

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 31st March, 1958.

PRESENT

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

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

(Starred Questions Nos.110—114 were not put and answered as the respective questioners were absent)

Members of the Karimganj School Board

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA (Patharkandi : Reserved for Scheduled Castes) asked :

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

- (a) Who are the members of the Karimganj School Board ?
- (b) Who amongst the members are nominated and who are elected ?
- (c) On what basis such nominations are given by the Government ?
- (d) Why a Scheduled class member to look after the interest of the Scheduled class was not nominated though it was a practice since the formation of the Board ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue for Minister, Education) : replied

115. (a)—The following persons are the members of the Karimganj School Board—

- 1. Deputy Inspector of Schools—Secretary, *ex-officio*.
- 2. Senior Sub-Inspector of Schools—Member.
- 3. Shri R. M. Das—Member—Elected by Municipal Board.

4. Shri S. R. Das-Purkayastha—Member—Elected by Teachers.
5. Shri M. R. Chakravarty—Member—Elected by Teachers.
6. Shri Mohit Mohan Das—Member—Elected by Local Board.
7. Shri M. R. Choudhury—Member—Elected by Local Board.
8. Shri A. M. Nath, President, Rural Panchayat—Member—Nominated by Government.
9. Shri N. Haque Choudhury, President, Managing Committee—Member—Nominated by Government.
10. Shri A. Choudhury, M.A., B.L.—Chairman—Nominated by Government.
11. Shri Milan Sashi Mazumdar—Member—Nominated by Government.
12. Shri Nadia Chand Rajkumar—Member—Nominated by Government.
13. Shri Jamini Mohan Das—Member—Nominated by Government.

(b)—As shown against (a) above.

(c)—On the recommendations of the Deputy Commissioners and the Subdivisional Officers concerned who take into consideration the cases of those persons who are interested in educational matters.

(d)—The present arrangement was considered to be adequate.

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA (Patharkandi : Reserved for Scheduled Castes): Whether it is a fact that most of the Government nominated Members are hardly literate?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : It is not a fact Sir.

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South): Whether it is a fact that Shri A. Choudhury is Naib, i. e., a 'Gomasta'?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I am not aware of that Sir, ... (laughter).....

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY: Whether Government is aware that No. 12 Shri Nadia Chand Rajkumar is a Pattadar and an employee of Khajanchi Estate?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : I am not aware of that Sir.

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) : Will Government be pleased to enquire ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Yes, I shall make an enquiry Sir.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : Is it a fact that Shri Nadia Chand Rajkumar is also an employee of Khajanchi Estate ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : That also will be enquired into Sir.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : Is it a fact that Shri Nadia Chand Rajkumar could not even pass the M. E. examination ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : I shall enquire of that Sir.

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA (Patharkandi : Reserved for Scheduled Castes) : Is it a fact, Sir, that Shri Jamini Mohan Das did not pass even M. E. Examination ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Order order. The Minister has already assured that he would make enquiries as to the educational qualification of the Members.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Sibsagar) : It is seen that most of the Members are Government nominated, what is the principle for such nomination ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The reply is there, Sir. Nomination is made on the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers from among those persons who are interested in educational matters.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Is it not a fact that eligibility to membership of educational Boards is not education but capacity of the person to vote only ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Legibility is interested in educational matters. We do not need an M. A., B. L. who is not interested in educational matters.

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA (Patharkandi : Reserved for Scheduled Castes) : Whether it is a fact that most of the Government nominated Members have never interested themselves in educational matters either before or after their being so nominated ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : It is not a fact Sir.

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) : Whether it is a fact that all family members of Shri A. Choudhury are still in Pakistan and that his wife is a Pakistani national ? If so, why has Government nominated him ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : I require notice of that Question, Sir.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : The Minister has replied to most of the questions that he will make necessary enquiries; if on examination it is found that the formation of this Board or its working is not happy, will Government consider the question of re-organisation of this Board ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : That is not necessary because reports show that this Board is working satisfactorily.

Improvement works on Dooria Ali by the Public Works Department

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :

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

(a) Whether improvement works on Dooria Ali by the Public Works Department has been completed ?

(b) If not, why ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that M/s. Dooria Tea Company, Limited, has obstructed in carrying out the improvement works on the said road ?

(d) If so, what action is proposed to be taken in the matter and to complete improvement works of such a project of public importance ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister, for Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

116. (a)—Not yet.

(b)—The project has been taken up in February, 1957 under the Second Five Year Plan and the works are in progress according to programme and availability of funds.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Only 3 miles of the alignment for this road passes through the land of Messrs. Doria Tea Company and in spite of repeated requests the garden authority did not allow works to be executed within their Garden Area. Action has already been taken to acquire necessary land for the purpose.

****Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA** (Dergaon) : Whether it is a fact that this proposal for construction of this road was taken up last year ?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** : Sir, the project was taken up in February, 1957 and the work is still in progress, but there is difficulty with regard to alignment of about 3 miles for which necessary steps are being taken.

Number of High Schools in Assam affiliated to Gauhati University

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) The total number of High Schools in Assam affiliated to Gauhati University ?
- (b) The number of High Schools which require renewal of affiliation every year ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that most of the High Schools, affiliation of which are to be renewed yearly, received affiliations very late, sometimes after the expiry of that period ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that University forms are not supplied to these institutions in time and the teachers and candidates are to remain in anxiety ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that this question was raised in the last meeting of the University Court and the Registrar blamed the Education Department of the State Government for late

submission of recommendations of these schools for renewal of affiliation ?

- (f) Whether Government propose to issue instructions to the Director of Public Instructions to forward recommendations to the University at least within first 6 months of expiry of affiliations ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue for Minister, Education) replied :

117. (a)—355.
(b)—117.
(c)—Only 6 or 7 schools received late affiliation.
(d)—Yes.
(e)—Government have no information.
(f)—The Inspecting Officers have been directed to submit proposals well ahead.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Why such a large number of as many as 170 High Schools are not recommended by the Department for affiliation with the University for a longer period than one year ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The reason is that necessary requirements for affiliation are not fulfilled by some of these schools and that is why they are affiliated for one year so that they may fulfil those requirements. If they do, they are affiliated and if not, they are not affiliated.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Whether Government have a proposal to grant financial help to these schools to enable them to fulfil the requirement of affiliation for a longer period ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Financial help is given but it is for the school authorities to fulfil the requirements for affiliation.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Regarding (e)—Is it a fact that this charge for late submission or non-submission of recommendations for renewal of these schools were made by the Registrar of the University in person in a meeting where the *Ex-Education Minister*, few other Ministers as well as some Members of the Legislative Assembly were present in person ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): There might have been some verbal discussions but the proceedings of the meeting in question have not yet been received by Government as yet.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Sibsagar): Regarding (f) Sir, whether Government have taken timely steps so that these schools get the necessary forms for affiliation in time?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Instruction has already been issued that this should be supplied rather ahead of the date.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) : Whether there are many schools which are taking annual renewal affiliation for more than 13 years?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : That may be so, because as I said some schools have not fulfilled the conditions required of them.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI : Whether a time limit can be imposed in this respect?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : If particular schools are mentioned then we may start an inquiry.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : Whether Government will instruct the Education Department to take liberal view for institutions situated in backward areas to recommend for University affiliation?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : That is the policy of the Government.

Registration of Contractors by Government

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government has decided to register the contractors by payment of earnest money, etc.?
- (b) What is the present and past procedure of engaging contractors by Government?
- (c) What is the number of registered contractors at Sibsagar E. and D. and R. and B. Division and

the number of 1st class, 2nd class and 3rd class contractors, indigenous and outsiders, Class by Class ?

- (d) Whether Government consider the present procedure of settling Public Works Department contracts encouraging to indigenous people.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister for Minister, P. W. D.) replied :

118. (a)—Yes.

- (b)—The existing procedure is as follows—

Whenever any work is sanctioned and funds are available for its execution, notices inviting tenders are issued asking for tenders to be received by a specific date and hour. On receipt, these are opened in presence of the contractors present. Comparative statements are then prepared and contractors are selected and engaged on the basis of these competitive tenders taking into account their past performance, *i.e.*, their efficiency and capability in the execution of contract work including their financial condition and their rates being reasonable. When the proposed registration of contractors is brought into force a list will be prepared and maintained of contractors under various categories registered upto the end of the previous year. The registered contractors will only be eligible for submitting tenders and getting contracts during the following year. This procedure is expected to facilitate execution of Public Works Department work.

(c)—The system of registration of contractors is proposed to be brought into force from 1958-59. Registration of contractors has not yet been completed in the Sibsagar Division (Roads and Buildings) Wings. Separate reply will be given from the Flood Control Wing so far as Sibsagar Embankment and Drainage is concerned.

- (d)—Yes.

***Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra):** ঠিকাদাৰ সকলক বেজিষ্টাৰ কৰা নীতিৰ দ্বাৰা শিক্ষিত ডেকা লবাবোৰে ঠিকা পোৱাত অসুবিধা হোৱা নাই ?

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

অসুবিধা নহয়, বৰং তেওঁলোকৰ সুবিধাৰ নিমিত্তেহে তেনে ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে। আচল কথা হৈছে ঠিকাদাৰ সকল চৰকাৰী কামৰ, বিশেষকৈ গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগৰ কাম পৰিচালনা কৰাত এটা বিশেষ অঙ্গ। তেওঁলোকৰ কাৰ্য্যনিপুণতা আৰু স্থায়ীত্বৰ ওপৰতে গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগৰ কামৰ নিপুণতা নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে। এই বেজিষ্ট্ৰেশ্যনৰ উদ্দেশ্য হৈছে যে যি সকলে এই ঠিকা কামটো পেচা হিচাবে লব খোজে তেওঁলোকক যাতে গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগে মনত ৰাখিব পাৰে আৰু তেওঁলোকেই বিভাগীয় কামত নিয়োগ কৰিব পাৰে। যি সকলে ঠিকা কাম পেচা হিচাবে নলয় তেওঁলোকক বিভাগীয় কামত নিয়োগ কৰা নহব।

****Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) :** যেনেকৈ Excise দোকানত বেনামী হব সেইদৰে ইয়াতো বহুত বেনামী হৈছে। সেই কথা চৰকাৰে জানেনে? যদি নাজানে তদন্ত কৰি চাবনে?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** বেনামী প্রশ্নটো Registration নথকাৰ কাৰণে উঠিছে। এতিয়া Registration পদ্ধতি হাতত লোৱাৰ লগে লগে আচল ঠিকাদাৰ সকলে নাম বেজিষ্টাৰ কৰিব আৰু বেনামী উঠি যাব।

****Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO (Jorhat-Reserved for Scheduled Tribes) :** এই বেজিষ্ট্ৰেশ্যনৰ দ্বাৰা ঠিকাদাৰ সকলে ঠিকা পোৱাৰ নিশ্চয়তা কিমান আছে?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** পূৰ্বৰ নিয়মানুসাৰে টেন্ডাৰৰ ওপৰত কাম পাইছিল। কিন্তু এতিয়া Registration পদ্ধতিৰ দ্বাৰা যি সকলে ঠিকা ব্যবসায় স্থায়ী ভাবে লব তেওঁলোকেই ঠিকা দিয়া যাব বুলি আশা কৰা হৈছে।

****Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) :** If a particular contractor registers himself under class I—which means he can execute contract value of which is say above Rs.50,000, then is he entitled to undertake any contract the value of which is below Rs.50,000?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** Generally the idea is that big contract for which a stronger organization on the part of the contractor is necessary are supposed to be undertaken by big contractors. If very small works are given to big contractors, there may be difficulty to have work for small contractors. Of course, there is nothing sort of a bar that no small contract can be given to a big contractor.

****Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Shall I take it from the Chief Minister that a man who is put in the category of

a first class contractor or for that matter class III, will he be entitled to do contract work of Rs.20,000 or more, will not be debarred from taking contract of lesser value. ?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** I don't think that anybody will be debarred that way. The classification is only an indication of the capacity of the individual contractors.

****Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY [Moran: (Reserved for Scheduled tribes)]** From the reply it appears that the contract will be given according to one's past record, his capacity and so on. Will there be not cut-throat competition? And what about these young and new-contractors? Will it not make the rich richer and the poor poorer. ?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** As long as there is tender, the question of competition is always there and that cannot be denied. But we are anxious to see that there is equitable distribution of these contracts.

****Shri GIRINRRA NATH COGOI (Sibsagar) :** What is the denomination or criterion of determining a 1st class, a 2nd class or a 3rd class contractor? Is it measured in terms of money ?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** It is determined according to one's capacity and in that respect the question of the value of work done by a particular contractor is to some extent taken into consideration in determining the class.

****Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) :** Is it a fact that most of the local contractors lack in the technique to impress the authorities to get work ?

****Mr. SPEAKER:** Order. Order.

****Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI:** I am not clear from the Chief Minister's reply. What is the denomination or criterion according to which a man is determined as a first or second class contractor? Is it according to Rs10,000, 20,000 or 40,000 ?

****Mr. SPEAKER:** He wants the basis per determining first and second class contractors and the amount of work that they are thus capable of doing.

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):**
I will place that on the Table.

****Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakanj):**
Whether Government can consider constitution of an Advisory Committee for the division of works in the sub-divisions. ?

****Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** I don't know whether that question can arise.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Whether it is the policy of the Government to give preference to the Co-operatives ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** It is the policy of the Government to give preference to the Co-operatives, but in determining the co-operatives, we have to consider whether the particular co-operative is suitable for a particular work. Generally we give encouragement to the co-operatives.

Notices served upon twenty-two families of Bamungaon (Bayannagharia Block) Kisan in Kaki Mouza of Nowgong District to vacate their holdings)

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh) asked:
*119. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that notices have been served upon 22 (twenty-two) families of Bamungaon (Bayannagharia Block) Kisan in Kaki mouza of Nowgong District by the Settlement Officer, Nowgong to vacate their respective holdings ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that these people are in lawful possession of their lands after payment of the due premium and revenue for the last 15 (fifteen) years ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that these people have been served with notices to vacate their lands only to make rooms for some allottees of majority community most of whom are related to one of the S. Ks of the Settlement Branch ?
- (d) Whether Government will be pleased to enquire into this matter immediately and save the occupants from the undue harassment of the Revenue Department ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

119. (a)—Encroachment report against 22 occupants in Bamungaon was submitted by the Settlement Officer to the Deputy Commissioner who has since served notices on them to vacate the land in their occupation ?

(b)—It is not a fact that these persons are in lawful occupation of the land. They have not paid any premium, but are occupying the land without any authority.

(c)—The 22 persons being encroachers are not entitled to settlement in the block which has been allotted to landless and flood-affected people of the district. The question of making room for the majority community particularly for the relatives of the S. K. in question is not a fact.

(d)—Government already enquired into the matter and will make further enquiry about the relationship.

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh) : সেই অঞ্চলৰ সংশ্লিষ্ট কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ পৰা বিপোর্ট আনি মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয়ে মোৰ প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰ দিছে নে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : নিশ্চয় ।

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED : সেই অঞ্চলৰ যিসকল মানুহক হিন্দু বুলিব পৰা উচ্ছেদ কৰিবৰ নিমিত্তে নটিছ দিছে তাৰ ৫২ ঘৰ মানুহক ইতিপৰিব সেই অঞ্চলত Settlement দিছিল বুলি মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয়ে জানে নে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Development rate Scheme মতে ৫২ ঘৰ মুছলমানক settlement দিয়া হৈছিল। কিন্তু তাৰে ২২ ঘৰে মাটি বিক্ৰি কৰি তাৰ পৰা গুটি যায়। এই ২২ ঘৰে সেই মাটি দখল কৰি আছে। এওঁশোকৰ সকলো Landless নহয়। Development rate scheme ৰ মাটি বিক্ৰীযোগ্য নহয়। এওঁলোক encroacher.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati) : গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে মাটি পণ্ডন দিয়াৰ সময়ত হিন্দু বা মুছলমান হিচাপে বিবেচনা নকৰি খেতিয়ক হিচাপে বিবেচনা কৰাৰ নীতি গ্ৰহণ কৰিব নে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : সেইটোৱেই গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ নীতি। কিন্তু এই প্ৰশ্নটোত majority আৰু minority Community ৰ কথা আছে। তাৰ নিমিত্তে মই দুখ পাইছোঁ। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ নীতি এইটো নহয়।

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED : সেই অঞ্চলত যি ২২ ঘৰ মানুহক নটিছ দিয়া হৈছে সেই নটিছ settlement officer এ দিছিল। এই নটিছ সম্বন্ধে মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয়ে কিবা জানে নে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : উচ্ছেদৰ নটিছ Deputy Commissioner এ দিছে, Settlement officer এ নহয়।

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED : এই নটিছ মই পঢ়ি শুনাব পাৰোঁ। মই প্ৰমান দিব পাৰোঁ যে সেই ২২ ঘৰ মানুহ encroacher নহয়। তেওঁবিলাকক আইনসমূহৰ ভাবে settlement দিছিল। কিন্তু সংখ্যা গৰিষ্ঠ সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ কাৰণে ঠাই উলিয়াবৰ নিমিত্তে এই সংখ্যা লঘিষ্ঠ সকলক নটিছ দিয়া হৈছে। নটিছখন পঢ়ি শুনাইছোঁ।

“শ্ৰী কান্নাবাজা পি: আমদালি।
সাং বামুনগাঁও, মৌ: কাকি।

ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা আপোনাক জনোৱা যায় যে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ RSS 392/55/20, dated 20th November 1956 নং হুকুম মতে কাকিমৌজাৰ বামুন গাঁও কিছুমতত আপুনি মাটিৰ পতন পাবৰ কাৰণে বৰ্ত্তমান দখল কৰি থকা দাগৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে উক্ত গাঁৱৰে অন্য মাটি দিয়া হ'ব।

আপোনালোকক কত মাটি দিয়া হ'ব এই সম্পৰ্কে অহা ২৯।৫।১৯৫৭ তাৰিখে লক্ষা ডাক বাংলাত নিজে হাজিৰ হৈ জ্ঞাত হ'বৰ কাৰণে জনোৱা হ'ল।

Sd./- Spl A. S. O.
Nowgong.

যদিহে তেওঁবিলাক encroacher হয় তেনেহলে এই ঠাইৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে কিয় আন ঠাইত মাটি দিয়া হ'ব?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : এইখন settlement officer ৰ নটিছ। উচ্ছেদৰ নটিছ নহয়। এই মাটিত তেওঁবিলাকে অনধিকাৰ প্ৰবেশ কৰি আছে তেওঁলোকৰ মাজত—মাটিহীন মানুহো আছে। সেই কাৰণে তেওঁলোকক আন মাটি দিয়া হ'ব। কাজেই এইটো গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ নীতিৰ লগত মিলিছে। এই ২২ ঘৰ মানুহৰ সকলো মাটিহীন নহয়। যিবিলাক মাটি হীন হয় তেওঁবিলাককহে মাটি দিয়া হ'ব। তাৰে বিচাৰৰ বাবে মাতিছে। কাজেই এই নটিছখন গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ নীতিৰ লগত খাপ খাইছে।

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh) : সংখ্যা গৰিষ্ঠ সকলে গাঁও পাতিবৰ কাৰণে সংখ্যা লঘিষ্ঠ সকলৰ ঘৰ-দুৱাৰ ভাঙি তেওঁলোকক উচ্ছেদ কৰি মাটি দিবৰ নীতি অসম গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ আছে নেকি?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : অসম গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে সংখ্যা গৰিষ্ঠ ৰ' সংখ্যা লঘিষ্ঠ হিচাপে মাটি নিদিয়, মাটিহীন হিচাপেহে দিয়ে। এই সংখ্যা গৰিষ্ঠ-সংখ্যা লঘিষ্ঠ প্ৰশ্নটো কিয় আনিছে মই নাজানো। কিন্তু ই দুখৰ কথা।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : মাটি উচ্ছেদ কৰাৰ কথা নটিছত কোৱা হৈছে। সেইসকল মানুহে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ পৰা মাটি পতন পাই ইয়াত বহিছিল নে বে-দখলকাৰী হিচাবে বহিছিল?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : তেওঁলোকে অনধিকাৰ প্ৰবেশ কৰিছিল।

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): Encroachment ব
নটিছ কেনেকৈ দিৱে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: তাৰ নমুনা এতিয়া মোৰ ওচৰত নাই।
লাগিলে দিব পাৰোঁ।

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North):
Question (b) is whether Government are aware that these people
are in lawful possession of their lands for the last 15 years...
what was the reply ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The reply is that the people
are occupying the land without any authority for some years...

Mr. SPEAKER: It is stated in the question that it is
for the last 15 years.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It may be for 15 years or less.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Do Government take
land revenue from these people. ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: They pay Touzi Bahi.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Is it not a fact that
these people have established some rights over the land by
paying some premium for the land in question ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: No right accrues by paying of
Touzi Bahi.

Shri BHUBON CH. PRADHANI (Golokganj): এজন
মানুহে এডোখৰ মাটিত যদি ১২ বছৰৰ অধিক কাল থাকে আৰু সেইজন মানুহে যদি
revenue দিব গোজে তেন্তে তেওঁক Government এ evict কৰিব পাৰেনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: মাননীয়, সদস্য গৌৰালপাৰাৰ মানুহ।
গৌৰালপাৰাত নোৱাৰে, কিন্তু ইয়াত পাৰে।

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED: মুছলমান সকলৰ কি ভাৰত
ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ ওপৰত.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, Order.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which replies were laid on the Table)

Paddy Control Department in the Districts of Goalpara and Cachar.

Shri TAMIJUDDIN PRADHANI (Dhubri) asked :

384. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there was Paddy Control Department in the districts of Goalpara and Cachar ?
- (b) If so, whether there were some paddy checkers appointed in this Department since 1943 ?
- (c) Whether there was any provision to pay their annual increment along with pay ?
- (d) If so, whether they have been paid ?
- (e) If not, why not ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

384. (a)—There was no Paddy Control Department, but there was rice control staff under the Supply Department for checking unauthorised movement of rice/paddy.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes, whenever any increment was due excepting in those cases where there were certain irregularities which required pre-audit by the Accountant General.

(e)—Does not arise.

Money sanctioned for Cattle Loan, Seed Loan and Storm Damage to the needy people of the State in 1957-58

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

385. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue Department be pleased to state—

- (a) What sum of money was sanctioned for the purpose of granting cattle loan, seed loan and storm damage relief to the needy people of the State in 1957-58 ?

- (b) What was the Subdivisionwise allotment of the sum ?
- (c) Whether Government received further requisition from the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj, to expedite sanction of a supplementary amount on account of cattle loan ?
- (d) If so, when ?
- (e) Whether there was telegraphic reminder from the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj, for the sanction ?
- (f) Whether the required amount has been sanctioned ?
- (g) If not, why not ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

385. (a) & (b)—A statement showing the amounts sanctioned Subdivisionwise, for various purposes, is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. 5-10).

(c)—No.

(d) to (g)—Does not arise.

Regarding Mechanical Workers serving at the Public Works Department Workshop at Silchar

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked :

386. Will the Minister for Public Works Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Mechanical workers serving at the Public Works Department Workshop at Silchar are often deprived of their dues in service by bringing permanent hands either from outside, or confirming some of them arbitrarily without considering the service record of most workers whose names are kept on the muster roll for years, sometimes for five years or so ?

- (b) If so, whether the Minister will be pleased to order improvement of conditions in this regard ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister, for Minister, in-charge of Public Works Department, Roads and Buildings Wing) replied :

386. (a)—There is no regular workshop at Silchar. As and when some machinery need repairs and overhauling, skilled workers are engaged on muster roll on daily wages

and their services are terminated as and when the specific job is completed. Sometimes when one job is completed, they are engaged on another job which might have come up in the meantime.

When, however, permanent or temporary vacancies in the regular scales occur notices inviting applications are issued and these mechanics are also permitted to apply and are granted interview along with others on the basis of which selections are generally made.

(b)—The question of improvement of the conditions of service of skilled workers of Central workshops at Gauhati and Jorhat has already been taken up and is under active consideration of the Government whether or not the same conditions if and when finally approved by Government could be extended to skilled workers in district or minor workshop, when it is found that they are required to be maintained for continuous periods of over five years or so, will be given due consideration by Government.

***Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West):** Will the Government consider it necessary to run a workshop at Silchar?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** A proposal is under consideration of the Government, Madam.

Regarding the Refugees in Lakhimpur District
Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) asked:

387. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of refugees in Lakhimpur District at present?
- (b) How many of them have been rehabilitated on land—
 - (i) through Government efforts, and
 - (ii) through their own efforts?
- (c) The total amount disbursed as—
 - (i) Business loan;
 - (ii) Agricultural loan;
 - (iii) other kinds of loan?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that a large number of destitute women and girls amongst the refugees in district of Lakhimpur are spending their days in distress?
- (e) How do Government propose to rehabilitate them?

- (f) Whether Government propose to start a destitute home for such women in the district ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that a good number of them are receiving training in different crafts at Dibrugarh Ghah Mazdoor Kalyan Samaj ?
- (h) If so, whether Government propose to grant any recurring and non-recurring grants to this institution ?
- (i) Whether Government have lately received any complaint against prevalence of corruption amongst the officers of this Department particularly in Lakhimpur District ?
- (j) If so, what steps Government have taken in these matters ?
- (k) Whether Government propose speedy rehabilitation of refugees in the district ?
- (l) If so, what are the measures proposed to be taken in the matter ?
- (m) Whether refugees holding citizenship of India are treated on equal footing with other citizens of the State ?
- (n) Whether it is a fact that in the matter of employment and admission into medical, engineering and other institutions for higher education, they are discriminated against ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied :

387. (a)—35,479 displaced persons or about 10,000 families upto 31st December 1957.

(b)—(i) 251 families } upto 31st December 1957.
(ii) 267 families }

(c)—(i) Urban business—Rs.14,41,350 } upto 31st
Rural business—Rs. 4,44,355 } December
1957.

(ii) Rs. 2,66,643.50 Naya paise upto 31st December 1957.

(iii) Urban Housing upto 31st December 1957—Rs 2,04,600.

Rural Housing upto 31st December 1957—Rs.1,40,904.

(d)—Government have no such information.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—No. There is no such proposal.

(g) & (h)—A scheme for vocational training with a prayer for financial assistance to the Institution was received from Dibrugarh Chah Mazdoor Kalyan Samaj, wherein it was stated that some displaced women were receiving training in different crafts and the same has been sent to Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur for his comments and report on 4th February 1958. The question of giving any recurring or non-recurring grant to the Institution will be considered on receipt of the Deputy Commissioner's report.

(i)—Yes, complaints have been received against some officers. In the case of Lakhimpur District, an allegation of some irregular payments of loan by the then Relief and Rehabilitation Officer was received on 31st July 1957.

(j)—Enquiries are pending in these matters.

(k)—Yes.

(l)—Government propose to rehabilitate the displaced families of the district, as far as possible, by taking the following measures:—

(i) By acquiring suitable plots of land if and wherever available, for their rehabilitation.

(ii) By setting up industries for their gainful employment.

(iii) By establishing Training-cum-Production Centres.

(iv) By issuing business, agricultural and housing loans.

(v) By grant of financial assistance for general and technical education in deserving cases.

(m) & (n)—Such refugees are generally treated on the same footing as other citizens. But in the matter of employment under Government and admission to some educational institutions persons who are natives of, or domiciled in this State are given preference.

**Regarding the present Director of Veterinary,
Assam.**

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) asked :

388. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

(a) How many times Shri Malik, Director of Veterinary, went outside the State since his appointment ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that Shri Malik does not attend the office regularly ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that he remains in the office from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M. ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Shri Malik instructs his officers to purchase all chemicals only from certain farms of Patna ?
- (e) If so, why ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister) replied :

388. (a)—Four occasions on Government duty.

(b)—No.

(c)—He attends office not from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M. but during office hours from 10 A.M. till late hours.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari)** : With regard to question No. (c) and the reply thereto, may I know why does he attend office till late hours ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : Because he has to dispose of the work in his office.

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : Does he attend the office up till late hours, regularly ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : Sometimes.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati)** : What is the date of his appointment ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : He was appointed sometime in August, 1957.

***Shri BISHNULAL UPADHAYA (Gohpur)** : Whether it is a fact that the Officer is in the habit of sleeping during officer hours? (*Laughter*).

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari):** Whether it is a fact that the Office Assistants and the Peons are also required to remain late hours in the office ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** Sometimes, if there is work, they are required to remain.

Lower Primary School Teachers of Sibsagar Sub-division.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that some of the poorly paid Lower Primary School teachers of Sibsagar Subdivision, did not get their pay from October, 1957 to December, 1957 even in Magh Bihu ?

(b) If so, why ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

389. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Funds could not be placed at the disposal of the School Board, Sibsagar due to some unavoidable difficulties.

Monetary help to Educational Institutions damaged by cyclone of 1957.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

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

(a) Whether the Government is going to give monetary help specially to the Educational Institutions damaged by cyclone in 1957 ?

(b) If so, when such helps or grants will be disbursed ?

(c) Why the matter is being so much delayed ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

390. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The grant for the purpose has been disbursed already.

(c)—Does not arise.

Supply of C. I. Sheets to Educational Institutions

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that some of the Educational Institutions already fitted with frames of permanent natures are not yet supplied with C. I. sheets though promises were made to supply C. I. sheets to such Institutions ?

(b) If so, why ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied:

391. (a)—Government have no information and are not aware who made the promise and when.

(b)—Does not arise.

Amount allotted annually at the disposal of the Headmaster, Latu High English School in Karimganj.

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

392. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) What sum of money is placed annually at the disposal of the Headmaster, Latu High English School in Karimganj on account of aid to the children of the displaced persons in this School ?

(b) Whether Government have received reports to the effect that the Headmaster regularly drew a large sum of money out of that amount in the names of fictitious persons who are his relatives and are citizens of Pakistan ?

(c) What action has been taken against the Headmaster whom report is said to have been made by Shri S. Kalita the then Subdivisional Officers, Karimganj ?

(d) If the reply to (c) above is in the negative what is the reason for not taking action on the said reports ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

392. (a)—Rs.1,128 and Rs.930 were placed at the disposal of the Headmaster, Latu High School, Karimganj during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 respectively; for disbursement of financial assistance in the shape of freeships and cash grants to the displaced students of the said school.

(b)—No. But in one sanctioned case for 1956-57 it was found that the Headmaster had recommended the case of his son Shri Randhir Das for the grant of financial assistance showing him as ward of his brother, who is a Pakistan national.

(c)—The then Subdivisional Officer, immediately cancelled the order sanctioning financial assistance in this case and directed the Headmaster to refund the amount of Rs.60 irregularly drawn on account of the boy. The Sub-divisional Officer's action was approved by the Government. As no recovery has yet been made inspite of repeated demands further action is being taken by the Subdivisional Officer in consultation with the Government pleader.

(d)—Does not arise.

***Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY** (Karimganj-South): Why departmental action was not taken against him immediately ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA**: At first, the Headmaster was asked to refund the amount, and now since he has not refunded the same, we are drawing the proceeding against him.

Area of different Jails in Assam

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

393. Will the Minister-in-charge of Jails be pleased to state—

(a) What is the area of different Jails in Assam ?
(b) How is the area at Gauhati and Jorhat utilised ?

(c) Whether sugarcane is cultivated in these jails and if so, whether such sugarcane is crushed and Gur manufactured and what is the quantity of such Gur produced during each of the years, 1956 and 1957 ?

- (d) The area in the jails mentioned above that is under vegetable cultivation and what is the amount produced per year and what quantity of vegetables were purchased per year for 1955, 1956 and 1957 ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister in-charge of Jails) replied :

393. (a)—The area of different Jails are as follows :—

Name of Jails				Areas
(1) Gauhati	...	...	...	69B. 2K.
(2) Tezpur	...	...	...	86B; 3K. 13L.
(3) Jorhat	...	...	...	375B. 3K. 2L.
(4) Dibrugarh	...	...	...	33B.
(5) Nowgong (Special)	}		...	62B. 4K. 12L.
(6) Nowgong (District)				
(7) Silchar	...	...	...	54B.
(8) Dhubri	...	...	...	About 6 Bighas but not measured.
(9) Shillong	...	...	...	6B. 1K. 3L.
(10) Karimganj	...	...	...	20B.
(11) Golaghat	...	...	...	12B. 1L.
(12) Mangaldoi	...	...	...	7B. 8L.
(13) Aijal	...	...	...	13B. 3K. 4L.
(14) North Lakhimpur	...	...	...	10B. 1K.
(15) Goalpara	...	...	...	100B. (There is proposal to allot another 262 bighas).
(16) Sibsagar	...	...	...	180B.
(17) Tura	...	...	...	Not measured.

(b)—The areas utilised as follows:—

GAUHATI JAIL

Name of Jails	Areas
(1) Jail enclosure	25B. 2K.
(2) Vegetable garden	12B. 4K. 9L.
(3) Staff quarter	3B. 2K. 11L.
(4) Tank	14B. 1K.
(5) Waste land	13B. 15L.

JORHAT JAIL

(1) Jail enclosure	20B. 2K. 5L.
(2) Staff quarter	39B. 2K. 6L.
(3) Parade ground	6B.
(4) Garden for Industrial Section ...	10B. (Including 2½ bighas for sugarcane production).
(5) Vegetable garden	10B (excluding garden for industrial section).
(6) Tank	9B. 3K. 18L.
(7) Cremation ground	3B. 4K. 1L.
(8) Jail Dairy including grazing field ...	12B.
(9) Paddy cultivation... ..	25B.
(10) Sugarcane cultivation	1B.
(11) Waste land	21B. 4K. 12L. (Unsuitable for cultivation due to hollas).
(12) Thatching grass field	11B.

(c)—Sugarcane is cultivated, crushed and gur manufactured only in Jorhat Jail. The quantity produced during 1956 is 6 mds. 20 srs. and during 1957 is 38 mds. 14 srs. 8 ch.

(d)—12B. 4K. 9L. in Gauhati Jail and 13½B. in Jorhat Jail are under vegetable cultivation.

The quantity produced and purchased during the years are as follows :—

		Vegetables produced			Vegetables purchased		
		1955	1956	1957	1955	1956	1957
Gauhati ..	..	385 mds.	183 mds.	164 mds.	262 mds.	1,217 mds.	1,307 mds.
Jail.		12 srs.	28 srs.	29 srs.	13 srs.	5 srs.	14 srs.
			10 ch.		2 ch.	6 ch.	12 ch.
Jorhat Jail	..	175 mds.	98 mds.	130 mds.	842 mds.	1,224 mds.	1,186 mds.
		31 srs.	39 srs.	18 srs.	28 srs.	21 srs.	20 srs.
			8 ch		14 ch.	8 ch.	8 ch.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Sir, here it is stated in reply to (c) that "Sugarcane is cultivated, crushed and gur manufactured only in Jorhat Jail. The quantity produced during 1956 is 6 mds. 20 srs. and during 1957 is 38 mds. 14 srs. 8 ch." What is the average yield of gur per bigha of sugarcane, Sir?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister, for Minister, Jails):** With regard to the exact yield, I am sorry, I want notice, Sir.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI** With regard to (b) Gauhati Jail, it is stated that about 13 bighas of land remained waste. Why did this land remain waste, Sir?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA :** Sir, I agree, it should not remain waste. I shall look into it.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** With regard to (d), my question is in 1955 the vegetable produced was 385 mds. 12 srs, whereas in 1957 it has come down to 164 mds. 29 srs. What is the reason for this big decline?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** I shall have to enquire about it, Sir.

Ghanis for production of Mustard oil in different Jails of Assam

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

394. Will the Minister for Jails be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Ghanis for production of mustard oil are still in existence in different jails of Assam and how many in each jail and how many are actually used ?

(b) What was the quantity of oil produced (average daily) and what was the daily requirement of oil in the jails during the years 1955, 1956 and 1957 ?

(c) What is the production of yarn in these jails every year since 1955 ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister for Minister, in-charge of Jails) replied :

394. (a)—There are four Ghanis in existence at present, *viz.*, two at Jorhat Jail and two at Gauhati Jail. The Ghanis at Gauhati Jail are not used since 1957 for want of Ghani bullocks.

(b)—The daily average production and requirement are as follows :—

				Daily average production during			Daily average requirement during		
				1955	1956	1957	1955	1956	1957
Gauhati	..	..	..	8 srs.	4 srs. 14 ch.	Nil	11 srs. 7 ch.	12. srs. 9 ch.	13 srs. 7 ch.
Jorhat	..	..	..	6 srs.	6 srs.	6 srs.	10 srs. 6 ch.	13 srs. 3 ch.	13 srs. 3 ch.

(c)—Production of yarn in Gauhati and Jorhat Jails has been taken up since August 1956. The following is the quantity produced :—

				1956	1957
Gauhati	..	..	..	29 srs.	3 mds. 21 srs. 12 ch.
Jorhat	..	..	..	10 srs. 8 ch.	1 md. 35 srs. 8 ch.

Gauhati University Development Committee

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

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

(a) Whether the annual Report for 1956-57 and Financial Estimates for 1957-58 of the Gauhati University Development Committee have been discussed and passed in the Annual Court meeting of the Gauhati University ?

(b) Whether any Court meeting was held to discuss these in accordance with the provisions made under section 41 (i) of the Gauhati University Act, as introduced by the Amending Act of 1949 ?

(c) Whether the Annual accounts and Balance Sheets of the Development Committee was audited ?

(d) If so, whether that audit report is being published ?

(e) If not, why not ?

(f) Whether Government intend to stop further sanction of grant to the University Development Committee as the Annual Accounts 1956-57, Annual Report 1956-57 and Financial Estimate 1957-58 were neither discussed nor passed by the Gauhati University Court as required under law ?

(g) Whether the Government have taken any action as provided in the section 42(1) and 42(2) of the Gauhati University Act for gross violation of the provisions of the Act ?

(h) If so, what are the actions taken ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister Revenue for Minister, Education) replied :

395. (a)—The Annual Report for 1956-57 and Financial Estimates for 1957-58 of the Gauhati University Development Committee were included in the items of agenda of the last

Annual Court meeting and were put up for consideration. But on certain technical objections from some of the members, consideration on these was deferred.

(b)—No, in view of above.

(c)—Yes, they are audited every year.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—Does not arise.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—Does not arise.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** Sir, with regard to (a) it is stated that on certain technical objections from some of the members, consideration on these was deferred. I want to know whether the technical objection was one of the grounds that report was not submitted within the limit stipulated by law ?

***Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue for Minister, Education):** Yes, Sir. That is so.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA:** Will the Government see that in future the report is submitted within the time stipulated by law ?

***Shri HARESWAR DAS:** Yes, Sir.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA:** With regard to (d), is it a fact that they are not published within the time stipulated by the law, so as to enable the Members, to consider it.

***Shri HARESWAR DAS:** The Examiner of Local Accounts submitted the report for the 1955-56 on 14th June, 1957 and the other report for the years 1956-57 has to be submitted yet.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) :** Is the Government aware that the Gauhati University Development Court is not recognised by the University Grants Commission ?

***Shri HARERWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue for Minister, Education) :** That I cannot say off hand, Sir.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI :** Will the Government bring the University Development Court under the control of the University authorities and in turn under the University Grants Commission ?

***Shri HARESWAR DAS :** That will have to be looked into, Sir.

Abolition of Zamindary System in the State

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked :

396. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Zamindary system in the State has been abolished and acquired by the Government free from all encumbrances ?
- (b) Whether the Sariat Mahals such as fisheries, hats, etc., were leased out by the Zamindars in the Goalpara district for longer period ?
- (c) Whether those leases of Sariats were honoured by the Government even after the acquisition of Zamindary system ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the bid for some Sariat Mahals in Gauripur Estate which were free from Zamindary system have gone up this year by 2,000 per cent than the previous bid under Zamindary system ?
- (e) What amounts of revenue from Sariat Mahals were realised annually during the period of Zamindars' Courts of Wards and Acquisition Estate (present) (to be shown separately) ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

396. (a)—Yes, in Goalpara District.

(b)—Some Sariat Mahals were leased out by the Zamindaries for long periods.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes, only in two cases.

(e)—(i) Pre-acquisition period 1363 B.S.—Rs.1,01,224.

(ii) Post-acquisition period 1365 (bid in 1364)—Rs.2,46,029.

***Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golahganj) :**
May I know whether the Sariat Mahals such as fisheries, hats, etc. were free from all encumbrances ?

***Shri HARESWAR DAS :** That is not an encumbrance, because the third party acquired a right when the Zamindars were in possession of their Estates. They could settle fisheries or huts as they liked. According to legal opinions, as provided in the Act, if any encumbrances were created on land that is extinguished but there are some difficulties with regard to fisheries and hats. Unless the Act is amended, it cannot be extinguished.

Procurement of Paddy from the Agent at Gossaigoan in the Kokrajhar Subdivision

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj)
asked :

397. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is procuring paddy at Rs.10-4 per maund from the Agent at Gossai-goan in the Kokrajhar Subdivision ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the market price of paddy at the same place is much higher than Rs.10-4 per maund ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that the market price of paddy on the border area has shot up to Rs.15 to Rs.16 per maund ?

(d) If so, what measures have been taken by the Government to solve the problem ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister for Minister, Supply) replied :

397. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. Higher to some extent in same places.

(c)—It has been ascertained that the price of paddy in the border area is Rs.14 to Rs.15 per maund.

(d)—Imported rice available from the Central Government stock is being distributed in the border area at the subsidised price of Rs.18-8 per maund through Fair Price Shops.

***Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) :** Whether Government is aware that the prices of paddy have shot up to Rs. 17 per maund ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** No Sir, we are only aware that in some areas price of paddy has shot up from Rs. 14 to Rs. 15 per maund.

***Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI :** Whether it is a fact that the price of paddy is far higher than the rate fixed by the Government ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** We are not aware of that fact. We know that the price of paddy is only Rs. 10-4 per maund.

***Shri GAURISHANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :** Whether Government will look into the matter that a situation might be created to purchase rice and paddy at much higher rate than what has been fixed by Government by the licensees so as to stock a bigger quantity of rice and paddy in order to sell them at higher prices ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** Government will look into the matter.

***Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI :** Whether Government is aware of the fact that the supply of rice and paddy is very meagre and far below the requirement of the public.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** Government is not aware of the fact that the supply is not very big. If the honourable Member gives me the details, the matter will be looked into.

Land Revenue and Local Rate of Kamrup District

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

398. Will the Minister of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) The demand of Land Revenue and Local Rate of Kamrup District year by year for 1362 B. S., 1363 B. S., and 1364 B. S. ?
- (b) The total collection of Land Revenue and Local Rate of Kamrup year by year for 1362 B. S., 1363 B. S., and 1364 B. S. ?
- (c) What is the procedure for grant of remission for floods ?
- (d) Whether it is the procedure to consider cases of flood in giving remission of Land Revenue as early as possible during the year of flood, preferably when the damage of flood is distinct and visible ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that remission of Land Revenue for flood was not granted in Kamrup district, particularly in Nalbari Circle, for 1362 B. S., and 1363 B. S., till January, 1958 when the Land Revenue for 1364 B. S., has become due for payment ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the flood affected people of Uparbarbhag Mouza of Kamrup District were harassed times without numbers with execution of distressed warrants and sale of revenue estates for 1362 B. S. and 1363 B. S. ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to enquire as to whether it is a fact that deputations of the representatives of flood affected people of Uparbarbhag Mouza lately waited on the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, three times, but the Deputy Commissioner turned a deaf ear to the grievances of the distressed people ?
- (h) What action Government propose to take for unnecessary harassment caused to the flood affected people of Uparbarbhag Mouza and for the behaviour shown by the Deputy Commissioner to the representatives of the flood affected people of the Mouza ?
- (i) What action Government propose to take to alleviate the sufferings of the distressed people ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

398. (a)—The demand of Land Revenue and Local Rate, excluding supplementary and tauzi-bahir demand of Kamrup District are given below :—

						Rs.
1362 B. S.	..	...	...	...	...	38,99,077
1363 B. S.	...	...	...	...	...	38,25,092
1364 B. S.	...	...	...	...	...	36,90,335

(b)—Total collections of Land Revenue and Local Rate of the District year by year are as follows :—

						Rs.
1362 B. S.	...	...	...	...	...	35,10,370
1363 B. S.	...	...	...	...	...	21,99,523
1364 B. S. (upto 15-2-58)	...	...	...	...	...	20,800

(c)—The procedure for remission of Land Revenue and Local Rate is laid down in Rules 107-112 in Chapter VII of the Land Revenue Manual, Vol. I.

(d)—A preliminary local enquiry is to be made immediately on receipts of information of the occurrence of flood or other serious local calamity. Deputy Commissioners are authorised to grant suspension of revenue on the result of such preliminary enquiry. If the Deputy Commissioner is satisfied that it will not be possible to collect the revenue in full at a later date, even if fair harvest follow, a further detailed field to field enquiry is to be made during the year to determine the amount of remission to be granted to each settlement holder.

(e)—The sanction of Land Revenue remission of Nalbari Circle for 1362 B. S. was giving in the latter part of December 1957. No remission proposal for 1363 B. S. has been received by Government yet.

(f)—Government have no information.

On receipt of certain representation from the people, the Mouzadar of Uparbarbhag was instructed by the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, not to take coercive measures against the flood-affected people for realisation of revenue.

(g)—This is not a fact. On receipt of representations, the Deputy Commissioner personally visited the mouza on 16th February 1958 and 17th February 1958 and heard the grievances of the people locally.

(h)—In view of the reply at (f) and (g) the question does not arise.

(i)—Government have already granted agricultural loan of Rs.35,000, gratuitous relief in shape of 500 maunds of rice, 40 maunds of chira, distress loan of Rs.2,000 and rehabilitation loan of Rs.1,350 to the flood affected people of Nalbari Circle including Uparbarbhag Mouza. Short term agricultural loan for cultivation of Ahu is being distributed and proposal for remission of Land Revenue for 1363 B. S. is under preparation.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** With regard to (g). This relates to flood of June, 1957. Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state why the Deputy Commissioner took such a long time which is about eight months to visit the area ?

***Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue):** Because the enquiry was already held by the Sub-Deputy Collector.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY :** Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state when the representation was made by the flood-affected people to the Deputy Commissioner and when the Deputy Commissioner visited the locality ?

***Shri HARESWAR DAS :** The Deputy Commissioner visited the locality the very next day after receipt of the representation from flood-affected people of the locality.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY :** Sir, May I know from the Minister-in-charge, when the instructions were issued to the Mouzadar to collect the revenue ?

***Shri HARESWAR DAS :** Just at the time of the visit of the Deputy Commissioner the instructions were issued.

Salary of the Rural Panchayat Secretaries

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

399. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the salary of the Rural Panchayat Secretaries appointed in the year 1957 is fixed at Rs.50 and Rs.60 per month in some cases, without any allowance or increment whatsoever ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the salaries of the Rural Panchayat Secretaries appointed before 1957, is Rs.75 to Rs.275 per month in the scale of Rs.75—5—100—10—200—15—275 per month?
- (c) If so, whether there is any difference of works and status between these two categories of Rural Panchayats?
- (d) If not, why there is such difference in scale of pay?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Rural Development) replied :

399. (a)—No.

(b)—Yes, but no Panchayat Secretary was appointed at Rs.275 per month.

(c) & (d)—Do not arise.

Remetalling the damaged metalled road between Golakganj and Boxirhat in the district of Goalpara

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked :

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

(a) Whether there is any proposal for remetalling the damaged metalled road between Golakganj and Boxirhat in the district of Goalpara?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the said metalled road has become unfit for traffic for a long period?

(c) Whether Government propose to take up the work at an early time?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister, for Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

400. (a)—Yes. A programme of improving deteriorated portions of National Highway was sent up to Government of India in September, 1957 and a reply has been received that this is under their active consideration.

(b)—The road surface has deteriorated in places but is fit for traffic.

(c)—The responsibility of maintaining this portion of the road rests with the Government of India—this being National Highway (Route No. 31); so the works will be taken

up as soon as the Government of India give technical approval and financial sanction to the project. The State Government are taking all possible action to expedite the matter.

***Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):** Sir, there are notice boards fixed in both the approaches on the road. Are they not meant for withholding traffic on the road?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister, for Minister, Public Works Department):** Sir, the notice boards display that the traffic on the road have to be careful.

Margherita-Ledo Road

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked :

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

(a) Whether the Margherita-Ledo Road maintained by the Government since 1942 passes over Assam Railways and Trading Company's land?

(b) What are the reasons for the delay in taking over the land by the Government from the said Company for the last 15 years?

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

401. (a)—Yes. This road is being maintained by the State Public Works Department as an agent of the Government of India since 1st April 1947 when it was declared as a National Highway Route No.38. Prior to that it was being maintained by the United States Air Force.

(b)—The question of acquisition of land has been taken up in hand and is under correspondence with the firm and Revenue authorities. As very old records relating to the ownership, etc., had to be traced out there has been delay in finalising the case.

The Revenue authorities have been requested to expedite the matter.

R. C. Bridge over Marapagladia River

Shri SURENDRA NATH DAS (Patacharkuchi) asked :

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

- (a) The date of completion of R. C. Bridge over Marapagladia River in 113 mile of North Trunk Road ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the approaches of both the sides of the Bridge have not been completed with earth ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the contractors were appointed to fill up the approaches of the said bridge last year ?
- (d) If so, why the work was not executed ?
- (e) When will it be completed ?
- (f) Whether it will be completed this year ?

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

402. (a) — In May, 1956 last.

(b) — Yes. Earthwork on the approaches could not be undertaken before completion of the main Bridge.

(c) — Yes. Earthwork contractors were engaged in February, 1957 last.

(d) — The work was in progress and 25 per cent of the same was completed. But, due to sudden flood in June, 1957, the work had to be suspended. It is in progress now since November, 1957.

(e) & (f) — The earthwork on the approaches is expected to be completed by April, 1958.

Training allowance to different categories of Teachers

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira) asked :

403. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating to sanction training allowance to each of the following categories of teachers—

- (i) English trained teachers ;
- (ii) Geography trained teachers ;
- (iii) Science trained teachers ;
- (iv) Physical trained teachers ; and
- (v) Scouts and Guides teachers ;

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue for, Minister, Education) replied :

403. There is no such proposal at present.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigoan) :
Will the Honourable Minister consider the desirability of sanctioning travelling allowance relating to the traing of teachers if such a proposal comes to Government ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : It will be difficult for the Government to consider such a proposal as it would involve a heavy financial implication.

Central minimum Wage Advisory Board

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government is aware that the minimum wage recommended for the Press workers by the Central Minimum Wage Advisory Board has not been given to the Press workers by many Presses in the State ?
- (b) If so, what step Government propose to take to implement the same ?
- (c) What steps Government propose to take against those Presses that are not implementing the recommendations of Central Minimum Wage Advisory Board ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue for Minister, Labour) replied :

404. (a), (b) & (c)—Government is not aware of the existence of any minimum wage recommended for the Press workers by the Central Minimum Wage Advisory Board. But the hon. Member may, perhaps be referring to the recommendations of the Working Journalists' Wage Board constituted under the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955. This Board was constituted by Government of India and the recommendations are applicable to Newspaper Establishment only and not Printing Presses.

Five newspaper establishments in Assam, viz., the *Assam Tribune*, *Natun Assamiya*, *Assam Bani*, *Akala* and *Ramdhenu* have already implemented the recommendations.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : With regard to (c). Sir, may I know from the Government whether the information has been received regarding the implementation of the recommendations of the Central Minimum Wage Advisory Board from the employers or from the workers ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Ministr, Revenue for Minister, Labour) : From the employers.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to enquire to the workers whether this is a fact ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : There is some difficulty about it, as the whole thing is *ultra vires*.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : In any way, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to ascertain from the workers whether they got the wage fixed by the Government.

Shri HARESWAR DAS : After the entire thing has been made *ultra vires* there is no need to examine the matter.

The purpose of Constitution of the last Pay Committee

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

405. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that with a view to enhance the salaries and practicable equalisation of the salaries and status of the Government servants the last Pay Committee was constituted ?

(b) If so, whether the said Committee maintained that principle in all cases ?

(c) If not, what was the reasons of deviation from the principle ?

406. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government propose to constitute a subsidiary Pay Committee immediately to cover the cases of Government employees not benefited by the recommendations of the last Pay Committee ?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to constitute the same immediately ?

- (c) If not, whether Government propose to reconsider the cases of all Government servants who have not been benefited by the recommendations of the last Pay Committee ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Government have reduced the pay scale of certain classes of Government employees after recent revision of pay scales ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the scale of the Labour Officers have been reduced by Rs.50 ?
- (f) If so, why ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to reconsider their cases ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister for Minister, Finance) replied :

405. (a)—No. The terms of reference to the Committee are reproduced below :

(1) To enquire into the present scales of pay and allowances in all branches of Government service and to make suggestions for their revision in order to ensure rationalisation, simplification and uniformity to the fullest extent possible.

The Committee will be expected to make recommendations which will, as far as possible secure a decent living wage to public servants in consonance with the nature of the duties entrusted to them, while not putting an undue strain on the finances of the State keeping in view the heavy developmental expenditure.

(2) To recommend model scales of pay for essential non-Government services, such as the employees of Local Bodies and teachers in the recognised educational institutions.

(3) To consider whether the dearness allowances of Government servants should continue as such or should be merged in part, or in full, in the revised scales of pay.

(4) Such other connected and incidental questions as Government may require the Committee to examine.

(b) & (c)—Do not arise.

406. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—It is open to Government servants to represent their cases to Government. Representations when submitted are always considered on their merit.

(d)—Government has not undertaken any revision of pay scales after the 1956 revision. It is possible that in 1956 revision some pay scales have been lowered for the sake of rationalisation.

(e)—The revised scale of pay of Labour Officers is Rs.200—20—300—E.B.—20—400—E.B.—25—600 (with provision for higher initial according to qualification and experience) as against the pre-revision scale of Rs.250—250—300—(Con.)—25—400—E.B.—25—600—E.B.—25—650. The revised scale is applicable to the new appointees on or after 1st October 1956. Those who entered Service prior to 1st October 1956 have been given an option to retain the pre-revision scale, if they so desire.

(f)—This is due to grouping of posts on the basis of similar duties and responsibilities and rationalisation of pay scales.

(g)—No.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** Sir, may I know whether Government have received any complaint from the aggrieved employees ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Sir, I cannot say off-hand whether any complaint has been received or not. But certainly, Sir, if there be any complaint which has been received by Government it will receive attention.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI:** Will the Government be pleased to look into the matter ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, let the honourable Member refer to particular cases, and in that case it will be possible to give a reply.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI:** Sir, I am just referring to question No.406 (e). Whether it is a fact that the scale of the Labour Officers has been reduced by Rs.50 ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, in this connection, I would like the honourable Member to refer to Question No.406 (g), which says—"Whether Government propose to reconsider their cases ?" Our reply is—" (g) No."

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari):** Sir, is it a fact that the recommendations of the Pay Committee were not given effect to in some cases as yet ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** I don't think there is any case as yet. If the hon. Member has any information about such instances, Government will certainly look into the matter.

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari):** Sir, in the case of Lower Primary school teachers, who are trained and untrained and who put in more than 15 years of service, they are not getting any benefit.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Sir, in the case of Lower Primary school teachers Government took a decision and on the basis of that the Government have been implementing it.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar):** Sir, may I know what is the basis of the recommendation of the Pay Committee that there has been a reduction of pay in the case of Labour Officers by Rs.50 ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, it is made clear in reply to the Question No.406 (f), which is as follows:—

“(f)—This is due to grouping of posts on the basis of similar duties and responsibilities and rationalisation of pay scales.”

It has been made clear that only on that basis the new scale of pay could be enjoyed by the officers if they choose the new scale of pay.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI:** Sir, why this option is given only to them alone ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA** That is the usual practice.

Pay Scales of the Rural Panchayat Secretaries

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI asked :

407. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the pay scales of the Rural Panchayat Secretaries have been reduced ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the old scale of pay of the Rural Panchayat Secretaries was Rs.75—5—100—10—175—15—275 and the last Pay Committee have reduced it to Rs.75—4—100—5—175 ?

(c) If so, why ?

(d) If the reply to (b) above is in affirmative, whether Government propose to reconsider their case and fix their pay at a higher scale than the old scale of pay ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister for Minister, Finance) replied :

407. (a), (b) & (c)—The Pay Committee recommended the model scale of pay of Rs.75—4—115—E.B.—4—135—5—150 for the whole-time Rural Panchayat Secretaries against the pre-revision scale of Rs.75—5—100—10—200—15—275 taking into consideration their work-load, responsibilities and fund position of the Panchayats.

(d)—A reference was received from the Rural Development Department on the subject and it is under examination of Rural Development Department and Finance.

***Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar)**: Sir, may I know why the scale of pay of the Rural Panchayat Secretaries have been reduced ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA**: The reply is already there. The hon. Member may please refer to replies given in (a), (b) and (c) taking into consideration their work-load, responsibilities and fund position of the Panchayats.

All Assam Government M. V. School Teachers' Association

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok) asked :

408. (a) Will the Education Minister be pleased to state whether he had received a resolution and memorandum from the All Assam Government Middle Vernacular School Teachers' Association regarding increment of their pay scale in 1957 ?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken by Government ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to enlighten the House about their demands regarding their pay scale ?

(d) Do Government think that the previous pay scale of the Guru Training passed and other Middle Vernacular School Teachers is higher than the pay fixed by the Pay Committee ?

(e) If not, why their grievances have not yet been redressed ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue for Minister, Education) replied :

408. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The matter is being examined.

(c)—They did not demand any specific scale but they only desired that there should not have been any difference in the pay scales of Normal passed and Matric Normal passed teachers and that Matric passed teachers should not have been given higher scale of pay than that of Normal passed teachers.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok): এই পৰীক্ষাৰ ফলাফলটো কেতিয়া ওলাব জানিব পৰা হবনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: সময়টো কোৱা টান।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): অলপ অনুমান কৰিও কব নোৱাৰিনে যে এই পৰীক্ষাৰ ফলাফলটো কেতিয়া নো পাব পৰা হব ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Middle Vernacular স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলে যি Representation দিছে সেই Representation ৰ ফলাফল হয়তো একো নহবও পাৰে। যিহউক সেইবিষয়ে এতিয়াই কোৱা টান।

Mr. SPEAKER: তেখেতে যিটো প্ৰশ্ন কৰিছে, সেইটো হৈছে এই যে এই পৰীক্ষাৰ ফলাফল কেতিয়া ওলাব—সেইটো অনুমান কৰি কব পাৰেনে? Representation ৰ কথা সোধা নাই।

Shri HARESWAR DAS: প্ৰশ্ন একেটাই। মই আগতেই কৈছো, কেতিয়া ওলাব সময়টো এতিয়াই কোৱা টান।

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): Sir, in answer to (a), Government admitted that they received a resolution and memorandum from the All Assam Government Middle Vernacular School Teachers' Association regarding increment of their pay scale in 1957, and in answer to (c) it is also stated, "They did not demand any specific pay scale but they only desired that there should not have been any difference in the pay scales of Normal passed and Matric Normal passed teachers, etc." Now, may I ask whether the Government got the memorandum with the pay scale asked by the Association as I find it is in that memorandum?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): The representation was given on a mistaken idea. Their demand was that the pay scale of the Normal passed and Matriculate Normal passed teachers should be same. This is not so.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): I have got the copy of the same memorandum. The pay scale fixed by the Government for the Matriculate Normal passed teachers is Rs.75—2—95—2½—100 and they demanded 75—2—105—2½—150. The pay scale of the Normal Passed and Senior Training passed Lady Teachers is 60—1—70—2½—75 and they demanded 60—2—80—3—120 and so on.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I have got also a copy of the same. The present pay scale of the Matric Normal passed teacher as fixed by the Pay Committee is Rs.75—95—100, but their demand was that it should be Rs.75—125. Those Matric Normal passed teachers who serve in the High Schools get that pay scale, and those Matric Normal passed teachers who serve in the Middle Vernacular Schools do not get that scale. The mistake is there.

In the memorandum they demanded the pay scale which is allowed to the Matric Normal passed teachers serving in the High Schools.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Sir, will the Government be pleased to state the reason for the difference made for the Matric Normal passed teachers serving in the High Schools and the Matric Normal passed teachers serving in the Middle Vernacular Schools?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: This pay scale was fixed by the Pay Committee according to responsibility of the post.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Pay Committee only recommended and the Government accepted it. What is the reason?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It was made according to the different responsibility.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): In making the criterion, why qualification was not considered?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It must be both. (*laughter*).

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur): May I know from the Government whether teachers of the Government Middle Vernacular Schools are appointed by the District Board or by the Inspector of Schools ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): I am not definite about it.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Will the Government remove the difference in pay scales, having the same qualification, for the Matric Normal passed teachers serving either in the High Schools or in the Middle Vernacular Schools ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: There is no reason to re-open the case now.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): Sir, the responsibility of work of the Finance Minister is most heavy. So, should his pay be higher than any other Minister ? (Laughter).

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok): Sir, regarding (d), the question was "Do Government think that the previous pay scale of the Guru Training passed and other Middle Vernacular School teachers is higher than the pay fixed by the Pay Committee" and the answer given is "No".

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মোব ৪০৮ (d) প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰত মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে "No" বুলি কৈছে। মই মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা জানিব পাৰো নে যে দৰমহা কমিটিৰ সিদ্ধান্তৰ আগতে নৰ্মাল পাচ শিক্ষকে ৭৫—১২০ টকা পাইছিল কিন্তু দৰমহা কমিটিয়ে ৬০—৭৫ টকা নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰিছে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: নৰ্মাল পাচ শিক্ষকৰ আগৰ দৰমহা আছিল ৪৫—৭৫ টকা আৰু এতিয়া পায় ৬০—৭৫ টকা। গুৰু ট্ৰেইনিং শিক্ষকে আগেই পাইছিল ৩৫—৪৫ টকা আৰু এতিয়া পায় ৫০—৬৫ টকা। গতিকে কমোৱা হোৱা নাই।

Damage to School buildings of George High School at Dibrugarh due to the Erosion of the river Brahmaputra

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) asked :

- 409 Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—
 (a) Whether Government is aware that during the erosion of the river Brahmaputra the adjoining lands of the school buildings of George High School at Dibrugarh, have been eroded ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the School authority prayed for financial aid and for a plot of land for construction of School building ?

(c) If so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

409 (a)—George Institution, Dibrugarh was affected by the erosion of the Brahmaputra to some extent.

(b)—The School authority prayed for financial aid; but no request was received by the Department for a plot of land.

(c)—A sum of Rs.5,000 was sanctioned for repairs of buildings damaged by flood and erosion.

Motor accidents in Barpeta-Barpeta Road and Barpeta-North Gauhati lines

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

410. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many motor accidents took place in Barpeta, Barpeta Road and Barpeta-North Gauhati lines during 1956, 1957, upto 31st January, 1958, (Answers to be given month by month) ?

(b) How many persons were injured and how many of them died as a result of these accidents ?

(c) What are the causes that led to these accidents ?

(d) Whether Government propose to take any steps for their prevention ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that untrained persons are given driving licences ?

(f) Whether Government will take necessary steps that so untrained persons are not given driving licences ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
 replied :
 410. (a)—

				No. of motor accidents in Barpeta-Barpeta Road			No. of motor accidents in Barpeta-North Gauhati Road		
				1956	1957	1958	1956	1957	1958
January	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	1
February	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
March	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
April	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..
May	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
June	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..
July	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
August	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
September	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	3	..
October	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
November	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
December	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..

(b) —

				Barpeta-Barpeta No. of persons injured		Road died	Barpeta-North No. of persons injured		Gauhati Road died
				Year					
1956	4	1	7		3
1957	9	2	29		6
1958	7		..

(c)—Rash and negligent driving was the main cause that led to these accidents.

(d)—Yes. Preventive measures are taken by regular checking and holding mobile courts.

(e)—No, it is not a fact. Under Section 7 (6) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, no driving licence can be issued to any applicant unless he passes to the satisfaction of the licensing authority the test of competence to drive as specified in the Third Schedule to the Act.

(f)—As stated in (e) above, it is not permissible under the law to grant a driving licence to one who has not passed the test of competence to drive.

Passenger over-loading cases detected in Barpeta-Barpeta Road line

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

411. Will the Minister-in-charge of Home be pleased to state—

- (a) How many passenger over-loading cases were detected in Barpeta-Barpeta Road line during 1956-1957, upto January, 1958, (Answer to be given month by month) ?
- (b) How many of them ended in conviction ?
- (c) What is the amount realised from those convicted persons for said offences in those years ?
- (d) Whether any measures will be taken against the owners of taxis or buses, who encourage overloading of the passengers ?
- (e) If so, what measures are going to be taken ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

411.(a)—

		1956	1957	1958
Cases of passenger ...	{ January ...	1	56	21
	{ February ...	8	22	...
	{ March ...	26	32	...
	{ April ...	17	59	...
	{ May ...	25	66	...
	{ June ...	52	78	...
	{ July ...	20	65	...
Over-loading detected	{ August ...	11	69	...
	{ September ...	14	48	...
	{ October ...	15	29	...
	{ November ...	11	42	...
	{ December ...	18	14	...
Total		218	580	21

(b)—49 cases of 1956, 154 of 1957 and 8 of 1958 ended in conviction.

(c)—A sum of Rs.846 was collected as fines for the offences in 1956 ; Rs.1,149 in 1957 and Rs.285 in 1958.

(d)—Owners of taxis and buses are prosecuted when found responsible for encouraging over-loading of passengers. The maximum number of passengers to be carried in a taxi or a bus is prescribed in the permit. No owner of such vehicles can permit the use of a vehicle in a public place save in accordance with the conditions of the permit. Whoever allows a motor vehicle to be driven in contravention of the conditions of the permit is punishable under the M. V. Act and so the owners can be dealt with under the existing law.

(e)—There are checking staff and mobile courts to deal with the offenders.

Canteen at Digboi for selling Liquors

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

412. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is a canteen at Digboi where liquors are sold ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that there were a few more canteens in Dibrugarh Subdivision where liquors were sold and these canteens were abolished except Digboi ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that Digboi canteen was also included in the list of canteens that were abolished ?
- (d) If so, why abolition of Digboi canteen was dropped ?
- (e) Whether Government be pleased to furnish the names of other such canteens in Dibrugarh Subdivision where liquors are sold ?
- (f) Whether Government be pleased to furnish this House with the monthly quota of liquor sold at Digboi canteen ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the same person has been managing the canteen since a long time ?
- (h) If so, since when ?
- (i) Whether Government propose to abolish this canteen with immediate effect ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

412. (a)—There is no canteen but a Lessee Manager shop at Digboi for sale of liquor.

(b)—There were no canteens but some Lessee Manager shops in Dibrugarh Subdivision. All these Lessee Manager shops, excepting the one at Digboi were converted into ordinary liquor shops and were not abolished.

(c)—It is not a fact. The decision was to remove only those Lessee Manager shops which were situated in tea gardens and to convert them into ordinary liquor shops.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—At present there is no other canteen or Lessee Manager shop in Dibrugarh Subdivision for sale of liquor.

(f)—There is no fixed monthly quota of liquor for any liquor shop. The monthly sale of liquor in Digboi Lessee Manager shop varies from month to month.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—Since 1940.

(i)—There is no such proposal.

Veterinary Dispensary at Barpeta town

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

413. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that the Veterinary dispensary at Barpeta town is in a very bad condition ?
- (b) If so, what measures Government propose to take to make it a full-fledged dispensary ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the dispensary is without a doctor for more than one and half years and is being run by Field Assistants only ?
- (d) If so, whether it is not the responsibility of the Government to depute one qualified doctor to that dispensary immediately ?
- (e) Are Government aware that the dispensary is surrounded by an unhygienic atmosphere ?
- (f) If so, whether Government propose to take up the matter immediately and make the dispensary hygienically secured ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

413. (a)—The condition of the dispensary is not satisfactory.
 (b)—The Veterinary dispensary at Barpeta is a full-fledged dispensary maintained by the Local Board.

(c)—Yes—for dearth of Veterinary graduates in the State there was no Veterinary Assistant Surgeon from 1st April, 1956 to 31st December, 1957.

(d)—A Veterinary Assistant Surgeon is already posted there from 1st Janaury, 1958.

(e)—No.

(f)—Does not arise.

Construction of sluice gates in the Natiakhal and Kachua embankments

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

414. Will the Minister-in-charge of Embankment and Drainage Department be pleased to state—

(a) The number of representations received from the public demanding construction of sluice gates in the Natiakhal and Kachua embankments ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that inflow of the Kushiara waters to an optimum degree far into the Subdivision is congenial to fertility and favourable to crops ?

(c) If so, when will they be constructed ?

(d) If no, why not ?

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

414. (a)—Four representations were received from the public since 1954.

(b)—Natiakhal and Kachua rivers have big hilly catchments and as such they are capable of causing local floods to some extent even if they do not receive backspills from the main river into which they fall. Any spill of the main river when flooded back into it before construction of blind dam across them at their outfall used to cause devastating floods in their basins. As such Kushiara waters though carried silts which would otherwise be congenial to fertility and congenial to growth of crops actually used to cause devastation to the standing crops by heavy flooding. Construction of sluice gates of the blind dam across these rivers at their outfall will not therefore result in creating favourable conditions to crops. The discharge carried by these rivers after construction of blind dams at their outfall in Kushiara river find its way into Longai and Sonai.

(c)—Does not arise in view of the facts mentioned in reply to question (b).

(d)—Please refer to reply to question (b) above.

Construction of an embankment known as 'Fatar Bund' to repel the onrush of Shanbil Waters

Shri ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

415. Will the Minister-in-charge of Embankment and Drainage be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that there is a demand from the people of Kaliganj area in Karimganj Subdivision for construction of an embankment known as 'Fatar Bund' to repel the onrush of Shanbil waters and water hyacinth which are damaging the crops ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that a spot enquiry was made by the Karimganj Embankment and Drainage Office in pursuance of the demand ?

(c) What is the report of the enquiry ?

(d) When the work on the Bund is to be started ?

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

415. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, a preliminary enquiry was made by the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj Embankment and Drainage Subdivision.

(c)—In the report of the preliminary enquiry it has been indicated that flood-spills of Sonbeel which also carry water hyacinth enter through a low-lying passage known as Phata and damage paddy cultivation in the adjoining areas.

(d)—The financial limitations of the Flood Control Programme under the Second Five Year Plan do not permit undertaking during the current plan period any scheme that may be found necessary for tackling the problem after carrying out detailed investigation and survey for the same.

Sectional Officer in charge of Bijulighat area of Upper-Borbhag Mouza under Nalbari Subdivision

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

416. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage Wing) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Sectional Officer in-charge of Bijulighat area of Upper-Borbhag

Mouza under Nalbari Subdivision (Embankment and Drainage) in the District of Kamrup is transferred ?

- (b) Whether it is also a fact that one Sectional Officer is appointed in his place, but no charge has yet been handed over to him ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that representation have been made both by public and by the newly appointed Sectional Officer to the Subdivisional officer in-charge of Embankment and Drainage for necessary orders ?
- (d) If so, whether steps have been taken ?
- (e) If not, why not ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that for not handing over the charge to the newly appointed Sectional Officer public works is suffering ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that the said Bijulighat area is a flood affected area and that the embankments there are damaged on many occasions ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, P.W.D. (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied :

416. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No ; the Executive Engineer was instructed to relieve him by existing staff.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Yes.

Health Centre at Amguri in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

417. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware of the fact that a strong health centre is necessary at Amguri in Sibsagar Subdivision?
- (b) If so, when such health centre can be expected ?
- (c) Whether Government feels the necessity of proper sanitations at Amguri ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

417. (a)—Yes.

(b)—As soon as possible.

(c)—Yes.

Training of Hindi teachers of Government and Aided High English Schools

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is a provision to depute Hindi teachers of Government and Aided High English Schools to take higher training in Hindi at Agra or some other place outside Assam?

(b) If so, how the selection are made?

(c) How many Hindi teachers will be sent for such training in the coming year?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

418. (a)—No.

(b) & (c)—Does not arise.

Extra Dearness Allowance to Government employees whose emoluments are below one hundred rupees per month

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

419. Will the Minister, Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Government of Assam is going to grant an extra Dearness Allowance of Rs. 12 per month to the Government employees whose emoluments are below one hundred rupees per month?

(b) How many persons will be benefited by this increase?

(c) Will the IV Grade Government employees be entitled to the benefit of this revision?

(d) What will be the total amount of extra expenditure likely to be involved on this?

- (e) Whether this extra expenditure will be borne by the Central Government, or by the State Government?
- (f) What is the reason of granting this Dearness Allowance instead of an increase of pays as recommended by the last Pay Committee?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that this increase will not be applicable to the workers employed in the commercial undertaking of Government?
- (h) If so, what is the reason?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that the State Transport workers will not be entitled to the benefit of this increase?
- (j) If so, why?
- (k) Whether Government will extend this benefit to the Workers of the State Transport Department?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister,) replied—

419. (a)—An *ad hoc* increase in Dearness Allowance has been sanctioned for those Government servants whose total emoluments (*i.e.* pay *plus* Dearness Allowance including extra Dearness Allowance of Rs.6 and cash allowance in lieu of free ration and rice concession of Rs.13-8) after this *ad hoc* increase will not exceed Rs.100 per month each, subject to the condition that the total improvement in emoluments as a result of this *ad hoc* increase and of the revision of the pay scales already given effect to will not exceed Rs.12 per month in each individual case. The sanction takes effect from 1st April 1957 and will be operative until further orders.

(b)—About 31,950 Government employees.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Extra expenditure likely to be involved on this is estimated at Rs.18,00,000 annually.

(e)—This extra expenditure will be shared by the Central Government and the State Government on 2/3: 1/3 basis.

(f)—This Scheme was initiated by the Government of India for *ad hoc* addition to existing rates of Dearness Allowance. The State Government participated in this Scheme.

(g)—The benefit of this *ad hoc* Dearness Allowance will not be applicable to Industrial employees.

(h)—Government of India's original scheme excluded Industrial employees from the benefit of the *ad hoc* Dearness Allowance scheme. Although Government of India have not given any reason, the ostensible reason may be that the Industrial employees are on scales of pay which have been fixed on principles which were not identical with those applicable to ordinary Government Department.

(i), (j) & (k)—The matter is under examination and reply will follow.

Gratuitous relief to people affected by hail storm in Gohpur Mouza in Tezpur Subdivision

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked :

420. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that there was severe hailstorm in Gohpur Mouza in Tezpur Subdivision which devastated the paddy crops of Kalabari area ?
- (b) Whether any enquiry was made to ascertain the extent of damage ?
- (c) If so, by whom ?
- (d) Whether any recommendation for relief was made by the Deputy Commissioner ?
- (e) If so, what recommendation ?
- (f) Whether recommendations of the Deputy Commissioner have been given effect to ?
- (g) What relief has been given so far ?
- (h) Whether Government has received any representation from the public of Kalabari for gratuitous relief, remission of Government revenue, opening of cheap grain shops and cattle loan ?
- (i) If the reply to (h) is in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken so far ?
- (j) Whether Government are aware of another hail storms in the same area on 5th January 1958 which caused immense damage to all winter crops ?
- (k) Whether Government has received telegrams from the hailstorm-affected people ?
- (l) Whether Government are aware that acute scarcity of food prevails in Kalabari area at present ?

- (m) Whether it is a fact that Government have not taken adequate steps to give relief to the affected people ?
- (n) Whether Government propose to enquire into the matter and give adequate relief to the affected people ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

420. (a)—Yes.
- (b)—Yes.
- (c)—By the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang and Sub-Deputy Collector, Halem.
- (d)—Yes.
- (e)—The Deputy Commissioner moved Government to authorise him to use the sale proceeds of U. S. A. gift wheat amounting to Rs.7,694.34 Np. as gratuitous relief to the people affected by hailstorm.
- (f)—Yes.
- (g)—Four hundred maunds of paddy were distributed to the deserving affected people as gratuitous relief. Government have also subsequently sanctioned Rs.10,000 as seed loan and Rs.20,000 as cattle loan particularly for the hailstorm affected people and the amounts are being issued to the deserving people.
- (h)—Yes, seeking relief and loan only.
- (i)—Reply to question (g) furnishes the information.
- (j)—Yes, Government received report of another hailstorm on 5th January 1958.
- (k)—One telegram from Shri Chandra Nath Bardoloi was received.
- (l)—Government have no such information.
- (m)—It is not a fact.
- (n)—Does not arise.

Remission of land revenue to flood affected people

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

421. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Northern and Eastern part of Saikhowa Mouza and the Sadiya Transferred area on the South of the Lohit River had been perpetually affecting by flood since great Earthquake of 1950 till the year 1956 when an embankment was constructed ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that Government granted remission of land revenue for those people who were badly affected by flood ?
- (c) If so, since when they were granted remission ?
- (d) If not, whether Government propose to write off the dues from the cultivators there who could not cultivate their land due to natural calamities for several years ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the local Mauzadar is pressing the public of that area this year to pay their arrear land revenue from the year 1953 to 1956 ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied.

421. (a)—Yes.
 (b)—Yes.
 (c)—Since 1950-51.

(d)—Remission has been granted for the years 1950-51 to 1952-53 only. The Mauzadar has submitted remission lists for the years 1953-54 to 1955-56 which are now under enquiry.

(e)—The Mauzadar is demanding revenue only from those raiyats who are capable of paying the revenue and who are not covered by the lists of sufferers for remission.

Free medical aid to State Government employees

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY (North Lakhimpur : Reserved for Scheduled Tribes) asked:

422. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) What categories of State Government employees are given free medical aid ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that low paid Government employees are not given any free medical aid whereas the highly paid State Government employees such as Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, etc., are given free medical aid ?
- (c) If so, why there is such discrimination ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to give free medical aid and other facilities to low paid Government employees as well ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-Charge, Medical) replied :

422. (a)—All categories.

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Does not arise.

Committee to distribute land in forest villages

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlichera) asked :

423. Will the Minister for Forests be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government propose to constitute a committee in each Division of the Forest Reserves for distribution of land in forest villages ?

(b) If not, whether Government propose to bring such distribution of land under "Land Settlement Advisory Committee" functioning in each sub-division of the State ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS, (Minister, Forests) replied :

423. (a)—No.

(b)—No.

Water logging in Bordoloni Mauza

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked :

424. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

(a) What area Government propose to include in Forest Reserve from old Dirpai Tea Estate land in Bordoloni Mauza ?

(b) Whether Government has any information that a vast area of Bordoloni Mauza has become water-logged and uninhabitable and the inhabitants of these villages are praying for land here ?

(c) Whether Government has any information regarding the present position of these people who are practically refugees in their own land and is moving from one place to another in search of a shelter only ?

- (d) Whether Government think that such cases should be given top priority?
- (e) Whether Government has any information that they cannot make the administrative machinery understand their case due to their helplessness and often other strong claims cloud their case and they are left on the street?
- (f) What has become of the fate of the application submitted to the Minister by the people of Borbila rehabilitation block?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

424. (a)—There is no proposal to include any land from old Dirpai Tea Estate in Forest Reserve.

(b)—A large area of Bordoloni Mauza has become uninhabitable. Government have no information about the prayer of the villagers for land here. But it is proposed to throw open a part of a Subansiri Reserve (West of Rajgorh ali) for rehabilitation of these people.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Government have no information. But Government are taking steps for their rehabilitation by deforesting a part of the Subansiri Reserve as stated above.

(f)—No such application is traceable.

Forest Coupes

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BORBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

425. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some forest coupes are given to Birla Company?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

425.—No.

Damage of crops by wild elephants

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra) asked:

426. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he is aware of crop damage every year by wild elephants in various Tea Gardens of Cachar District ?
- (b) If so, what permanent measures Government propose to take for protection of crops from such wild elephants ?
- (c) If not, whether Government propose to hold an enquiry and to take necessary action in this regard ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied :

426. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—It will be enquired into.

Forest Village in Cachar

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra) asked :

427. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether any new forest village is going to be opened in Cachar ?
- (b) If so, where and with how many families ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied :

427. (a)—Yes.

(b) (i)—The extension of Lakhinagar Forest village with further 30 house-holds.

(ii)—A forest village in Bhubirbond area in Singla Reserve Forest with 25 house-holds.

**Private Members Resolution further discussion
of Resolution to take over the venture Lower
Primary School having sufficient students
by the school Boards**

Mr. SPEAKER: The question hour is over. We now come to Private Members' Business, Resolutions.

(At this stage the Speaker vacated the Chair and the Deputy Speaker occupied it).

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika will resume his speech.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this chance to speak again on this Resolution moved by Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami. The other day I had to finish in a hurry and could not touch many points.

Sir, venture Lower Primary Schools are generally founded by the local people to educate their children and most of these venture schools are located in under-developed localities. These places suffered in the past for want of Lower Primary Schools. After establishing these venture schools the people have been maintaining them somehow by paying whatever salary they can to the teachers. But they see that in the enlightened areas Lower Primary Schools are managed by the Board. The public and the guardians where venture schools exist have to pay more to maintain these schools than public and guardians of enlightened localities. They can, therefore, justifiably charge the Government that equal facilities are not afforded to them. To remove the possibility of such suspicion or allegation I would request Government to give first attention to these most needy places as they deserve.

Sir, there may be or there may not be any demand from such places because people of these under-developed areas are not vocal enough to place their demand before the Government effectively. I find personally that in many places of my district that venture Lower Primary Schools are founded by local people, but after a few years for want of Government aid or for the reason of not being taken over by the School Board, they have to abandon them. The teachers who serve there for a year or two without any pay or for a very nominal amount are ultimately compelled by circumstances to seek employment elsewhere. Thus the schools are abandoned and the people of the locality are deprived of primary education even.

Again, Sir, in such localities I have found after several years a young boy comes out with some education—education upto certain classes of the school—and he establishes another

school in the locality, and the people of the locality continue writing to the authorities but in the many cases, Sir, such institutions are not taken over by the Board. So frustration accumulates among the people of these localities. Therefore, Sir, I thank Shri Goswami for his Resolution, which is a timely one. The Resolution says that the schools with sufficient number of students should be taken over. The hon. Shri Radhika Ram Das came with an amendment that all the deserving schools should be taken over. Sir, the Leader of the Opposition and the hon. Member from Gauhati opposed the amendment. I heard their arguments and, if I have heard them correctly, one of them suggested that instead of "deserving", it would be better for Shri Das to lay down that schools having a definite number of students, say 40, should be taken over. Sir, I thought over it and I think the word "deserving" is better.

Sir, in a thickly populated area due to rivalry several Lower Primary Schools may be founded within a radius of a mile or less. There may not be communication difficulties. In my opinion such schools should be amalgamated in the interest of education. Instead of single-teacher schools, these should be made plural-teacher schools. If possible, one teacher should be provided for each class, *i. e.*, five teachers in a Lower Primary School if the number of students justifies. On the other hand, there are places where people are averse to education. There are places also thinly populated and we find difficulty in collecting sufficient number of students. Even 40 students may not come up. One may argue that there may be relaxation for backward areas. But the number may be relaxed upto 25 students. Even then in certain areas we may be deprived of a school. For example, I may cite the instance of a locality in my constituency. It is in the Abor Hills transferred area, Laikaghat, comprising three or four villages. Apart from these villages you cannot find any other village within a radius of 10 miles. It would be difficult to have even 25 students for a Lower Primary School. But if we do not grant any school the place will suffer for want of education. So, I find the word "deserving" is proper. So far as my knowledge goes, there are many places in Assam where similar difficulties might arise. There is no doubt that certain truth exists in the arguments of the hon. Member from Gauhati that unscrupulous persons may misinterpret the word "deserving" according to their whims. But I cannot agree that Government would misinterpret the word. He incidentally referred to the School Board of Dibrugarh. It is a fact that there are certain

anomalies there. But when they were brought to the notice of the Government the Minister-in-charge the other day assured us that he would reconstitute the Board. I believe the persons who misinterpret the Government intention in a wrong way would be eliminated. I cannot believe that our Government will allow any misinterpretation of this word "deserving". If necessary, I believe Government will issue a circular defining the word "deserving". I hope this word would be interpreted in the best possible manner according to the spirit of the Indian Constitution.

With these few words, I whole-heartedly support the Resolution in its amended form.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order. A Resolution is being discussed on the subject of Education and we find that the Education Minister is absent. We also find that the Chief Minister too is absent. In course of the speeches of the hon. Members, Government policy is being discussed either supported or criticised whatever that may be. Sir, what is the use of discussing this Resolution when the Education Minister is absent and when it deals with an important question of educational policy?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Chief Minister has stepped in. Shri Bhattacharyya said that when the Minister of Education was not in the House and the Chief Minister was also not in the House it was no use discussing a Resolution on educational policy. This kind of complaint was brought before the House not only today but before also. So I would request the Leader of the House to see that when an important subject is discussed, either the Minister himself or in his absence some other Minister who is authorised by him should be present in the House, as he should listen to the debate.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): I am very sorry that on an important business I had to go out of the House. The Education Minister is out on tour on some important business. However, Sir, in future we will see that this does not happen.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On the assurance of the Chief Minister, I do not think that there should be any further discussion on this.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sure that this Resolution moved by Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami is one which will be accepted by the House in whatever amended form it likes to adopt it. After all this is a very important and essential Resolution. The hon. Members are aware that there are many venture schools in our State which have not as yet been taken up by the School Boards and they have been maintained by public for years together with difficulty.

As is said by Mr. Hazarika, such venture schools in backward areas or transferred areas where people are not vocal are suffering for not being taken up by School Boards. Since our motto is that we should drive out illiteracy from our State, then in order to fulfil this, we should take up these schools immediately and relieve the public, specially in backward areas from the great hardship in maintaining them. Formerly, our people in the backward areas, did not care so much for education but after the attainment of independence even people of those areas know that their boys and girls should be given education and with that end in view they have, through co-operative efforts, started schools in ordinary buildings and provided teachers and are maintaining them for years with great suffering as the Government have not taken them over.

Sir, considering all these and considering that we are out to drive out illiteracy, I would request the Government to give special attention to this question and that the areas which are backward, remote, neglected and where people are not vocal, should be given more attention. I know, Government is contemplating to drive away illiteracy, but I would suggest that Government should ascertain subdivision-wise or district-wise the number of people who are illiterate, number of schools remaining venture and the areas which are backward so that they can take up these deserving venture schools as early as possible.

Sir, now-a-days, we find that attention is given to those places where people are more vocal but places where people are not vocal mostly go by default. The schools near about the towns are getting more attention than the schools remaining in interior areas. Therefore, Sir, we should remove this discrimination so that even the people from backward areas have not to go from place to place for taking over their schools by School Boards. It should be the duty of

the authorities concerned to take initiative to find out these schools so that they can get proper relief and are taken up by Subdivisional School Boards. Therefore, I would plead that this initiative should come from the Government. Things should be so arranged that neither public nor any representative from public may have to go from place to place or come to Shillong for the purpose of having certain grants for these schools. I find that M.L.As have to go to Ministers or Secretaries for grants for different schools. We should so arrange that different schools get the necessary grants even without any body's asking, without any discrimination, the Government should consider the cases of schools in backward and outlying areas and give them assistance. The Government should see that the administration, whether of district or subdivision, take steps *Suo moto* and move Government in the matter so that automatically these schools may come within the purview of the Subdivisional School Boards.

There is an amendment to this Resolution, which seeks to insert the word 'deserving' before the words 'Venture Lower Primary Schools...' I think, the Mover of the amendment might have in his mind cases of rival institutions in the same locality. Such rivalry should not be encouraged and in order that such rivalry may not remain, I think, the Resolution should be accepted in the amended form as suggested by Mr. Das. Because, we find sometimes that within a furlong or within a village rival institutions are established. We should see that such tendencies do not get encouragement and only deserving institutions are taken up by the administration so that there may not be grievances on this score in our State in future.

With these few words, Sir, I support whole—heartedly the Resolution of Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami in the amended form.

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok) : মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ গোস্বামী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ পুস্তাৰ আৰু মাননীয় দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ সংশোধনী পুস্তাৰৰ ওপৰত যি আলোচনা চলিছে সেই আলোচনা ইমান দীঘলীয়া নহলেও হলহেঁতেন যি হেতু আমাৰ বিত্ত মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই ভেখতৰ বাজেট বক্তৃতাত আমাৰ ভেঞ্চাৰ এল, পি, আৰু এম, ভি স্কুল বিলাক চৰকাৰে লোৱাৰ এটা সংকেট দি থৈ গৈছে। বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ আশ্বাসতলৈ চাই পুস্তাৰটো গৃহণ কৰাত অসমৰ বিশেষ অস্থবিধা থকাৰ কাৰণ নাই। দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই সংশোধনী আনিছে *deserving* শব্দটো থাকিব লাগে আৰু বিৰোধী নেতা গোস্বামী ডাঙৰীয়াই

তাৰে আলোচনা চলাইছে— দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ সংশোধনী অনুযায়ী যিবিলাক deserving স্কুল আছে সেইবিলাক চৰকাৰে লব লাগে। কিন্তু বিৰোধী সদস্য সকলে deserving শব্দটো দিয়াত আপত্তি কৰিছে, কাৰণ তেওঁলোকে সন্দেহ কৰিছে যে deserving শব্দটো থাকিলে কিছুমান স্কুল হয়তো বাদ পৰি যাব। মোৰ মনেৰে সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাবত deserving শব্দটো দিলে সদনৰ সদস্য সকলৰ কাৰণে স্তুৰিহা হব। কাৰণ সদস্য সকল L.P. স্কুল লোৱা ক্ষেত্ৰত অনেক সময়ত অসুবিধা আৰু বিপদত পৰিব লগীয়া হয়। আজি গাঁৱে গাঁৱে হাইস্কুল আৰু গাঁৱে গাঁৱে M. E. School হোৱাৰ ফলত গাঁৱৰ ছাত্ৰ ছাত্ৰী বিলাকে শিক্ষা লাভ কৰি প্ৰাইমাৰী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকতা কৰিবৰ কাৰণে নতুন নতুন ভেঙাৰ স্কুল ঠায়ে ঠায়ে স্থাপন কৰি লয়, আৰু সেই সকল শিক্ষকে বা শিক্ষয়িত্ৰীয়ে আৰু অভি-ভাবক সকলে সেই স্কুলবিলাক স্থায়ী কৰিবৰ বাবে সদনৰ সভা সকলক টানি ধৰেগৈ। কিন্তু একেখন গাঁৱতে ২১৩ টা স্কুল থকাৰ বাবে এই বিষয়ত M.L.A. সকলে একো সহায় কৰিব নোৱাৰা অবস্থাত পৰিব লগীয়া হয়। গতিকে যদি deserving শব্দটো থাকে তেনেহলে সেই শব্দটোৰ সহায় লৈ যিবিলাক গাঁৱত এনেকুৱা rival school স্থাপন হয় সেইবিলাক গাঁৱৰ মানুহক পৰামৰ্শ দিবৰ কাৰণে এটা ডাঙৰ সুবিধাৰ ব্যস্থা পোৱা যাব। সেই ফালৰ পৰা চালে deserv- ing শব্দটো যোগ কৰাত আপত্তি থকাৰ কোনো খল নাই। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও এই শব্দটো থাকিলে আৰু কিছুমান সুবিধা আছে। যেনে ছাত্ৰ সংখ্যা কম থকা কিছুমান deserving স্কুল আছে বিশেষকৈ টাইবেল অঞ্চল বা পিছপৰা অঞ্চলৰ স্কুল বিলাক, তাত ছাত্ৰ সংখ্যা কম থাকিলেও এই deserving শব্দটোৱে সহায় কৰিব— কাৰণ এইবোৰ স্কুল বে deserving সেই কথাৰ কোনো সন্দেহ নাই। গতিকে এই সংশোধনীয়ে পিছ পৰা জনজাতি অঞ্চলত বিশেষ ভাবে সহায় কৰিব। যিবিলাক আগবাঢ়া অঞ্চলৰ একেখন গাঁৱতে ২১৩ খন L.P. School থকা দেখা যায়, তাত আৰু নতুন স্কুল হোৱাৰ প্ৰয়োজন নাই। তাতে অতিৰিক্ত স্কুল হলে অনাবশ্যকীয় স্কুলবিলাক undeserving বুলি গন্য কৰা হব। আন হাতেদি পিছ-পৰা অঞ্চলৰ যিবিলাক স্কুল ৰাইজে পাতি চলায় আৰু তাত ছাত্ৰৰ সংখ্যা কম হলেও deserving বুলি গন্য কৰিবৰ সুবিধা হব— যদি প্ৰস্তাবত deserving শব্দটো যোগ কৰা হয়। কাজেই গোস্বামী ডাঙৰীয়া আৰু ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই এই শব্দটোৰ বাবে ভয় খাবৰ কোনো কাৰণ নাই। তেখেত সকলে ঠিক এনেকুৱা ভাব লৈ কথাটো কৈছে যে হয়তো deserving শব্দটো থকাৰ কাৰণে যিবিলাক বোৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেন কংগ্ৰেছ ভাৰাপন বা যিবিলাক শিক্ষা বোৰ্ডৰ সদস্য কংগ্ৰেছ ভাৰাপন, সেই সকলে আন ভাৰাপন দলৰ লোকে স্থাপন কৰা স্কুলবিলাক বাদ দি যাব। মোৰ বিশ্বাস এইটো হয় নোৱাৰে। কাৰণ প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষা ক্ষেত্ৰত ৰাজনীতি সোমোৱা ঠিক নহয় আৰু এই ক্ষেত্ৰত ৰাজনীতি সোমালে আমাৰ দেশ শিক্ষা বিষয়ত একেবাৰে আগবাঢ়িব নোৱাৰিব। এইটো কথা ঠিক কৈছে যে ‘প্ৰাইমেৰী’ শিক্ষা যদি দেশত বৃদ্ধি নহয় তেনেহলে গণতান্ত্ৰিক দেশ এখন তিস্তি থকা টান হব। কাৰণ গণতন্ত্ৰ তিস্তি থাকিবলৈ হলে দেশবাসী শিক্ষিত হব লাগিব আৰু আমাৰ অশিক্ষিত অগনন নব-নাৰীৰ মাজত শিক্ষা প্ৰচাৰ বিস্তাৰিত ভাবে হব লাগিব। আজি আমাৰ সৰ্বসাধাৰণ ৰাইজৰ মাজত শিক্ষাৰ অভাৱৰ কাৰণে, ৰাজনৈতিক অন্যান্য দলবিলাকে চৰকাৰৰ বিৰুদ্ধে অভিযান চলোৱাৰ উদ্দেশ্য সিদ্ধি কৰিছে আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ মাজত নানান সাম্প্ৰদায়িকতাৰ বীজ ধাৰণ কৰিছে। এই শিক্ষাৰ অভাৱৰ কাৰণেই আমাৰ সৰল জনসাধাৰণৰ মাজত হিন্দু-মুছলমান, টাইবেল—আনটাইবেল আদি বিৰোধমূলক বিভেদ ভাবৰ বীজ দি বিপথগামী কৰিছে। শ্ৰীযুত ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়া অৱশ্যে ঠিকেই কৈছে যে— প্ৰকৃত গনতন্ত্ৰ বিকাশৰ পথত জনসাধাৰণৰ অন্ততঃপক্ষে প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাৰ প্ৰয়োজন আৰু এই শিক্ষাৰ জনসাধাৰণক দিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে বহুল প্ৰচাৰ কৰি ব্যৱস্থাৰ অবলম্বন কৰিব লাগে। আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণ ৰাইজৰ মাজত প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাৰ অভাৱ কাৰণেই আজি দেশত

জনসাধাৰণৰ মাজত সৃষ্টিৰ ভাবে বুজাপৰা কৰা নান হৈ পৰিছে আৰু এই কাৰণেই নানান মানুহে নিজৰ উদ্দেশ্য বা অভিষ্ট সিদ্ধিৰ কাৰণে নানা প্ৰকাৰৰ অভিযান তেওঁলোকৰ মাজত চলাই মানুহবিলাকক বিবৃত কৰি তুলিছে। বিভিন্ন নিৰ্বাচন বিলাকত বিভিন্ন ধৰণৰ বিভেদ মূলক 'প্ৰপেগেণ্ডা' (Propaganda) হ'ব লাগিছে। পাকিস্তান— হিন্দুস্থান আদি চিংকাৰ বিলাকে একেবাৰে শিক্ষা নোপোৱা আমাৰ মানুহবিলাকক বিবৃত কৰি তুলিছে। এনে ধৰণৰ অপপ্ৰচাৰ কাৰ্য্যই দেশৰ অগ্ৰগতিত কোনো প্ৰকাৰৰ সহায় নকৰি বাধাৰহে সৃষ্টি কৰে। আজি আমাৰ দেশ স্বাধীন। স্বাধীনতা পোৱা আৰু দেশ বিভক্ত হোৱাৰ আগতে পাকিস্তান সমৰ্থন কৰা বহুলোক হিন্দুস্থানত স্বাধীনতাৰ পিচত থাকি যায় আৰু সেইদৰে হিন্দুস্থান সমৰ্থন কৰা বহুলোক পাকিস্তানত তাৰ অধিবাসী হৈ যায়। এই অৱস্থাৰ পৰিপেক্ষিত— পূৰ্বৰ 'মুচলিম লীগ'ৰ সমৰ্থক সকল যদি আমাৰ দেশৰ অনুগত্য স্বীকাৰ নকৰে, 'loyal' নহয়, তেন্তে আমি তেওঁলোকক কমা কথিব নোৱাৰো আৰু সেইদৰে পাকিস্তানত থাকি যি বিলাকে তাক অনুগত্য স্বীকাৰ নকৰি disloyal প্ৰমাণ কৰে তেওঁবিলাকক... ..

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : আপুনি বাহিৰলৈ গুছি গৈছে—

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok): মই এতিয়া দ্বাদশত্বে দিব খুজিছো—উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়। মই বাইজৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাৰ লগত এই কথা জড়িত আছে বুলি এই কাৰণেই কৈছো যে যেহেতু আমাৰ সৰ্বসাধাৰণ বাইজ শিক্ষা বিয়য়ত অতিকৈ পিছপৰা তেওঁলোকে এই অপপ্ৰচাৰ বিলাকৰ মূল্য বা উদ্দেশ্য কত সেইটো নিবিচাৰি ভাল খাই যায়। সেই কাৰণে মই কব খুজিছো যে loyal কোন, disloyal কোন বা কেতিয়া আছিল, এই কথা বিচাৰ নকৰি দেশক সৃষ্টিৰ ভাবে আগ বাঢ়ি যাবলৈ সহায় কৰা উচিত।

(প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষা হলে কি এই ভাব যাব? a voice)

মই আগতেই উল্লেখ কৰিছো যে, দেশৰ অগ্ৰগতিত সৰ্বসাধাৰণ বাইজৰ শিক্ষা লাগে, শিক্ষা নহলে ভাব চিন্তাৰ দ্বাৰা কি বুজিব নোৱাৰে। এনে অৱস্থাৰ পৰিপেক্ষিত— আমাৰ দেশ স্বাধীন হৈছে আৰু ইয়াৰ প্ৰগতিৰ জখলাত ধোপ দিব নোৱাৰে। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ হৈছে পূৰ্বৰ মুচলিম লীগ বা অন্যান্য ৰাজনৈতিক দলৰ মানুহ— বৰ্তমানৰ ৰাজনৈতিক দল বিলাকতো সিঁচৰতি হৈ আছে আৰু সেই বিলাক এতিয়া সম্পূৰ্ণ আমাৰ দেশৰ অনুগামী বুলি কব লাগিব। এনে অৱস্থাত আমাৰ কোনো বিধিনিষেধটোৰ সম্ভৱনা নাই। কাৰণ এদিন তেওঁলোক তেনে আছিল, আজি আৰু তাৰ সমৰ্থক নহয়; আমাৰ দেশৰ অনুগামী। সেই কাৰণে মই এই কথাই কব খুজিছো যে শ্ৰীযুত ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই— এই প্ৰসঙ্গত যি অভিযোগ তুলিছিল সি প্ৰকৃত গণতন্ত্ৰৰ পৰিপন্থী নহয় আৰু তেওঁৰ আক্ৰমণে আশা কৰো আমাৰ বাইজক বিভ্রান্ত নকৰিব। সেই কাৰণে মই কওঁ যে— প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষা আমাৰ দেশত ঠিক মতে প্ৰচাৰ নহলে— আন ধৰণৰ প্ৰচাৰ কাৰ্য্যই জনসাধাৰণক ব্যতিবিস্ত কৰি তুলিব যদিও ৰাজনৈতিক বিভিন্ন দলবিলাকৰ উদ্দেশ্য সাফল্য মণ্ডিত কৰি তোলাত সহায় নকৰিব বুলি মোৰ বিশ্বাস। কাৰণ চৰকাৰ বিৰোধী দলবিলাকে এনে কাৰ্য্যৰ দ্বাৰা তেওঁলোকৰ দলৰ শক্তি অথবা কলেবৰ বৃদ্ধিৰ সপোন দেখিলেও প্ৰকৃত পক্ষে ই তাৰ প্ৰতিকলেহে যাব। ইয়াকে কৈ মই শ্ৰীযুত গোস্বামী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ মূল প্ৰস্তাবৰ ওপৰত শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাব আনিছে—তাক সমৰ্থন কৰো আৰু বিৰোধী দলৰ শ্ৰীযুত গোস্বামী আৰু শ্ৰীযুত ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াৰ সংশোধনী সহ মূল প্ৰস্তাবটো গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনাও। কাৰণ সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাবটোত যিটো “deserving” শব্দ যোগ দিবলৈ বিচৰা হৈছে সি মূল প্ৰস্তাবৰ ওপৰত কোনো ৰকম বাধা আৰোপ নকৰে। ইয়াৰ লগতে মই চৰকাৰক এই অনুৰোধ জনাও যেন— বাইজে নানা দুখ কষ্টৰ মাজেদি চলাই থকা 'ভেনচাৰ এম, ভি স্কুল' বিলাকৰ প্ৰতিও কৃপা দৃষ্টি দিয়ে।

Shri BISHNU LAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to speak a few words in support of the Resolution moved by Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami in its amended form, Sir, the Resolution is very important in as much as it recommends and insists on the Government to take over all deserving Lower Venture Primary Schools by the School Boards. Sir, the word "deserving" is opposed by the Members of the Opposition but in actual fact this word "deserving" is very very important to be inserted in the original Resolution and this has been accepted by some Members of the House; therefore, in that score, I feel it necessary to say that unless the word deserving is there, some rival similar institutions may grow up in the same locality within one mile radius or even less out of jealousy or some other vested interests. In this connection, Sir, I would like to say that in my own constituency two such schools are prevailing. The public of Gahpur have formed themselves into two groups and started two Girls' Lower Venture Primary Schools and consequently due to some troubles the Education Department had to intervene and issue suspension order until further orders. So, Sir, I say that unless the word deserving is there in the original Resolution such institutions will grow up out of jealousy or vested interests. On the other hand, there may be some backward locality with a small population and there may not be any such institution to educate their children. They may have started one school where the number of students may be insufficient even for one teacher. In that case will that school not be in a position to obtain recognition of the Department? So some relaxation is essential and indispensable, in such cases. As regards the School Boards, now-a-days they take the opinion of the non-official members, so the suspicion about their integrity and sincerity in selecting deserving school is out of question. It is their duty to look into it impartially and the Government is also there to look into the matter. This is only the first step to remove illiteracy from our State. The Government must be prepared to introduce compulsory primary education throughout the length and breadth of the State. Considering the limited resources of the State the present Resolution will go a long way to remove illiteracy from this State. Almost all the venture Primary Schools were started in the rural areas and it is a known fact that a great number of educational institutions are concentrated in the town areas, but they are rare in the rural areas. The people of the rural areas should not be left at the mercy of the fate. They have now realised their backwardness and helplessness in every walk of their life. They have collected funds, acquired land, constructed buildings and appointed teachers and a good

number of students are getting education there. Although late, the people's voluntary endeavours must be recognised. It may be compared with the race of horses. One horse is at his gallops and his other companions are left behind and they making only a start. Still their endeavours must be recognised. In this connection, I should like to quote a very interesting portion of a poem of a renowned writer which is.

"I have seen flowers come on stoney places,

And kindness done by men with ugly faces,

And the gold cup won by the worst horse in the races,

So, I trust too".

Sir, we should give the credit to the people who are making such voluntary efforts to give education to their children. Such voluntary enterprise will go a long way to remove illiteracy from our State. With this object, I wish the Government to take over the deserving venture Primary Schools without delay. Financial implications may come up but it must be done. It is indispensable. Even by some cuts in other projects it must be done. With these few words, Sir, I support the Resolution.

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Hailakandi):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to submit a few words and make some observations in connection with this Resolution before this House. I consider that our educational policy should be more liberalised. Sir, considering the programme and the outlook we have before us, I think our education policy requires thorough overhauling. For instance, we are out to develop the whole country; unless at least the primary education is spread amongst our people, our programmes of development will fail totally. The reason is not far to seek. I have visited some areas covered by our Community Projects. In some places at the beginning there was enthusiasm of our people, and some roads were constructed, temporary works were done to a great extent; but unless the people are imbued with an idea that they need communication, they need transport and all these things and unless they are interested in the developmental work, the enthusiasm that was created at the beginning will disappear and the work will not proceed and the temporary works will vanish altogether. Sir, I remember, I visited some areas while inspecting a road which was constructed by the villagers, which penetrated into the villages in Soalkucha. I was accompanied by the Chairman of the Local Board. I entered into some tribal villages. I remember there was no

school, no dispensary, no means of water supply. There was nothing of the kind. The road was constructed by the villagers and they wanted payment for their work. When I enquired of the villagers why they did not want any school, any dispensary, they replied that they did not require them. They did not require any water supply, because they had got the natural spring wherefrom they could have their drinking water. They only wanted money for the work they did for the construction of the road. That led me to think seriously that unless we could bring about a psychological change in the people, unless we created a craving in the minds of the people for better living, it would not be possible for the Government or for any body to thrust all the amenities of civilised life on them. At present they are not in a position to appreciate the necessity for these things. Similar is the case if we want to carry out the developmental activities. Unless our people appreciate the works and unless they are in a position to understand them properly, it will be useless to do any work in the localities. Considering all these, our policy of taking over the venture schools will be a very good policy. We should go further. I do not mind which one of the Resolutions—whether the amended one or the original one is accepted. They are in substance the same. But, Sir, the word ‘deserving’ is necessary because in certain cases we have seen that some rivalries take place in the matter of establishing schools and the authorities concerned, in order to bring about a compromise should take over the deserving schools and not the other ones. For that reason I support the amendment. The real purpose of the Resolution is to spread education. We should not only accept the Resolution, but also we should see that it is implemented in every place. We should also go further—that is there may be places where people do not appreciate the need of education and they have not started any venture schools at all. So my purpose is that, if we want to bring up and improve the standard of our people, if we want to make them support democracy, if we want to make them feel what we have been doing and what we are after, we should broadcast education in the masses and take over all the venture schools which are deserving and also find out the backward places where people have never thought of establishing any venture schools at all.

With these words, I support the amendment, for the reasons I have already stated. I also request the Government to liberalise their policy with regard to venture schools and to find out localities where there is no educational institutions at all.

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO (Jorhat: Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য শ্রীশৰৎচন্দ্ৰ গোস্বামী দেৱে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে অৰ্থাৎ অসমৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষানুষ্ঠান বিলাক চৰকাৰৰ হাতলৈ নিব লাগে—সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো নিতান্ত সমৰোপযোগী আৰু সম্পূৰ্ণ জনসাধাৰণৰ বাঞ্ছিত বুলি মই বিবেচনা কৰোঁ আৰু তেখেতৰ বক্তব্য, মূলীয়া প্ৰস্তাৱটো সাঁদৰেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিবলৈ গৈ মই লগতে দুখাৰ কথা কবলৈ আগবাঢ়িছোঁ।

এইটো বোধকৰোঁ সকলোৱে স্বীকাৰ কৰিব যে এখন দেশৰ মানুহক প্ৰগতিশীল কৰি দেশৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিবলৈ হলে সেই দেশৰ শিক্ষা প্ৰদানকৈ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাৰ উন্নতি প্ৰসাধন কৰা অতি প্ৰয়োজন। বিশেষকৈ স্বাধীনতা লাভ কৰাৰ পিচত প্ৰত্যেকেই অনুভৱ কৰিছে যে শিক্ষাইহে মানুহক মানুহ হিচাবে জীয়াই থাকিবলৈ সকলো মানত্ৰী যোগায়। দেশৰ পৰিস্থিতিৰ প্ৰতি সচেতন হবলৈ জনসাধাৰণক শিক্ষায়েহে ইন্ধন যোগায়। শিক্ষাই গণতন্ত্ৰৰ মূল ভেটি। গণতন্ত্ৰৰ মূল নীতিবিলাক উপলব্ধি কৰিবলৈ বিশেষকৈ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাই সকলোতকৈ শীৰ্ষস্থান অধিকাৰ কৰিছে। কিয়নো যেনেকৈ মানুহে জন্মগ্ৰহণ কৰাৰ পিচত, লাহে লাহে বহিৰ্জাতৰ লগত নিজকে খাপ খুৱাবলৈ প্ৰথমতেই বহুতো কথা শিকিব লাগে, ঠিক তেনেকৈ গণতান্ত্ৰিক ৰাজ্য এখনৰ যোগ্য নাগৰিক কৰি গঢ়িবলৈকে আমাৰ কুমলীয়া লৰা ছোৱালী সকলক এটি সুস্থ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাৰ জৰিয়তে গঢ় দি আনিব লাগে। এই প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাই হল দেশৰ লৰা ছোৱালী সকলৰ ভৱিষ্যত জীৱনৰ মূল ভেটি। নিখুট ভেটিৰ অভাৱত ঘৰ সজা কলনা কৰিব নোৱাৰি; ঠিক তেনেকৈ মানুহৰ নিখুট প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাৰ অভাৱ হলে, ভৱিষ্যত জীৱনৰ কোনো ধাৰণা কৰিব নোৱাৰি।

সেই কাৰণে আমাৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাই চৰকাৰৰ কালৰ পৰা সৰ্বপ্ৰথমে সুবিধা পাবৰ যোগ্য, বিশেষকৈ দেশ স্বাধীন হোৱাৰ পিচত আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণ সচেতন নোহোৱাৰ ফলত আমাৰ উন্নয়নৰ বিভিন্ন আচনিবিলাক আগবঢ়াই গিয়াত বাধা হৈছে। ইয়াৰ মূল কাৰণো হল আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ প্ৰকৃত শিক্ষাৰ অভাৱ। এই বিলাকলৈ চাই আমাৰ দেশৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাটো উন্নত কৰা চৰকাৰৰ মূলনীতি হোৱাটো নিতান্ত দৰকাৰ।

যি দেশত আলি পদলী মানবাহনৰে বাধা আছে, সেই দেশত প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষাকে সম্বল কৰি বাইজক আধুনিক সভ্যতাৰ কিছু আভাস দিয়াৰ হকে মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱ সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ যাতে চৰকাৰে সকলো প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষানুষ্ঠান নিজৰ হাতলৈ নিয়ে।

মাননীয় শ্ৰীবাধিকা ৰাম দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই “Deserving” অৰ্থাৎ উপযুক্ত শব্দ যোগে যি সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ স্বৰূপে আনিছে সি দুটা কাৰণে উপযোগী বুলি মই ভাবোঁ।

প্ৰথমতে, যি বিলাক অতি পিচপৰা আওহতীয়া আৰু জনজাতীয় লোক সকলৰ বাসস্থানত প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষানুষ্ঠান আছে সেই বিলাকৰ প্ৰতি বিশেষ বিবেচনা কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা থাকিব।

দ্বিতীয়তে, “Deserving” শব্দটো দৰকাৰী এই বাবেই যে—ই অবাঞ্ছিত, অনুপযুক্ত ঠাইত স্কুল পতাৰ আৱশ্যকীয় বাধা দিব পাৰিব। গতিকে এই শব্দটো অতি আৱশ্যকীয় হৈছে।

সেই কাৰণে মই গোস্বামী দেৱৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ সংশোধিত আকাৰে সৰ্বসন্মত কৰণেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ।

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have taken my stand in support of the Resolution moved by my honourable Friend, Shri Goswami. Sir, I would like to suggest to the Government for taking over the venture schools in the State. This is a long-felt grievance the country. I appeal to the honourable Members of this august House today that the primary education is the back-bone of our education in the country. If we cannot impart our children the primary education, then the plans and programmes of the future development in the country will be frustrated, because our children are the future citizens of our country. If we make a survey then we will see that venture schools are practically located in the rural areas where people are almost poor and where people even cannot meet the both ends of their daily meal. Then, Sir, there is difference between the rural areas and the urban areas with regard to the education and its development. But there is no difference between the children of rural and the children of urban areas in birth. We have made this difference only. The children in the urban areas get ample scope for education, whereas in the rural areas the children do not get such opportunities. So venture schools in the entire State should be taken over by Government. In the rural areas we see, Sir, that people go to the Deputy Inspector of Schools for giving them a school in their locality and the Deputy Inspector asks the people to erect their building for the school, and the people at their own cost build the school house and run the school for more than 5 or 6 years and then only the Deputy Inspector can consider their case. But in the urban areas it is not so. The people in the rural areas are very poor and their urges in the matter of educating their children must be appreciated and it should be approached with leniency.

So, Sir, with these few words, I support the Resolution moved by Shri Goswami.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Sibsagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish I did not have to speak on this debates, nor I did wish that the subject matter would be so much controversial as it has become. Sir, India has attained legal Independence but has not yet attained real Independence. Ten years after the attainment of Independence, we have to come up to this House with such a Resolution to impart primary education in its entirety to the children of the soil today, for the leaders of tomorrow. The first case of the State is the care of its children and no State could neglected the education of its children.

The Finance Minister, the other day in replying to the Budget debate said in clear terms that the economic condition of India in relation to other free countries is not the same—the figures being (per capita income) :—

England Rs.4,287, U.S.A. Rs.9,731, India Rs.272, Assam Rs.249. From this it is easily understandable, why the State Government amongst other things have not been able to give effect to such an important Resolution howsoever the Government might wish it to implement. Political freedom and economic freedom are two things. We will be only free that day when we would be economically free, and so long we are not economically free we will not be in a position to bring up our children to our expectation as this Resolution wants.

Sir, for the Government's inability to impart Primary Education in the Lower Primary standard as is expected in this Resolution, we have accused Government times without number. In this Session also my Friend, Shri Sarat Goswami, has brought in this Resolution for the acceptance of the House, to which my Friend, Shri Radhika Das, has put in an amendment by adding a word "deserving". My Friend, Shri Das, in his amendment says that only the deserving schools should be taken up having sufficient number of students in the rolls, having qualified teachers and within reasonable distance from one school to the other. Perhaps most of the honourable Members know, Sir, that there are many venture rival schools which do not justify to be taken over by the School Board. In my own constituency, Sir, I know that there are rival schools just opposite to each other intervened by the Public Works Department and Local Board roads. Now, it is neither possible nor desirable for the Government to take up such schools but should take up either of the schools which is deserving. For all these considerations my Friend, Shri Das, has brought this amendment by the insertion of the word "deserving" and I consider that this amending Resolution of my Friend, Mr. Das, deserves the ripe consideration of the House.

It has been argued, Sir, by the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition Shri Goswami and my comrade Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya and some other Members of the Opposition, that all the venture Lower Primary Schools be taken up by the Government which is not possible or desirable either at originally intended in the Resolution and I, therefore, hope that

they will support the amendment. With these few words, Sir, I commend the Amendment for acceptance of the House.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have carefully listened to the debate, particularly to the speeches delivered in support of my Resolution and also in support of the amendment to the Resolution. I am not oblivious of the fact that in some cases deserving schools are left out and in some cases less deserving school or schools that should not have been taken up by the Government have been taken up. Sir, in framing the Resolution I had in mind certain concrete cases about which I would like to speak before the House. In my constituency, that is, Kamalpur, there is a school which till then did not receive sanction from the School Board. There was another school which was very old, probably existing for more than 90 years. One day, in the year 1953 perhaps, some villagers inhabiting around that school came with a complaint that the articles of that school were stolen away and that some persons were going to establish a new school in another place. On hearing the complaint the School Board wanted to punish the wrong doers in a funny way, that is to say, one teacher of the existing school was asked to go to the new school and hold classes there. In that way subsequently all the teachers of the old school were asked to go to the new school when the old school building was damaged. In the meantime the school was built up with private enterprise with C. I. sheet roofs. Now, the School Board is neglecting the existing school by allowing other rival school to be established quite near by and also by converting the new school into basic school and thus a spirit of rivalry has been created. There are two schools one is basic and the other is a venture school. In the venture school which was the existing old school there are as many as 80 students, whereas in the other there are less than 50 students.

Sir, near Kamalpur there are two schools in the same village. The enrolment in one school is about 60 or 70 and in the other school there was hardly 30 students. Now, the school having 30 students or so has been taken up whereas the school with a such greater number has been left out. In the meantime the school which has been taken up by the School Board the number of students has dwindled to 10 or 12 as reported. Still this school is being continued to be managed by the Board whereas the school with 70 or so students is left out. So, Sir, I have framed my Resolution carefully with

this idea that we must give stress to the number which a venture school may have. But I have not fixed any rigid number for all schools in order to have flexibility of number for affiliation or being taken over by the Board. I simply said "sufficient number", so that it may suit local conditions. Now, my Friend, Shri Das, has come forward with an amendment that the word "deserving" should be substituted, in order to eliminate local rivalries. I admit, Sir, that rival schools have become somewhat a feature, specially in villages. Many schools have been established not so much with a view to cater to the educational needs of the locality, but in a spirit of rivalry, a spirit which is not conducive to the expansion of education. If in selecting deserving schools, the School Boards are directed by Government to go by certain healthy principles, then only the word "deserving" will have its justification'. Now, as most of the hon. Members have the approved idea that the Resolution should be amended, I accept the amendment, Sir.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I know whether the hon. Member has complied with the provisions of Rule 126?

***Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I have not asked him whether he has withdrawn his Resolution. I will ask him later.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA:** If he accepts the amendment, the original Resolution should be withdrawn.

***Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** That requires leave of the House. I will put it later.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I again extend my apology for going out for a moment, while this Resolution was discussed in this House and I would like to repeat that it was not with any intention of dishonouring this House or any lack of interest in this very important debate that I went out. I tried to come back as early as possible.

Sir, our Constitution in its Directive Principles has attached great importance to this matter of education and the State's responsibility about it. Apart from the Constitution, education will have to play an important role for the solution of

the various problems, social, economic and political, with which we are faced to-day. Therefore, there are no two opinions about the need of expanding education as quickly as possible in our country.

Sir, the Constitution-makers foresaw the limitations under which the New India will have gone ahead with its works. That is why instead of putting these directives in a rigid way, they preferred to incorporate them as directive principles of the State policy. That is why it has been mentioned in clause 37 of the Constitution that "The provisions contained in this Part shall not be enforceable by any court, but the principles therein laid down are nevertheless fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws". My intention in reading out these lines is that if the State due to reasons beyond its control fail to implement a particular directive fully within specified period the people should appreciate the reasons for it. I suppose, Sir, if we can prove to the House and also to the country that since the attainment of Independence or from the date of enforcement of this Constitution, Government have endeavoured their best to expand education the House will feel satisfied. In this connection, if you permit me, I would like to quote certain figures to show the rate at which education has been expanding in our State. Sir, in the year 1946-47, that is the year immediately previous to our Independence, our total expenditure on Education was about Rs. 77,38,000 and our expenditure on primary education for the same year was Rs. 24,90,000. Since then there has been progressive increase in expenditure on Education. I have already quoted the figure for 1946-47. The following are the figures for the subsequent years:—

					Rs.
1947-48	...	...	...	...	81,48,000
1948-49	...	...	...	...	1,03,84,000
1949-50	...	...	...	...	1,55,28,000
1950-51	...	...	...	...	1,31,58,000
1951-52	...	...	...	...	1,71,61,000
1952-53	...	...	...	...	1,86,47,000
1953-54	...	...	...	...	2,12,68,000

1954-55	...	...	...	...	2,65,66,000
1955-56	...	...	...	...	3,92,28,000
1956-57	...	...	...	...	3,49,58,000
1957-58 (Revised)			...	...	4,20,02,000
1958-59	...	...	...	..	4,78,16,000

and for the Primary Education alone, I would give the figures separately and these figures do not include the expenditures on the Directorate and the District Offices.

Expenditure on Primary Education:—

					Rs.
1946-47	...	...	...	...	24,90,000
1948-49	...	..	...	...	38,07,000
1952-53	...	...	...	...	82,56,000
1955-56	...	...	...	...	1,30,88,000
1956-57	...	...	...	...	1,17,06,000
1957-58 (Revised)			...	...	1,65,77,000
1958-59	...	...	...	...	1,84,20,000

Sir, from the figures which I have quoted just now it will be very clear that we are very anxious about the spread of education in our State and in spite of all this we welcome the Resolution of Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami, as amended, because through this Resolution not only the Government should be alerted about its responsibility but the society also needs this reminding from time to time about their duties in this respect.

Sir, while we accept the amendment moved by Shri Radhika Ram Das, it does not mean that Government is going to take shelter under the amendment but we accept it because of certain practical reasons. Whatever may be said, the effect remains that we have to move under expectation of finance, suitable persons, etc. These limitations are there. There has been enormous expansion of education these years as will be clear from the figures which I have cited. Along with expansion we have the need of suitable people to look after these institutions; so most of the need we expect may not be achieved.

Besides, Sir, in this august House some of the hon. Members were very critical about tea garden schools and complained that there is no inspection in tea garden schools. There are many other areas where also there is no inspection. These are due to want of inspecting staff.

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Sibsagar):** I want to get clarification on one point from the Chief Minister. Whether the Chief Minister means to say that for want of teachers the Primary Schools cannot be taken up by the Government ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Of course, there is dearth of suitable teachers. If you want good teachers, they must be qualified and properly trained and for training these teachers also we have got to have training institutions. It is a question of time also. For all these reasons we have accepted the amendment that has been proposed by Shri Das.

There were some criticisms here about Basic Education Boards. May be most of the criticisms are correct and if any Basic Education Board has not been properly functioning and giving justice to the responsibility that has been entrusted on them, we surely shall have to supersede these Boards or rectify them, but, at the same time, we must trust somebody as to think that Government alone or a department alone is doing the right thing and other agencies whom the Government have entrusted with some thing cannot be trusted cannot be the correct attitude. Therefore, if there is any shortcoming of the Basic Education Board we should try to rectify the same, if necessary, by reconstituting the Board because after all we have to give proper education to the children and to give justice to all concerned. Therefore, if any Board does not function properly, we will have to see this Board function well.

Sir, I am glad that the hon. Mover of the Resolution has kindly accepted the amendment moved by Shri Radhika Ram Das and from the Government side we will be very glad to accept the Resolution as amended.

***Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution should be withdrawn ?

(Voices—No)

'Then, I put the amendment to vote. The amendment moved is that before the words 'Venture Lower Primary Schools' the word 'deserving' should be inserted and the words 'having sufficient number of students' should be deleted.

(This was adopted.)

The question is that this Assembly recommends to the Government of Assam to take immediate steps so that the deserving Venture Lower Primary Schools of the State are taken over by the School Boards.

The House Divided

Ayes—40

1. Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha.
2. Shri Rup Nath Brahma.
3. Shri Hareswar Das.
4. Shri Mohi Kanta Das.
5. Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi.
6. Mrs. Usha Barthakur.
7. Dr. Ghanashyam Das.
8. Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika.
9. Shri Indreswar Khaund.
10. Shri Abdul Hamid Choudhury.
11. Shri Abdul Matlib Majumdar.
12. Shri Bhuban Chandra Pradhani.
13. Shri Bishnu Lal Upadhyaya.
14. Shri Biswadev Sarma.
15. Shri Dandi Ram Dutta.

16. Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika.
17. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.
18. Shri Gauri Sankar Roy.
19. Shri Hamdhon Mohon Haplaugbar.
20. Shri Harinarayan Barua.
21. Shri Joga Kanta Barua.
22. Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda.
23. Shri Kobad Hussain Ahmed.
24. Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua.
25. Shri Larsing Khyriem.
26. Shri Lila Kanta Borah.
27. Shri Manik Chandra Das.
28. Shri Mohananda Bora.
29. Shri Molindhar Pegoo.
30. Shri Molia Tati.
31. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma.
32. Shri Omeo Kumar Das.
33. Shrimati Padma Kumari Gohain.
34. Shri Radha Charan Choudhury.
35. Shri Radha Kishan Khemka.
36. Shri Radhika Ram Das.
37. Dr. Ram Prasad Chaubey.
38. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami.
39. Shri Sarbeswar Bardoloi.
40. Capt. Williamson A. Sangma.

Noes—7

1. Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.
2. Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar.
3. Shri Gopesh Namasudra.
4. Shri Hareswar Goswami.
5. Shri Pakhirai Dekka
6. Kumar Prokitish Chandra Barua
7. Dr. Srihari Das

(The Resolution, as amended, was adopted)

Adjournment

The House then adjourned for lunch till 2.15 p. m.

After Lunch

The House met again after lunch at 2 p.m. with the Deputy Speaker in the Chair

Resolution to bring legislation making begging illegal

(Resolution on No. 2 standing in the name of Shri Surendra Nath Das was not moved as the Member was absent).

Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to bring in a legislation making begging illegal in the State by providing work to the able-bodied beggars and food, clothing, shelter, etc., to the deserving ones.

Sir, I want to speak a few words in support of the Resolution.

In times immemorial our sages thought this fleeting world to be useless and went into forest for meditation. And thus they gave a philosophy, the highest that any human brain can conceive. The people in veneration gave alms to them. Thus the institution of alms giving arose in India. Other religions also take it their duty to give alms to the poor.

The lazy and cunning section of our society took advantage of this. They put the garb of the sage and demand alms from the people. The people cannot differentiate between the real and the fake ones, give alms to all indiscriminately who demand it.

The beggar population is really one per cent of the whole population in India. But I see our Government are not quite happy to show the real number. So in 1931 census 14 lakhs are shown as beggar in India. I could not find the beggar population of India in 1951 census. But Assam census shows it to be about 11,000. But as it shows 513 in Lakhimpur District and 67 in United Khasi & Jaintia Hills District, I do not think this number is quite correct. I think it is much more.

In the census of 1951, 60.1 per cent are shown as non-earning dependent, *i.e.*, 21 crores 43 lakhs. I think the beggars are included here. Anyway the beggars are going on in strength. I saw in a paper of 23rd March last that an union of beggars has been organized in Ahmedabad.

Our Prime Minister went to United States of America and Russia. He shook hands with Mr. Eisenhower and Comrade Bulganin on equal terms. We are very proud of it. But when Comrade Bulganin walked over the red carpets spread on the streets of New Delhi, if he could see the beggars in the street, he would have been shocked to find the socialism practised in India. And if President Eisenhower would have seen our beggars, I think he would not lend a single cent to India.

We are astounded to see the huge structures of Pyramids and the grandeur of the Tajmahal. But some people think, these were raised on the miseries and toils of the common people. We wonder to see the big structures in New Delhi and Bombay, but what is a pity we see the beggars also in their streets.

The able bodied beggars which I think consist of 90 per cent of them is an economic drain to the society. And beggars are a moral degradation to the society. And the anti-social section of the society can easily take advantage of them. They can easily be brought to their fold.

But every body is paying the beggars. So even if a tax is imposed for this purpose I think the people will not grudge. So I appeal, this begging should be made illegal. And this should be a cognisable offence.

As we have practically no indigeneous beggars, some of our people think, if such a legislation is undertaken, Assam will be invaded by beggars from outside. But I can remind that there is already legislations in other States.

And there are Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution. Article 41 direct to help in old age sickness and disablement. And the Plan also has accepted this principle and provides money for it. Ours is a welfare State and there is the Central Social Welfare Board which was organised in August 1943. It has contributed Rs. 2,42,293 up-to-date to Assam. And Rs. 71,717 is under consideration. There is Kasturba Trust another with 380 centres. There is Bharat Sevek Samaj. There are 40 Vocational Schools for the blind, 41 Vocational Institutes, for the deaf in India. There are hospitals for crippled children in Madras and Hyderabad, Women Welfare Departments in Madras and Utter Pradesh. Even in our budget for 1958-59 we find an allocation of Rs. 35,92,000 for famine relief. Besides there are other charitable institutions also. Yet I think without legislation we cannot stop begging.

We need not hesitate to legislate. There are legislations in other states, for example :—

Bhopal Prevention of Beggary Act of 1917.

Hyderabad Prevention of Beggary Act of 1941.

Bengal Vagrancy Act of 1943.

Mysore Prevention of Beggary Act of 1944.

Madras Prevention of Beggary Act of 1945.

Bihar Prevention of Beggary Act of 1952.

Trivanchore Cochin Vagrancy Act.

There are Municipal acts also banning beggary.

Punjab Municipal Act of 1911.

United Province Municipal Act of 1916.

Berar Municipal Act of 1922.

Ajmere and Mewar Act of 1925.

There are Police acts also, in Bombay and Calcutta. Calcutta Suburban Police Act. (Howrah Nuisance Act).

Section 109(b) of Indian Penal Code can be used to stop beggary. It prohibits vagrancy. And vagrant is defined as one who has no ostensible means of subsistence who cannot give himself satisfactory account of himself. However these legislations have not been strictly followed. So there are so many beggars still found.

Lastly, I would point out that our Government always strongly protest whenever there is a report of starvation death. But is it not a fact that begging simply is preventing such starvation death? And is it for this that Government are not stopping beggary? I think it is our moral duty to eradicate this evil. With these words, I commend my Resolution for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

“That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government Assam do take immediate steps to bring in a legislation making begging illegal in the State by providing work to the able bodied beggars and food, clothing, shelter, etc., to the deserving ones.”

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLAI (Titabar): মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য বন্ধুৱা দেৱে যি প্ৰস্তাব এই সদনত ডাঙি ধৰিছে মই সেইটো সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। ময়ো এই সদনত এনে ধৰণৰেই এটা প্ৰস্তাব ডাঙি ধৰিবলৈ দাখিল কৰিছিলো কিন্তু মোৰ প্ৰস্তাবটো প্ৰস্তাৱ তালিকাৰ ১৬০ নম্বৰতহে স্থান পাইছে। সেই প্ৰস্তাব উপাধীন কৰিবলৈ স্মৃতিধা পোৱাৰ সিমান ঠিক নাই। অবশ্যে যদিও মই এনেধৰণৰ কোনো আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰাৰ কথা মোৰ প্ৰস্তাবত কোৱা নাই তথাপি প্ৰস্তাবটো মোৰ প্ৰস্তাবৰ সমশাৰীত। সেই কাৰণে এই প্ৰস্তাবটো সমৰ্থন কৰি মোৰ মনৰ ভাৱ যিহি বাখ্যা কৰাৰ উদ্দেশ্যে মই তিয় হৈছোঁ।

মহোদয়, আমাৰ ৰাজ্যখন সমাজতান্ত্ৰিক নীতিৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি গঠনমূলক কাম বিলাক হাতত লোৱা হৈছে। লগতে আমি আমাৰ ৰাষ্ট্ৰখনক জনকল্যাণকৰ ৰাষ্ট্ৰ বুলিও ঘোষণা কৰিছোঁ। তেনে অবস্থাত আমাৰ অসমৰ্থ লোকসকলৰ ভৰণ পোষণৰ ভাৰ বহন কৰাটো ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ পক্ষে এটা ডাঙৰ দায়িত্বই নহয়, ই আমাৰ পক্ষে ডাঙৰ কৰ্তব্যও, বিশেষকৈ স্বাধীনতা পোৱাৰ পিচত আমাৰ সন্মান বহুত ওপৰলৈ উঠিছে। কিন্তু যেতিয়া মাগিবলৈ যোৱা পোৱা, কোঙা বিলাকক আলিপদলীয়ে আমাৰ চকুত পৰে তেতিয়া স্বাধীনতা পোৱাৰ পিচত যে আমাৰ গৰ্ব কৰিবৰ অবস্থা এটা আছে সেই বিষয়ে সচেতন হ'ব।

আন ফালৰ পৰা চাবলৈ গলে ইংৰাজ চৰকাৰৰ দিনতেই হওক নাইবা আমাৰ নিজা চৰকাৰৰ দিনতেই হওক, আমাৰ দেশৰ মানুহৰ ৰোজকাৰ কৰাৰ উপায় দিয়াৰ কাৰণে মাটি বা কাম আদি যোগাৰ কৰি দিয়াৰ অবস্থা আমাৰ হোৱা নাই—এনে অবস্থাত এক শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহ যে গৰীব হৈ থাকিব তাত কোনো সন্দেহ নাই।

কিন্তু এনে এটা অবস্থাৰ আৰত যে সক্ষম লোকসকলেও ভিক্ষাবৃত্তি অবলম্বন কৰি কিছুমান লোকৰ গলগ্ৰহ হ'ব তাক বন্ধ কৰাতো চৰকাৰৰ কৰ্তব্য আছে। এনে ধৰণৰ অবস্থাটোও যুক্তিসঙ্গত নহয়। এনে ধৰণৰ কিছুমান মগনীয়া পোৱা যায় যে যিকোনো কাম কৰি উপাৰ্জজন কৰাৰ কাৰণে শৰীৰত যথেষ্ট শক্তি আছে, তেনে মানুহেও ভিক্ষাবৃত্তি অবলম্বন কৰিছে। তেওঁলোকৰ পুৰুষানুক্ৰমে এয়েই অবলম্বন। অৱশ্যে এনে ধৰণৰ ভিক্ষুক সকলক আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰি হলেও বন্ধ কৰিব লাগে। নহলে সময়ত ই চৰকাৰৰ এটা ডাঙৰ আৰজৰ্জনা হৈ উঠিব।

আমাৰ দেশৰ ধোঁৱা, কোঙা, বেমাৰী আৰু বৃদ্ধ সকলে মাগিব পাৰে। তেওঁ বিলাকৰ বিষয়ে কবলগীয়া বিশেষ কথা নাই। কিন্তু কৰিব মেলিব পৰা আৰু শাৰীৰিক শক্তি থকা বহুত মানুহে আমাৰ দেশত মাগিছে আৰু এনেকৈ মাগি মাগি একশ্ৰেণী মগনীয়াৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। যাৰ কোনো শ্ৰম নাই, যি মাটি সম্পত্তি উপাৰ্জজন কৰিবলৈ যত্ন নকৰে আৰু যাৰ মোনা আৰু ভাৱ খনত থকা সম্পত্তিৰ বাহিৰে আন সম্পত্তি নাই তেনেকুৱা কিছুমান মানুহে পৰিয়াল বঢ়াইছে, দেশ ঘূৰিছে আৰু নিজৰ লৰা ছোৱালী লৈ গোটেই ভাৰতবৰ্ষ ফুৰিছে। তেনেকুৱা কিছুমান মানুহ অসমতো সোমাইছেহি। আমি যেতিয়া দেওবৰীয়া হাটলৈ যাওঁ তেতিয়া দেখিবলৈ পোওঁ যে তেনেকুৱা মানুহে হাটৰ ঘৰবিলাক লেতেৰা কৰি থয়। মানুহ আহি চাফাচিকুণ কৰিলেহে তাত বজাৰ কৰিব পৰা হয়। তেনে অৱস্থাত সেই ঘৰবিলাকত পৰিস্কাৰ পৰিচছন ভাবে বস্তু বিক্ৰি হৈছে বুলি ক'ব নোৱাৰি। এই মানুহ বিলাকে আমাৰ পাৰিপাশ্ৰিকতা লেতেৰা কৰিছে। যেতিয়ালৈকে আইনৰ জৰিয়তে বাধ্য কৰা নহয়, তেতিয়ালৈকে তেওঁবিলাকে ভিক্ষা বৃত্তি নেৰে। যিবিলাকৰ শাৰীৰিক শক্তি আছে, যিবিলাকে পৰিশ্ৰম কৰিব পাৰে, তেনেকুৱা মানুহে ভিক্ষা কৰাটো আইনৰ জৰিয়তে বন্ধ কৰিব লাগে। যি সকল চাকৰিয়ালৰ জীৱণৰ শেষ ছোৱাত নিজৰ লৰা ছোৱালীক পোহপাল দিবৰ সমৰ্থ নাই বা লৰাছোৱালীও নাই আৰু কৰি মেলি ল'ব নোৱাৰা অৱস্থালৈ আহিলে তেওঁবিলাকৰ ভিক্ষাবৃত্তি অৱলম্বন কৰাৰ বাহিৰে কোনো উপায় নাই। যিবিলাক মানুহে চকুৰে নেদেখে, যিবিলাকৰ গাত খোচৰা ব্যাধি আছে আৰু যি শাৰীৰিকশ্ৰম কৰিবলৈ অক্ষম তেনেকুৱা

মানুহৰ ভৰণপোষণৰ দায়িত্ব যদি আমি নলওঁ তেনেহলে নিশ্চয় ৰাষ্ট্ৰ হিচাপে বা চৰকাৰ হিচাপে আমাৰ কৰ্ত্তব্য পালন কৰা নহ'ব। এটা প্ৰস্তাৱ গ্ৰহণ কৰিলেই যে আমাৰ দায়িত্ব পালন কৰা হ'ল, সেইটো নহয়। প্ৰস্তাৱ গ্ৰহণ কৰাৰ পিচত তাক কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰাত বহুত টকা খৰচৰ কথা আছে। যদি আমি তেনেকুৱা মানুহ বিলাকক আশ্ৰয় দিবা সৰু সূৰা কামত হাত দিয়াই ৰোজ কাৰ দিব পৰা অৱস্থালৈ আনিব পৰা হয় তেনেহলে তেনেকুৱা দুখন এখন আশ্ৰমে নাতিব। গোটেই অসমতে কেইখন মান আশ্ৰম স্থাপন কৰিব লাগিব আৰু আশ্ৰম স্থাপন কৰি তেওঁলোকক সাহায্য কৰিব লাগে। গাঁৱত অন্ধ সকলক আশ্ৰয় দিয়াৰ কাৰণে শত্ৰুৰ মিচমে এখন আশ্ৰম স্থাপন কৰিছে। সেই আশ্ৰম দেখিলে সঁচাকৈয়ে জীৱণত এটা ডাঙৰ কান হৈছে বুলি অনুভৱ কৰিব পাৰি। তাত অন্ধসকলক লিখাপঢ়া শিকোৱা হৈছে, কাম কৰিবলৈ শিকাইছে আৰু তাত তেওঁ বিলাকে ৰোজকাৰ পাইছে। এইদৰে যদি অসমৰ অন্ধ সকলক গোটেই অসমতে তেওঁলোকে ভিখাৰী জীৱনৰ পৰা মুক্তি পাব আৰু বাকী জীৱন ছোৱা কোনো বকমে কটাব পাৰিব। যদি এই বকম কিছুমান আশ্ৰম কৰিব লগা হয় তেনেহলে আশ্ৰম বিলাকত বহুতো টকা খৰচ হ'ব। অসম চৰকাৰৰ বৰ্ত্তমান উপাভ্যাসৰ পৰা ইমান খিনি খৰচ কৰিব পাৰিব বুলি খাটাতকৈ কব নোৱাৰি। বিগয়ৰ গুৰুত্বলৈ চাই চৰকাৰে এটা বেলেগ কৰ প্ৰবৰ্ত্তন কৰাৰ প্ৰয়োজন হ'ব পাৰে। দেশৰ এই বৃদ্ধ আৰু অক্ষম সকলক সংস্থান কৰাত তেনেকুৱা কৰাৰ সাংখ্যিকতা আছে আৰু তেনেকুৱা কৰ ধাৰ্ম্মিকহলে অসমীয়া ৰাইজৰ ওপৰত কৰব বেচি হেচা হ'ব বুলি তেনেকুৱা জনমত নহ'ব। জনমত তেনেকুৱা এটা কৰৰ সপক্ষে হ'ব বুলি মই বিশ্বাসৰে সৈতে কব পাৰো। ৰাইজৰ ওপৰত আস্থা ৰাখি আমাৰ ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় নেতা সকলে কাম কৰিবলৈ আগ ৰাখিছে আৰু নানাভাবে নতুন নতুন কৰ ৰাইজৰ ওপৰত লগাই আছে। এনেকুৱা এটা অত্যন্তাৱশ্যকীয় কাৰণে যদি দেশত এটা নতুন কৰ প্ৰবৰ্ত্তন কৰা হয় তেনেহলে মোৰ বিশ্বাস অসমীয়া ৰাইজে সেই কৰৰ বোজা আনন্দ মনেৰে গ্ৰহণ কৰিব আৰু কোনেও তাৰ প্ৰতিবাদ নকৰিব আৰু এই কামৰ বাবে অসমীয়া ৰাইজে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক প্ৰশংসাহে কৰিব। ইয়াকে কৈ মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱ সমৰ্থন কৰিলোঁ।

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I appreciate and support the Resolution moved by Mr. Barua, I beg to say that begging in India is not a crime. In India it is a part of the religion. The instances are not wanting to show that begging was undertaken as a part of the religion. Big and rich people were used to sacrifice and donate their huge property on the ground of religion and lead their later lives on begging in religious places. It was a way to gain religious achievement. But now-a-days begging is used for earthly gains. People undertake this profession for the defence of their stomach. Sometimes it is undertaken with a criminal intention. They visit the houses of the people during day time in the guise of beggars and at night they go to commit dacoities or thefts. Moreover, Sir, it is seen that beggars are attacked with many contagious diseases. When they roam about and visit many places these contagious diseases are spread and thus the society is affected very much and it also affects the moral of the people. So in my opinion, begging should be at once stopped by legislation. When we cannot allow anybody to beg in

a socialistic pattern of society, Government should provide work to all able bodied persons and arrange for some provision for the disabled persons. We have seen many blind people can work well and sing well if work can be arranged for them. If begging can be checked viruten of crimes also will come down. So for welfare of society in an independent country, it is very much essential to look after this huge section who are also part and parcel of us. With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution and request the Government to be active in this respect.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Member who has moved this Resolution, for drawing the attention of this House. Sir, it is a very important question in our society. In India according to our statistics, there are about 4,87,900 and odd number of beggars and in the State of Assam the figure is estimated for 11,255. There is no two opinions that in an independent country this evil of beggary should not be there. Now, Sir, the question is how to tackle this problem. It is probably more an economic problem than anything else. The other day, Sir, in course of another debate, I quoted certain figures by which I showed the number of non-earning dependents in our country, and I think that the number is progressively increasing. At one time Gandhiji said that it was not because that the people of India was suffering because that they could not work but because they had no works to do.

Sir, that problem still remains. What we feel that we have to attack this problem from all directions. Of course, it will be easy to pass a legislation prohibiting begging. It may also be easy to have a few work-houses here and there and make a beginning.

Now, the main question is that we have to increase scope for employment in our State. In the field of agriculture, in the field of different classes of industries, we have to increase scope of employment facilities in our State. Unless we can do that, this problem is not going to be solved. That is why in all these plannings we are making an effort how to increase the facilities for employment, which has been given very great importance.

Sir, I am at once with the hon. Member that we should tackle this problem. But if I differ today with him is about the mode of attacking this problem. By passing legislation with a view to tackle this problem may not be effective. So there must be some other ways by which we can tackle the problem. For that purpose we should not go for the legislation. I would like to suggest that the non-official organisations should make a beginning by starting some sort of homes where the healthy beggars could be brought in and provide work—may be cottage industries, village industries and any other employment. We, from the Government side, shall be very glad to extend all possible help to such enterprises.

I would, therefore, request the honourable Member who moved the Resolution that since we have no difference in principle, except the only difference in the mode of attacking the problem, as I have already stated about our approach in the matter, he will be pleased to see the reasons against his suggestion for a legislation on this question and our endeavour to tackle this question in the line I have indicated above. I hope, the honourable Member will be good enough to withdraw his Resolution.

***Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA (Jaipur):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that the Honourable Chief Minister has accepted the principle of my Resolution which I moved in this House. As the Chief Minister will try to tackle this problem, I would, with the leave of the House like to withdraw the Resolution.

***Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Is it the pleasure of the House to grant leave to the mover of the Resolution to withdraw it?

(The Resolution was by leave of the House withdrawn.)

Resolution to discontinue monopolisation of freight transport from Gauhati to Shillong by State Transport

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY (Cherapunji : Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Assam Government do discontinue the monopolisation of the Freight Transport from Gauhati to Shillong by the State Transport Service.

At the outset, Sir, I feel compelled to bring this Resolution before this august House to state facts which will no doubt convince the hon. Members that I have a righteous cause.

First of all, as far as I know, there is no monopolisation of any freight transport throughout whole of Assam, or as far as I know, in any part of India. The Khasi and Jaintia Hills is the only district in which we have a monopoly of the State Transport.

Secondly, roads are made for the sake of increasing the facilities and the convenience of the people. The Gauhati—Shillong Road is a National Highway on which the State Government do not spend any money but being monopolised by the State Transport there is great deal of inconvenience to the people of the whole district. In former years there was not so much difficulty in the district of mine, because there were many routes by which goods used to come to the different parts of the district besides the Gauhati-Shillong Road. Now this Shillong-Gauhati Road is the only road by which goods come from outside to Shillong. Then the goods brought from Gauhati to Shillong helped mostly the people of Shillong. There were about 20 border markets adjoining Pakistan, through which goods used to come from outside to this district. The produce of this district could also go out of the district through these outlets or border markets.

Now all those border markets have been totally closed with the result that all goods which go out from Shillong by the State Transport, go at a very high rate of freight and the goods from outside which come to Shillong come at a very high rate of freight. Thus owing to this difficulty the people of Khasi and Jaintia Hills have been suffering a great deal. There is no such other district in the whole of Assam which has been put in this kind of difficulty. Therefore, Sir, it is very reasonable that the Government should come to our help and that this monopoly should be abolished so that there would be competition in carrying any goods from Gauhati to Shillong and the rate of freight for carrying goods will come down and the prices of goods which will be sold here in Khasi and Jaintia Hills will also be reduced. Sir, in the interest of the inhabitants of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills the Government should come to their help. This is an indirect tax on all the people of this district and it fall heavily upon the people in this district. The income from the goods traffic from Gauhati to Shillong is about I think, about five lakhs. The Government may lose this sum of 5 lakhs of rupees in freight for the sake of the people of this district.

In previous years, as I have stated, our people in the district of Khasi and Jaintia Hills never thought about that at all, because the conditions obtained at that time were different from what they are today. The monopolisation of this road by the State Transport especially for carrying of goods from Gauhati to Shillong has affected the economic condition of the whole district. There is no such action taken by the State Transport anywhere else to monopolise such traffic. I believe Government know this and will not be partially hard upon the people of our district and will not consider their cry as a cry in the wilderness, but will take it as a righteous cause. Sir, I am now speaking only about the prices of things that come from outside to the district, but I may mention also about the high freight of the things that are taken out from here to Gauhati. The rates of freight for potato which is a food and cash crop to the Khasis is charged at a high rate of Rs.2 per maund for carrying a distance of about 63 miles from here whereas the things that come from Gauhati to this place is charged at Rs.1½ per maund. In this way, Sir, the economy of our people has been affected year by year and thus they have been reduced to great difficulty. We have no means by which we can increase our potato industry even. We have no means by which we can improve our economy. We have no other roads excepting the Shillong-Gauhati Road to send out our things. We here in this district are being pressed from all sides. I believe that this House will understand that the abolition of monopoly of the goods traffic from Gauhati to Shillong is very necessary. I am not speaking now about the passengers traffic. I am speaking of the goods traffic only. I am putting stress on this important question that the monopoly of the freight traffic from Gauhati to Shillong should be abolished so that the price of things in Shillong which come from outside may come down to a lower level. This abolition of the monopoly will also give facilities to the cultivators living along the road up to Nongpoh from Gauhati, so that they can bring their agricultural produce by any truck or lorry to Shillong. Now all goods can be brought only by the State Transport trucks, and these are not easily available. The other day I went down towards Gauhati on the Burnihat Bazar day and at Burnihat I was told by the people and that during such a bazar day they were to wait to get place in the State Transport trucks to go to Nongpoh and to carry their goods to Nongpoh and to Shillong, there are no other means to bring goods to Shillong from this area except by the State Transport trucks, and they do not get space. So, if the road be kept open to all the trucks running from Gauhati to Shillong then the people can

carry their goods at any time to the Shillong market by any available motor truck. Because, it is not so at present our people living along the road are very much hard pressed and have to face a great difficulty. Therefore, Sir, it is very desirable that there should be no monopoly on this road. We understand that in other parts of the country of India the State Transport supply the demand of the public which cannot be met otherwise, such is the case in Bengal. The State Transport do monopolise even the passenger traffic there. When the private carriers cannot meet the demand of the public the State Transport supplement the need of the people. But here in this district we are to face difficulties for this monopoly. The people of this district have a righteous cause to be dissatisfied with this monopoly of the Government. Government allow to carry loads of coal in private trucks from Shillong to Gauhati, but when they return they come empty to Shillong. Now, if the Government utilise these empty trucks of private coal carriers, these trucks cannot carry any goods if they like save those which will be given by the State Transport. All the goods meant for Shillong are to be carried by the State Transport only. This arrangement is not at all helpful to the people in general. The advantages are only for the Government and the truck owners who are capitalists. The rate of freight will be the same so the people in general will not be benefitted. Therefore, Sir, I consider that for the sake of the people generally in this district this monopoly should be abolished. When such a monopoly is nowhere to be found in India, my argument is, why it should be here in this district only.

I have said enough, Sir, to impress upon the hon. Members of the House the difficulties of the people of this district and I hope the Hon. Chief Minister would realise these difficulties. Let us lose on this account by a few lakhs of rupees and let us give facilities to the people to bring goods freely to Shillong. This will benefit the people—rich and poor—alike. I therefore, commend my Resolution put before this House and I consider this to be a very righteous cause for bringing relief to the suffering people of this district.

On the top of this, Sir, I may say that the financial condition of these hill people are very very bad. The loss of trade between Pakistan and Khasi and Jaintia Hills has affected the whole district. That part of the country, *i. e.*, the border area used to export out of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills about 3½ crores worth of goods, etc. When the border

trade was there the people, particularly the people of the upper region of this district used to earn enough money by working in those areas, to spend in their cultivation work in the upper regions and thereby they could purchase manure and other things and grow potato for their own living. Now, with the loss of this trade the potato production has gone down by about 30 per cent, the reason being that the people have not got enough money to carry on large potato cultivation.

Therefore, it is most necessary that this district should not be circumvented with this kind of indirect taxes upon the people but should be helped at this time especially when there is distress in the border area, which has affected the whole district. I, therefore, commend my Resolution before the House and I hope it will receive a favourable answer from the Government.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Resolution moved is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Assam Government do discontinue the monopolisation of the Freight Transport from Gauhati to Shillong by the State Transport Service.

Shri GAURI SANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a great deal of force in the resolution moved by Rev. Roy. I thought of not participating in the discussion of this resolution but I had to decide otherwise because some Hon. friends just before this resolution was moved had said "Well, now certainly you will oppose Rev. Roy's resolution because it wants to abolish State monopoly and you, as a totalitarians, definitely stand for State monopoly". I think, Sir, I should make the position clear. We, the Communist do not equate State monopoly with socialism. There may be State monopoly which instead of being socialistic is really Fascist. Now, Sir, for what do we advocate nationalisation? We do it for the service for the people. Now, so far as the State Transport service is concerned, we do not consider it purely as a money-making machinery; we do not consider it purely as a commercial enterprise, we consider it also as a piece of public utility service. If as a result of the monopolisation of the road by State Transport the people suffer and have to pay more, then that cannot be really in the best interest of the people and that cannot be a part of the socialistic process. It is very clear that the freight which the State Transport charges for the carriages of goods from and to Shillong is more than what is warranted. I understand the

Government is going to make some arrangement which the owners of the coal trucks with regard to goods that they will carry from Gauhati on their return journey. I also understand that the share of freight that the owners will get will not be equivalent to freight that the Government will realise. In other words, there be a margin between the freight to be received by the coal truck owners and the freight to be realised by the Government from the consignees. If the coal truck owners can be satisfied with a lesser amount than what the Government will realise of if these coal truck owners can run their business now by one-way traffic only, that is to say, by carrying coal from Shillong and then running vehicles back to Shillong empty, it is quite clear that there is a great deal of margin ; or in other words, the Government is realising a freight from the people which is more than the proper rate and this surely is due to the monopolistic condition of this road. If there was competition the freight would have come down to a level which perhaps would have been within the reach of the poor and which per capita would not have been very high. As it was said the other day by the Minister-in-charge of Major Industries Mr. Tripathy, that in a capitalist system where monopoly predominates, it is not the free play of the forces of supply and demand that determines the prices ; it is primarily the supplier, the monopolist, who determines the price. In this case also when the freight has been fixed, it has been fixed by the Government authorities not in consideration of what actually would be the cost of the service plus a little for the enterprise, but almost arbitrarily as to how much will satisfy their own purpose. It is no doubt true that whatever freight has been realised by the Government has been utilised for Governmental purposes, but at the same time the fact remains that after the partition of the country, so far as the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District is concerned, the people are in great difficulties. The border areas which produce perishable commodities like orange, tezpata and other things, cannot find an easy and cheap market outside because of this high freight rate. Similarly, they cannot get things both for their daily necessities and for their minimum comforts which are to be imported from outside because of this high freight rate. I also believe that the plains have to pay more for potatoes, oranges tezpata, vegetables and other things that go from the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills because of this excessive freight and when they are to be exported outside, the difficulty is still greater. The other day it was stated on behalf of the Government of India on the floor of the Lok Sabha that the Government of India was also aware that quite a good quantity

of these perishable commodities, particularly oranges, had rotten in the Khasi Hills because these could not be sent to the Calcutta market due to prohibitive rate of freight. So, when all these things are taken into consideration, we find that as a result of this monopolistic freight on this line in particular, not only the people of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills have suffered but also the people outside have had to pay more than what was warranted. Therefore, Sir, while we stand for nationalisation of an important service like transport, and while we appreciate the stand of the Government of Assam in not acceding to the suggestion of the Government of India for placing this in hands of a Corporation where the Government would have only a share, we at the same time feel that as the Government cannot cope with the need of the people, as they also cannot supply vehicles at the cheapest possible rate and as they have not been able to appreciate the aspect of utility service on the part of the State Transport, the Government will do better to relax the monopoly which it holds on this road. If it would have possible for Government to place the requisite number of vehicles, if it would have been possible for the Government to arrange to help the people who catch the vehicles on road side to give them easy and cheap lift, if it would have been possible on the part of the Government to carry goods of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills to Gauhati market or outside at a reasonable or cheap rate and similarly if it would have been possible for the Government to supply all necessities to the people of Khasi and Jaintia Hills at a comparatively lower rate than, I would not have supported the idea as propounded by Rev. Nichols-Roy, but circumstance as we are, Government have not been able to fulfil the purpose for which Shillong-Gauhati Road was monopolised. Therefore, with the view to give relief to the people and with a view also to encourage the traders and also growers of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills to get markets outside where markets are competitive, Government, I think, will be agreeable to accept the suggestion of Rev. Nichols-Roy to see that people of Khasi and Jaintia Hills get some relief and also that they get a good market for their goods because that in the ultimate analysis will be a social service. I repeat that nationalisation or monopolisation can not only be in the interest of the people but can be against the interest of the people, and here the trend is not socialistic, rather it is far from that.

With these words, I support the Resolution moved by Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy.

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not think that the resolution which have been brought forward by Rev. Nichols-Roy will mitigate the difficulties which have been experienced by the people of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

Now, Sir, it has been said that if the monopoly of the Gauhati-Shillong Road is abolished the freight rate will be much lower and the goods which will be coming to Shillong and going out from Shillong will be much cheaper than it is available in the present market. There is no such monopoly in other parts of the country as has been stated by Rev. Nichols-Roy himself. But if we consider the price of the consumer goods which are coming to Shillong we find that the price of goods are not much cheaper in other parts of Assam. Sir, I can give instances where there is some sort of monopoly although the routes are not nationalised. For instance, there is no state monopoly in the North-Gauhati Barpeta route. On that road from North-Gauhati to Puthimari, my own locality, the distance is 18 miles and the freight charged there for one maund of goods is Re. 1. This is a free road and there is no monopoly but there is this high rate, it is because of the fact that the truck owners have come to some sort of agreement that the rate will be such and such. This is also the case in almost all other routes. So if the monopoly is abolished in the Gauhati-Shillong Road and if it is thrown open to private truck owners immediately after doing so there may be an agreement amongst the truck owners whereby they may not reduce the freight rate and it may happen that they may raise the rate at their will and whenever they like to do so. Therefore, I would suggest that instead of opening this road and making it free of monopoly, the Government should place on the road more trucks and vehicles so that there may be reasonable reduction of freight rate of the things coming from Gauhati to Shillong and going out from Shillong to Gauhati. Government should consider my suggestion and if it is accepted the prices of goods will come down as the freight rate will come down and thus the people will be greatly benefitted.

Then, Sir, Mr. Bhattacharyya referred to the present arrangement of coal trucks which are going down to Gauhati carrying coal and returning to Shillong empty and Government have suggested that if the trucks when returning empty to Shillong will be given some load and it will help towards reduction of freight. Shri Bhattacharyya has further stated that

at present the truck owners are carrying on their business with good profit as they get high rate of freight for coal instead of the fact that the trucks have to come to Shillong empty. These trucks come empty to Shillong for which there may be some amount of loss or expenditure which is compensated by the higher rate of freight for carrying the coal to Gauhati, which is also a reason for higher price of coal at Gauhati. The arrangement as made by the Government is that if these trucks are given some load at Gauhati the freight should be reasonable and for getting such load on return trip the freight rate of coal from Shillong should be reduced in which cost price of coal will be cheaper at Gauhati and also price of some goods coming to Shillong will come down.

Sir, it has been further said that because the road is monopolised by State Government and therefore the perishable commodities like orange, tezpata, etc., have become dearer in other places, such as, at Gauhati, Calcutta, etc., but it is not a fact that for monopoly of this road the prices of these perishable commodities have become very high. As a matter of fact, if this road is made free from monopoly yet the trucks plying in this road can never approach the sites where fruits are actually grown. So Government should take steps to construct more roads to the important places where fruits can be collected by vehicles. If these things can be brought from the site of produce surely the traders will be benefitted and will be able to get food return for their fruits and at the same time these fruits will not perish for want of transport. These things do not find market because where these commodities are grown are inaccessible and trucks or vehicles cannot go there, so instead of throwing this road open, the Government should try to give more vehicles and trucks on this road so that the department may give proper service to the people.

With these words, I oppose the resolution.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):**
Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, in the year 1948 this august House took a decision that the Shillong-Gauhati road should be taken over by Government, or in other words, it should be nationalised. The hon. Mover of this Resolution today was a party to this decision. Since then, the State Transport has been running both goods and passenger vehicles on this road of which all hon. Members are aware. This road as well as other roads taken over by the State Transport have uptill now

been running with some amount of profit. All hon. Members are aware of this from the accounts that are placed before this House about the working result of the State Transport. Now, what ever the case may be Sir, it is a fact that since then some problems have cropped up as a result of the stoppage of border trade by Pakistan. Another defect that we have noticed is the empty running of coal trucks from Gauhati to Shillong. This year we have estimated that for this empty running of trucks there is a waste of about 15 lakhs of rupees in the shape of price of petrol, etc. Now, that wastage is also harmful to the nation as a whole ; therefore we thought that some way out must be found. Another difficulty which we have to face is that the price of Khasi coal was very much higher than Bengal coal or Margherita coal as a result of which our friends in Khasi Hills are faced with difficulties. To help them the Government have since taken a decision to reduce the price of Khasi coal by Rs. 5 per ton, this reduction in price will take effect from tomorrow the 1st of April 1958. This reduction is proposed to be met from reduction in the transport cost, so we have decided that these coal trucks will be given annually about 30 thousand tons of goods from the State Transport from 1st April 1958, *i.e.*, from tomorrow and against that, as I have already stated, we have already proposed to reduce the price of Khasi coal by Rs. 5 per ton that means that the price of our coal at Gauhati will compare favourably with the price of Bengal and Margherita coal.

Now Sir, I quite appreciate the point that has been raised by Rev. Roy about certain difficulties. But what is our problem ? After the stoppage of trade with Pakistan we have to divert this border trade to Gauhati and when the road is completed to Cachar also. Transport has to play an important role in diverting this trade. As you know Sir, in a business undertaking there are certain risks to be taken. Business men always take this risk, sometime they gain and sometime they lose. But for a State undertaking there is difficulty for taking so much of risk as normally business men take. But I have no doubt that if we can bring in more permits perhaps this diversion of trade will be to a great extent assisted. At the moment we do not propose to take away this monopoly of State Transport immediately for various reasons. I agree with Rev. Roy that if private truck owners are allowed to ply their trucks freely, in that case there is every possibility that this diversion of trade will take place easily. But with regard to freight I find difficulty to agree with him that freight will go down very much. Why ? Because these trucks either of the State Transport or of private

owners will have to pay some amount of depreciation and all that. There is a possibility that the truck owners may decide among themselves as to what amount of freight they are going to charge instead of creating a competition amongst themselves.

In any case Sir, as I have said, these are the decisions that we have so far taken, namely (1) we have decided to reduce the price of Khasi coal so that it compares favourably with the price of Bengal or Margherita coal, (2) we are going to make a change in the cost of transport of coal by giving about 30 thousand tons of load to the private coal truck owners annually.

For the present these are the decisions that we have taken, but with regard to the rest, that is giving up of the freight traffic on this road, we have not been able to decide yet. But I can assure hon. Members that we will examine the question as a whole. I can also inform the House that the revenue we get from the freight on this road is not a small amount. For example, from Gauhati to Shillong the net revenue earning comes to about 12 lakhs of rupees a year and in the present proposal which we have already taken up we are going to lose about a lakh of rupees, it may be a little more because certain matters are still under negotiation. Now Sir, with regard to State Transport freight rates, the hon. Members will recall that the Commercial Carrying Company used to charge Re.1 per maund, now the State Transport is charging Rs. 1.25NP per maund for freight but in this connection I would like to say that the costs of petrol, lubrication, tyres, tubes and spare parts have gone up very high. Since 1949 the cost of petrol has gone up by about 71 per cent, diesel oil by about 72 per cent, tyres and tubes by about 60 per cent, spare parts the price has gone up between 75 and 100 per cent, present value of trucks by about 180 per cent, vehicle permits by about 45 per cent, so you will find Sir, that the expenditure is increasing under the different heads. Therefore, Sir, I hope the hon. Members will appreciate that the increase in the freight charge is not unreasonable in view of what I have said. In any case Sir, we have to keep our minds open in this respect. I appreciated the difficulties mentioned by the hon. Mover of the Resolution and also the points raised by Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharjee, we shall, however, consider how to meet the situation.

Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy said that the Government is doing everything in the interest of the capitalists, that is not so, because if the working of the coal mines are stopped a large number of our own people will become unemployed. This is a very important point to consider for which we have

to consider the case of the capitalists but of course at the sametime we are not going to give undue concession to the capitalists. The working of the coal mines should go on in the interest of the people so that they may get employment on the other hand if the execution of the coal mines is not made to the extent it should be done then our national economy will suffer, therefore, we have made necessary arrangement for the empty coal trucks at the same time as I have said before we are still keeping our minds open for the interest of the people and I can assure the hon.Members that I am very keen to solve the border problem but let it take a little more time to examine the whole thing by the Committee and Rev. Roy is also in that Committee and as a member of that Committee he may suggest the further necessary steps to be taken or any change to be made. With these few words Sir, I request the hon.Mover of the Resolution to withdraw his Resolution.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Sir, I think I have a right as a Mover of the Resolution to bring some other important points so that these can be considered.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Chief Minister has already replied, so you have no more chance to say anything more on the Resolution. You should have raised the necessary points before the Chief Minister replies. The hon.Member cannot speak anything more after the Chief Minister has replied. The Chief Minister has requested you to withdraw the Resolution standing in your name.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Sir, I think I have the last reply as I am the mover of this motion or resolution. As you do not allow me. I say, I appreciate very much the spirit and attitude of the Chief Minister, but there are certain facts which the Chief Minister will please remember at the time of considering the other points already raised in this House because the Chief Minister has promised to consider all the things and in view of what he has just now said that they are keeping their minds open for all these things. I would like to say the Chief Minister said that the question about the distress of border people in the Nongpoh area may be brought before the Committee set up for the border area, but I want to say that it impossible for this Committee which has been called by the Government to examine about the problems of the border people to take up this problem because while discussing this subject the Committee said that this problem is not within the purview of the Committee to discuss all the problems of the border people and that the Nongpoh

area is not within the purview of the Committee. Sir, in view of what the Chief Minister has promised to consider the problem of the border people and again that he has kept an open mind about this question of the abolition of the monopoly of the freight traffic from Gauhati to Shillong, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution.

(The Resolution was by leave of the house withdrawn)

Resolution No. 5 standing in the name of Shri Dhir Singh Dewri was no moved.

Resolution to move the Central Government to recognise the Santals, Mundas, Oraons and their sub-sects as scheduled Tribes.

Shri MATHIAS TUDU (Gossai Gaon) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Central Government to recognise the Santals, Mundas, Oraons and their sub-sects of the State as Scheduled Tribe.

Sir, the object of my moving this Resolution is very clear. Since the independence it has been found out that the attitude of the Government is to improve the backwardness of the various tribes and castes of our country. During the First Five Year Plan it has been found out that priority has been given for the upliftment of the backward classes of our country and Government have made some sort of improvement works for the various backward classes and they have also given them some privileges. I am also glad Sir, that in the Second Five Year Plan the Government have tried their best to give some more privileges to these classes of people and more attempt for their upliftment are being made. This is a praise-worthy work for the Government because unless we push the backward classes up, it is difficult for the Government, and for us to have successful democracy in our country. On the other hand we are aiming at the socialistic pattern of society and if we have so many backward people in our country and if our policy is to "Let the sleeping dog remain as it is", I think we will be far behind in our objective—of successful democracy or the socialistic pattern of society whatever that may be. Therefore we realise that while the Government is giving some sorts of privileges to all sections of the people who are included in the list of backward classes of people of Assam, these people, *viz*, Santals, Mundas, Oraons and their sub-sects of the State who are not included in the list are being deprived of those privileges. My reasons for moving this resolution is to include these classes of people in the list of scheduled tribe so that these people get those facilities.

Sir, in other provinces, *Viz*, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, they are included in the list of Scheduled tribe. But here we find that they are not included by the Government of Assam in their list and thereby they are deprived of so many privileges which they are getting from the Government in other States of the country. We know, Sir the Scheduled Tribes people get education, political, social and other facilities. If these people are included in the list of other backward classes no such special privileges are given for these people. So they are very much deprived of all these privileges from the Government. I cannot find any reason why while in other Provinces these people are included in the list of Scheduled Tribes, in Assam they could not be included and the object of my moving this resolution is to include them in the list of Scheduled Tribes, so that they can get privileges as the other Scheduled Tribes people are getting in this State.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of this House.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) :**
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Mover of this resolution and I have every sympathy for the object behind this resolution which he has tabled. Sir, our Constitution provides some special treatment for certain sections of our people who are unfortunately, due to various reasons, remaining behind educationally or otherwise and therefore some special privileges have been sanctioned to these communities. Our constitution again has provided that the President will appoint a Commission to investigate into the condition of the backward classes and make necessary recommendations so that the State can decide what more should be done for them. Sir, accordingly under Article 314 of the Constitution of India, the President appointed such a commission to go into this question. The term of reference was to examine the list of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes as already published and to suggest if any revision of the list is necessary, after the enquiry is made. Immediately after the adoption of the Constitution, the President by an order had enlisted certain communities as Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes and other backward classes and that list was subsequently amended in the year, I suppose in 1956, just before the General Election. There was a special request to the commission to make an interim recommendation so that the General Election could be held on the basis of that interim report. Sir, we in Assam accepted these revisions in toto.

With your permission, Sir, I want to read out a portion of the recommendation. I do not like to read the whole report, it is a long list and I do not propose to take the time of the House by reading this long list. Now when the representations were made before the Commission by the different communities of India for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the Commission after examining everything they have made certain recommendations which are found in the Commission's report. With your permission, Sir, I would like to read out a paragraph at page 155 of the report. It is from the report of the backward classes Commission—Volume I. It is as follows “During the course of our enquiry, representations were made that the educational and other facilities extended to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe in their own State should be extended to them when they go from one State to another. It is true that the status of these communities may change from State to State and a community known as belonging to Scheduled Caste may, in a neighbouring State or in a distant State, be regarded traditionally as untouchable or even as a tribe. And yet it must be borne in mind that although untouchability or the tribal character may not be found, the backwardness persists. Therefore, members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, when they go from one State to another should receive the amount of help that is given to the other Backward Classes in the State where they have gone to reside.”

Sir, you will appreciate that in this matter like others we have to take a co-ordinated decision with the Government of India. Because what shall we do by enlisting a particular community in the list of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. After all such an enlistment is to give benefit to that particular community. So for the purpose of giving benefit to that particular community there is provision under Article 275 or otherwise. Therefore, my difficulty in accepting the Resolution moved by my hon. friend, Mr. Tudu is—(i), that this resolution goes contrary to the recommendations of the Backward Classes Commission, (ii) the Santhals, Mundras Oraons and their sub-sects are not only the Scheduled Tribes of Assam. If we have to really a list of Tribes who have migrated from other States to Assam then it would be a fairly long list. Therefore how can we accept them. Therefore, Sir, for all these reasons, Government have difficulty in accepting the Resolution of the hon. Member. But at the sametime, I have sampathy for the object for which the hon. Member tabled this Resolution. If he has followed correctly what I have stated on the floor of this august House,

I have made it quite clear that the Government is not concerned with the list whether a particular community is included or not in the list. But what we feel, Sir, that our object is to uplift every section of those communities who are backward—whether they are included or not in the list of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. We want every section of our communities who are today educationally or otherwise backward to provide facilities to them and to the extent our financial resources permit. Therefore, I hope, the hon. Member will kindly appreciate our spirit and approach to the problem, and he would be good enough to withdraw his Resolution.

***Shri MATHIAS TUDU:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not like to withdraw my Resolution.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Central Government to recognise the Santhals, Mundras, Oraons and their sub-sects of the State as Scheduled Tribes.

(The Motion was lost)

Resolution to move Government of India to persuade the Governments of Bengal and Tripura to purchase betel leaves from the U. K. and J. Hills

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM: [Jowai (Reserved for-Scheduled Tribes)] Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of the great hardship of the people of the border areas of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills caused by the trade deadlock between India and Pakistan, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take early and effective steps to move the Government of India to persuade the Governments of Bengal and Tripura to purchase betel leaves from the Khasi and Jaintia Hills instead of East Pakistan.

Sir, I was thinking of enlightening the House of the gravity of the border problem. But I am pleased that from the speeches of some of the hon. Members, it indicated that they have realized the seriousness of the situation. Ten long years

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ADJOURNMENT

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the people are suffering tremendously. But Government have not uptill now have any scheme to eradicate the hardship of these people on permanent basis. Nor have they deputed anybody to have a special study of the ways and means how to solve the problem once for all.

Shri GAURISHANKAR BHATTACHARYYA :
(Gauhati) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the House sat at 2.15 P.M. in the afternoon and the House wanted to adjourn its business earlier also. It is already 4 P.M.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House to rise now ?

(Voices: "Yes", "yes").

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Tuesday, the 1st April, 1958.

Shillong.

The 11th July, 1959.

R. N. BARUA,

Secretary,
Legislative Assembly,
Assam.

Heon.
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