





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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong,  
at 10 A.M. on Monday, the 24th March, 1958.

**PRESENT**

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the  
Chair, the eight Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers and  
seventy-one Members.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**STARRED QUESTIONS**

(To which oral answers were given)

(Starred Question No. 89, standing in the name of  
Shri Tankeswar Chetia, was not put and answered as the  
hon. Member was absent).

**Land of Behiating Grazing Reserve in Jamira Mouza  
of Dibrugarh Subdivision**

**Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh)** asked :

\*90. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased  
to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the land that was  
taken in exchange for about half an acre of  
grazing land of Behiating grazing reserve in  
Jamira Mouza of Dibrugarh Subdivision from  
the Behiating Tea Estate, Ltd., is a low land  
and therefore cannot be used for grazing ?
- (b) Why Government took a plot of low land for  
the purpose of grazing in exchange for a plot  
of high land ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to allot another  
portion of high land for grazing for the benefit  
of the graziers of Jamira Mouza ?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance for  
Minister Revenue)** replied :

90. (a)—It is not a fact. The land that was taken in  
exchange is of "Faringati" class and is fit for grazing purposes.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—If such proposal comes, it will be considered.



†**Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR** (**Dibrugarh**):  
Do Government describe a water-logged area as Faringati land ?

†**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** (**Minister, Finance**):  
No, water-logged areas are not considered Faringati land. In this particular case, the Sub-Deputy Collector's report is that this land is Faringati land and is as high as the neighbouring grazing lands and suitable for grazing.

†**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA** (**Saikhowa**):  
Whether the Minister in-charge knows that Faringati land is also water-logged ?

†**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** (**Minister, Finance**):  
I have no idea.

#### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the Table).

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#### Basic Training Colleges at Titabar

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI** (**Titabar**) asked :

308. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government feel the necessity of two Basic Training Colleges at Titabar ?

(b) Whether Government propose to consider to amalgamate the Basic Training College and the Post-Graduate Training College ?

(c) If so, when it is proposed to materialise ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (**Minister, Education**) replied :

308. (a), (b) & (c)—The matter is under examination.



\***Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur):** What were the considerations that led to the establishment of two institutions of the same nature at the same place?

\***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education):** One is the Post Graduate Training College and the other is the Basic Training College; one is for research and the other for teaching.

**Multi-purpose High Schools and Higher Secondary High Schools in Plains Tribal Areas**

**Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS (Patacharkuchi, Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)** asked :

309. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government is not taking up any schools in the Plains Tribal Areas as Multi-purpose High Schools or as Higher Secondary High Schools?

(b) Whether Government propose to give special consideration to the High Schools which are situated in the Tribal Areas at the time of selecting them as Higher Secondary or as Multi-purpose High Schools?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Education)** replied :

309. (a)—No. Quite a few of the Higher Secondary and Multi-purpose Schools so far established is in areas where Tribal children can get the benefit of the School.

(b)—Yes, if the usual conditions for selection of High School, viz., location, roll-strength, accommodation facilities, staff condition can be satisfied.



## Tea Garden Provident Fund

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar)** asked:

310. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) What is the up-to-date accumulation of Tea Garden Provident Fund for Labour (reply to be given subdivision-wise without mixing the one-third bonus deposits) ?

(b) What is the accumulation of the one-third bonus with the Provident Fund (reply is to be given subdivision-wise) ?

(c) Why receipts of the deposits of one-third bonus have not yet been issued to all the depositors ?

(d) Whether Government propose to issue such receipts early?

(e) Whether Government will be pleased to state where the Provident Fund is going to be invested or utilised ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour)** replied :

310. (a) & (b)—The accumulations of provident fund contributions and bonus are given below subdivision-wise :—

Subdivision					Provident Fund Contributions	Bonus
(1)					(2)	(3)
					Rs.	Rs.
North Lakhimpur	..	..	..	..	8,80,899.00	3,48,805.81
Dibrugarh	..	..	..	..	1,92,67,290.03	49,44,304.53
Sibsagar	..	..	..	..	52,51,494.00	15,17,079.91
Jorhat	..	..	..	..	66,16,293.03	17,35,701.42
Golaghat	..	..	..	..	35,68,047.06	7,07,339.56
Tezpur	..	..	..	..	81,69,741.50	18,48,748.81



Mangaldai	..	..	..	..	..	18,45,444.75	5,35,502.37
Nowgong	..	..	..	..	..	16,34,526.09	2,92,426.31
Gauhati	..	..	..	..	..	72,882.24	1,049.00
Barpeta	..	..	..	..	..	2,60,892.09	52,050.75
Goalpara	..	..	..	..	..	16,242.75	1,872.50
Dhubri	..	..	..	..	..	2,10,172.91	37,365.31
Kokrajhar	..	..	..	..	..	41,616.00	14,205.00
Silchar	..	..	..	..	..	23,36,679.31	3,42,979.94
Hailakandi	..	..	..	..	..	9,28,383.06	1,65,575.37
Karimganj	..	..	..	..	..	14,32,539.03	1,38,754.15
						5,25,33,142.85	1,26,73,760.74

(c)—Receipts from the Board of Trustees were issued to all gardens who deposited the one-third bonus to the Provident Fund. Gardens who are depositing bonus now will be furnished with receipts as and when the list of recipients are received from them.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Under directions of the Government of India, all Provident Fund accumulations are invested only in Government of India Securities.

### **Purchase of Stores and Equipments by Mechanical Engineer (Public Works Department), Jorhat**

**Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh)** asked :

311. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) From whom does the Mechanical Engineer, Public Works Department, Jorhat (under Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department Jorhat) make local purchases of stores and equipments ?

(b) Whether he invites tenders or quotations for the purpose ?



(c) Whether it is a fact that the Mechanical Engineer makes most of his purchases from M/S. Joyshree Motor Stores of Jorhat ?

(d) Whether the Government are aware that the quotation of the said M/S. Joyshree Motor Works are higher than the market rate ?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department)** replied :

311. (a)—Mechanical Engineer calls for quotations from various firms and makes purchases from firms whose quotations are low and reasonable.

Mechanical Engineer, Jorhat purchased stores and equipments during the current year from the following firms—

1. M/s. Jesraj Jiwanram.
2. „ Jeskaram Sahanlall.
3. „ Hind Motor Parts.
4. M/s. Joyshree Motor Parts.
5. „ Udaichand Jain.
6. „ Jalan Stores.
7. „ Balchand Dharamchand.
8. „ Tea Planters' Stores.
9. „ Jain Motors.
10. „ Himatsinka Motor Works.
11. „ J. C. Barua & Co.
12. „ National Engineering Co.
13. „ Industrial Stores.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No. Please refer to reply to (a) above.

(d)—Since the purchases are made at the lowest rate on comparative basis, the question of offering the higher price than the market price to M/S. Joyshree Motor Works does not arise.

### **Lala Multi-purpose High School**

**Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra)** asked :

312. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) The amount sanctioned for Lala Multipurpose High School in Hailakandi subdivision ?

(b) The period within which the amount will be spent ?

(c) The expenditure to be incurred annually ?

(d) The amount spent up-to-date ?



- (e) The agency through which money is spent ?  
 (f) Whether there is any connection between the Managing Committee of the school and the above agency, if any ?  
 (g) If not, how the works of both regarding buildings etc., are adjusted ?  
 (h) Whether Government feel the necessity of joint sitting of the above agency, if any, and the managing committee of the School for adjustment of works and also for appraisal of the managing committee about the progress of the Multipurpose Scheme ?  
 (i) When the Multipurpose Course is going to be introduced in this school ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education)** replied :

312. (a)—Non-recurring	...	...	...	Rs.	1,45,000
Recurring	...	...	...	...	18,800

(b)—The amount is being spent and will be fully spent as early as possible.

(e)—Rs. 18,800.

(d)—The information is being collected.

(e)—The Development Committee constituted for the purpose.

(f)—The Secretary of the Managing Committee is invariably the Joint Secretary of Development Committee and in many cases both the Development Committee and the Managing Committee have the same President. Thus a liaison is being maintained.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—There is no bar in having a joint meeting whenever necessary. In fact, such joint meetings took place on several occasions.

(i)—With effect from the school-Session 1958-59.

(Unstarred Questions Nos. 313 and 314 standing in the name of Shri Khagendra Nath Nath were cancelled as his election was declared void by the Election Tribunal).



**Representation for Agricultural Demonstrators  
at Nazira and Namti**

**Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira)** asked:

315. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government have received any representation from the public of Nazira and Namti for deputing two Agricultural Demonstrators with necessary manure, etc., to advise the agriculturists in all matters?

(b) What decision Government have taken on this matter?

(c) Whether Government propose to consider this matter?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture)** replied:

315. (a)—No.

(b) & (c)—Does not arise.

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj):**  
What are the functions of the demonstrators?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** The function of the demonstrators is to carry out the programme of the Agriculture Department at the lowest level.

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI:** Is it not a fact that these demonstrators are utilised only as salesmen for agricultural manure and Government seeds?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** These are also included in their duties—to push sale of manure, so that people may use manure, and sell good seeds in order to help the people to raise the quality of their produce.



**Excise Commissioner who was responsible for loss of seventeen lakhs of rupees at the time of partition of Sylhet from Assam**

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)**  
asked :

316. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Who was the former Excise Commissioner, who was responsible for involving the Government of Assam in a loss of about 17 lakhs of rupees at the time of partition of Sylhet from Assam ?
- (b) Is it a fact that he was the Officer-in-charge of division of essential liabilities in the District of Sylhet ?
- (c) Is it a fact that some prominent institutions of Sylhet District were left out of account while dividing the assets with Pakistan ?
- (d) What was the amount of loss sustained by the Government of Assam as a result of his omission and gross irregularities ?
- (e) Will Government consider the question of re-opening the proceedings against that officer as it is a matter of very vital importance to the State of Assam ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**  
replied :

316. (a), (b) & (c)—Shri A. N. M. Saleh, who was Commissioner of Excise and Taxes was entrusted as Secretary of the Assets and Liabilities Committee with the preparation of a list of assets and liabilities to be divided and was responsible for furnishing the necessary material to the Advocate General, Assam for argument before the Arbitral Tribunal. An omission to include the value of certain buildings situated in Sylhet in the final list of approved assets through oversight involved the Assam Government in a loss of about 17 lakhs of rupees.

(d)—As already stated the Government of Assam sustained a loss of about Rs.17 lakhs, as a result of the omission which was found to be due to a bonafide mistake.

(e)—The matter was dropped as the omission was found to be due to a bonafide mistake and which could not be ascribed to Shri Saleh. In the circumstances no question of re-opening the proceedings arises.



### Bridges in Golaghat Subdivision

**Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon)** asked :

317. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government proposed to construct the following bridges in Golaghat Subdivision :—

- (i) Bihkhowaghat Bridge over Kakodonga River on Borpatra Ali ;
- (ii) Gelabilghat Bridge over Gelabil in between Gauhati-Shillong Road and the road leading to Brahmaputra ; and
- (iii) Kakodonga Bridge over Kakodonga River over Mahbandha Ali ?

(b) If so, when construction will begin ?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)]** replied :

317. (a)—(i) There is no such proposal at present.

(ii) & (iii) As per recommendations of the Assam Roads Communication Board, in their meeting held in December, 1956, the proposals for construction of the Gelabilghat Bridge and the Kakodonga Bridge on Mahbandha Ali have been included in the Schemes (225 lakhs programme) to be financed out of Central aid programme under Road Fund (Ordinary) Reserve. These schemes have been submitted to the Government of India on 2nd January 1957 for their consideration and approval.

(b)—Does not arise in case of (a) (i). With regard to (a) (ii) and (iii), no work can be started until the proposals receive approval of the Government of India, and funds are made available for the purposes.

### Dhubri-Binnachara Road in Dhubri Subdivision

**Shri TAMIZUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri)** asked :

318. (a) Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state whether there is any newly constructed road named Dhubri-Binnachara Road in the Dhubri Subdivision.

(b) If so, whether it is serviceable ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that the bridge across the Chandakhhol river of the Dhubri-Binnachara Road is hanging, rendering communication for any traffic impossible ?



(d) Whether Government is aware that at the edge of the bridge there is no earth for which no traffic can move ?

(e) If so, whether Government propose to take immediate steps to make the bridge serviceable ?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)]** replied :

318. (a)—Yes, a road to Binnachara from the 1st mile of Dhubri-Patamari road including a bridge over Chandakhola was taken up by Public Works Department under expanded Five Year Plan.

(b)—Not yet.

(c)—Yes. The bridge approaches are not yet complete.

(d)—Yes. The construction of the road has been completed except earthwork in the approaches of the bridge over Chandakhola. These could not be completed for want of earth. Repeated attempts were made to persuade the land owners to allow the Public Works Department to borrow earth from their lands on payment of compensation but they refused. Ultimately necessary land for borrow pits had to be acquired through the Deputy Commissioner and arrangement made to do the earth work through the villagers engaged under a group leader selected by the hon. Member. The bridge approaches are nearing completion.

(e)—Yes, action has already been taken as stated in (d) above.

**Nationalisation of the Motor Service Business of  
the Dhubri-Boxirhat Road**

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj)**  
asked :

319. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government had any proposal to nationalise the Motor Service Business of the Dhubri-Boxirhat Road ?



- (b) If so, why the proposal could not be implemented as yet ?
- (c) If not, whether Government has any intention to nationalise the said business of the above road in future ?
- (d) If so, when ?
- (e) Whether Government served any notice to the owners of private buses plying on the above road at any time to the effect that the route would be nationalised ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**  
replied :

319. (a)—Yes.

(b)—According to the approved road nationalisation programme, Dhubri-Sankosh (Boxirhat road) including Chapaguri-Kochugaon will be taken over for nationalisation in 1960-61.

(c) & (d)—Government are finding it difficult to get necessary finance to implement their road transport nationalisation programme. When necessary allocation is made, Government will take over the road nationalisation programme according to plan.

(e)—No.

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):**  
Is it not a fact that there was a proposal for placing two buses to ply between Dhubri and Siliguri and it was gazetted ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The question was about nationalisation of motor service between Dhubri and Boxirhat. How does Siliguri come in ?

**Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI:** It is in the same route.

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** I am sorry. I cannot say anything about the notification now. But this particular route is included in our Second Plan for nationalisation and as has been replied to in (c) and (d), the scheme is awaiting implementation. We will also have to decide whether we form a corporation or not. At the moment, Sir, we have some financial difficulties for which we have not been able to take it over.



**Training in different trades of Cottage Industries**

**Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East)** asked :

320. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state.—

- (a) The object of training given in different trades of Cottage Industries meant for the artisans and semi-educated youths?
- (b) How many youths completed this kind of training in different trades during 1956-57 and 1957-58 (to be shown separately for each trade).
- (c) How many of them were settled in different trades (to be shown separately).
- (d) How many of them were sent out for further training?
- (e) To how many of them small Industrial loan were issued and how many of them were provided with Government job?
- (f) How many of them have remained unemployed so far?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that unemployment has become more acute among these youths after training in Cottage Industries?
- (h) If so, whether there is any defect in the system of instructions given in different training institutions of Cottage Industries?
- (i) If the reply to (h) above be in the affirmative whether Government propose to close these institutions or improve the teaching to make it more practical and helpful to the students?

**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries)** replied :

320. (a)—The object of training is to provide better facilities for applying new methods with up-to-date tools and machineries so that after the training is completed the trainees can start their own career in the trade taught or can also be absorbed in Government service if vacancies arise.



(b)—During 1956-57—

9 in Soap making.

9 Blacksmithy.

10 in Carpentry.

10 in Umbrella handle making.

2 in Sitalpati making.

10 in Bee-Keeping.

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During 1957-58—

10 in hand made paper making.

10 in Furniture making.

8 in Bee-Keeping.

6 in Soap making.

19 in Embroidery.

8 in Umbrella handle making.

14 in Carpentry.

14 in Doll and Toy making.

13 in Blacksmithy.

3 in Leather Works.

2 in Cane and Bamboo Works.

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(c)—So far as information is available the following were absorbed is private enterprises.

				1 (Private)
1. Leather Works	...	...	4	"
2. Soap making	...	...	18	"
3. Bee-Keeping	...	...	10	"
4. Furniture	...	...	19	"
5. Blacksmithy	...	...	1	"
6. Umbrella handle making	...	...	19	"
7. Carpentry	...	...	72	"

Besides the above 19 trainees who passed out prior to 1955-56 were absorbed in Government service during 1955-56 as shown below :—

Bee Keeping	...	...	...	...	...	12
Hand made paper making	..	..	...	...	...	2
Soap making	...	...	...	...	...	3
Doll and Toy making	..	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmithy	...	...	...	...	...	1
						19

(d)—Six boys in leather works in Madras during 1957-58, Besides 22 were sent to Koni-Bilaspur in 1955-56 and



14 of them came out successful. Six of them were absorbed in Government job.

(e)—Industrial loans were issued to 2 boys in 1957-58. Twenty-five were absorbed in Government job as shown in (c) and (d).

(f)—During 1956-57 and 1957-58 only 157 boys have passed in different trades. Out of these, 72 absorbed in private enterprises, 1 in Government job and Industrial loans were issued to 2 boys. Government have no information about remaining 82 boys. However a follow-up register is being maintained.

(g)—No, for those who have been trained can start their own Industries and Government gives all facilities to such trainees in the shape of loans and grants to settle themselves.

(h)—Does not arise.

(i)—Does not arise.

**\*Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** In reply to 320(f) it is stated that out of 157 boys, 72 have been absorbed in private enterprise, one in Government job and Industrial loans are issued to two boys.

Am I to understand that these 82 boys are yet to be settled in life ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** It is stated in the reply that Government have no information about the remaining 82 boys.

**\*Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHAUDHURY:** How information could be collected about the 72 boys absorbed in private enterprise ?

**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries):** আমাৰ বেজিষ্টাৰ আছে আৰু তাত ইয়াৰ হিচাপ বখা হয় ।

**\*Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHAUDHURY:** বেজিষ্টাৰত থকা বাকী ৮২ জনৰ কথা নেজানে কিয় ?

**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA:** বাকী ৮২ জনে একো কাম কৰা নাই । তেওঁলোকে সাহায্য বিচাৰিলে দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হ'ব ।



**Mr. SPEAKER:** তেখেতৰ প্ৰশ্নটো হৈছে বাকী ৮২ জনৰ কথা চৰকাৰে জানেনে ?

**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries):** তেওঁলোকে কি কৰে আৰি কৰ নোৱাৰে।

**Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** Do Government propose to collect information now ?

**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA :** তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লোৱা হব।

**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari):** যি সকলে চাকৰি পোৱা নাট তেওঁলোকক সাহায্য দিয়া হবনেকি ?

**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA :** সাহায্য বিচাৰিলে দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হব।

**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** কিনান টকা দিব ?

**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA :** তেওঁলোকে আঁচনি দিব লাগিব আৰু সেই আঁচনিৰ যোগ্যতা অনুসাবে সাহায্য দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হব।

### **Dhansirimukh Bund**

**Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon)** asked :

321. Will the Minister for Public Works Department (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) What is the present condition of Dhansirimukh Bund ?

(b) How many miles of the said Bund has been damaged by last flood of the Brahmaputra ?

(c) If there is any proposal of the Government to erect a new embankment on that area ?

(d) If so, when the work will be executed ?



**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister-in-charge, Flood Control, etc.) replied :

321. (a)—A portion of the Dhansiri Bund near the outfall of the Dhansiri river has been eroded by the Brahmaputra river during the last flood season.

(b)—Nearly 7 furlongs.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Construction of a retirement at this place to cover up the breached portion is already in progress.

### **Motor Accident in Chabua**

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH** (Amguri) asked :

322. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some constables with some excise peons met with a motor accident in Chabua while going from Dibrugarh for some excise raids some time in the middle of February, 1958 ?
- (b) How many of them fell victims of the accident ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that one of them died and three were seriously injured ?
- (d) What is the name and address of the person who died due to this accident ?
- (e) What is the condition of the injured persons now ?
- (f) Whether Government will grant gratuity or pension to the family of the deceased ?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** (Chief Minister) replied :

322. (a)—Such an accident took place on the 28th January 1958. There is no report of any such accident in the middle of February, 1958, as mentioned by the hon. Member.



(b)—12 Armed Branch constables and 2 Excise personnel, *viz.*, a Driver and a Handyman were victims of the accident. (One constable escaped uninjured).

(c)—Yes, one Armed Branch constable died instantaneously and 5 other constables were injured seriously. (8 others received minor injuries).

(d)—Armed Branch constable, Narayan Singh Chettri of Lakhimpur District Police (of Villatamli, Post Office and Police Station Champant, District Almora, U. P.).

(e)—One Armed Branch constable is still under treatment in the Assam Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh and the rest have since been discharged from the Hospital.

(f)—Yes. Action to grant pension to the family of the deceased constable has already been initiated.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):**  
May I know whether it is a fact that due to the misplacement of another motor vehicle on the road this serious accident occurred?

**Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)**  
Yes, Sir, it collided with another truck; that is our information.

**Land Eroded by Brahmaputra near Maijan and Nagaghoolie in Dibrugarh Subdivision**

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):**  
asked :

323. Will the Minister, Flood Control and Irrigation Wing, Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) The total length of land eroded by the Brahmaputra near Maijan and Nagaghoolie in Dibrugarh Subdivision respectively, during the last five years?

(b) The areas of land in Bighas eroded by the Brahmaputra during the last five years—  
(i) from Laikaghat to Mohanaghat near Dibrugarh and (ii) from Laikaghat upwards to Dirakmukh?

(c) The area of tea garden eroded by the Brahmaputra to the east of Dibrugarh Town after completion of the spurs to protect the Town?



(d) Whether it is a fact that the erosion by the Brahmaputra near Nagaghoolie and Maijan is very active and year by year it is diverting its course gradually towards the south?

(e) What steps have been taken so far by the Government to avert the erosion there?

(f) Whether there is a proposal to extend the Dibrugarh Revetment Scheme upto Nagaghoolie by constructing a number of spurs?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control and Irrigation Wing, Public Works Department)** replied :

323. (a)—About  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

(b)—(i) From Laikaghat to Mohanaghat about 2,466 bighas.

(ii) From Laikaghat to Dirakmukh about 2,420 bighas.

(c)—About 767 bighas.

(d)—During the flood season of 1956 the southern channel of the Brahmaputra broke into the Dibru river through an existing link channel at a point opposite Oakland about 8 miles upstream of Dibrugarh Town and started active erosion of the left bank between Oakland and Nagaghoolie of the Dibru river which by then became the southern channel of the Brahmaputra from Oakland downwards. The erosion went on till January, 1957, when it stopped. With the onset of the Flood season in June, 1957, the erosion re-started at the Oakland-Nagaghoolie reach and also at the Mathola reach (opposite Maijan Tea Estate) about 4 miles upstream of Dibrugarh and continued at an active rate upto August, 1957. Thereafter due to changes in the regime of the channels of the Brahmaputra, the flow along the southern channel of the Brahmaputra started going down and the erosion in both the above two reaches gradually slowed down and ultimately came to a halt in November, 1957.



Air reconnaissance carried out in the later part of January this year by Shri Nag, Chief Engineer, F. F. and I., C. W. and P. C., the State Chief Engineer, Flood Control and Local officials of Dibrugarh in company with the Union Deputy Minister revealed that the southern channel is now much less vigorous than it was about this time last year. Its mouth at the upper end has silted up appreciably. The Northern and Central channels are now carrying the major portion of the entire discharge of Brahmaputra and the southern channel now takes considerably less discharge in this region. Therefore, according to present trends, the change of the course of Brahmaputra diverting to the south, appears to be remote.

(e)—The whole situation is under careful watch and all developments are being brought to the notice of C. W. and P. C., from time to time for their advice. The problem is now under study in model at C. W. and P. C., Research Station at Poona.

(f)—Does not arise now in view of the position stated against (d) and (e) above.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA** (Saikhowa): According to answer to (a) and (c) we find that the total length of land eroded by the Brahmaputra near Maijan and Nagaghoolie is about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles and about 767 highas of tea garden land have been eroded, besides other areas. May I know what steps were taken by Government to prevent this erosion ?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (Minister-in-charge, Flood Control, etc.): The whole of the flood protection work at Dibrugarh is meant for this purpose.

**Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY** [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Is it a fact that the protection work at Dibrugarh has brought adverse effect to the North Bank side of Dibrugarh because of the diversion on of the river current ? Is it also a fact that a huge area of cultivated lands have been eroded because of this diversion ?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** : We have no such information.

**Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY** : Will the Minister call for information ?



**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** (**Minister-in-charge, Flood Control, etc.**): Information may be called.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA** (**Saikhowa**): Whether the Minister-in-charge knows that the Brahmaputra eroded upto Rangagora road near Oakland and another hundred years' erosion will dislocate communication in this area ?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY**: We have no such information.

**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA**: Whether there is any possibility of extension of the Dibrugarh revetment upto Nagagholie ?

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY**: There is no such scheme for the time-being. It will be examined as and when exigency arises.

### General Discussion of the Budget

**Mr. SPEAKER**: Shri Mohi Kanta Das will now continue his speech. Before he does so I would like to suggest to him that he may be brief. In fact he has already been too long.

**Shri MOHI KANTA DAS** (**Barchalla**): Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other day I stated that the Backward Classes Commission, in their report, have recommended a list of castes or communities in Assam which, they after a thorough enquiry, found to be socially and educationally backward. In the cases of some of these castes or communities they have put asterisks indicating that those communities are leading a sub-human existence, that is to say they are most backward, such as:

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Ex-Tea garden labourers, |                       |
| (2) Chowdangs,               |                       |
| (3) Matakas,                 |                       |
| (4) Marans,                  |                       |
| (5) Damai                    | } Some Nepali castes, |
| (6) Kami                     |                       |
| (7) Sarki                    |                       |



These castes form a separate category.

*Ex-tea* garden labourers form an important part of our population. They have identified themselves with the rest of the population. They are educationally, economically and socially backward. Even now they are victims of exploitation. They feel they are neglected. Such a feeling of frustration was expressed on the floor of this House by our hon. Friend, Mr. Mathias Tudu, the other day. Number of people receiving higher education from among this class is few and far between. They have little representation in the administration. From this feeling of frustration the Adibasi Movement has sprung up. We should take note of this. Similar is the case with tea-garden labourers. Though tea-garden labourers have not been shown as most backward with an asterisk in the list, still their case also merits special consideration. Through the efforts of the Indian National Trade Union Congress and the Government the economic condition of the tea garden labourers has been a bit better. Although the condition of the tea garden labourers has been a bit better than the *ex-tea* garden labourers but still they are educationally very backward. Higher education among them is far from satisfactory. Representation in administration is also very meagre. If they are given scope and opportunity, we will find many Mathias Tudus and Malia Tantis in our midst. So we should take all possible steps so that these people may get all facilities to develop themselves.

As regards Chowdangs, Matakas and Morans, all are aware how these people live in the villages. (Shri Girindranath Gogoi: Are these Chowdangs Ahoms?) They were executors. অৰ্থাৎ যিসকলে পূৰ্বে আহোম ৰজাৰ দিনত Executor ৰ কাম কৰিছিল। In backwardness, they are like the tribals. At one time Matakas, and Morans were rulers. Sir, they are now in the words of the Commission—leading a sub-human existence. So we should pay special attention to these communities.

Next, Sir, I will deal with those hill tribes—such as Garos, Mikirs and other hill tribes who have migrated from the hills and inhabited the plains. These tribes have not been shown with asterisks as most backward in the list. The reason is not known. Probably there was no representative from these unfortunate classes to plead their cases before the Commission. So they have not been shown as “most backward”. However, Sir, we know under what conditions these people are living. Most of them move naked and live wretched lives.



They cannot claim the privileges granted under the Constitution to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes though they are equally backward. So some special measures should be adopted for ameliorating their condition.

Besides the above, Sir, the Commission have recommended some communities, such as Ahom, Chutias, Suts, Naths, Kochas, Rajbangshis, Salais, Sonowals, Gonaks and others as socially and educationally backward. Sir, the irony of fate is that these Ahoms, Chutias, Koches, Kacharis and Rajbangshis who were once rulers of the country are now relegated to the position of hewers of wood and drawers of water forming the backward strata of society needing special treatment. However, decree of late cannot be over ruled. This reminds me of the expression of an English Poet—

“Have we not reason to lament,  
When the shadow of that which was once great  
passes away ?”

However, we for our part should do what is humanly possible to ameliorate their condition.

### Recommendations

The Commission have recommended that—

- (1) All facilities for education, should be given to these backward classes in shape of free studentships, stipends, scholarships in Basic, Secondary, College, Technical, University and overseas education.
- (2) Reservation of seats in those institutions for higher studies—technical and otherwise.
- (3) Reservation of a definite quota in all cadres of services.
- (4) A separate Department dealing with the affairs of these backward classes attached to some Ministry ;
- (5) A special Officer for this Department should be appointed.



- (6) An Advisory Board to advise the Government on these matters should be formed.
- (7) Financial assistance to non-communal, non-political organisations working among these classes should be given.

Though the report was submitted by the Commission on 30th March, 1955—two years' before, we are not aware what steps Government have taken to implement the various recommendations. When the Commission came here, great hope were raised in the minds of the backward classes. Since nothing has been done up till now it would be most natural if the people of the Backward classes have become discontent. Sir, the report says—"It must be the policy of the Government to encourage, more and more, people from the backward communities to occupy places of responsibility and initiative. The greater the confidence shown to the backward classes, the greater is the security and solidarity of the State. The Government should do everything in their power to see that men of ability and integrity from among the backward classes are given a definite preference—other things being equal, and they are made to feel that the country is theirs and the whole nation has complete confidence in their patriotism and equal love for all sections of the people."

Sir, though the Backward classes are socially and educationally backward, still they are as patriotic as other more advanced sections of the society. History of freedom movement will show how Kushal Koer went to the gallows, how Manbar Nath, Dayal Das Panika, Mangal Kurku (*ex-tea garden labours*), Kumali Neog, Maniram Kachari, Ratan Kachari and others of Dhekiajuli, Tezpur, Lakhiram Sut, Tilak Deka and others of Nowgong and many others from these backward classes opened their breasts, received bullet shots and died for the country's cause. If scope and opportunity are given to these backward classes, they will prove themselves to be worthy citizens of India. Sir, if we want to have a socialistic pattern of society then these inequalities must go.

So, I appeal to all to have sympathy for these down-trodden brothers and sisters of our society and to help them in their development in all possible ways so that with their co-operation we can make this State of ours a land of health, wealth, happiness and prosperity that is to say "সোণৰ অসম"।



**Shrimati PADMA KUMARI GOHAIN (Moran):**

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ১৯৫৮-৫৯ চনৰ বাজেটত নতুন কৰ কাতলৰ ভাৰ বাইজৰ ওপৰত নিদিয়াতক বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই যিখন বাজেট দাখিল কৰিছে তাৰ কাৰণে তেখেতক এই সদনে ধন্যবাদ দিছে।

বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীৰ ভাষণত এটা কথাত বিশেষ গুৰুত্ব দিব বুলি আশা কৰিছিলোঁ। কিন্তু সেই বিষয়ত গুৰুত্ব নিদিয়া যেন দেখা পাই দু আঘাৰ কথা কবলগীয়া হ'ল। আজি ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ এই নতুন পৰিবৰ্ত্তনৰ সময়ত দেশৰ মান উন্নত কৰিবলৈ হ'লে অসমত স্ত্ৰী শিক্ষাৰ প্ৰতি চৰকাৰে বিশেষ জোৰ দিয়া উচিত। আজি বৰ দুখেৰে কবলগীয়া হৈছে যে, ভালেমান বছৰৰ আগৰেপৰা অসমত যি দুখন চৰকাৰী ছোৱালীৰ হাইস্কুল আছিল, আজিও সেই দুখনেই আছে। যোৱা অধিবেশনত এই বিষয়ে গুৰুত্ব দিবলৈ আৰু ছোৱালীৰ হাই-স্কুলৰ সংখ্যা বঢ়াবলৈ এই সদনত চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰা হৈছিল, কিন্তু আজিও দেখা গৈছে যে, আমাৰ চৰকাৰী ছোৱালীৰ হাইস্কুলৰ সংখ্যা দুখনেই আছে। এখন দেশ যদি উন্নতিৰ বাটত আগবাঢ়ি যাব লাগে, এখন দেশে যদি সকলোপিনে উন্নতি কৰিব লাগে তেনেহলে সেই দেশখনৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা আৰু ছোৱালীৰ শিক্ষাৰ ওপৰত বেচি জোৰ দিয়া উচিত। দেশৰ যিমানেই উন্নয়নমূলক কাম নকৰক লাগিলে, যদি সমাজৰ তিৰোতা সকল অশিক্ষিত হৈ পিচপৰি থাকে, সেই দেশ কেতিয়াও আগবাঢ়িব নোৱাৰে। মই এই কথাটোত বিশেষ গুৰুত্ব দিছোঁ আৰু ছোৱালীৰ হাইস্কুল বঢ়াবলৈ আৰু বৰ্ত্তমান যিবিলাক ছোৱালীৰ হাইস্কুল আছে সেই বিলাক চৰকাৰী কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনালোঁ। আজি ডিব্ৰুগড়ত এখন চৰকাৰী ছোৱালীৰ হাইস্কুল আছে; এইখনৰ বাহিৰে উজনি অসমৰ কেউখন জিলাৰ ভিতৰত এখনো ছোৱালীৰ চৰকাৰী উচ্চ বিদ্যালয় নাই। ডিব্ৰুগড়ত যিখন ছোৱালীৰ হাইস্কুল আছে তাতো ছোৱালীৰ সংখ্যা অনুপাতে পঢ়িবলৈ ঘৰ নাই, বহিবলৈ ব্যৱস্থা নাই। ছোৱালী থাকিবলৈ হোষ্টেলৰ যি ব্যৱস্থা আছে, তাতে ছোৱালীৰ সংখ্যানুপাতে একেবাৰে নাই বুলি কলেও বঢ়াই কোৱা নহয়—তাত মাত্ৰ ৫০ জনী ছোৱালীৰ নিমিত্তেহে ব্যৱস্থা আছে। আকৌ দুখৰ কথা হৈছে যে, ছোৱালীৰ হোষ্টেল আছে, কিন্তু চুপাৰিন্টেণ্ডেণ্টৰ থকা ঘৰ নাই। এইবাব বাজেটত ইয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা হোৱা দেখি এই অভাৱটো দূৰ হ'ব বুলি আমি ভাবিছোঁ। আশা কৰোঁ আমাৰ নতুন মন্ত্ৰী সভাই এই কথাটোত গুৰুত্ব দিব। যিবিলাক ছোৱালীৰ এইডেড হাইস্কুল আছে সেইবিলাক হাইস্কুল চৰকাৰী কৰিবলৈ মই তেখেত সকলক অনুৰোধ কৰিলোঁ।

দ্বিতীয়তে আমাৰ প্ৰাথমিক স্কুল বিলাকৰ যি অৱস্থা সেই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে দৰ্ষ্ট দিব লাগে। কিছুদিন আগতে চৰকাৰে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছিল যে, প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা বাধ্যতামূলক কৰিব লাগে আৰু সেই কাৰণে যেতিয়া নতুন স্কুলবোৰ গঠিত হ'ল সেই সময়ত কিছুমান এলাকা বাধ্যতামূলক বুলি ঘোষণা কৰা হৈছিল। সেই বাধ্যতামূলক ব্যৱস্থা লোৱাৰ ফলত প্ৰতি মাইলতে একোখনকৈ প্ৰাইমাৰী স্কুল হ'ব বুলি বিধি ৰখা হয়। সেই বিধি মতে প্ৰতি মাইলে একোখন প্ৰাইমেৰী স্কুল গঠিত হৈছিল; কিন্তু এই বাধ্যতামূলক প্ৰাইমাৰী শিক্ষা গোটেই জিলাখনত বাধ্যতামূলক নকৰাত আকৌ সেই বাধ্যতামূলক বোলা কথাঘাৰ তল পৰিল আৰু লগে লগে যিবিলাক এলাকাৰ বা মৌজা বাধ্যতামূলক বুলি ঘোষিত হৈছিল সেইটো স্থগিত হ'ল। এই বাধ্যতামূলক কথাঘাৰ ঘোষণা কৰাৰ পিচৰপৰা বাইজৰ উপকাৰ হ'ল নে অপকাৰ হ'ল সেই কথাটো আজি চিন্তা কৰিবৰ বিষয় হৈ পৰিছে। কিছুমান এলাকা বাধ্যতামূলক বুলি ঘোষণা কৰাৰ কাৰণে আৰু তাত বাধ্যতামূলক আইন বলৎ কৰাৰ কাৰণে প্ৰতি মাইলত একোখন প্ৰাইমাৰী স্কুল গঠিত হয়। আইনমতে সেই ঠাইত অভিভাৱকে পাচ বছৰৰ ওপৰ লৰা-ছোৱালীক নপঢ়োৱাকৈ ৰখিব নোৱাৰে, ৰাখিলে আইনমতে জগৰীয়া হ'ব। গতিকে সেই অঞ্চলত যিবিলাক পঢ়িব পৰা লৰা-ছোৱালী আছে, সেই বিলাকক বাধ্য হৈ মাক বাপেকে স্কুললৈ পঢ়িয়াইছে। তাৰ ফলত একোখন



স্কুলতে ১০০ লৈকে ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী হৈছে; কিন্তু চৰকাৰৰ ঘৰত টকা নাই যে, তাত দুজন বা তিনিজন শিক্ষক দিব পাৰে। পৰিদৰ্শকে স্কুল চাই ছাত্ৰৰ হিচাপ স্কুলবোৰ্ডৰ হাতত দিয়ে, কিন্তু স্কুল বোৰ্ডৰ কোনো ক্ষমতা নাই যে, আৱশ্যক হলে তাত ১০০ জন ল'ৰা-ছোৱালীৰ কাৰণে ২।৩ জন শিক্ষক দিব পাৰে। কাৰণ ওপৰৰ পৰা মধুৰী নাই অৰ্থাৎ চৰকাৰৰ টকা নাই। যদিহে বাধ্যতামূলক এলাকাত ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী স্কুললৈ নপঠালে অভিভাবক সকলক আইনমতে জগৰীয়া কৰে, অথচ আইনমতে সাহায্য দিব নোৱাৰে তেনেহলে তেনেকুৱা আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰাত কিবা প্ৰয়োজন আছে বুলি উপলব্ধি কৰিব নোৱাৰোঁ। আজি য'ত ১০০ জন ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী আছে তেনেকুৱা স্কুলত এজন শিক্ষক আছে। সাধাৰণতে দেখিবলৈ পোৱা হয় যে, 'ক' শ্ৰেণীৰ হয়তো ৪০ জন ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী আছে। এজন শিক্ষকে পাঁচোটা শ্ৰেণী পঢ়াব লাগে। 'ক', 'খ', 'প্ৰথম', 'দ্বিতীয়' আৰু 'তৃতীয়' এই পাঁচোটা শ্ৰেণীত এজন শিক্ষকে শিক্ষা দিয়া সম্ভৱপৰ নহয়। সেই কাৰণে হয়তো শিক্ষকজনে প্ৰথম, দ্বিতীয় আৰু তৃতীয় শ্ৰেণীত যিমান পাৰে শিক্ষা দিয়ে আৰু সেই হিচাপে নিজৰ শক্তি প্ৰয়োগ কৰে। কিন্তু 'ক' মান আৰু 'খ' মানৰ ল'ৰা ছোৱালীক ক, খ, বা ১, ২ আদি কেইটামান আখৰ আৰু নেওতা শিকাই গছৰ তলত থয় কৰি থৈ আওৰাবলৈ দিয়ে। স্কুললৈ গলেই দেখিবলৈ পোৱা যায় যে, সেই ল'ৰা-ছোৱালী বিলাকে হয় ক, খ, ১, ২ আদি মাতি আছে, নহয় বাকিছে বাকিছে বা বোনোবাই চিলঠকে ভাঙিছে।

'ক' মান শ্ৰেণীৰ নিমিত্তে শিক্ষক একেবাৰে উদাসীন, আৰু উদাসীন নহৈও উপায় নাই। মাক বাপেকে ল'ৰা স্কুললৈ পঠিয়াই বহুত আশা ভৰসা কৰি। তেওঁলোকে ভাবে যে, ল'ৰা আমাৰ স্বাধীন দেশৰ নাগৰিক হব—দেশৰ উন্নতিত কৰ্মাধাৰ হব; কিন্তু যেতিয়া দেখে ল'ৰাই নিজৰ নামটোকে জোৰাই লিখিব নোৱাৰে তেতিয়া তেওঁলোক নিৰাশ হৈ পৰে। তেতিয়া তেওঁলোকে ভাবে, আমাৰ ল'ৰাৰ পঢ়িবৰ মগজ নাই, খেতিয়কৰ হৈ পৰে। তেতিয়া তেওঁলোকে ভাবে, গতিকে তেওঁলোক হতাশ হৈ ল'ৰাক স্কুল একত্ৰাই ল'ৰা কেতিয়াও পঢ়িত হব নোৱাৰে। গতিকে তেওঁলোক হতাশ হৈ ল'ৰাক স্কুল একত্ৰাই দি হয় গৰু বাখিবলৈ পঠিয়াই দিয়ে নহলে বা মাকৰ কেছুৱাটিকে চাই মেলি থাকিলে মাক কঠিয়া পাৰিবলৈ বা পঠাবত কাম কৰিবলৈ সহায়ক হব বুলি ভাবি সেই কামতো ল'ৰাক লগাই দিয়ে। আমাৰ দেশৰ প্ৰাইমাৰী শিক্ষা এনে অবস্থাত চলি থাকিলে আমাৰ দেশৰ বাইজে স্বাধীন হোৱাৰ কি চিন পাব? এতিয়া আমি দেখিছো যে ক মান শ্ৰেণীত ৪০ জন ছাত্ৰ যদি থাকে তাৰ ৩০ জনেই খ-মানলৈ প্ৰমোচন নাপায়। যি কেইজন খ-মান শ্ৰেণীলৈ প্ৰমোচন পায় তেওঁলোকে আখৰকে জোটাৰ নোৱাৰে। কেতিয়াবা শিক্ষকে আজৰি পাই যদি তেওঁলোকৰ পঢ়া ধৰে তেতিয়া আখৰ জোটাৰ নোৱাৰাৰ কাৰণে ল'ৰাই শিক্ষকৰ হাতত উৰাই ঘূৰাই কোবখাৰ লগা হয়। ল'ৰাই নো আখৰ জোটাই কেনেকৈ? ক-মানত সিহতে শিক্ষকৰ পৰা কোনো শিক্ষাই পোৱা নাই। খ-মান শ্ৰেণীলৈ গৈ যেতিয়া তেওঁলোকে Lower Primary পৰীক্ষা দিব লগা হয় তেতিয়া স্কুল খনৰ ভিতৰত মাত্ৰ ১০।১৫ টি মান ল'ৰা হৈ পৰীক্ষা দিবলৈ যাব পৰা হয়। ইয়াৰ পৰাই আমি বুজিব পাৰে আমাৰ দেশত শিক্ষা বিস্তাৰত আমি কিমান পিচ পৰি আছো। সেইকাৰণে মই আমাৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাৰ প্ৰতি চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিলো। বাধ্যতামূলক যি শিক্ষা চলি আছে তাত প্ৰকৃত কাম একো হোৱা নাই বুলি কলেও অত্যাভি কৰা নহয়। এইবোৰ বিষয়ে অকল শিক্ষকক দোষ দিলেই নহব। কাৰণ এজন মানুহৰ পক্ষে ৬০।৭০টি ল'ৰাক পঢ়োৱা একেবাৰে অসম্ভৱ। সেই কাৰণে ছাত্ৰৰ সংখ্যা বঢ়াব লগে লগে শিক্ষকৰো সংখ্যা বঢ়াব লাগে। এই কথা আগতে বিবেচনা কৰা হোৱা নাছিল সেই কাৰণে কাৰ্য্য ক্ষেত্ৰত আসোৱাহ থাকি গৈছে। আৰু এটা কথাৰ কাৰণে প্ৰাইমাৰী শিক্ষাত গোলমাল হৈ পৰিছে। সেইটো হৈছে প্ৰাইমাৰী শিক্ষা আৰু Basic এই দুটা পদ্ধতিৰ মাজত কিছু প্ৰাৰ্থক্য আছে। Basic পদ্ধতিৰ ভিতৰতহে আকৌ Junior Basic আৰু Senior Basic এই দুই বকমৰ স্কুল আছে। Junior Basic স্কুল বিলাকতকৈ Senior Basic স্কুল বিলাকে কিছু বেচি সুবিধা পায়। এতিয়া চাৰকাৰী গ্ৰাণ্ট দিওতে যদি



একে ঠাইতে এই বেলেগ বেলেগ ধৰণৰ স্কুলবোৰ থাকে তেতিয়া হলে সেই ঠাই খনত গ্ৰান্টৰ পৰিমাণ বহুত হৈ যায়—সেই কাৰণে এই কথাটো জনসাধাৰণৰ এটা সমালোচনাৰ বস্তু হৈ পৰিছে যে একে এলাকাত কিয় ইমান গ্ৰাণ্ট দিয়া হয়? গতিকে এই বিষয়টোৰ প্ৰতি চৰকাৰে মনোযোগ দিয়া উচিত। যাতে প্ৰাইমাৰী শিক্ষা ক্ষেত্ৰত যিবোৰ গোলমাল আছে সেইবোৰ যাতে সোনকালে দূৰ হয়। মই কও যে যিখন স্কুল ৬০।৭০ টি ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী থাকে তাত ২ জন শিক্ষক নিযুক্ত কৰিব লাগে; এজন শিক্ষকে যে ৬০।৭০ টি ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰী পঢ়াব নোৱাৰে সেই কথাটোৰ প্ৰতি চৰকাৰক উপলব্ধি কৰিবৰ বাবে অনুৰোধ জনালো।

শিক্ষা বিষয়ে কবলগীয়া মোৰ আৰু এটা কথা আছে। সেইটো হৈছে শিক্ষাৰ আৰু এটা পদ্ধতিৰ কথা শুনা যায় কিন্তু চকুৰে হলে কাৰ্য্যত বৰটক দেখা নাই। এই পদ্ধতিটো হৈছে সামাজিক শিক্ষা। সামাজিক শিক্ষাৰ বাবে বাজেটত টকা আছে, অফিচাৰ আছে আৰু গাৰ্ভীও আছে। কিন্তু, এই শিক্ষাৰ যে এটা ব্যৱস্থা আছে ভালেমান ঠাইত কোনেও একো নাজানেই। আনকি মোৰ নিজৰ এলেকাতে সামাজিক শিক্ষাৰ একো দেখা নাই। অথচ সিদিনা এখন চিঠি পাইছো মোকো বোলে সামাজিক শিক্ষাৰ মেম্বাৰ পাতিছে।

**Mr. SPEAKER:** বাজেটত আছেনে নাই—সেইটো আলোচনা কৰিলেহে ভাল।

**Shrimati PADMAKUMARI GOHAIN (Moran) :** বাজেটত আছে নে নাই সেইটো যি সকলে বাজেট পড়িছে তেওঁ লোকে নিশ্চয় জানে—কিন্তু সাধাৰণ মানুহে হলে সামাজিক শিক্ষাৰ কথা একোত নাজানে। যিহওক এইটোৰ এটা উচিত ব্যৱস্থা কৰি যাতে প্ৰকৃততে কাৰ্য্যকৰী হয় তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। আগেয়ে সামাজিক শিক্ষাৰ নাম আছিল জন শিক্ষা—এই জন শিক্ষা আছিল বয়সস্থ মানুহে পঢ়াশুনা কৰিবৰ বাবে এটা ব্যৱস্থা। এই জনশিক্ষাৰ কাম আমাৰ এলেকা ডিব্ৰুগড়ত ভালেই চলিছিল—চৰকাৰৰ শিক্ষা বিভাগতে এই বিষয়ে ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ নামো আছে। এতিয়া দেখিছো চৰকাৰে ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ জন শিক্ষাই হওক বা সামাজিক শিক্ষাই হওক তাৰ বাবে একো কৰাই নাই। যিঠাইত জনশিক্ষা ইমান আগবাঢ়ি গৈছিল তাৰ বাবে চৰকাৰ উদাসীন হৈ থকাৰ কাৰণ একো বুজা নাই।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আৰু এটা কথা হৈছে—সামাজিক শিক্ষাই হওক, জন শিক্ষাই হওক বা আমাৰ প্ৰাইমেৰীৰ পৰা আৰম্ভ কৰি এম, ই, এম, ডি, স্কুলৰ শিক্ষাই হওক—সকলো বিলাকৰ পৰিপূৰ্ণি নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে—পৰিদৰ্শণ কৰা ওপৰালা কৰ্ম্মচাৰী সকলৰ পৰিদৰ্শনৰ ওপৰত। আজি এনেকুৱা কিছুমান স্কুল আছে—যত দহ বছৰ ধৰি পৰিদৰ্শণ হোৱা নাই। কিছুমান এম, ডি, স্কুল আছে—যোৱা দহ বছৰেও Deputy Inspector of Schools এ এবাৰো পৰিদৰ্শণ কৰা নাই : তাৰোপৰি এনে কিছুমান স্কুল আছে—যি বিলাকলৈ, স্কুল পাতিবৰ দিন ধৰি—কোনো সময়তেই পৰিদৰ্শণ কাৰী কৰ্ম্মচাৰী যোৱা নাই। এই অস্থবিধা দূৰ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে পৰিদৰ্শক সংখ্যা বঢ়াব লাগিব, নহলে এই স্কুল বিলাকৰ অৱস্থা কোনো কালেই—ঠিক হৈ নুঠিব আৰু গাৱলীয়া লৰা-ছোৱালীৰ শিক্ষা নিম্ন খাপত পৰিবৰ। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও—Deputy Inspector of Schools বিলাকৰ দায়িত্বলৈ লক্ষ্য কৰিলে—এটা কথা মনলৈ আহে যে—তেওঁলোকৰ এখন ভৰি যেন 'জেলৰ' ভিতৰতহে আছে। কাৰণ, চৰকাৰে স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ মাৰফত লক্ষ লক্ষ টকা খৰচ কৰিছে আৰু এই টকা, স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ চেক্ৰেটাৰী হিচাপে, স্কুলৰ ডিপুটি ইন্সপেক্টৰ বিলাকে খৰচ কৰিব লাগে আৰু হিচাপ-পত্ৰ-বৰখাৰ যোগ্যতা থকা মানুহৰ ওপৰত এই ভাৰ দিয়া উচিত আৰু ইয়াৰ নিয়মীয়া পৰীক্ষা



হৈ থকা উচিত। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ বুলি ইয়াকে কব পাৰিয়ে—একে জন Deputy Inspector এ লক্ষ লক্ষ টকা খৰচ কৰি, তাৰ হিচাপ পত্ৰ চাবলৈ সম্ভৱপৰ নহয়। গতিকে, Deputy Inspector বিলাকক পৰিদৰ্শক হিচাবে ৰাখি, স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ চেক্ৰেটাৰীৰ বাবটো আন হিচাপ পত্ৰত যোগাতা থকা মানুহক দিলে সুবিধা হব বুলি আশা কৰো। নহলে—চৰকাৰৰ লাখ লাখ টকা স্কুল বৰ্ডৰ শিতানত খৰচ কৰোতে—এই টকা কলৈ গল খবৰেই পোৱা নহব। চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে দুটি দিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ইয়াৰ পিচত মই আক এটা কথা কও। সেইটো হৈছে—আজি আমাৰ সমগ্ৰ দেশতে চৰকাৰে সমাজ তাত্বিক সমাজ ব্যৱস্থাৰ ভিত্তিত শ্ৰেণীহীন সমাজ গঠনৰ সঙ্কল্প গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে। এই আদৰ্শৰে নতুন সমাজ গঠন কৰিবলৈ যাওতে—চৰকাৰে যিবিলাক ব্যৱস্থা অবলম্বন কৰিছে আৰু সেই বিলাক কিমান দূৰ ফলৱতী হব বা হৈছে—সেইটো পুনৰায় চিন্তা কৰিব লগা বিষয় হৈ পৰিছে। এই প্ৰসঙ্গতে মই Local Self-Government বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰি এইটো নিবেদন কৰিব খুজিছো যেন—চৰকাৰী কাৰ্য্যতৎপৰতা—কোন লোকেলবৰ্ডৰ মেম্বাৰ হব, কোন লোকেলবৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেন হব, তাতেই আৱদ্ধ নাথাকি আজি মিউনিচিপেল 'চুইপাৰ' বিলাকে মাহে ৩০ টকা বেতনত কি কষ্টৰে নগৰৰ মানুহৰ আৰ্জনা বিলাক নুৰেবে কঢ়িয়াই নি পৰিকাৰ কৰিছে, তালৈ লক্ষ্যৰাখি কি ভাবে শ্ৰেণীহীন সমাজ গঠন কাৰ্য্যত আগ বাঢ়িব পৰা যাব—তালৈকো চিন্তা কৰে। আজিৰ welfare state ৰ এজন কৰ্মচাৰী হিচাবে—এই 'চুইপাৰ' আৰু অন্যান্য কৰ্মচাৰীৰ যি বিৰাট ব্যৱধান সেই ব্যৱধান অচিৰে দূৰ কৰা চৰকাৰৰ কৰ্ত্তব্য।

(সময়ৰ সঙ্কেত ধ্বনি)

আশা কৰো, আজিৰ এই জনপ্ৰিয় চলিহা ডাঙৰীয়াৰ মন্ত্ৰী সভাই যেন এই হেলিত অৱ পিচপৰি থকা শ্ৰেণীটোৰ মানুহবিলাকৰ কল্যাণ সাধন কৰি, নতুনকৈ শ্ৰেণী হীন সমাজ গঠন কাৰ্য্যত কি ভাবে আগবাঢ়ি যায়। ইয়াকে কৈ মোৰ বক্তব্য সামৰিলো, ধন্যবাদ।

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the discussion in this House on the Budget has been fulfilled in the sense that it has given us a large number of suggestions in all manners of subjects. It will be appreciated Sir, that it is not possible in one single debate to reply to all the suggestions. Besides the reply is not the only thing but action thereon is required, therefore, from our Government point of view we are.....

**Rev. J... J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** On a point of information Sir, I want to know whether the Hon. Minister is replying of all the suggestions now?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** He is only intervening the debate. It is not possible for any body to reply to all the suggestions raised in this House.



**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries, Labour, etc):** I am not replying to the debate but I am just saying that all manners of suggestions have been made and therefore, the hon. Members will appreciate that it is not possible to reply to all the points raised and if I fail to reply to any of the points, it may be deemed that I am not ignoring but that those points will receive the consideration in due course.

Sir, as far as my departments are concerned most of the suggestions were with regard to the requirements, the necessities and expenses and if we total up all the requirements and convert them into a fund, it will be seen that all the resources of the Government of India would hardly be sufficient to meet our requirements in such a short span of time. Therefore, Sir it is for this reason that the Government of India introduced the planning. What is planning? Planning is a science of laying down priorities. Every thing cannot be done at the same time because of limitation of resources and it is for this reason that planning is necessary. But I am sorry that our Friends mostly do not realise this important thing. We should remember that without raising the resources bridging the short falls we would not be thinking in terms of planning, but we would be moving towards unrealistic picture which destroys planning. We should plan our economy in such a way that the people should be satisfied with what they are getting now together with that they are likely to get in future. I hope the Hon. Members would try to look at the problems from this point of view so that proper psychology may be created in the whole country, that only necessary anticipation may be raised and necessary anticipation may be fulfilled. I have to thank Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya when he brought the question of resources into consideration. As an Opposition Member he did not simply make demands but suggested to square the same with resources. Many hon. Members in this House have spoken during the course of the debate but it was a credit to the Opposition Bench, particularly Shri Bhattacharyya, who has spoken not only from the point of view of demands and works but also from the point of view of resources that we have to consider. I hope not only Shri Bhattacharyya but the Members on both sides of the House will try to realise the position. I hope all the other Hon. Members will realise this so that the whole country will realise what planning is. Sir, the other day Shri Bhattacharyya explained the course of discussion by bringing international considerations. He has rightly done it and thus succeeded in raising the level of the debate. I hope many people hereafter will look at the problems from diverse points of view—national and international.



It has very correctly been said by Shri Bhattacharyya that there is hardly any point which is merely local—which can be looked into from merely local point of view. Into our local problems enter the world problem also. Therefore it is good that we look at the problem not merely from the small local needs but in the wider perspective. The national map is laid first, then our local map is inlaid. Firstly there should be correct realisation of the present situation, then only the proper appreciation of the budget can be arrived at.

Now there is one very important point which has been mentioned by Mr. Bhattacharyya with regard to the question of recession. He quoted figures to show the employment position of the world. In 1953 the United States of America had 3·5 per cent, to-day it is 7 per cent unemployed, this is a remarkable rise in unemployment. Last year there was full employment in Europe. This year's figures show that employment figures have been scaled down. That shows something is occurring in the world economy. Now what is the real thing? For the last six years there have been appearing articles not merely in the American Newspapers but in other countries of the world to the effect that recession is coming. Now if that picture be true then recession may be round the corner. If recession occurs, then what will happen to the Indian economy—Assam's economy—that question will have to be considered. Personally I hold the view that recession is not coming, in spite of the changes occurring in the employment position. My idea is that the greater part of the difficulty is due to the changing political pattern of the world. What is happening is that a large part of the colonial world is getting disengaged from metropolitan countries and as a result a great deal of difficulties in the balance of payment position has occurred. This has also made India's position very tight. Only last year we were importing things like anything. Towards the middle of last year we discovered that we are in a tight corner. If our sterling balance comes below the minimum of 300 crores, it is a very serious position. What is happening to India is also the case with many other countries. Now we have become independent. Naturally we can make purchases according to the balance we have. If we have no balance, we can purchase according to our export. A change is occurring in the trade pattern in the world. So far as the development expenditure of the world is concerned, it will be realised that the percentage of increase all over the world has been colossal. In India itself, the amount of money invested was very meagre—1500 crores. But in the First Plan the private sector alone had



300 crores investment. If the whole expenditure of investment is taken into account the amount becomes very great. Nearly all these development activities generate production and development of trade. In the Second Plan, Sir, the amount of money which is laid for investment in industries is nearly four thousand crores which is a very high figure. Now if all these is for India, what about Pakistan, Indonesia, Africa, etc.? The Gold Coast which has become independent recently, has undertaken a great deal of development programmes. Even Keniya which is hardly independent, a great deal of investment has occurred there and as a matter of fact many of our tea gardens sold out and money was invested in Keniya. So Africa which is the weakest part of the world, there also great development is occurring. Therefore the fear that recession is round the corner is not correct. Recession occurs if there is no developmental activities to match. The present trend is a temporary phenomenon. If the balance of payment position is corrected gradually, it will begin to scrape off. At present our difficulties have been due to the fact that in spite of the capital which we have been getting in the international forum, we have not been able to find a way out to solve trading problems. Now, a question may be asked why the different countries of the world have come forward to give loans, such as the United States of America, Rumania, U. S. S. R., Japan, etc.? It is not only for the development, but it is also for correcting the balance of payment position of the world. If we are to solve this crisis, the tight jacket position of demand and supply should be checkmated. I have no doubt that there is enough wisdom in the world to discover a solution when it is necessary. Therefore I am not gloomy to think that recession is round the corner. Therefore if the balance of payment position is improved, loans are given, I have no doubt that it will have impact in the internal and international economy. In spite of these difficulties we must carry out our development projects. Our *ex-Finance Minister*, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, clearly said that in spite of the difficulties we would fulfil the Plan. Taking the core of the Plan, so far as the Plan was concerned, that was possible to be fulfilled. I think there will be enough wisdom so that this hurdle may be surmounted.

Now there is another point which has been raised by my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, and that is with regard to the question of direct and indirect taxation. He suggested that we should go in for direct rather than indirect taxation. I have tried to find out the progress of direct and indirect taxes. From the



Taxation Enquiry Committee's Report it appeared that the yield from direct taxation comes to only 12 per cent of the total in the Central and Part 'A' States, in 1938-39. The percentage was very small. During the war years the percentage rose to 45 and after the war a great deal of change has taken place and the percentage has gone down to 24. Up till 1948-49 percentage came down to 24, and I wanted to see what is the latest position. The latest position with regard to direct and indirect taxation when we take the Central and Provincial figures together into consideration the direct taxation is 30 per cent and the indirect taxation is 70 per cent. So, Sir, every Government in the Centre and in the Province has been making increased effort towards direct taxation. We are also exactly following the line which Shri Bhattacharyya has suggested. Now what is the position in Assam with regard to the direct taxation? In Assam we find that the percentage of direct taxation forms 46 per cent whereas if we compare the same we find that Andhra 44 per cent, Bihar 48, Kerala 48 (which is to be specially noted), Madhya Pradesh 42, Mysore 51, Orissa 42, Rajasthan 57 and West Bengal is 43 per cent. So, Sir, it will be seen that in comparison to the figures of other States, our direct taxation is fairly high. To my mind, this question of direct and indirect taxation is a little out of date, because it will be realised that ever since we adopted the Socialist pattern of society as the goal, a great deal of taxation structure in India had to be changed. Now, it is wellknown that there were certain things which were non-existent in India. Then came Professor Nicholas Kaldor who went into the investigation of taxation structure in India, and as a result of his investigation and due to other considerations, the Government of India have introduced various new taxation measures. The taxes which are now of a direct character are Estate Duty, Income-tax with the Super tax, Gift tax and Wealth tax. These are all direct taxation measures which have been introduced by the Government of India. When we were having only Income-Tax and Super Tax it was found that there had been a great deal of tax evasion in the country. It is for this reason we had to fight more for introducing so many measures. The present tax structure devised by the Government of India is interesting. If after paying income tax a man accumulates money then the Wealth Tax is there to catch him and if he evades then Estate duty catches him. Then comes the expenditure tax if he squanders and Gift tax if he gifts away. So, you see that the taxation structure has been changed so that man could not evade payment



of tax and the evasion might not be great. For the present the total impact of these measures has not been fully visible. As soon as the total impact of the taxation measures would be there, the percentage of direct taxation would become very high, and probably one of the highest in the world. I have no doubt, therefore, to say that we have been lagging behind in the matter is not correct. If we adjust ourselves mentally, the structure of taxation measures which has been laid down as at present, any body may call them to be highly comprehensive taxation measures. But I have no doubt that something should be done so that the method of assessment and realisations would be improved.

Sir, regarding capital formation, I agree that in a socialist pattern of economy it is necessary to have socialist pattern of capital formation also. So far as taxation measures are concerned they discourage it, in private hands. People must realise that after the taxation measure, a duty lies on us, to shoulder collective capital formation. We have to introduce insurance—health and other insurance funds. We have to introduce provident funds. Small savings schemes have been adopted. The Government of India have taken steps immediately. They are trying to push the banking system to the district and village level, so that every district may have co-operative banks so that in a short time our people in the countryside may be banking-minded and the total income in the country will be in terms of bank accounts which will be utilised for investment.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The Hon'ble Minister referred to savings and investment—whether it should be in unproductive investment ?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries, Labour, etc):** Yes, the unproductive investment should be avoided at this stage as far as possible. The whole policy, followed by the Government of India, is, I think the most progressive policy, which is nowhere found in the whole world. I think the position will be more bright if we all give our co-operation, as it is not a question of lack of idea as most people think, but it is the question of co-operation which should always be there. If the Government gets the full co-operation of the leaders of the Opposition, the desired results will be achieved in no time.

In this connection, it may be mentioned that even today people who come from outside India have not been able to criticise us and the people who have come to India from



outside are of socianst type, as well as capitalist type. Now the experiment is that socialist type of economy is to be developed through capitalistic understructure with socialistic controls. I hope, this will be appreciated.

A very important point was raised by Mr. Bhattacharyya about public and private investment. He advised us not to be scared away by capitalist lobby. I may assure my Friend that so far as our intentions are concerned, they will not be dissuaded by any lobby method. We want to follow exactly what we have laid down. I find, Sir, that the fixed capital investment in industrial programme is expected to come to 1,072 crores during the Second Plan, fixed capital investment outlay in the Government sector, I mean, public sector, is estimated at 502 crores and in the non-Government sector 570 crores. So, it will be realised that the amount of money which was programmed to be invested in the public sector is very high. Now, looking from the economic points of view it is necessary to think what type of society which we have. At present we are not believers in regimented society. We are believers in such a society where freedom of thought and action is there. But that is not enough. Freedom of economic activity for the society is also necessary. At the same time some sort of control in such economy is necessary. For this reason legislative provisions for taxation measures are there, including control of industries. But basically we want to develop our society as a free society. If that be so then what is to be done. We find that where people can work freely tendency to produce monopolist arises. So, Government has its duty to prevent monopolist arising, and in that respect I am at one with my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya. There is no doubt that this Government will prevent the development of monopolist capitalists in this country. So far as ordinary economic activities are concerned it is the policy of the Government of India to give sufficient incentive for the enterprise and on this line the country is going ahead. Sir, apart from one or two countries in the world I have seen there is left no absolute control over the economy of any country as existed in the 19th century. For this reason there has been a gradual convergence between the socialist and the capitalist countries. It is for this reason that there was an effort in Soviet Union to liberalise their econot my. The change which was intended to come in Soviet Union would have come had there been no such non-co-operative attitude on the part of certain countries concerned



It is for want of a uniform economic policy in the world that there has been all the time a threat to peace and it is for this reason that one country suggests one thing and the other country another. So, naturally the atmosphere for peace in the world today is not there. I have no doubt that it is for this reason that there occurs a summit talk. If the summit talk can produce result then the tendency for different types of economy will disappear and there will be a great deal of lessening of rigid control in different countries of the world. We have no doubt that India is looking forward with great hope. It is India that advocated Panch-Shila, it is India that advocated co-existence and now this co-existence policy is followed by all the new countries starting from Europe, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Egypt, some Arab countries, Ceylon, Indonesia. If this goes ahead I have no doubt that there will be lessening of tension in the world and with the lessening of the tension this rigidity in different economics will disappear. I may tell this House that the type of rigidity in economy which was necessary in the 19th Century is not necessary now. What requires to be done at present is proper planning and this can bring a change that is necessary for the world and I hope this change will be forthcoming.

My Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, referred to the policy in regard to electricity rates. I think there has been some misunderstanding on the part of Mr. Bhattacharyya. I have looked up the rates of the private companies which exist in Assam, and I find that these rates are between 4 annas to 4 annas 6 pies at Jorhat, Gauhati and Shillong.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** I said, Sir, that when we have hydro-electric projects at Shillong and Umtru why can we not reduce our rates equal to those prevailing in Calcutta where there is no hydro-electric plant event?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries, Labour, etc.):** We asked for a report about rate structures in other parts of India where there are projects like Umtru. We have got a report, and compared with other places like Mayur-rakshi in West Bengal our rates are favourable. We have no experience and so we are just trying to run it as is done other places with experience say Mayur-rakshi. We should try to start as much hydro-electric power as possible, as is done in many parts of the world. To-day there may be different types of electricity production and so there are different costs of production.



Therefore, we wanted to be cautious ; we brought rates and compared and, Sir, we found that so far as the rates in Mayurakshi were concerned, they compared exactly favourably with our rates. Now, the rates suggested by our Committee so far as the Umtru Hydro-Electric Project are concerned, were—

30 per cent load—1.39.

50 per cent load—1.175

Over 300 K. W.—1.3 to 1.1.

The corresponding rates in Mayurakshi are 1.69 for 30 per cent, 1.36 for 50 per cent and 1.6 to 1.3 for 300 K. W. and over. Ours compare favourably with theirs. Ours was 1.39 for 30 per cent load whereas theirs was 1.69. Naturally after proper consideration it was thought that it would be wise to go slow. Therefore, to say that we have been very regressive in our outlook is not correct.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati):** Will that not discourage the industrialists? When power is cheaper in Calcutta why should the industrialists prefer Assam to Calcutta, where many other things are also cheaper?

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries, Labour, etc.):** My Friend has again misunderstood me. I was saying that we were trying to adopt the Mayurakshi rate; our rate is not higher than the Mayurakshi rate. So far as Calcutta is concerned, the G. E. C. is running it for so many years and it is so huge that it is one of the cheapest electricity in the world. There is no other place in India which can compete with Calcutta electricity. But as I said, our rates do compare favourably with the Mayurakshi rates. The rates which we have given for large industrial consumption are 4.69 Naya Paise upto 50,000 Kwhrs. 3.94 upto 1,50,000 and so on. So far as medium electricity is concerned, it is 7.81 Naye Paise for the first 2,500 Kwhrs ; it then goes down gradually according to consumption upto 4.38 Naye Payse. So far as small scale industries and cottage industries are concerned, it is 13 Naye Payse. Therefore, Sir, the House would support me when I say that we have taken a very progressive step, viz., to compete with Mayurakshi.



Now, Sir, our problem was complicated in another way. Assam is a place where we are not likely to have many heavy industries in the near future. We are more likely to have small-scale industries and cottage industries. Now, cottage industries do not develop in a centralised way. My Friend was suggesting let us concentrate at Gauhati and give cheap electricity for industrial purposes. But that is not possible. If I could have visualised that Assam might have gone in for heavy and large-scale industries forthwith, the position might have been different. But due to our transport position we cannot visualise such a possibility now. The present possibility is that small-scale and cottage industries may develop and this means scattering of industries. Cottage industries cannot grow in Gauhati town alone, they have to grow in other places also. So, we deliberately adopted a policy of financing deficit electricity in rural areas. My Friend says let us give up electricity in Sibsagar so that industries may grow in Gauhati. Of course, from his point of view it would be advantageous if cheap electricity is given at Gauhati which is his own constituency.....

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):**

I did not mean that. What I said was let it be in one place—whether it is Gauhati, Sibsagar, Umtru or Garo Hills is immaterial. I did not want it to be in Gauhati particularly.

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries, Labour etc.):** Umtru is not likely to develop into an industrial area. What would be the result of cheap electricity at Gauhati and costly electricity at other places.....

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA :** I did not say that Gauhati alone should have cheap electricity. What I meant was that cheap electricity should be provided for industrial use. It may be produced at Sibsagar or any other area. I was not referring to electricity for home consumption. Those two things are being confused. My point was cheaper electricity for industrial purposes.

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** I am not confused in my mind. I know my policy. If I have been confused in appreciating what my Friend intended, I am sorry. As I said, Sir, we were forced to equalise the rates of industrial electricity so far as the rural areas and town areas are concerned. I fully believe that we cannot have differential rates so far as the same



type of consumption is concerned. It is for this reason that we had to give a two-anna rate for rural industrial electricity as well as for small-scale and cottage industries in towns. Even with this rate I may tell my Friend that our investment at Umtru, or Garo Hills, or Jowai or Lamshakhang, will not help. What I mean to say is that the type of development which my Friend was visualising was based on a conception that in Assam certain heavy industrial units would grow. May be they would grow after some years, but right now with the attitude of Pakistan and our transport position, every thinking man in Assam will say that heavy or large-scale industries are not going to develop right now. Therefore, we have to provide facilities for electricity for the decentralised sector. It is for this reason that the Cabinet took a policy decision to have electricity in the villages subsidised. As a matter of fact, we have already taken up 16 such stations so that we might develop electricity in the rural areas. Take for instance, there may be power looms in many rural areas. These areas can be developed into small industrial areas where small electricity is consumed. Now, Sir, up till now nobody has suggested that I have made a mistake in the picture I have given. If my Friend after all this explanation still insists that I have made a mistake I would be glad to sit with him and consider his further suggestions in this respect. But so far as I am concerned, I feel that if this be true that in Assam large-scale industries are not likely to develop just now and if small-scale and cottage industries are to be our forte for the present we have to develop decentralised consumption of electricity. Since decentralised electricity will not be paying, we have to subsidise it. Therefore, to say that we should have two types of electricity rates based on the production cost would not be correct. Government had to think over one co-ordinated policy with regard to rates. Therefore, we had only one rate policy and this policy forced us to have one type of rate structure for the Umtru electricity which otherwise would have been a little less, but the rates for the rural areas would have been higher. Our investment will barely level off by 1962, *i.e.*, we will make no profit before 1962. The first time we will begin to make profit is 1962. The whole policy of taking over electric concerns by the Government is guided not for making any profit but for giving assistance for industrial development of the State. As a matter of fact, we have decided to take over Tezpur, Jorhat, and Karimganj electric concerns. Gauhati has already been taken over. It is not for the purpose of making profit but for further investment for the development of electricity. Of course, our rates will be



constantly reviewed and if at any time we find that we are making much profit it will be our duty to reduce the rates. The rates should be such that industrial improvement can be done properly. In it there may be a difference of opinion but so far as implementation is concerned there may not be any difficulty at all. So let us not misunderstand each other but if necessary we are prepared to accept the wisdom of the other side. I shall welcome it and take it.

So far as certain interesting slogans are concerned, such as produce more, on this point the position is one with us with that of the Opposition. Formerly their approach was different, but there has been gradual reapproachment between the Government and the Opposition on this point both in the State and Centre.

On the land question a great deal of discussion has taken place, so I do not want to speak more on it. But so far as "reduce profit" is concerned now it will be realised that according to the taxation policy the Government of India has laid down, Dividend Tax, Bonus Share Issue Tax, then there is the compulsory deposit scheme, tax on distributed profits, etc. So, Sir, I think these are known to my Friend and thus it will be realised that the whole policy of the Government of India is to reduce the profit, either by taxing distributed profits or if the profits are not distributed then we have got non-distributed profit tax. If dividends are not given there is the tax on it. What is the policy? Obviously, it is the same policy which Mr. Bhattacharyya will support which has been taken up by the Government of India.

Now, regarding the prices. So, far as prices, there will be a debate in this House and my Friend, Mr. Choudhury will reply or it may be that I shall also have to give my reply.

Then regarding the slogan of—pay more and save more. What is the labour policy? If the labour policy of the Government of India is analysed over the last ten years it will be admitted that it is a progressive one. I admit that we have not been able to make progress as far as the hon. Members desires but the whole idea is—produce more and then pay more according to productivity. At one time the position was that they used to say pay more but they did not put the same emphasis for produce more, but now they do it. In America, I am told, in the last 5 years their increase of production annually was 3 to 4 per cent and the wages were also increasing



3 to 4 per cent every year. I have no doubt that as we produce more our wages will also increase. As a matter of fact, in the 2nd Plan it has been decided that there will be continuous census on wages, prices and production so that gradually from these census we can bring out a policy so that we can have a planned development of wages. It has also been decided that there will be national wage boards in the beginning of the 2nd Plan for census of price, production and wages. Unless, this is continuously done there will be no planned expansion of wages. It has been decided that in course of 2nd Plan towards the end Pay Commission will be set up and thereby we will be able to fulfill a definite policy of wages. Once it is done it will be the duty of the Trade Unions to follow the policy.

Then, regarding "development for people and not for profit." Sir, it is a question of opinion. We say that all developments which are taken up are not for the purpose of dividing the profits. In China, I was surprised to find in 1954 how Chinese Government retained even private industrialists. I had a discussion about this. This distribution of profit is very interesting. The industrialists were getting more than what they were getting in Chiang Kai Check's regime because I am sorry to say that the Government then was corrupt. The industrialists got the profit and they had no difficulty in making improvements because the Trade Unions there had the duty to manage the industries without strike. We have been following this policy. We have not the policy of fattening the profiteers but to develop all the State industries. This is the best policy which is not merely in the interest of the poor people but also in the interest of the intending industrialists. That is the reason why the world is marching forward towards co-operation rather than disintegration. Well, Sir, I hope I have been able to reply, if not to convince my Friend Shri Bhattacharyya.

Now, so far my Friend Jor Mancik Syiem is concerned, he raised the question of industries in the border areas. Sir, we had a policy to develop the Khasi Hills and for this purpose we intended to set up a Cement Factory and a thermal plant at Umtyngar and also a Ropeway. We believe, Sir, that setting up of a Ropeway in the Khasi Hills will be to the greatest benefit of the Khasi people because things produced here, which cannot be transported before can be transported to different parts of the country. But then, for these things we require electricity. Now, electricity cannot be generated only for the purpose of a ropeway, and therefore



industries must be there. So, this triangular project was undertaken by the Government. But most unfortunately, Sir, due to intransigence of some leaders of the Khasi people, we could not proceed with our proposal. I hope wiser counsel will prevail among the Khasi leaders so that these things can materialise. Mere insistence on the rights of ownership would lead us nowhere. This unwise insistence on rights of ownership should be given up and then only we can develop these parts. Today the amount of investment which is required for these projects is colossal and for the development of the country this investment is necessary. But mere insistence on the rights of ownership is less important. Now there is a great deal of more right thinking among the leaders of the Khasi people which I hope will produce better atmosphere so that it would be possible for us to develop the Khasi Hills. But, Sir, I can tell the House that in spite of these difficulties we have gone forward and taken a decision that the Umtyngar thermal plant should be established. We are ready to take the risk. If for some difficulties these things do not materialise then the whole thing will fall on our shoulder. We have decided to go forward, but if the Khasi leaders want to give us trouble, they can do so. But as I said, wiser counsel will prevail and they will realise the necessity of promoting the industry to develop not only the Khasi Hills but the country as a whole.

Then, Sir, with regard to Umtru Project. This has actually benefited the country. Now, if there is no industry in a particular area no hydro-electric project is undertaken anywhere on earth. If there is an industry to develop in this Umtru area, certainly we are ready to give the power, there would be no discrimination whatsoever. For the benefit of the Khasi Hills we are going to develop 6000 kw. at Umtyngar.

**Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gaubati):**  
That is sheer optimism !

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries, Labour, etc.):** Sir, I cannot understand the remark made by my Friend, but I think it is for this reason that Lenin was thought very wise because he said that pessimism is not Communism and that is why that Russia developed. But in our country there are Communists who are pessimistic and so they are not real Communists (*laughter*). In that case I may say that I am a better Communist myself (*more laughter*) !



**Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** These are all day dreams !

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Major Industries, Labour, etc.):** Well, if serious projects of the Government are regarded as day dreams then I must say that there must be something very wrong in the mental outlook of the people who say so. I have already said that this project in the Khasi Hills was held up not because the Government does not want to help, but because of causes beyond our control.

**Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA :** That is not correct.

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** It would be better if my Friend should pay more attention. I am a responsible person—I may not be a great man; I am an humble man.....

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Let the Minister continue

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** Thank you, Sir, but if the hon. Member has no faith in me at least he should have faith in the printed Plan.

Now, with regard to another point raised by my Friend Mr. Jor Manick Siem about compensation. I have looked into the relevant papers and I found that compensation was paid. I do not see why there should be discrimination in the matter of compensation. As a matter of fact we have taken hundreds of bighas of lands in the entire State for public purposes and in every case compensation is paid according to the rules. I can assure my Friend that there has not been any discrimination whatsoever in this regard.

My Friend, Shri Joga Kanta Barua, wanted that the Refinery should be located at Nahorkatiya. I think it would be wiser on our part not to launch any more controversial point with regard to the question of location of the refinery. It would be wise for us to demand that the refinery should be located in Assam and as to the exact location let it be decided by experts.....(*Voices* signifying assent from all sides of the House). Sir, I am afraid I shall require some more time.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The Hon'ble Minister has already spoken for about 55 minutes.



**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI** (Minister, Major Industries, Labour, etc.): I shall try to be as brief as possible Sir. The difficulty is that I have got too much portfolios for which I have to reply.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** As a matter of fact the Leader of the House wanted two hours for the Ministerial Party but I have allotted 3 hours—now I see that it is going to be four. Any way, let the Minister continue.

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI:** Now Sir, Shri Biswadev Sarma raised the question of educational facilities to tea garden labour. The other day there was a conference in which we have formulated certain principles which have been transmitted to the Tea Industry. So the whole thing is under consideration and as soon as it is accepted by the Tea Industry it would be possible for us to take the next step.

Then about the question of recreational facilities to tea garden labour. I must admit my failure in this regard, Sir. For last year we have failed completely to achieve any advance on this question. Reasons are many. But I cannot take that plea as an excuse. I only hope that we shall be able to do something better in the coming year. Then with regard to down-grading of the pay scale of the Labour Department. It has been a puzzle to me also Sir, how this down-grading occurred. But I have no doubt that our Government will reconsider the whole matter and any decision which is unwise should be removed. Sir, Shri Tudu said that labourers have been deprived of their citizenship rights. I understand my Friend the *ex-Labour* Minister, Shri Omeo Kumar Das, has given a reply on this point. I can assure my Friend that the Government will not fail to give citizenship right to all sections of the people living in the State. There was no discrimination on this score.

Now, my Friend, Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwala, said something about preserving tribal art and culture. He wanted that a research institute should be set up for this purpose. Sir, in this connection, I must say that we have increased allotment of funds to the Gauhati University from 5 lakhs to 10 lakhs, though not for this purpose alone but for general development. That shows that new things will be taken up by the University. In these matters we cannot dictate the University; it is an autonomous body. I hope it will not fail to take up what is in the circumstances best possible and desirable.



Then with regard to the point raised by Shri Nurul Islam about religious education. Sir, we are living in a secular State; therefore, we are literally at a disadvantage so far as religious education is concerned. As a Government we cannot promote denominational schools. But so far as other things are concerned, for example, moral teaching and other things of that nature, we want to promote them not only in denominational schools but also the general schools so that moral standard, character and behaviour might improve, but as far as religious institution is concerned, I have no doubt, Sir, that the different communities will have to make their own arrangements so that the secular structure of our State may be maintained. Then, Sir, there was raised a question about education that the primary school teachers do not get their salaries. I regret very much what happened in the course of the last year. When our financial position was bad, when we were in a disadvantageous position, therefore, certain short falls occurred but in the meantime we are taking stock of the situation and we have also taken the necessary steps so that these things may not occur again. This matter is under constant review and no efforts will be spared so that the teachers may get their salaries. Regarding the point raised by Shri Ghanasyam Talukdar, I may say that there is no difference between the basic and ordinary schools. As a matter of fact I admit that we have opened these two type of schools to impart certain educational facilities to the students but on the whole the result is that there is not much difference between these two types of schools and we intend to go that way, therefore, we have given instructions to the teachers concerned to introduce basic education. The hon. Member may realise that the present may not be as attractive but the future will be more attractive. So far as schools are concerned, the number and standard of schools are not exactly as those seen in Europe because naturally Europe is a highly developed country. Our schools are poor but we have to develop and give the maximum benefit to the students. It is, therefore, for this reason that the Wardha type of education is quite different from the Montesory type of education. In the Montesory schools the cost is very high and therefore, the maximum benefit is realised. Schools should exist and when schools exist there must be teachers to train and impart training to the students. So far as teachers' salary is concerned, I admit that the salary is very small. Government have already made great efforts and so the salaries have been raised to Rs.40 or Rs.50 per month and recently the Finance Minister has announced an increase of Rs.5 to the teachers' salaries, which



is not very great in terms of salary but it is very great in terms of the resources of the country. However Government are constantly making efforts to relieve the poorly paid teachers as avenues are available. We will try to give relief after relief. To another question about the policy of the Government about the Middle Vernacular schools, I may say that the country is focussed now towards converting the Middle Vernacular schools into Middle English schools and to convert the Middle English schools into the Basic schools ; it will mostly depend on the psychology of the people of the country. We have decided to take over 580 Venture schools. I agree that we may take over more such schools, but whatever the number may be, we may take over the schools on some basis. The number of schools is increasing but with our limited finances we cannot undertake development of all the schools. Shri Talukdar said that it was expected that in two years the expenses and programme of the compulsory primary education should be completed. This is a news to me. I have not heard such a thing. It would take us 40 years to complete it, but fortunately the Government of India came forward and with the assistance of the Government of India, it has been realised that it may take 10 years to complete the programme. Now regarding inspection of schools, it is a fact that we have not been able at the present time to do anything more for the obvious reasons that the amount of work which has been saddled on the Director of Public Instruction, the Inspectors and Deputy Inspectors of schools has been very great. I have no doubt that we can raise the Inspectorate and unless that is done, I admit that the amount of inspection will continue to be very meagre.

I do not want to take more time of the House as the other points raised in the debate will be replied by my colleagues in due time.

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very beginning I must congratulate the Finance Minister who has given to this House a clear picture of the economic situation as obtains in the State to-day. I am glad for this. However, I want to say that there are still some other matters which have not been mentioned in the speech. I shall relate those things afterwards. Sir, I, for one, though I am very much interested in the theory of the financial system of the capitalist country or the Communist country, and though I am glad to hear the learned speech of the Hon. Minister for Industries and also the speech of Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, yet from



the stand point of a common man, I feel that we must deal with practical things such as food and clothings. When I am in distress, whatever theory you may have, I do not care about your financial theories,—I want food first. I myself am in distress because I represent the people who are in a very distressing condition, and I am afraid no body has so far cared to realise properly the distressing condition of the people in the border area adjoining Pakistan and being connected with such persons who came to me by day and night I find myself sometimes that I can hardly sleep when people come to me and say that they are going to starve. Now, Sir, there is, no doubt, a realisation to some extent of the condition of the border people in the minds of the Cabinet Members, specially Mr. Chaliha, the Chief Minister, and some of the officials of the Government. Yet I feel that still there is no proper realisation of the problem. We have to deal not only with a few families but we have to deal with about 80,000 (eighty thousand) people or 18000 (eighteen thousand) families in the border area and these people are really in great distress. The Government has kindly appointed a committee and I am one of the members of the committee. We have visited only two places *viz.*, Balat and Mawsanram. The Deputy Commissioner is a member of the committee. He has to shoulder many responsibilities and as he is very busy, he is not free all the time to go about. I am also here in the Legislature because I am to listen to the speeches of the Members in the Legislature. This committee was informed that Government has during this year given rupees four lakhs and 49 thousand for the sake of loan to the people of these border areas. But it is too small an amount. Sir, it is like a drop in the midst of so many families. It is not even 1/10th of what is required; not even 1/20th of what is required. We have to deal with 18 thousand families, who are in distress. This number is after subtracting some people who are merchants or trader, this money is nothing. This matter was brought to the notice of the Government by me, to the last Cabinet, and to the former Chief Minister. I sent them my scheme and said that that was very necessary. I expected at that time that I would be called for to discuss these matters, but nobody cared to do so. Now a new Ministry has been formed, and I expected that real action will be taken, real help will be given to these distressed people. There is no use giving thirty or forty rupees to a family. What will they do with that small amount to maintain themselves while doing cultivation work. So there must be brotherly feeling, fatherly feeling, parental feelings for these distressed people. That feeling should



not be merely expressed by merely shedding tears and expressing lip sympathy. It should be shown in action. If the people are helped in their distress then they will appreciate it. But I am afraid, Sir, the mentality of the people who are like some armed chair politicians, or who are buried in files fail to understand the need of the people and appreciate the necessity to render the much needed help. The urgent need is real help and not words of sympathy. Some of the people come to my house, tell their woes and stories of distress ; I can hardly swallow down my food, I can hardly sleep. I want to impress upon the power that be that it is very important, very urgent, that Government should move immediately now. There is a proposal, I understand, that about five lakhs of rupees should be given as loan to the Border area in the coming year 1958-59. Sir, we are to deal with 18 thousand families of cultivators. Even if we give one hundred rupees per family, it will require 18 lakhs of rupees. If we give 200 rupees per family, it will require 36 lakhs of rupees. It will not do to say that it is too much to help the border area with so much money. No one in-charge of the administration should say they cannot do anything more. That will not do, Sir. We must reach the last person. As the President of the Congress, Mr. Dhebar when he visited Assam last time said that the policy of the Congress is that it must reach the last distressed man. The last distressed man must be helped and not only some leading political persons or some influential persons who should be benefited, but the policy or aim should be for reaching the common unnoticed man who is really in distress. If that be the policy of the Congress, it must be shown in action and not only in words. When I am in distress, no words of sympathy will help me. I want real help. One officer, I was told, went to village to distribute loans. He distributed the money made available to him by the Government. He took the loan forms with him ; he made 20 persons to sign in 4 forms, five signed in each form and that village received Rs.2,000 as each one was given hundred rupees. Now the other people of the village came and said they must share the money because they are in distress. Now the leading men moved by their distress agreed to share the money with them. It was distributed among them and each of the families got about 38 rupees. They have got that fellow feeling. They distributed the money among themselves. That is the condition, Sir. But this is like giving doles to the people, this will not do, it will not help much. It may help the families for two or three days to feed themselves, while they are working in their cultivation.



Now at least rupees two to five hundred rupees should have been given per family for the whole year. I am glad that Government has given some amount for the sake of giving them work in the shape of test relief work of constructing roads, etc. That is very good, but that will not last very long. That may last for one or two weeks or two to three months. Again the people who are to work on the roads cannot cultivate their lands. Therefore at the time of cultivation they should have money, they should be helped by giving money, by giving seeds, by giving advice from the Agriculture Department. The question arises where from so much money will come? You know, Sir, these border areas were the richest areas of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills. The people of these area were in affluent condition. They never begged, never worked as coolies. You could not get a cooli in these areas. The coolies used to come from the upper parts of the district. Now these people have been reduced to the position of beggars. I have written to the Central Government; they say what could they do—the Government of Assam did not move. Did the Government of Assam care to examine the scheme submitted by me in this connection? Did they come to discuss it with me? They think the problem may be solved by giving a few rupees occasionally, by giving some doles. People having only political ideas, who have come to the Government having some political aspirations, cannot think about the distressed condition of the people. Where did the money come from to solve the Naga plague? We have had a military plague in the Naga Hills. Where did the money come from to be spent in the Naga Hills? There was a war-time agency and money came from somewhere. The Border area is being invaded by the plague of hunger and starvation. Who is responsible for the partition of the country as a result of which the distressed conditions among the people of the border areas prevailed in the Khasi Hills? Sir, many of our Khasi people who never used to beg for food have to work in the coal fields in Cherrapunji due to their distressed condition. They are also people like us and when they were in distress and poverty conditions, why for their help money should not come from the Government of India? the Government of India must come to their rescue. Why the Government of Assam, who could spend crores of rupees in the Naga Hills, did not come forward for the rescue of their brothers and sisters living in the borders of Khasi Hills? That is the feeling of our Khasi people. The officers who come from outside to our district should study the nature of the Khasi people. The Khasi people, by their nature, are not beggars.



Sir, when our Prime Minister came to visit Cherrapunji, thousands of men and women came to see him even without food and they did not tell him that they came to see him even without food and they would not tell that there is no food in their house. That is the nature of Khasi people. Some thought that because they were not dressed like beggars in the plains, they were not in distress. Their habit is also that they must dress well in order to appear before others even if they have no food. When they die they are dressed with new clothing and that is the nature of our Khasi people. Those who come from outside from the plains did not understand why they are said to be in a distressing condition.

How many crores of rupees have been spent for the war in the Naga Hills ?

(A voice:—Let you also declare yourself as hostile.)

Sir, the Nagas are our people. They are our contrymen. But, Sir, I am sorry that the Naga people have gone away from us. I can say that they have gone out of Assam because of the bungling made by some politicians in the affairs of the Naga Hills. I believe their problems were never dealt within a parental feeling especially at the beginning.

Now, Sir, I want to speak a few words about the scheme which I submitted to the Government of Assam in the Tribal Area Department for about 80,000 (eighty thousand) people of the border area in the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills to be helped with about Rs. 88 lakhs. There are about 18,000 (eighteen thousand, needy families which must be taken into consideration and these families require financial assistance to enable them to stand on their own feet again. These people in the border areas have been suffering a lot due to lack of proper adequate help. Our Government have given some financial help in various ways but that did not reach all of them. So, Sir, I would like to request all our friends in this country, and all our honourable Friends in this House and the officials of the Government who have come to serve in this area to learn more of the feelings and sentiments of the people of the border area of the Khasi-Jaintia Hills and to realise their difficulties. These areas used to get about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  crores of rupees from their agricultural produce, and now that is practically all gone.



There is another point. I would strongly urge the Chief Minister and to the Government to move the Government of India immediately for their financial assistance and in the meantime to give financial aid immediately for the distressed people of the border of the Khasi-Jaintia Hills, adjoining Pakistan doorway from the Consolidated Fund of Assam as advance money, and that should be done to-day, tomorrow, or day after tomorrow or immediately as the days for cultivation in these Hills will soon be over. When the people want help during this cultivating season they must be helped by Government. I think the amount of many lakhs of rupees which was loaned by the Government of India for the purpose of giving aid to the cultivators with a view to step up food production, which has been mentioned by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech should be spent within the financial year, and this financial year is nearly over. But, Sir, what I feel is that officers should be immediately sent to these places to distribute the money so allotted by the Government of India, if it is to be spent within 31st of March, as the sanction for the same came very late. I know this because I had a discussion with the Deputy Commissioner here, and I feel pity for him because he has a few officers under him and he cannot attend to his business in office attentively because there is telephone ring for him from here and there. So there must be a special officer for this purpose. This is a very important work, and there is an emergency for the purpose of distributing the money to the people specially during the cultivating season which is almost over. So Government just like war-time emergency must work and distribute the money to the distressed people. In this way their distressed condition may be alleviated. The people who left their border areas because of the great distress there to go to the Bhoi area should also be helped. The Government granted about Rs. 950 per family to about 500 families to leave the border area and to go to settle at the Bhoi area around Nongpoh. Some more families besides these 500 (five hundred) left the border area and settled at Bhoi area, but their number is about three to four hundred. Many of them are in great distress. The money granted to all the said five hundred is not enough to construct their houses and start cultivation and to maintain themselves there at the Bhoi area. These people are not accustomed to ploughing, yet they tried to take it up in any way. The Khasi people are not afraid of doing any kind of work. But the difficulty is that with that amount of money they could not maintain themselves. These people are also to be given financial assistance.



**Mr. SPEAKER:** The Hon. Member will please try to make short his speech.

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** All right, Sir. I want to say only one thing more in this connection. I have spoken enough, I hope, to impress upon the Government and this House that the money granted to the people who were in distress was not enough. And so much more money is necessary, and that too should be given speedily.

Now I come to the next point. This is about prohibition. This was not mentioned in the speech of the Finance Minister. I hope the Government will carry on with their prohibition scheme more and more. This is not only the policy of this Government but it is the policy of the Congress itself, and it was my policy also. This was my policy at the time when I was in the Ministry. I wanted to make and the prohibition programme successful as early as possible throughout Assam. In this connection I want to bring one thing to the notice of the Government. I mention this now. There is an area in the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills which was under the former Khasi States and this area has been brought under the District Council, and it is under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule. This area is not now controlled by the Assam Government in the Excise department; when I was the Minister-in-charge of Excise, I took steps to control this area according to the provision of the Assam Excise Act. I was given an interpretation by the Tribal Areas Department that the Government had no control over this area which was in the former Khasi State. I tried to enforce the provisions of the Act in the area because illicit distillation or illegal preparation of liquor was going on there without any check or control and as a result many of our youngmen became liquor addicts. The Act is in force in all the other areas in the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills. I felt that some of the provisions of the Act could be enforced to save at least the young people from the habit of taking liquor. Sir, Government should exercise the power given by paragraph 12(b) of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, and utilise some at least of the provisions in the Assam Excise Act for the welfare of those people and to control the manufacture of liquor there. I think the Tribal Areas Department is wrong in saying that the Government has no control now of the former Khasi States areas in regard to the distillation of liquor. The Governor may by public notifications apply the Assam Excise Act by excluding or modifying certain of the provisions of the Act



according to paragraph 12(b) of the Sixth Schedule. This is immediately necessary in order to control the manufacture of liquor there. I want that the prohibition of distilled liquor should come to my district as in the District of Kamrup. The prohibition in Kamrup District has saved students and young people in Gauhati and Kamrup district. I want to save our young people in this district in Shillong. The large majority of our Khasi people are in favour of prohibition. The women in this district do not drink. They are for prohibition with the exception of a few distillers. All the religious organisations are against liquor habit. So in this district we can make the prohibition as effective as is done in Kamrup district, if not better. The public feeling is very strong against this illicit distillation or manufacture of liquor in this area of the former Khasi States. The majority of the people there want to save their young people from the habit of taking liquor. It is true that we cannot do anything regarding Pachwai as that is within the power of the District Council. Once we have been able to eliminate distilled liquor from the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, we shall be able to protect our people from this habit of drinking "laopani". That is no problem to us in the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The House stands adjourned till 2 p. m.

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Schedule Tribals):** Shall I be allowed to resume my speech after lunch, Sir ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** We will cross the bridge when we go to it.

### ADJOURNMENT

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch time till 2 p. m

(After lunch)

**Shri PRAKRITISH CHANDRA BARUA (Gauripur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, neither in the Governor's address nor in the Budget speech of the Finance Minister there is any mention of the rich flora and fauna of our State. Our "Lovely Green Assam" is known, not only all over India but throughout the world for her flora and fauna. But, Sir, I am sorry to say that we, sons of the soil are not taking proper interest in this vital subject. I have marked that none of us during these three sittings of the House, has spoken a single word for the same.



Sir, all the books about this subject are written by Sahebs, the outsiders, but none of us have written even a few lines. It shows our lack of interest and ignorance about the flora and fauna of our State of Assam. I think, I shall not be wrong if I include, natural resources too in the fold of flora and fauna. But I do not want to say anything about that because many Members spoken many times about these, such as the oil refinery movement which is well known and about tea gardens many things about which have been told.

Sir, I shall start with 'man living in the jungles of Assam'. There are two classes of people who stay in the forests, (1) the forest villagers of which about cent per cent, are Tribal people and (2) the Forest Department Officers. But these classes are neglected and have to face all the inconveniences of daily life. Specially, the forest villagers are in deplorable condition as far as sanitation, education, communication and other amenities of life are concerned. In these respects Forest villagers of West Bengal are better than ours. All of them get Government quarters, land, medical help and education free of cost.

Sir, next comes flora. Indiscriminate felling of trees for timber had started from the last World War, *i.e.*, the 2nd World War and it is still continuing without sufficient plantation to enrich the flora. It is high time for Government to think seriously to save the State from total deforestation. The Forest Department should pay special attention for extensive plantation. Sir, only to enrich our revenue should not be the main aim and object of our Government. If the felling of the trees continue in this way, in no time our "Lovely Green Assam" will turn to be a barren tract of land as is the case of other States in India. Though a handsome amount comes from Forest very little care and interest is taken for it. For example, after the abolition of Zamindari system in Goalpara district vast tracts of land covered with Sal forest came under the State Government but due to what I do not know, these became no men's lands, and day and night illegal felling of trees are going on. It is due to the lack of interest of the officers concerned and, I think, Sir, very few officers love the forest. They are serving the department for their bread and not for any love for the forest. As for example, we are not thinking about the variety of orchids. The other day, Mr. Mustafi, a very well known gentleman of Shillong told me about orchid flowers, which has a good market overseas. He told me that an orchid flower is worth 2 pounds. There are many avenues in this line but we are utilising only a few.



My second point for discussion is fauna. I am glad that our State emblem is a rhino and we have taken very strong measures for its protection. But still the poachers are after it and the rhinos outside the sanctuaries are not safe. The noble animal of our Assam jungle is the elephant. The elephants bring to our State Rs.3 lakhs yearly as Forest revenue, but no proper attention is given to them. We want them only to make a processsion for special occasions, but we have no love for them. There is the Elephant Preservation Act and rules for catching and training them humanely but for the total ignorance and lack of interest of our officers concerned this noble animal has to suffer a lot. Though the market for elephants has gone down but Government royalty is too high. The elephant catchers invented a quick training and selling method which is not very humane. So, I suggest, Sir, that there should be a revision of rules for the elephant catching due to the changed circumstances.

As the time is short, it is difficult to give detailed notes of various types of fauna of Assam and I fear it will be boaring for the House if I deal with a subject in which very few Members are interested. But, Sir, I cannot check the temptation to mention about the Royal tiger, the beauty of Assam forests. These tigers should be protected. In other words, Sir, they should not be allowed to be shot at with a gun which is not sufficiently strong to kill them. Indiscriminate shooting of tigers with these unfit guns is not desirable. As the result of it I shall mention about the man eaters of Paneri. The gunners there mostly wounded some tigers and these tigers became man eaters. I heard that there is a man eater operating near Belsiri in Darrang which has killed 43 persons up till now. So, I humbly suggest, Sir, that Government should have an organisation of Shooting Clubs and persons who are interested in hunting of dangerous games, like tiger, should come through the organisation. It will help both sportsmen and the games. Through this organisation the tourists can come and have shooting which will help our Government with foreign exchange? If His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar can run this sort of an organisation why not our Government can do the same. It is pity, Sir, that born and brought up in the Paradise of Shikar, we cannot develop the sportsman's spirit but remain a shameful poacher. Through this Shikar organisation, we will be interested in fauna and develop the idea of love for wild life. There is a Wild Life Board in Assam, but Sir, it is in a dormant state. A Wild Life Week is observed yearly without life. How pathetic. People have an idea that



hunters are the enemy of animals but they are wrong. In of my opinion Shikaris are the best protector of the Sikar because they have interest for the same.

Though lastly but not the least, Sir, I shall speak a few words about the proposed Zoo in our State. It is a long felt want in Assam. The Zoo has an educative value. It brings people in close contact with wild animals and an interest is created among people. But for the protection of fauna, I fear about its construction and design. It may fall in the hands of a contractor under supervision of a man, both of them may have no idea of wild animals and their habits and nature. The cages will be so made that animals will be unhappy. So, Sir, to visit an unhappy animal in an unnatural environment will not serve the real purpose of a Zoo.

Lastly, Sir, there is a Fishery Department recently started which caters for a few artificial fisheries here and there. This Department does not look after the natural fisheries which are daily deteriorating and where there is no restriction of fish catching. For proper maintenance of these fisheries and protection of fish therein it is meet and proper that there should be a closed season for these fisheries, otherwise ours will be a State without fish.

With these few words, I conclude my speech.

**Shri CHATRASING TERON (Mikir Hills—West Reserved for Schedule Tribes):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I rise to thank the Hon'ble Finance Minister for the Budget that he has presented before the House. I do not like to discuss all aspects of the budget except a few salient points.

Coming as I do from a very backward constituency, I would like to inform this august House that I represent a constituency where there is not a single mile of Public Works Department road, and where people starve but they do not die of starvation, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, said the other day, but they die of heartfailure. Sir, I come from a constituency where there are dispensaries but dearth of doctors and medicines. I do not like to go into details about my own constituency lest my Friends may call me too much constituency minded. So let me confine myself to one particular problem which the Finance Minister himself had raised. If you open his budget speech you will find that regarding cultivation in



the hills he said something and so the main topic of my discussion will be some pertinent questions arising out of the problem of agriculture in the hills. I am very sorry the Minister in charge of Agriculture whom I expected at least that he would be able to give us some guidance in the matter is absent at this moment. But all the same, I would request the Government to take into consideration some of the views expressed by me in this behalf. I venture to raise this question and have it discussed on one important ground that in the hills 95 per cent of the total population are agriculturists. They earn their livelihood by agriculture. I do not agree with many who hold the view that it is necessary to shift a substantial number of population from agriculture to industry to minimise the burden on land immediately. Because in the hills it is not the dearth of land which is the problem. Land is found in abundance in the hills. Sir, we have been discussing a lot about agricultural problem in the plains but I regret to say, that it is an un-challengeable truth, that so long nothing has been seriously taken and nothing has been seriously thought of regarding agricultural problem in the hills. While we consider the problem of agriculture in the hills we find that there are certain basic differences between the agricultural operations in the hills and in the plains. Firstly, I would like to mention that the main difference lies in the method and at the same time in the result that arises out of this operation. It is not only the difference in the topography but also in nature and composition of the soil which is generally laterite. Moreover conditions obtained in the hills differ very much from those obtaining in the plains. Secondly, there is the question of rainfall. Rainfall is one of the most important factors in the agricultural life of the hill people. In the plains you can have irrigation but in the hills we are solely dependant upon rainfall, particularly in Jhumming areas. Lastly, in the mode of agricultural operation also there is a very fundamental difference. Whereas in the cultivation of plains areas there are immense scope for subsidising human labour, but you will have very little scope for this in the agricultural pursuit of the hills people. At the same time problems that generally face the agriculturists in the plains are not the same as the hill agriculturists face. I think, I would do good if I acquaint the Hon'ble House with the methods through which the agricultural pursuit is carried on in the hills. In the hills the principal mode of agricultural operation is the Jhumming cultivation. Jhumming cultivation begins with the felling of trees and jungles and burning them into ashes. As soon as the trees and jungles are burnt the hills become open to heavy



rainfall. As a result the soil above is washed away along with its fertility and thereby the richness of the soil is lost. In this way the fertility of the land decreases year after year, the very life of the soil is at stake. As a result, we find that these eroded lands when they reach the plains through the streams and rivers make the rivers in the plains shallow and shallow and pave the way for flood. So any heavy rain in the hills causes not only erosion of soil but, at the same time it wastes away the fertility of the land. Then again the whole method of Jhum cultivation is so strenuous, laborious and tedious that we in the hills think that sooner we can get rid of this system of cultivation on which we are to solely depend, the better for us. Over and above this, as I said, it begins with the felling of trees and jungles which means a waste of our forest wealth which could have been utilized in other ways as a national asset. Moreover, Sir, the production of crop which we used to have if it is calculated in terms of money and compared to the labour and capital invested it would be sometimes in major cases less than 75 per cent of the total labour and capital invested. So it is evident Sir, how uneconomic is this system of Jhum cultivation or in other words, the hills method of agriculture. As I have said, Sir, rain gives life to the seed on the one hand but on the other hand it washes the soil away. It is a boon and a curse at the same time—to us the hills people—it is something which is so dear but at the same time so dreadful. So, Sir, I would like to say that today the main agricultural problem in the hills and particularly in relation to the soil is different from the problem in the plains. The real problem in the hills today is that lands in the hills are as hungry as the people themselves are. The people are hungry of food and the land is hungry of fertility. Land in the hills wants more fertility, yes, it wants as an over manuring. If you look round the areas in the vicinity of Shillong a similar picture is seen. My Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, was kind to mention the other day that potato production in our State has gone down by 33 per cent. Why? The reason is this, Sir: that potato production in the hills particularly in the Khasi Hills has gone down chiefly due to want of fertility in the soil. The poor Khasi cultivators usually apply bone-meal on their land to increase fertility. Of course those cultivators who can afford to get it. But whatever little manure they apply with their meagre means is also washed away every year. So the poor cultivators with whatever capital at their disposal, can procure manure, but to their utter misfortune that manure is also washed away and the poor cultivators are left without any other means but to borrow



money from the rich Mahajans if they are to have their land manured. Under this circumstance naturally the cultivator cannot contribute to the improvement or development of the soil. We cannot allow this state of affairs to continue. Every Hon. Member in this House may feel that the hills people are suffering like anything and so Government should do something to help them, Government should find out ways and means how this state of affairs may be brought to an end and poor cultivators in the hills may be helped.

Sir, from the very beginning I have expressed regret that no serious study or serious probe into the agricultural problem of the hills people has been made up till now, it is high time that Government take this matter into serious consideration and to organise intensive and extensive study of these problems for which I want to make a few suggestions. Firstly, Sir, today we have an Agricultural College at Jorhat. There our officers and students are taught about the process of improved method of agriculture and it may be that some improved method of agriculture for hills is also taught. But I regret, Sir, that this agricultural education that is imparted there is not conducive to proper study and solution of the problem peculiar to the hills. So, Sir, what I want to impress is that if you want to know the real truth of something you must know it under a conducive circumstance. So I feel, Sir, that any education imparted of hills agriculture should be done in the midst of similar circumstances. Sir, for the study of the agricultural problem in the hills I would like to suggest to Government to have an Agricultural Institution to go into this matter seriously. I believe, Sir, that we can easily do it by collaboration with the North East Frontier Agency Administration. I believe, Sir, the North East Frontier Agency Administration is trying to specialise on the problem of hills agriculture. There are vast areas in the hills of our State and if with collaboration with the North-East-Frontier Agency Administration we can set up an Agricultural Institution probably it would not be a waste, rather it would be an investment.

Now, Sir, another suggestion of mine is that we should have a department of hills agriculture under the Government. I cannot say how much it will be helpful, but I believe it is necessary. So I have suggested it so that Government may examine it and see what they can do to help the poor cultivators in the hills to obtain the real agricultural objective of the hills. Sir, if I may say so, so far the agricultural pursuits



of the hills people are concerned there is no clear objective laid down in our plan also. I feel, Sir, while determining the objective of the development of hills agriculture we should have before us a clear perspective of the entire outlook of the agricultural economy of the hills. Sir, in this context of development of the agriculture in the hills I would like to mention a few things which I consider should be the objective in the development of hills agriculture. Firstly, self-sufficiency in the production of principal food crops which inevitably means paddy in this case because the hill people are mostly used to rice only. The second objective is, surplus production of cash crop for export. Within this cash crop I include horticulture also. And by export I mean, export outside the district, or outside the State or outside India as the case may be.

Thirdly, the most important thing is development of small scale industry based on agricultural produce of the hills. And fourthly, I would like to suggest development of poultry, sheep rearing, piggery, cattle breeding, etc. In relation to this fourth objective Sir, as I have mentioned before that land in the hills is hungry for manure and fertility, but there is no provision to meet it, by development of poultry, piggery, etc., we can find a portion of manure thereby so that our agricultural activities can become effective. And to-day I would like to point out one thing that is because of the opening of certain major irrigation projects in West Bengal and other parts of India, it appears to me that it is very likely that bonemeal may become scarce in our State which our potato cultivators like growers are in great need. Because there large areas are reclaimed and educated persons are also swinging towards agriculture. At present we are exporting raw bones outside the State. Therefore, I would like to say why can't we open a bone crusher at Gauhati or somewhere else in our State? We can obtain raw materials in our State and we can produce bonemeal in our State itself. I believe Government will take this view point into serious consideration. Every one will agree with me I believe, Sir, that the development programmes in the hills should go forward. Therefore, I would like to make few suggestions as to how to achieve these objectives. The first objective as I said is self-sufficiency in the production of principal food crop, that is, rice. I am at present speaking of the hills areas and I need not say about the plains districts. Therefore, in order to bring self-sufficiency in the hills areas the first thing that we should do is to bring the entire valleys in between the hills under intensive cultivation and if we can bring large area of fallow lands lying in between the



hills under cultivation then the food production can be increased. Of course it is up to the experts to go into all these matters and if the experts say that this can be worked out certainly our food production in the hills areas will go up. My second suggestion to increase food production is adoption of terrace cultivation. The terrace method of cultivation of course takes a very long process to develop. It takes decades and in some cases centuries to attain perfection. But at the same time we find large areas of terrace cultivation in the different parts of the world. For example, Indonesia is a country with a density of population of about 1,500 per square mile but that country is self-sufficient only due to the fact the people there have brought large areas otherwise useless under terrace cultivation. If Indonesia can be self-sufficient in food by adopting terrace method of cultivation why can't we do similar things here? I hope Government will examine this matter and take steps. I may also say that a large part of South West China has also been brought under terrace method of cultivation and there also the people are self-sufficient in food. I need not go as far as China or Japan. Let us look at the Naga Hills. There the Angamis have developed this terrace method of cultivation but perhaps it was not as much successful as it is in some parts of the world probably because the authority did not extend the necessary help to the cultivators. There are large areas in the hills of our State with immense possibilities that can be successfully brought under the terrace method of cultivation.

Next Sir, I would like to say something about the second objective which as I mentioned should be the surplus production of cash crop. Sir, cash crops to-day plays a very important part in the agricultural economy of the tribal people in the hills, such as Zinjar in Mizo Hills, cotton in the Garo Hills, Lac in the Mikir Hills, potatoes in the Khasi Hills and others, of course potato is also a food crop. Sir, for reasons arising in my mind, particularly in consideration of the economic aspect, I would like to make few observations. Sir, some cash crops are of permanent nature like betel nuts, oranges, cashew nuts etc., and some are of temporary nature like cotton. There are some crops which are easily perishable and some are not so easily perishable. For example orange cannot be preserved for long, it perishes soon specially in hot climate, if you keep for a week it will be of no use. Cash crop may be grouped in another way. It is very important to consider that there are certain crops of big value and some crops are of small



value. All these aspects should also be taken into consideration. An important point we should take into consideration is that at present the people in the hill areas are facing great difficulties and perhaps they will be facing the same difficulties for another 25 years or so in the matter of transport and communication. That is why the Government at present have to subsidise for transportation of potatoes, oranges, etc., of the border areas. We must remember that there are two most important factors that have effective impact on the agricultural and in a sense on the entire economy of the hill people. Those are difficult and limited means of communication and heavy cost of transport. Of course, I do not know the possibility of a general success of one particular crop if grown in all the areas in our hills. Because there are different soil and different climate. So one crop may grow successfully here and the other there. It is therefore, upto the experts to examine and suggest what crops will be suitable for which area after due experiment. That is one of the reasons why we should probe seriously into the matter of systematic and exhaustive study of the problem. It is now high time to go into these matters and find out some solutions. In this connection, Sir, I would like to thank the Government in the matter of starting some experimental centres on the scientific method of Jhum cultivation by introducing some cash crops and experimenting their success in different areas such as cashew nuts, black pepper etc. Considering all the different factors that are dominating over the economy, particularly agricultural economy of the hills areas, so far as the cash crop is concerned, I have one idea in my mind. In my mind, I am of the opinion that the nature of cash crop taken up for cultivation in our hill areas should be of permanent, easily non-perishable and of small volume. Of course I do not exclude other cash crops. Why I want to specify in this way? It is because of the transport and communication difficulties in the hill areas. We know a Khasi potato cultivator has to carry a bulk of one maund of potato on his back to reach Shillong to sell at the maximum price of Rs.20 per maund and at the same time he cannot preserve the potato for a long time. In the hills there are areas where one has to walk for several days to get a national highway. For instance in my constituency from the furthest corner, it requires about 6 days to get the nearest Railway Station. There are so many interior areas where there is no motorable roads. So in consideration of all these, if we to-day go in for crop which is perishable easily, it may be difficult for



the cultivator to get a favourable market to dispose his produce quickly when transport is difficult. Even this may also happen that he gets nothing out of it. He cannot preserve long. I am advocating for cash crop of small volume in the hill areas. The cultivators have very little or no means of transport, they have no truck or cart which can be used, because there is no road. If to-day by cultivating crop that gives small volume, for instance, black pepper which can be transported easily the transportation charge will be less, but the price he may get may be high. Now we know there is Jhum cultivation. What a strenuous labour the hills people are required to put in this cultivation, to make their fields productive, at the same time if the cultivator falls ill, the cultivation in the entire area goes. At the same time there is no other means of economy except Jhum cultivation. So if we are to give leisure and at the same time to give them some means of better livelihood, I believe, growing of permanent cash crop will be helpful. By this, on one hand he can work in the Jhum land and on the other hand he can have some money from cash crops to subsidise his requirements at a lesser labour. So for the hill areas I believe we should go for the easily non-perishable small-volume permanent cash crop. Of course I do not exclude cultivation of other crops.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The hon. Member should be brief. He has spoken for long.

**Shri CHATRA SINGH TERON [Mikir Hills West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** Yes, Sir. The third objective is the development of small scale industries based on agriculture. This reminds me of an important reference made by our Prime Minister, in the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at Calcutta, probably on the 23rd December that the whole core of the Plan is to be revised and our industry is to be based on our agriculture. He probably meant that the whole perspective of our industrial development is to be based on agriculture. From this I understand two things, one is, development of industry to keep pace with the development of agriculture and the other to develop industries based on raw materials from agriculture. Sir, the Khasi cultivators can take up canning industry. To-day in the border areas lots of oranges are being spoiled for difficulties in transportation. If the producers form co-operative societies and start canning industries the oranges may not perish and this wastage can be prevented. At the same time they will get money. After all to-day we want more production. To-day, Sir, we have seen cashew-nuts are being grown in the southern India. Indus-



try is growing with cashew-nut as raw materials. We are still importing a large quantity of the same from the east coast of Africa. The Government of India in the Agriculture Department has recommended the extension of the cultivation of the areas under cashew-nuts. So, Sir, by growing all these crops we can in future expect to develop some small scale industries in the hill areas. In the hill areas the raw materials for industries are less. In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, except lime stone or coal, probably there is no other raw materials. Basing on from these, large scale industries may be developed. But it does not help cultivators much. But if we grow such crops that will pave the way for starting small scale industries then it will do good than harm. This is the third objective about which I wanted to impress upon. As regards the fourth objective, probably as I have already stated, I can speak a few words with regard to land problem in the hill areas. It is true that there is land in abundance, but as Coleridge said—'Water, water everywhere, not a drop to drink', so is the case with the land in hill areas. Although there is land, all the land is not fit for cultivation. As the ocean water requires purification for human consumption, so the land in the hills requires purification for manuring. We can get a portion of our requisite manure from sheep, cattle or pig breeding farms. From the birds or poultry also we can get a portion. In Israel substantial portion of manure comes from such poultry farms. Now let me come to another aspect of the land problem. It is said that there is no land problem in hills. Everyone possesses land. The land is owned by the community. But sometimes the community becomes the individual. In other words, one person becomes the owner of the land supposed to be of the community. In many areas poor cultivators depend solely on the mercy of such landlords. So the question of land has gradually become a complicated problem in the hills and if we are not careful enough, then it is likely to create problems for us in the future. So I would suggest to the Government and particularly to the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas that so far as land reforms in the hills is concerned, the Government must be careful and they must have utmost co-ordination in this respect with the different District Councils so that this matter may be examined very closely and a solution may be found. I have said this in consideration of one fact that the most vital problem is the economic upliftment of the hill people and development of the people in the hills. All these which I have suggested for the upliftment and development of the hill people depend on the unity and unity alone will bring the desired result. But what we have been experiencing is, as if



that unity which is essential, has become very scarce. One thing I fully endorse which my hon. Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, mentioned that real unity cannot be achieved unless and until it is from the bottom. But, Sir, I do not agree with him when he said that top unity cannot do anything.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):**  
Sir, what I was hinting at was 'unity alone'.

**Shri CHATRA SINGH TERON (Mikir Hills—West: Reserved for Scheduled Tribes):** So, Sir, I accept that unity should come from the bottom, and as I have said already that it is necessary, if real unity is to be achieved, that the lower strata of the people who are the toiling masses and who are dying and starving are brought up and their condition improved, for which I have suggested these few things. So, Sir, I am quite sure that this is an impossibility if we are not serious about the development of the people of the lower strata. So the real issue before us is the development of the toiling masses, that is the development of the hills people, who are at the bottom. To-day the real point is that in the hills a great role is being played by so many interests, as a result the hills people are being utilised for the ends of those interests. If we are to remove them and if we are to bring any real unity, these interests and their games must be avoided. In many respects there are salient differences between the people of hills and plains no doubt. But these vested interests are utilising such differences for their selfish game. They are standing as a stone on the way of unity and better understanding. I put it categorically, Sir, that these vested interests are stowing behind the people and standing as stumbling block on the flow of honey and milk of unity and better understanding from the bosom of the people. They do not want that unity should be achieved. They think they remain so long difference remains. Therefore, the only way is to build unity from the bottom. This can be done when the condition of the people is improved. When both the people will be equal there will be unity. I believe unity at the top will help to work out unity at the bottom. I wish my pious and hopeful wishes will come true.

Lastly, Sir, if you kindly permit me at least some time, I would like to speak a few words more.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** You have already spoken for a long time.



**Shri CHATRA SINGH TERON [Mikir Hills-West (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** Sir, at the outset I have stated that please do not call me constituency-minded. This is a very important matter which I have preferred to take up. I have already stated that what difficult and strenuous mode of agriculture that the hills people are to undertake. In consideration of this the Mikir people of our district have gradually come down from the hills to the plains areas of our district and accordingly a large number of people are there scattering all over the plain areas. But, Sir, I regret to inform the Hon'ble Members of this House about a very small area, *viz.*, No-Mati and its adjoining areas, where there are about 1200 landless people whom neither the District Council nor any authority have been able to provide with any land. Sir, you may question—"Well for a small number of people how land problem has been created, when ample land is available in the Mikir Hills? You ask the people to occupy the land." But I would reply that as a result of Partition a large number of displaced persons since the formation of our district have entered there and as a result, all these areas are now being filled up by displaced persons. After independence people expected a new light and a new life and thought that some sort of solution would be there. But unfortunately before our hill people could take up to better and improved method of agriculture the lands which were meant for them and to be protected for them have been occupied by those displaced persons, the result being that our people have been suffering a great deal for want of land. We know that these people have suffered for the cause of our independence the fruit of which we are enjoying to-day. They have sacrificed their all to-day for the cause of our to-morrow. But at the same time we cannot forget that there are a large number of Mikir people who are destitute in their own home. But in recognition of their sacrifices for the independence, the Mikir Hills District Council and the people agreed to rehabilitate 565 refugee families in the Mikir Hills. Of course, there are different categories of people among them. There is particularly, a person whom I know who professed to be a refugee and displaced person has received Rs.11,000 as rehabilitation loan in Nowgong and he has got landed property there. There are people among the displaced persons who are occupying land up to the extent of 60 bighas. But above all this, what is happening is that this petty encroacher landlord invited large number of those real and poor victims of Partition to cultivate on his land as his tenants on payment of rent or *adhi*. Thus number of displaced persons increased.



We realise the gravity of the situation arising out of the Partition which resulted in the influx of a very large number of displaced persons and accordingly our Mikir people though they are poor, agreed to provide the 565 families with land. But it should not escape consideration of the House that a very large number of our Mikir people have no land, no homestead, no money to go elsewhere to settle and so they are destitute in their own place. In this respect I want to inform the House that realising this difficult problem and in spite of repeated requests to the Government from the people and District Council of the Mikir Hills to do something, Government has paid no heed. Had the Government taken up the matter seriously in time then I think the problem would not have gone to the extent as it has gone today. However, Sir, I now believe that the Government will be pleased to take action on this matter without any further delay. But we want that those other than the 565 families who have come there should be rehabilitated somewhere else and we also want Government to make provision for the benefit of the Mikir people so that they can be prevented from going to some other districts where they have no protection. Mikir Hills is the only place where the Mikir people feel secure because of the autonomy granted to them which gives them protection. So, there is no alternative for them but to remain in their own district. I therefore appeal to all sections of the House to come to the rescue of the Mikir people in this regard.

One thing I would like to inform the hon. Members of the House is that unlike the other hill tribes, the Mikir people are facing extinction. You will be surprised, Sir, to hear that about 50 per cent of the Mikir people are suffering from leprosy which is responsible for this extinction. If that is the condition of our people, how can you expect such a tribe to survive very long, besides there are so many pressures brought to bear by them from so many quarters. I know that being a youngman I can mix with other societies. You are seeing me strong and robust. But what about those Mikir people living in the villages who are suffering like anything? In this respect also, Sir, I appeal to the Government, and specially to all sections of the House to come to the rescue of this race and to save them from extinction.

I do not like to take up more time of the House and I am thankful to you, Sir, for giving me more time to express my views. Though of course I had many things to say I would



like to conclude my speech with the request to the Government and to all the hon. Members of the House to think over the different problems that are arising in different hill districts.

With these words, Sir, I conclude my speech.

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) :** মাননীয়

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিভূমন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই বাজেট বক্তৃতাৰ ২১ পৃষ্ঠাত ভূমিনীতি সম্পৰ্কে উল্লেখ কৰি সদস্য সকলৰ পৰামৰ্শ বিচাৰিছে। তাৰ পিছত বহুতো সদস্যই এই সম্পৰ্কে নানা বকমে সমালোচনা কৰিছে। আকৌ আমাৰ ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়ায়ো সিদিনা ভূমিনীতি আৰু ভূমি সমস্যা সম্বন্ধে বক্তৃতা দিলে। কিন্তু, বিভূমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ বক্তৃতা আৰু ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ বক্তৃতাৰ লগত তুলনা কৰি চালে দুয়োটা বক্তৃতাৰ মাজত বহুতো অসামঞ্জস্য দেখা যায়। কংগ্ৰেছ শাসনৰ ১০ বছৰৰ ভিতৰত ভূমি সংস্কাৰৰ কথা শুনিয়েই আছে—যোৱা অধিবেশনতো ভূমি সংস্কাৰৰ কথা উঠিছিল, এই বাবে উঠিছে। ভূমি সংস্কাৰৰ বাবে হেনো নতুন নীতি গ্ৰহণ কৰি দেশৰ মজল সাধন কৰিবলৈ চৰকাৰে চিন্তা কৰিছে। সিদিনা ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই এই সদনতে কৈছিল যে ভূমি সংস্কাৰৰ বাবে কেবা খিলা আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰা হৈছে। তাৰ ভিতৰত Adhjar Protection Act, Ceiling Act আৰু Urban Tenancy Act এই তিনি খনৰ ভিতৰত আধিয়াৰ ৰক্ষা আইনখন আধিয়াৰ স্বাৰ্থ ৰক্ষাৰ বাবে উদ্দেশ্য কৰি প্ৰণয়ন কৰা হৈছিল। ১৯৪৮ চনত এই আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰা হয়। কিন্তু এই ১০ বছৰৰ ভিতৰত আইনখন অসমৰ ভৈয়ামৰ ৭ খন জিলাৰ ভিতৰত কোনো এটা অঞ্চলতে প্ৰকৃত পক্ষে আৰু সূচাবন্ধপে প্ৰয়োগ হৈছে নে আৰু এই আইন বোৰৰ দ্বাৰা আধিয়াৰৰ কোনো উপকাৰ হৈছে নে? মই ৰাজস্ব মন্ত্ৰীক এই বিষয়ে প্ৰশ্ন কৰিব খোজো। মই নিজে খবৰ লৈ জানিছো যে যিবিলাক Adhjar Conciliation Board গঠন কৰা হৈছে তাত আধিয়াৰৰ কোনো প্ৰতিনিধি নাই। কিন্তু এই আইনৰ Rule অনুযায়ী এই বোৰ্ডত আধিয়াৰৰ পৰা প্ৰতিনিধি থাকিব লাগে। এজন আধিয়াৰ পক্ষৰ, এজন মালিক পক্ষৰ আৰু স্থানীয় ৰেভিনিউ অফিচাৰ মিলি বোৰ্ডখন গঠিত হয়। Adhjar Conciliation Board ৰ সদস্য চৰকাৰে নিজ ইচ্ছা অনুযায়ী বাচি লয়, যাৰ ফলত প্ৰকৃত আধিয়াৰৰ প্ৰতিনিধি থাকিব নোৱাৰে। উদাহৰণ হিচাবে নলবাৰী চাৰ্কলত যি খন বোৰ্ড আছে তাত আধিয়াৰ প্ৰতিনিধি এজনো নাই। তাত জনৈক ভেলকা চেখ নামৰ লোক এজনক চৰকাৰে আধিয়াৰৰ প্ৰতিনিধি হিচাবে মনোনীত কৰিছে—প্ৰকৃততে তেওঁ আধিয়াৰ নহয়। তেজপুৰৰ আধিয়াৰ বোৰ্ডৰ জনৈক শ্ৰী কাশী মেধীকো বোৰ্ডৰ সদস্য মনোনীত কৰা হৈছে কিন্তু তেওঁ আধিয়াৰৰ প্ৰতিনিধি নহয়। ঠিক সেইদৰেই গোলাঘাটতো বিষ্ণুৰাম দাস নামেৰে এজনক আধিয়াৰৰ প্ৰতিনিধি হিচাপে মনোনীত কৰিছে কিন্তু তেওঁ নিজে আধিয়াৰ নহয়। সেইদৰে দেখা যায় যে আধিয়াৰৰ পক্ষে প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব কৰা লোক প্ৰায় ঠাইতেই নাই। গতিকে যি উদ্দেশ্য লৈ গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে আধিয়াৰ আইনখন ৰচনা কৰিছিল সেই উদ্দেশ্য নষ্ট হৈ গৈছে। আনকি আইনত যিবোৰ provision আছে কোনো কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত কিছুমান ৰেভিনিউ অফিচাৰে সেই provision বিলাকো অমান্য কৰিছে আৰু এই সম্বন্ধে চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত আপত্তি জনালেও সুবিচাৰ পোৱা নাযায়। Sub-Deputy Collector এ Conciliation Board অৱ আন দুজন সদস্যৰ লগত আলোচনা কৰি হুকুম লিখিব লাগে, কিন্তু কমলপুৰৰ Sub-Deputy Collector জনে আন দুজন সদস্যৰ লগত আলোচনা নকৰাকৈয়ে নিজ খুচি মতে হুকুম লিখি থৈ গল। আজি এবছৰ



হল, চৰকাৰক জনোৱা সত্ত্বেও কিন্তু একো প্ৰতিকাৰ হোৱা নাই। তিতাবৰৰ Sub-Deputy Colletor জনৰ ওচৰত আধিয়াৰে উচ্ছেদ সম্বন্ধে যি মোকদ্দমা দিছিল তাক গ্ৰহণ নকৰিলে, কিয়নো সেই ঠাইৰ এজন গণ্যমান্য লোক যিজন Rural Panchayat ৰ চেফ্ৰেটেৰী, তেওঁৰ বিৰুদ্ধে মোকদ্দমা দিয়া হৈছিল।

[A voice—কোন সেই জন?]

তেওঁ Rural Panchayat ৰ চেফ্ৰেটেৰী। তেওঁৰ নামটো এতিয়া মোৰ লগত নাই। বৰ্ত্তমানৰ কৰেল পদ্ধয়তৰ ছেফ্ৰেটেৰী জনাই। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও দেখা যায় যে Conciliation Board ত বহুত মোকদ্দমা বহু মাহ ধৰি বিচাৰ নোহোৱাকৈ পৰি আছে, অঞ্চল আধিয়াৰ আইনৰ মূল লক্ষ্য আছিল — পাৰিলে দুমাহৰ ভিতৰতে মোকদ্দমাবোৰ নিষ্পত্তি কৰিব লাগে। যদিওবা আধিয়াৰ আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰা হৈছে, তথাপি প্ৰয়োগ ক্ষেত্ৰত আৰু চৰকাৰৰ আনমনীয়া মনোভাৱৰ ফলতহে এই আইনৰ লক্ষ্য ব্ৰষ্ট হোৱাৰ ফালে, আঙুৱাই গৈছে। আনহাতে Ceiling Act গৃহীত হৈছে কিন্তু প্ৰয়োগৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত বহুত পলম কৰা হৈছে। ব্যাখ্যা দিয়া হৈছিল যে Ceiling Act ৰ কোনো কোনো ধাৰাত Supreme Court এ আপত্তি তুলিছিল। সংশোধনো কৰা হল, কিন্তু সংশোধনাৰ পিচতো বহুদিন প্ৰয়োগ নকৰাকৈ থৈ দিয়া হল। এই এছেম্বলি বহাৰ মাত্ৰ কেইদিন মানৰ আগতে ঘোষণা কৰা হৈছে যে আইন প্ৰয়োগ কৰা হৈছে। Ceiling Act ৰ আচল উদ্দেশ্য আছিল বৰ বৰ মালিকৰ যি ওপৰৰি মাটি আছে সেই মাটি প্ৰকৃত খেতিয়কক দিয়া আৰু লাহে লাহে গোটেই মালিকৰ অন্যান্য অধিকাৰ এই প্ৰদেশৰ পৰা দূৰ কৰা আৰু দেশখনক লাহে লাহে সমৃদ্ধিৰ ফাললৈ লৈ যোৱা। কিন্তু প্ৰয়োগৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত এনেকুৱা হৈছে যাৰ ফলত মাটিৰ মালিক সকলে আইন প্ৰণয়ন হোৱাৰ ২-২½ বছৰৰ ভিতৰতে ওপৰৰি মাটিবোৰ হস্তান্তৰ কৰিলে, যাৰ ফলত হস্তান্তৰ কৰা মাটিবিলাক আজিলৈকে খেতিয়কক দিব পৰা নাই বা দিয়া হোৱা নাই। অঞ্চল সিদিনা ৰাজস্ব সচিব কৈছে যে, যদি তেনে হস্তান্তৰৰ ফলত অন্য খেতিয়কে সেই মাটিবোৰ পায়, তেনেহলে আপত্তি কি? আপত্তি কৰিবলগীয়া নাই যদিহে প্ৰকৃত খেতিয়কে মাটি পায়। কিন্তু বহুত ক্ষেত্ৰত আমি দেখিবলৈ পাইছো মাটি হস্তান্তৰ হৈছে মালিক সকলৰ নিজৰ অঙহী বঙহীৰ ভিতৰত নাইবা এনেকুৱা মানুহে মাটি লৈছে যি সকল নিজে খেতিয়ক নহয়, যাৰ ফলত Ceiling Act ৰ মূল লক্ষ্য ব্ৰষ্ট হৈছে। এই ধৰণেৰে উদ্ভূত জমি আন মানুহৰ ওচৰত খেতিয়ক বুলি অভিহিত কৰি হস্তান্তৰ কৰাৰ ফলত বেমেজালি হৈছে, হৰেক বকমৰ মানলা-মোকদ্দমা হৈছে আৰু অসন্তোষৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। গতিকে Ceiling Act ৰ নতৈ উদ্ভূত মাটি যে খেতিয়কে পাব লাগে সেই উদ্দেশ্য ব্ৰষ্ট হৈছে।

আনফালে Urban Tenancy Act ৰ ৫ নং ধাৰাটো এনেভাৱে জটিল কৰি ৰখা হৈছে যাৰ অৰ্থ অস্পষ্ট আৰু দ্ব্যৰ্থক। এই ধাৰাটোৰ amendment নোহোৱাৰ ফলত প্ৰত্যেক চহৰতে দুখীয়া tenant ৰ ওপৰত উচ্ছেদ কৰা আৰম্ভ হৈছে। যোৱা ১৩ মাৰ্চ তাৰিখে যোৰহাট চহৰৰ tenant সকলে দিয়া দৰ্খাস্ত বোধকৰো ৰেভিনিউ মিনিষ্টাৰে পাইছে আৰু আমিও তাৰ কপি পাইছো। সেই দৰ্খাস্তত উল্লেখ কৰিছে বহুতো মালিকে, ৰায়তক উচ্ছেদ কৰিব ধৰা বুলি। উচ্ছেদ প্ৰতিৰোধ কৰিবৰ নিমিত্তে দৰ্খাস্তত আবেদন জনাইছে। গুৱাহাটীৰ Lease Holders Association এও বাৰে বাৰে অনুৰোধ জনাইছে যে, এই ধাৰাটো পৰিবৰ্ত্তন কৰিব লাগে। কিয়নো, তাৰ ফলত চহৰৰ গৰীব tenant সকল উচ্ছেদ হ'ব লাগিছে। চৰকাৰে চহৰত বাসকৰা গৰীব tenant সকলৰ প্ৰতি এটা অনমনীয় ভাৱ লৈ আছে যাৰ



ফলত Urban Tenancy Act হোৱাৰ লগে লগে উচ্ছেদ আৰম্ভ হৈছে। চৰকাৰৰ অস্পষ্ট মাটিনীতিৰ ফলত বহুতো ঠাইত উচ্ছেদ আৰম্ভ হৈছে। এই সদনে জানিবৰ কাৰণে তাৰ কেইটামান উদাহৰণ দিব খুজিছোঁ।

কাছাৰ জিলাত শৰৎ চন্দ্ৰ দেব নামেৰে এজন মাটিৰ মালিকে, যাৰ ৬০০ শ বিঘা মাটি আছে, Ceiling Act ৰ প্ৰয়োগ আৰম্ভ হোৱাৰ লগে লগে মাটিৰ পৰা উচ্ছেদ আৰম্ভ কৰিছে। কৰিমগঞ্জৰ তিনঘৰীয়া গাঁৱত প্ৰায় ২০ ঘৰ লোকক উচ্ছেদ কৰিছে। হাছানপুৰ ইষ্টেটৰ মালিকে ২৯ ঘৰ মানুহক জোৰ জবদস্তিকৈ উচ্ছেদ কৰিছে। হাছানপুৰ ইষ্টেটৰ মালিকে, যাৰ ঘৰত যোৱা electionৰ সময়ত আমাৰ মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী আলহী আছিল গৈ, election ৰ পিচতেই ৩১৪ শ লাঠিয়াল লৈ বায়ত সকলক উচ্ছেদ কৰিছে। চৰকাৰে এই কথা জনা স্বত্বেও আজিলৈকে প্ৰতিকাৰৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা কৰা নাই। উদাৰবন্দ থানা এলেকাত মাটিৰ মালিক শৰৎ দাস আৰু ৰাম নাৰায়ণ গোৱালাই আধিয়াৰক উচ্ছেদ কৰিব ধৰিছে।

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I hope this list is illustrative and not exhaustive. If it is exhaustive, it may try the patience of the House.

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) :** হীৰেন্দ্ৰ চক্ৰবৰ্তী এজন কংগ্ৰেছৰ Leader। তেওঁৰ জমিদাৰীতো নিষিদ্ধাৰে উচ্ছেদ আৰম্ভ হৈছে যাৰ ফলত খেতিয়ক সকল থাকিব নোৱাৰা হৈছে। দাদপাটিল গ্ৰাণ্ট আৰু পানীভাৰা বাগানৰ মাটিত প্ৰায় ৬০০ শ ঘৰ ex-tea labour এ দখল কৰি থাই আছিল.....

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The time of the House will be utilised with better profit if the hon. Member cites these instances only as illustrations. The best thing is to make a point and illustrate that point by these instances.

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West):** মই এইটো কব খুজিছোঁ যে, অসমৰ ভৈয়ামৰ সাতখন জিলাত এই ধৰণেৰে উচ্ছেদ হব-লাগিছে। ঠিক সেই ধৰণেৰে তেজপুৰ মহকুমাতো উচ্ছেদ আৰম্ভ হৈছে। বিশেষকৈ এটা আচৰিত কথা এইয়ে তাত যিবিলাক অসমীয়া খেতিয়কে মাটি দখল কৰি আছিল, তেওঁ লোকক উচ্ছেদ কৰি কিছুমান অনাখতিয়কক স্মুৱাই দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা হৈছে। তাতোকৈ আচৰিত কথা যে, কুমলীয়া গ্ৰেজিং ৰিজাৰ্ভত ১০ হাজাৰ বিঘা মাটি চৰকাৰে অধিগ্ৰহণ কৰি লৈ তাৰ মাটিহীন ৰাইজক দিবলৈ ঠিক কৰিছে; কিন্তু চৰকাৰৰ মাটি বিতৰণৰ নীতিত তেনে কিছুমান দোষ আছে বুলি আৰু সংশ্লিষ্ট Sub-Deputy Collector জনে ষোচ লোৱা বুলি ইতিমধ্যে ৰাইজৰ মাজৰপৰা আপত্তি উঠিছে। এই বিষয়ে একো সন্নিবিষ্ট কৰা নহল।



বৰপেটা মোজাৰ ১৫০ টা গৰাখহনীয়াত উচ্ছেদ হোৱা পৰিয়ালক আজিলৈ মাটি দিয়া হোৱা নাই। বৰপেটা মহকুমাৰ বাৰাপেটা বিজাৰ্তত, থেকা বিজাৰ্তত কুলোৰী, ভাটিকুছি আদিত নৃশংসভাৱে কৃষক উচ্ছেদ কাৰ্য্য আৰম্ভ হৈছে। অকল থেকা বিজাৰ্তৰ পৰা ৩,৫০০ শ লোকক ঘৰ-দুৱাৰ ভাঙি খেতিবাতি নষ্ট কৰি উচ্ছেদ কৰা হৈছে বাশবাৰী চাহ বাগানৰ পৰিখকা মাটিৰ প্ৰায় ৩০০ বিঘা মাটি বহুতো খেতিয়কে বুকুৰ তেজ পাঁনী কৰি ভাঙি লৈ খেতি কৰি আছিল; সেই খেতিয়ক সকলক চৰকাৰে মাটি পত্তন কৰা নাই। ঠিক তেনেকৈ যোৰহাটৰ চিনামৰা, সোণোৱাল ইত্যাদি কিছুমান অঞ্চলতে অসমীয়া মাটিহীন খেতিয়ক সকলে দখল কৰি থকা স্বত্বেও চৰকাৰে সেই লোক সকলক মাটিৰপৰ উঠাই দিবলৈ যত্ন কৰিছে।

সিদিনা ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰীৰ বক্তৃতাত কৈছে যে আমাৰ অসমত ২০ লাখ মানুহৰ মাটি নাই। অসমত যি মাটি আছে, সেই মাটিৰে এই ভূমিহীন লোক সকলক মাটি দিয়া একেবাৰে সুকঠিন.....

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):**

চাব, মই এটা কথা বুজি পোৱা নাই---মাননীয় সদস্যই যোৰহাটৰ চিনামৰা, সোণোৱাল আদি কেইখনমান ঠাইৰ কথা কলে, য'ত কিছুমান দখল-কাৰীক চৰকাৰে উচ্ছেদ কৰিছে। তেখেতে মোক জনাবনে যে সেই লোক সকলে সেই মাটিবিলাক কেনেকৈ দখল কৰিবলৈ পালে?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I am afraid, if the hon. Member is permitted to reply to all the instances asked for by the Finance Minister he will not be able to finish his speech.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister):** My difficulty is this that the points which the hon. Member has raised will have to be replied by me on behalf of the Revenue Minister, therefore, I want to get facts from him. He has said about eviction of some persons from certain grants in Jorhat. I want to know who are those people who were evicted and how could they come to occupy those lands?

**Mr. SPEAKER :** He has said Assamese landless people.

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) :** সেই বিলাক চাহ বাগিছাৰ পৰিখকা মাটি আছিল; কিছুমান মাটিহীন খেতিয়কে তাতেই খেতি কৰি দখল কৰি আছিল। এতিয়া চৰকাৰে সেই মাটিৰ পৰা সেই লোকসকলক উচ্ছেদ কৰি কিছুমান আন লোকক বহুৱাই দিছে---চৰকাৰে কয়, খেতিয়কক মাটি দি



আমাৰ খাদ্য উৎপাদন বঢ়োৱাৰ চেষ্টা কৰিছে বুলি। মই কওঁ এই বিলাক অসত্য কথা। চৰকাৰে খেতিয়কক মাটিৰপৰা উচ্ছেদ কৰি আন খেতিয়কক বহুৱাইছে। যাৰ ফলত অসমৰ কৃষি-জীৱন শঙ্কাকুল হৈছে।

**Mr. SPEAKER :** I think the word “অসত্য” will be un-parliamentary.

**Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) :** মই সত্য নহয় বুলিয়েই কৈছো। মই জানো যে, এতিয়াও অসমত খেতিয়কক দিয়াৰ কাৰণে মাটি বহুতো আছে। চৰকাৰে চাহ বাগিছাৰ গ্ৰাণ্ট বিলাক লয়। কিন্তু তাত আগৰেপৰা খেতি কৰি থকা খেতিয়ক সকলক উচ্ছেদ কৰি অনাখেতিয়ক সকলক সেই মাটিত বহুৱায়। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে মোৰ ওচৰত বহুতো তথ্য আছে। চৰকাৰে কয় যে আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰা হৈছে—খেতিয়ক সকলে আইনৰ সুবিধা সুযোগ গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ নিজে আগবাঢ়ি নাহে। তাৰ কাৰণে দায়ী খেতিয়ক সকলহে। সিদিনা ৰাজস্ব মন্ত্ৰীয়ে এই বিষয়ে আধিয়াৰ সকলকো দোষ দিছে। চৰকাৰে খেতিয়ক সকলৰ ওপৰত দোষ দিয়ে, চৰকাৰৰ যি দায়িত্ব আছে তাৰপৰ হাত সৰাৰ অজুহাত হিচাবে। আধিয়াৰ আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰিছে। কিন্তু আধিয়াৰ সকলৰ হক ৰক্ষাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰৰ যি কৰণীয় দায়িত্ব আছে তাৰ পৰা হাত সৰাৰ কাৰণে এইবিলাক একোটা ফন্দি মাত্ৰ। মই কওঁ যে ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা চৰকাৰৰ ওপৰত ন্যস্ত দায়িত্ব পালন নকৰি খেতিয়কৰ ওপৰত দোষ জাপি দিয়াৰ ই এটা প্ৰয়াস মাত্ৰ। বৃটিছ Bureaucracy ৰ দিনত এনে এটা ব্যৱস্থা থকাটো কিছু যুক্তিসংগত থাকিলেও জাতীয় চৰকাৰৰ দিনত এনে ধৰণৰ অনিয়মানুৰূপতাৰ আৰু নীতিহীনতাৰ স্থান থকাটো নিত্যান্ত অনুচিত। চৰকাৰে ভূমিহীন খেতিয়কক মাটি দি উন্নত পদ্ধতিৰ কৃষিনীতি প্ৰৱৰ্ত্তন কৰি খাদ্য বিষয়ত স্বাৱলম্বী কৰিব লাগে। ইয়াকে খেতিয়ক সকলে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা বিচাৰে।

স্বাধীনতা পোৱাৰ আজি ১০ বছৰ পাৰ হৈ গ'ল। মাত্ৰ ১০ বছৰ ভিতৰতে এই ক্ষেত্ৰত চীনদেশে কিমানদূৰ আগবাঢ়ি গ'ল! সেই কথা ভাবত চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা এদল প্ৰতিনিধি গৈ নিজ চকুৰে চাই আহিছে। আমাৰ বৰ্ত্তমানৰ অধ্যক্ষও এগৰাকী তাৰ সদস্য আছিল। তেওঁলোকে এটা সুস্পষ্ট পদ্ধতিৰে কাম কৰাতহে তেনেদৰে সাফল্য-মণ্ডিত হৈছে। অথচ চীনৰ লগত বহুতো বিষয়ত আমাৰ সামঞ্জস্য আছিল। আমাৰ দেশত সুচিন্তিত ভূমিনীতিৰ অভাৱত আমি বিশৃংখলাৰ মাজেৰে অভাৱ আৰু দাৰিদ্ৰ্যতা কালতিপাত কৰিবলগীয়া হৈছেহক। ৰাইজৰ আগত চৰকাৰে ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ নীতিৰ কথা কৈ বজুতা দি ফুৰিলে আৰু কাগজে কলমে কেৱল ভয়ঙ্কৰ আঁচনি কৰিলেই কৃষক ৰাইজৰ ভূমি-সমস্যাৰ সমাধান নহয়, আৰু দেশৰো কোনো উন্নতি নহব। চৰকাৰৰ বৰ্ত্তমানৰ যি দুৰ্বল নীতি তাৰ সোনকালে আমূল পৰিবৰ্ত্তন নকৰিলে আমাৰ এই কৃষিপ্ৰধান দেশখনৰ ধৰণীস্বৰূপ খেতিয়ক সকলক চৰকাৰে খাদ্য উৎপাদনত স্বাৱলম্বী কৰাটো এটা সপোন মাত্ৰ। কিয়নো মাটিৰ লগত কৃষিৰ সম্বন্ধ আৰু কৃষিৰ লগত কৃষকৰ সম্বন্ধ। গতিকে মই কওঁ যে, আগৰ গেলাপচা নীতিৰ সংস্কাৰ নকৰিলে দেশৰ উন্নতি হ'ব নোৱাৰে।



বিত্তমন্ত্ৰীয়ে আমাৰ সদস্য সকলৰ পৰা পৰামৰ্শ বিচৰা অনুসাৰে আমি পৰামৰ্শ আগ বঢ়াও যে, চৰকাৰে যিবিলাক মাটি বাইজক দিবলৈ যো-যা কৰে, ব্যক্তিগত ভাৱে দিয়া প্ৰথাটো বন্ধ কৰিব লাগে। ভৱিষ্যতে চৰকাৰ যিবিলাক চৰকাৰী পতিত মাটি বাগানৰ মাটি বা Reserve খুলি দিয়ে, তাত সমবায় নীতিৰ জৰিয়তে সমবায় কৃষি ফাৰ্ম খুলি মাটিহীন খেতিয়ক সকলৰ দ্বাৰা খাদ্য উৎপাদন কৰাব লাগে। যোৱা বছৰো বিত্ত-মন্ত্ৰীৰ বক্তৃতাতে শুনিছিলোঁ যে, চৰকাৰে সমবায় পদ্ধতিৰে পৃষ্ঠপোষকতা কৰে। এই-বিলাক অকল বক্তৃতাতে সীমাবদ্ধ থাকিল। আজি যদি চৰকাৰে বিতৰণ কৰা মাটিবিলাক সমবায় নীতিৰ ভিত্তিত বিতৰণ কৰি সমবায় ফাৰ্ম খোলাৰ এটা ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰিলেহেঁতেন, তেন্তে বহুখিনি সমস্যাৰ সমাধান হ'লহেঁতেন। কাৰ্য্যক্ষেত্ৰত আমি তাৰ বিপৰীত দেখিছোঁ। চৰকাৰে ফিলোবাৰী, কাকী, স্মৰণ-খাটা আদি ঠাইত সমবায় ভিত্তিত মাটি বিতৰণ নকৰি। কিছুমান ব্যক্তিগত লোকক মাটি দিছে - চৰকাৰে যদি সমবায় কৃষি-নীতিত প্ৰকৃততে বিশ্বাস কৰে, নিজৰ বিধোষিত নীতিৰ প্ৰতি তেওঁলোকৰ নিষ্ঠা ও সততা থাকে, তেনেহলে কেলেই এখনো সমবায় ফাৰ্ম সেই ঠাই বিলাকত কৰি উদাহৰণ নেদেখুৱালে? আনহাতে Revenue Minister, এ কয় যে, ২০ লাখ মাটিহীন লোকক মাটি দিবলৈ অসমত মাটি নাই। আমি জানো যে, লোকসংখ্যা বঢ়াৰ লগে লগে মাটি নাবাঢ়ে। কিন্তু মাটি বিতৰণ নীতি সূচিস্থিত ভাৱে যদি চলে তেন্তে আজি এনে শোচনীয় অৱস্থাৰ উদ্ভৱ নহয়।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই বিলাক অভিযোগ ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ ওচৰ পালেই তেখেতে আইনৰ দোহাৰ দিয়ে। সিদিনা সদনত তেখেতে কৈছে যে আমাৰ মানুহ অন্য কামত নিয়োজিত হ'ব লাগে; অকল মাটি মাটি কৰি থাকিলেই নহয়। কিন্তু কি কামত মানুহক নিয়োজিত কৰিব লাগে তেখেতে তাৰ পথ নিৰ্দেশ কৰা নাই। আমি এতিয়াও শিল্পক্ষেত্ৰত ইমান পিচপৰি আছোঁ যে খেতিয়ক সকলৰ খেতিৰ বাহিৰে। জীৱিকাৰ আন কোনো উল্লেখযোগ্য উপায়েই নাই। খেতি কৰিবলৈ মাটিবো অভাৱ। এনে অৱস্থাত তেখেতৰ তেনে উক্তিৰ সাৰ্থকতা নাই বুলিয়েই ক'ব লাগিব। ব'ব পৰিতাপৰ কথা যে, এনে পাৰিপাশ্ৰিকতাৰ মাজতো আজি আমাৰ ইয়াত কোনো শিক্ষাৰ বিষয়ে পৰিকল্পিত আঁচনি নাই। Small Scale Industry যি আছে, সিও সীমা-বদ্ধ। নতুন কামৰ সৃষ্টিৰ সুবিধা এই শিল্প বিলাকে ভূমিহীন আৰু কৰ্মহীন লোকক দিব পৰা নাই। খেতিয়ক সকল ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা উপকৃত হ'ব পৰা নাই। এনে অৱস্থাত দিব পৰা নাই। খেতিয়ক সকল ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা উপকৃত হ'ব লাগে। যেতিয়াই ভূমি ৰাজহ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ এনে উক্তি চিন্তাবিহীন ভাৱে কৰা যেন লাগে। যেতিয়াই ভূমি সংস্কাৰ সম্বন্ধীয় কথা ওলায়, তেতিয়াই তেখেতে আইনৰ দোহাৰ দি কয়,—আইন আছে, আইনমতে হ'ব। কিন্তু আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰিলে বা কেখিলামান আইন থাকিলেই নহয়; আইনমতে হ'ব। কিন্তু আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰিলে বা কেখিলামান আইন থাকিলেই নহয়; ইয়াক কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত কৰিলেহে ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই কাম হয়। এই আইন সমূহৰ প্ৰয়োগৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত দেখা গৈছে কেৱল তেলীৰ নুৰত তেল দিয়াহে হৈছে; যি আচল ভূমিহীন খেতিয়ক সি এতিয়াও ভূমিহীন অৱস্থাত পৰি বৈছে। যিবিলাক লোক খেতিয়ক নহয়, সিবিলাকেই ভূমি আহৰণ কৰি পতন কৰা হৈছে। এই বিলাই বেমেজালিৰ যদি অন্ত পেলাব পৰা নাযায়, আৰু ইয়াক check কৰিবলৈ যদি চৰকাৰ যত্নপৰায়ণ নহয় তেন্তে আইনৰ নাম লোৱাটো অন্তঃসাবৰ্ণ্য কথা। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা দেশৰ প্ৰগতি হ'ব নোৱাৰে। (সময়ৰ সফেট ধ্বনি)

(মাননীয় সদস্যই নিজৰ আসন লয়)



**Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West):** Mr. Speaker Sir, in rising to support the Budget for 1958-59 I thank the Hon'ble Finance Minister for presenting a surplus Budget. I should have been more thankful to him if he would have considered the capital expenditure also in making the Budget. Our State has got increased revenue from the Central Government under the new Award considered on population basis. In the fitness of things I think Government ought to have considered the expenditure district-wise and on population basis.

Sir last year I spoke something about General Administration and this time also I want to draw the attention of the Government about General Administration. We people want peace and security. But we find the present administration has so much deteriorated that life is not in peace nor secure. Administration depends upon Secretaries, District Heads and other District authorities. But unless power is decentralised I think we cannot expect administration as we expected of ten. The responsibility and authority should be given to the subordinate ranks, but there is every chance of misuse. But I think if Government consider to have a system of inspecting and checking of the responsibility and power then Government policy can be implemented properly and satisfaction will come to the people. Only provision for Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries which means nothing but huge expenditure to Government, it will not provide any security to the people.

Sir, we come here to make laws, but if the laws are not implemented then what is the use of our coming here? I can cite one instance. There is provision that in public vehicles smoking is prohibited by law, but we find that it is not implemented. I also request the Government to think of removal of the office and headquarters of the Commissioners of Divisions to the respective areas. At the same time also I would like to point out about the Inspectorate of Schools of Southern Circle which should be in Cachar—I mean Silchar being the Head Quarters and it has not been removed as yet, but is still at Shillong. For the interest of the people I think it should be removed immediately.

About Police administration itself I think it should be revitalised. For this the less said the better. Another important factor, about unnecessary delay of sanctions for which



funds for development go unutilised. For example, I can mention about the Salgonga Project which is to be implemented this year. It could not be done for lack of timely sanction or proper sanction. I would request the Government to investigate the matter as to why it was not done and to see that it should be done immediately. Then, Sir, I want to point out another thing. I had to preside over a meeting of the Grade IV employees last evening. In that conference they have taken up many proposals and one of them is that they do not like to be used in the household of their officers. They can do so of their own accord but they cannot be compelled to do so. There are so many proposals also which are coming to the Government in the very near future.

Then I would like to point out about Education. This year I find more money has been allotted under this head and our Minister has sanctioned dearness allowance to the Lower Primary teachers and pay scales to the Secondary School teachers as recommended by the Pay Committee, from the last Budget. I hope they will get this benefit before the 31st March. I find in the Budget that a sum of Rs.1 lakh 10 thousand has been provided for examination fees—I think it means Middle English Examination because it is not mentioned in the Budget for what purpose this was provided for. Now, I think this Middle English Examination ought to be stopped because I find it is a hardship to the students and at the same time it is a colossal expenditure on the part of Government. Sir, regarding these questions I can cite one example of hardship to the children. There are 120 questions to be done in one hour by the children of between 10 and 12 years. One of the question is like this—"If an income of a person is decreased by 15 per cent for the time being and again it is increased by 15 per cent what will be the net gain or loss". Even no paper was given to the children or the examinees in the Mawkhar High School for rough work. I am afraid how many of us can give the right answer. These, Sir, are the sort of questions given to our children of this age.

Another example I can give. Last year in 1956 in our Cachar area the students of village-Ch'ibitabichia had their examination centre at Sreecona and due to want of conveyance the students could not sit in the examination. They appealed to the proper authority but they were not given any help and they had to go without examination. Now I would like to draw



the attention of the Government about the award of scholarships. In awarding scholarships I would like to say that Government should do so on merits and no other considerations should be made because there is constitutional provision for backward communities. I also want to draw the attention of the Medical Minister that scholarships of the medical students were not paid from last July till February, 1958. I do not know what is the process or procedure and how it could be so late. I hope the Hon. Minister-in-charge will see to this question and early action taken for payment of the scholarships. Further I would like to say that we find that the Medical and Health Services are unified this year but I think some injustice has been done in this respect to the medical members those who are licentiates that a number of them has been deprived of their seniority. This state of affairs should not go on and I would, therefore, request the Government to enquire about the matter and set things right. Also I would like to draw the attention of the Medical Minister about 12 mid-wives in Cachar district who were retrenched when the Community Project was closed. I tried to draw the attention of the authority concerned to absorb them, but up till now nothing has been done. I would like to request the Minister-in-charge to see to this so that the mid-wives may be absorbed for which these mid-wives may render good services to the public.

Now regarding Cachar district I would again like to draw the attention of the Medical Minister about the Silchar Civil Hospital. I would request the Government to consider it as a general hospital because this hospital caters to the needs of not only Cachar but also of North Cachar Hills and the Lushai Hills districts. No accommodation is available for the patients. Present accommodation in this particular hospital is same as of 1940. There were provisions for providing a Surgeon and a Pathologist but till to-day there is no Surgeon or Pathologist appointed for this hospital. I would request the Government to see to this and arrangement should be made to appoint both the Surgeon and Pathologist at an early date. Another thing is about the T. B. Hospital in Silchar for which one doctor has only been recently provided but no nurses have been appointed yet. Indeed I offer myself to help them to procure nurses. Government will please see to this and provide the nurses early. I want also to refer to the case of the Maternity Centre at Silchar. Fund in this respect has been provided for such other



institutions but this Maternity Centre-Narisikhsasram, the first of such institutions in Assam, has not been given the due consideration as it deserves. Government should also see to this and grant the necessary fund for this Maternity Centre at Silchar....

**Shri RUPNATH BHRAMA (Minister, Medical):** Some grant was given to the institution.

**Shri JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West):** No doubt a non-recurring of Rs.20,000 was given within last 25 years but we expect atleast 50 per cent of the expenditure should be borne by the Government. We have the Child Welfare and Family Planning schemes attached to it but due to paucity of funds these schemes cannot materialise. So I request that Government should come forward and help our schemes.

I want also to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister for Agriculture about Cachar. You know, Sir, that Cachar is devastated every year by flood but still nothing has been done to check the Barak water by excavating Paila haor, Dubri haor, Raijani haor, Chatla beel, etc. If this is done, it will give some relief to the cultivators. In this connection, I would also like to draw the attention of the Minister for Veterinary and Livestock. In the other States the Department of Livestock is separated from the Veterinary and is placed under the Agriculture Department. It is high time now to separate the department of Livestock from the department of Veterinary and to place under the general Agricultural Department. In this connection, I would like to say that the milk position in Cachar is far from satisfactory. There was provision in the last year's Budget for the establishment of a Cattle Farm in Cachar but I am sorry to inform the House that nothing so far has been done. The food situation in the State is not satisfactory and in spite of the fact that we have spent huge sums of money to increase food production yet no improvement has been made, the people are suffering for want of food. The present procurement policy of the Government, I may say, has resulted in the profit of the middle men only. In Cachar according to the Government rate paddy is sold at Rs.10/4 per maund. It will not be of any benefit to the cultivators unless it is purchased direct from the cultivators themselves. I am afraid fixation of the price of paddy will not be of any benefit to the cultivators nor will it bring down the price structure. Now, Sir, I want to speak a few words about the question of transport and communication in the Cachar district. There are two routes of communications to Cachar with the rest



of India, I mean the other districts in Assam and outside Assam, one through Gauhati and another through Karimganj. It is known generally that the Joint Steamer Companies carry bulk of the cargoes through East Pakistan to Gauhati and Karimganj from Calcutta, but now the Joint Steamer companies have threatened to stop plying of their vessels. Therefore, it is now the duty of the Government to maintain these lines of communications for which a Navigation Expert is absolutely necessary. Therefore, our Government should insist the Central Government to maintain these important life lines and immediate survey should be carried out. In this connection, I may also say that there is another alternative route which connects Cachar through North Cachar hills, Khasi and Jaintia Hills, Garo Hills, Goalpara, Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling through Bihar to Calcutta for which ropeways through the hills and rail connection through the plains areas, can solve the problem. I would also like to say that the Jowai road connecting Silchar is not yet complete due to the fact that estimates for the bridges were not submitted along with the original estimates for the construction of the road. So there is that unnecessary delay. Whether that was done deliberately or through inefficiency, I don't know. Any way there is very little chance of the completion of this important road in the near future. But I would like to say that such mistakes should not recur in future.

About major and small industries I want to say a few words; it is not clear about the provision of advancing money for a jute mill whether it is going to be a public or private sector. If the money is an investment to a private party-whether Government have taken all the necessary precaution on this account? I hope Government will examine this question.

There is a proposal for conversion of Gas in Naharkatiya area, I think this work should be taken up immediately and necessary survey done without delay. I hope Government will consider this.

Sir, Cachar is a most neglected area and no industrial development is proposed for this neglected area mainly because transport difficulties stand in its way and hence no private sector is interested to start any industry in Cachar and no people will come forward to take up any small scale or major industries, but there are possibilities of starting small scale and major industries because there are ample scopes in Cachar. In Cachar enough bamboo, short staple cotton, and lime stone



are available. About small scale industries there may be some provision for power loom, cane products, plywood manufacture, fruit preservation, fruit juice products, dehydration of ginger etc.

Now I come to the very grave problem, I mean the problem of relief and rehabilitation of the displaced persons in the district of Cachar. A lot of money has been spent, but very few families have been rehabilitated and I find in Cachar there are different categories of people viz agriculturists, wage-earners, and the rest middle class dependent on various types of earnings. Unless a clear cut categorisation is done as a *prima facie* case how can the schemes for rehabilitation be drawn up? There is enough land available in form of reserve land lying in the border of Kutlicherra, extending upto the hills region. The surplus land in the tea gardens may be requisitioned and distributed to the displaced persons and to the *ex-tea garden* labourers. Unless Government come forward to establish one or two industries in Cachar I think the problem of unemployment will remain far from solution. You know there is only one industry in Cachar which is the tea industry which determines the economy of Cachar. It is also very alarming. Some of the labourers have already been thrown out of employment, the gardens are becoming un-economic due to the mismanagement of the owners. I think Government will come forward to save these labourers of these tea gardens from this position, and Government should let the tea garden owners know that it is their responsibility to see that these labourers do not become unemployed. I think, if necessary, proper enactment of laws should be made to enable these labourers have some relief or some wages in case they become unemployed in this way.

I find in the paper that 360 Colleges will be upgraded and re-organised according to the recommendations of the University Grants Commission. I think a quota will come to Assam. I like to draw the attention of the Education Minister so that the Silchar College will be upgraded to that standard under the Grant Commission's scheme. I also find that three more National Laboratories will be established in India and I request our Government to insist on the Union Government to establish one in Assam at least....

**Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Labour):** One is coming to Assam, Sir.

**Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West):** I thank the Government.

With these words, Sir, I conclude my speech.



**Shri MOLIA TATI (Doom-Dooma):** माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने कृपा करके मुझे इस सदन में बोलने तथा बजटपर अपने विचार प्रकट करने का जो मौका दिया है उसके लिये मैं आपको आन्तरिक धन्यवाद देता हूँ। और साथ ही हमारे अर्थ-मंत्री महोदय ने सन् १९५८-५९ के लिये जो बजट करके हमारे सामने रखा है उसके लिये मैं उन्हें भी आन्तरिक धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, अपने चाय मजदूरों की समस्या के बारे में दो चार बातें बोलना चाहता हूँ। आप को मालूम है कि हमारे आसाम प्रान्त में १२ लाख के करीब चाय मजदूर हैं। इनमें से करीब साढ़े पाँच लाख मजदूर चाय बगानों में काम करते हैं। बाकी मजदूर बगानों के बाहर गावों में रहते हैं। यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है हमारी सरकार ने चाय बगानों की सुख-सुविधाएँ दे रखी हैं। इसलिये हम अपनी सरकार के प्रति कृतज्ञ हैं। और अपनी सरकार को अपने हृदय से धन्यवाद देता हूँ। ये सुविधाएँ क्या हैं। ये हैं बोनस, प्राविडेंट फंड और मैटरनिटी लीव वगैरह। यह खुशी की बात है कि ये सारी सुविधाएँ हम मजदूरों को मिलने लगी हैं।

करीब दस साल पहले हम स्वाधीन हुवे। स्वाधीनता के बाद देश में नवीन जागरण हुआ। लोगों को आगे बढ़ने और अपने जीवन का मान बढ़ाने का पर्याप्त अवसर मिला। किन्तु उसकी तुलना में हम चाय बगानों के मजदूरों को क्या मिला है। अध्यक्ष महोदय, स्वाधीनता के दस सालों के बाद भी हमारा हाल सुधरा नहीं है। स्वाधीनता के बाद देश के और और संप्रदायों को आगे बढ़ने का बहुत मौका मिला है। और वे इतना आगे बढ़े हैं उनमें इतना परिवर्तन हुआ है कि स्वाधीनता के पहले की उनकी अवस्था की कल्पना करना भी असंभव सा लगता है। उनका चेहरा ही बदल गया है। उनका चेहरा इतना बदल गया है कि अब पहचानने में नहीं आता है। किन्तु उसकी तुलना में हमें क्या मिला है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, शिक्षा को ही लीजिये। स्वाधीनता के पहले ही बड़े बड़े ब्रिटिश के बगानों में कुछ स्कूल खोला गया था। किन्तु उन स्कूलों की अवस्था क्या थी उस वक़्त? और अब स्वाधीनता के बाद क्या है? यह बड़ा दुख की बात है कि इन स्कूलों की अवस्था का कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है। शिक्षा का मान भी वैसा ही रहा है। कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है। य सब बातें देखकर इतना दुख होता है कि वह कहा नजाय।

बगानों में मजदूरों की वार्षिक सभाएँ होती हैं। वहाँ के बड़े बड़े नेता जाते हैं और हमारे सामने बड़े बड़े और सुन्दर शब्दों में भाषण देते हैं। वे कहते हैं “आप लोग लिखा पढ़ा कीजिये”, “आपलोग आगे बढ़िये”। ये और इस प्रकार के बड़े बड़े और सुन्दर सुन्दर शब्द प्रयोग करते हैं इस तरह का उनका भाषण हम सुनते हैं।

इस प्रकार की बातें सुनते हैं कि जिनका बयान करना हमारे लिये मुश्किल सा है। किन्तु वास्तव क्या है। महोदय! स्वाधीनता के बाद अन्य संप्रदायों के लोगों का चेहरा ही बदल गया है। किन्तु हम मजदूर मजदूर ही रह गये हैं। हमें अत्यन्त दुख के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है कि हम मजदूरों में अब भी किसी तरह का परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है। वे मजदूर के मजदूर ही रह गये हैं। वे नर-नारी अब भी वैसे ही हैं जैसा वे स्वाधीनता के पहले थे। हम मजदूर आज भी वैसे ही “जसल” पहनते हैं। ये सब बातें बोलते हुवे और अपने मजदूरों की हालत देखते हुवे हमें दुख ही होता है।



भगवान ने सभी लोगों तथा संप्रदायों का सृजन किया है। सभी लोगों के लिये समान सुविधायें दी हैं किन्तु क्या भगवान ने हम मजदूरों को चाय बगानों में मजदूरी करने के लिये ही पैदा किया है। इसलिये मैं सरकार से विशेषरूप से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि मजदूरों की प्रगति की सुविधायें दें। सरकारी काम-काज और सरकार की अन्य कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की सुविधायें दें।

**Half-an-hour discussion on Starred Question No.40**  
**Asked by Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika regarding**  
**Dibrugarh School Board**

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Now it is already 4 O'Clock. We will start another item. We have got before the House half-an-hour debate for which notifications were given by Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta, Shri Dwijesh Chandra Deb Sarma and Shri Dandeswar Hazarika.

As Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta is absent, I would ask Shri Dwijesh Chandra Deb Sarma to come to the mike.

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi):**  
মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি ডিব্ৰুগড় Education Board ৰ কাৰ্য্য বিলাকৰ সম্বন্ধে আলোচনা কৰিবলগীয়া হৈছে এই কাৰণে যে, সিদিনাখন আমাৰ মাননীয় সদস্য, শ্ৰীদেবেন্দ্ৰ নাথ হাজৰিকাৰ এটা প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰত বিভাগীয় মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই যি বিবৃতি দিছিল তাত সঁচাকৈয়ে আমি আচৰিত হৈছো। সেই উত্তৰৰ পৰা বুজা যায় যে চৰকাৰ আৰু Education Board ৰ মাজত যেন সম্বন্ধ নোহোৱা হৈ পৰিছে আৰু যেন শ্বিলঙৰ অফিচে District Education Board ৰ কাৰ্য্য-বিলাকৰ সম্বন্ধে কোনো খবৰ নাৰাখে।

আজি কেইটামান কথা মই উত্থাপন কৰিবলগীয়া হৈছে। এই কাৰণে যে গোটেই ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাটো পিচপৰা, তাৰ গাওঁবোৰ অনুন্নত সম্প্ৰদায়েৰে ভৰা। তেনে অৱস্থাত ব'ত স্কুল হোৱা নাই তাত স্কুল স্থাপন কৰা উচিত বুলি বিবেচনা কৰোঁ। মই নকওঁ যে ডিব্ৰুগড় স্কুলবোৰ্ডৰ যি পুঁজি আছে সেই পুঁজিৰে সকলো ঠাইতে সমানে কাম কৰিব পাৰে; কিন্তু ডিব্ৰুগড় বোৰ্ডত এটা চিন্তা কৰিব নোৱাৰা কথা হৈছে। মই নাজানো অসমৰ আন Education Board ত তেনেকুৱা হৈছে নে নাই। যদি হৈছে, তেনেহলে কৰ লাগিব যে গোটেই অসমৰ Education Board সম্বন্ধে এটা enquiry কৰি Board বোৰ reconstitute কৰা উচিত হৈ পৰিছে। নহলে বৰ্ত্তমান অৱস্থাত শিক্ষা বিভাগৰ অশেষ চেষ্টা বা সদিচ্ছা থকা স্বত্তেও জনসাধাৰণে তাৰ ফল ভোগ কৰিব নোৱাৰিব।

প্ৰথম কথা হৈছে যে যোৱা বছৰ ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ Education Board এ non-recurring grant ৰ টকা যিদৰে ভাগ কৰিছে অগ্ৰিয় সত্য হলেও কবলগীয়া হৈছে যে ৪৮,০০০ টকাৰ ভিতৰত ৩৭,০০০ টকাকৈই এটা সমষ্টিত (constituency) দিয়া হৈছে। ডুমডুমা, ছৈখোৱা, ছেঙ্গাখাট, লাহোৱাল, ডিগবৈ আদিত



এক পইছাও পোৱা নাই। উক্ত অঞ্চলবোৰত টাইবেল, মৰাণ, মটক আদি পিচপৰা জাতিৰ বসতি আৰু ভালেমান *ex-tea garden labourer* ৰ বসতি আছে। তেওঁবিলাকে যে কিমান কষ্ট কৰি স্কুল পাতিছে, অথচ তাত আজিলৈকে কোনো সহায় পোৱা নাই। চৰকাৰৰ পৰা সহায় নোপোৱা হলে আন কথা আছিল, কিন্তু চৰকাৰে দিয়া স্বত্তেও সেইবিলাক স্কুলত টকা দিয়া নাই। সেই অঞ্চলৰ কোনো স্কুলৰ আৰ্থিক সহায়ৰ আৱশ্যকতা সম্বন্ধে চৰকাৰে হেনো কোনো আপত্তি পোৱা নাছিল। এই প্ৰশ্নটোৰ উত্তৰৰ পৰাও দেখা যায় যে সেই অঞ্চলৰ পৰা চৰকাৰে কোনো আপত্তি পোৱা নাছিল। কিন্তু আমি জানোঁ যে এই সমষ্টিৰ পৰা বহুতো আপত্তি আহিছিল। যদি এই সদনৰ সদস্যসকল আৰু মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়া সেই অঞ্চললৈ যায়, তেনেহলে দেখিবলৈ পাব যে সেই অঞ্চলত সহায় পাব লাগে নে নালাগে।

দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ Education Board এ যেতিয়া এই non-recurring grant ৰ টকা ভাগ কৰে সোৰ বিশ্বাস নহয় যে, মিটিঙৰ approval লৈ ভাগ কৰা হয়। Education Board এ কেনেকৈ এই টকা বিলায় মই কব নোৱাৰোঁ। ময়ো Education Board ৰ সভা আছিলোঁ আৰু এবাৰ মাত্ৰ মই বোৰ্ডৰ মিটিঙত যোগ দিবলৈ সমৰ্থ হৈছিলোঁ। তাৰ কাৰণ মই সেইবাৰ নিয়মমতে নট্টিছ পাইছিলোঁ। বাকী নট্টিছ মিটিং হৈ যোৱাৰ পাচত বা দুই বজাত মিটিং বহিব ঠিক সেই সময়ত পাইছিলোঁ। ডিগবৈৰ পৰা ডিব্ৰুগড় ৫০ মাইল, ঠিক দুই বজাত নট্টিছ পাই মই কেনেকৈ ডিব্ৰুগড়ত মিটিঙত উপস্থিত হব পাৰোঁ? সেই কাৰণে মই যাব পৰা নাই। মই গৈ দেখিছিলোঁ যে তাত নিয়মিতৰূপে বাজেট গ্ৰহণ কৰা নহয় বা approval লোৱা নহয়। তাত Deputy Inspector বা Inspecting Officer ৰ দোষ-গুণ সম্বন্ধে আলোচনা কৰে; আৰু বিশেষ কিবা যে আলোচনা হয় মই কব নোৱাৰোঁ। ডিব্ৰুগড়ত Education Board ৰ approval লৈ এই non-recurring grant ৰ টকা দিয়া নহয়—এই টকা কোনে বিতৰণ কৰে মই নাজানো। সেই কাৰণে আশা কৰোঁ আজি বিভাগীয় মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ পৰা এই কথাটো ভালদৰে জানিব পাবিম যে আচলতে জিলা Education Board আৰু Subdivisional Education Board বিলাকৰ কৰ্তব্য কি, এই বোৰ্ড বিলাকে ঠিকমতে কাম কৰিছে নে নাই আৰু Education Board এ এই কথাৰ খবৰ পায় নে নাপায়।

আন এটা কথা হৈছে, সিদিনা প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰ যি গৰাকী মন্ত্ৰীয়ে দিছিল, তেখেতে প্ৰায়বোৰ উত্তৰতে তেখেতে জনা নাই বুলি কৈছিল। প্ৰশ্ন কৰোঁতে কোনো এজন নিৰ্দিষ্ট মানুহক কৰা নহয়, প্ৰশ্ন কৰা হয় চৰকাৰৰ সেই বিভাগটোক।

**Mr. SPEAKER:** সেই বিষয়ত আলোচনা এতিয়া অবাস্তৱ হয়। সেই কাৰণে আপুনি বৰ্তমান বিষয়ৰ ভিতৰতে থকা উচিত। বিশেষকৈ, সভা ডাঙৰীয়াই মাত্ৰ ১০ মিনিট সময়হে পাব, তাতকৈ বেচি কব নোৱাৰিব। তাৰ পাচত মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই ১০ মিনিট কোৱাৰ পিছত, কাৰবাৰ কিবা জানিবলগা থাকিলে প্ৰশ্ন কৰিব পাৰে। গোটেই আলোচনাটো আধাঘণ্টাৰ ভিতৰত শেষ কৰিব লাগিব।

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi):** গতিকে চাব, মই অনুৰোধ জনাওঁ যে, শিক্ষা ক্ষেত্ৰত যিবিলাক গোলমাল আছে সেইবোৰ অতি শীঘ্ৰে আঁতৰাব লাগে। নহলে চৰকাৰে যি সৰ্ব উদ্দেশ্য লৈ শিক্ষাবোৰ্ড গঠন কৰিবলৈ ওলাইছে সেই সৰ্ব উদ্দেশ্য বিফল হ'ব। ডিব্ৰুগড় Education Board



যিবোৰ অভিযোগ মই জনাইছোঁ, সেইবোৰ অনুসন্ধান কৰি, সেই বোৰ্ড reconstitute কৰিবৰ বাবে, অনুৰোধ জনালোঁ। আশা কৰোঁ চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে নিশ্চয় বিবেচনা কৰিব।

**Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA (Jaipur) :** It is not a fact that the Chairman of the School Board is the Member from Moran Constituency where most of the grant was distributed.

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Colleague, Mr. Tripathi, who is in charge of the Education Department is away on account of some urgent work.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order, order. When any such plea is taken before the House to go out for any urgent work then it becomes difficult for the Speaker to manage, because no work is more urgent than the work of the House itself.

**Shri FAKHRUDUDIN ALI AHMED (Minister) :** Sir, I shall reply on his behalf. Three points have been raised in the course of discussion by the hon. Member. First, is that he was not satisfied with the method of allotment of grants by the School Board in the past years. The second objection raised is that most of the grants were given to schools situated in a particular constituency. The third objection raised is to the effect that the grants were made not for the consideration of necessity of grant for the schools but on some other considerations. Sir, so far as the grants are concerned they were made by the School Board at meetings and notices of the meetings were circulated to all the members concerned. It appears from the proceedings of the Board's meetings that many members of the Board were present and in those meetings after discussion, the grants were allotted to the respective schools. In the proceedings there is no note of dissent by any of the members present, nor any objection appears to have been taken in the subsequent meetings also.

The grants were made by the State Education Board to the School Board for improvement of Lower Primary School buildings for conversion of Junior Basic Schools for improvement of Middle Vernacular school buildings and for conversion to Senior Basic Schools.

The grant of Rs.20,000 was similarly made for non-recurring grant to the Schools.



The procedure followed, based on a sound principle, is that grants to schools by School Boards are not made constituency-wise for different M. L. As of a Subdivision, but according to needs of institutions as disclosed during inspection of Sub-Inspectors of Schools. The grants are distributed on the basis of such inspection reports, after consideration by the Boards at meetings and on suggestion of members in the meetings. The Dibrugarh School Board in making the above grants in 1956-57 and 1957-58 acted on the above principles. No discrimination was practised.

It appears that out of a total of Rs.90,000 distributed, Rs.54,250 was distributed in schools falling in the Moran and another constituency and Rs.36,000 was distributed in schools falling in other constituencies of Dibrugarh Subdivision.

The reason why a proportionately larger amount went to Moran area, seems to be the economic condition of the area and the deplorable conditions of a majority of such school buildings in the North Bank.

Dhemaji, Ghugua, Sissybargaon, Khubalia, Batghoria, Sensoa, Amulguri, Naruathan, Bhebeli and Kulajan are some schools which were given grants in the flood devastated and economically poor area of Dibrugarh. They have not had adequate attention for long and are in tribal areas.

Section 24 of the Basic Education Act shows that distribution of grants among different schools is a responsibility of the School Board. The distribution orders have been passed by the Dibrugarh School Board after due consideration in meetings of the Board duly held. The selections were made at the meetings in which majority of Members were present. There is nothing on record to show that notice to Members for the meetings was not properly served. No complaint was received. If a deserving school was left out to include a really underserving one, records of the proceedings would show the discussion and protests, if any, by some Members. There is no such record.

So, Sir, my submission is that the record shows that no complaint was made regarding distribution even in the subsequent meeting of the School Board. If any had been made the Government would have taken that into consideration.



**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether at the time of allotment of those grants to different areas, the question of backwardness and other conditions of those areas was also considered?

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister):** I have already stated that the Government send the money to the School Board and it is the School Board which really distributes the money after taking all factors into consideration in the Board's meetings.

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi):**  
মন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে Deputy Inspector ৰ বিপোট অনুযায়ী grant দিয়া হয়। গতিকে যিবোৰ area ত এপইচাও grant দিয়া হোৱা নাই, সেই area বোৰত grant দিবলগীয়া স্কুল আছে নে নাই চৰকাৰে অনুসন্ধান কৰিব নে?

**Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister):** That will be taken into consideration in due course.

### Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Tuesday, the 25th March 1958.

Shillong,

The 6th June, 1959.

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



