a further sum of Rs. 40,000 is required for the purchase of papers to cope with the bulky nature of printing forms, etc., which have been entrusted to the Government Press.

D.—Government Press—

C.—Due to the following reasons—

1. Creation of the post of Assistant Superintendent with effect from 19th September 1947.
2. Excess of Rs. 5,000 due to overtime allowance for execution of more works.
3. Due to purchase of a Printing Machine to cope with increase of work.
4. Due to purchase of a typewriter, cost of Liveries, payment of Telephone bills and entertainment of 2 additional posts of coolies for forms works.
5. Due to entertainment of an additional Clerk and two Duffries.
6. Due to purchase of more printing ink.
7. Due to despatch of Extra Ordinary Gazette, periodical publications and forms.

No.20

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 8,58,924 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous".

	Rs.	
Grant originally voted by the Assembly	36,10,500	
II. Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for:—		

	Rs.	
1. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	36,10,500	

2. Sub-heads under which this supplementary grant will be accounted for—

C. Donation for charitable purposes	9,112	
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1.—Contribution	5,000	
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K. Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges—

Miscellaneous charges	6,44,173	
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(b) Expenditure on issue of free ration to Government servants.	3,39,000	
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Deduct.—Recoveries from the Central Government...	—2,14,720	
Total K.	7,68,453	

L. Transport Organisation—

Motor Vehicles Spare Parts Control Order	7,025	
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O. Charges in England	69,334	
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Grand Total	8,58,924	
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EXPLANATORY NOTES

C. The expenditure under this head is of uncertain nature and is dependent among other things on the number of dead paupers.

I. *Contributions*.—The All-India Congress Committee has set up an Agrarian Reforms Committee to investigate in to the economic conditions of the peasants. Therefore an amount to the extent of Rs. 5,000 as provincial quota for meeting the expenditure of the Committee is necessary.

K.(1) The expenditure under this head is of very uncertain nature. An excess of Rs.3,81,551 is anticipated, which is mainly due to the following new items of expenditure for which no provision existed in the Budget, e.g., Independence Day Celebration (Rs. 57,618), Grant of passage money to United States of America to Srijut Bhabendra Hazarika (Rs. 4,500), Resumption of Government lands in Siem's territory at Shillong for construction of buildings for residential purpose of Hon'ble Ministers and Government Officers (Rs. 2,60,689), Grant to Hills and Plains People Week (Rs.30,000) and expenditure on Refugees from East Bengal (Rs. 17,951). Expenditure on Sylhet Referendum as booked by Comptroller comes to Rs. 2,14,720 which is however, recoverable from the Government of India.

K.(2) Miscellaneous unforeseen charges—This represents expenditure in India and countries abroad other than United Kingdom. The increase is due to the fact that a large number of stipendiaries have been sent out, than originally estimated and also air passage had to be provided for some of them. Hence additional provision is required.

(b) Due to rise in prices of food articles.

O.—Estimates recently received from the High Commissioner have come to Rs. 84,535 but a provision of only Rs. 26,667 exist in the budget. Hence the additional provision is necessary.

Out of the above (K. and O.) Government of India's share is expected to be Rs. 58,000.

XX. L. The excess is on account of the Assam New Motor Cars (Control of Commercial Sales) Act, 1947 having been brought into operation after the budget estimates for the current year were framed.

No. 21

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move:—

On the recommendations of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs.35,285 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1948, for the administration of the head "64—B—Civil Defence"

Grant originally voted by the Assembly

II.—Sub-heads under which this Supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

	Rs.
A. Expenditure on Air Raid Precautions:—	
(a) Pay of establishment	2,950
(b) Travelling allowance of officers	1,200
(c) Travelling allowance of establishment	1,800
(d) Miscellaneous contingencies	12,000
D. Works	335
E. Charges in England	7,000
G. Fire Service	10,000
Total	35,285

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. (a) Represents pay of Civil Defence Directorate and Air Raid Precaution clerk.

(b) & (c) Represents unadjusted travelling allowance of previous years.

(d) Represents arrear claims which could not be settled earlier.

D. Rupees 315 for providing a fire place in the Provincial Motor Transport Company building. Please see details enclosed in the Schedule of new Schemes of works. Rupees 20 is for some minor work. For details please see the list of new Schemes enclosed.

No provision was made in the original budget as it was anticipated at the time of framing the budget estimates that there would be little or no expenditure for the Civil Defence Department during the year. This unanticipated expenditure is being proposed to be met by a supplementary demand.

The excess expenditure is for the leave salary and deputation pay of the Fire Service Officers who had gone on leave and on training in England.

G. The excess expenditure is due to pay of establishment and arrear claims.

No. 22

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 3,97,835 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1948 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc."

Grant originally voted by the Assembly—Rs. 12,30,000.

II—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for:—

B—Loans and Advances by the Provincial Government—Rs. 5,29,111.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The reasons for the additional grants are stated below:—

The financial condition of the Dewan Manikchand—Late Mr. G. R. Roy's—Estate, which is under the management of the Court of Wards, Assam, has not yet improved. There are some immediate and obligatory demands to be met by the Estate during the year including the expenditure incurred in the Sraddha ceremony of the late Mr. G. R. Roy, and there being no other way for raising funds for the Estate to enable it to meet the demands mentioned above and as the whole Estate is already mortgaged against a Debenture loan, Government have granted loans of Trs. 50 and Trs. 5 respectively making a total of Rs. 55,000 which is now required under the head "Loans and Advances to land holders and other notabilities", under which there was no provision in the original budget.

(b) The excess of Rs. 3,42,835 under 'Advance to Cultivators,' is due to the grant of Agricultural loans in the shape of cattle and Seed loans, paddy for consumption, etc. to the distressed cultivators of the flood affected areas of the province. A sum total of Rs. 4,42,835 has been incurred for this purpose against the ordinary budget grant of Rs. 1,00,000 of the current year.

(c) The house problem in Shillong as well as in other places has become very acute. Greater facilities to Government servants for building houses so that they may live comfortably became a necessity for which Government had to incur an additional sum of Rs. 49,530.

(d) An additional sum of Rs. 81,746 is required for granting larger advance to a greater number of officers owing to rise in the price of motor cars.

No. 23

The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY to move:—

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 3,09,360 be granted to defray charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1948 for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works—Tools and Plant and Establishment charges".

	Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	17,44,400
II. Sub-heads to which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for by the Public Works Department—	
B.—Charges on Construction—	
(i) Contingencies	82,000
Post-War Development Schemes	40,000
Deduct—Amount transferred to "63-B" ...	—40,000
D.—Charges in England	2,27,360
G.—Tools and Plant	2,42,600
Deduct Amount transferred to "63-B"	—2,42,600
Total ...	<u>3,09,360</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

- (i) Due to increased expenditure on maintenance of Government vehicles which were previously debited under Tools and Plant and now transferred to contingencies due to change of classification.
- (ii) Due to purchase of machineries, etc., from the United Kingdom and leave salaries drawn in that country.

No. 24

The Hon'ble Srijut GOPINATH BARDOLOI to move :

On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional sum of Rs. 2,82,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1948 for the administration of the head "63-B—Expenditure on Post-War Development Schemes."

					Rs.
I. Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...				4,91,89,000
II. Sub-head to which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—					
Charges on account of Public Works					
Tools and Plant and Establishment—					
B. Charges on constructions—					
1. Pay of officers	...	...	...	...	2,130
2. Pay of establishment	...	...	...	...	10,320
3. Allowances	...	...	...	...	5,050
4. Contingencies	...	...	...	...	22,500
			Total	...	40,000
G. Tools and Plants	...	...	...	...	2,42,600
			Grand total	...	2,82,600

EXPLANATORY NOTE

B. A sum of Rs. 13,778 is necessary for the staff employed in connection with the Post-War scheme, i.e., Rs.9,778 under "Pay of Establishment and Rs.4,000 under allowances". A further sum of Rs. 26,222 is required for the Assam Engineering School Gauhati, which was started from 16th January 1948. For details please see the list of new schemes enclosed.

G. A sum of Rs. 1,30,000 is required for the purchase of Survey and Mathematical instruments and tent equipments in connection with the Post-War Development Schemes and a further sum of Rs. 1,12,600 is required for the purchase of miscellaneous useful war surplus stores from the Military. For details please see the list of new schemes enclosed.

LIST OF NEW SCHEMES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET OF 1947-48

Major, minor and sub-head under which provision should be made	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure in 1947-48			Remarks
		Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
29.—Police—E—Special Police.	Home Guards	Rs. 3,60,670	Rs. 15,76,310	Rs. 19,36,980	Rs. 3,50,670	Rs. 3,09,180	Rs. 6,59,850	In view of the tendency towards lawlessness in the country which in Assam has been manifested in relation to the Food Control Orders Government are satisfied that the regular Police Forces require supplementing by utilizing voluntary Civil Assistants.*

*Details of the scheme and the cost involved are given below:—

Allowances and Honoraria of the personnel

	Cost in 1947-48	Ultimate cost
	Rs.	Rs.
Honorarium of 2,160 Home guards at Rs. 2 per diem each for 8 months	1,29,600	10,36,800
Honorarium of 240 Nayaks for 8 months at Rs. 2-4-0 each per diem ..	14,400	1,26,000
Honorarium of 60 Jethadars at Rs. 2-8-0 each per diem for 8 months	3,600	34,200
Honorarium of 34 Subedars at Rs. 2-12-0 each per diem for 8 months	2,040	20,910
Honorarium of 18 trainers at Rs. 4 per diem each for 2 months. ..	2,160	4,320
Honorarium of 17 Area Commandants at Rs. 5 per diem for 8 months	2,550	20,400
Establishment of the Commandant General for 8 months	440	3,520
Travelling allowance of Commandant General for 8 months	750	6,000
Travelling allowance of personal staff of the Commandant General—		
(1) Personal Assistant ..	600	4,800
(2) Stenographer ..		
(3) Orderly ..		
Travelling allowance of 17 Area Commandants at Rs. 100 each per month for 8 months	1,700	13,600
Travelling allowance of 35 Subedars at Rs. 20 each per month	680	5,440
Contingencies	3,50,670	3,60,670
Cost of Board during training period of 2,511 Home Guards, Officers and other ranks at Rs. 2 per diem..	1,50,660	3,01,320
Total ..	6,59,850	19,36,980

Major, Minor and Sub-head under which provision should be made	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure in 1947-48			Remarks
		Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
38.—Medical—Grants for Leprosy Works.	Special non-recurring grant towards the maintenance of the Santipara Leper Colony in the Goalpara District during the current financial year (1947-48).	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. 4,474	Rs. ..	Rs. 4,474	This special grant of Rs. 4,474 is urgently required to meet the increased cost of maintenance of the Colony consequent on establishment charges including doctors allowance and the opening of a separate female ward with 16 beds, etc.

39.—Public Health— B.—Grants for Public Health Purposes— Grants to Local bodies for water supply.	Excavation of a tank in Mangaldai small Town.	5,250	..	5,250	5,250	..	5,250	<p>The sources of water supply in Mangaldai town are very low and there is great scarcity of water. The Mangaldai Town Committee submitted to Government a proposal to excavate a tank estimated to cost about Rs. 10,500 with the request to Government to make a grant of the amount to the Town Committee to carry out the project. Having considered the proposal in the light of the Town Committee's financial condition and the condition of water supply in the town, Government agreed to give a grant covering half the cost of the scheme provided the balance was met by the Town Committee either out of its own funds or by taking a loan from Government. The provision of Rs. 5,250 is therefore made to make the proposed grant.</p> <p>The provision made during 1946-47 could not be utilised as the site was not finally selected.</p>	
39.—Public Health—F.— Works—Public Health Original works.	Construction of 22 dispensary buildings for treatment of Kala-azar patients. Purchase of equipment and medical stores.	1,70,000	..	1,70,000	1,70,000	..	1,70,000	<p>Owing to recrudescence of Kala-azar intensive survey was carried out of certain heavily infected areas. As a result, it was necessary to open 16 dispensaries for the treatment of patients, viz., 8 in Nowgong, 5 in Sibsagar, 1 in Kamrup, 1 in Darrang and 1 in Garo Hills. As suitable hired houses were not available and as accommodation is urgently required it was necessary to</p>	
39.—Public Health— C.—Epidemic Diseases (b) other epidemics.		10,000	10,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000		

LIST OF NEW SCHEMES PROPOSED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET FOR 1947-48

APPENDIX

[15TH MAR

Major, minor and Sub-head under which the provision should be made	Nature of Scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure, 1947-48			Remarks
		Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	construct the buildings for the accommodation of these dispensaries and the staff. The Kacha buildings of 5 existing dispensaries in Nowgong and Sibnagar districts were in a very bad state of repair and it was considered more economical to construct new buildings than to repair the old ones. The dispensary at Phulbari in Garo Hills was destroyed by fire and it was necessary to construct a new building. It was also necessary to provide these dispensaries with equipment and medical stores. The total estimated cost is Rs. 1,70,000 for construction of the buildings and Rs. 20,000 for equipment and medical stores.
	Total	1,80,000	10,000	1,90,000	1,90,000	10,000	1,90,000	

Head of Accounts	Division	Name of work	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure during 1947-48			Remarks
			Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
39.—Public Health—F.—Works—Original works by Public Works Department—Voted—Non-excluded area.	Khasi and Jaintia Hills Division.	Improvement to water-supply at Cherapunjee including extension in Pynshad Kurai and Naya Basti villages.	Rs: 16,246	Rs. ..	Rs. 16,246	Rs. 1,000	Rs. ..	Rs. 1,000	As the old source is not sufficient to supply water regularly as per existing system apart from the question of extension upto "Naya Basti" and Pynshad Kurai villages another new source is selected and an additional intake is provided. The new source will supply only the lower places and the old source the upper part of Saitsohpen village.
		Total—39.—Public Health—F.—Works—Original Works by Public Works Department.	..	..	..	1,000	..	1,000	
		Deduct amount to be met from savings.	..	..	..	—280	..	—280	
		Net additional grant required.	..	..	..	720	..	720	
64.—B.—Civil Defence—Provincial—D.—Works—Original Works—Voted—Non-excluded area.	Khasi and Jaintia Hills Division.	Providing a fire place for the office of the Inspector of Factories in P.M.T.C. Building.	315	..	315	315	..	315	Provision of a fire place as a protection against biting cold in winter months is an imperative necessity.

APPENDIX

[15TH MAR.]

Major, minor and sub-head under which provision should be made	Nature of scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure in 1947-48			Remarks
		Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	Non-recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
50.—Civil Works (Provincial)—B.—Charges on construction—Assam Engineering School—Post-War Development Scheme Non-Excluded Areas. (Voted.)—	Proposal for opening the Assam Engineering School.	..	12,240	12,240	..	2,130	2,130	The Assam Engineering School was started at Gauhati from 16th January 1948. This is a part of the proposed combined scheme for School and College. There was no provision in the budget for this scheme in the current financial year. The expenditure for the remaining months of the year will be as follows.—
1. Pay of officers ..		..	5,640	5,640	..	542	542	50.—Civil Works (Provincial)—
2. Pay of Establishment ..		..	6,060	6,060	..	750	750	Non-Excluded Areas—(Voted)—
3. Allowances ..		..	25,440	25,440	..	22,500	22,500	B.—Charges on construction—
4. Contingencies ..		..	2,520	2,520	..	300	300	Assam Engineering School Post-War Development Scheme.
5. Scholarships ..		..			..
Total ..		..	51,900	51,900	..	26,222	26,222	

	Ultimate cost	Requirement 1947-48
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay of officers (voted)—		
1. Principal (300—25—800)	6,204	1,200
2. Lecturer (200—15—380—20—500)		
3. Allowances and Honoraria Medical Attendance at Rs.20 per month	4,596	750
Allowance to teacher of Mathematics at Rs. 50 per month	240	30
Allowance to Teacher of Physics at Rs.50 per month	600	75
	600	75
	12,240	2,130
2. Pay of Establishment (Voted)—		
(1) Clerk (100—5—125)		
(2) Chawkidars (12—1/3—15—1/5—17)	1,452	156
(2) Peons (12—1/3—15—1/5—17)	360	51
(1) Carpenter (60—3—66—4—90)	360	51
(1) Khalasi (12—17)	996	110
(1) Foreman (60—3—66—4—90)	180	26
(1) Smith (60—3—66—4—90)	996	110
Special pay for Hostel Superintendent at Rs.25 per month	996	..
	300	38
	5,640	542
Cost of living allowance and Dearness allowance	6,060	750
	6,060	750
4. Contingencies—		
Contingencies (Non-contract)		
Books ..	2,500	300
Instruments and equipments	2,000	500
Furniture and Hostel Utensils	18,000	20,000
Hostel Menials..		1,300
Rent for the School and Hostel Buildings ..	1,500	200
	1,440	200
	25,440	22,500
5. Scholarships ..	2,520	300
	51,900	26,222
Total ..		
Total contingencies		
Total ..		

Major, Minor and Sub-head under which provision should be made	Division	Name of work	Estimate of ultimate cost			Estimate of expenditure for 1947-48			Remarks (Explanatory)
			Non- recurring	Recurring	Total	Non- recurring	Recurring	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Expenditure on Post- War—G.— Tools and Plant—Vo- ted—Non- Excluded Areas.	..	(1) Survey and mathematical instruments and tent equipments, etc.	1,30,000	..	1,30,000	1,30,000	..	1,30,000	The execution of the heavy Post- War Programme being entirely dependent upon the acquisition of necessary equipments, it is absolutely necessary that these Tools and Plant should be acqui- red for early implementation of the Post-War Programme.
		(2) Miscellaneous useful War sur- plus stores pur- chased from "Disposal".	1,20,073	..	1,20,073	1,12,600	..	1,12,600	
		Total Post War— G—Tools and Plant.	2,50,073	..	2,50,073	2,42,600	..	2,42,600	

Statement showing by Major heads the amounts of Supplementary Grants which the Assembly are asked to vote in the present Session

Heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly and authenticated by His Excellency	Grant asked for in the present Session	Grant as it will finally stand	Number of Supplementary demand
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
4.—Taxes on income other than Corporation tax.	60,600	..	60,600	..
7.—Land Revenue ..	23,72,300	..	23,72,300	..
8.—Provincial Excise ..	5,67,600	2,14,615	7,82,215	1
9.—Stamps ..	65,800	9,673	75,473	2
10.—Forests ..	22,79,700	2,92,435	25,72,135	3
11.—Registration ..	2,30,500	..	2,30,500	..
12.—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Acts.	4,81,300	5,903	4,87,203	4
13.—Other taxes and duties..	8,700	27,430	36,130	5
18-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works.	15,72,700	..	15,72,700	..
25.—General Administration	38,66,300	5,58,240	44,24,540	6
27.—Administration of Justice	11,89,000	..	11,89,000	..
28.—Jails and Convict Settlements.	12,75,800	50,075	13,25,875	7
29.—Police ..	60,98,800	8,76,730	69,75,530	8
30.—Ports and Pilotage ..	2,100	..	2,100	..
36.—Scientific Departments..	15,900	1,196	17,096	9
37.—Education (European)..	1,04,400	6,520	1,10,920	10
37.—Education (other than European).	76,66,100	5,17,370	81,83,470	11
38.—Medical ..	18,61,200	2,30,362	20,91,562	12
39.—Public Health ..	19,45,800	3,64,230	23,10,030	13
40.—Agriculture ..	12,70,100	92,150	13,62,250	14
41.—Veterinary ..	4,00,600	12,000	4,12,600	15
42.—Co-operation ..	4,14,700	..	4,14,700	..
43.—Industries ..	4,19,200	22,360	4,41,560	16
47.—Miscellaneous Departments.	2,27,000	9,482	2,36,482	17
50.—Civil Works (Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment).	1,35,71,800	..	1,35,71,800	..
18-B.—Tools and Plant and Establishment Charges.	17,44,400	3,09,360	20,53,760	..
54-A.—Famine Relief ..	1,00,000	..	1,00,000	..
55.—Superannuation allowances and pensions.	22,66,400	4,45,387	27,11,787	18
56.—Stationery and Printing	5,33,800	67,351	6,01,151	19
57.—Miscellaneous ..	36,10,500	8,58,924	44,69,424	20
63.—Extraordinary Charges	14,300	..	14,300	..
63-B.—Post-War Development Schemes.	4,91,89,000	2,82,600	4,94,71,600	..
64-B.—Civil Defence ..	..	35,285	35,285	21
72.—Capital outlay on Industrial Development.	..	..	..	..
85-A.—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading.	100	..	100	..
Loans and advances bearing and not bearing interest.	12,30,000	5,29,111	17,59,111	22
Grand total ..	10,66,56,500	58,18,789	11,24,75,289	

**SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE
CHARGED ON THE REVENUES OF THE PROVINCE
DURING 1947-48 LAID BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY
UNDER SECTION 81 OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF INDIA ACT**

(To be discussed by the Assembly on the 29th March 1948)

No.1

7.—Land Revenue—Charged (Excluded areas)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	28,900
I.—Additional grant now required	1,400
II.—Sub-heads under which the supplementary appropriation will be accounted for:—	
A. Charges of Administration—General Establishment—Contingencies (Non-contract).	200
B. Charges on account of land revenue collections—Contingencies.	1,200
Total ...	<u>1,400</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

- A. Due to the entertainment of an *ex-Gurkha* Sepoy for checking all Khuties in the North Cachar Hills.
- D. Due to more outlay on commission owing to larger collection of revenue.

No.2

8.—Provincial Excise—Charged (Excluded areas)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	22,600
I. Additional amount now required	3,693
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary appropriation will be accounted for:—	
B. District Executive Establishment—	
1. Pay of Establishment	1,500
2. Allowance and honoraria	250
E. Cost of opium supplied to the Excise Department ...	1,943
Total ...	<u>3,693</u>

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. *Pay of Establishment.*—The excess is due mainly to the creation of a temporary staff for Sadiya Frontier Tract.
2. *Allowances and Honoraria.*—The excess is due mainly to increase in the rate of Travelling Allowance and creation of a temporary staff in Sadiya Frontier Tract.
- E. *Cost of opium supplied to the Excise Department.*—The excess is due to the increase in the rate of the cost price of opium supplied to Assam from the Ghazipur Factory from Rs.31-12-0 per seer during 1946-47 to Rs.37-2-0 per seer during 1947-48. The original estimate was based on the rate for 1946-47.

No. 3

13.—Other taxes and duties—Charged (Non-excluded areas)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. Nil
I. Additional amount now required	1,260
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary appropriation will be accounted for—	
I. Pay of officers	1,260

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As the Scheme for the levy of taxes was not fully worked out before the budget estimates were prepared for 1947-48, no provision could be made in the budget for this new Department. Hence it is necessary to provide the expenditure involved in setting up the Department by a supplementary grant.

No. 4

28. Jails and Convict Settlement—Excluded areas (Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	Rs. 24,500
I. Additional grant now required	2,500
II. Sub-head under which the additional grant will be accounted for—	
B.—Charges for Police Custody—	
4. Contingencies (Non-contract)	2,500

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Excess is partly due to larger outlay on diet and conveyance of under-trial prisoners owing to the increase in the number of prisoners and partly due to the appointment of a contingency menial for the Haflong lock-up for which no provision made in the original budget estimates.

No. 5

29.—Police—Excluded Areas—(Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 1,35,600
I. Additional grant now required	6,674
II. Sub-heads under which the supplementary appropriation will be accounted for—	
B. District Executive Force—	
(a) District Police—	
Allowances and Honoraria	6,674

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The excess is due to the increase of rate of ration compensation allowance, larger outlay on travelling allowance on account of district transfer and escort duty from time to time.

No. 6

Rs.

38.—Medical—Excluded areas—(Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule 3,83,500

I. Additional grant now required ... 54,595

II. Sub-heads under which the Supplementary appropriation will be accounted for—

A.—Medical Establishment—

(b) District Medical Officer—

(i) Allowance and Honoraria ... 4,171

(ii) Contingencies contract ... 420

(c) Reserve Medical Subordinates—

(i) Pay of Officers ... 1,092

B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries—

(a) Ordinary Dispensaries—

(i) Allowance and Honoraria ... 6,349

(ii) Contingencies non-contract ... 17,695

(iii) Contingencies contract ... 14,641

(b) Travelling Dispensaries—

(i) Pay of Establishment ... 1,005

(ii) Allowance and Honoraria ... 1,065

(iii) Contingencies non-contract ... 891

(iv) Contingencies contract ... 2,571

(d) Leprosy Survey, etc.—

Leper Hospital, Haflong—

(i) Contingencies non-contract ... 1,765

(ii) Contingencies contract ... 2,930

G. Works—Repairs ...

Total ... 54,595

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(b) District Medical Officers—

(i) Due to increased expenditure on travelling allowance and ration compensation allowance.

(ii) Due to pay and allowance of contingency menials and also for freight charge of Medical Stores.

(c) Reserve Medical Subordinates—

(i) Due to granting of leave to an officer.

B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries—

(a) Ordinary dispensaries—

(i) Due to grant of dearness allowance and ration compensation allowance at increased rates.

(ii) Due to increased expenditure on diet on account of high prices of dietary articles.

(iii) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rate to contingency menials and grant of interim relief pay and also high prices of miscellaneous articles.

(b) Travelling Dispensaries—

(i) For opening of a new dispensary.

(ii) Due to grant of dearness allowance at increased rate and increased expenditure on house-rent and other fixed allowances.

(iii) For purchase of medical stores.

(iv) Dearness allowance to contingency menials and high prices of miscellaneous articles.

(d) Leprosy Survey, etc.—

(i) Due to increased expenditure on diet on account of high prices of dietary articles and due to increased number of lepers in Leper hospitals.

G.—Works—Repairs—

Due to repairs to the Rima dispensary and staff quarters.

No. 7

40.—Agriculture—

I. Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule.	Rs. 70,200
Additional amount required	3,800
II. Sub-heads under which the additional amounts will be accounted for—	
B. Superintendence—	
Allowance and Honoraria	1,000
H. Agricultural Demonstration and Propoganda	2,500
K. Works—	
(b) Repairs	300

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B. Allowance and Honoraria	... due to extension tour by the Inspectors.
H. Agricultural Demonstration and propaganda.	due to high price of seeds manure and labour, the original grant proved inadequate.
K. Works—Repair ... ..	... due to high price of material and labour.

No. 8

43.—Industries—Excluded areas—(Charged)—

Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule	Rs. 6,200
Additional amount now required	920
Sub-heads under which the additional grants will be accounted for—	
1. A. Industrial Development	790
2. B. Industrial education (d) Industrial Schools	130
Total	920

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. No provision was included in the budget to cover the expenditure on account of interim relief, ration compensation allowance and the fixed travelling allowance sanctioned to the demonstrator, Lushai Hills.

2. No provision exists in the budget to cover the expenditure on account of a stipend sanctioned to one Yamongdi Ao.

No. 9

47.—Miscellaneous Department—

	Rs.
I. Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule.	100
Additional amount required	86
II. Sub-heads under which additional amount will be accounted for—	
E. Provincial Statistics—	
(a) Raingauge charges	44
G. Works—	
(b) Repairs—	
Raingauge and Jute Statistics	42

EXPLANATORY NOTES

E. (a) Raingauge charges—A new raingauge has to be purchased for Margherita. The original grant of Rs. 50 was inadequate to meet the cost.

G. (b) Repairs—The original grant of Rs. 25 only proved inadequate to meet the necessary expenditure due to high price of materials and labour.

No. 10

50.—Civil Works—Excluded areas—(Charged)—

	Rs.
Amount originally included in the authenticated schedule	20,11,800
I. Additional grant now required	4,100
II. Sub-heads under which the Supplementary appropriation will be accounted for—	
Grants-in-aid to communications—	
Grants to other funds (non-recurring)	4,100

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A special non-recurring grant of Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned to the Haflong Town Fund for repairs to lake bunds and drains damaged by floods in the year 1946. Another special non-recurring grant of Rs. 2,100 was sanctioned to the same Fund for Special flood damage repairs for the year 1947-48. These grants were sanctioned with the concurrence of Finance Department. Therefore the additional amount is required.

No. 11

57.—Miscellaneous—Excluded areas—(Charged)—

I Amount originally included in the authenticated Schedule.	Rs.
Additional grant now required	2,81,600
II Sub-heads under which additional grants will be accounted for—	70,500
C. Donation for charitable purposes	707
E. Petty Establishment—	
(a) Circuit and Sessions houses	465
(b) Other Petty Establishments	42,610
J. Miscellaneous Darbar Charges	6,170
H. Rates and taxes	58
K. (a) Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges	11,000
(b) Expenditure on free rations to Government servants.	4,900
N.—Works—	Rs.
(i) Original Works	2,190
(ii) Repairs	2,400
Total	65,600
Grand total	70,500

EXPLANATORY NOTES

C. Due mainly to larger outlay on burial of paupers and diet money of non-criminal lunatics and lepers in the Lushai Hills.

E (a). Due to increased rate of ration compensation allowances granted to Government servants in the Lushai Hills.

(b). Due to high price of food-stuffs supply of rations to P. L. Cs. at the outposts in the Subansiri's Sub-Areas for one year with effect from the 1st December, 1947 and maintenance of the Balipara P. L. C. at full strength. It is also due to the retention of the staff for Ledo Area sanitation for which full provision was not made in the budget.

J. Due to the cost of Scarlet Broad Cloth supplied to the Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills at an increased rate. It is also due to entertainment of the Chief and Envoys in connection with His Excellency's recent visit to Balipara Frontier Tract.

H. Due to enhanced municipal taxes for unoccupied Government land within Haflong Town Fund.

K (a). Due to the expenditure in connection with Independence Day Celebration and also due to the cost sanctioned for the election of members to the Advisory Council in Lushai Hills.

(b). Due to rise in prices of food articles.

N (i). Due mainly to reconstruction of sweeper's shed at Dittock-cherra.

(ii). Due to special repair work to clerk's quarters at Margherita and also due to high prices of building materials.

Statement showing by major heads the amounts of Supplementary Statement of expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province during 1947-48

Heads	Amount included in the authenticated Schedule			Additional amount now required			Amount as it will finally stand			Number of demand
	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total authenticated amount	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	Non-excluded areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
7.—Land Revenue ..	36,700	28,900	65,600	..	1,400	1,400	36,700	30,300	67,000	1
8.—Provincial Excise ..	24,500	22,600	47,100	..	3,693	3,693	24,500	26,293	50,793	2
9.—Stamps ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10.—Forests ..	1,87,400	3,29,500	5,16,900	..	..	..	1,87,400	3,29,500	5,16,900	
11.—Registration ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12.—Charges on account of Motor Vehicles Taxation Acts.	3,600	40	3,640	..	..	..	3,600	40	3,640	
13.—Other taxes and duties ..	..	..	..	1,260	..	1,260	1,260	..	1,260	3
18-B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works.	500	..	500	..	..	..	..	..	500	
25.—General Administration ..	12,27,700	4,97,500	17,25,200	..	..	..	12,27,700	4,97,500	17,25,200	
27.—Administration of Justice ..	2,46,900	1,600	2,48,500	..	..	..	2,46,900	1,600	2,48,500	
28.—Jails and Convict Settlements ..	5,100	24,500	29,600	..	2,500	2,500	5,100	27,000	32,100	4
29.—Police ..	4,15,600	1,35,600	5,51,200	..	6,674	6,674	4,15,600	1,42,274	5,57,874	5
30.—Ports and Pilotage ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37.—Education—European ..	500	3,700	4,200	..	..	..	500	3,700	4,200	
37.—Education (other than European) ..	..	4,03,500	4,03,500	..	..	..	..	4,03,500	4,03,500	
38.—Medical ..	1,58,300	3,83,500	5,41,800	..	54,595	54,595	1,58,300	4,38,095	5,96,395	6

Statement showing by major heads the amounts of Supplementary Statement of expenditure charged on the revenues of the Province during 1947-48

Heads	Amount included in the authenticated schedule			Additional amount now required			Amount as it will finally stand			Number of demand
	Non-exclud- ed areas	Excluded areas	Total au- thenticated amount	Non-exclud- ed areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	Non-exclud- ed areas	Excluded areas	Total amount	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
39.—Public Health ..	32,000	60,600	92,600	..	..	..	32,000	60,600	92,600	7
40.—Agriculture ..	..	70,200	70,200	..	3,800	3,800	..	74,000	74,000	8
41.—Veterinary ..	..	9,700	9,700	..	..	..	..	9,700	9,700	9
42.—Co-operation ..	32,800	..	32,800	..	..	..	32,800	..	32,800	10
43.—Industries ..	..	6,200	6,200	..	920	920	..	7,120	7,120	
47.—Miscellaneous Departments ..	..	100	100	..	86	86	..	186	186	
50.—Civil Works (excluding tools and plant and establishment).	55,000	20,11,800	20,66,800	..	4,100	4,100	55,000	20,15,900	20,70,900	
18-B.—Tools and plant and establishment charges.	1,33,600	1,87,500	3,21,100	..	..	..	1,33,600	1,87,500	3,21,100	
54-A.—Famine Relief ..	..	5,000	5,000	..	..	..	..	5,000	5,000	
55.—Superannuation allowances and pensions.	8,61,100	..	8,61,100	..	..	..	8,61,100	..	8,61,100	
56.—Stationery and Printing ..	1,400	1,300	2,700	..	..	..	1,400	1,300	2,700	
57.—Miscellaneous ..	19,60,400	2,81,600	22,42,000	..	70,500	70,500	19,60,400	3,52,100	23,12,500	11
63.—Extraordinary charges ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
63-B.—Post-War Development Schemes.	28,800	16,08,500	16,37,300	..	..	..	28,800	16,08,500	16,37,300	
72.—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
85-A.—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading.	20,500	..	20,500	..	..	..	20,500	..	20,500	
Loans and advances, etc..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	54,32,400	60,73,440	1,15,05,840	1,260	1,48,268	1,49,528	54,33,660	62,21,708	1,16,55,368	