

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 Wednesday, the 2nd April, 1958.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair, the Eight Ministers, the Two Deputy Ministers and Seventy-five Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Taken over of some roads by the Public Works Department including roads in Jorhat Subdivision

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

*125. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some roads were taken up by the Public Works Department, *vide* letter No.4R/15/56/1046/60, dated 15th February 1958 ?
- (b) What are these roads in Jorhat Subdivision ?
- (c) Whether there are more important roads than these in that Subdivision ?
- (d) Whether Subdivisional Development Board has recommended these roads ?
- (e) If so, when ?

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

125. (a)—No such letter was issued by the Public Works Department and it is not clear who addressed the alleged letter and to whom.

(b) to (e)—Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) : May I know from Government whether one road named Barphukanar Chuk in Khengia Mouza in Jorhat subdivision was taken over by the Public Works Department ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, P. W. D. (Roads and Building Wing)] : What is the name of the road ?

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA : I also don't remember the correct name, but it may be Barphukanar Chuk.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I have never heard of this road.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) : May I know whether any road has been taken up in the State without the sanction of the Road Communications Board ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I require notice to answer this question.

Carry of water hyacinth to Jamira Mouza in Dibrugarh Subdivision by the Dibrugarh Protection Drainage Channel

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Dibrugarh town protection drain carried water hyacinth to the cultivable lands of Jamira Mouza in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether it is due to the absence of embankment on the sides of the town protection drain particularly on the portion running through Jamira Mouza ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the luxuriant growth of the water hyacinth rendered the paddy fields uncultivable ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Deputy Minister of Revenue during his visit to Dibrugarh during the last week of June 1957 made a note of this fact ?

- (e) Whether the Deputy Minister of Revenue sanctioned a sum of money on the spot for removing the water hyacinth ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Deputy Minister for Revenue directed the Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur district to spend the said sum of money through the agency of two Congress workers ?
- (g) Why the Jamira Mouza Rural Panchayat was not taken into confidence in this matter ?
- (h) What prevented the Government from sanctioning a grant to the Jamira Rural Panchayat for the purpose of removing water hyacinth ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

126. (a)—Yes, the Dibrugarh Protection Drainage Channel was carrying water hyacinth during the flood season, a part of which found its way into the fields of Jamira Mouza.

(b)—It is partly due to absence of marginal embankments in some portions passing through Jamira Mouza and partly due to breaches in the marginal bund where it existed.

(c)—Yes, the water hyacinth did some damage to the crops.

(d)—Yes. The then Deputy Minister, Revenue visited the area in the last week of July, 1957 and not in the last week of June, 1957.

(e)—Yes, the then Deputy Minister, Revenue sanctioned Rs.2,500 on the spot but subsequently a further sum of Rs.2,500 was also sanctioned for the purpose.

(f)—No. The then Deputy Minister, Revenue, instructed to carry out the work as test relief and the work was accordingly carried out by the villagers themselves under the supervision of the Executive Engineer (Embankment and Drainage), Dibrugarh.

(g) & (h)—Does not arise in view of the facts stated in reply to (f) above.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) : Are Government aware that the project failed and water hyacinth continued to grow as luxuriantly as our Deputy Ministers ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : During rains water hyacinth grows luxuriantly everywhere.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : May I know whether Government propose to grant remission of revenue to the cultivators whose paddy fields have been spoiled ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : A certain procedure is laid down in the Land Revenue Manual for granting remission of revenue. When any report comes it is examined and, if warranted, revenue is remitted.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) : The Hon'ble Minister stated that the project was undertaken by the Executive Engineer, Embankment and Drainage, with the help of the villagers. May I know how those villagers were chosen ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Sir, this is a matter which should have been addressed to the Minister-in-charge of Embankment and Drainage. The Deputy Minister of Revenue went there, but he could give a grant only on test relief basis. Accordingly, he sanctioned Rs.2,500 for clearance of the water hyacinth on test relief basis. A Committee was formed with 15 members and they did the work under the supervision of the Executive Engineer, Embankment and Drainage.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Whether it is a fact that due to wrong calculation of the Engineers of Town Protection Work the villagers of the Jamira Mouza had to suffer ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : This is an entirely separate matter.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR : Who formed the Committee and how it was formed ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The villagers formed the Committee with Shri Promode Chandra Das as Chairman.

(Starred question No.127 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Gowami was not put and answered as the Questioner was absent.)

**Dereservation of land from Dumardullong Village
Grazing Reserve of Khowang Mouza, Dibrugarh
Subdivision for Settlement with the landless
people of the locality**

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government has approved dereservation of a part of the Dumardullong V. G. R. of Khowang Mouza, Dibrugarh Subdivision for settlement with the landless people of the locality ?
- (b) If so, when was the order passed ?
- (c) Whether any petition from the Raiyots praying for settlement of this land was received by the local authorities ?
- (d) If so, what is the date of the first petition ?
- (e) What was the Land Settlement Advisory Committee's resolution recommending the dereservation ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

128. (a)—Yes, 164B. 3K. 6L. of land from the Dumardullong V. G. R. was dereserved for settlement with the landless people of the locality.

(b)—The order of dereservation was passed by Government on 9th November 1956.

(c)—Yes, petitions were received.

(d)—The first petition was received in the year 1955.

(e)—The resolution of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee is quoted below—

“(19) The proposal for dereservation of 164B. 3K. 6L. of land under Part of Dag No.1 from the Dumardullong V. G. R. in Mouza Khowang for settlement with deserving landless people was approved.”

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) : বন্ধনানে যি আইন আছে আৰু যি পৰিমাণে অফিচাৰ আছে সেই পৰিমাণে এভোপৰ নাটি dereserve কৰিবৰ কাৰণে আৱশ্যকীয় পৰা কিমান সময় লাগে।

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : কিমান সময় লাগে নিৰ্দিষ্টকৈ কব নোৱাৰি। complication-ৰ ওপৰত time factor নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : ১৯৫৬ চনৰ ৯ নবেম্বৰত গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে এই নাটি settlement দিবৰ কাৰণে order দিছিল। এতিয়া ১৯৫৮ চন। এই ১৬ বছৰৰ ভিতৰতো যে settlement হোৱা নাই এই কথা মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে জানে নে?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : ১৯৫৬ চনৰ ৯ নবেম্বৰত order দিয়া হৈছিল হয়, কিন্তু তাৰ কিছুমান legal formality আছে। যেনে—নাটিচ দিব লাগে, formal enquiry কৰিব লাগে, public-এ দৰখাস্ত দিয়ে, hearing হয় ইত্যাদি। সেই কাৰণেই de-reservation কৰি settlement দিয়াত পলম হয়।

Mr. SPEAKER : এতিয়ালৈকে হৈছে নে নাই।

Shri HARESWAR DAS : এতিয়ালৈকে হৈছে নে নাই মই কব নোৱাৰোঁ। লাগিলে খবৰ কৰি জনাব পাৰোঁ।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : এনেদৰে যদি পলম কৰি থাকে তেনেদৰে সোনকালে land distribution হব নে?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Legal formality-ৰ কাৰণে কিছু পলম হব পাৰে।

Relinquishment of 900 bighas of land by the Assam Company, Limited, Mohkhuti Division

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some 900 bighas of land were relinquished by the Assam Company, Limited, Mohkhuti Division in 1946 or so?
- (b) Whether there is any land remaining for distribution?
- (c) If so, on which date it was placed before the Land Settlement Advisory Committee and what was the decision arrived at?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

129. (a)—A total area of 1515B. 0K. 6L. was relinquished by the Assam Company, Limited, Mohkhuti Division at different times between 1939 and 1950.

(b)—Yes, 702B. 2K. 4L. of high land scattered over three Mouzas in small patches.

(c)—The matter was placed before the Land Settlement Advisory Committee on 20th December 1954. The Land Settlement Advisory Committee decided that the land should be settled with the flood-affected people of Teteliguri area in Upper Panidihing for their rehabilitation.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) : ১৯৪৬ চনত relinquish কৰা মাটি ডোখৰ so-called পতন দিয়াৰ পিচত যি সকল অফিচাৰে পতন দিছিল সেই অফিচাৰ সকলৰ পৰা পুনৰাই ১৯৫৪ চনত settlement দিবৰ কাৰণে Land Settlement Committee লৈ প্ৰস্তাব কৰি আহিল ? আৰু কিয় L. S. A. বোৰ্ডত recommend কৰা হ'ল ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : ১৯৪৬ চনত এৰি দিয়া নাই, ঋণ ঋণ কৰি ১৯৩৯ চনৰ পৰা ১৯৫০ চনলৈকে relinquish কৰিছে, তাৰ নিমিত্তেই পলন হৈছে।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : ১৯৫৪ চনৰ পৰা ১৯৫৮ চনলৈকে এই ৪ বছৰৰ ভিতৰতো পতন দিব নোৱাৰাৰ কাৰণ কি ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : কাৰণ হৈছে ১৫ শ ১৫ বিঘা ৬ লোছা low land। বাকি মাটি settlement হৈ গৈছে কিন্তু ৭০২ বিঘা ২ কঠা ৪ লোছা high land। High land কোনো মানুহে লবলৈ নিবিচাৰে, সেই কাৰণেই পৰি আছে।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : কোনো মানুহে নিবিচাৰে বুলি মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কৈছে কিন্তু বহুত ডেকা লৰাই আৰু কিছুমান মানুহে কো-অপাৰেটিভ চোচাইটি খুলি আৰু গাইণ্ডটিয়াটক অলেখ দৰখাস্ত কৰিছিল সেই মাটিৰ কাৰণেই—মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে সেই কথা জানে নে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : তেনেকুৱা Co-operative Society-ৰ পৰা দৰখাস্ত আহিলে চৰকাৰে তৎক্ষণাত্ মাটি দি দিব।

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : শইকীয়া ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে সেই থিনি মাটিৰ কাৰণে বহুতো ডেকা লৰাই Co-operative Society পাতি চৰকাৰলৈ দৰখাস্ত কৰিছে। মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই তাৰ উত্তৰ দিছে যে Co-operative Society মাটি বিচাৰিলে চৰকাৰে তৎক্ষণাত্ দিয়ে। কিন্তু শইকীয়া ডাঙৰীয়াৰ প্ৰশ্নটোৰ উদ্দেশ্য হৈছে যে Co-operative Society-য়ে মাটি বিছাৰিছে নে নাই সেইটো মন্ত্ৰীমহোদয়ে জনাব নে ?

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) : হব, সেইটোৱেই নোৰ প্ৰশ্ন।

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : সেই তিনি মাটি বিচৰা নাই—৭০২ বিঘা মাটি সৰু সৰু plot হৈ আছে, তাৰ নিমিত্তেই পৰি আছে—একে লগে মাটি নাই সেইটোৱেই দিগদাৰ।

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : ১৯৫৭ চনৰ আগষ্ট মাহতে S. D. O.-ই সেই মাটি settlement হোৱা নাই বুলি কৈছে আৰু সেই কাৰণে Settlement Officer-অক settlement দিবলৈ জনাইছিল আৰু সেই চিঠিৰ মকল local M. L. A.-অক দেখুৱাইছিল, সেইটো মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে জানেনে, আৰু যদি নাজানে তেন্তে সেইটো চৰকাৰে তদন্ত কৰিবনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : সেইটো নই নাজানো। তদন্ত কৰা হব।

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) : May I know whether Government has issued any instruction to the Deputy Commissioners that landless people forming into Co-operative Societies should be provided with land ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : That is the instruction.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে এই কথা জানেনে যে যেতিয়া S. D. O.-ৰ ওচৰলৈ Co-operative অব হৈ মাটি বিচাৰি যায় তেতিয়া কয় যে তোমালোকৰ Co-operative বিলাক registered হোৱা নাই সেই কাৰণে মাটি দিব নোৱাৰো। আৰু কো-অপাৰেটিভ বেজিষ্টাৰ কৰিবলৈ গলে S. D. O.-ই কয় বেজিষ্টাৰ নয়—মাটি দিব নোৱাৰো। এই বেমেজালি বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে তদন্ত কৰিবনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : এই কথা হব পাৰে কাৰণ Co-operative বিলাক registered নহলে চৰকাৰে মাটি দিব নোৱাৰে। Local officer-এ এনেকুৱা কৰিছে নে নাই নই নাজানো কিন্তু এনেকুৱা কথা মাজে মাজে শুনা যায়।

Mr. SPEAKER : মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে ইয়াৰ তদন্ত কৰিবনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : তদন্ত কৰিলে যদি লাভ হয় তেনেহলে কৰিব পাৰো।

Mr. SPEAKER : What the hon. Member said is that if the people form into Co-operative Societies for joint cultivation then they will be given land. Now the question is that the Co-operative Department refuse to register such Societies unless Government give previous undertaking that they will be given land. Therefore that is a problem which has to be settled. Will the Hon'ble Minister make an inquiry on this behalf ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Yes, I will enquire.

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): এই অফিচৰ বিলাকৰ অবহেলাৰ কাৰণে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ অধিক শস্য উৎপাদন পৰিকল্পনাৰ ভালেখিনি ব্যাঘাত নজন্মেনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : এইটো sweeping remark ইয়াৰ কোনো উত্তৰ দিয়া নাযায় ।

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari) : Whether any instruction has been issued to the Deputy Commissioners ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : I have already said that instructions have been issued to give priority to Co-operative Societies.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Will the Hon'ble Minister please enquire whether such Co-operative Societies have been given land in Gauhati ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : If particular instances are given I will enquire.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Is it a fact that Rani Co-operative Society has not been provided with land although it has been registered about 4 years back ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : It depends on the availability of land. If land is not available then the Society will not get land.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRODHANI (Golakganj) : সাধাৰণতে Industrial land এজন মানুহে কিমান বেচি পাব পাৰে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : It depends upon the availability of lands.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRODHANI : কোনো limit নাই নেকি ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : নাই ।

Encroachment in Village Grazing Reserve and Professional Grazing Reserve in the Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government is aware that all round encroachment in V. G. Rs. and P. G. Rs. is going on in the Sibsagar Subdivision ?
- (b) If so, what steps were taken against the law-breakers ?
- (c) Whether steps taken were timely and were in the best interest of law-abiding people ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

130. (a)—Yes, some of the V. G. Rs. and P. G. Rs. were encroached upon by some villagers of the neighbouring villages.

(b)—Eviction proceedings have been started against these encroachers and they will be concluded as early as possible.

(c)—Yes, timely actions were taken against the law-breakers except in some cases where delay was inevitable due to dearth of officers and some other factors beyond control.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA: Timely Eviction কৰাৰ সমন্ধে মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে যি উত্তৰ দিছে তাৰ দ্বাৰা ইয়াকে বুজায় নেকি যে শস্য কাটি আদায় কৰি লৈ যোৱাৰ পিচত ২ জোপা কলগছ কাটিলেই বা একোটা ধেম টানিলেই Eviction নীতি ননা হয় ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : সেইটো নহয়, Eviction ৰ নীতি হৈছে মানুহৰ ঘৰ ভাঙি খেদি দিয়া । (Laughter)

Shri MAHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) : If these law breakers are given a long time, how people shall have faith in law ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : That is a matter of opinion. We are trying to expedite matters. In some cases there may be delay.

Mr SPEAKER : Shri Bora asked whether the consequence of such delay will not undermine the faith of the people ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : It will have some effect.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) : চাৰ, Government ডাঙৰ নে High Court ডাঙৰ ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, Order.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA : চাৰ প্ৰশ্নটো এই কাৰণে সোধিছো যে High Court এ যিবিলাকক Evict কৰিবলৈ Judgement দিয়ে সেই বিলাকে মাটি দখল কৰি থকা স্বত্ত্বেও চৰকাৰে action নোলোৱাৰ কাৰণ কি ?

Mr. SPEAKER : That is, I think, a proper question.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : That is a peculiar feature in Sibsagar Subdivision. These encroachers are evicted but they again re-encroach. Then fine is imposed, but it is difficult to realise the fine. Two years back the fine amounted to Rs.52,000. Now it cannot be realised. These are the difficulties. These encroachers are evicted but they again re-encroach. That is a problem for us.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding) : Is it a fact that the Government itself does not act upon the orders of the High Court, the Government itself breaks the law and order of the State?

Mr. SPEAKER : That is obvious, but that is a hypothetical question.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) : What policy Government decides to take in near future regarding eviction of these encroachers?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Present and future policy is the same to evict the encroachers.

Mr. SPEAKER : In view of what the Hon'ble Minister said about the difficulties created by the encroachers, what measure Government propose to take to implement the order?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : We want to put special staff and complete eviction immediately.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : Are we to believe that there is no connivance from Government officers in these annual and all-round encroachments ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : There may be connivance by some officers but if any specific instance is brought to our notice we will certainly enquire into it.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Will the Government be pleased to state whether those persons who are illegally or otherwise are in occupation of some plots of land for more than 7 years, Government will regularise those land in their favour ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): That will be giving premium to violation of law.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra): উচ্ছেদৰ সি পদ্ধতি বৰ্তমান প্রচলিত কৰা হৈছে সি আগৰ পদ্ধতিতকৈ অসুত; পক্ষে এই বছৰত (১৯৫৭ চনৰ পৰা) লেহেন হোৱা নাইনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: We do not think so. We want to expedite matters.

(Starred question No.131 standing in the name of Shri Tarun Sen Deka was not put and answered as the hon. member was absent.)

Requisition of land covered by Dag Nos. 2, 4 and 10 of Tangana Tea Estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision for rehabilitation of flood-affected and landless people

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government took up a proposal to requisition land covered by dag Nos. 2, 4, 14 and others of Tangana Tea Estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision for the local landless cultivators in the year 1955 or so ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the then Revenue Deputy Minister investigated the matter personally ?
- (c) If so, what is the area of land he has ordered for requisition ?

- (d) Why the entire land under the proposal could not be requisitioned ?
- (e) Whether the land requisitioned or ordered for requisition by the Revenue Minister of the State in 1955 or so has since been given to the cultivator ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia Circle, was ordered by the Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur *vide* his Memo No.292-93 RQ., dated 9th March 1956 to distribute about 1000 bighas of land of Tangana Tea Estate to the local landless cultivators ?
- (g) If so, what action has since been taken by the Sub-Deputy Collector in view of that order ?
- (h) If not, whether Government propose to take action against the person at fault who kept pending the matter for nearly 3 years ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that revenue matters in the interest of local cultivators are generally not attended to promptly in Dibrugarh Sub-division ?
- (j) Whether Government propose to issue instructions to dispose of all outstanding revenue matters of the district as early as possible ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

132. (a)—Yes. There was a proposal for requisitioning of Dag Nos. 2,4 and 10 (not 14) for rehabilitation of flood-affected and landless people and an area of 3024 Bighas of land was requisitioned in the year 1953.

(b)—Yes, there was an appeal against the requisition and then the Deputy Minister, Revenue visited the area personally.

(c)—An area of about 1038 bighas.

(d)—The remaining area was found to be vitally necessary for the Garden.

(e)—No.

(f)—No, under the Memo quoted, the Sub-Deputy Collector was asked simply to prepare the map and Chitha of the areas.

(g)—The survey of the area has since been completed and Deputy Commissioner has been instructed to allot the requisitioned land to deserving persons without delay.

(h)—Does not arise.

(i)—Government have received no such report.

(j)—Instructions have already been issued to the Deputy Commissioner to dispose of pending matters as early as possible.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : Is it a fact that Revenue Officers posted in our district do not get incentive to deal with matters in the interest of poor cultivators and there is delay in disposing matters like this one.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : That is general question. If particular instance is brought to our notice we will make enquiry.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Whether it is a fact that the proprietor of the Tea Estate whose land was requisitioned appealed to the Government and stay order was promptly granted and when on such a matter there is appeal from the public it takes a long time to take a decision ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Whenever an appeal is submitted stay order is issued by the Government.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : When the cultivators can expect the land for which map has been prepared ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The Deputy Commissioner has already been instructed to dispose of the land immediately.

**Functions of Director, Deputy Director and three
Publicity Officers of the Publicity Department**

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

*133. Will the Minister-in-charge of Information and Publicity be pleased to state—

(a) What are the functions of the Director of Publicity of Government of Assam ?

(b) What are the functions of the following Officers at the headquarters, viz.—

(i) Deputy Director of Publicity.

(ii) Three Publicity Officers attached to headquarters ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Information and Publicity) replied :

133. (a)—The Director of Publicity is the Administrative Head of the Directorate of Information and Publicity. His normal duty is direction, control and supervision of the publicity and propaganda work of the State Government which is centralised in the Directorate, by employing various media like written publicity, audio-visual publicity, rural broadcasting scheme, etc. He is also the Editor of the two Government journals,—*Assam Information* and *Asoma*. The Director also performs the following functions in an honorary capacity: Honorary Tourist Officer of the Government of India, Secretary of the Press Advisory Board, Secretary of the State *Ad-hoc* Committee for State's participation in the Republic Day Celebrations in Delhi, B. C. G. Campaign, Agricultural Publicity, Anti-Untouchability, Liaison with All-India Radio.

(b)—(i) The Deputy Director of Information and Publicity is in-charge of the Production Section, Liaison Section and Press Section. He manages the affairs of office during the absence of the Director from Headquarters.

(ii) The four Departmental Publicity Officers are attached to different development departments of the Government. They give Press coverage to important tours of State and Union Ministers and Governor. They draft Press releases like Press Notes, Press Communiques, Unofficial Notes from the materials obtained from the development departments. Illustrated pamphlets, posters, folders, brochures are produced by them as and when necessary in English and other regional languages with a view to educate the public about the plans and achievements of the nation-building departments. They draft the following reports for regular submission to Government—Fortnightly round-up of Assam Press; Monthly report on the East Pakistan Press; Monthly analysis of Public Opinion; Monthly report on observance of voluntary Press Code by the Press; Monthly report about observance of Indo-Pak agreement by the Press. Analysis of newspapers and forwarding of Press cuttings to Ministers, Secretaries and Heads of Departments concerned. Writing of articles on the plans and achievements of various departments for publication in newspapers. Issuing advertisements to newspapers both inside and outside the State.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Sir, is it a fact that almost all departments have their publicity officers also ?

CAPT. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Publicity and Information) : The departments do not have their publicity officers but they get the services of the Publicity Department.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Is there any publicity officers in the Agriculture Department ?

CAPT. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : There is a propaganda officer for the Agriculture Department.

Shri MAHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Is there any proposal for having publicity officers for each sub-division ?

CAPT. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : There is a proposal to have a district publicity officer in each district but it has not been finalised.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : May I know, what is the difference between propaganda officers and publicity officers ?

CAPT. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : A propaganda officer is to propogate but a publicity officer is to publicise the activities of various departments and also collects information and news.

Shri MAHI KANTA DAS : Is there any publicity van in each sub-division ?

CAPT. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : There is a proposal that if the district officers are appointed, each of them will be allotted with a publicity van.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : Sir, so far as the Chamber's Dictionary is concerned we do not find any difference between the words-propaganda and publicity. Why Government makes difference of these words ?

(Starred Question No. 134 standing in the name of Shri Tarun Sen Deka was not put and answered as the hon. Member was absent).

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table.)

—

**Scheme for the protection of Amguri from the erosion of
Jhanji in Sibsagar Subdivision**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

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

- (a) Whether the Government has any plan and scheme for the protection of Amguri from the erosion of Jhanji in Sibsagar Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware of the fact that the Amguri-Mokokchung Road and Dhudar Ali (both Public Works Department Roads) are threatened by the same erosion ?
- (c) Whether there is any plan or scheme for the protection of Amguri ?
- (d) If so, when the scheme will be implemented ?

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

440. (a)—No.

(b)—Government do not consider that the Amguri-Mokokchung Road and the Dhudar Ali are in immediate danger of being threatened by the erosion of the Jhanji River.

(c)—Please see reply to (a) above.

(d)—Does not arise.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):** It is not a fact that from the reply to this question (b) that Government does not take any precautionary measures unless and until the danger is immediate and some loss to property is incurred by erosion?

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, P.W.D. (Flood Control)]:** It does not mean that in this case there is immediate danger from erosion.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH:** What is the distance from Amguri-Mokokchung Road to the river?

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** Two hundred feet.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH:** Do Government think that 200 feet is not a danger area?

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** It is not a question of thinking; Sir; when money is limited the programme has got to be phased accordingly. In this case Government do not consider that the road is so important that it should be given preference over others which are more deserving of attention.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH:** Whether Government is aware of the fact that erosion is already there in this area?

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** No, Sir, Government is not aware of that.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH:** Will Government make an enquiry?

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** Not necessary, Sir, as Government have got all the facts.

Appointment of Project Officer in 1956-57 and 1957-58

Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY [**Moran (Reserved for Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur Scheduled Tribes])**] asked :
(Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]

441. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Project be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Project Officers were appointed in 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?
- (b) How many of them were appointed under Regulation 3(e) of the Assam Public Service Commission (Limitations of functions) Regulations, 1951 ?
- (c) Whether any candidates from Plains Tribal were appointed under the above Regulations ?
- (d) If so, what are their names ?
- (e) How many candidates from Plains Tribal applied and how many of them were appointed in 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?

Mr. A. THANGLURA (Chief Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

441. (a)—Sixteen Project Executive Officers/Assistant Project Officers were appointed in 1956-57 and 13 in 1957-58.

(b)—No appointment was made under Regulations 3(e) of the Assam Public Service Commission (Limitations of functions) Regulations, 1951.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Eighty-three candidates from Plains Tribal applied in 1956-57 and one was appointed as Assistant Project Officer on the basis of recommendations of the Selection Board.

In 1957-58, 22 candidates applied from Plains Tribal and one has been recommended by Assam Public Service Commission for appointment as Assistant Project Officer. His case is now under consideration.

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: A. C. S. বদৰে উচ্চ পৰ্যায়ৰ পদবীৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত অনুসূচীত জনজাতিৰ বাবে সংৰক্ষণৰ ব্যৱস্থা আছে; অথচ অন্যান্য নিম্নতাপৰ বিষয় বাবৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত তেনে সংৰক্ষণৰ ব্যৱস্থা নথকাটো অনুচিত হোৱা নাইনে?

Mr. A. THANGLURA (Chief Parliamentary Secretary): Will the hon. Member please speak in English? I cannot understand anything.

Mr. SPEAKER: As the hon. Member is not fluent in English, he cannot be compelled to speak in that language.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Project): এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে বিবেচনা কৰিব।

Shri DHIRSINGH DEURI [Laharighat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Whether there is any quota fixed for the Plains Tribals?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: No quota is fixed. But Government takes into consideration the cases of deserving tribal candidates.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari): What is the minimum qualification required for these appointments?

Mr. A. THANGLURA: Graduates.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Whether any technical education is necessary?

Mr. A. THANGLURA: Not necessarily, Sir.

Collection of particulars of damages caused by the flood in Assam during 1957

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

442. Will the Minister, Flood Control be pleased to state—
- Whether Government has collected full particulars of damages caused by the flood in Assam during 1957?
 - If so, what is the total loss estimated in each district?

- (c) If not, why not ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware of the full particulars of damages within the Circle of Nalbari and Rangiya in the flood havoc during the month of June, 1957 and if so, what is the damage estimated?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that due to the breach in many places of the embankment at river Pagladia, Boralia and Puthimari, the flood rose so high in Nalbari and Rangiya Circle in the month of June 1957 ?
- (f) Whether Government has enquired into the causes of breaches of embankment of river Pagladia, Boralia and Puthimari ?
- (g) If so, what are these precise causes ?

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

442. (a) & (b)---The particulars are under collection from the different departments.

(c)—Does not arise for the reason stated above.

(d)—Yes, they are as follows :—

Nalbari Circle

1. Area affected—116 sq. miles.
2. Number of villages affected—122 villages.
3. Number of people affected—6,000 families.

4. Number of houses damaged—30.
5. Approximate value—Rs. 1,50,000.
6. Number of human lives lost—3 (three).
7. Number of cattle lost—Nil.
8. Damages done to different crops :—
 - (a) Area—18,392 acres.
 - (b) Mondage—2,79,530 maunds.
 - (c) Value—Rs. 38,30,490.
9. Loss of other properties—Rs. 2,000.

Rangiya Circle

1. Area affected—59 sq. miles.
2. Number of villages affected—137.
3. Number of people affected—35,830 persons.
4. Number of houses damaged—29.
5. Approximate value—5,800.
6. Number of human lives lost—Nil.
7. Number of cattle lost—Nil.
8. Damages done to different crops :—
 - (a) Area—1,135 acres.
 - (b) Mondage—18,927—maunds.
 - (c) Value—Rs. 1,71,652.
9. Loss of other properties—Nil.

(e)—Yes, due to abnormal flood in the river Pagladia, Boralia and Puthimari, the embankments got breached at places affecting the circles, Nalbari and Rangiya to the extent stated against (d) above.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—The causes are as follows :—

- (i) Due to abnormal rise in flood heights.
- (ii) Overtopping of embankment at places.
- (iii) Foul act played by miscreants.

**Fakirganj-Mankachar Public Works Department Road
in the Subdivision of Dhubri**

Maulavi KOBAD HUSSAIN AHMED (Mankachar)
asked:

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware of the deplorable condition of the Fakirganj-Mankachar Public Works Department Road in the Subdivision of Dhubri ?
- (b) Whether Government have received any representation from the public of Mankachar to improve the road by raising it above the flood level ?
- (c) If so, what steps have been taken by Government ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.)
replied :

443. (a)—The road is a fair-weather one and is inundated every year by the floods, depth of water being 4' to 5' above the road. The surface is dressed every year in November/December and made fit for wheeled traffic, as such the condition may not be as good as metalled or gravelled road.

(b)—No such public petition except a letter from the hon. Member, appears to have been received.

(c)—This will be put up before the next meeting of the Assam Roads Communication Board for consideration.

Maulavi KOBAD HUSSAIN AHMED (Mankachar) :
Are Government aware that the condition of this road is so bad that surface dressing every year is not sufficient but some major repairs are necessary?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : The reply is already there in the printed answers.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRODHANI (Golakganj) :
The reply is that the surface is dressed every year, but may we know whether any earthwork is also done so as to raise the surface of this road above flood level.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : No, Sir, no earth work is done.

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : With regard to reply (c)—may we know when the next meeting of the Assam Roads Communication Board will sit?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : The date has not yet been fixed, Sir.

**Encroached area of Government land (Khas Sarkari)
V. G. R. or P. G. R. in the Lanka, Hojai, Kaki
and Jugijan Mauzas in the District of Nowgong**

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware that there are encroached area of Government land (Khas sarkari) V. G. R. or P. G. R. in the Lanka, Hojai, Kaki and Jugijan Mauzas in the District of Nowgong ?
- (b) If so, what is the total area of land thus encroached upon ?
- (c) What action Government have taken so far or propose to take in this matter ?
- (d) Are Government aware that Land Records staff in the Mauzas referred to in question (a) above realised premium from many persons since 4 or 5 years back or more for settlement of lands but no settlement has been given till now ?
- (e) If so, what steps the Government propose to take in this regard?
- (f) What was the Government policy in settling lands in the Mauzas referred to in question (a) above ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that settlement is being offered and Pattas issued to many persons without realising any premium ?
- (h) If so, what is the arrear premium still outstanding in those Mauzas ?
- (i) Whether Government will make a thorough enquiry into the matter and set the anomalies right ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

444. (a)—There are some encroachments in V. G. Rs. and Government waste lands in these mauzas.

(b)—The exact total area encroached upon cannot be ascertained without the help of the newly surveys maps which are now with the Director of surveys for Vandyking after the Re-settlement in the area. However, from the records now available with Deputy Commissioner the total encroached area appears to be 470B. 4K. 1L in V. G. Rs. and 35 bighas of sarkari waste land excluding the area assessed to T. B. revenue.

(c)—Encroachment proceedings have been started and eviction will be undertaken as soon as possible.

(d)—Government have no information. Normally no premium is payable for settlement of waste land outside towns. But in Colonisation and Development Rate Scheme areas premium of Development rate is realised only after orders are passed for settlement.

(e)—The matter will be enquired into if specific instances are brought to the notice of Government or the District officer.

(f)—In these areas waste land is settled under the Development Rate Scheme Rules under which a Development rate of Rs.2 per bigha is realised for the Development of these areas.

(g)—No such instances have come to notice.

(h)—Does not arise.

(i)—The mauzas referred to in question (a) were under re-settlement till 31st December 1957. On receipt of the maps from the Director of Surveys, Assam, the matter will be enquired into and anomalies, if any, will be set right.

Shri RAMNATH SARMAH (Lumding): Whether Government is aware that some Sarkari lands are also allowed for cultivation on Adhjar basis in this area by Mandals and Settlement Kanangoes ?

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

Shri LILA KANTA BORA (Kaliabar): Is it a fact that Land Records staff like Kanangoes, etc., have grown fat due to non-settlement of land by the Government ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I have no information, Sir.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA: Is it a fact that hundreds of persons who paid premium and occupying the land and paid Toujibahi revenue are evicted by Government?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The reply is there, Sir, that premium is not payable for settlement of waste lands outside town.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that whether it is a fact that people who paid premium and also Toujibahi revenue for the land occupied by them are evicted?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: So far premium is concerned the reply is there, Sir, but so far Toujibahir revenue is concerned it may be so because payment of Toujibahir revenue does not confer any right on the land.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA: Will the Hon'ble Minister make an enquiry whether some people paying premium were evicted?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: That can be done, Sir.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA: Will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry not through a Sub-Deputy Collector or an Assistant Settlement Officer but through an A. C. S. Class I Officer because enquiry by Sub-Deputy Collector in such cases is meaningless?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Very well Sir, that can be done.

Maulavi RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, নতুন Tenancy Act মতে দাবী যি মানুহে আদিয়াৰ হিচাপে খেতি কৰে সেই মানুহক যদি উচ্ছেদ কৰিব নোৱাৰে, তেন্তেন্তলত ১০।১২ বছৰ টোজিবাহী খাজনা দি চৰকাৰী মাটি ভোগ দখল কৰা মাটিৰ পৰা চৰকাৰে কি নীতিত উচ্ছেদ কৰিছে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : (Minister, Revenue): টোজিবাহীৰ খাজনা দিয়া মাটিত আদিয়াৰ থাকিব নোৱাৰে।

Mr. SPEAKER: What he meant is that under the Land Tenancy Act Adhiars who were in occupation of the land for more than two years cannot be evicted and on that analogy can Government evict those who paid Toujibahi revenue for 15 years?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I have already said Sir, that payment of Toujibahirr evenue does not confer any right on land, so under the Act eviction can be made in such cases.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding): With regard to (g) Sir, is there any arrear list with the Government or with the district offices showing the arrears of premium due in a particular area for settlement of land?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The reply is there Sir, that no such instances of settlement of land in rural areas on realisation of premium have come to notice of Government.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA: The question was "Whether it is a fact that settlement is being offered and Pattas issued to many persons without realising any premium?" The answer was, "No was uch instances have come to notice." My point is this: In that particular area some people who have paid premium have not been given settlement, and some others who have not paid premium have been given settlement. My point is whether any arrear list of the persons who have been given settlement without payment of premium has been prepared, and if so, whether it is available with the Government.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The information received from the Deputy Commissioner is that no such instances have come to notice. So, there cannot be any question of arrear list being prepared.

Mr. SPEAKER: Evidently the hon. Member has some instances in his mind.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: (Minister, Revenue): If the Hon. Member has any concrete instance in his mind, I shall surely make an enquiry if he be pleased to supply me the same

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): মন্ত্রীমহোদয়ে এই কথাটো জানেন যে কিছু মান খাচ Land Record ত দেখুৱাই মণ্ডল কানানও বিলাকে আন মানুহক Settlement দিয়া বন্ধ কৰি তেওঁলোকে নিজে দখল কৰি নিজৰ মাটিৰ নিছিনাকৈ ভোগ দখল কৰি থাই আছে ? এই বিষয়ে মন্ত্রীমহোদয়ে তদন্ত কৰিবনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: তদন্ত কৰাত আপত্তি নাই। কিন্তু কোনো ঠাইত এনে ঘটনা হৈছে, সেইটো নিৰ্দিষ্ট ৰূপে জনালে তদন্ত কৰাত সুবিধা হয়।

Shri RANENDRA MOHON DAS (Karimganj-North): Is it, Sir, literally possible for M. L. As. to bring the various complaints regarding land settlement all over the State before the notice of the Government ? Does not the system require certain over-all changes, Sir ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: This is quite a different question, Sir. It is also not possible for Government to go on enquiring into the various complaints all over the State unless they are specifically brought to the notice of the Government.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Sir, I want a clarification from Government with regard to reply to question 444 (i) where it has been stated that the matter will be enquired into on receipt of the maps from the Director of Surveys, Assam. Now, if the map is not yet available, how the enquiries have been effected ?

Mr. SPEAKER: I think this refers to non-cadastral areas.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: In reply to question No.444 (b) it has been stated that 470 bighas of land are under encroachment. But the entire district was not under settlement operation. When the map will be available, it will give a correct picture.

Shri RAM NATH SARMA (Lumding): But Sir, how these 470 bighas of land under encroachment have been found out without the map being available ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It is from the V. G. R. Sir Yes, 470B, 4K 11 in V. G.Rs. and 35 bighas of Sarkari waste and excluding the area assessed to T. B. revenue.

Shri RAM NATH SARMA: Yes, but how it could be ascertained ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It is in the Deputy Commissioner's office.

Protection of the river Buri-Dehing to save from erosion before the next rainy season

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government is aware of the necessity of protecting the river Buri-Dehing before the next rainy season to save from erosion ?
- (b) If so, what is going to be done in this respect ?
- (c) Whether Government made an enquiry to devise ways and means for the safety of those villages from the ravages of erosion ?
- (d) If so, what measures have been taken so far ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware of the public feeling that if necessary protective measure is not taken in time the river may change its course near Intham and considerable portion of Makum Mauza and Tirap Transferred Areas will completely be eaten up ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to take necessary step immediately on a war-footing to save these villages from untold sufferings and loss of properties ?

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

445. (a)—Government is aware of erosions on the banks of the Buri-Dehing river but thinks that costly protection works will not be justified considering the value of property sought to be protected.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Please see reply to (a) above.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—There is no possibility of the Buri-Dehing to change its course near this place. This erosion is due to meandering action of this river.

(f)—Government have no such proposal at present.

Shri RADHA KISHAN KHEMKA (Tinsukia) বুঢ়ীদিহিং নদীৰ পাৰত থকা সেই অঞ্চলৰ গাৱলীয়া বাইজে গৰাখহনীয়াৰ প্ৰকোপত বংসোন্মুখ হৈছে ; সেই বংসোন্মুখ বাইজক বন্ধা কৰিবৰ কাৰণে কিছুমান ব্যৱস্থা চৰকাৰে আগতে হাতত লৈছিল। সেই অত্যাৱশ্যকীয় কামবিলাক অসম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে বন্ধ কৰাৰ কাৰণটো চৰকাৰে জনাবনে ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister), Flood Control and Irrigation): টকাৰ অভাৱত ; ইয়াৰ উপৰিও আগতে হাতত লবলগা কাম বিলাকত High Priority দিব লগা হোৱাত উক্ত কামটো বন্ধ কৰি দিব লগা হৈছে।

Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA (Jaipur): With regard to 445 (a), is it not a fact that the river Buri-Dehing has eroded the Naharkatia-Oil area ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Yes, to some extent, and protective measures also have been taken in the Naharkatia area.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that this project has been dropped because of the Government incurring a huge expenditure in embankment and drainage work in the Dibrugarh Sub-division during the last few years ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: So far as the protection work referred to the question is concerned, it was never taken up and so the question of dropping it does not arise. Protection work was not taken up as it would not be justified considering the value of the property sought to be protected.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: What is the value of the property?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Only some houses in a few villages. Therefore the value of the property is not so much as to justify the expenditure that will have to be incurred in case the protective work is undertaken. Further more, there is no chance of any wide-spread erosion save and except as a result of the meandering activities of the river, which is expected to be not abnormal.

Shri RADHAKISAN KHEMKA : नदी के कटान के कारण उस अंचल में रहनेवाले हजारों लोगों की जमीन और घरबार वगैरह नष्ट हो रहे हैं तथा इससे एक बड़ी समस्या उदभव हो रहा है। सरकार इस बारेमें चिन्ता कर रही है या नहीं ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister)
Flood Control and Irrigation): So far as protection work in this area is concerned, I may inform the House that Embankment and Drainage Department had constructed bunds along both banks of Buri-Dehing from Dehingmukh up to the railway line near Naharkatia. At Ahompathar, Kaluluha, Miri Gaon and Churikata retirements have been constructed this year. At Naharkatia town, protection work has been executed and erosion has been practically arrested.

The question is an omnibus one—about the whole area. But in this particular portion of the area no work has been done because Government do not consider the urgency of spending such a huge amount for this portion.

Shri RADHA KISAN KHEMKA: वह तो सरकार के पास लिखकर दिया गया है।

Mr. SPEAKER: अच्छा आप एक general सवाल उठा रहे हैं।

Retrenchment of Public Works Department Moharrirs, gangmen and other employees

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that hundreds of Public Works Department Moharrirs, gangmen and other employees are retrenched during the recent period from both Wings of Public Works Department ?

(b) If so, what is the exact number of employees so retrenched during the years 1957 and 1958 ?
 (Answer to be given in District-wise).

(c) If so, whether Government has given them work elsewhere for their maintenance ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister (Flood Control and Irrigation)] replied :

446. (a)—Yes.

(b)—So far as Flood Control and Irrigation Wing is concerned, the number of employees retrenched during—

1957 is—

Name of District	Number retrenched			
	Moharirs	Gangmen	Other	Work charged employees
Nowgong	3	Nil	3	
Lakhimpur	Nil	4	3	
Cachar	42	Nil	50	
Darrang	4	365*	3	
Sibsagar	Nil	Nil	25	
Kamrup	5	Nil	62	

And during 1958—

Lakhimpur	Nil	2	Nil
Cachar	Nil	Nil	1
Darrang	Nil	58*	Nil
United Khasi-Jaintia Hills	Nil	1	4
Kamrup	1	Nil	10

(c)—Thirty-four have been re-employed under Flood Control and Irrigation Wing.

*These figures include gangmen in the Muster Roll engaged on daily basis and discharged after closing of Muster Roll monthly.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbri): May I know, Sir, the length of the service of the Moharrirs who have been discharged.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY: These are temporary personnel who are recruited for each of the specific projects. Their periods of service vary from some months to a year or the like.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: What was the reason for their retrenchment?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY: These people were recruited for certain specific projects. As soon as the projects were finished, they have got to be retrenched.

Statistical Progress Report of Plains Tribes of Assam

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Schedule Tribes)] asked:

447. Will the Minister, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is a statistical progress report of Plains Tribes of Assam prepared during the Congress regime?

(b) If not, whether Government propose to prepare a statistical report of the Plains Tribal within the year 1957-58 on caste or religion basis?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

447. (a).—It is presumed that by statistical progress report the hon. Member means the socio-economic survey for assessing the extent of the overall progress made by the Plains Tribes of Assam since Independence. No such socio-economic survey was made during the period. But in the course of the rural economic survey conducted during the period, sample villages predominantly inhabited by Plains tribes were included.

(b).—Government do not consider it practicable to prepare a statistical report within the year 1957-58 on caste or religion basis. Apart from that it is considered that a detached survey without relation to time and other communities will not be helpful to assess the overall progress of the Plains Tribes as it does not provide comparative data with the progress of other communities living side by side with them. Government therefore think that in order to achieve such an objective, the most suitable occasion for such surveys to be taken may be during the ensuing census operations of 1961, when requisite statistics pertaining to all communities may be conveniently collected to provide comparative data to assess their overall progress.

Tribal Advisory Board for the year 1957-58

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

Will the Minister, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

448. (a) Whether it is a fact that Tribal Members of the Legislative Assembly were not consulted at the time of forming the Tribal Advisory Board for the year 1957-58 ?

(b) If so, why ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the former Chief Minister himself selected the Members of the Advisory Board ?

(d) Whether it is not against the democratic principle to select some members who were defeated in the last General Election as Members of the Tribal Advisory Board that was constituted last year ?

(e) Whether it is fact that no member has been taken in the Tribal Advisory Board from Sibsagar District ?

(f) If so, why this area has been left unrepresented ?

(g) Whether a member will be taken from Sibsagar District in the Tribal Advisory Board ?

(h) Whether Government propose to make the life time of the said Board five years ?

(i) Whether Government propose to include all the Tribal M. L. As. and Tribal Social Welfare Workers in the Tribal Advisory Board ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

448. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—The State Advisory Board was constituted on the pattern of the Central Advisory Board for welfare of the Scheduled Tribes. The Union Home Minister who is the Chairman of the Central Advisory Board nominates every year the members constituting the Board. Similarly, the then Chief Minister who was incharge of the Tribal Areas Department as President of the State Advisory Board for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes, made the initial selection of the members of the Board, the constitution of which was approved by the then Cabinet.

(d)—It is a matter of opinion.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Shri K.C. Doley who was returned from the North Lakhimpur reserved seat and who hails from Majuli, the principal Plains tribal area of Sibsagar District, has been included as a member of the Board. For matters relating to the Sibsagar District, his advice and his views are available to the Board.

(g)—In view of the decision of the Government to set up a separate Advisory Council for the autonomous districts, the Government propose to reconstitute a separate Advisory Board for the Plains Tribals, and in reconstituting this Board, the suggestion of hon. Member for inclusion of a member from Sibsagar District will be duly considered.

(h)—The matter is under consideration.

(i)—Without making the Board unwieldy the Government would like to give adequate representation to the Members of the State Legislature and other representatives of social welfare organisations in the Board.

Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA (Joipur): May I know Sir, what is the meaning of the Tribal Member ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T.A.D.): At the time of constituting this Board, Government did confine themselves only to taking Tribal M. L. As. But at the same time they have also taken into consideration some of the M. L. As, other than Tribal, who represent some of the constituencies predominantly inhabited by Tribal people and representations of the organisations doing welfare works among the Tribal people.

Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA: Whether M. L. As, other than tribal are eligible for nomination in this Board ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: Yes, Sir.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari): May I know whether there is any Sub-divisional Tribal Advisory Board ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: No, Sir.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Who are the Members of the State Advisory Board, Sir ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: Let me read out the names, Sir.

1. Shri Rupnath Brahma, Minister, Medical.
2. W. A. Sangma, Minister, Tribal Areas.
3. Shri Thanglura, M.L.A., Mizo District.
4. Shri B. M. Roy, M.L.A., United Khasi and Jaintia Hills.
5. Shri Sai Sai Terang, M.L.A., Mikir Hills.
6. Shri Hamdhon Mohan Haplangbar, M.L.A., North Cachar Hills.
7. Shri Lalmawia, M.L.A., Mizo District.
8. Shri Hakim Ch. Rabha, M.L.A., Goalpara.

9. Shri Baikunta Nath Das, M.L.A., Darrang.
10. Shri Pakhirai Deka, M.L.A., Darrang.
11. Shri Dhirsingh Deuri, M.L.A., Nowgong.
12. Shri Karka Ch. Doley, M.L.A., Lakhimpur.
13. Shri Omeo Kumar Das, M.L.A., Darrang.
14. Shri Hareswar Goswami, M.L.A., Kamrup.
15. Shri Lalit Kumar Doley, M.L.A., Lakhimpur.
16. The Chief Executive Member, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council or his representative.
17. Shri Ch. Saprawnga, Member of District Council, Mizo District.
18. Shri Moham Singh, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills.
19. Shri Emonsingh Sangma, Garo Hills.
20. Shri J. B. Hagjer, North Cachar Hills.
21. Shri Satish Ch. Basumatari, Goalpara.
22. Shri Jonardhan Pathak, Sarihajan, Mikir Hills.
23. One representative from Nowgong Sankar Mission.
24. One representative from Bharat Sevak Samaj, Assam Branch.
25. One representative from Adimjati Sevak Sangha, Assam Branch.
26. One representative from Ramkrishna Mission, Assam Branch.
27. One representative from Kasturba Trust, Assam Branch.
28. Shri Dharanidhar Basumatari, M.P.
29. Shri Surendra Nath Das, M.L.A., Kamrup.

There may be a few others, Sir. The list may not be exhaustive.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari): Is this the new Board the Minister in charge promised to constitute or the old Board ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department): It is the old Board, Sir. As I have already said, it is under the consideration of the Government to have two Advisory Boards—one for the autonomous districts and the other for the plains tribal areas.

Grants-in-aid to Institutions which are not in the Tribal areas out of the funds from Article 275

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

449. Will the Minister, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government has sanctioned grants-in-aid to the institutions which are not in the Tribal areas out of the funds from Article 275 ?

(b) If so, on what considerations these grants have been given ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied :

449. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The institutions which serve the interest of the Scheduled Tribes and give them benefit are eligible for grants from funds provided under Article 275 of the Constitution irrespective of the fact whether they are located within the Tribal Areas or not.

Exploitation of the Tribal people by the local Mahajans

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi
(Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

450. Will the Minister, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware of the fact that the Tribal people in general in the State are indebted to the local Mahajans ?
- (b) If so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to free the tribal people from exploitation of the local mahajans ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to recommend more G. B., and Co-operative Credit Societies in the tribal areas to help the poor tribal people ?

Capt WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied :

450. (a)—Yes.

(b)—With a view to help the Scheduled Tribes in the autonomous districts against exploitation by the non-Scheduled Tribes money-lenders, para 10 of the Sixth Schedule has empowered the District Council of autonomous districts to make regulations to regulate and control money-lending or trading within the district by persons other than Scheduled Tribes resident in the district. Some District Councils have already passed necessary regulations on this subject.

In the Plains districts of Assam, Government have already passed various Acts in order to help the people from exploitation of the local Mahajans. Those Acts are The Assam Debt Conciliation Act, 1936 ; The Assam Money Lenders Act, 1934 ; and the Usurious Loans Act, 1918. In addition, Government have also encouraged under the aegis of the Co-operative Department, Co-operative Marketing Societies and Rural Credit Societies to improve the credit of the people so as to save them from the exploitation of the local Mahajans. The issue of agricultural loans and rehabilitation of rural credit through the Apex Bank are also measures taken up by Government to protect the people from the exploitation of the local Mahajans.

(c)—Yes.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golokganj):
 Cannot the Government stop advance sale of crops to the money lenders ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):
 Of course it will be possible to bring a legislation of this kind by the Government but that will bring no remedy. The remedy lies in the ability to develop agricultural credit systems as soon as possible.

Shri JOGA KANTA BARUA (Jaipur): May I know whether the tribal people can get money from the co-operative credit societies ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T.A.D.):
 It is open to all, Sir. In fact the tribal people themselves have formed these co-operative credit societies.

Compensation to non-Government Educational Institution of the State damaged in the last Cyclone

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)
 asked :
 451. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the total amount sanctioned for distribution to the non-Government Educational Institutions of the State for damages sustained by them in the last cyclone ?
- (b) What is the total amount disbursed to such institutions upto 31st January, 1958 ?
- (c) Whether the amount allotted as compensation has been paid in full or 50 per cent of the sum allotted ?
- (d) What has delayed the disbursement of the allotted sums to the institutions ?

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

- 451 (a)—Rs. 28,80,595.
 (b)—Rs. 4,80,280.
 (c)—The amount has since been sanctioned in full.
 (d)—The number of Schools receiving grants is very large; and naturally it took a little time to get things processed and verified at different levels and sanctions issued.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know whether the Lower Primary Shools of the Dibrugarh Subdivision which were damaged by the cyclone have got the money from the Government ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Sir, I am not in a position to reply now whether the money has actually been received by the schools so damaged. But it appears that a sum exceeding Rs.8 lakhs has been passed by the Accountant General, Assam, for payment to such L. P. and M. V. Schools, in February last. Possibly they will get it soon, but I am not quite sure whether the schools mentioned by the hon. Member have got the money, by now.

Shri LILA KANTA BARAH (Kaliabor): Is it a fact that in the Nowgong Subdivision, the L. P. schools have not got the grants as yet ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: That I cannot say, Sir.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: Is it a fact that two Subdivisions have been left out of consideration because the lists submitted from those two subdivisions were found missing in the Secretariat ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: These reports have since been recovered and they will get the money, Sir.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): Is it a fact that some schools have got the grant duplicate and triplicate and some schools did not get any money ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It will be examined, if specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government, Sir.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): চৰকাৰে যিটো গ্ৰাণ্ট মঞ্জুৰ কৰিছে সেই গ্ৰাণ্ট কোনো অফিচাৰ, চেক্ৰেটেৰী বা আনে পিচত পৰিবৰ্তন কৰিব পাৰেনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: নোৱাৰে।

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: কৰিমগঞ্জ মহকুমাৰ স্কুলবোৰ্ডএবং ডিঃ আই য়ে লিটি দিয়েছিলেন সেই লিটি এখানে পৰিবৰ্তন কৰে নুতন লিটি তৈৰী কৰে grant দেওয়া হয়েছে একথা কি সত্য ?

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is whether the list submitted from Karimganj was altered here ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: No, Sir. It was not altered here, Sir.

**Supply of different Scheduled Forms to the
various Offices of the State**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

452. (a) Will the Minister for Stationery and Printing be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government is not in a position to supply the following scheduled forms to the various offices of the State readily and immediately to District and Subdivisional Offices :—

High Court Return Forms, Arms Return Form, Treasury Cash Book Forms, Treasury Balance Sheet Forms, Travelling Allowance Bill Forms for non-gazetted staff, Monthly Expenditure Statement Forms (Form B), Budget Estimates Forms, Savings and Excess Statement Forms, etc. ?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken for the supply of these forms ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Stationery and Printing) replied :

452. (a)—No. The supply position of Scheduled forms was comparatively good during the last 12 months.

(i) There are 18 different Scheduled Forms under 'High Court Return Forms'. Except two indenting officers, all were supplied with the full quota.

(ii) Arms Return Forms—9,900 forms already supplied to various indenting officers and another 6,000 forms are being supplied.

(iii) Travelling Allowance Bill forms for non-gazetted staff—Total requirements indented by various officers fully supplied.

(iv) There is also no outstanding demand in respect of other forms mentioned by the hon. Member.

(b)—With a view to ensure more speedy and regular supply of forms to various officers the following steps have been taken.

(i) The Government Press, Shillong and the Branch Press, Gauhati have been provided with new machines and equipments, etc., to increase their capacity.

(ii) More assistance from Private Presses has been asked for.

(iii) The Deputy Commissioners and the Subdivisional Officers have been asked to meet shortage of forms, if any, in their offices by local printing.

Middle English School at Jonai in Abor Hills (Murkongselek) Transferred Area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked :

453. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a sum of over Rs.80,000 was sanctioned to the Middle English School at Jonai in Abor Hills (Murkongselek) Transferred Area in 1953 or 1954 or after transfer of the area to this State Government ?
- (b) If so, whether the grant actually reached the school Managing Committee or utilised for the purpose of the school ?
- (c) What are the reasons for cancelling this grant and thus arresting progress of this institution ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that there is no other recognised Middle English School within a radius of over 25 miles of the said areas ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that all students of this school belong to tribal community of the Transferred Area who are entitled to free studentship ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that there is no hostel for students there ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that the girl students are experiencing great difficulties for want of a hostel there ?
- (h) Whether Government have decided to re-sanction the proposed grant of about Rs.80,000 within this financial year ?
- (i) Whether Government propose to sanction a grant for construction of a girl hostel of this school out of the grant under Art. 275 of the Constitution during this financial year ?

- (j) Whether Government propose to sanction a grant for hostel for boys out of the grant under Art. 275 of the Constitution ?
- (k) Whether Government are aware that a properly developed school there will serve the purpose of education of Abor children in a portion of North-East Frontier Agency, as well ?
- (l) Whether Government is aware that the school is situated only at a distance of a mile off from the demarcation line of Abor Hills Division of North-East Frontier Agency ?
- (m) Whether Government propose to bring the management of this school under the State ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied :

453. (a)—No. Only a non-recurring grant of Rs.1,200 was sanctioned for the Jonai Middle English School in 1956-57 out of Art. 275 grants.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Yes. Girl students are experiencing some difficulty for want of hostel accommodation.

(h)—Does not arise.

(i) & (j)—The question of sanctioning grants to the Jonai Middle English School for providing hostel accommodation will be considered in the next financial year after obtaining a report from the Inspecting Officers of the Education Department.

(k)—Yes.

(l)—Yes.

(m)—There is no proposal at present. The matter will, however, be examined by Government.

Assam Medical College

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Dr. Sabet Ali, M.B.B.S., was appointed as Medical Officer for venereal diseases in the Assam Medical College on the recommendation of the Assam Public Service Commission ?
- (b) If so, why he was asked to take over charge of the Central Medical Stores for which a Medical graduate was not necessary ?
- (c) Will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to state why a Dermatologist was asked to take over charge of the V. D. Clinic in Assam Medical College ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Dr. Bansi Borooah, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., took over charge of the Cancer Clinic in the Assam Medical College Hospital on expiry of the term of Dr. Nepal Chandra Dey, on 18th December, 1957 ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that on 29th December, 1957 orders were issued appointing Dr. Nepal Chandra Dey for a further term ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

454. (a)—Yes.
- (b)—Dr. Sabet Ali was directed to take over charge of the Central Medical Stores as a temporary measure in the exigencies of public service, where a Medical graduate is necessary.
- (c)—The Dermatologist who is a holder of Post-graduate Diploma in V. D., was temporarily placed in charge of V. D. Clinic, Assam Medical College.
- (d)—No.
- (e)—Yes, he has been allowed to continue until further orders.

Ratanpur Subsidiary Dispensary

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

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

- (a) Date on which the Ratanpur Subsidiary Dispensary in Majuli was sanctioned ?
- (b) Whether the aforesaid Dispensary is running up till now ?
- (c) If not, why not ?
- (d) Whether any building and equipment grant had been made to the said Dispensary ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied :

455. (a)—28th June, 1949.

(b)—Yes, but there was a break.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—No building grant was sanctioned, but a subsidy of Rs. 100 was given for repairs to the building and Rs. 400 for medicines and equipments.

Instructions regarding Powers and Functions of the Members of the Subdivisional Development Boards

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

456. Will the Minister-in-charge of Planning and Development be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether necessary instructions regarding the Powers and functions of the Members of the Subdivisional Development Boards will be sent to the Members including the Development Officers, Deputy Commissioners and Sub-divisional Officers ?

(b) If so, when these will be sent ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development) replied :

456. (a)—Instructions regarding the powers and functions of the Subdivisional Development Boards were sent to Deputy Commissioners/Subdivisional Officers on 5th June, 1957. Thereafter in the notification reconstituting the Boards, these instructions were again incorporated. There appears to be no further need of sending instructions now.

(b)—Does not arise.

**Shifting of the Government Hospital at Margherita,
Dibrugarh Subdivision from its present site**

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMAH (Digboi)
asked :

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

- (a) Whether there is any proposal to shift the Government Hospital at Margherita of Dibrugarh Subdivision from its present site to the other bank of the river Burhidihing ?
- (b) If so, when it will be executed ?
- (c) If not, whether Government lately received any complaint against the present location of the hospital and demand for removal to a plot of land near Margherita Government Aided Public High English School ?
- (d) If so, whether Government will consider the matter sympathetically ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical)
replied :

457. (a)—There is no such proposal at present.
 (b)—Does not arise.
 (c)—Yes.
 (d)—Government have already taken steps to afford medical facilities to the people of the North Bank.

**Recommendation of the last Pay Committee to give two
advance increments to the graduate Lower Division
Assistants in the Secretariat**

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the last Pay Committee recommended two advance increments to the graduate Lower Division Assistants in the Secretariat for their higher academic qualification as the qualification required is only Intermediate ?

- (b) If so, why Government have not fully implemented this recommendation of the Pay Committee ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the recommendations were implemented in such a way so that the graduate Lower Division Assistants appointed before the date from which the recommendations of the Pay Committee were given effect to, would get only equal pay with the graduate Lower Division Assistants appointed after the said date ?
- (d) If so, what was the justification of doing so ?
- (e) Whether Government will be pleased to revise this so that the pay of the employees will be given according to the length of their services ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance)
replied :

458. (a)—The Pay Committee did not recommend advance increments to all graduate Lower Division Assistants of the Secretariat. In recommending the revised scale of Rs. 80—200, they suggested that two advance increments may be given to Graduates recruited on this scale.

As the revised scales came into force from 1st October 1956, the advance increments are admissible only to those who enter Secretariat on or after that date.

(b)—The recommendation has been fully implemented *vide* Paragraph 7 of the Government Resolution No.FEP.3/56/27, dated 26th December 1956, introducing the revised scales of pay 1956.

(c) & (d)—Government has not modified the recommendation of the Pay Committee. In implementing the above recommendation they observed that the pay of a Graduate Assistant entering service prior to 1st October 1956 may be less than a graduate Assistant appointed on or after that date. To remove this anomaly they passed an order that where the pay of an entrant recruited prior to 1st October 1956 becomes less than the pay of a new recruit, then the pay of the former would be increased to an extent to equalise it with the pay of the latter.

(e)—No.

Demands for Grants

Grant No.11 (25—General Administration)

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I in this connection make one suggestion? In order to save the time of this august House, may I suggest that as there are as many as 25 cut motions, instead of reading out all the cut motions separately if the Member concerned puts them at a time and similarly if the Minister in charge give the replies at a time instead of doing it separately, that will greatly save the valuable time of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the House is obliged by this suggestion. This is the practice elsewhere. This will enable the hon. Members to get more time to speak. So I would request the Hon. Members to move their amendments together. I will read out the names of the hon. Members when they will move the cut motions, accordingly.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):

On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,39,85,400 (Rupees one crore, thirty-nine lakhs, eighty-five thousand and four hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,39,85,400 (Rupees one crore, thirty-nine lakhs, eighty-five thousand and four hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

There are as many as twenty-five Cut Motions. Let the Cut Motions be moved by the respective hon. Members and then a general debate may take place.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name which are as follows:—

1. That the provision of Rs.1,57,800 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head A.—8.—Ministers, Sub-head 1. Pay of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary (total), at page 66 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.76,200, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.76,200.

(To suggest that in conformity with the traditions of Parliamentary Democracy and with a view to effect economy in the Administration, there is no necessity of Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in this State).

2. That the provision of Rs.2,33,500 under Grant No.11, Major head - 25.—General Administration, Minor head—A.—Heads of State and Ministers, etc., Sub-head—4.—Allowances and honoraria (total) at page 66 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the unnecessary and wasteful tours by Ministers, Officers and their Establishment, etc.)

3. That the provision of Rs.51,300 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—A.—Heads of State and Ministers, etc., Sub-head—A.-9—Government Hospitality Organisation (total), at page 67 of the Budget be reduced, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.51,300.

(To criticise the introduction of fresh hospitality charges as wasteful expenditure of public money.)

4. That the provision of Rs.7,81,500 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—D.—Secretariat and Head Quarters Establishment—D.1(a)—Civil Secretariat, Sub-head—3.—Allowances and honoraria (total), at page 73 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the unnecessary and wasteful tours by the Officers and Establishment of the Civil Secretariat).

5. That the provision of Rs.3,49,300 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—D.—Secretariat and Head Quarters Establishment, Sub-head—(b) Publicity Department (total) at page 77 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100 *i.e.* the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the failures and inefficiency of the Publicity Department.)

6. That the provision of Rs.6,77,593 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—C.—Election (total) at page 72 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the use of Government machinery and resources in furtherance of the prospects of the Congress candidate in the recent Bye-election at Badarpur).

7. That the provision of Rs. 2,78,187 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head D.—4.—Local Fund Audit Establishment (total) at page 83 of the Budget be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To criticise the failure of the Local Fund Audit Establishment in timely and proper Audit of institutions drawing money from Government Funds.)

8. That the provision of Rs. 17,57,852, under Grant No. 11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head F.—District Administration General plus Sixth Schedule Part A Areas) (total) at page 61 of the Budget be reduced by Rs. 100 i.e., the amount of the whole Grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To criticise the bureaucratic District Administration untempered by popular control and unwilling to encourage and take advantage of popular initiative in nation building activities)

9. That the provision of Rs. 35,000 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head H.—Miscellaneous, Sub-head II—1. Discretionary Grants by the Heads of the State (total), at page 91 of the Budget be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To criticise the use of Discretionary Grants for personal and party-purposes.)

10. That the total provision of Rs. 1,39,85,400 under Grant No. II, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To criticise the gross disparity of pay, allowances and other amenities of life and service between the top ranking officials and the employees in the lower rank of the Administration contrary to the principle of a "Socialistic pattern of society").

11. That the total provision of Rs. 1,39,85,400 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To criticise the existing administrative machinery which is inefficient, undemocratic and incapable of executing the principle, policy and schemes of a democratic welfare State.)

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) : I beg to move the Cut Motions standing in my name which are as follows :—

12. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the appointment of a Minister without portfolio.)

13. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for the failure of the Department, of Statistics to give a correct estimation of the food position in the State).

14. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for the failure of the Department, of Statistics to work out correct figures for the cost of living price structure, tax structure and other useful and important aspects of our national life which are absolutely essential for efficient planning.)

15. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise the Government for inordinate delay by the Finance Department, in sanctioning funds for the implementation of schemes by other departments.)

16. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(To criticise Government for their failure and refusal to carry out radical administrative reform).

17. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400, under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise the Government for inefficiency and callousness in general administration).

18. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To censure the Government for their failure to maintain an adequate staff of efficient auditors).

19. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To criticise this demand).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : I beg to move the following Cut Motion standing in my name:—

20. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise the discussion on the grant and the administrative machinery).

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): I beg to move the following Cut Motion standing in my name:—

21. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(To raise a general discussion.)

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): I beg to move the following Cut Motion standing in my name:—

22. That the provision of Rs.1,26,000 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head F.—District Administration—General Establishment—Sub-head, Pay of Officers—Details head Deputy Commissioners, at page 84 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(Failure of the Deputy Commissioners to discharge their duties properly).

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: I beg to move the following Cut Motion standing in my name:—

23. That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(1. To raise a general discussion about the failure of Government to establish a good Administrative Machinery in District and Subdivisional level particularly.

2. To raise a discussion about utilisation of Government property in Congress Party Election.

3. To criticise the grant regarding use of private cars by the employees of the Government during tour in different areas).

Mr. SPEAKER: The Cut Motions are moved as above. I need not take the time of the House by repeating them.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya may speak now.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: (Gauhati)
Mr. Speaker, Sir, we find in this year's budget that a sum of Rs.1,39,85,400 has been sought under the head "General Administration". We find by comparing the figures of the previous years that there is a steady rise in the expenditure under this head. For example, the actuals of 1954-55 stood at Rs.84,42,000 and the actuals of 1955-56 rose to Rs.1,03,82,000 and the actuals of 1956-57 rose to Rs.1,40,41,000. The original budget for 1957-58 was Rs.1,23,44,000 and the revised budget for 1957-58 was Rs. 1,35,39,000 and this year's budget has been for Rs.1,39,85,400.

Now from the actuals of 1954-55 to the actuals of 1957-58 it is abundantly clear that within these four years there has been a rise of 66 per cent in the expenditure under this head. Another feature to be noted is that there is a great deal of change and a great deal of enhancement in the revised estimate for the original budget. For example, if we take last year's budget, we find that whereas that original budget was for Rs.1,23,44,000, the revised budget was Rs.1,35,39,000. This shows apart from the fact that there has been a general rise of 66 per cent that at the time of the original estimate of the budget sufficient care has not been taken, or the modesty which has been shown in the beginning of the year has not been shown while expenditure was incurred during the course of the year. In the latest Report of the Public Accounts Committee of the United Kingdom, the Chairman of that Committee remarked when there was a rise of only 2 per cent in the expenditure from the original estimate that during the peace-time that budget ought not go beyond even by 2 per cent and the Public Accounts Committee criticised the Government for this small inaccuracy even. But if we consider our affairs, while we are following the Parliamentary precedents of Great Britain we can very well say that we are following it more by breach than by observance. Therefore, at the very outset, I should like to suggest that the Government should have a clear mind as to what they propose to do.

Today while we were to discuss the General Administration and also while there was already a notified Resolution on the point of number of Ministers including Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries, Government has thought it proper not to wait till the discussion in this August House on this question is over and not to wait as to what opinion would be expressed by the representatives of the people who are assembled in this August House. Even this very morning before

an hour some new Members have been sworn in as Deputy Minister and Parliamentary Secretary. This aspect of the matter is very important, because when this matter was kept pending for days, weeks and months, I see no reason why this matter could not be deferred at least to see the trend of the discussion in this House as to whether there should be more Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. So, Sir, I am really surprised to see that after sleeping over the matter and after going on calculating over it for a long time in the past, the Government has decided to matter this morning.

In this connection, I should also like to refer to one thing. In 1957-58 the area and population of Assam was greater than what it is to-day—I mean administered Assam. Because at that time the Naga Hills was in Assam and the total strength of the House at that time was 108. This year we have seen that the Naga Hills do not constitute a part of Assam. Therefore three Members of this House have gone and the total strength of this House now is 105. In a bigger Assam with a Legislature of 108 members there was provision for one Chief Minister, eight Ministers, four Deputy Ministers and one Parliamentary Secretary last year total coming to 14 only. But, Sir, in a depleted House in a small State like ours, this year (1958-59) the number of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries, far from decreasing from 14 has now been increased to 18.

We find in the budget for 1958-59 that in addition to the Chief Minister there is provision for 8 Ministers, 6 Deputy Ministers and 3 Parliamentary Secretaries. I for one do not understand why there has been this increase in number, whether it is warranted by the finances of the State or whether it is warranted by the exigencies of the circumstances. But apart from that there is also a legal and Constitutional aspect in the matter. I beg to refer to the Constitution of India, clause (3), Article 105 Part V.—“In other respects, the powers, privileges and immunities of each House of Parliament, and of the members and the committees of each House, shall be such as may from time to time be defined by Parliament by law, and, until so defined, shall be those of the House of Commons of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, and of its members and committees, at the commencement of this Constitution”. Now, Sir, the same is also applicable to the State Legislature. In the House of Commons there is a limit to the number of Ministers. According to the House of

Commons Disqualification Act, the number of Ministers of the Cabinet rank as well as other Ministers including the Parliamentary Secretaries has been fixed. It is very well-known to the hon. Members of this House that originally the number of members in the House of Commons was 707, but by the Act of 1948 that number has been brought down to 625. Now, in a House of 625 members the maximum number allowed to be included in the category of Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries, whatever that may be, has been fixed at 17, that is, about 11 per cent. Section 2 of the House of Commons Disqualification Act, 1957 requires that not more than 27 of the Ministers named in Part I of the Second Schedule (a) and not more than 70 of the Ministers named in both Parts I and II (b) of the Second Schedule, shall be entitled to sit and vote in the House of Commons at any one time. Ministers are not disqualified, under the Act of 1957, by reason of an office held *ex-officio* as the holder of the Ministerial office concerned.

The Part I Ministers are as follows:—Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury, Lord President of the Council, Lord Privy Seal.....”.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think mention of such names will help us and at the same time that will take a long time. Secondly, names of the offices of Great Britain are so misleading that our confusion is worse confounded.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Instead of reading from it let me summarise the position. In Part I of the Schedule there are those offices and Ministers which we may roughly say to be the Ministers of the Cabinet rank and in Part II are included Ministers who are not of the Cabinet rank and also Secretaries who hold position almost analogous to the position of our Parliamentary Secretaries. In substance, these Parts I and II of Second Schedule of the Disqualification Act cover almost the same sphere as is covered by the Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries including the Chief Parliamentary Secretary of our State. We find that there was a precedent in the House of Commons that precedent was only once violated and that too during the first World War. But on this solitary violation of Parliamentary precedent they thought it proper to make a legislation in spite of the fact that Great Britain had no written Constitution but a Constitution of Precedents. Our Constitution of India has specifically stated, as I have just now quoted, that with regard to certain matters we shall follow precedents of the House of

Commons or the House of Parliament of Great Britain. As a matter of fact the Parliament of India, that is, the Lok Sabha, has been following these precedents. At no time has the Parliament of India or the Lok Sabha exceeded the ratio which is followed in Great Britain. In short, the healthy precedent that exists in Great Britain is religiously followed in our Parliament. But here in the case of Assam we have seen that that precedent has not been followed. In the past also the number was greater, but at present it is sought to be made still greater. I do not think, it is at all a healthy policy and this does not in any way encourage us to help the growth of parliamentary democracy in our country. Therefore, I object to this sort of things. From the point of view of exigency also I do not think that the number is warranted. We have seen that during the strenuous period of last few months and particularly the last few weeks our Government is running with a less number. As a matter of fact there are only 8 Ministers including the Chief Minister and then there came another Minister who until yesterday remained without portfolio. So, if the Government could run with only 8 Ministers, without Deputy Ministers and with one or two Parliamentary Secretaries in this strenuous period, I do not understand why under the same circumstances there has been such a necessity now to increase the number which was not done in this State up till now. We are told that our present Ministers are very efficient and I hope so. Now, we would be too glad to see that our efficient Ministers do things better with a smaller number-without increasing the number. There is a financial aspect of this matter also. From whatever information we have been able to collect we find on a rough average about Rs.3,000 is to be spent for a Minister per month, taking into consideration his pay, allowances, house rent, etc. Even for a Deputy Minister the monthly expenditure on an average comes to Rs.2,500. I do not think, Sir, the State of Assam can afford to have the luxury of six Deputy Ministers, three Parliamentary Secretaries and eight Ministers in addition to the Chief Minister at this moment. The very progress of the budgetary figures shows that from month to month and year to year the expenditure is rising rather than falling. Almost in every session there comes a supplementary demand under this head "General Administration" and we always find that what was originally estimated to be spent for Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, etc., was not sufficient and, therefore, extra grants had to be sanctioned by this House almost in every session. Of late the tendency for this sort of expenditure has grown tremendously. I beg to refer to the answer given by the Chief Minister himself in reply to an

Unstarred Question No.156, which was asked on the 13th March 1958 on the floor of this House. We find that apart from their pay the Ministers of the last Cabinet drew the following amounts the Chief Minister had drawn Rs.6,658; another Minister Rs.8,448; the third one Rs.9,842; the fourth one Rs.12,929, *plus* Rs.28,000 for his journey to Europe; the fifth one Rs.3,390; the sixth one Rs.5,450

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Member. But I am constrained to point out that if he devotes so much time to Ministers, hardly any time will be left to him to touch other items on which he has moved Cut Motions. As the hon. Member is aware, the time allotted for the entire demand is three and half hours and naturally Government will take some time to reply to the points raised by hon. Members. I did not want to fix a time limit immediately but I think I shall have to do so because the hon. Member has already spoken for 20 minutes and if he goes on at this rate, I am afraid there will be hardly any time left for him to speak on other matters.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gaubati): I shall be very grateful if I know how many minutes I shall get.

Mr. SPEAKER: Ordinarily I think not more than 15 minutes would be permissible, but as I said, in the case of leaders of parties I would like to give some concession. The hon. Member should get about 25 minutes.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: So I have to finish within five minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER: Say 10 minutes.

Shri JOGAKANTA BARUA (Jaipur): Will you allow Members from this side also to speak?

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, if they catch my eye.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Of course, I shall not be able to cover other points if the time does not permit, but I hope, Sir, that in view of the fact that the number of speakers will not be very big and in Cut Motions the time is primarily of the Opposition, you will be pleased to give me some more time.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a theoretical problem ; you need not go into that.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): I only hope there will be some extension ; at any rate, Sir, I shall bow down to your ruling.

The reason why I have taken a little more time for the heads of the State is that if the head goes wrong we are called mad ; so, if there is something wrong in the head of the administration then the entire Government will go amuck. That is why I am taking perhaps a disproportionate amount of time for the Ministers.

Now, Sir, I need not quote the figures of expenditure for the Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries on account of what they drew as travelling allowance and for petrol ; suffice it to say that not a single one of them took less than Rs.2,000 and some took almost Rs.4,000. This is what I wanted to show from the answer which was given by the Chief Minister himself. This shows that there has been top-heaviness of expenditure in this administration, and without quoting figures I can also say that the ratio between the topmost and the lowest at the time of appointment is 167 to 1 ; that means, the head gets 167 times more than what the lowest gets under "General Administration". Is this democracy, not to speak of Socialism, where one gets one rupee and the other gets Rs.167 ? I do not, of course, say, Sir, that there should be flat equality but should the difference be so big ? That is my submission. Then, Sir, on the top of this, we find a cunning innovation this time. Up till now there was no such thing as "hospitality charges" to be spent by the Ministers ; this time we find this new thing has been brought. Whom they want to show hospitality I do not understand. Up till now there was a similar provision for the head of the State, *viz.*, the Governor, only, who was given certain hospitality charges to entertain some very important persons who would visit our State. But this time we have seen that there will be hospitality charge also for the Ministers and the amount is no less than Rs.51,300 ; I think, Sir, this House should not agree to this expenditure, which I consider to be a wasteful luxury.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Sir, will the hon. Member please give me the ratio between the highest and the lowest paid officer ?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :

There can be two ratios—one between the topmost and the lowest ; the topmost is 167 and the lowest is 1. Then the other ratio between the Chief Minister and the lowest is 90 to 1 ; the Chief Minister gets 90 times more than the lowest paid man serving under him.

As was saying, Sir, in addition to this, a new innovation has been brought—the hospitality charges. I consider it to be a wasteful expenditure of public money. I also find that so far as the Secretaries, etc., are concerned, they are also undertaking quite a lot of tours. The Secretaries, who are primarily expected to work in the Secretariat, move about in the country side. When some people come for urgent business to Shillong, they generally find them out on tour. I do not think that there should be so much of tours by the Secretaries of Departments. I also find that there has been some amount of mis use of the Governmental machinery for private or personal purpose. During the last bye-election of the Badarpur constituency there are innumerable instances in which it was found that Governmental machinery was misused. Out of these I want to illustrate a few. I should like to know from the Hon'ble Minister of Food and Agriculture, who was there at that time, whether the State car at his disposal with the inscription of 'Minister Assam' on it was used by the Minister for carrying one Abdul Jalil, who was a candidate for this bye-election, from Silchar to Karimganj and whether he took this gentleman with him to Karimganj for the purpose of withdrawal of his candidature in this bye-election ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Food and Agriculture) : May I reply to this point, Sir ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Let the hon. Member finish his speech.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Secondly, I should like to know whether Mr. J. Hazarika, was the Private Secretary of the Congress candidate there or he was the Private Secretary of the Office of the Chief Minister ? Whether Mr. J. Hazarika had sent State messages or not regarding the progress of the Congress candidate and whether he had sent telegrams or not informing interested people about the result of the election ? These are small things no doubt but I should like to get straight answers to these questions from the Chief Minister.

I also want to know whether there was a tour programme of the Additional Districts and Sessions Judge, Gauhati at Silchar at or about the time of the election at Badarpur and whether he fixed hearing of certain cases at Silchar and whether he asked for accommodation in the Circuit House but after actually arriving Silchar he had to leave Silchar the same day as he could not get accommodation in the Circuit House as the Circuit House was in the occupation of persons connected with the bye-election of Badarpur constituency? That Additional Judge had to go there for hearing Title Appeals Nos. 4 and 5 of 1956 and the Government of Assam had notified that these two appeals would be heard by this Judge. This Judge actually asked for accommodation from the district authorities *vide* a communication on 5th February 1958 but he had to return from Silchar for want of accommodation and he drew full travelling allowance for this purpose although he could not proceed with the appeals.

Sir, these are some of the instances, I have given. I say all these not because I have no respect for the Chief Minister. I have got the deepest respect for him. But in this it is not the question of the person but it is the question of his holding the responsibility of the Chief Minister's Office. Although I cannot claim that I am better but I can claim that I am as good as he is. These simple facts show that the Chief Minister is not above suspicion, like Ceaser's wife if he wants can deny them then he will be able to bring a healthy trend in the administration of the State. The matters, I referred to, are delicate but there is no malice in it. So, I would want that the Chief Minister gives proper reply.

Then, I should like also to say that from the replies given by different members of the Cabinet, especially, the Revenue Minister giving reply yesterday and to-day on behalf of the Education Minister are not satisfactory in respect of the Local Audit Department as for their failure the audit report of the University could not be submitted before the University Court as it did not come in time besides many other institutions have not been audited in time. It seems, this Local Audit Department has not been working efficiently and we find that there is a provision for that department in the budget. We want that this Local Audit Department should function efficiently and without causing delay in doing audit of different offices timely.

We find also that with the spread of welfare activities and the spread of governmental undertakings in different matters, number of Government servants will be increased and if the

Government servants are not given the fundamental rights and if there is a great deal of discrepancy in the rules of the top-ranking officers and the lower ranking officers how can we call our administration a democratic administration and how that administration can expect the willing co-operation of all its employees? The Assam Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1937 as amended upto the 1st October, 1952 clearly defines such a discrepancy. The attitude shown to the top-ranking officers and lower grade officers have been explained clearly. I mention a few. Namely, these Government employees cannot make any association except which is in their own sphere, *i.e.*, only in their own department. The rule states as follows:—

“23 (a) Membership of the association shall be confined to a distinct class of Government servants and shall be opened to all Government servants and shall be opened to all Government servants of that class” ;

This rule contrasts with the proviso of the same rule which says:—

“Provided that condition (a) and (b) shall not be held to debar any Government servant from remaining from or becoming a member of European Government Servants' Association or the Indian Officers' Association and that the Provincial Government may for reasons to be recorded in writing, by general or special order, dispense with those conditions in the case of any other association”.

So, for the European Government Servants the rule is relaxed and they can form one association in their own or with any other department. The Indian Officers, say the I. A. S. Officers, can also have their association but for the clerks of the Supply Department the definition is different. Sir, my point is that if there is a rule it should be equal to all whether he is an I. A. S. Officer or he is an Assistant of an Office. These employees also cannot publish in newspapers or public magazines any news item concerning their association except with specific permission of the State Government. They cannot invite anybody to their meetings without the consent of the Government, but no such imposition or condition is there for the associations of European Government Services or for the Indian Officers Association and so on. So, we find that in the very Rule itself there is no democracy. The same pattern of 1937 rules of the British days are still continuing now. If we

want to improve our administration we must see that the Government employees also get their minimum requirements—political, economic as well as social. We also find, Sir, that in all Governmental activities of the country the district administration shall have to play a very important part. It is not possible for people from the districts to come over to Shillong for very minor details, for example, to get sanction or to get guidance, etc. So far as district heads are concerned they are not tempered by any popular control or they do not encourage any popular initiative. No doubt there are certain Advisory Boards and Advisory Committees for different purposes, say, for land settlement, or to advise the District Officers for distribution of C. I. sheets or for allocation of funds for development projects, etc. But one thing has pained us. Only recently we have seen a circular issued by Government to different district authorities and the district authorities again issued that circular to different departments under them and copies were also sent to us, wherein it has been stated that different departments have neglected their duties, for example, when a Development Committee or any such Committee is held, these officers of the Departments concerned do not care to attend the meetings so much so that Government itself has to issue a circular asking their officers for more co-operation and to attend such meetings. When we want to discuss something about agriculture or development, if the Agricultural or Development Officers do not come simply the Deputy Commissioner and the M. L. As sitting there cannot do anything. For this lach of their officers Government had to issue a circular requesting them that they should give more initiative and time to all these things. But, Sir, a circular alone is not sufficient. Government should so revise the machinery that there will be some more initiative and at the same time they are made to seek public opinion through the different elected representatives of the people so that their actions are tempered and guided by these things.

I am sorry, Sir, I have rather taken more time than I should but with your permission, I would like to have another two inutes or so.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are other Members also who will speak.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhai): All right, Sir, just bowing to your advice and to show respect to you, Sir, as is required under a democratic society, I sit down.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri):

Sir, today the conflict of the Indian Society is the conflict between imperialism, feudalism and capitalism on the one hand and the rest of Indian people on the other. To remove this conflict we must transform the Agricultural-cum-Cottage Industrial economy of India to modern Industrial-cum-Agricultural economy and to enlist popular enthusiasm and popular co-operation so that we might go ahead to make our country prosperous and socialistic where there will be no difference between man and man where all will be equal, happy and prosperous, economically, socially and politically. It was the first and foremost duty of the Government just after Independence to overhaul the administrative machinery, or to bring a change in the administration. But to the astonishment of all the Government did not do that. Defects in the administration have been expressed both from the platform and the press and by individuals, progressive parties and organisations. For instance, the role of democracy in our administration is meagre but that of bureaucracy is tremendous. It is known to all that our Ministers formulate the policy and the still broader policy is laid down by the Central and State Legislatures. Now what is the machinery for application of that policy? That policy is implemented by the officers sitting there in the Central and State Secretariats and more so by officers at still lower levels.

Many of the Members in the last Budget Session also asked what is bureaucracy? Sir, bureaucracy is a mental attitude and behaviour of those permanent officers towards the common man. Sir, after Independence and in the formation of democracy both in the Centre and in the State levels, the question is whether this attitude has been changed? No one need have any hesitation in giving a clear and categorically negative answer to the question. Now, Sir, on this question no amount of debate in Parliament and no amount of debate in the State Legislatures has made these officers change their bureaucratic attitude towards the common man in their efforts to bully him, to blackmail him if possible and to fleece him by extraction of some material gains from him out of his helplessness before the all powerful Government official. Sir, this is the attitude that creates in the minds of these officers a feeling that they can do and undo everything with the mob. So unless these officers are made to realise that the people are all in all, that they are supreme in all aspects, there will be no true democracy in the country. The fact has to be recognised that the officers being part of our people have in them the

strong points as well as the weak points of our people. But if the latter are of caste, communal or party minded, the former must also to be so. So, Sir, my suggestion may be summarised in the term democratic decentralisation.

Creation of a well organised democratic structure in the administration in which the village Panchayats will be linked up with the popular organizations at the higher levels. In such a structure the function of development of the areas and that of administration also will be delegated to the democratically elected bodies. These functions will include everything other than law and order and some functions pertaining to the revenue department. Sir, I am not suggesting that these permanent officials or every action of these permanent officials should be under the strict control and supervision of the democratically elected bodies. No administration can be carried effectively if the officers are not given plenty of initiative. Sir, as a matter of fact, the officers in the lower ranks are kept under very strict control by the officers at the higher level. This is one of the most serious defects of our administration.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister):
They should not be kept under control. Is that your view ?
(laughter)

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):
Sir, it is a fact that the officers of lower level are kept under strict vigilance and supervision by the officers of the higher level. These officers in the lower level should be given some amount of initiative. This is my point. The idea that the higher officials can be depended upon carrying on the administration efficiently and impartially is fallacious. Some criticism and check up are as important and necessary for the officers as for the Ministers. Sir, our administration is tremendously centralised. It is the habit of the common man and common officers, officers of the lower level, to look up to the officers of the higher level and to the Ministers for suggestions for instructions. Similarly it is the habit of the officers at the top to give instructions in even small matters and in a manner as if they are their masters. This state of affairs must not be allowed to continue. Sir, by centralisation we have experienced very bad results, such as, top-heaviness corruption, redtapism and the like. Red-tapism is now rampant in every sphere of the Governmental activity, for instance, our questions come to the Assembly Secretariat, then to the Secretariat, then to the heads of the departments, then to the district

heads and subdivisional heads, and than again backward march through the same levels until they find their place in the Assembly Chamber. In this way files rotate and re-rotate and are still rotating and re-rotating. This is a never ending business, never ending process.

(*A voice*—What is your remedy.)

My suggestion here is that the Secretariat should be abolished forthwith except, of course, the Finance and Budget Departments. Various Heads of the departments should work for the Secretaries. This Secretariat is something like the House of Lords interfering in the affairs of the House of Commons. So, Sir, I suggest that this Secretariat should be abolished. (*laughter*).

Then about corruption. It is a pity that these officers at the top have proved themselves complete failure to stop corruption in the rank and file of the administration. At the very nose of our Ministers, our so highly paid officers of the socalled higher ranks blackmarket is rampant in the whole country. Cement, iron sheets, food-stuffs of different varieties are available in any quantity in the black market, even in Capital—Shillong but it is a pity, it is a sad commentary on the activities of the socalled high ranking official that in the Government stock, these things are not available. Government is always short of stock of the essential commodities of the common man.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply): No, cement is not so.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Sir, I do not propose to go into further details about this matter. It is a fact that a large number of our own people indulge in these anti-social and unlawful activities. Had our Government been able to bring some of these highly notorious black-marketers and smugglers to book and given them exemplary punishment, these things would not have gone on eternally on such gigantic scale as it obtains to-day. Corruption originates from two grounds (i) rising price (ii) greed for wealth. The meagre pay of some officers cannot purchase the necessities as the prices of things are soaring higher and higher every day. Nextly some officers with a view to accumulate wealth resort to corruption. This latter class of officers or persons should be given exemplary punishment. Sir, at the time of partition of the country, some buildings were omitted to be

included in the list. This, in my opinion, is a deliberate omission and intentionally made by some of our so called high ranking officer. Sir, my point is that if some people intentionally and knowingly indulge in corrupt practices in the course of the performances of their rightful duties, they should be immediately brought to book and exemplary punishment inflicted.

With these few words, Sir, I commend my Cut Motion for the acceptance of the House and thank the Hon. Speaker for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Motion.

***Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA (Patharkandi Reserved for Scheduled Castes):** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমি নিজে যে ছাটাই প্রস্তাব উত্থাপন করেছি এবং বিরোধী দল থেকে যে ছাটাই প্রস্তাব সমূহ উপস্থাপিত করা হয়েছে সেই সম্পর্কে আমার সমর্থন জানাচ্ছি।

মাননীয় সদস্য শ্রীগৌরীশঙ্কর ভট্টাচার্য মহাশয় বিরোধী দলের সমস্ত বক্তব্য এক সঙ্গে বলেছেন। আমি শুধু মহকুমা এবং জিলাতে প্রশাসনিক অবস্থার যে কি অবনতি হয়েছে সেই সম্পর্কে বলব।

আমাদের সাধারণ মানুষের সংযোগ মহকুমা এবং জিলার সঙ্গেই বেশী। কাজেই সেখানে যদি অবস্থার অবনতি হয় তবে সাধারণ মানুষের দুর্ভোগ যে কত বাড়ে তা সহজেই অনুমান করা যায়। মহকুমার শাসনকর্তা S. D. O. তিনি প্রায় বাইরে থাকেন। আজ N.E.S. Block উদ্বোধন, কাল কিশান মেলা, পরশু কোন স্কুল, তার পরদিন হয়তো কোনো মজির আগমণ এবং প্রায়ই দেখা যায় তিনি বাইরে এবং Senior E. A. C. দায়িত্ব নিয়েছেন। কাজেই বিচারের দুর্ভোগ সহিতে হয় লোককে।

কোন কোন সময় দেখা যায় কোন Advisory Board যেমন Supply, Land বা Scheduled Castes Advisory Board এর মিটিং পাতা হয়েছে অথচ Sub-divisional Officer নাই কাজেই মিটিং হবেনা, M.L.A. রা পর্য্যন্ত ফিরে যেতে হয়, সাধারণ মানুষের ত কথাই নাই।

প্রশাসনিক ব্যবস্থার কত অবনতি হয়েছে একটা দৃষ্টান্ত যথেষ্ট। আজ কাল খাদ্য সমস্যা সমাধানের জন্য জমি বিলির অত্যন্ত প্রয়োজন। ১৯৫৩ সালে যে জমি requisition করা হয়েছিল আজ পর্য্যন্ত সরকার সে জমি কৃষকদের সমজিয়ে দিতে পারেননা। উন্নয়ন মূলক কাজের জন্য জমি requisition করা হয়েছে ৫৮৭ বৎসর পূর্বে, অথচ আজ পর্য্যন্ত তার requisition proceeding তৈরী হয় না। সাধারণ মানুষের দুর্ভোগ কত বেড়েছে তা সহজেই অনুমান করা যায়। অন্যদিকে আর একটা জিনিষ অত্যন্ত অসহনীয়। সমস্ত শাসন ব্যবস্থাকে বিকেন্দ্রী করণের পরিবর্তে আমাদের সরকার কেন্দ্রীভূত করেছেন।

Cyclone এ যেসমস্ত স্কুল নষ্ট করেছে—সে সব স্কুলকে সাহায্য দিবার জন্য সরকার ব্যবস্থা করেছেন। মূলত Sub-Inspector or Deputy Inspector র লিষ্ট অনুযায়ী টাকা দিবেন। তবে কেন সমস্ত টাকা এবং লিষ্ট শিলং এনে এই অর্থ খাতিয়ে বিলম্ব করা হয়েছে? আমি দেখেছি অনেক M.L.A. বা এই সম্পর্কে যাহাদের স্বার্থ আছে—এমন ব্যক্তি শিলং এসে তদ্বির করছেন। ফলে অনেক ন্যায্য মতে পাওয়া গুলো

বাদ পড়ে গেছে এবং বাজে অনেক স্থান সে গান্টি পেয়েছে। কেন ? নিজে তেজী করে যে Subdivision এ যত টাকা প্রয়োজন Telephone বারফং যোগানোও করে D.P.I. বা শিক্ষা বিভাগের মন্ত্রী মহোদয় Deputy Inspector এর নিকট তা দিতে পারেন না ? M. L. A. রা যেখানে তাহাদের সঙ্গে পরামর্শ করতে পারেন। শিলং এর অফিসে খটিবার প্রয়োজন পড়েনা। কাজও সহজ হয় আর যোগ্য স্থান ওনিও বাদ পড়েনা।

আর একটা বিষয়ের প্রতি আমি আশা করি সরকারের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করতে চাই। আমাদের Subdivisional Officer বা সরকারী কর্মচারী অনেক গাড়ী ব্যবহার করবেন কেন ? প্রায়ই দেখা যায় প্রভাবশালী লোকের গাড়ী নিয়ে তাড়াগড় করছেন। একদিনের একটা ঘটনা বলি। বিগত নির্বাচনের পূর্বে Election office এ Polling Centre সম্পর্কে আলোচনার জন্য সর্বদলীয় বৈঠক হয়েছে। আমাদের মাননীয় বর্তমান সদস্য আব্দুল হানিদ সাহেব সেখানে ছিলেন। এমন সময় একটা শ্লিপ নিয়ে একজন চাপরাশী হানিদ সাহেবকে দিল। একজন E. A. C. লিখেছেন— তাহাকে গাড়ীটা দিবার জন্য। হানিদ সাহেবের প্রয়োজন ছিল তাই তিনি দেননি। আমার লজ্জা হল যে আমাদের সরকারী কর্মচারীরা কোন স্থানে নেমে গেছেন ? কেন— সেখানে 'ট্যাক্সী' পাওয়া যায়না ? Train নেই ? বাস নেই ? এতে জনসাধারণ কি ভাবে পারে ? এ সমস্ত জিনিষ বন্ধ করা উচিত। এসমস্ত জিনিষ আমি আশাকরি, আমাদের সরকার বন্ধ করার ব্যবস্থা নিবেন। এই বলেই আমি ছাড়াই প্রস্তাব সমূহের সমর্থন ছাড়াছি।

***Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North):**
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak a few words about the general administration of the State. Everybody even those including the Treasury Benches will agree with me that they are not happy with the present system of administration which is going on whether it is in the District or in the Subdivision or in the State Headquarters. Sir, during these days we have seen that instead of bringing any reports, through several questions how the Members wanted to know different subjects under the charge of different Ministers. Particularly I was surprised to find a lot of questions so far the administration of land revenue is concerned. There is, if I may be permitted to say so, the biggest bungling in the administration of land revenue in our State in all spheres. Sir, in some cases, the Minister, we have seen, could not reply to some questions. These difficulties which the people are experiencing so far as the land revenue administration is concerned can be divided in two parts. So far as the district of Cachar is concerned, there is very little Government land, so there has been very little settlement of land to the people by the Government in that district, and so the incidence of corruption which is so rampant in the Assam Valley is less in Cachar District. Our difficulties as I have brought it to the notice of the Government during these years is that particularly in the Karimganj Subdivision, the land is under the permanent settlement. So when any land is acquired by the Government

for the purpose of constructing any Government buildings or for any other purposes, the people do not get the compensation even after 4, 5, 6, or 7 years. There are cases where even often 10 years the compensation has not been paid by the Government. Why this is so, Sir ? There was only one Sub-Deputy Collector for the whole of Karimganj Subdivision, so how could he alone discharge the duties of all Sub-Deputy Collectors alone for the whole Subdivision. So only after pressure from us Government have of late sanctioned the post of another Sub-Deputy Collector. Even two Sub-Deputy Collectors cannot cope with the work. I would like to request the Government to increase the number of Sub-Deputy Collectors so that the people from whom land has been acquired get the compensation as early as possible. It should not be more than one year within which time they should get their compensation. Government should give such a direction. Secondly the other day it has been stated by the Government—(unfortunately as I was ill could not be present in the House) that there is no land in Assam. Government was acquiring or requisitioning surplus land from the tea gardens. Now what do we find in such cases ? We find that whenever the Deputy Commissioner or Subdivisional Officer concerned send any proposal to the Government for acquiring a big area of surplus land from the tea gardens which is good for paddy cultivation, within a fortnight an appeal is filed against such acquisition proceedings, to the Minister-in-charge. Whenever appeals are filed by big tea planters and big landlords Government consider them and the whole proceeding is stayed. Whenever Government acquires surplus land from the tea gardens, the tea garden authorities find it difficult to utilise it and such surplus land acquired from the tea gardens should be distributed by Government to the landless people of the locality. Even such complaints have been made in the shape of questions by the Members from Assam Valley. To-day our Revenue Minister was replying to a question when a big area of land de-requisitioned. By this can we say, Sir, that our people who are working as Subdivisional Officer or Deputy Commissioner are third rate people ? If they want to de-requisition even 90 per cent of land, then it must be said that there must be some draw-back. It may not be true that our officers are bad. But, Sir, we see the reserve. If these things continue as at present then there will be chaos. This is a chronic disease, I should say, in the Assam Valley. Wherever there is Government land, the Minister says that the land has been encroached last year and this year, as if the encroachment on Government land will continue for ever. Is there no one to look after it from the side of the Government ? In case of

private land there has been no encroachment. For example, in the Zamindar's land and Patta land there has been no case of encroachment except a few cases of boundary dispute relating to the title of the land.

Sir, as has been hinted by me earlier that there must be some officers who are conniving at facts. Even in some cases people who are occupying and residing on land for 10 to 15 years in a particular area, although they have no right on the land, they have moral right on it as they have cultivated the land for a very long time. Instead of considering these aspects in the matter for which the Government has a moral duty for those people, people have been evicted from the land by demolishing their houses with the help of elephant.

One of my honourable Friends of this august House has raised a question that Muslim peasants have been evicted from the land. Sir, this is not a case for the Muslim peasants only but this is also a case with Hindu, Sikh and other peasants. That is why I should think that my hon. Friend should not make any distinction between Hindus, Muslims and others, and the Government should not make any distinction between Hindu, Muslims and so on. When the peasants are there on the land occupying it for more than five years or seven years, is it morally desirable to evict them from the land ?

Therefore, Sir, Government should take steps with a view to stop this sort of eviction from land once for all. Whenever any question is put to the Government and the Minister concerned replies that bring the particular case to the notice of the Government and then Government will consider it. Sir, I want to know from the Minister that whether it is the duty of the Legislature to find all such cases ? Sir, I should like to tell the House that there are hundreds and thousands of cases of such nature. It is not one specific case which should be brought to the notice of the Government and the Minister concerned.

So far as land distribution in the State is concerned, we are not happy. Therefore I would request the Honourable Chief Minister to set up a High-powered Committee with some of the Members of the Legislature and some officers of the Government to find one by one what are the defects in the system of distribution of land to our people. The effects in the system of distribution of land to our people have been of long-standing nature and these have been continued for decades. Unless they are removed in no time, they will continue in future also.

Next, Sir, I would like to speak a few words about bye-election held in Badarpur Constituency. So far as my information goes Shri Bhattacharyya did not visit Badarpur personally during the election day and he got information probably from his friends who visited Badarpur. During those election days I was there at Badarpur. I never saw Mr. Jalil travelling by the car of the Agriculture Minister regarding the withdrawal of his nomination papers. At that time I was present at Badarpur. If you believe me, Sir, there were two cars standing behind the Badarpur Ghat. In a private car I saw Mr. Jalil was travelling. There were so many cars, and their number would be from 15 to 20 which were all private cars. Therefore, Sir, what was the necessity of the State Car to be used by Mr. Jalil? I do not see any reason why the hon. Member has been discussing the matter of using the State Car which is illegal during election days. So we were very much particular about the use of State cars during election. As there were 15 to 20 private cars available to us, there was no occasion for us to travel in the State Car. Therefore, I see no reason as to the necessity to put the blame on us.

Secondly, Sir, so far as Shri J. Hazarika is concerned, I should like to tell the hon. Members of this House that Shri J. Hazarika, who is the Principal Private Secretary to Chief Minister was not there. But it was one Mr. Dutta who went there on his official business. We had a centre at Badarpur Ghat which is one furlong away from the Inspection Bungalow at Badarpur where the Chief Minister used to stay.

Then, Sir, with regard to the question of the Additional District Judge who did not get accommodation in the Silchar Circuit House.....

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):
As the Chief Minister was there on 24th and 25th of January 1957, the Additional District Judge could not get accommodation in the Circuit House at Silchar.

***Shri RANENDRA MOHON DAS (Karimganj-North):**
At Silchar the Chief Minister stayed at the Circuit House on the 26th January, 1957, but before that he had to stay at Badarpur for one or two nights in connection with the electioneering campaign. He passed another two or three days at the Badarpur Inspection Bungalow, but at this time when a polling centre was fixed there, on the

following day he had to shift to Hailakandi Inspection Bungalow. If he intended that he need not be disturbed while staying at the Badarpur Inspection Bungalow then the local-Subdivisional Officer could arrange it and could fix the Badarpur polling station somewhere else instead of at the Inspection Bungalow. But the Chief Minister did not like to disturb the arrangements made by the Subdivisional Officer so that the election was fair and just. So, Sir, the allegations put forward by my Friend have no foundation. There were so many cars to be used for official purpose, but we did not use any of them during the election time. The Chief Minister did not bring his State Car also and for his journey from Shillong to Badarpur he had to hire a private car so that the election was most fair. We too had received no complaint in connection with this bye-election which we used to have in the election of some other people. No Government machinery was also utilised in connection with this bye-election at Badarpur. We as well as the Chief Minister were very much particular in this connection.

With these words, Sir, I would say that Government should see that the District administration as well as the general administration all over the State improve and defects do not remain, and with these words also I support the Motion moved by the Chief Minister.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই অনা General Administration ৰ Demand ৰ ওপৰত অনা কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰি ময়ো দুয়াৰ কওঁ—

(Voice—আমি শুনা নাই)
এই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰি ময়ো দুয়াৰ কৰ খোজোঁ। আমাৰ বৰ্ত্তমান শাসন যন্ত্ৰটোত নিশ্চয় কিবা এটা ঘূণ লাগিছে তাত সন্দেহ নাই। সেই ঘূণটো যদি আমি নষ্ট কৰি যন্ত্ৰটো সংশোধন কৰিব নোৱাৰো তেন্তে আমি দেশৰ মঙ্গল কৰিব নোৱাৰো।

আমাৰ মন্ত্ৰীসকল লগত যেনেকৈ সকলো শৰীৰৰ অঙ্গ প্ৰত্যঙ্গৰে সম্বন্ধ আছে আৰু সকলো অঙ্গ প্ৰত্যঙ্গক মন্ত্ৰীসকলে পৰিচালনা কৰে, ঠিক তেনেকৈ আমাৰ মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়া Administration ৰ Head হিচাবে আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণে আশা কৰে আমাৰ Administration টো নিখুট হব। প্ৰকৃততে যন্ত্ৰটো যিভাবে চলিছে তেনেকৈয়ে চলি থাকিলে জনসাধাৰণৰ আশাটো ফলবন্তী হব কেনেকৈ?

আজি সচাটক কবলৈ গলে শাসন পদ্ধতিত এটা বেমেজালিৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। এটা বিভাগৰ আনটো বিভাগৰ লগত কোনো সংশ্লিষ্ট নাই-যেন একোটা স্বতন্ত্ৰ বিভাগ।

জিলা আৰু মহকমা বিলাকত অজস্ৰ টকা খৰচ কৰি ডেপুটি কমিছনাৰ আৰু ছাব ডিভিজনেল অফিচাৰ বিলাক বাধি থোৱা হৈছে, তেওলোকৰ ওপৰত শাসনৰ দায়িত্ব থকা সত্ত্বেও একো কৰিব নোৱাৰে তেওলোকক সুধিলে জনা যায় যে তেওলোকে ওপৰৰ নিৰ্দেশ নহলে একো কৰাৰ ক্ষমতা নাই। তেওলোক মাত্ৰ চৰকাৰৰ চৌকিদাৰ বা প্ৰহৰীহে বিবেচিত হয়।

অকল Secretariat ৰ কাৰণেই ৩৪,৩১,৪২০ টকা ধৰা হৈছে। এই Secretariat বিভাগেই বিভিন্ন বিভাগৰ ওপৰত Control কৰে বিভিন্ন বিভাগবিলাকৰ মাজত যোগাযোগ বাধি দেশ উন্নয়নৰ বহুমুখী পৰিকল্পনাৰ কামবিলাক সুসম্পন্ন হোৱাত সহায় কৰে। কিন্তু আমি কাৰ্য্যত কি দেখিছো? দেখিছো যে ৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ উন্নয়ন পৰিকল্পনাৰ কামবিলাক নোহোৱাত আচনি সমূহ বাৰ্থ হোৱা গম পোৱা যায়। আমি আমাৰ Community Project বিলাকত দেখিছো যে Administrative বিষয়াৰ লগত Project বিষয়াৰ কোনো সম্বন্ধ নাই। Technical Aid দিব লাগে কিন্তু অন্যান্য বিভাগীয় Technical বিষয়া সকলৰ লগত Project ৰ কোনো যোগাযোগ নাই গতিকে মূল কামবিলাক বন্ধ—এই ধৰণেৰে দেশৰ গঠনমূলক কামবিলাক হব কেনেকৈ? গতিকে সকলো অচল হোৱাৰ উপক্ৰম হৈছে। যেনেকৈ শৰীৰটো অচল হলে নষ্ট হৈ যায় তেনেকৈ দেশও ধ্বংসোন্মুখী হৈছে। এই হিচাবে ভালকৈ লক্ষ্য কৰিলে দেখিবলৈ পোৱা যায় যে এই সদনৰ ভিতৰতে একে শাসনভাৱ প্ৰাপ্ত দলৰ ইফালৰ সদস্য সকলৰ লগত সিকালে বহা সদস্য সকলৰ দৃষ্টিভঙ্গীত অবিয়া অবিৰ ভাৱ পৰিলক্ষিত হয়। (হাঁহি)

এয়ে যদি হয় অথাৎ একেটা নীতি, একেটা ৰাষ্ট্ৰগঠনৰ পৰিকল্পনা, একেটা Ideology ৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি কথা কবলৈ যাওতে প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব কৰা লোকসকলৰ মাজতে যেতিয়া ইমান অবিয়া অবি ভাৱ থাকে, সেই চৰকাৰৰ ওপৰত জনসাধাৰনে কেনেকৈ বিশ্বাস কৰিব পাৰে? আমাৰ মনত এটা অবিশ্বাসৰ ভাৱ জাগি যায়। গতিকে আমাৰ মনত লাহে লাহে এটা ভাৱ জাগিছে যে আমি নিজেই খুব সাৰধান হবলগীয়া হৈছে। আমাৰ ওপৰত বাহিৰৰ পৰা যথেষ্ট দায়িত্ব আছে। ৰাষ্ট্ৰগঠন ধেমালিৰ কথা মহয়।

আমি সদায় মনত ৰখা উচিত, আমি গৰীব জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত নানা কৰ কাটল লগাই এই টকা বিলাক আদায় কৰিছো। এই টকা খিনি যদি সংকামত, দেশৰ মজলৰ কামত ব্যৱহাৰ নকৰি অনাহকত খৰচ কৰো তেন্তে সচাটক আমাৰ ৰাজ্যখন ধ্বংসহে হব।

সুদূৰ ইংলণ্ডত বহি চাহ বাগিছাৰ মালিক আৰু তেল কোম্পানীৰ মালিকসকলে কাগজে কলমে যদি ভাৰতত থকা চাহ বাগিছা আৰু তেল কোম্পানী বিলাক সূচাকৰুপে চলাব পাৰে তেন্তে আমি ইয়াতে থাকি ইয়াৰ শাসন যন্ত্ৰটো কিয় ভালকৈ চলাব নোৱাৰো? ইয়াত সম্প্ৰদায়িকতাৰ কোনো প্ৰশ্নই জাগিব নোৱাৰে। ইয়াত আমাৰ প্ৰধান লক্ষ্য হব লাগিব জাতিবৰ্গ নিৰ্বিৰোধে আমাৰ দেশৰ উন্নতি কৰা। এই দেশৰ উন্নতিৰ দৃষ্টিভঙ্গিলৈ আমি দেশ গঠন কৰিম—এয়ে হব লাগিব আমাৰ একমাত্ৰ লক্ষ্য।

কিন্তু দেখিছো, আমাৰ গৰীব জনসাধাৰণে এটা মীমাংসাৰ কাৰণে এটা অফিচলৈ আহোতে আহোতে খৰচৰ কাৰণে মাটি বিক্ৰি কৰিব লগীয়া হয় এয়ে হা মজলকৰ দেশবাসীৰ অৱস্থা।

দেখা যায় আশাৰ শাসনভাৱ নিবেশীৰদৰে পৰিৱৰ্ত্তে বেজীৰদৰে আন হৈছে।

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2 P. M.

(After lunch).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI (Panery): Sir, এই বিষয়ে মোৰ বহুত কথা কবলগীয়া আছিল। সেই বিলাক কথা মই পিচত ক'ম। গতিকে এতিয়া বহুলাই কবৰ বিশেষ আৱশ্যক বুলি নাভাবো। মাজ মই ইয়াকে সতৰ্ক কৰি দিব খোজো যে যদি বৰ্ত্তমান শাসন ব্যৱস্থাৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তন নঘটে আৰু এতিয়া যি ধৰনেৰে শাসন চলি আছে সেই ধৰণেৰে চলি থাকে তেন্তে নাতিৰি কাকতত যেনেকুৱা দেখা যায় ইয়াতো জনসাধাৰণে তেনেকুৱা আন্দোলন কৰিব পাৰে। যদি আজি ম'চাকৈয়ে জনসাধাৰণৰ প্ৰতি লক্ষ্য কৰি তেওঁবিলাকৰ যি অসুবিধা হৈছে সেই অসুবিধা যিহি বিলাক কথাত চিলঙলৈকে আহিবৰ আৱশ্যক নাই তেনেকুৱা কথাতো দৰখাস্ত দিবলৈ তেওঁবিলাক চিলঙলৈ আহিবলৈ বাধ্য হয়। যদি এটা মূল নীতি স্থিৰ কৰি সেই নীতিৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি শাসন ব্যৱস্থা তৈয়াৰ কৰা হয় তেনেহলে মই বিশ্বাস কৰো জনসাধাৰণৰ বহুতখিনি কষ্ট আঁতৰ হ'ব।

আমি পঞ্চায়তৰ ব্যৱস্থা স্থাপন কৰিবৰ কাৰণে আইন পাচ কৰিছোঁ। কিন্তু আজিলৈকে এই পঞ্চায়ত বিলাকত আমি কেনে দৰে কাম কৰিম বা কেনে ধৰণেৰে পঞ্চায়তৰ কাম পৰিচালনা কৰিম সেইটো ঠিক হৈ উঠা নাই। আজি Rural Panchayat আৰু Primary Panchayatৰ ভিতৰত কোনটো বাখিম সেইটো স্থিৰ কৰিব পৰা নাই। সেইদৰে General Administrationতো কোন বিভাগৰ দ্বাৰা কাম কৰান সেইটো ঠিক কৰিব পৰা নাই। সেই কাৰণে মই চৰকাৰক বিশেষ ভাবে সতৰ্ক কৰি দিছোঁ যে যদি General Administrationৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত সাৱধান নহয় আৰু বৰ্ত্তমান যেনে ধৰণেৰে চলি আছে ঠিক তেনে ধৰনেৰে চলি থাকে তেনেহলে জনসাধাৰণৰ মাজত হয়তো বিপ্লবৰ সৃষ্টি হ'ব পাৰে।

আমাৰ দেশৰ বেচিভাগ মানুহ অশিক্ষিত আৰু গবৰ্ণমেণ্টও স্বীকাৰ কৰিছে যে আমাৰ দেশৰ শতকৰা ৮০ ভাগ মানুহ নিৰক্ষৰ। এই নিৰক্ষৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ স্বভাৱৰ ওপৰত আৰু Social Customsৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি শাসন চলাব লাগিব। সেই হিচাপে পঞ্চায়ত গঠন কৰা হৈছে। গতিকে যেনেকুৱা ধৰণৰ শাসন যন্ত্ৰ তৈয়াৰ কৰিলে জনসাধাৰণে সুবিধা পাব পাৰে তেনেকুৱা ধৰণৰ শাসন যন্ত্ৰ তৈয়াৰ কৰি শাসন চলাব লাগে যাতে যিখিনি টকা খৰচ কৰা হয় তাত কৃতকাৰ্য্য হয় আৰু যাতে কোনো Wastage নহয়। আজি এই সদনৰ প্ৰত্যেক সদস্যই বিশ্বাস কৰিছে, কিছমানে হয়তো ব্যক্ত কৰিছে আৰু আনসকলে মনত ৰাখিছে, যে আজি আমাৰ শাসন প্ৰণালীটো ঠিক হোৱা নাই। গতিকে কেনেকৈ সেইটো ঠিক কৰিব পাৰি তাৰ বাবে সকলোৱে পৰামৰ্শ আগবঢ়াব বুলি আশা কৰিলো যাতে আমি জনসাধাৰণৰ উপকাৰৰ অৰ্থে কাম কৰিব পাৰো।

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Cut Motions moved from this side of the House. Sir, I hinted at the time of speaking on the Governor's Address that since the last election our administration had deteriorated very much and one of the main reasons for this gradual deterioration is that we have failed to take decisions in time. Now that a new Ministry has come into office, I would ask the Chief Minister to be very prompt in taking decisions so that the administration may avail of the opportunity to implement the plans in time.

Now, Sir, I also said during my speech on the Budget that I liked Mr. Chaliha's action in not appointing Deputy Minister. I feel there is no necessity to have Deputy Ministers in a State like Assam. In our State the Cabinet should be a small one and the members of the Cabinet should be chosen on the basis of merit only ; other considerations should not prevail. If we make a small Cabinet the question of appointing Deputy Ministers for the purpose of training them for higher responsibilities may arise. But when we have a big Cabinet of as many as nine members, which may also be enlarged at a subsequent stage, the question of appointing Deputy Ministers should be considered very seriously and I thought that because of that Mr. Chaliha had not appointed any Deputy Ministers. But to-day I heard that two members have been appointed as Deputy Ministers and another as Parliamentary Secretary. Now, Sir, it has become a regular practice of the Government to bring in supplementary demands ; whenever they want money they get it by means of supplementary demands. In the formation of the Ministry also, it seems we have taken to the practice of placing supplementary demands. Now two Ministers, tomorrow we will come up with demands for two more Ministers and then again for two more, and so on. I do not think this is a good practice. As soon as the Ministry takes office, the Chief Minister should decide about the composition of the Cabinet, how many Ministers and Deputy Ministers there will be, so that we may know what actually will be the size of the Cabinet. But unfortunately, Sir, this has not been done. However, even to-day I would request the Chief Minister that before appointing any more Deputy Ministers Mr. Chaliha should consider whether it is really essential for the purpose of administration of the State to have more Deputy Ministers. If he thinks that it is not necessary then just in order to please

somebody he should not appoint Deputy Ministers. Let us be very strict about this. We want to administer the State; we do not want to have more Ministers because we have to please more people. If we become strict on this essential point we can be strict also below and then only the people will know that this administration means business.

Now, Sir, the second point I want to emphasise is that the Cabinet should function as a collective body jointly responsible not only in the Constitutional sense but in fact also. Every department should be co-ordinated with each other so that they may think alike. Any new scheme whenever taken up if it concerns more than one department more thought should be given in implementing that scheme. For that purpose I would also say that in England the Prime Minister does not tour so much, he does not address so many meetings. It is only in our country that we have taken into the practice of addressing any number of meetings and undertaking any amount of tours. England is a democratic country and is also a democratic country. We should therefore see whether we can curtail our tours. Even in the matter of touring where it is essential there should be some amount of co-ordination. Whenever a particular Minister goes to a particular place, it is not at all necessary for a second Minister to go to the same place. This cross country tour should be avoided for one purpose namely in the headquarters' it is necessary to give more thought to the implementation of plans and to supervise things, because of lack of proper supervision anything may happen. So this timely supervision is necessary. Not only the Heads of Departments are to supervise, even in the Ministry itself in all details this supervision is necessary. Sometimes I feel that there are certain departments where the Minister sits in the Secretariat and the Secretary sits elsewhere. For example the Public Works Department and Agriculture. Here the Secretary or the Head of the Department in coming to the Secretariat loses sufficient time. Therefore here also reorganisation is necessary. If we place the Minister, for instance the Agriculture in one building, he should have the whole of the Agriculture, Department with him so that he may call for any files and discuss matters with the Head of the Agriculture Department or the Agriculture Secretary at any time without loss of time. Similarly in the case of Public Works Department or any other departments the Minister as well as the Secretary and Head of the Department should be housed together. In the existing arrangement a lot of time is wasted by a Head of a Department in coming from that building to this building

Coming to the General Administration itself, first of all we have to decide about appointment and transfer of Secretaries. I have seen that Secretaries are being transferred as guards are changed in the Westminster Hall. Very often Secretaries are changed in every four or six months. As soon as a Secretary comes and takes over charge of a particular department and begins to get an idea of the whole department he is switched over to another department. What I emphasise is that as soon as a Minister comes into office he should decide once for all that so and so should be his Secretaries, he should fix up that A should be the Secretary of the Finance Department and for five years he should be kept there so that he can go through the organization properly and things may be done properly. This is one aspect. The second aspect is that very often we find that one Secretary is saddled with a burden of three or four departments. I need not cite the instances. So we should consider whether it will not be useful to make a Head of a Departments also the Secretary. Very often it is said that the Secretary should be a non-technical man so that policies may be conveyed properly to the technical staff. But against that it has to be seen whether much time is not wasted in correspondence between the Head of the Department and the Secretary of the Department. Therefore in all these matters we have to give our thought and we have to decide whether in at least the big departments like Public Works Department, Agriculture, Finance and Home, etc., the Secretary should be a wholetime Secretary for that Department. He should be capable of giving his whole time to the Department, he should be able to know every nook and corner of the department so that there may be proper supervision and things may be done properly.

Then again in the Secretariat itself rationalisation is possible. I have not personally seen who is over worked and in what way, but from report I find that there are some people who are over worked and some who are under worked. Here it is essential to have rationalization. There should be proper distribution of work so that nobody can say that he is over worked and some other under worked. In that way it is possible to tone up the administration. So far as the Shillong Secretariat is concerned, another suggestion is that we have to keep a register of our correspondence also. Very often when a letter is written to a Head of a Department, it is lost or it gets so much mixed up in the files that it is difficult to do anything. In a democratic country we have to see that things are done promptly. As justice delayed is justice denied, so

benefit delayed is benefit denied. If a man who is to get a benefit say in the month of April or May does not get that benefit in April or May and gets it in December or November then that benefit has no meaning. Similarly it is necessary to see when a matter has been corresponded to, when it has been dealt with, when it has been disposed. In this matter if a proper register is kept, there can be proper checks in the whole administration. But as we have seen there is at present no proper supervision. If the present system continues nothing useful can be done. A Minister comes from a long tour, arrives in the evening and the Secretary puts up certain files to him, and the Minister disposes those files in the same evening and goes out next morning on a cross-country tour. This state of affairs is not at all helpful and the administration cannot be toned up in this way. Therefore, if we really appoint Deputy Ministers and so many Ministers then things should be done properly. Today what is the feeling of the common people in the street. Their feeling is if they come to Shillong and want to approach a Minister for certain thing they cannot influence a Minister unless an M. L. A. is taken with them. The same thing applies in the case of the Sub-divisional Officer and the Deputy Commissioner. Unless an M. L. A. pushes up one's case before a Deputy Commissioner or a Sub-divisional Officer nothing materialises. Similarly, if an ordinary man goes to an office Superintendent or a Head clerk with an application or a request, he would put it up in such a manner that either he must be paid something or nothing will be done for the poor man. Unless an M. L. A. or an influential man goes there nothing can be expected. Personally I do not like to go in such a case, but when I find that a man has come from a distance of 20 to 25 miles and has to spend money for staying in the town for several days, then I go with the man to the office and get the work done. Seeing all these things, I feel that there is something very much wrong in the administration, that there is corruption in the administration. Sir, I am not taking up the points which my Friend has already taken up. All I say is that common people should be enthused. They are not so much thinking about what ideals we have. What they are concerned with is the day to day work, with their day to day butter and bread and if they find that things are done properly, if they make an application, they get a reply either in the affirmative or negative then they may feel that there is the administration, other wise whatever ideals we may have we cannot enthuse them.

Sir, we have appointed a Commissioner for the Plains Districts and he supervises the district offices and hold meetings. Well, meetings now-a-days have become a fashion. Instead of solving a problem there is a meeting but often it is found that result of such meeting remains only in minute books only. There should be closer touch between the supervising authority and the actual person who do the work and then these defects can be obviated. So far as the district administration is concerned, I find that these things have gone down to a hopeless state. I find, in many offices there is no character of an office and there you hear simply crowd gathering and busy in talk and noise and to some offices you will find that people do not like to go because there is so much of corruption and also we find that the Deputy Commissioner or the Additional Deputy Commissioner or Additional District Magistrate, for example, of Gauhati do not get time to attend to their administrative and magisterial work. You often find the Deputy Commissioner or Additional Deputy Commissioner going to Barjhar to receive some high dignitaries like Central Ministers or he is to attend a State Minister or Chief Minister or to remain busy in some meetings. He does not get time for disposal of official files. He is to keep himself in readiness for attending to V. I. P's. Is it democratic set up of Government? I know of certain officers to meet him as soon as he arrived a place. I believe, this is a waste of time, which, I think, should be done. After all democracy is not for the citizens only but also for Government servants and officers. The old days have gone when there ought to have Policemen standing in readiness for saluting the Ministers and officers standing like dancing attendant of the Ministers. In the present democratic administration the Ministers are as common people as any other common people and if they are in the helm of affairs it is the people who want them to do certain work. Therefore they should behave with the officers in such a manner that the officers feel secured and has not to feel that if he does not go and *salam* certain Minister either he may be transferred from that place or he may create his displeasure. Such things have to be given a good-bye. We have to make our officers feel that in a democratic State his duty is to prepare plans, estimates and schemes and to see that administration is run properly to the satisfaction of the common people but not for getting the favour of a certain Minister. So long he discharges his duty properly he should not fear. Unfortunately, today officers even in disposal of applications have to look at the person who is before him. If it is Hareswar Goswami, you need not care him as he is not in power but if it is Radhika Ram Das, it is

a different thing, as perhaps he may be a Deputy Minister tomorrow, he is immediately attended to. If we want to tone up our civil administration we have to give up these differential treatment to different people. We have to improve the administration and make it consonant with the ideals before us. We find some officers overworked and some others working less than he should. There is a feeling that if one can go to the Finance Minister and bow down before him, of course, I donot mean the present Finance Minister, he gets promotion superseding many. In this way, persons who do not deserve promotion get promotion and these thing have very bad effect on the morale of officers because a man who is not fit for promotion gets it because he can bow down before a Minister. Another man who is more deserving and fit for promotion who does not go to a Minister for this purpose but waits to get promotion on merit, he suffers. These attitude should go, if we really want a good administration. Much has been spoken about these things by my Friends; therefore, I hope that if we are really earnest in bringing about a socialistic pattern of society, we have also to bring up an administration which should be in consonance with the socialistic principles and therefore it is necessary if we want to have democratic socialism that slackness and inefficiency should be avoided and there should be promptness in disposal of things so that people may feel that their grivances are heard and then they will feel the enthusiasm of the administration and they will come forward to give their co-operation to Government in larger measures.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Cut Motions, moved by Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

Sir, we have development programmes in our districts. The first five year plan is over and we are beginning the third year of the second plan. In such a position, our administrative machinery should be made very efficient and useful.

Sir, some Friends of the Opposition are criticising the Government regarding appointment of Ministers, Deputy Minister, Parliamentary Secretaries and so on. In a State like ours though it is small, we have various problems and we are working for the development of the State, so we are in need of people who are efficient and able to guide our

administration smoothly and well. Our Friends in the Opposition want to economise by abolition of the posts of some Ministers or of Deputy Ministers. This reminds me of an Assamese proverb :—‘বেজিৰ ভলা নহে—

কুঠাৰৰ কানো নহনে।’

So Sir, in my opinion we should not have any objection to appointing Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in the interest of good administration. Moreover Sir, we want to train our young people who may be able to take the burden of administration of the country in future. Therefore, I do not see any reason why our Friends in the Opposition should criticise Government on this simple plea as appointment of Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

Then Sir, my Friend has criticised another point, that is regarding the hospitality charge. Sir, we all know this is not a new thing, this hospitality charge was there from before also but.....(Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya—No, no)..... but as I am going to say only the head of account is changed, the amount was already there last year as well as in other years. Even then, why should they object to this ? This charge is not a luxury at all. If any dignitary come from other State or from foreign countries are we not to entertain him, are we not to spend for him as our guest ? If so, where from this amount will come if it is not provided in the Budget ? So, Sir, I think this charge is not a luxury.

Again, Sir, my Friends in the Opposition criticise regarding the tours of Ministers and Deputy Ministers. Now, Sir, in a country like ours where problems are various, I think, Ministers and Deputy Ministers should tour the country as far as they can provided their tours are well planned and not done in a haphazard way where for the same work two or three Ministers or Deputy Ministers go together to the same place. It should not be like that. But the tours should be well planned and in that case there should be as many tours as they can go to enthuse the people for the development of the country. Sir, regarding other matters they criticised Government regarding the rise of expenditure in administration. May I ask them, Sir, that in previous days, that is during the British time, this country along with Sylhet was under a Chief Commissioner ; if we are to remain in that stage then what is the use of a Governor or what is the use of this House ? We are progressing, we want to develop our country more and

more and that is why we want more and more expenditure on administration. Then, Sir, my Friends said that our administration is top heavy. In this I also agree with them to some extent that the administration in our country is somewhat top-heavy. The present difference between low income group and high income group, my Friend said is 176 or something like that but according to my information it may be 100 or so. Even in China, the Communist country, the difference in administrative sphere is about 20 times and in private enterprises the difference is more than one hundred times. It is said in the report published by the Indian Delegation to China that in China the income, *i. e.*, the minimum salary of a clerk is Rs.70 a month and some managers of private enterprises *cum* State enterprises get a salary as much as two thousand per month plus dividend on their capital which in some cases is as high as four thousand or five thousand per month. As I have already said, I agree with them that there is a difference in our country and I think that it should be minimised as far as possible. It is true that we inherited these things from the British, not only these things alone but also in other things like the English language, dress, and other habits too we have inherited from the British. I hope Government will try to minimise this difference of income between the low income group and the high income group in our country as far as possible.

Then Sir, my Friends criticised Government on another point, of course my Friend from Karimganj had denied these things and they are also not proved. Yet I want to speak one thing. It is just like an Assamese proverb ভূতৰ মুখত বান
বান ।

In China, their ideal country, what is done? I am going to read from this Report—"There appears to be almost complete identity in China between the ruling party and the administrative machinery in all spheres and at all levels of Government. In a parliamentary system of Government where the opposition parties have the right to defeat the ruling party in the elections and form the Government, it is considered desirable to keep the administrative machinery non-political so that any party that may capture power may without any hesitation make use of it as a reliable instrument for the implementation of its policies. But in China the situation is very different and the ruling party does not attempt any rigid separation of the administrative cadres from the political cadres"—So, Sir, this is the position in their ideal country, and

that is their ideal—they see everything here in that light as there is a saying in an Assamese proverb আপোনাৰ মন যেনে মংগাৰ খনো দেখে তেনে ।

Then, Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has said one thing that when the M.L.As., go to the Deputy Commisniener or the Subdivisional Officer or an officer of Government or even to a Minister work is done quicker than when an ordinary man goes there. That may be so, but as you know, Sir, an ordinary man cannot go to the magistrate unless he has got a pleader or a lawyer. We are in a society where lawyers are given prominence.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): What about a lawyer M.L.A. ?

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North-Lakhimpur): I am not speaking of a lawyer M. L. A. My point is that the M.L.As., know the various problems of their constituencies so that they can explain the matter to the Deputy Commissioner or the Subdivisional Officer or the Minister as the case may be, and in that way work is done quicker, whereas an ordinary man may not know all these things. So, Sir, I oppose that contention also.

Again, Sir, regarding administration I have some suggestions to make. Regarding administration, Governor in his Address has rightly stated, "My Government has been much concerned with the strain which the administrative machinery is undergoing in an effort to cope with the ever-increasing function of Government." Our present administrative machinery is a remnant of the last autocratic British administration. It has not been amended or altered to suit the needs of a democratic regime that is obtaining to-day in our country which is in the process of development and progress. What concerns the common man is—common man is not concerned with the Ministers of the State and high-ranking Secretaries of the Government—but they are mainly concerned with the Mandals, School Pundits, *i. e.*, with the local officers, with officers in the lowest strata of our administration where corruption is most rampant even now. We have not so far been able to eradicate corruption from their midst. I hope that our Government will take necessary steps and try their level best to remove this evil of corruption from all the stratas of our administration. Now, Sir, there is another thing. Some of our Friends have complained on the floor of the House about the non-execution of the various schemes—development schemes and other schemes in the fields. This is due, I think,

mainly to some of the most stringent financial rules bequeathed to us by our past masters, the British Government. But it is very strange that this procedure is not in practice in the United Kingdom. Financial concurrence which always delays execution of schemes is the main obstacle on our path of progress. In the last year we have seen that the amounts sanctioned by the Legislature was not received by any of the departments till January next year, *i. e.*, this year. The Budget was passed in June or July or sometime thereabout but financial sanction was not received in the field till the middle of January. This is very effective obstacle in the matter of execution of our different projects. So I think Government should take steps to eliminate this defect. I am, however, glad that the attention of our Finance Minister has been drawn to this matter. He in his Budget speech has very rightly stated that he is going to appoint three officers from the Finance Department to scrutinise the accounts, etc. of the three departments of the Government, *i. e.*, Agriculture, Education and Public Works. When we once pass the Budget after full scrutiny after having been presented by the departments concerned themselves—surely at the time of preparation of the schemes, they carefully scrutinise the schemes in order to enable their respective Ministers to place them before the House—what is the need of second scrutiny by the Finance Department which is called the financial scrutiny, which delays obtaining the amount by the departments for incurring the expenditure? I do not understand this. Sir, I do not like to take any further time of the House. With these few words I support the Government Demand and oppose the cut motions.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister) :**
May I intervene, Sir? I propose to make a few observations in respect of Cut Motions Nos. 7, 13, 19 and 24 only.

In respect of No. 7 on account Local Fund Audit—Sir, I am perforce very brief as my time is very limited—for failure of the Local Fund Audit establishment in timely and proper Audit of institutions drawing money from Government Funds; and No. 24 for failure of maintaining adequate staff of efficient auditors. Sir, I am sorry, I have got to repeat almost the same thing. In this department also the work has increased very much. There is great expansion and unfortunately people suitable for audit work are very rare. In the year 1956 the

Public Service Commission called for applications for a post of Examiner of Local Accounts. As many as 26 candidates appeared for interview but not one of them was found suitable for the job. So one officer was sent from the Finance Department—he was an Under Secretary—to get some instructions on financial accounts to Simla, and thereafter he has returned and he is now working as a Financial Adviser to the Education Department. Sir, as we are not having suitable persons to do audit jobs, a Central Institution was opened at Shillong. Here also we did not find a more competent person to impart instruction than the Director of Accounts here. I do not mean to say that he is not competent but then it was very difficult to spare him for that job. But not finding a suitable man for the job, we had to deplete our staff by one officer. I do not propose to dwell at further length upon this question as many of the hon. Members are well aware of our difficulty. This matter has been dealt with by the Public Accounts Committee at page 18 of its report. It is stated thus: "Some Local Bodies had not produced the accounts for audit to the Examiner for years. Some others had unspent balances with them and still some others had not fulfilled the conditions attached to the grants". It may be argued by some that the Auditors of Local Accounts do not frequently audit the accounts of the Local Bodies. But unfortunately, while there is paucity of staff, even this department do not keep the registers and papers ready. Therefore all our difficulties arise, and normally what should take about a week to audit, it takes about a month. Because queries have to be made, accounts have to be reconstructed, books are not available and so on and so forth. All these difficulties are there. Sir, I do not propose to take much time of the hon. Members as the Chief Minister and other Ministers will also speak, but I would just refer to page 99 of the Assam Local Audit Manual with a view to show the accounts which are subject to audit under the Assam Local Funds Act.

***Mr. SPEAKER:** I am sorry having to intervene the Hon. Minister once again. It is highly unfortunate if the Hon. Minister quote from Government Manuals which are just not available.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister):** I will only very briefly enumerate the names of the departments which are subject to audit by the Auditors of the Local Fund Audit department. They are :

1. Municipalities (including Town Committees).
2. Local Boards.
3. Local Fund Dispensaries.

4. Joint Committees constituted out of Local Bodies.
5. Village Development Fund.
6. Compulsory Education Fund in the Ghiladhari Mouza of the Golaghat Subdivision.

Then again, under Class II—

1. District Chaukidari Reward Fund.
2. Chaukidari Uniform Account.
3. Court of Wards Estates.
4. Garo Hills District Fund
5. Tura Fund.
6. Sadiya Local Fund.
7. Haflong Town Fund.
8. Manipur Local Fund.
9. Imphal Town Fund.
10. Workmen Compensation.
11. Barpathar Development Fund.
12. Shillong Joint Malaria Committee.
13. Subscription and Donation Fund of State Dispensaries.
14. Charitable Endowment Fund.
15. King George V. Anti-Tuberculosis Fund.
16. Assam Branch of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association
17. Personal Ledger Account of Anti-Malaria Scheme.
18. Administrator General and Official Trustee.
19. Trust Funds.
20. Grants-in-aid schools—all the aided High Schools in the State
The hon. Members can appreciate the immensity of the task
when we have about 300 High English Schools in the State.

21. Gonesh Das Women and Children Hospital.
22. Assam Medical Research Society.
23. Emporium and Central Stores.
24. Assam Medical Registration Fund.
25. Assam Medical Examination Board.

On the top of it, new departments like the Central Social Welfare Board and various other things are coming. All these Departments are expanding and we have got so many institutions and whereas our officers are very short, we do not have suitable persons to do the audit work.

Now I would read out another report—Annual Report on the Working of the Local Audit Department for the year 1955-56 at page 2 of the same report : it is said—. “As regards the deterioration of the state of accounts of the Local Bodies and others a better picture can be framed by a bare perusal of the subsequent chapters of this report. Such deteriorating state of affairs may be attributed principally to the palpable lack of interest of the authorities in the affairs of their charge and the failure of this Department to conduct regular annual audit of the accounts, owing to the shortage of staff in the Department. The above facts thus coalesce to serve as a breeding ground for all sorts of irregularities including mis-appropriation of amounts, etc. Because of such chaotic state of affairs the works of the Auditors have increased tremendously and with the result that extra time had to be conceded in almost all the audits thus keeping down the progress of the works of the Auditors.

The special audit of certain Mauzas, Tahsils and Settlement Officers were conducted during the year in pursuance of the Government orders, without any additional staff for the said works. The number of such audit completed during the year comes to 15, involving 220 number of working days by a pair of Auditors. A move was also afoot to entrust the audit of all accounts of the Rural Panchayats and Development Officers constituted throughout the State”.

Now like the doctors and engineers, Auditors and Accountants cannot be produced overnight. It is a specialised job. I hope the hon. Members will appreciate this. We are training some persons ; there is a class going on in Shillong.

Now coming to the Canteen Matter, it has been said—
 “To criticise the gross disparity of pay, allowances and other amenities of life and service between the top staff and officials and the employees in the lower end of the Administration contrary to the principles of a ‘Socialistic pattern of society’.”

Sir, here I want to mention about the Audit Report of the Gauhati University referred to by the hon. Members. I will only take two minutes for that. Sir, the Audit Report on the Accounts of the Gauhati University for the year 1956-57 was sent by the Deputy Examiner Local Accounts on 26th September, 1957 to the Registrar Gauhati University. The reply furnished by the Treasurer is dated 17th October, 1957. The Audit Report on the Accounts for 1955-56 was sent on 17th September, 1956 to the University. It appears there was some delay, but all the same it was done.

Let me now say that in this respect, the hon. Member was pleased to mention that the ratio between the top floor and bottom is 1 : 167. Sir, I could not follow the trend of his arguments, I must confess. I do not know wherefrom he got this inference. Sir, as regards the salary of the Governor, it is outside our purview. As regards people drawing over Rs. 3,000 per month I think we have got only 3 Judges of the High Court. That is also a sort of statutory thing. As regards the salary of the I. C. S. Officers—the Chief Secretary and the Commissioners of Divisions draw Rs. 2,000 almost by a statutory rule. For the information of the hon. Members I may tell that the number of officers in the State of Assam drawing over Rs. 1,000 per month is one in a thousand; that is very negligible, Sir. Here I invite the attention of the hon. Members to the report of the Assam Pay Committee, 1956 and particularly the portion that deals with this question. It is at pages 4-5 of the Report. It says—“It is a common complaint that the gap between the lowest and the highest pay of Government servant is unnecessarily wide. Several representatives of Associations demanded before the Committee that the disparity should be removed and that the ratio of highest pay to the lowest should not be more than 10 to 1. The question of the maximum salary of a public servant is part of the wider question of the ceiling on individual income. The last pay Committee fixed the maximum salary of a Government servant in the State at Rs. 1,500. This was accepted by Government. At present there is no regular scale of pay which exceeds the limit of Rs. 1,500 per month.

Higher salaries have been allowed to a few persons appointed on contract. This will continue so long as there is demand for candidates with higher technical and specialised qualifications. As regards the highest income of a Government servant there is general agreement that it should bear some relation to the average per capita family income. The Taxation Enquiry Commission suggested 30 times the prevailing per family income as a reasonable ceiling on net personal incomes after tax, and the Planning Commission thinks that it is necessary to advance towards this objective by stages. A Government servant drawing the maximum pay of Rs.1,500 is not entitled to dearness allowance. He has to pay income-tax and professional tax at the rate of Rs.150 per month. This leaves a net income of Rs.1,350 to him. A Government servant of the lowest category will as a result of the Committee's recommendations, earn a tax-free income of Rs.58-8-0 per month. The ratio of his income to the income of the State Government servants drawing the highest pay will be 1 to 23 which is less than the ratio considered reasonable by the Planning Commission. The Committee decide not to touch the present ceiling on the highest pay of State Government servants."

Here I may inform the hon. Members that after recent increment in the dearness allowances in the salaries of the lowest paid Government servants the ratio will be something like 1 : 20. I submit that the picture drawn up by the Members of Opposition is not consistent with the facts obtained here and the highest paid officers are not getting certain amenities which the lowest paid officers are getting, for example, educational concessions and other things.

So, Sir, it is our effort as well as it is the effort of the Government of India to slowly narrow down the gap obtaining between the higher-paid officers and the lower-paid officer.

Then, Sir, another point on which I would like to make a submission with regard to the criticisms made in Cut Motion No. 19. Here I deal with the subject at length. In my budget speech as well as in my reply to the general discussion on the budget I gave suitable replies. I would not like to dilate upon those replies.

Here again let figures speak for themselves. Sir, after the budget is passed, the Finance Department issues a circular letter to the various Department, which reads like this. The letter is forwarded by the Secretary of the Finance Department to other Departments. This is very important for the hon. Members of this House when they say that it is the Finance Department which creates obstacles.

The Finance Secretary writes as follows:—

“ I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the detailed estimates and demands for grants for the year 1956-57 as finally passed by the Assembly together with a copy of the Budget Memorandum which explains the various provisions made in the Budget. This should be taken as a communication of Budget grants for portions with which you are concerned. Any error or omission that may be discovered under the head or heads controlled by you, may please be communicated to this Department before 12th April, 1956. Subject to the correction of any error or omission, immediate action may please be taken to carry out the purposes of the grants.”

Here I repeat that it contains that—“immediate action may please be taken to carry out the purposes of the grants”.

“Spending department like Public Works Department, Supply, Agriculture, Forest, should see that funds are made available to their District and Subordinate Officers by the 1st of May every year so that they may not have to wait for allotment for implementation of schemes or for carrying out original works or repairs.”

Sir, this letter together with the enclosures were issued on 3rd April, 1956. So it is not correct to say that the Finance Department does not send the sanctions at once, and they send the sanctions in September or January every year. For 1957-58 the Vote on Account was communicated on 8th April 1957 and the regular Budget was sent on 1st July 1957. Therefore, I think, Sir, to state that there was delay over this matter is not correct.

Sir, now I come to the last item. I think I have done this in making replies along with the cut motion.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister Parliamentary Affairs): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a personal reference has been made about me with regard to the bye-election at Badarpur by the hon. Member, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. No doubt, Sir, the withdrawal of the candidature of said Mr. Abdul Jalil created an amount of frustration in some quarters not only in Badarpur but in many places all over the State. This explains the reference in this House by the hon. Member.

Sir, it is an unfounded criticism that Mr. Abdul Jalil was taken in my car and that he withdrew his candidature thereafter. When Mr. Jalil went to Karimganj to withdraw his candidature he never travelled in my car. In fact he went there in a public taxi and not in my car. On that day I was going to attend a public meeting accompanied by the hon. Member Mrs. Chanda in my official car at a place far away from this constituency. She is here and she will hear me out.

Sir, it was held by the Election Tribunal and the Hon. High Court in the election case between Shri Rathindra Nath Sen and Maulana Abdul Jalil that a Minister can go to the constituency where an election is being held even by using Government car. Sir, in spite of this, in the bye-election which was held at Badarpur none of us used any Government vehicle, and in fact, we did not cross the boundary of the Badarpur constituency as Ministers of the Government whenever we went there, we went as Congress workers and all of us while visiting the Badarpur constituency, as Congress workers, did not use Government vehicles.

Then with regard to the occupation of the Silchar Circuit House we the Ministers did not go to stay on the day mentioned there to cause any inconvenience to anybody far less to speak about the Additional District Judge. I stayed in my own house at Silchar. On one or two occasions I stayed in Hailakandi I. B. and Badarpur I. B. In fact none of the other Ministers also occupied the Circuit House at Silchar except by the Chief Minister for a night on the eve of the Republic Day on the 26th of January. As far as I remember, the Circuit House was occupied by the Election Commissioner, Mr. Sukumar Sen, and other officers who accompanied him in connection with the election on that day. As they were entitled to higher priorities and the Circuit House was almost occupied, accommodation in the Circuit House could not be given perhaps to the Judge. That is what I remember about the whole thing.

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

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit my explanation in reply to the points which the various hon. Members of this House have raised in the course of discussion on this demand.

Sir, it would be my endeavour to answer to each of the points raised by the hon. Members, and I would try my best to convince them by my reply to most of the criticisms levelled against the Government.

Now, Sir, I will first say about the criticisms that have been made by the hon. Member, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, on the demand for grant on General Administration. Generally these are the expenditures which are included in the demand. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the explanatory notes and the reasons for the increase in expenditure which have been mentioned in page 21 of the Memorandum on the Budget Estimates of the Government of Assam for the year 1958-59. I would like to read—

“Civil Secretariat—The increase in the Revised is mainly on account of increase in the number of officers and staff, increased expenditure and Allowances and Honoraria and ‘Contingencies’ to cope with the expanding activities of Government and also to meet the increased expenditure due to grant of higher pay in the revised scale.” In the matter of Statistics Department also the reason has been given. In other words what I want to submit is that this increase in expenditure under this head has been for various reasons: No. 1 is implementation of the Pay Committee’s recommendations, No. 2 is expansion of the machinery and No. 3 is subsequent relief that had been granted by the Government to some of employees. It will be appreciated, Sir, by the hon. Members that the responsibility of the Government has been progressively increasing while we are entering into different fields of activities and therefore it has become necessary to expand our machinery also. Whatever be the reasons, the hon. Members’ desire, I suppose, is that the question of economy should be always kept in mind by the Government. I would submit, Sir, that it will always be our endeavour to keep that advice in our mind, because after all whatever we do we must remember that it is the people’s money which we are handling. Therefore, I thank the hon. Members who have given such advice about economy. At the same time I would request the hon. Members to go through the budget memorandum starting from page 21.

Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya also mentioned about a new expenditure, for Hospitality Charges. This is only a change in the heading. With your permission Sir, I will read out from a note which I have lately received regarding this matter to clear the position.

"The provision has been made according to the decision of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under this new minor head. The corresponding provision in the last year's budget was against item (I) Rs.10,000 *vide* page 63, etc." I would like to draw the hon. Member's attention to page 67 of the Detailed Estimate and Demands for Grants for the year 1958-59 where he will find this new heading that has been made and he will also find that the head under which this amount was previously kept is now left blank. This is transfer of head only that has been made under the instruction of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. Actually there has been no increase in the estimated amount. The amount is almost the same as it was in the previous years. I hope this will remove the misunderstanding on the part of the hon. Member.

The hon. Member from Gauhati also drew the attention of the House to the Assam Government Servants Conduct Rules, 1937. It is true that there are certain obsolete provisos in these Conduct Rules and we are going to revise these Government Servants Conduct Rules where necessary, as has been pointed out by him, and thus the anomalies will be removed. In the mean-time, pending the revision of these Rules, certain action has been taken and the circular relating to this action, with your permission, Sir, will be placed on the Library Table.....

Mr. SPEAKER: It may be circulated to all the hon. Members.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):**
All right, Sir, that will be done.

Now, with regard to the accommodation at the Silchar Circuit House for the purpose of election the information of

the hon. Member is not correct. I suppose what he means is that the Additional District and Session Judge once had to adjourn certain appeal cases because no accommodation could be found for him in the Silchar Circuit House on the date mentioned by the hon. Member. As a matter of fact, in his order, the Additional District and Session Judge came to Silchar and expressed his unhappiness for not being able to find accommodation in the Circuit House. A copy of his order was sent to the Deputy Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner, before receiving that copy of order, has sent his letter of explanation to the Government and although it is a long thing, but in view of the matter that has been raised by the hon. Member I should like to read out a portion of it. This letter was addressed to the Registrar, Assam High Court, Gauhati, by the Deputy Commissioner and it is dated 4th March, 1958. The subject of the letter is "Accommodation in the Circuit House, Silchar, for the Second Additional Judge, Lower Assam Division." I am now reading the content: "Sir, I have the honour to invite your attention to the order dated 3rd March, 1958, passed by the learned Additional District and Session Judge, Lower Assam Division in T Appeal Nos. 4 & 5 of 1956. A copy of the order is enclosed for ready reference."

"As the comments made by the learned Judge for part of an order passed by a Court, I refrain from submitting explanation on them para by para as I may in the process unwittingly commit contempt of Court. However, I set forth below for the information of the Court the circumstances in which the learned Judge could not be given a separate room for himself.

In accordance with the requisition of the learned Judge, accommodation had been reserved for him in the Circuit House. But at the last moment owing to the visit of certain State guests and high dignitaries, the accommodation arranged in the Circuit House had to be revised and the following arrangements were made for the 3rd of March.

There are 5 rooms in the Circuit House of which room Nos. 1, 2 and 5 are large and 2-seated and room Nos. 3 and 4 are small. The allotment made was as follows:

Room No. 1 and Room No. 4 for Chief Election Commissioner, India and Secretary to the Election Commission—Sri S. C. Roy, I. A. S. (both State guests), Room No. 2 reserved exclusively for the Presiding Officer, Industrial Tribunal (Justice R. Lavaya) and his family.

Room No.3—Kept reserved for the use of the Union Minister for Community Development, Shri S. K. Dey., Room No. 5—one seat allotted to the Chief Electoral Officer and *Ex-officio* Secretary to the Government of Assam in the Legislative and Judicial Department.

The Union Minister for Community Development was expected to vacate Room No. 3 by 2 p. m. and it was arranged originally that immediately after he vacated the room, it would be allotted exclusively to the learned Judge. However, late in the afternoon of the first March, which was a Saturday, I received a telegram to the effect that the Chief Parliamentary Secretary, Assam, would be reaching Silchar on the 3rd evening and accommodation should be reserved for him in the Circuit House. I, therefore, allotted Room No. 3 to the Chief Parliamentary Secretary for the 3rd March after its vacation by the Union Minister and allotted one seat remaining vacant in Room No. 5 to the learned Judge. It was too late by then to inform the learned Judge by telegram that he would have to share a room on the 3rd March only with a Secretary to the Government. On the 3rd March I received the Union Minister for Community Development at Kumbhirgram airport and brought him to the Circuit House, Silchar. Immediately on arrival at the Circuit House, I was informed by the Chowkidar that the learned Judge was not satisfied with the accommodation provided for him. On hearing this I proceeded to Room No. 5 and met the learned Judge. I conveyed my apologies to him for my inability to give him better accommodation for the day and assured him that the next day, *i. e.*, 4th March, he would be given a better room exclusively for his occupation. The learned Judge was not satisfied with this assurance and insisted that he should be allotted Room No. 3 immediately on its vacation by the Union Minister. I expressed regret for my inability to accede to this request and tried to explain to the learned Judge the circumstances in which it was not possible for me to accede to his request."

This is the position, Sir, and I should say that none of the gentlemen mentioned in this letter for whom accommodation was arranged ever worked in my constituency.

***Shri GUARISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):**
Who was the Chief Parliamentary Secretary ?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Thanglura, but he did not work in my constituency even for a day. That was on the 3rd of March, i. e., one day after my election was held. So, Sir, after I have read out this detailed letter, I hope the hon Member will appreciate that the information which he received was not correct.

Now, Sir, the hon. Member referred to certain telegrams which I sent to my Private Secretary Mr. Hazarika. Although I was a candidate I did not cease to be the Chief Minister and therefore, even in course of my election campaign I had to discharge my official duties. The gentleman about whom the hon. Member has referred, *viz.*, Mr. Hazarika, did not go to Badarpur. I sent him one phonogram when the result of the election was declared. I have got a copy of the phonogram here. I am reading it out :

“ Am elected to the Assam Legislative Assembly from the Badarpur Constituency stop voting as follows : (I gave the voting figures). Inform colleagues and Speaker.

Chaliha, Chief Minister.”

I don't think I have done anything wrong by sending this telegram to my Private Secretary and also in requesting him to inform the other Ministers and the Hon'ble Speaker. This is the only telegram which I remember to have sent to my Private Secretary and I don't think the hon. Member referred to any other telegram except this.

Now, Sir, so far as the election and the Government's role in it is concerned, I am glad that this vigilance is maintained by the hon. Members, and I can assure the House that it was my earnest endeavour to see that I did the thing very fairly. At the same time, Sir, I do not want the hon. Members to accept my statement as it is. I have read out certain papers and whatever other materials they require may be made available to them if they so desire, so that they can satisfy themselves.

Now, Sir, the hon. Member from Gauhati mentioned about the topheaviness of the Government. I am finding it difficult to accept the statement made by the hon. Member as it is. The difficulty is greater because of the fact that we are gradually switching on from one type of economy to another type of economy. You may remember, Sir, one speech of the Prime Minister, which he delivered in Delhi and in which he said you will have to get things done more and more through the

employees of the State; or, in other words, the so-called bureaucracy—to the extent you call the number of officers, their power, and all that as bureaucracy—is going to increase. But the term “bureaucracy” as it was defined by the hon. Member, Shri Barbaruah, means another thing. It does not depend so much on the number of officers, but it depends on the attitude of the person concerned. He was very correct when he said that what he meant by bureaucracy was the attitude of the officers towards the common man. If the attitude is not good let us call it bureaucracy, but if the attitude is really one of service let us not call it bureaucracy even though the number of officers is more. Sir, there are many points which the hon. Members have mentioned about the improvement of administration. There can be no two opinions that the defects which we have noticed in the working of the administration should go. About the absence of popular control in the district administration now, I do not know what else it can be than to make our Panchayats at different levels strong and successful. If we can make our Panchayats strong and successful I suppose the idea that has been given by the hon. Member about popular control of administration will come into being. It is our endeavour to make these Panchayats strong and successful.

Now, Sir, hon. Shri Barbaruah said that the role of popular enthusiasm and popular co-operation for the achievement of the type of economy which we are conceiving is great. I fully agree with him that unless we can harness the popular enthusiasm and popular action from the people we cannot expect to bring that change-over which we are contemplating, the change-over for a socialistic pattern of society. I am very glad for making this observation by my Friend.

Another thing which he said about which he pointed out is about want of initiative of the officers at the lower level. I agree with him that unless our officers in all levels including lower level take initiative we cannot progress. Initiative should be there in all the offices and without this the Government machinery becomes weak and services to the people become poor.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition and also Shri Barbaruah have suggested to examine whether the Secretariat could be abolished.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** I did not say that Secretariat should be abolished.

*Speech not corrected.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):**
I said,

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):**
I am sorry.

This question was examined and we have found that merely tagging the Secretariat to the Directorates would not solve the problem because in a particular scheme there are two parts of work, one is formulation of a scheme and the other is execution of the same, both of which are inter-connected. Once we thought of attaching the Secretariat to the Directorates but we found after careful consideration that this amalgamation of the Secretariat with the Directorates would not go to lead us anywhere; therefore, for the present we have no such contemplation.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):**
So far as policies are concerned the policies are formulated by the Ministers, moreover, there are the Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. So why Secretaries should be there to help in formulating the policies?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** Sir, I submit that the Secretariat is actually the office of the Minister. If the Minister has to function or to take a decision he is to be furnished with sufficient materials and it is this Secretariat which submits these materials to the Minister.

With regard to corruption, Sir, this is the third time, I am repeating that all of us are anxious that this evil should disappear. The hon. Member referred to partition and division of assets in which the value of certain building was not taken into account and the hon. Member suggested that the officer concerned should be punished. The matter was thoroughly scrutinised by my predecessor, proceedings were drawn against the officer, explanation was received from the officer and ultimately it was found that it was a *bona fide* mistake and the officer was exonerated.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH:** The officer was responsible for losing a big sum of money towards the division of assets for M. C. College, Kean Bridge, etc. I think, he did these things deliberately.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has given his view and the Chief Minister has given the Government's view.

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** With regard to tours there are certain observations made by some hon. Members. We all agree and as a matter of fact we have been endeavouring to plan our tours so that we need not tour unnecessarily in the interest of administration and on ground of economy. There is no difference of opinion on this point.

The hon. Member, Shri Gopesh Namasudra suggested about adequate delegation of powers to the officers so that Ministers may not have to spend their time for small things. We welcome the suggestion and actually we have been endeavouring to proceed in that direction. He complained that we have been using officers for our party purpose. It is not the policy of the Government to utilise officers in the interest of the party. As a matter of fact, I do not believe that officers.....

***Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]:** আমি সেটা বলি নাই। আমি বলছি যে কর্মচারীদের নিজের হাতে ক্ষমতা আছে বলেই ক্ষমতার অপব্যবহার করে অন্যের গাড়ী ব্যবহার করেন।

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA:** If they utilise their powers improperly or misuse the same we will not support such an officer. It is far from the policy of the Government that any of its officers should misuse their powers.

Hon. Member, Shri Ranendra Mohon Das, referred to land settlement affairs and a large number of complaints in this respect. I agree with him that this is a matter in which serious attention of the Government is called for and I can inform the House that the whole question is receiving our attention and we hope, as we said in our Budget debate, to take certain decisive policies in this regard as early as possible.

Hon. Member, Shri Hiralal Patwary, spoke in a general way about defects in the administration and the necessity of improving the administration.

Sir, we are all conscious of these defects and also about the need of improving the administration and we are endeavouring to improve it as quickly as possible. He has also by the way made certain remarks about certain speeches made in this House. He said that he found a difference between the

speeches. This difference is there because when the speaker speak they give expression of their views sometime to alert the Government over various problems, we need not be very sensitive about it.

Now, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Leader of the Opposition for the very important suggestion he specifically made that co-ordination should be there. I fully agree with him that there should be full co-ordination between different departments, that the tours should be planned, that there should not be frequent change of Secretaries and I suppose of departmental heads also, there should be reorganisation of work load between different officers, that receipt registers should be maintained and also about improving the district offices. Sir, we have nothing to disagree with our Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, in these matters. As a matter of fact we have been examining these matters in the line that has been given by the Leader of the Opposition. Let us see what is the result we get from our efforts.

As regards the Deputy Commissioner of Gauhati, as Borjhar Airfield happens to be nearby to Gauhati it becomes necessary for him to be there sometimes to receive important persons who come from outside to our State. Sir, at one time in connection with a question on this point I examined the matter thoroughly and I found that the time the Deputy Commissioner spent for this purpose was not really very much. I think on the average it is not even 3 hours a week. Therefore that does not really handicap the administration of the district. Now, what are we to do when some dignitaries come to our State? Surely some representative of the Government must be there at the airfield to receive them; courtesy demands it that a responsible representative of Government should be there to receive these important persons, so when the Deputy Commissioner is there, he being the head of the district he will have to go. As I have already said, Sir, I have thoroughly examined this question and I am satisfied that the time the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup has to spend in this connection is not so much as to dislocate the administration of the district.

Sir, I have almost met all the points raised by my Friends except one, that is about appointment of Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. Sir, in this regard the ideal conditions are not always there in various aspects. Therefore, it cannot be said that because the number of Ministers and

Deputy Minister in a particular State or the ratio there of is such and such, the same ratio should be applied in our State also. That contention will not work. Sir, here in Assam we have to take into consideration various matters. Somebody asked what are the principles based on which the number of Ministers or Deputy Ministers is determined and what are the principles based on which people are selected for a particular office? Sir, I have found that this is not a question of one principle but a mixture of principles. We have to take into consideration various aspects of the situation in our country. It is true that some of the States have a smaller number of Ministers for example—I am giving the figures of 1957—in Bihar they have 21, Bombay—27, Kerala—11...(Shri Nilmoney Borthakur—the population of Bihar is double that of our State) ... it may be so, but population also is not the basis, we have to consider also the homogeneity of our people. I was giving the figures, Sir. In Madras they have 8, Mysore—14, Utter Pradesh—29 in all, West Bengal—28. In any case Sir, I don't think that the higher number should be our principle. Sir, what I cannot accept is that we should not have any Deputy Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries—I am sorry I cannot accept that suggestion of my Friend, because I feel that the conditions of our State demand that there should be sufficient representation in the Cabinet.

With these few words, Sir, I again thank the hon. Members for their criticisms and the various suggestions they have made and I hope, Sir, they would be pleased to withdraw their Cut Motions.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) :** Just now the Chief Minister said 'we should have sufficient representation in the Cabinet,' representation of what?

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Representation of the people (*laughter.*)

Mr. SPEAKER : May I ask the hon. Members whether they propose to withdraw their cut motions?

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion No.7 because I appreciate the difficulties of the Government in this regard and also the steps taken.

Mr SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his cut motion ?

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

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** So far as cut motions No.1 and 20 we press them to a division and voice vote may be taken for the rest. Let us see the verdict of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the provision of Rs. 2,33,500 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25—General Administration, Minor head—A—Heads of State and Ministers, etc., Sub-head—4—Allowances and honoraria (total) at page 66 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the provision of Rs. 51,300 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25—General Administration, Minor head—A—Heads of State and Ministers, etc., Sub-head—A-9—Government Hospitality Organisation (total), at page 67 of the Budget be refused, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs.51,300.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the provision of Rs.7,81,500 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25—General Administration, Minor head—D—Secretariat and Head Quarters Establishment—D. 1 (a)—Civil Secretariat, Sub-head—3—Allowances and honoraria (total), at page 73 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

“That the provision of Rs.3,49,300 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25—General Administration, Minor head—D—Secretariat and Head Quarters Establishments, Sub-head—(b), Publicity Department (total) at page 77 of the Budget be reduced by Rs. 100, *i. e.*, the amount of whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the provision of Rs.6,77,593 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25—General Administration, Minor head—C—Election (total) at page 72 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the provision of Rs. 2,78,187 under Grant No. 11, Major head—25—General Administration, Minor head—D—4—Local Fund Audit Establishment (total) at page 83 of the Budget be reduced by Rs. 100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

“That the provision of Rs.1,26,000, under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head F.—District Administration—General Establishment—Sub-head, Pay of Officers—Details head—Deputy Commissioners, at page 84 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,58,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is :

“That the provision of Rs.47,57,852, under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—F.—District Administration (General *plus* Sixth Schedule—Part A Areas) (total) at page 61 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the provision of Rs.35,000 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head—H.—Miscellaneous, Sub-head H.—1.—Discretionary Grants by the Heads of the State (total), at page 91 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is :

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw Cut Motion No.16 standing in my name.

Mr. SPEAKER: That will be out of order in view of the fact that at present there is no Minister without portfolio.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: At the time the demand was made, there was, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs.100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400, under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget be reduced by 100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

“That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400, under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1.”

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

"That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1."

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

"That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400, under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1."

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

"That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1."

(The motion was negatived.)

The question is:

"That the total provision of Rs.1,39,85,400, under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Re.1."

(The motion was negatived.)

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, I, put Cut Motion No. 1, before the House. The question is that the provision of Rs.1,57,800 under Grant No.11, Major head—25.—General Administration, Minor head A.—8.—Ministers, Sub-head 1. Pay of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary (total) at page 66 of the Budget be reduced by Rs.76,200, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs.76,200.

Ayes—10

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| 1. Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. | 6. Shri Mathias Tudu. |
| 2. Shri Gopesh Namasudra. | 7. Shri Nilmoney Barthakur. |
| 3. Shri Hareswar Goswami. | 8. Shri Pakhirai Deka. |
| 4. Shri Hiralal Patwary. | 9. Kumar Prokritish Chandra Barua. |
| 5. Shri Khagendra Nath Barbaruah. | 10. Dr. Srihari Das. |

The House Divided

Noes—57

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| 1. Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha. | 29. Shri Joga Kanta Barua. |
| 2. Shri Sidhi Nath Sarma | 30. Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda. |
| 3. Shri Moti Ram Bora | 31. Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwala. |
| 4. Shri Rup Nath Brahma. | 32. Prof. (Shrimati) Komol Kumari Barua. |
| 5. Shri Hareswar Das. | 33. Shri Lalit Kumar Daley. |
| 6. M. Moinul Haque Choudhury. | 34. Pu Lalmawia. |
| 7. Shri Mohi Kanta Das. | 35. Shri Larsing Khyriem. |
| 8. Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi. | 36. Shri Lila Kanta Borah. |
| 9. Mrs. Usha Barthakur. | 37. Shimati Lily Sen Gupta. |
| 10. Dr. Ghanashyam Das. | 38. Maulavi Mahammad Idris. |
| 11. Shri Mohendra Nath Hazarika. | 39. Shri Mo'ananda Bora. |
| 12. Shri Indreswar Khaund. | 40. Shri Mohidhar Pegoo. |
| 13. Mr. A. Thanglura. | 41. Shri Molia Tati. |
| 14. Shri Abdul Hamid Choudhury. | 42. Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha. |
| 15. Maulavi Abdul Matlib Majumdar. | 43. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma. |
| 16. Shri Baikuntha Nath Das. | 44. Shrimati Padma Kumari Gohain. |
| 17. Shri Bhuban Chandra Pradhani. | 45. Shri Radha Charan Choudhury. |
| 18. Shri Biswadev Sarma. | 46. Shri Radha Kishan Khemka. |
| 19. Shri Dandeswar Hazarika. | 47. Shri Radika Ram Das. |
| 20. Shri Dandi Ram Dutta. | 48. Shri Rajendra Nath Barua. |
| 21. Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika. | 49. Shri Ram Nath Das. |
| 22. Shri Dhirsing Deuri. | 50. Shri Ramnath Sarma. |
| 23. Shri Durgeswar Saikia. | 51. Mr. Ram Prasad Choubey. |
| 24. Shri Emeson Momin. | 52. Shri Ranendra Mohan Das. |
| 25. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. | 53. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami. |
| 26. Shri Gouri Shankar Roy. | 54. Shri Sarbeswar Bardoloi. |
| 27. Shri Harinarayan Barua. | 55. Shri Surendra Nath Das. |
| 28. Shri Hem Chandra Chakrabarty. | 56. Shri Tajammul Ali Barlaskar. |
| | 57. Capt. Williamson A. Sangma. |

(The Cut motion was lost.)

Mr. SPEAKER : Now the next Cut motion.

The question is that the total provision of Rs. 1,39,85,400, under Grant No. 11, Major head—25.—General Administration, at page 58 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 1,39,85,400, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(After a pause)

(The Cut motion was lost.)

Mr. SPEAKER : Now, I put the original Demand. The question is that a sum of Rs. 1,39,85,400 (Rupees one crore, thirty-nine-lakhs, eighty-five thousand and four hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration".

(The question was adopted.)

Mr. SPEAKER : Before I adjourn the House, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Members of the House something for to-morrow's debate. I notice that in this House there is a very keen desire to follow the Parliamentary practice as far as possible. I whole-heartedly agree with them. Now I bring it to the notice of the House that statistically it has been found that in the House of Commons, in most cases the length of speeches of the hon. Members did not generally exceed 20 minutes and in most cases it was between 10 to 12 minutes. I hope the hon. Members will bear it in mind that this will contribute towards establishing Parliamentary pattern in this Legislative Assembly.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M., on Thursday, the 3rd April, 1958.

Shillong:

The 25th July, 1959.

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

Dean;

