

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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A.M. on Monday, the 3rd March, 1958.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair, the seven Ministers, the two Deputy Minister and sixty Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which Oral Answers were given)

Public Health Dispensary at Kachua in Garubat Mouza, Nowgong District

Shri RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh) asked :

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

- (a) Whether there is any Public Health Dispensary at Kachua in Garubat Mouza, Nowgong District ?
- (b) If so, whether it serves the need of a vast population inhabiting the entire Garubat Mouza ?
- (c) Whether Government will be pleased to establish a fullfledged Government Dispensary in that Mouza ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

8. (a)—There is no Public Health Dispensary at Kachua.
(b)—Does not arise.
(c)—There is a Government Subsidised Dispensary at Kachua. Besides, Kampur Local Board Dispensary and Singimari State Dispensary are at a distance of 6-7 miles from Kachua. Government, therefore, do not find any justification for establishing a full-fledged Government Dispensary at Kachua for the present in view of the fact that there are areas without dispensaries within the radius of more than 6 and 7 miles.

Shri. RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh): মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে এই কথাটো স্বীকার কৰেনে যে এই মৌজাৰ প্ৰায় ৬৬ বৰ্গমাইলৰ ভিতৰত কোনো dispensary নাই? গতিকে তাত এখন গৰণমেন্ট dispensary দিয়া বিশেষ আৱশ্যক বুলি মন কৰেনে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): মই স্বীকাৰ কৰোঁ যে তাত এখন full-fledged Government Dispensary হোৱা উচিত। বৰ্তমানে তাত Subsidised dispensary আছে। মই জনাত অসমত এনেকুৱা বহুত ঠাই আছে য'ত ৬৭ মাইলৰ ভিতৰত কোনো dispensary নাই। সেই কাৰণে সদস্য মহোদয়ক মই কব পাৰোঁ যে গৰণমেন্টে যেতিয়া Subsidised dispensary বিলাকক লোৱাটো স্থিৰ কৰিব তেতিয়া কচুৱাৰ কথাটোও গৰণমেন্টে বিবেচনা কৰিব।

Shri LILA KANTA BORAH (Kaliabor): May I know, Sir, whether the distance is the only consideration for determining allotment of dispensaries, or there are other considerations also?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Some exception is made where the population is very thick.

Shri LILA KANTA BORAH: Sir, has Government examined the population in this area also?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: That will be examined.

Shri LILA KANTA BORAH: Sir, is the subsidised dispensary there running properly?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I cannot exactly tell the hon. Member how this subsidised dispensary is being run at present.

Shri LILA KANTA BORAH: Whether it is a fact that for the last two or three months there is no doctor for this dispensary?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: There are some other dispensaries also where we have not been able to provide doctors for dearth of qualified medical personnel.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North-Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Subsidised dispensary বিলাকক ঔষধ কাৰণে কিমান মঞ্জুৰী দিয়া হয়?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Subsidised dispensary বিলাকত বৰ্ত্তমান নিয়ম মতে ডাক্তৰৰ বেতন ৮০ টকা, free medicine ৰ কাৰণে ৪০০ টকা আৰু মেৰামতিৰ কাৰণে ১০০ টকা দিয়া হয়।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DALEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Skheduled Tribes)]: ঘন বসতি অঞ্চলত ৪০০ টকাই যথেষ্ট বুলি গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে ভাবেনে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: মই যথেষ্ট বুলি নাতাৰোঁ। যত পান্থিকে ঘৰ আদি কৰি আগ বাঢ়ি আছে তাত গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে subsidy দিয়ে।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLAI (Titabar): Will Government give more grant to such dispensaries where the number of patients is proportionately high?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: There are demands for more grants from many subsidised dispensaries, but we make equal provision for all such dispensaries.

Shri TAMIZUDDIN PRADHANI (Dhubri): ৮০ টকাত ভাল ডাক্তৰ পোৱা যায়নে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: ৮০ টকাত ভাল ডাক্তৰ পোৱা সম্ভবপৰ নহয় বুলিহে জনো। কিন্তু hon. Member এ জনে যে কিছুমান ঠাইত লোকল বোৰ্ডত যিমান ডাক্তৰ লোৱা হয় তেওঁলোকক ৮০ টকাতকৈও কম দৰমহা দিয়া হয়।

Shri TAMIZUDDIN PRADHANI: কম বেতনৰ কাৰণে Government Subsidised dispensary বিলাকত ডাক্তৰ পোৱা টান হৈছে বুলি গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে স্বীকাৰ কৰে নে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: সেইটো মই স্বীকাৰ কৰোঁ। ডাক্তৰ পোৱা টান হোৱাৰ কাৰণেই ভালেমান dispensary ত ডাক্তৰ দিব পৰা নাই।

Shri SURENDRA NATH DAS (Patacharkuchi): এই বছৰত Government Subsidised dispensaryত Grant দিয়াৰ কিবা ব্যৱস্থা আছে নে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: এই বছৰত কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নাই।

Re: Liquor Shop at Panitola

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

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

(a) The monthly quota of liquor allotted to the liquor shop at Panitola?

- (b) The approximate number of liquor customers in a monthly quota ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that almost all the customers of this liquor shop belong to tea gardens of the neighbouring tea estates, such as, Kanjikhowa, Kharjan, Dinjan, Udalguri, Panitola, Panbari, Mazbari, Depotline and other tea estates on the northern side of the Trunk Road whereas the shop is located on the southern side of the Trunk Road ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that this liquor shop is situated in the vicinity of Panitola High School and a large number of customers are to pass through the front road of this educational institution ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that a large number of these customers use to take wine near the liquor shop and while they come back they are in habit of singing loudly, whistling and dancing on the road in front of the school causing great annoyance during school hours ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the students, specially girl students, find it very inconvenient in coming and going from the school from the section of intoxicated people on the road near the school ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that the Students' Union of Panitola High School adopted resolutions every year during the last 4 or 5 years urging the authorities to remove the liquor shop from its present site ?
- (h) Whether Government are aware that the Headmaster and Secretery of this High School moved the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur with copy to the Superintendent of Excise, Dibrugarh, *vide* letter No. 718, dated the 5th November, 1956 to remove this liquor shop from the present site to some other sites to the north of the Trunk Road ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that the Dibrugarh Local Board suggested an alternative site in the year 1955 ?
- (j) Whether Government are aware that the District Authority has not yet taken any action to remove the liquor shop from its present site ?

- (k) Whether it is a fact that the District Authority has neither acknowledged the letter from the Headmaster and Secretary to the School nor communicated his positive or negative action in the matter ?
- (l) Whether Government received a representation addressed to the Excise Minister during the month of last July (letter No.919, dated the 18th July 1957) from the Headmaster and Secretary of the school urging the Government to remove the liquor shop from its present site ?
- (m) Whether it is a fact that this letter is yet to be acknowledged by the Government ?
- (n) Whether Government have decided to remove this liquor shop from its present site in order to remove the inconvenience of the educational institution and its students ?

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

9. (a)—There is no monthly quota of liquor for any liquor shop but the average monthly sale of liquor in this shop is 1,780 gallons.

(b)—The approximate number of customers is 6,000 p.m.

(c)—Yes, mostly.

(d)—Yes, but the shop is not visible from the school.

(e)—Yes. A report has been received by the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur and action is being taken to shift the shop from its present site in consultation with the Secretary and Headmaster of Panitola High School. The shop is opened at 12 noon and very few consumers visit the shop between 12 to 4 p.m. and very few consumers drink liquor in the vicinity of the shop.

(f)—No such complaint was received.

(g)—A copy of the resolution of the 5th Annual Conference of the Students' Union was received by the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur only in September 1957.

(h)—Yes. The matter is under enquiry and action is being taken to find out a suitable site away from the school.

(i)—Yes, while inviting objection for annual settlement of Excise shop for 1956-57 a copy of resolution No.7 suggesting removal of Panitola liquor shop to a place named Panbari Busti was received by the Deputy Commissioner from the Chairman of the Board after the settlement of the shop was concluded.

(j)—This is not a fact. Action is being taken by the District Authorities to find out a suitable site free from objection from all quarters.

(k)—As the matter was under enquiry the Secretary and Headmaster could not be informed about it by the local Authorities.

(l)—Yes.

(m)—The petitioner will be informed when the case is finalised.

(n)—The matter is under examination. Final decision will be arrived at after receipt of the report from the Deputy Commissioner.

Shrimati LILY SENGUPTA (Lahowal) প্রশ্নত কেইবাখনো চাহ বাগিচাৰ নাম উল্লেখ কৰিছে। সেইবিলাক চাহ বাগিচাৰ বাহিৰে আৰু কেইখন গাঁও আছে জনাব নে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise): কেইখন গাঁও আছে মই নাজানোঁ।। সেই বিষয়ে Questioner এ মোতকৈ ভালকৈ জানে।

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether it is a fact that Government gives more attention and also take quicker action on matters represented in the interest of the commercial section of the population in Lakhimpur district and that they bye-pass, avoid or neglect matters represented in the interest of educational institutions or for public welfare ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: It is not a fact.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Will Government be pleased to accept it as a policy not to allow location of liquor shops in the vicinity of educational institution ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise): Yes, Sir, as a matter of fact, whenever such cases are brought to the notice of the Government, immediate action is taken to remove the site of liquor shops.

DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Are Government aware that the Excise officials of my district have weakness to this Mahaldar and is not in a position to instruct him to remove the liquor shop?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Government has no information.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): May I know, Sir, while the Government received the representation of the Students' Union in the month of September, 1957, why could it not decide so long to shift the location of the liquor shop?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise): As has been already stated, action is being taken to shift the shop from its present site. But when it was about to be shifted, Government received certain objections from some people, and so these objections had to be looked into. So, some delay has occurred, because enquiry takes some time.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLAI (Titabar): If no alternative site for shifting of the site of the liquor shop could be found then what would happen?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Then it will remain there.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: My I know if Government are aware that an alternative site for the liquor shop was selected by the Excise officials in consultation with the questioner in the month of December, 1957 and yet the site has not been shifted to this new site.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I am not aware of it, Sir.

Srimati LILY SENGUPTA (Lahowal): ১৯৫৭ চনৰ মাহে monthly quotaৰ figure টো জনাবনে?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: তেনে কোনে Quotaই নাই।

Srimati LILY SENGUPTA: মই মোট Sale বা পৰিমাণ হে সোধিছো।

Shri HARESWAR DAS: ১৭৮০ গেলন average monthly sale বুলি প্রশ্নোত্তৰতেই কোৱা হৈছে।

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta): May I know, Sir, what is the distance between the school and the liquor shop?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise): Possibly it is not more than a furlong off. My Friend, Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika, knows it better.

Mr. SPEAKER: But how can Shri Hazarika give information to the Hon'ble Minister? I think this question relates to the site of the liquor shop and the school—what is the distance between them both? The question is quite relevant and Hon'ble Minister should have been in a position to supply the information. A supplementary question like this is quite expected.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The exact distance is not known to me. But it will not be more than a furlong.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, that is sufficient for reply. It is not anticipated that the distance should be given in inches.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know whether it is a fact that the girl students are to be escorted after school hours by the teaching staff or by elderly male students till after few days of fortnightly payment of tea garden labourers?

Sri HARESWAR DAS: The answer is there that no such complaint has come to Government.

Sri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara) What was the representation made by the Students' Union in 1957?

Mr. SPEAKER: What were the complaints included in the representation made by the Students' Union?

Sri HARESWAR DAS: The petition is not here, but their prayer was to shift the site of the liquor shop.

Mr. SPEAKER: They might have made certain grievances. The hon. Member wants to know what those grievances were.

Sri HARESWAR DAS: That was made to the Deputy Commissioner. The petition is not with me.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Was this not pointed out in the letter No. 718, dated 5th November 1956 and No. 919, dated 18th July, 1957?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) : That is also a petition to the Deputy Commissioner. It is not here, but it has been decided to shift the shop.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Whether letter No.919, dated 18th July, 1957 was to the Excise Minister?

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister has said that it has been decided to shift the shop. That assurance has served the purpose so far as this question is concerned.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): But the Minister could not say about the time when it would be shifted.

Mr. SPEAKER: When we find that it has not been shifted another question may be put in the next session of the Assembly and as I said there is our Assembly Rule 49 which can be invoked by any Member. In this connection I may make an observation that, as hon. Members are aware, the Committee of Government Assurances has been appointed. In fact we are going to hold the first opening session on the 7th of this month and it will be the responsibility of the Committee to scrutinise the assurances given on the floor of this House and to see how far they have been implemented. The Committee will also pursue the matter on behalf of the Assembly with the respective Ministry and in case they find some of those assurances have not been implemented in proper time then it will be reported to the Assembly and the Assembly will do the needful.

Bridge over the river Jia-Bhoreli in Tezpur Subdivision

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALA asked :

*10. (a) Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state the position relating to the construction of the bridge over the river Jia-Bhoreli in Tezpur Subdivision ?

(b) Whether the site and the plan of the bridge have been finalised ?

(c) When the construction of the bridge will be started ?

(d) What is the estimated cost of the bridge ?

(e) Whether finance has been provided for the bridge ?

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

10. (a)—Estimate for the project has been submitted to the Government of India for according their technical approval and financial sanction.

(b)—Site of the bridge has been finalised and it is now pending Government of India's approval along with other details of the bridge.

(c)—The work will be started as soon as the Government of India's Technical approval and financial sanction to the project are received.

(d)—Estimated cost for the bridge proper is Rs.52.61 lakhs and that for the guide banks is Rs.33.62 lakhs.

(e)—The Government of India provided Rs.60 lakhs, they have been moved for sanctioning the additional cost required for the purpose. The case is now pending with the Government of India for which they have been reminded.

We asked for permission to proceed with the work pending sanction, but it has not been received.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) : With regards to (a), what is the approximate time within which the construction of the bridge would be started ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : It is not possible for me to state that. As the replies would indicate that we are giving reminders after reminders to the Government of India and we have not received the final order. I may tell the hon. Member that during my trip to Delhi in connection with the Finance Ministers' Conference, myself and Sri Bhagabati, M. P. contacted the Union Transport Minister, Sri Lalbahadur Shastri and we have requested for a promise to begin the work but that reply to the request has not been received now. So it is not possible for me to state exactly from when we will begin the work.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati) : With regard to (a), may we know when the estimate for the bridge was submitted to the Government of India ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Estimates have been sent to the Government of India from time to time and the estimates have also varied. The latest estimate was sent in December, 1957,

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): With regard to (b), when was the plan of the site sent ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D. Roads and Buildings): This correspondence began in 1956 and to the best of my recollection it would be in the middle of 1957 that the site was finalised.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : In regard to (c) it is said that the Government of India provided Rs. 60 lakhs. When did they provide this ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I do not remember the exact date. It would be the later part of 1956 or early 1957.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Once started, what time it is expected to take for the completion of the bridge ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I have no idea.

Shri KAMALA PRASAD AGARWALLA (Tezpur) : When 60 lakhs was provided by the Government of India, was it not intended to cover the balance of 32 lakhs by the State Government ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Sri Bhagabati and myself spoke to the Union Minister, Shri Shastri and he was convinced by our case that we should be permitted to begin the work and the State Government would be prepared to pay the marginal contribution or its quota, but we have not received any reply to our request. As I have stated we are very anxious that this work should begin soon and we are seeking permission to begin the work pending finalisation of the financial adjustment.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara) : Is it a fact that the Government of India wanted a categorical reply from this State Government as regards their contribution ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Not to my information.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara): Is it a fact that the Hon'ble Finance Minister assured a deputation which waited upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister that the State Government's share would be contributed ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I also thought like this and as a matter of fact I have passed on the file to the hon. Member.

Mr. SPEAKER : How can the Hon'ble Minister pass on a file to an hon. Member? It is an official document.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D. Roads and Buildings) : There is nothing confidential, it is only correspondence. To the questioner I have only passed a note of the correspondence.

Mr. SPEAKER : If the question is in order, the reply ought to be made to the House and not to the individual Member.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I can say this that I replied to Shri Sarmah's question stating that we offered to pay the Central Government's demand in respect of this 30 lakhs or whatever it is.

Sir, I would also submit to the Chair that opinion of a Minister sometimes differs which can be likened to that of a witness in the dock in the course of a cross-examination whose opinion sometimes differs.

Mr. SPEAKER : The opinion of the Chair will be paramount in this House.

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM [Jowai, (reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Sir, what is the estimated length of the bridge?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : I want notice of this Question.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : When the estimates and plan were finalised?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : In December, 1957.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakgunj) : Sir, how much time is required to start a bridge after necessary approval has been obtained?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : It all depends upon the availability of materials, tools and implements that are required for different works. If we do not have them all at a time in Assam we have to ask the Centre to supply them to us.

Mr. SPEAKER : What is to be done in this case?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : In this case perhaps necessary implements will have to be brought from the Centre. I think the Department concerned is anxious to begin the work

as soon as possible and with that end in view we have repeatedly requested the Centre to allow us to begin the work.

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM [**Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)**]: Will the Government give topmost priority in this case ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Government is anxious to take up the work as early as possible.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Ferry Service between Dibrugarh and Abor Hills (Murkongsellek) Transferred Area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is no ferry service or other transport facilities between Dibrugarh and Abor Hills (Murkongsellek) Transferred Area ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that people of that Transferred Area are to keep in touch with Dibrugarh, the district head-quarters of the administration ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Office of the Political Officer of that Transferred Area is located at Dibrugarh ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that a regular ferry service between Dibrugarh and this transferred area upto Sultanghat near Bijoypure via Ramdhanghat and Galighat will improve the communication difficulties to a great extent ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to introduce this ferry service with immediate effect ?

(f) If not, whether Government propose to afford any alternative transport facilities?

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

34. (a)—There is no ferry connecting Dibrugarh with Abor Hills.

(b) & (c)—The headquarters of the transferred area has now been shifted from Dibrugarh to Murkongsellek.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—As the route is about 30 miles, the running of boat ferry service is not feasible. Ferry Steamers besides being not available now, cannot ply in this region due to river condition.

(f)—There is no other alternative transport facilities except the air service which is in existence upto Pasighat.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): With regard to (c) and (d), may I know whether it is a fact that the office building for the purpose of the headquarters has not yet been constructed although that area was transferred to the State in 1950?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department): I have no information. I will require notice of this question, Sir.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: With regard to (f), whether it is a fact that Pasighat is about 50 miles from Murkongsellek and there are no transport facilities between Pasighat and Murkongsellek except on foot to avail of the air service?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: I take it that the information given by the hon. Member is correct; but the alternative transport by river would also be about 30 miles and that is not considered feasible with engine-boats.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: May I know whether Government propose to examine the feasibility of an air-strip at Murkongsellek and move the Government of India to provide air services between Mohanbari and Murkongsellek?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Government will examine the feasibility of the proposition.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: Whether it is a fact that there is a proposal in the hands of Government to take up by Public Works Department the road between Guijan and Murkongsellek *via* Laikajan ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: If there is one, I have no knowledge.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): In reply to (e), the Hon'ble Minister has stated "Ferry Steamers besides being not available now, cannot ply in this region due to river condition". If ferry steamers are not available, how the Government can ascertain the river condition ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.): The questioner has beaten me. I have not been able to understand what he means. Does he mean that a steamer is to be taken there and tried and when it strikes against some boulder or something else it is to be found out that it cannot ply ! I admit, Sir, that I have been beaten completely by this question (*laughter*).

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: How was the river condition examined ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: The river condition in that part is such that any man of prudence can find it out.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: Was it actually examined ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: I don't know.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Was it examined by prudence in Shillong or locally ? (*laughter*).

Condition of Lower Primary Schools in the Plains Tribal Areas

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

35. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the Lower Primary Schools in the Plains Tribal areas are in deplorable condition ?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to sanction money as grant-in-aid to the Lower Primary Schools in the Tribal areas for the construction of buildings and other necessities out of Tribal grant under Article 275 ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education) replied :

35. (a)—Not all, but majority of Lower Primary Schools in the State are more or less in same condition.

(b)—Grants under Article 275 have been sanctioned to many Schools of these Plains Tribal areas.

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS: How many Lower Primary Schools have been given grants in plains tribal areas ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education): This is a very long list. If desired, I can place it on the table of the House.

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS: I want the total number.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I have not got the total number, but I can give the number subdivision-wise and year-wise from 1952 onwards.

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of the fact that it is an unstarred question, the statement may be placed on the table of the House.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta): The answer to (a) is not clear. May I know whether the expression "same condition" in the reply means "deplorable condition" ?

KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education): It does, but whether it is "deplorable" is a question of comparative economic and social condition.

Shri GHANASYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): May I know whether non-Tribal M.L.As. are consulted at the time of distribution of grants under Article 275?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: So far as distribution of Article 275 grants is concerned, only the tribal M. L. As. are consulted.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): May I know whether any grant under Article 275 has been sanctioned for the Murkongselek transferred area which is inhabited almost entirely by plains tribal people?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I will place this list on the table of the House so that the hon. Member will be able to examine whether any such grants were sanctioned, and, if necessary, he might put a question later on.

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal): লগতে লাহোৱাল সমষ্টিৰ কথাও বিবেচনা কৰিবনে—যিহেতু তাত মুঠেই গ্ৰাণ্ট দিয়া হোৱা নাই।

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: হয়, কৰা হব।

Shri SARVESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): Is there any register of tribal Lower Primary Schools?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Schools are not divided in that way. The grants are distributed on the basis of the number of students.

Shri SARVESWAR BARDOLOI: When tribal and non-tribal students are lumped together how can it be ascertained whether a particular school is tribal or non-tribal for the purpose of distribution of grants?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: This is done on the basis of the number of tribal students in a particular school.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchella): এই সম্বন্ধত 'নন-টাইবেল' মেম্বাৰ সকলক সোধা হয় নেকি?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education): (Rose up and began in Assamese).

Mr. SPEAKER: The reply of the Hon'ble Minister should be in English, as it is for the benefit of the whole House.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I think the tribal M. L. As. take into account not merely their own constituencies, but the over-all picture of the whole State in coming to a decision.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Whether this is the expectation of the Minister or the reality?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I think that is the expectation.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: But is it a reality?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: It is to some extent a reality also. But reality is imperfect in our life, as you know.

Shri SARVESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to invite the other M.L.As. also at the time of distribution of grants when tribal population are in the constituencies?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Sir, the suggestion will be considered.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Is the Hon'ble Minister aware that in certain areas there is no tribal M.L.A. although there is a lot of tribal people?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I have already said, Sir, that I shall consider whether for areas which are not represented by Tribal M.L.As., non-Tribal M.L.As. can be consulted.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: যিবিলাক ঠাইত ট্ৰাইবেল

এম্, এল্, এ, নাই—সেই ঠাইত গ্ৰাণ্ট দিওঁতে লোকেল বোৰ্ডৰ ট্ৰাইবেল মেম্বাৰ সকলৰ পৰামৰ্শ লোৱা হয় নেকি ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister; Education): নটিচ লাগে।

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): মই জানিব পাৰোঁনে—শতকৰা কিমান সংখ্যক ন'ৰা-ছোৱলী থাকিলে, ট্ৰাইবেলৰ কাৰণে দিয়া স্কুল বুলি ধৰা হয় ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: যিমান সংখ্যক ন'ৰা থাকে তাৰ পৰা ধৰা হয়।

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Hazarika understands English and he will not be inconvenienced if the Hon'ble Minister replies in English.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: So far as distribution of grants is concerned, I may tell him that we have not been able to divide schools into tribal and non-tribal in plains areas. So the other alternative is to give grants on the basis of the number of students. The number of the tribal students has therefore, been the guide for determining the amount of assistance.

Shri MATHIAS TUDU (Gossaigaon): Sir, the condition of the Lower Primary Schools all over the State has been bad. May I know from the Hon'ble Minister why Government neglected to improve the conditions of the Lower Primary Schools ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: So far as Lower Primary Schools are concerned, I do not agree with the hon. Member as to why Government neglected to improve the condition of the Lower Primary Schools. With our limited resources it is not possible to meet all the demands of the Lower Primary Schools and for this reason I suppose the Prime Minister of India in one of his speeches hinted that if necessary the Primary Schools should be held under trees, but this effect should be made to pay teachers reasonable.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): Sir, may I know how many Tribal Lower Primay Schools are there in tribal areas ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: All the Lower Primary Schools in tribal areas are inter-mingled

and it is not possible to give the figures now as their separation is not possible, and therefore the hon. Member should not refer to only Tribal Lower Primary Schools.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister is very clear in his reply. The hon. Member should refer to the total number of Lower Primary Schools rather than areas.

Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: জিলা আৰু ছাব-ডিভিজন অনুসাবে এই grant বিলাক কি হিচাপে দিয়া হয় ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education): প্রশ্নোত্তৰত মই ইতিমধ্যেই কৈ আহিছোঁ যে জিলা বা ছাব-ডিভিজনৰ টাইবেল থকা স্কুল বিলাকৰ ছাত্ৰ-সংখ্যা অনুপাতে এই grant বিলাক দিয়া হয়।

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, the Hon'ble Minister is forgetting the ruling of the Speaker that the Hon'ble Minister should give his reply in English.

Mr. SPEAKER: Reverend Roy has evidently taken due note of my ruling in this behalf wrongly. So far as the Question Hour is concerned, the replies may be given either in English or in Assamese provided the Questioner knows Assamese also. So far as the reply of the Minister is concerned he may give his reply either in English or in Assamese, that is for the Minister to decide. But so far as replies to debates are concerned they should be generally in English.

Shri JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): May I know from the Hon'ble Education Minister as to how the Government is going to improve the condition of the Lower Primary Schools ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Sir, it is a problem which involves a major policy of the Government.

Shri JAHAN UDDIN AHMED: Sir, my question is when there is no fund how the Government is going to improve the conditions of the Lower Primary Schools ?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchella): Do the Government propose to improve the condition of the Tribal Lower Primary Schools Subdivision-wise ?

Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY [Moran, (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: The answer to Question No. 35 is in general term that if there is any specific area which is predominantly inhabited by the tribal people grants under Article 275 have been sanctioned. The Minister has just now replied that there is no specific tribal area as mentioned by him and the amounts have got to be distributed according to the number of students. So, there is some kind of anomaly. Now considering all these difficulties, will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether Government consider the necessity of creating tribal areas for the purpose?

Shri K. P. TRIPATHY (Minister, Education): Sir, so far as Government is concerned the position is quite clear. We do not want to have more walls in the body politics of our society. Therefore, as a policy we want to reduce the walls rather than to increase them. So far as the question of grants to schools in the plains tribals areas is concerned, it is difficult to agree to the points raised by my hon. Friend. I think the principle of sanctioning grants has been well-laid. The Members of Legislative Assembly representing plains tribal areas have been consulted in this respect. It is they who have determined the allocations. But it will be difficult on the part of the Government to create plains tribal areas exclusively for this purpose. For this purpose areas which are merged should not be demerged again.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : Sir, I would like to make the position clear.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Education Minister is quite competent to give the answer.

So far as the question is concerned, from the explanation given by the hon. Minister to the points raised by the hon. Member whose point almost developed into a speech, the House is now in possession of facts in respect to this question.

**Post of Additional Deputy Magistrate in the
District of Nowgong**

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding) asked :

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

(a) Whether there was any post of Additional District Magistrate in the district of Nowgong?

- (b) If so, whether that post is still continuing ?
- (c) If not, whether that post has been abolished ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that no Additional Deputy Magistrate has been posted at Nowgong for the last one year ?
- (e) If so, what is the reason thereof ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied :

36. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—There has been no Additional District Magistrate at Nowgong since 10th May 1957 and one will be posted as soon as possible.

(e)—Due to deputation of officers to the I. A. S. Staff College at Simla and shortage of senior officers.

Shri NURUL ISLAM (Dhing) : Sir, may I know from the Hon'ble Minister, when the senior officers will be available ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Sir, I think some of our senior officers have returned from training in Simla. Perhaps in three months' time a senior officer will be sent on deputation to Nowgong as Additional District Magistrate.

Shri NURUL ISLAM : How many officers have been sent to Simla for training ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Three officers.

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : Sir, may I know from the Hon'ble Minister the names of those officers ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : The names are
 (1) Shri Makibur Rahman, (2) Shri G. C. Phukan and
 (3) Shri J. N. Das.

Shri RAMNATH DAS : I understand they have returned already to Assam.

Shri NURUL ISLAM : Why have they not been posted ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) : There has been some difficulty due to shortage of officers.

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] : Sir, may I know from the Hon'ble Minister when these officers have returned to Assam after their training ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Subject to correction, in December, 1957.

Shri RAMNATH DAS : Why one of them could not be posted so long ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : So long Government could not spare them and post one of them as Additional District Magistrate to Nowgong. Shri H. Bora has been carrying on the duties of Additional District Magistrate, and when officer will be available he will be deputed as Additional District Magistrate as soon as possible.

Shri NURUL ISLAM (Dhing) : How long would it take to depute an officer to Nowgong as Additional District Magistrate ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Presumably about three months' time.

Shri GAURISHANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : The Hon'ble Minister should have said that one of them could not be spared as his services were urgently necessary in connection with the Congress Session.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH : Not necessarily so, Sir. Shri G. C. Phukan was appointed as Special Officer to deal with matters in connection with the separation of Naga Hills from Assam and there were other matters also in connection with long standing subjects with Pakistan. I could also inform the hon. Members of this House that he was appointed as Liaison Officer in connection with the Congress Session.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchella) : Sir in reply to question (d), Government stated that there has been no Additional District Magistrate at Nowgong since 10th May 1957 and that one will be posted as soon as possible—my question is whether Government consider that great difficulties

and hardships had been created to all concerned by non-appointment of an Additional District Magistrate for the last ten months at Nowgong ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister): Some amount of inconvenience is surely caused, but Government are not aware of any very acute hardship and all such thing.

Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1957-58

No.10 (38.---Medical)

Mr. SPEAKER: Questions are over. Now we will take up the next item in the agenda, *i. e.*, Supplementary Demands for Grants. Yesterday the House was discussing Cut Motion on Supplementary Demand No.10.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion moved by my Friend, Shri Birendra Kumar Das, regarding the failure of the Government to give medical facilities to plains tribals, specially in the incidence of Tuberculosis. Sir, as we know, Tuberculosis is a curse and a very dangerous disease. However, I will not dilate on it but I will only speak a few words on certain points which need particular attention. Sir, in tribal areas natural there is lack of cleanliness and once there is any outbreak of Tuberculosis in any member of the family it is very natural that the disease will spread to neighbouring houses. So the most important point for Government in this connection is to have proper propaganda about prevention of this disease by some way or other.

The next point is the survey of the areas. Health Visitors who are engaged in surveying the areas actually are very few and even those few who are available also are not doing their work properly. Sir, it is the duty of the Health Visitors to survey the areas and to bring to the notice of the authorities the various conditions of the affected people in different places. But these things are not done. As a preventive measure to check this disease proper survey is one of the most important things. Then another important point is radiological investigation. Now, X-Ray examination costs too much for the poor people. For an affected person to have X-Ray investigation it would cost Rs.15 per plate. But if a process is taken up by which we can minimise the cost, that is, by means of a mass miniature radiographic investigation, it will be much cheaper and would be of great help to the poorer section of the people. If X-Ray plate costs Rs. 15 each, it is not a matter of joke for the poor. As a whole we are very poor. By this mass miniature radiographic investigation we can easily

examine the people community-wise where a large number of patients can be taken up at a very low cost which averages from one anna or six pies each. By this we can get the investigation at a very low price and if there is any suspicion, the plates can be developed and enlarged, that also will not cost more than 8 to 10 annas. So considering the price factor between an X-Ray plate for which Rs.15 is charged and compared it with the mass miniature radiographical investigation costing only 8 to 10 annas, it will be seen that the poor people will be much benefited by the latter. But this has not been done yet by the Government. So, I request the Minister-in-charge to pay particular attention to this suggestion of mine and introduce mass miniature radiological process not only by the tribal people but for other people in general as well.

Another point is regarding treatment. The treatment of Tuberculosis is definitely costly. For example, for examination of sputtum, Government is charging Rs.5 per patient. This Rs.5 is really a very heavy amount to the poor people. So it should be reduced or where the affected people are indigent, this should be done rather free of cost. But so far we have seen, nothing was done in this regard. Sir, I do not want to go into details in pointing out the importance in this point I have stated but I must say that unless these things are taken into consideration, this demand is not justifiable.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Birendra Kumar Das.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other day two Cut Motions were moved under this minor head, by my Friend, Shri Birendra Kumar Das, who himself belongs to the Plains Tribal community and my Friend, Mr. Tarun Sen Deka. My Friend, Shri Das's, original object was to criticise Government for failure in extending medical facilities to the tribal localities. But when he actually moved the Motion, in his speech he welcomed this Demand as necessary. I am thankful to him for that. What he wanted is that Government should extend medical facilities to all Plains Tribal localities. I admit, Sir, that the areas inhabited by the Plains Tribals are very backward owing to their ignorance and illiteracy and they need very special attention from the Government. I admit that. Sir, I consider that it is a sound duty of all of us and it is also the policy of the Government to see that not only medical facilities but other facilities also are extended to these localities gradually. With funds available, Sir, we have got schemes for extending medical facilities to these areas and

with my personal experience I can say definitely that with central assistance and the co-operation of hon. Members, particularly the Tribal M. L. As., we have been able to make considerable headway in the matter of extending these medical facilities to the Plains Tribal areas. My Friend, Shri Das, gave certain suggestions in this regard ; we shall bear these suggestions in mind and see to what extent they can be implemented. I may inform the hon. Member also that there is no such particular area which we may call the Plains Tribal Area, because the tribal people in the plains are mixed up with the general population ; of course they are concentrated in submountaneous areas and in other areas they are more or less mixed up with the general population and as such they are also enjoying the facilities which are available to the general population. Moreover, we have got definite schemes under Article 275 of the Constitution for development of the health condition in these areas. Sir, I may inform the hon. Member that we have been from year to year establishing dispensaries out of these Art. 275 Grants. Besides establishment of Static dispensaries in different areas, we have been also trying to provide these areas with mobile dispensaries. My Friend, Sri Birendra Kumar Das, pressed for some propaganda work in these areas. Now with the help of these mobile dispensaries we have been carrying on the propaganda work. Our scheme for these mobile dispensaries is that we provide a doctor, a compounder with certain equipment and medicine and health films. Definite programmes are chalked out from year to year as to which areas are to be visited. With the help of the mobile dispensaries, we are doing propaganda work in every area inhabited by the plains tribal. For the mobile vans we have provided Rs.2 lakhs 28 thousand in the 2nd Plan period for the plains tribal areas and Rs.3 lakhs and 68 thousand for the establishment of the Static dispensaries in the Second Five Year Plan. We are also proposing to provide another mobile dispensary in Mangaldoi. We also propose to have two more mobile vans. We have already 4 mobile dispensaries—one at Dhubri, one at Gauhati, one at Jorhat and the other in Cachar. Now it will come to 5, if we add the one to be established at Mongaldoi. We propose to give two more mobile dispensaries during the Second Five-Year Plan period. Under the Second Five-Year Plan we propose to allot another six such Static dispensaries in the Plain tribal areas. Besides these, Sir, we have been allotting grants to the Local Board and subsidised dispensaries which are located in the plains tribal areas. We have got the provision of Rs.90 thousand for distribution to the Local Board and subsidised dispensaries in the plains tribal

areas and for the current year out of this Rs.90 thousand, 20 thousand is allotted for distribution and that has been done. Now my Friend, Sri Birendra Kumar Das, raised another very important point so far as the T.B. disease is concerned. He said that special provision should be made for the treatment of the Plains Tribal patients ; particularly he wanted some provision to be made for their treatment in the Bordoloi Memorial T. B. Hospital in Gauhati. With regard to that I may inform my hon. Friend that we are going to have a special ward for the Plains Tribal patients and a sum of about Rs. 1,00,000 has been provided for construction of such special ward for the Plains Tribal patients. We are also going to reserve certain number of beds in all the hospitals where there are facilities for T. B. treatment for such Plains Tribal patients. Now, so far as disease T. B. is concerned, we have got a provision of Rs.3 lakhs 82 thousand under the Second Five-Year Plan and a sum of Rs.50 thousand has been allotted for the current year and that has been distributed to different institutions. Over and above this, for procuring the medicine and also for better diet we have provided certain amount for the individual patients of the Plains Tribal communities in different hospitals. In this way the Plains Tribal T.B. patients have been getting grants individually for their treatment and diet specially.

Now my Friend, Mr. Das and also Dr. Das raised the question of survey of T. B. cases. I admit, Sir, we have not been able to have a regular party for the survey of the T. B. disease but along with the B.C.G. campaign we can have some idea of the incidence of this disease. We are now proposing to have a survey party. We have recently appointed one Provincial Tuberculosis Officer and also we are going to send 4 more doctors for training and when they come back with their training, we shall be able to start the survey work in our State.

I think these are the main points which were touched by my Friends. In respect to another Cut Motion moved by Mr. Deka who complained that we have not got sufficient stock of equipment or apparatus in our Hospitals, I can say that this is not a fact, Sir. We have got sufficient number of apparatus and necessary equipments in all our district and subdivisional Hospitals. Recently, we have got a heavy consignment for supply of the equipment and apparatus to the Gauhati Civil Hospital. Shri Deka could not bring out any specific case where it is not available. Of course, what he said was that there was no X-ray Plant in some of the Hospitals. That is

not also a fact, Sir. In every district and subdivisional hospital we have provided X-ray Plants. So far as I remember, one X-ray Plant in Barpeta Civil Hospital, may be out of order. I will see that it is put in order soon. My Friend, Mr. Deka, also raised a question of diet. He also could not bring out any specific instance as to in which Hospital the diet is not upto the standard. Sir, the diet for patients varies from patient to patient, according to the nature of the disease. We provide them with necessary diets according to our prescribed rates and scales. Of course in some cases they need some special diet, which we provide to them.

Now my Friend, Shri Jormanik from the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, said that we have not been able to provide doctors in some dispensaries in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills district. As I have already stated that dearth of qualified medical personnel is one of our greatest handicaps, particularly, in outlying areas doctors do not like to go. As regards the two places that my hon. Friend mentioned—Bhoilymbong and Diengiei—I may inform him that for Bhoilymbong a doctor may be available sometime in April next. As regards Diengiei, we have already appointed a compounder and a doctor who are expected to join there in a week's time.

My Friend, Jormanik, also raised the question of leprosy cases in the Hills. I am glad to inform him that the incidence of leprosy is not so high in the upper regions as in some other places in the lower region, such as a place near Nongpoh. Sir, we have opened up a centre there for treatment of leprosy cases.

Shri LARSING KHYRIEM [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, I referred to the dispensary that is under construction, whether it is going to be completed or not.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): We will see that it is completed as soon as possible.

So far as leprosy is concerned, it is really assuming an alarming proportion in the areas inhabited by tribal people. Incidence of this disease is the highest in the North Cachar and Mikir Hills District and also in Majuli in Upper Assam. Therefore our Government has been giving special attention to the treatment of this disease and are spending quite a considerable amount of money in the matter of treatment of leprosy cases in different places. To tackle this problem we have got one Leprosy Project Unit at Damra in

Goalpara Subdivision where incidence of leprosy is very high. This is an area inhabited mostly by tribal people. We are going to open 3 more units which will be located in North Lakhimpur Subdivision which will cover Majuli area also and the Mikir Hills where incidence of leprosy is equally heavy. Each of these centres will be provided with about 20 beds. Besides this, Sir, we have sanctioned a huge amount to some of the non-official organisations in the field, such as the Assam Seva Samity, Sankar Mission and some other non-official organizations. These are some of the important schemes that we have got in our hands to tackle the leprosy problem in the State. I hope, I have briefly stated the measures that Government have undertaken by the Medical and Public Health Department to tackle the different diseases in our State, and I hope in consideration of what I have stated my Friends, Shri Birendra Kumar Das and Shri Tarun Sen Dekha, will see their way to withdraw their cut motions.

One point more, Sir, regarding the Shillong Hospital my Friend, Mr. Jormanik, stated that no proper attention is given to the patients coming from villages. Sir, that is not a fact. I enquired into this matter and found that special attention is given to all the patients of this hospital and more particularly to the tribal patients in the hospital. I assure my Friends that I shall personally see that due and proper attention is continued to be given to all the patients in the hospital.

Mr. SPEAKER: Have the hon'ble movers of the Cut Motions by leave of the House to withdraw ?

Shri LARSING KHYRIEM [Jowai (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : I want to speak something on my Motion, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: But you have not moved your Cut Motion.

Shr. RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Yes, Sir, I replied to the points raised in the Cut Motions moved by Shri Das and Shri Dekha.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : I also want to speak something on the Cut Motion moved by Friend, Mr. Larsing Khyriem.

Mr. SPEAKER: Now that the Honble Minister has already replied to the Cut Motions, these things cannot be discussed.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : I only want to point out a little mistake at page 22 of the Supplementary Demand. Here, against the demand of Rs.5,000 it is written that this amount is necessary for 6th Scheduled Areas but the Explanatory Note at page 24 speaks only of the Plains Tribal Area, nothing is stated about the Hills Tribal Area. Here it is stated like this:

"C-5(a) and (B).—Government of India's sanction to the Schemes under Article 275(1) was received late. No provision could, therefore, be made in due time. Hence provision by Supplementary Demand is necessary. The provision under items (a) and (b) is proposed to be utilised for purchase of medicines for treatment of Plains Tribals T. B. patients and for grant-in-aid to Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Memorial Tuberculosis Hospital and Sanatorium, Gauhati for providing treatment facilities for Plains Tribals T. B. patients respectively.

That is one of the reasons why my Friend, Mr. Larsing Khyriem, wants to move his Cut Motion, when the discussion was postponed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The discussion was not postponed, but the Cut Motions were moved earlier.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : So far as this sum of Rs. 5,000 is concerned, this is meant for the Scheduled Districts and that has not been mentioned in the Explanatory Note. As a matter of fact, some amount was granted. Mr. Khyriem wanted to know whether any amount has been provided for the Presbyterian Hospital at Jowai. A proposal in this respect came from the Deputy Commissioner which reached us after the distribution of the allotments. However, in the next year we shall see that some amount is given.

(Cut Motions were by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.2,54,927 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1958 for administration of the head "38.—Medical".

(The Motion was adopted).

No.11 (39.—Public Health)

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.1,32,667 be granted to

the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	95,39,400
II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year.	10,65,535
Additional amount now required ...	1,32,667
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—	

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B.—Grants for Public Health Purpose—							
(3) Grant for Misc. P.H. purposes	8,800	..	..	..	70,000	..	70,000
G.—Works (a) Original Works—							
2. By P.W.D.	22,000	15,000	..	..	..	60,000	60,000
H.—Charges in England Miscellaneous.		..	..	..	2,667	..	2,667
Total					72,667	60,000	1,32,667

The reason for this additional demand has been given in the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

In view of heavy influx of people from all parts of Assam and outside in Gauhati during the Congress Session, the Gauhati Municipal Board was required urgently to effect some improvements in the sanitary and hygienic condition of the town. As the Municipal Board has no resources at their disposal to meet such emergent situation, Government sanctioned a grant of Rs.70,000 for the purpose and as the matter was urgent an advance from Contingency Fund was taken. Hence, the Supplementary Demand.

G.—(a)—The amount of Rs. 0,000 is required for carrying out emergency water supply at Aijal. The water position at Aijal has become more acute during 1957-58 due to comparatively less rainfall and long spell of dry weather and considerable increase of consumers. The water will be brought from Sairang river by means of trucks and pumping engines for

distribution to consumers in the town. Such scarcity of water could not be anticipated earlier and no provision could be made in the budget and an amount of Rs.10,000 is required to construct a catchment to the two additional Water reservoirs at Aijal. The reservoirs will not fill unless the catchment is constructed to make the main water flow into the reservoirs. As the work is very urgent and there is no provision in the budget, the Supplementary Demand has become necessary. Hence, this demand.

H.—The amount is required by High Commissioner of India in London on the basis of the information received from him.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are 3 Cut Motions and they are in the names of Shri Ghanashyam Talukder, Shri Tarun Sen Deka and Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. Let the first be moved now.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDER (Sorbhog): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.1,32,667 under Supplementary Demand No.11, Major head 39.—Public Health, at page 25 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Rs.100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.1,32,667 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

The object of my moving this Cut Motion is to criticise Government for spending the money during Congress Session.

In moving this Cut Motion I want to say that this Demand is quite unnecessary. Rs.70,000 was spent as grant to Gauhati Municipal Board to improve hygienic and sanitary condition of Gauhati.

It is very surprising that our Government realised suddenly that the sanitary and hygienic conditions of Gauhati needed improvement only on the eve of the Congress Session. The Government forgot all these years to improve the sanitary condition of Gauhati. Because the Congress Session was held there and because our Government wanted to give a good show of sanitary and hygienic condition of Gauhati, this grant was given to the Gauhati Municipality. After the Congress Session the Municipal roads have become dirty again.

Now let us see in comparison the sanitary and hygienic condition of other towns of Assam. This has not improved. No Congress has been held here and it will require more Congress Sessions to be held in those towns to improve the sanitary and hygienic condition there.

In the same way our Government has forgotten to improve the sanitary and hygienic conditions of the villages.

If the Congress really wanted to improve the hygienic and sanitary condition of Gauhati then this amount should have been given by the Congress Party to the Gauhati Municipality, and not out of public exchequer.

This is mere abuse of power. There was a conference of a particular party and why should the Government spend public money for political purposes ?

I think this demand is wholly unjustified. As you have got the power in your hand I know well that you will carry this demand but in a democratic country such things should not be done at all.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.1,32,667 under Supplementary Demand No.11, Major head—39.—Public Health, at page 25 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs.100, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.1,32,667, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

The object of my Cut Motion is to criticise the sanction of the grant of Rs.70,000 to the Gauhati during the Congress Session. In the Explanatory Notes it is stated that in view of heavy influx of people from all parts of Assam and outside in Gauhati during the Congress Session, the Gauhati Municipal Board was required urgently to effect some improvement in the sanitary and hygienic condition of the town. The very fact that the amount was required urgently to effect improvement in the sanitary and hygienic condition of the town is surprising because it was known to all the people of the State a year before that the Congress Session was going to be held there and it was also known to the Government that there would be heavy influx of people during the Congress Session.....

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order. I will bring to the notice of the House a Rule regarding reading of books, etc.

“Members are not to read books, newspapers or letters in their places. (It also includes reading of letters). This rule, however, must now be understood with some limitations ; for although it is still irregular to read newspapers, any books and letters may be referred to by Members preparing to speak, but ought not to be read for amusement or for business unconnected with the debate”.

I hope hon. Members will take note of this.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) : So, Sir, as the sanction is required suddenly it shows that there is lack of far-sightedness on the part of our Government. We welcome the idea that the persons hailing from different parts of the country outside Assam should get all amenities in our State we also hail the idea that the sanitary and hygienic conditions of towns like Gauhati should be improved. But why did not our Government take steps earlier? Why was it required so urgently? We know, Sir, that generally "urgent" requirements bring some wastage. When some work is to be executed urgently and contractors are called to do it at the very last moment, they do not undertake the work if the rate of payment is not higher. Therefore, if works are to be done in such haste it will entail some wastage of public funds. And also, Sir, what surprises me most is this : during the Congress Session and after it was held when I moved through Gauhati municipal area I did not find any improvement in hygienic and sanitary conditions of the town. For example, when I when to Santipur, which is a very important area on the western side of the town and thickly populated, I found no improvement at all from the point of view of water supply and hygienic and sanitary conditions. There is no regular supply of water and most of the people generally take water from the river Bharalu. Now, Sir, the water of that river is filthy and unhygienic and by using this impure water the people are sometimes attacked with disease. If one goes to the eastern side of the Bharalu area from the western side, where the poor scheduled caste people live, one will find that the drainage system is so bad and filthy that a man cannot live there. If our Medical Minister goes there he will find that on the eastern side of K. B. Road right upto A. T. Road filthy water has accumulated at places upto two to three feet high, emitting bad smell. Thus we find that after spending a huge amount of Rs.70,000 no improvement was effected in that area. Now, if we proceed from that area to the Fancybazar, which is the most important business centre of Gauhati, we will find that the roadside drains on the northern and eastern sides of Gauhati tail Compound are so filthy and unhygienic that one cannot go near them because of bad smell. Also if one goes from Kunja Thakur's shop to the bank of the Brahmaputra, one will find bad smell coming out of the latrines. There is no arrangement to check this bad smell. I am, therefore, surprised where this huge amount of Rs.70,000 was spent. If one goes to other areas of the town like Ulubari, some parts of Rehabari and Tokobari, one will find no improvement has been effected in

those areas also. Further more, if one goes to the riverside he will find bad smell coming out from the sand-beach of the river. This is due to the fact that the people respond to the call of nature there openly. This is generally done by the Rickshaw-wallas, the labourers of the mill-owners and professional beggars who are living on the sands of the river. If any gentleman goes to ferryghat with his wife, daughters and sons just to cross over to North Gauhati, he will find to his utter shame that some persons are responding to the call of nature openly and in a naked condition. There is no check to it. From time immemorial this practice has been going on up till now, even after 10 years of our freedom. There has not been any improvement of this shameful condition. Now, Sir, why are these labourers, the Rickshaw-pullers and the professional beggars doing this shameful act? They are doing this because, so far as my knowledge goes, there is no public latrine system, which is most essential for the life of the city or town. Only for this reason these unfortunate people have to do this shameful act. It is the duty of the Government to ask the mill-owners to have some latrine for their labourers. It is the duty of our Government, if they want improvement in the sanitary and hygienic conditions of Gauhati, to ask the owners of rickshaw to have some latrines for the rickshaw-pullers. It is the duty of our Government to have better conditions of living of the professional beggars, who are now living on the sands of the river Brahmaputra. They should be removed from that area and provided with better living conditions. So, we see that after a huge amount of Rs.70,000 was spent, there is no improvement at all in the hygienic condition of the river side area also.

Sir, we know that in the Second Five-Year Plan there is a provision of about Rs.495.86 lakhs, but we are just nearing the end of the 2nd year of the Second Five Year Plan and in spite of this huge amount of money which was shown to be spent, we have not seen any improvement of this Public Health Department. We have come to know one every interesting thing. This is this. During the Congress Session Government spent some money in connection with installation of Power Pump at Ulubari, and this was done without any pre-plan and they attempted one near the New Field at Gauhati. There they spent a huge amount of money and some pipes were brought there and people expected that water would be supplied with few hours or days. But to our utter surprise it failed miserably. So I would like to say that it is recklessness on the part of the Department concerned to spend money in this fashion.

Then one point which I want to raise with regard to Gauhati is that Gauhati being a central town in our State having so many public institutions, etc., the water supply system should have been improved, and particularly in the Cotton College hostels water supply system is very bad and inadequate.

Mr. SPEAKER : This is going beyond the scope of the Demand itself. I think this could be discussed when we come to the Education Demand in the general Budget or Public Health or any other appropriate Demand. I think the hon. Member will please confine himself to the points of the the cut motion and also point by the terms of this Demand.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) : So, Sir, it has also brought unhygienic condition in the premier town of the State—I mean Gauhati. My point is this with regard to a huge expenditure amounting of Rs.70,000, there is scope of doubt regarding proper utilisation of the amount and I think that the major portion of the amount is either misused or mal-utilised.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Mr. Speaker Sir, my hon. Friend, Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar, moved his cut motion to criticise the Government for spending money during the Congress Session and in doing so he did not say whether it was for *walafide* or *bonafide* purposes and whether it was well spent or mis-spent. Had the money been spent before the Congress Session or after the Congress Session my Friend would not have come with this cut motion. From the entire speech of my hon. Friend I could find only that the amount of money should not have been spent during the Congress Session, and he further stated that the Congress should have contributed the amount for the purpose of improvement of the hygienic and sanitary condition of the Municipality of Gauhati. Is it not the duty of the Government to maintain sanitary and hygienic condition of a town irrespective of the fact whether there is a Congress Session or not ? It could be well presumed that during the Congress Session people from different parts of India would come to the Congress Session and they would also visit Gauhati which is a principal town of the State. Perhaps my hon. Friend knows well that some time back there was Plague epidemic in Gauhati and it is the bounden duty of the Government to see and provide for measures so that this epidemic may not occur again and the delegates and other visitors from outside the

State may be free from attack. As there had been outbreak of Plague about some months ago there may have been apprehension in the mind of the delegates and other visitors who came to the Congress Session and that apprehension had to be removed from the side of the Government so that the high dignitaries and distinguished visitors and other delegates coming from outside the State might be free from attack of any epidemic diseases like Small-pox, Cholera and Plague. Therefore the Municipality had to take measures necessary to cope with the situation as in the Congress Nagar the Public Health Department had been taking excellent measures against Cholera, Small-pox and other diseases. So the Municipality with its limited resources at its disposal had to take steps and Government had only to prop them up. In the fitness of things it is justified that the Government had to advance Rs.70,000 to the Gauhati Municipality for the purpose of improving the sanitary and hygienic condition of the town. Therefore it is not the Congress Session which is responsible for the preservation of sanitary and hygienic condition of the Gauhati town.

I cannot therefore see any reason for moving this Cut Motion, Sir. I presume that my Friend realised that it is the duty of the Municipality to preserve the hygienic condition of the town. The only motive of my Friend in moving the Cut Motion seems to me that he does not like improvement of the hygienic condition of the town during the Congress Session so that there may be epidemic and some visitors to the Congress Session die and then he will jump upon the Government and say that this Government has failed. I fail to understand why such Cut Motion was moved and instead my Friends should have welcomed this demand and all congratulated the Government for making excellent hygienic arrangements both at Pragjyotishpur and also in the town of Gauhati as a result of which no serious diseases broke out. Therefore I would request him to withdraw his Cut Motion.

As regards Shri Deka, Sir, the object of his Cut Motion is the same. He said that these steps should have been taken earlier. He wants that during the Congress Session, the roads and hygienic condition should not be improved. Here also I cannot agree to Shri Deka's contention. He spoke about the condition of the Gauhati town. We all agree that we want to raise the standard of Gauhati town and convert it into a full-fledged modern city. My Friend knows that. So instead of criticising the Government for helping the Gauhati Municipality to develop Gauhati into a full-fledged city he should have

asked the Government to give more money to the Municipality of Gauhati for making this improvement. So I would request my friend Shri Deka to have a good heart and not to press this cut motion and at the same time I would request the Government to see their way to convert this town of Gauhati into a full-fledged city which we may all be proud of.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Sir, I am glad that my learned Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, has not moved this cut motion because he himself lives in the town of Gauhati and he knows it well what improvement had been done to it. Regarding my Friend Shri Deka and also my Friend Shri Talukder they also know full well what improvement had been done there. Yet only for the sake of opposition they have come up with their cut motions to say that this thing or that thing has not been done. I can straight-away inform the hon. Members that the Government is fully justified in giving this amount to the Municipality of Gauhati because Gauhati is a premier town of Assam and during the last Congress Session as you know, Sir, there was a heavy influx of people coming from different parts of Assam as also from outside Assam. This was initiated by the Chairman, Gauhati Municipality who moved Government for grant through the Local Self-Government Department which was sanctioned by the Finance Department as Government felt the essential need for improvement of the sanitary and hygienic condition of the town of Gauhati.

Then, Sir, my Friend, Shri Deka, referred to the river side. I do not know whether he had been there recently. The people who left Gauhati for some time, even if they come now it will be difficult for them to recognise it. In spite of the fact that much improvement had been done in the river side, I don't know why my Friend, Shri Deka, said that no improvement had been done. Sir, I have no hesitation to say that we are fully justified in giving this amount to the Gauhati Municipal Board to spend this amount for the improvement of the town. Here are some items of work for which this amount was spent. For removal of refuse both from surface areas and from the drains, filling up of small pits for prevention of breeding by flies and mosquitoes, for quick disposal of night soil, for increased arrangement for vaccination, for improved methods of publicity propaganda, sanitation and hygiene and also for street watering. Hon. Members know that there was outbreak of Plague in the town in 1956. So bearing this fact in mind the Gauhati Municipality had to be particularly careful for sanitation and hygiene of the town. Sir, my Friend,

Shri Deka, also complaint, that there was lack of foresight on the part of Government but I must say that it was due to the foresight and the measure taken by the Government that no epidemic could breakout in the town.

In view of what I have said, Sir, I hope my Friend, Shri Deka and Shri Talukdar, will see their way to withdraw their Cut Motion.

(The Cut Motions were by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that, an additional amount of Rs. 1,32,667, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head—"39.—Public Health".

(The motion was adopted).

No.12 (40—Agriculture)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Education Minister in the absence of Sri MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY, Minister, Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.2,480, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head—"40—Agriculture".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	1,71,21,800
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year.	..
Additional amount now required	3,480

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for— 2,480

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
K.—Charges in England— Leave salary and deputation pay.	2,480	..	2,480
Total	2,480	..	2,480

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The amount is required by the High Commissioner of India in London on the basis of this estimates.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.2,480, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958.

There is no Cut Motion.

The Motion was put as a question by the Speaker and it was adopted.

No.13 (41—Veterinary)

Sri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Education Minister in the absence of Veterinary Minister **Sri MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY**): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional Amount of Rs.1,56,820, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "41—Veterinary".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly Rs.
38,51,100

II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly .. 48,040
during the year.

Additional amount now required 1,56,820

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand
will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
NORMAL—							
A—Superintendence—							
(1) 2. Pay of Establish- ment.	41,700	..	..	..	9,400	..	9,400
(2) 3. Allowances and Honoraria.	38,200	..	..	..	600	..	600
C. SUBORDINATE ESTABLISHMENT—							
(3) 1. Pay of officers ..	23,600	..	..	..	2,120	..	2,120
(4) 2. Pay of establish- ment.	2,03,000	..	..	..	20,800	..	20,800
(5) 3. Allowance and Honoraria.	1,65,000	..	..	..	7,900	..	7,900
D. HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES—							
(6) 2. Pay of establish- ment.	1,75,000	..	..	..	9,500	..	9,500
(7) 3. Allowances and Honoraria.	83,800	..	..	..	11,500	..	11,500
F. OTHER CHARGES—							
(a) LIVE STOCK FARM—							
(I) UPPER SHILLONG CATTLE FARM—							
(8) 3. Contingencies ..	67,300	..	..	..	31,000	..	31,000
(IV) DIBRUGARH CATTLE FARM—							
(9) 3. Contingencies .	45,000	..	..	..	24,600	..	24,600
H. WORKS—							
(10) (b) Repairs ..	36,000	..	..	..	40,000	..	40,000
Total ..	..	..	..	..	1,56,820	..	1,56,820

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(1)—(7).—The amounts are required for payment of arrear pay and allowances due to revision of pay scales.

(8)—(9).—The amounts are required to meet the increased expenditure on cattle-feed.

(10).—The amount is required to meet the expenditure in connection with the repair works of State Veterinary buildings.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.1,56,820, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of head "41.—Veterinary".

There is no cut motion.

(The Motion was put as a question by the Chair and it was adopted.)

DEMAND No. 14

(42.—Co-operation—II—Rural Development)

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Co-operative, etc.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs. 50,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "42—Co-operation—II—Rural Development."

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 60,20,200

II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957 Session of the Assembly ..

III.—Additional amount now required Rs. 50,000
 Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand
 will be accounted for :—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
NORMAL—							
Development Schemes							
First Five Year Plan —							
A-2.—Direction—Pro- 9,600 50,000 .. 50,000							
vincial Organisa- tion 4.—Contingen- cies.							
Total 50,000 .. 50,000							

EXPLANATORY NOTES

-The amount is required for payment of ground rent for the space for exhibiting the achievements under the Five Year Plan of various Government Departments in the venue of the 63rd Session of the Indian National Congress at Pragjyotishpur. The amount was advanced from Contingency Fund. The expenditure is to be shared by the participating Department on the basis of area of the space occupied by the individual Department.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs. 50,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operation—II—Rural Development".

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have got 3 Cut Motions ; now instead of moving all the 3 cut motions, with your permission, I want to move one. Further, with your permission, Sir, I propose to speak in Assamese as it is convenient to the Minister-in-charge to follow it and reply to it accordingly.

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member may speak so, but he should take into consideration the inconvenience of other Members of the House who cannot follow Assamese.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):
All right, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 50,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 14, Major head 42—Co-operation—II—Rural Development at page 29 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 50,000 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

The object of my moving the Cut Motion is to criticise the excessiveness of the demand).

Sir, lest we forget that we are being ruled by a Democratic Government our Finance Minister generally takes the pleasure in reminding us this fact very often on the floor of the House. Perhaps according to him this is one of the instances of "most Democratic way of functioning of the Government", which will be revealed if I read out the Explanatory Note in connection with this Demand. Under this Demand we find the amount is required for payment of ground rent—I give special emphasis on the words—'ground rent'—for the space for exhibiting the achievements under the Five Year Plan of various Government Departments in the venue of the 63rd Session of the Indian National Congress at Pragjyotishpur. The amount was advanced from Contingency Fund. The expenditure is to be shared by the participating Department on the basis of area of the space occupied by the individual Department. 'Now so far as the sum of Rs.50,000 is concerned, this only pertains to the Department of Co-operation and Rural Development. There were other Departments of the Government also, which had exhibition stalls in the Congress Exhibition Ground and they paid separately. So this sum of Rs. 50,000 as is understood from the Explanatory Note does not represent the whole amount that the Government had given to the Congress Reception Committee on account of 'ground rent'. Now the question arises—whose ground it is? Who was the land-lord of the land? It was among others, Sri Sashadhar Das. Did he get even 50 Naya paise not to speak of Rs. 50,000? Who did get this ground rent, the Exhibition Committee of the Indian National Congress or anybody else? [Sri Debeswar Sarmah (Finance Minister): No, no, he is entirely incorrect].

Now what was that ground being utilised for, which was lying fallow for years. Of course tractors were brought there to level the ground a portion of which was later used for

Exhibition stalls. Now is it for the first time in the history of the Democratic Government of Assam that they used such exhibition stalls in public gatherings? I hope—not. There were other public gatherings and there also Government sent their Departmental stores for the purpose of exhibition. Can Government show any instances in the past where the Government sent their things for exhibition of their achievements and paid such ground rents to any reception committee of any Organisation? Can the Departmental Minister say so? Secondly what was the area this Department occupied for the purpose of exhibition? Was it such a vast area that for a period of 7 days or so an amount of Rs.50,000 had to be paid simply as ground rent? These stalls of course had to be built by the Government at its own cost. The Reception Committee of the All-India Congress was supplied with all the C. I. sheets and was rendered all other necessary facilities for the construction of the Congress Nagar. All the stock of C. I. sheets were kept in reserve for the whole year to be used in making pendals and stalls in connection with the Session of the All-India Congress Committee. The public did not get any C. I. sheet although they were badly in need of it. We in the Supply Advisory Committee did not meet for distribution of the C. I. sheets, because no C. I. sheet was available for distribution to the public,—they were all kept in reserve for the Session. Now Government supplied all the materials to the Congress Reception Committee. I do not know whether even now these C.I. sheets have been returned by the Reception Committee. Government gave all the facilities for the construction of these stalls and pandals, but simply for the utilisation of a portion of the ground, Government had to pay a sum of Rs.50,000 to the Reception Committee of the All-India Congress on account of 'ground rent' (*laughter*)! This is only from Co-operative Department. It is very well known that similarly big amounts were paid by the Government for exhibition of 'Relief Map', Agriculture, Publicity and other Departmental things. In this way it is very easy for the House to take into consideration as to who paid the piper and who had actually borne the major brunt of the expenditure in connection with the Session of the All-India Congress at Pragjyotishpur. Having seen this I am reminded of an occasion. Hon'ble Members know that Government have been spending some money for the purpose of eradication of untouchability and for that purpose some community prayers, such as 'Namkirtans' were held. I myself had the occasion to be present in one such 'Namkirtan', and there I found that one gentleman who came to

distribute the 'prasad' come there accompanied by his little son who brought with him only a small towel or Gamocha. So he said to his son", গানোছাঁখনহে লৈ আহিলি। মাৰব বিহা খনকেটো নাইলি কিয় ? হো, এই খোকা তোৰ, এইয়া মাৰব। (*laughter*).

(Hindi—क्या मतलब है इसका)

Because he thought that the Gamocha was too small to carry all that he would give.

Mr. SPEAKER : Honourable Member need not emphasis his point by pantomime.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Because the intention of this gentleman was to give one palmful of the Prasad for his wife another palmful for his little son and yet another for his cousin and so on and so forth. Similarly, here also this amount of Rs.50 thousand was given in the name of the exhibition, another 10 thousand for the Relief Map and some more thousands for publicity, and in this way we find if we take all these things into consideration that the figure will come to about 50 lakhs that this Government had spent for this Congress Session. The Finance Minister was pleased enough to say only the other day that they had spent Rs.250 thousand on the Police Force that was engaged at the Congress Session. He said triumphantly, "We have spent more than two and a half lakhs for the Police arrangement for the Congress Session". He took great pride in a most democratic way, of course, in these contributions of his Government towards the Congress Session. This is the way democracy is functioning in our State. We also claim to be democrats in our humble way though, our master democrats who belong to that great democratic organisation, the Congress, will perhaps make us understand some new type of democracy which is embodied in lavish squandering of public money for the purpose of helping a particular political party. After all, this is not the money paid simply by Congress members, there are thousands and lakhs of others who may or may not have sympathy for that organization. If thousands and thousands of rupees be spent in this way in furtherance of the political propaganda of a particular political party, then 'Oh God' (if there be a God) what will happen to democracy if there is democracy at all in our Country ?

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs. 50,000 under Supplementary Demand No.14, Major head 42.—Co-operation—II—Rural Development, at page 29 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 50,000, do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorhhog): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take my stand to support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope the hon. Member will not repeat the arguments already advanced by the Mover of the Cut Motion.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR: All right Sir.

In my opinion the provision which has been made in this Supplementary Demand is quite unnecessary. This amount was spent for a political organization of a certain political party in our State, and therefore I feel our Government should not have incurred this expenditure. If we look to the conduct of other political parties outside our country, we will find that no Government department take such active part in any political conference, they even do not go there. No where in the democratic countries of the world Government machinery has ever been used in the manner it has been done here. It seems our Government has absolutely forgotten the distinction between a political party and the Government. I hope they will take lessons for the criticisms that has been made to-day in the House and will not repeat this mistake in future.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought it would not be necessary for me to participate in the debate under this Head of Demand but since my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, thought it fit to bring my name in the course of his discussion, I think I should speak a few words. Sir, I find our Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, and other, who followed him have become more royal than the king himself. We did these things, such as the holding of the exhibition etc., during the time when the British ruled this country, Britishers allowed these things and at that time no countryman of

ours complained on that score or criticised us. But unfortunately for us, in independent India our friends on the other side have not been able to look to us without apportioning blame to us for doing just the same things that we did before. In 1947 when we held the Assam Rastriya Sanmilan, and other conferences also, we held one exhibition along with it. The British people whose only responsibility was supposed to be, at least by themselves, in maintaining law and order and collecting taxes, did allow their departments, primarily the Agricultural Department to participate in our exhibitions. I say so from my personal experience, because I was sponsor of more than one such exhibitions during those days when we were all fighting very hard against the British to end their rule in our country ; at that time even these things were allowed by them. Now my Friend has stated that the responsibility of holding this exhibition was that of the Reception Committee of the 63rd Indian National Congress held at Pragjyotishpur. I beg to submit, Sir, this view is entirely incorrect. The Cottage and Village Industries Association is an autonomous body sponsored by the Government, and it has its own machinery and method and procedure of function. It is this organization which holds this exhibition as they consider it would serve the best interest of the organization as well as of the people if the exhibition is held during the time of the Congress Session. Our Chief Minister I think the other day, I am not quite sure, dealt with these things. As the hon. Members will agree that in a vast country like India with 360 million population, the advancement of the village industries depends to a great extent on the raising of the standard of the industrially backward people. Therefore our leaders have decided that our small scale industries should be given as much impetus as possible so that they may not only thrive but also prosper and increase the prosperity of our country. With that end in view this Khadi and Village Industries organisation was sponsored. It is an autonomous body and this autonomous body decided to hold the exhibition in places where the Indian National Congress Session is held. This body has institutions also at different places and there the products of cottage and other small scale industries are exhibited and large number of people go and see them. The other day I had the good fortune of seeing a very good exhibit of handloom from Madras and the Vice-Chancellor of our Gauhati University was pleased to purchase it for demonstration in his University. Similarly, Cottage Industries products are brought from various States and exhibited here. This is an acknowledged way of advancing our knowledge of Cottage Industries in various parts of the country.

After Mr. Bhattacharyya another Friend was pleased to say that in other countries where political parties hold conferences Government do not come in to bear any expenditure or hold any exhibition from their side. I have not the good fortune of going abroad. But in India we find that the cottage and village industries exhibition is held for augmenting education of the people. So, Sir, from that stand point it cannot be said that this exhibition itself or the expenditure of the money has anything to do with our political party conference.

Another point was raised as to why so much money was paid and who got this money. I disclose no secrecy when I say that we took information from other States as to how they did in connection with the exhibition in other States. In some States the rate is Rs.4 per square feet and from this Khadi and village Industries exhibition on that calculation we have got an amount of about Rs.50,000, but in proportion to the space occupied, the amount we should get on that calculation should be about Rs.64,000.

Another point which my Friend sought to make was that while C. I. sheets were used in this exhibition, public were suffering for this. I appreciate his tears for the public, but alas, it was not so, as the entire quota of C. I. sheets had come from the Central Government for utilisation by the Congress and that quota was in addition to the allotted quota for the people of Assam.

I submit, Sir, that we require such institutions for educating our people in Cottage Industries and such other things, because ours is a country which believe in some form of democracy about which I may say that humble immature democrats cannot understand on the subject and do not know what is going on in other States. So, for their inspiration if they can see things themselves they would understand and appreciate them very well.

Thank you, Sir.

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Co-operative): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য ভট্টাচার্য ডাঙৰীয়াই কব খুজিছে যে প্ৰদৰ্শনীৰ কাৰণে যি ৫০,০০০ টকা খৰচ হৈছিল সেই টকাৰে প্ৰকাৰান্তৰে কংগ্ৰেছ অনুষ্ঠানক সহায়হে কৰা হৈছিল। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য সকলৰ সকলোৱেই জানে যে কংগ্ৰেছে যেতিয়াৰে পৰা স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলন চলাইছে তেতিয়াৰে পৰা প্ৰতি বছৰে যেতিয়া কংগ্ৰেছৰ অধিবেশন হয় তাৰ লগেলগে একোখন স্বদেশী প্ৰদৰ্শনী পতাৰ প্ৰথা চলি আহিছে। দেশসেৱক সকলে কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ জৰিয়তে এই দুখীয়া দেশখনৰ আৰ্থিক উন্নতি কৰিবৰ কাৰণে যি আপাণ চেষ্টা কৰি আহিছিল আৰু নানা উপায়েৰে আঁঠাৰ

দেশ খনৰ কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ জৰিয়তে কেনেকৈ সমৃদ্ধিশালী কৰিব পৰা যায় সেইটো দেখুৱাব কাৰণে একোখন প্ৰদৰ্শনী পাতি আহিছিল। স্বাধীনতা পোৱাৰ পিচতো ঠিক এই দৰেই চলি আহিছিল। স্বাধীনতা পোৱাৰ পিচৰ কোনো কোনো অধিবেশনত কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ লগে লগে মহাজ্ঞা গান্ধীৰ ভাৱধাৰা বা সৰ্ববাদ্যৰ লগত খাপ নোখোৱা কোনো কোনো বৃহত শিল্পকো এনেকুৱা প্ৰদৰ্শনীত ঠাই দিয়া হৈছিল। এই কুটিৰ আৰু খাদী গ্ৰাম উদ্যোগ শিল্প ভালদৰে কৰিবৰ কাৰণে আৰু সৰ্ব সাধাৰণৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা উন্নয়ন কৰিবৰ কাৰণে দেশৰ গঠন মূলক কামত আৱশ্যনিয়োগকাৰী কৰ্মী সকলে বিশেষ ভাবে জোৰ দিয়াত ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ জৰিয়তে এখন খাদী গ্ৰাম উদ্যোগ বোড গঠন কৰা হয়। সেই খাদী বোৰ্ডেই অৱশেষত খাদী কমিছন ৰূপে গঠিত হৈছে। খাদী কমিছন এখন Statutory Board চৰকাৰৰ সাহায্যৰ দ্বাৰা তেওঁ বিলাকে Statutory Board হিচাবে কাম কৰি আহিছে। আমাৰ ইয়াত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ সাহায্যত যিখন ৰাজ্যিক খাদী গ্ৰাম উদ্যোগ বোড আছে সেইখনো হৈছে statutory Board।

প্ৰাগজ্যোতিষপুৰ অধিবেশনৰ সময়ত খাদী কমিছনে আমাক জনায় যে অসমত কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ আৰু খাদী গ্ৰামোদ্যোগৰ বিশেষ সুবিধা আছে। এই সুযোগতে ভালদৰে এখন প্ৰদৰ্শনী পাতিব লাগে আৰু তাৰ কাৰণে আমি টকা দিবলৈ প্ৰস্তুত আছো। খাদী কমিছনে কয় যে তেওঁলোকে আমাক তিন লাখ টকা দিব আৰু সেই টকাৰে এখন ভাল প্ৰদৰ্শনী পাতিব লাগে। এই প্ৰদৰ্শনী পতাৰ উদ্দেশ্য এনে যে অসমৰ বিভিন্ন ঠাইত মানুহ প্ৰদৰ্শনী চাবলৈ আহিব আৰু ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ বিভিন্ন ঠাইত যিবিলাক কুটিৰ শিল্প হৈছে আৰু খাদী গ্ৰামোদ্যোগ শিল্প গঢ়ি উঠিছে তাৰ দ্বাৰা আমাৰ আৰ্থিক মানদণ্ড উন্নত কৰিব পৰা যায় তাৰ এটা শিক্ষা আমাৰ মানুহে পাব। খাদী গ্ৰামোদ্যোগ কমিছনে আমাক এই সুবিধা দিয়াৰ কাৰণে তেখেত সকলক আমাৰ আন্তৰিক ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন কৰিছো।

আমাৰ মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰী গোবীন্দৰ ভট্টাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই প্ৰশ্ন কৰিছে এই যে মাটি নোৱা হৈছিল, এই মাটি কাৰ আৰু কোনো ব্যক্তিগত মানুহে দিছে নে নাই। তেখেতে লগতে কোনো ব্যক্তিগত মানুহৰ নামো উল্লেখ কৰিছে। তেখেতে কব খুজিছে যে এই ব্যক্তিসকলো প্ৰাদেশিক কংগ্ৰেছৰ Reception Committee ৰ জৰিয়তে হৈছে, কিন্তু সেইটো নহয়। খাদী বোৰ্ডৰ জৰিয়তেহে বেলেগে প্ৰদৰ্শনী পতা হৈছে আৰু ইয়াৰ কাৰণে বেলেগ Committee ৰ জৰিয়তে প্ৰদৰ্শনীৰ সকলো বিলাক কাম চলোৱা হৈছে। Reception Committee এ প্ৰদৰ্শনীৰ নিমিত্তে মাটি সন্ধান কৰি দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে আৰু তাৰ কাৰণে প্ৰদৰ্শনী কমিটিৰ লগত তেখেত সকলৰ এটা সুকীয়া বন্দোৱস্ত হৈছে। সেই বন্দোৱস্ত অনুযায়ী তেখেত সকলে সিদ্ধান্ত কৰিছে যে তাত যিমান খৰচ হৈছে সকলোখিনি খৰচ যিবিলাকে প্ৰদৰ্শনী দেখুৱাবলৈ তেওঁবিলাকৰ পৰা আদায় কৰা হ'ব। প্ৰদৰ্শনীৰ দুটা ভাগ আছে বিক্ৰী বিভাগ আৰু প্ৰদৰ্শনী শিক্ষা বিভাগ। প্ৰদৰ্শনীৰ শিক্ষা বিভাগৰ শিল্পৰ জৰিয়তে মানুহে শিক্ষা লাভ কৰিব আৰু বিক্ৰীৰ কাৰণে যি বিলাকে বস্তু আনিব আৰু বিক্ৰি কৰি দুই পইচা লাভ কৰিব তেওঁলোকৰ কাৰণে বেলেগ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হৈছে। এইবিলাক আমাৰ অসম চৰকাৰৰেই নহয়

Adjournment

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

After Lunch

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Co-operative): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই ইতিপূৰ্বে কৈ আহিছো যে প্ৰদৰ্শনী দুটা ভাগে ভাগ কৰিব পৰা যায়। প্ৰথমটো হৈছে—শিল্প শিক্ষা। আমাৰ অসমত যিবিলাক ধৰোৱা শিল্প আছে তাৰ বাহিৰেও অন্যান্য ৰাজ্যত থকা বহুতো আমি লব পৰা শিল্প আছে আৰু এই বিলাক

প্রদৰ্শনীৰ পৰা আমাৰ মানুহৰ শিক্ষা হ'ব। দ্বিতীয়টো হৈছে বিক্ৰয় বিভাগ। ওপৰত উল্লেখ কৰা শিল্প বিলাকৰ পৰা যিবিলাক বস্তু তৈয়াৰ হয় বা উৎপন্ন হয় তাক বিক্ৰী কৰা হয়। এই বিক্ৰয় বিভাগত যি সকলে মাটি লৈছে আৰু বিভিন্ন ৰাজ্য চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা যিবিলাক প্রদৰ্শনী দেখুৱা হৈছে সেই সকলে বিলাকৰ পৰাই প্রদৰ্শনী কমিটিয়ে টকা লৈছে। আমাৰ চৰকাৰে প্রদৰ্শনীৰ কাৰণে প্ৰায় ১৭ হাজাৰ বৰ্গ ফুট মাটি দখল কৰিছিল আৰু ইয়াৰ বাবদ প্ৰায় ৬৫ হাজাৰ টকা দিব লাগিছিল। প্ৰতি বৰ্গ ফুট মাটিৰ কাৰণে ৪ টকা হিচাবে ধৰি। এই বেটত টকা কেবল আমি়েই দিব লগা হোৱা নাই; বাহিৰৰ পৰা প্রদৰ্শনীত যোগ দিয়া বিভিন্ন ৰাজ্য সমূহৰ পৰা অহা অনুষ্ঠান বিলাকেও দিব লগা হৈছে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই প্রদৰ্শনী 'খাদী গ্ৰাম উদ্যোগ বৰ্ডে' কৰিছে—'খাদী কমিচনে' অৰ্থৰ যোগান ধৰিছে। খাদী বৰ্ড কোনো বিশেষ দলীয় শক্তিত গঠিত হোৱা নাই; ইয়াত সকলো দলৰ সদস্য আছে। অৱশ্যে 'কমিউনিষ্ট' দলৰ সদস্য আছেন নাই কব নোৱাৰো—কিন্তু আন বিলাক দলৰ মানুহ তাত আছে বুলি মই জানো। কমিচনৰ উদ্দেশ্য হৈছে—মহা মানৱ মহাত্মা গান্ধীৰ আদৰ্শত দেশৰ কল্যাণ হলে যিবিলাক খাদী-গ্ৰামউদ্যোগ শিল্পৰ দ্বাৰা জনসাধাৰণৰ সামাজিক, অৰ্থনৈতিক উন্নতি হয় সেইবিলাক শিল্পত সৰ্ব্বভাৰতীয় ভিত্তিত মানুহক শিক্ষা দিয়াই—তাৰ স্থাপন কৰা আৰু উৎকৰ্ষ সাধন কৰা। আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত এনে ধৰণৰ ঘৰুৱা কুটিৰ শিল্পৰ ভবিষ্যত অতি উজ্জ্বল আৰু ইয়াৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ ইয়াতেই দ্ৰব্য-সম্ভাৰ (raw material) আছে আৰু এই কাৰণে কমিচনে, আমাক ৩ লাখ টকা দিছে।

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে প্ৰতি স্কোয়াৰে ফুটত চাৰি টকা খাজনা লোৱা হৈছে—; যদি এয়ে হয়, অসম বেণ্ট কণ্ট্ৰল এক্টৰ বিৰুদ্ধাচৰণ কৰা হোৱা নাইনে?

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Co-operative): এই টকাটো মাটিৰ মূল্য বা খাজনা হিচাবে নহয়; যিখিনি মাটি প্রদৰ্শনীৰ কাৰণে প্ৰয়োজন সেই মাটিখিনি উন্নত কৰি দিয়া বা উপযুক্ত কৰি দিয়া কাৰণেহে লোৱা হৈছে। ইতিহাস প্ৰসিদ্ধ প্ৰাগজ্যোতিষপুৰৰ কথা আগতে ভাৰতৰ সকলো ঠাইৰ মানুহেই জানিছিল, এতিয়া হয়তো 'অসম' বুলি কলে চিনি নোপোৱা মানুহো ওলাব। ভাৰতৰ আন আন ৰাজ্যৰ তুলনাত অসম অতি পিচপৰা—বৰ্তমানলৈকে এনে অৱহেলিত ঠাইত সৰ্বভাৰতীয় ভিত্তিত, ইমান বিৰাট এখন প্রদৰ্শনী পাতিবলৈ হলে তাৰ কাৰণে কিমান টকাৰ প্ৰয়োজন হ'ব—মোৰ বিশ্বাস সদনৰ সদস্য সকলে সহজেই অনুমান কৰিছে।

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা এই উক্তি কৰিছেনে নাই কংগ্ৰেছৰ তৰফৰ পৰা কৰিছে।

Mr. SPEAKER: কিয়, তেখেতে চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা উত্তৰ দিছে।

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: হয়, চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰাই মন্ত্ৰী হিচাবে উত্তৰ দিয়া হৈছে। ওপৰোক্ত প্রদৰ্শনীত অংশ লোৱা শিল্প সমূহৰ পৰা আমাৰ ডাঙৰ শিক্ষা লাভ হৈছে। দ্বিতীয় পঞ্চবাৰ্ষিকী পৰিকল্পনাত কুটিৰ শিল্পক ঘাই ঠাই দিয়া হৈছে আৰু এই মাটিৰ কাৰণে যি ৪ (চাৰি) টকাকৈ লোৱা হৈছে

Mr. SPEAKER: পুনৰোক্তি নকৰিব।

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Co-operative): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, পুনৰাবৃতি ঠিক নহয়; মই কব খুজিছিলো পুতি বৰ্গ ফুটত ৪ (চাৰি) টকাটকি যি টকা হ'ব—সেই টকাত কৈ খাদী কমিচনৰ উদ্যোগত যি বিলাক শিল্প দেখুওৱা হৈছে—তাত অধিক টকা খৰচ হ'ব। অসমত যি পৰিমাণে শিল্প-কল-কাৰখানা হ'ব লাগিছিল—সেই পৰিমাণে একো নাই বুলিলেই হয়। বাহিৰৰ মানুহে অসম আৰু অসমৰ সমাজৰ ৰূপ দেখিবলৈ হলে কুটীৰ শিল্পৰ যোগেদি যেই দেখিব লাগিব। এই শিল্প বিলাক ৰূপায়িত কৰি দেখুৱাবলৈ বহু অৰ্থৰ আৱশ্যক।

কৰ্টিৰ শিল্পৰ প্ৰদৰ্শনীৰ কাৰণে মজোৱা ঘৰবিলাক বিভিন্ন মাজ সজুলীয়ে মজোৱা, Relief মেপ আদি তৈয়াৰ কৰা আৰু কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ ঠাইৰ পৰা আনঠাইলৈ বাতায়ত কৰা ইত্যাদি কামত ইয়াতকৈও বেচি টকা খৰচ হৈছে। তাৰ ভিতৰত মাত্ৰ ৫০ হেজাৰ টকাৰ এটা দাবী ডাঙি ধৰাত মাননীয় বিৰোধী দলৰ সদস্য সকলে আপত্তি তোলাটো সিমান সমীচীন হোৱা নাই বুলি ভাবো কিয়নো—মই কব পাৰো যে এই ৫০ হেজাৰ টকা কাম অনুপাতে একেবাৰে নগণ্য। আমি খৰচ কৰিছো মাত্ৰ ৫০ হেজাৰ টকা, কিন্তু সেই কামৰ পৰা আমাৰ উপকাৰ হৈছে ৫০ লাখ টকাৰ।

এনে এটা প্ৰদৰ্শনীৰ পৰা যেনেকৈ এহাতে বিভিন্ন ঠাইৰ মানুহে শিক্ষা লাভ কৰিছে আনহাতে তেনেকৈ অন্যান্য ঠাইতনো শিল্পমুহে কেনেকৈ প্ৰগতিৰ পথত চলিছে আৰু কি কাম কেনে ধৰনেৰে হৈছে তাৰ শিক্ষা আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণে লাভ কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম হৈছে।

আমাৰ ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই চিনপাত সম্পৰ্কে কৈছে। মই কও যে তাতো আমি লাভবানহে হৈছো, কাৰণ আমি আমাৰ quotaতকৈ বেচি চিনপাত পাইছো আৰু সেই বিলাক এতিয়া আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ মাজত ভগাই দিব পাৰিম। মই চিনপাত সম্পৰ্কে বেচি কব নোখোজো কাৰণ সেইবিষয়ে আমাৰ বিভূষণী মহোদয়ে কৈ গৈছে। তেখেতে আৰু এটা কথা কৈছে যে এই ৫০ হেজাৰ টকা এটা দলৰ স্বাৰ্থৰ কাৰণে খৰচ কৰা হৈছে। মই কও যে ইয়াত দলীয় স্বাৰ্থৰ কোনো কথা নাই। তালৈ গলে ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়াই দেখিলে হেতেন যে বিভিন্ন গাঁৱৰ লোক সকলে বিভিন্ন শিল্পবিলাক চাবৰ কাৰণে অলপ কম ঠাইৰ ভিতৰতে দেখায়ায় দৈনিক ৩ হেজাৰৰ পৰা ৭২ হেজাৰ মানুহৰ সমাগম হৈছিল। এই হিচাবটো বিক্ৰি কৰা টিকেটৰ পৰা পোৱা হৈছে। দৈনিক যে এই ৭২ হেজাৰ মানুহৰ সমাগম হৈছিল আৰু শিক্ষা লাভ কৰিছিল তেখেতে কয় নেকি যে এই সকলো বিলাক এটা দলৰ মানুহ।

শ্ৰীমদশ্যাম তালুকদাৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই কোৱাৰ দৰে ই এটা বাজনৈতিক দলৰ প্ৰদৰ্শনী নহয়। ই সমগ্ৰ অসমৰ এটি গৌৰৱৰ কথা হৈছিল। ইতিপূৰ্বে অসমত এনে প্ৰদৰ্শনী আৰু হোৱা নাছিল। খাদী বোৰ্ডেও বহু টকা দি প্ৰদৰ্শনীক সহায় কৰিছে, সেয়ে নহলে ৰাজ্যিক চৰকাৰে ইমান টকা দি প্ৰদৰ্শনী দেখুৱাব পৰা নহলহেতেন। এনে প্ৰদৰ্শনীয়ে আমাৰ বাইজক ৰাজ্যৰ উন্নতিৰ কামত আগবাঢ়িবলৈ সহায় কৰিছে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই এই থিনিতে কব খোজো যে ভটাচাৰ্য ডাঙৰীয়া আৰু তালুকদাৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই এতিয়া উপলব্ধি কৰিব পাৰিছে যে এই খৰচ কোনো দলীয় স্বাৰ্থৰ কাৰণে হোৱা নাই—সমগ্ৰ বাইজৰ উপকাৰৰ কাৰণেহে হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে মই তেখেত সকলক অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে তেখেত সকলৰ কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱ উঠাই লয়।

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY (Cherrapunji, Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have been very kind indeed to the people who do not understand Assamese. I am in a very awkward position because I consider this a very important question for us to satisfy myself and those of us who do not understand the language. Will it be possible to get a gist of the Hon'ble Minister's speech in English either by himself or by somebody else?

Mr. SPEAKER: Very well, I will ask my Secretary to prepare a gist of the speech in English and circulate it to the hon. Members.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY: In that case may I ask a few questions for clarification by the Honble Minister?

Mr. SPEAKER: So far as Sri Hazarika is concerned he cannot clarify them in English because he does not know English.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY: In that case one of the Ministers might answer the question. I want to know this who is going to get this ground rent?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): The exhibition was sponsored under the auspices of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. Naturally the body which organised the exhibition would get the ground rent inside the exhibition.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY: Does the land belong to some landowners or Zamindars and if so, had the Khadi and Village Industries Commission taken permission from those landowners or Zamindars?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Some of the lands are khas land and others belong to proprietors. I am not aware of the arrangement between the Khadi and Village Industries Commissioner and those proprietors.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not know if the point has been properly clarified. Both the Hon'ble Finance Minister as well as the Minister for Cottage Industries said that the exhibition was organised by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the Government only dealt with the Commission and not with individual owners. It was a matter between the Commission and the individual owners of land, and not the Government. Therefore I do not know whether it is possible for the Government to go into that question now.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY: Any ground rent to be as high as Rs.50,000. is not somewhat unreasonable? Does it not look almost ridiculous?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member will please try to follow what Mr. Hazarika said. He said it was not so much as rent but as contribution towards the cost of the improvement of that land and make it suitable for holding the exhibition.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): Let me add to what Mr. Hazarika has said so that there should be no misunderstanding. There was no bungling of public money. When it is a question of ground rent in an exhibition, it is much more the levelling and the closing of it. As I understand there is a lot of miscellaneous expenditure in an exhibition.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is contribution to the expenditure involved in holding the exhibition?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Sir, the Commission charged other States, like the Punjab, etc., at the rate of Rs.4 per sq. ft. of space used by them. But at the same time let us not forget the other side of the picture. A large number of branches under the Khadi and Village Industries Department, for example, Bee Keeping and some such things, have been given space by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission free of all rent. And not only that, they also helped the Department with money for improvement of the land.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY: By whom, by the Government?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: No, Sir, by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY: Do I understand that land was given by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the rent thereof paid by Government?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Not necessarily, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the matter has already been explained by the Minister in charge beyond any shadow of a doubt about the position of the Government in this regard. So I don't think any further clarification is necessary. If the hon. Member, Rev. Nichols-Roy, wants to pursue the matter he should see clarification elsewhere, for example at the time of discussion on the Budget under this head.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Rev. Nichols-Roy has been misled by Friend like Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): No, he has been misled by the Finance Minister (*Laughter*).

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order. I have said that this matter needs no more clarification. Rev. Nichols-Roy put three questions and he got scores of replies to them. If he is not satisfied, this is not the occasion to get clarification.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister): His misunderstanding arose from the fact that white has been painted black !

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): May I make myself clear, Sir? In moving this motion I made certain questions but my question have not been replied to. I want to know—I will speak in Assamese. অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই এটা প্রশ্ন কৰিছিলোঁ, কিন্তু তাৰ উত্তৰ পোৱা নাই। মোৰ প্রশ্নটো আছিল, “এনেকুৱা প্ৰদৰ্শ নী আগেয়ে অসমৰ বহু ঠাইত হৈছিল আৰু সেইবোৰকো চৰকাৰে এইদৰে বিভিন্ন বিভাগ প্ৰদৰ্শ নীৰ বাবে পঠাইছিল কিন্তু কেতিয়াবা কোনো প্ৰদৰ্শ নী পৰিচালকৰ চৰকাৰে এইদৰে মাটিৰ খাজনা দিৱাৰ নজীৰ আছেনে ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): শিৱসাগৰত হৈছিল প্ৰায় ৩০ বছৰ আগতে।

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: শিৱসাগৰত কোন চনত, কোনে পাতিছিল আৰু কোন ঠাইত ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: শিৱসাগৰত পাতিছিল, বোধকৰোঁ। মাননীয় সদস্যৰ তেতিয়া জন্ম হোৱা নাই।

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order. That has been clarified. The point raised is that there are instances.....

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I want to know those instances Sir, but the Minister concerned.....

(Interruptions—shouts and counter-shouts between Opposition and Treasury Benches.....both in English and Assamese.....)

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, Order. I must bring to the notice of hon. Members that we must strictly conform our conduct here to the fundamental rules and procedure in conformity with the dignity of the House.

(Voices—Yes Sir, Yes Sir).

I cannot allow any further discussion.

Now, does the hon. Member agree to withdraw his motion ?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: No, Sir, I am not satisfied with the replies to my Motion because facts are concealed.

The House divided.

AYES—14.

1. Shri Birendra Kumar Das.
2. Shri Biswanath Upadhyaya.
3. Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.
4. Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar.
5. Shri Hareswar Goswami.
6. Maulavi Jahan Uddin Ahmed.
7. Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy.
8. Shri Larshingh Khyriem.
9. Md. Matlebuddin.
10. Shri Nilmoney Borthakur.
11. Shri Pakhirai Deka.
12. Kumar Prokritish Chandra Barua.
13. Dr. Srihari Das.
14. Shri Tarun Sen Deka.

NOES—45.

1. Shri Rup Nath Brahma.
2. Snri Debeswar Sarmah.
3. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi.
4. Shri Hareswar Das.
5. Shri Mohi Kanta Das.
6. Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi.
7. Mrs Usha Barthakur.
8. Dr. Ghanashyam Das.
9. Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika.
10. Shri Indreswar Khaund.
11. Shri Bhuvan Chandra Pradhani.
12. Shri Bishnu Lal Upadhyaya.
13. Shri Biswadev Sarma.
14. Shri Dandeswar Hazarika.
15. Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika.
16. Shri Dhirsingh Deuri.
17. Shri Durgeswar Saikia.
18. Shri Dwijesh Chandra Deb Sarma.
19. Shri Emeron Momin.
20. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.
21. Shri Harinarayan Baruah.
22. Shri Joga Kanta Barua.
23. Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwala.
24. Shri Karka Chandra Doley.
25. Shri Khagendra Nath Nath.
26. Maulavi Kobad Husain Ahmed.
27. Prof. (Shrimati) Komal Kumari Barua.
28. Shri Lalit Kumar Daley.

29. Shri Lila Kanta Borah.
30. Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta.
31. Shri Mahadev Das.
32. Maulavi Mahammad Idris.
33. Shri Mohidhar Pegoo.
34. Shri Molia Tati.
35. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma.
36. Maulavi Nurul Islam.
37. Shri Omeo Kumar Das.
38. Maulavi Rahimuddin Ahmed.
39. Shri Rajendra Nath Barua.
40. Shti Ram Nath Das.
41. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami.
42. Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi.
44. Shri Tamijuddin Prodhani.
44. Shri Tankeswar Chetia.
45. Capt. Williamson A. Sangma.

(The Cut Motion was nigtived).

Now I put the main Motion.

The question is that and additional amount of Rs. 50,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "42.—Co-operation II.—Rural Development."

(The Motion was adopted)

No. 15

(43—Industries and Supplies).

(1—Sericulture and Weaving).—

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs. 78,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "43. Industries and Subplies—1—Sericulture and Weaving."

I.—Grant originally votes by the Asssmbly	...	...	Rs.
			49,08,700

II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly	...
during November, 1957 Session of the Assembly.	

III.—Additional amount now required 78,500
 Sub-head under which the Supplementary
 Demand will be accounted for :—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November, 1957 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Normal—							
A. Provincial Organisation.							
(e) Development of Handloom Industries.	5.45.100	—	..	..	14,500	..	14,500
Second Five Year Plan. Development Schemes]							
(Article 275)—F. 5.— Grant-in-aid— Subsidy to Muga seed cocoon rearers.	..	..	..	..	..	63,000	63,000
Development Scheme Second Five Year Plan—							
Removal of untouchability—F-8.— Grant-in-aid.	11,600	...	...	...	1,000	...	1,000
Total	...	..	..	..	15,000	63,000	78,500

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A. (e) The amount is required in connection with the celebration of the 4th All India Handloom Week in the State. No specific provision has been made in the current years budget as the State Government is not in the know of the extent of grant to be sanctioned by the Government of India for the purpose. The amount was advanced from Contingency Fund.

F-5.—The amount is required for grant of subsidy to the Muga seed cocoon rearers in the Autonomous District as a measure to encourage the Tribal people in the trade. The scheme being a new one no provision could be made in the budget. Hence the Demand.

F-8.—As recommended by the State Advisory Board, Welfare of Scheduled Castes it has been decided to increase the grant under "43.—Industries and

Supplies—I.—Sericulture and Weaving” for removal of untouchability in the current year’s budget for giving further subsidy to the Weaving and Silk rearers belonging to the Scheduled Castes by a reduction of the grant for the said purpose under “25—G. A.—Publicit Budget”. Hence the Demand.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs. 78,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head “43 Industries and Supplies—I.—Sericulture and Weaving.”

Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak a few words on the Motion itself

Mr. SPEAKER: You may speak if you so desire, but you will have to be very brief.

Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR: Sir, under this head Sericulture and Weaving we find that a sum of Rs. 14,500 has been provided for the popularisation of the products for of Handloom Industries in the State. For the popularnation of the product of handloom Industries what Government usually do is to celebrate a Handloom Week when few meetings are held where the people are advised to use haddloom products. These meetings are mostly confined to only headquarters towns. During this week a number of posters are displayed suggesting the use of handloom products. I think this method cannot produce the desired result. To aehieve the purpose better I think some demonstrative stalls of handloom products should be introduced in certain selected places of the State. So far as my information goes we do not have any such stalls. The posters that have been displayed so far as the medium of popularising handloom products have not been upto the mark should be pasted in prominent places such as the Railway Stations, Bus Stations and other important places. Handloom products of artistic value and taste should also be prominently displayed in those demonstrative stalls. So far I can see major part of the money has so far been spent in posters. I think the major part of the money now provided for under the grant can better be utilised in giving subsidies to needy and deserving handloom users.

It is hoped the hon’ble Minister will be pleased to bear in mind the suggestions while spending this money.

Additional amount now required ... 1,92,000

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Development Schemes Second Five Year Plan—							
D—6—(b)—Removal of Untouchability Schemes.	17,900		..	..	2,000	..	2,000
Development Schemes Five Year Plan—							
Central—C—7— Training organisation—Economic Development Schemes - Training-cum-Production centres.	..	..	..	..	90,000	1,00,000	1,90,000
Total		..	..	..	92,000	1,00,000	1,92,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

D-6 (b).—As recommended by the State Advisory Board, Welfare of Scheduled Castes it has been decided to increase the grant under "43.—Industries and Supply—II—Cottage Industries" for removal of Untouchability in the current year's Budget for giving further grant-in-aid to the individual Cottage Industrialist belonging to the Scheduled Castes by a reduction of the grant for the said purpose under '25-G-A—Publicity Budget'. Hence the Demand.

C-7.—Government of India's sanction of the schemes was received after current year's Budget was finalised.

So funds had to be provided by taking advance from Contingency Fund in order to effect immediate implementation of the Scheme. The demand is to regularise the advance.

(The Motion was put and adopted).

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries): মাননীয় সদস্য শ্রীযুত বরঠাকুর ডাঙৰীয়াই Handloom week সপ্তকে যিখিনি কথা কলে, তাৰ উত্তৰত কও যে, এই ক্ষেত্ৰত চৰকাৰে অকল শুভযাত্ৰা বা পুস্তিকা বিতৰনতেই ক্ষান্ত থকা নাই। যত যত শিল্প বিলাকৰ কেন্দ্ৰ আছে—তাৰ পৰা চৰকাৰী মটৰ ভান দি, বিভিন্ন ধৰণৰ ‘ডিজাইনৰ’ কাপোৰ কানি লৈ গৈ বাইজৰ মাজত থকাৰ অভিযান চলোৱা হৈছে। তেখেতে কোৱা মতে ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ ‘বাচ ষ্টেচন’, বেল ষ্টেচন’ আৰু ‘এয়াৰোদ্ৰোম’ বিলাকত আমাৰ অভিযান চলাবলৈ Poster আদি দিব পৰা নাই যদিও সেইটো চৰকাৰে হাতত লব।

তাৰ পিচত Subsidy সপ্তকে কত যে তাতী বিলাকৰ কাৰনে বিক্ৰি দ্ৰব্যৰ টকাত ছ পয়চাটলৈ বিবেট’ দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা আছেই। তাৰোপৰি, উপযুক্ত তাঁতীক আধাদায়িত্বী আৰু বিনামূলৈ তাত শাল আদিও দিয়া হয়। কাজেই এই ক্ষেত্ৰত আমি কোনো অবহেল কৰা নাই আৰু অধিক সুবিধা তেওঁলোকক দিয়াৰ চেষ্টাতেই আছে।

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.78,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head “43.—Industries and Supplies—I.—Sericulture and Weaving”.

The question was adopted.

No.16

(43-Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries).

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Cottage Industries):—Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.1,92,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head “43—Industries and Supplies-II—Cottage Industries.”

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	31,15,360
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II —Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November, 1957, Session of the Assembly.		3,28,487
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No.17

(47.—Miscellaneous Department)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.7,250 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "47.—Miscellaneous Department".

				Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	...	8,98,700
II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957 Session of the Assembly.				70,700
Additional amount now required	...	...	..	7,250
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:—				

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary Grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B-(D).—Labour Court under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.	...	..	22,000	..	7,250	..	7,250
Total	..	..	..	..	7,250	..	7,250

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The amount is required to meet the additional expenditure in connection with the Labour Court which has recently been set up under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Formerly there was only one Court, viz., Industrial Tribunal. Government had to set up one more Court under the Act. As this Court was set up recently, provision in the current year's budget could not be made. The amount has been advanced from the Contingency Fund. Hence the demand to regularise the advance.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.7,250 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "47.—Miscellaneous Department".

(The question was put and adopted)

No.18

[50.—Civil Works (excluding Establishment and Tools and Plant)]

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.19,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works (excluding Establishment and Tools and Plant)".

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	6,46,38,800
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year			12,34,523
III.—Additional amount now required	...	...	19,300
IV.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:—			

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
NORMAL							
A.—Original Works—							
(b) Communications—							
1. Ordinary Roads	22,77,000	1,58,000	1,19,900	1,00,000	19,300	..	19,300
Total—Ordinary Roads	..	..	..	..	19,300	..	19,300

The reason for bringing this Supplementary Demand will be found in the explanatory notes below.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Schedule of new Scheme proposed to be included in the Budget for 1957-58 by Supplementary Demand

Major, Minor and Sub-head under which the provision should be made	Nature of Scheme	Estimate of ultimate cost				Estimate of expenditure in 1957-58				Remarks (Explanatory Note)				
		Non-recuring		Recurring		Total		Non-recuring			Recurring		Total	
		(1)	(2)	(3) Rs.	(4) Rs.	(5) Rs.	(6) Rs.	(7) Rs.	(8) Rs.					
(1) "59.—Civil Works—State—A—Original Works—(b) Communications—Ordinary Roads—General—Voted"	Surveying the proposed road from Jonai to Ramdhan extending upto Dhemaji in Ghilamaria Subdivision.			19,300	..	19,300	19,300	..	19,300	For improvement of communications in the areas transferred from the Abor Hills to the Lakhimpur District it has been proposed to construct a road from Jonai to Ramdhan extending upto Dhemaji. The alignment passes upto Moridhol (4 miles) along the North Trunk Road and thence runs along the foot of the Abor Hills towards North-East in the zigzag way upto Santi Borgarah from Moridhol about 23 miles distance. The alignment passes across light jungles above which thick jungles are encountered upto Jonai. So proper survey of the alignment of the road is essentially necessary before the actual construction work is taken up.				
										The amount has been provided by taking advance from the Contingency Fund to start the work immediately and the supplementary Grant is necessary to regularise the advance.				

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.19,300, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works (excluding Establishment and Tools and Plant)".

(The Motion was adopted.)

No.19 (54.—Famine Relief)

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.34,64,221, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief."

Rs.							
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly 17,16,300							
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year 11,71,080							
Additional amount now required 34,64,221							
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for :—							
Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A.—Famine Relief—							
(a) Relief Works	3,00,000	..	..	..	1,50,000	..	1,50,000
(b) Gratuitous Relief.	65,24,272	1,17,000	..	11,56,080	60,000	1,00,481	1,60,481
(c) Salaries of Establishment.	25,000	..	..	15,000	..	31,53,740	31,53,740
Total	..	..	..	..	2,10,000	32,54,221	34,64,221

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(a) The amount is required for rendering relief to the flood, erosion, hailstorm and unusual drought affected people in various places in Assam by way of test relief work.

(b) The amount is required to grant gratuitous relief to the people affected by natural calamities and to meet (Rs.1,00,481) the cost of blankets cloths distributed among the distressed families in Naga Hills during the time of disturbances there and also to meet the handling and transport charges connected therewith. This amount (Rs 1,00,481) was advanced from Contingencies Fund and the Supplementary Demand is only to regularise the advances. Hence the Demand.

(c) The amount (26,65,740) is required partly for meeting the cost of vehicles, construction of body of these vehicles for relief measures in Naga Hills the payment of which could not be made as the contractors could not effect delivery during 1956-57 and partly required for various items of expenditure such as pay, allowances, travelling allowances and dearness allowance, etc., of Drivers and other Transport staff engaged in connection with Naga Hills operation. This amount was provided by taking advance from Contingency Fund. Hence the Demand to regularise the advance.

Another amount of Rs.4,88,000 is required to settle the outstanding bills of State Transport Department as some of the State Transport Trucks were engaged in connection with Naga Hills Operation.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional grant of Rs.34,64,221, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief."

There are three Cut Motions.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): Sir, it will do if the first Motion is moved and the other Movers get the opportunity to speak on it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then one Motion will do, Mr. Khyriem will be able to speak on this Motion.

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Jowai, Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): Very well, Sir.

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS (Patacharkuchi, Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.34,64,221 under Supplementary Demand No.19, Major head—54.—Famine Relief, at page 36 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs.100, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.34,64,221, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, Test Relief ৰ শিতানত যি পৰিপূৰক মঞ্জুৰী দাঙি ধৰিছে মই তাৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিছো। এই শিতানত এইখিনি টকা মই কম হৈছে বুলি ভাবো কাৰণ অতিবৃষ্টি, অনাবৃষ্টি, গৰা-খহনীয়া, শিলাবৃষ্টি, বানপানী আদিত ৰাইজৰ যি ক্ষতি আৰু অনায়াস হৈছে, তাৰ কোনো Survey আজিলৈ হোৱা নাই বুলি মই ভাবো। এইবিলাক ধ্বংসলীলাত যি সা-সম্পত্তি, বয়-বস্তু ক্ষতি হৈছে তাৰ যদি এটা survey হ'ল হেতেন তেন্তে ইয়াত বৰ্ত্তমানতকৈ বেচি টকা ধৰা হ'লহেতেন। ইয়াৰ পৰা বুজা যায় যে চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰী সকলে অক্ষিত বহি কিছুমান Information দিছে আৰু চৰকাৰে তাতে ভিত্তি কৰি পৰিপূৰক যি টকা দাবি দাঙি ধৰিছে। আনফালে ৰাইজে Relief ৰ কাৰণে দখাস্ত দি আছে কিন্তু তেওঁলোকে পাব লাগে সেইটো আজিলৈকে পোৱা নাই।

বহুতো চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে গাঁৱৰ মানুহৰ অৱস্থা বুজক চাৰি গাঁওৱেই দেখা নাই।

আমাৰ কামৰূপৰ আগৰ যিজন Deputy Commissioner আছিল তেখেতে কোনোদিনেই ৫০ মাইলৰ ভিতৰলৈ যোৱা নাই, আনকি তেখেতে টিহকেই দেখা নাছিল; অথচ তেখেত আছিল কামৰূপৰ ডেপুটী কমিছনাৰ। যদি তেওঁলোকৰ ওচৰত ৰাইজৰ কোনো খবৰেই নাই তেন্তে কেনেকৈ মানুহৰ অভাৱ অভিযোগৰ কথা গম পাব?

নলবাৰী, টিহ, বজালী আদি অঞ্চলত বিশেষকৈ নলবাৰী অঞ্চলত বহু মানুহো উটাই নিছিল। তাত জনসাধাৰণে যি Relief পাব লাগিছিল সেইটো এতিয়াও পোৱা নাই।

Survey ঠিকমতে নকৰা কাৰণেই এনে ধৰণৰ বেমেজালী ঘটিছে। তেনেকৈ গৰা-খহনীয়াত যি তাণ্ডালীয়া হৈছিল সেইটো এই সদনৰ সদস্য সকলোৱে জানে। বিশেষকৈ অনিষ্ট হৈছে মাজুলী অঞ্চলত, পাগলাদিয়া নদীৰ দুয়ো কাষে, বৰলীয়া, লোনা নদীৰ দুয়ো কাষে কালদিয়া নদীৰ দুয়োকাষে, বেকী নদীৰ দুয়োকাষে টিহ নদীৰ দুয়োকাষে প্ৰায় সকলো মানুহৰ যথেষ্ট অনায়াস হৈছে।

আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ যি Irrigation and Drainage বিভাগ আছে, তাত Chief Engineer, Superintending Engineer আদি বিষয়াসকল আছে। তেওঁলোকে সেই নদীবোৰৰ গতিবিধি লক্ষ্য কৰি গবেষণা কৰাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা কৰা নাই। সেই নদীবোৰৰ বানপানীৰ ফলত গাঁৱৰ ৰাইজৰ কি দুৰৱস্থা হৈছে তাকো গাঁৱলৈ গৈ চোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা নাই। Irrigation and Drainage এটা নতুন বিভাগ কৰি মজীও পাতিছে আৰু অসংখ্য বিষয়াও আছে; কিন্তু তাৰ পৰা বিশেষ একো কাম হোৱা নাই। অসংখ্য বিষয়া ৰাখিলেই নহয় তাৰ পৰা ৰাইজৰ কাম হ'ব লাগে।

Mr. SPEAKER : মাননীয় সদস্যই Test Relief ৰ কথাহে কোৱা ৰাজনীয়, গৰাখহনীয়া বা বানপানীৰ কথা বাজেট প্ৰসঙ্গত ক'ব পাৰিব।

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS (Patacharkuchi—Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): বৰমা, উত্তৰবাক্সা আদিৰ শিলাবৃষ্টি হৈ ৰাইজৰ অশেষ ক্ষতি কৰিলে কিন্তু সেই ঠাইৰ ৰাইজে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা বিশেষ একো সাহায্য পোৱা নাই। সেই দৰে অসমৰ অনেক ঠাইত—বিশেষকৈ কামৰূপ, নগাঁও আৰু গোৱালপাৰাত অনাবৃষ্টি হৈ ৰাইজৰ অশেষ ক্ষতি সাধন কৰিছে। কোনো ঠাইত খেতি নষ্ট কৰিছে, কোনো ঠাইত খেতি ভাল হোৱা নাই, আৰু কোনো ঠাইত পানীৰ অভাৱত খেতিকে কৰিব পৰা নাই। এইবোৰৰ বিপৰীত বিচাৰিলে মণ্ডল আৰু কাননগু আদি বিষয়াসকলে গাঁৱলৈ নোযোৱাকৈয়ে অক্ষিত পৰাই দিয়ে। গতিকে সেই ৰিপোৰ্টবোৰো বিশ্বাস কৰা টান।

Mr. SPEAKER: I don't know whether the hon. Member has read the explanatory notes where the purpose of this demand has been mentioned. "The amount is required for rendering relief to the flood, erosion, hailstorm and unusual drought affected people in various places in Assam by way of test relief work". So, it will be better if the hon. Member confines himself to concrete complaints or grievances regarding these items and, more particularly to the requirement of test relief and general relief. That would be more pertinent and more useful.

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS (Patacharkuchi—Reserved for Scheduled Tribes): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, কামৰূপ, নগাঁও আৰু গোৱালপাৰাত অনাবৃষ্টিৰ ফলত যিবোৰ মানুহৰ অনিষ্ট সাধন হৈছিল সেই সকলক test relief দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবৰ বাবে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিলো।

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall deal with two points only, viz., that the amount is meagre to meet the situation and that it has been lately sanctioned. We know that flood, erosion, hailstorm and other natural calamities affected a huge number of people of our State about 8 to 10 months back. I do not therefore understand why this demand has come so late.

My second point is this: in many places deserving people could not get test relief help, though they had been pressing for it. To cite an example of my constituency, and Nalbari East Constituency, in Mouza Upper Borbhag, in villages Bahajani, Natun Dehar, Dharmapur and Pakowa, thousands of people were affected by flood of the Pagladia river. Their Sali and Aman crops were totally damaged and they repeatedly requested the Department concerned for test relief help but it has not yet been given. Furthermore, in Upper Borbhag Mouza some of the flood-affected people at their own cost and initiative cultivated about 2,000 bighas of land and have grown Boro paddy. In spite of repeated requests to Government to render help for further extension of their cultivation, no help has been given to them. So, my submission is that the distribution of test relief money up till now has not been made to all the deserving localities. This is improper on the part of the administration and it goes to show that the Government are not so keen about this matter.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, শ্ৰীবীৰেন্দ্ৰ কুমাৰ দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱটো আলোচনা কৰাৰ প্ৰসংগত

অভিযোগ কৰিছে যে proper enquiry and supervision হোৱা নাই। মই কব খোজে। যে চৰকাৰৰ এই বিষয়ত যেনেকুৱা ব্যৱস্থা আছে সেইদৰেহে enquiry and supervision হব। কেনেকৈ পৰিদৰ্শন আৰু কৰিব লাগে তাৰ বাবে শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই যদি ভাল পৰামৰ্শ দিলেহেতেন তেতিয়াহে তেখেতৰ অভিযোগ সাৰ্থক হনহেতেন। যোৱা ২৯।১১।৫৭ তাৰিখে গহনুৰ মৌজা কলাবাৰী আদি অঞ্চলত শিলা বৃষ্টিয়ে পকিবলৈ ধৰা ধান বোকাৰ পুতিলে। শিলে পোতা ধান বোকাৰ পৰা বুটতে মই নিজে দেখি আহিছো। সেই মৌজাৰ ৰাহজৰ সাহায্যে ডেপুটি কমিছনাৰে মাত্ৰ ৪০০ মোণ ধান দিছিল। কিন্তু সেই ধান যথেষ্ট হোৱা নাই 'Test Relief' হিচাপে আৰু সাহায্য দিয়াৰ আৱশ্যক। আৰু তাকে নকৰিলে সেই মৌজাটো আকালৰ পৰা বক্ষা কৰা টান হব। আশীৰ্বৰো মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে এই কথাটো লক্ষ্য ৰাখে।

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH NATH (Goalpara): মাননীয়, অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, শ্ৰী বীৰেন্দ্ৰ কুমাৰ দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই Test Relief সন্থকে Cut Motion-ৰ জৰিয়তে যি এটা আলোচনা ডাঙি ধৰিছে সেই বিষয়ে মোয়ো দু-আঘাৰ মান কৰিলে আগ বাঢ়িছে।

আমাৰ দেশত ৰানপানীৰ কাৰনে এটা ছলুস্থল হয়, কিন্তু অনাবৃষ্টিৰ ফলত যে ধান নোহোৱা হৈছে তাৰ কাৰণে ছলুস্থল হোৱা নাই। বিশেষকৈ এইবাৰ গোৱালপাড়া, নগাওঁ আৰু কামৰূপৰ কোনো কোনো অঞ্চলত অনা বৃষ্টিৰ ফলত একে-বাৰেই ধান নোহোৱা হৈছে। ৰান পানী হলে অন্ততঃ কিছু পৰিমাণে ফচল পোৱা যায়। কিন্তু অশা বৃষ্টিৰ ফলত একেবাৰেই ধান হোৱা নাই। আমাৰ এগ্ৰিকালচাৰ বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মোঃ মইনুল হক ডাঙৰীয়াই গোৱালপাৰা জিলাত বিভিন্ন ঠাইত ঘূৰি ঘূৰি নিজেই দেখি আহিছে যে পথাৰত ধানৰ গছ আছে হয় কিন্তু গছত ধান নাই। সকলো বিলাক পথাৰতেই এনেকুৱা অবস্থা হৈছে। এই বিষয়ে বিশেষ ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লবলৈ গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক অনুৰোধ কৰা হৈছিল। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ Test Relief ৰ কাম কৰিবলৈ কোৱা হৈছিল আৰু সেই হিচাপে যি যি ঠাই বেচি পৰিমাণে affected হৈছিল তাৰ লিষ্টী দিয়া হৈছিল। কিন্তু দুখৰ বিষয় গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে সেই লিষ্টী মতে কাম নকৰি শিলং পাহাৰৰ পৰাই কিছু টকা দিছে তেওঁ বিলাকে কি দিছে? তেওঁবিলাকে দিছে মাত্ৰ ৫০,০০০ টকা যি স্থলত demand কৰা হৈছিল ১০ লক্ষ টকা। তেওঁ বিলাক যদি টকা নাই তেন্তে কোন কোন ঠাইত priority দিব লাগে সেই সম্বন্ধে local authority ক সুধিব লাগিছিল আৰু priority অনুসাৰে earmark কৰি দিব লাগিছিল। তাকে নকৰাত ৰাইজ হতাশ হৈছে। ৰাস্তাৰ নিমিত্তে যত টকা দিয়া হৈছে তাতো গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে কৈছে যে যদি তোমালোকে কাম কৰিব পাৰা তেনেহলে তোমালোকে আৰু দুই চাৰিটা ৰাস্তাৰ কাম পাব পাৰা। তাতো আকৌ ভাগা ভাগি আছে। প্ৰথমতে নগৰত কাম কৰিব আৰু তাৰ পিছতহে গোৱালপাৰাত কৰিব। এইটো হৈছে experiment ৰ কথা আমাক লাগে relief ৰ কথা। যদিহে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে relief দিব খুজিছে তেনেহলে সেই হিচাপে কাম কৰিব লাগে। দুখৰ বিষয় গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে সেই মতে কাম নকৰি শিলঙত বহিয়েই টকা দিয়াৰ ফলত ৰাইজ হতাশ হৈছে। কিয়নো যি আগেয়ে টকা পাব লাগে সি পোৱাই নাই। Test Relief ৰ কাৰনে টকাও খৰ কমকৈ দিয়া হৈছে। যিবিলাক অভাবগ্ৰস্ত মানুহে খাবলৈ পোৱা নাই সিহঁতে নিশ্চয় কোৰেৰে মাটি খান্দিব। মই কব পাৰো যে আজি মানুহে কাম কৰো কৰো বুলি ঘূৰি ফৰিছে, কিন্তু কাম পোৱা নাই। কিছুমানে নিজৰ ঘৰ পৰ্য্যন্ত বিক্ৰি কৰি খাইছে। ইতিপূৰ্বে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টক জনোৱা হৈছিল যে মানুহে খেৰৰ ঘৰ বিক্ৰি কৰি যি ১০।১২ টকা পায় তাৰে এবোলা খাইছে আৰু এবোলা নোখোৱাকৈ আছে। গতিকে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে test relief সন্থকে যি policy লয় সেই বিষয়ে

পৰামৰ্শ কৰি যত দিব লাগে তাতেই দিয়া উচিত হ'ব। Gratuitions Relief বা Agricultural loan দিয়া হৈছে হয়, কিন্তু তাকো local authority এ local representative কো পৰামৰ্শ নকৰাকৈয়ে D. C. বা S. D. C. এ ভিতৰি ভিতৰি দিয়ে ই এটা সাংঘাতিক কথা হৈ পৰিছে। এনেকুৱা police ত বাহিৰে relief পাব নোৱাৰে আৰু বহুতে নাপায়। এই বিষয়ে গবৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ এটা clear cut instruction থকা উচিত। বিশেষকৈ local representative আৰু অনুষ্ঠান বিলাকৰ লগত পৰামৰ্শ কৰি যদি relief বা টকা দিয়া হয় তেনেহলে এই টকা ভাল ভাবে বিতৰণ হ'ব পাৰে। গবৰ্ণমেণ্ট যদি এই পৰামৰ্শ গ্ৰহণ কৰি সেই হিচাপে কাম কৰে তেনেহলে আমি সুখী হ'ম। ইয়াকে কৈ নই শ্ৰী বীৰেন্দ্ৰ কুমাৰ দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ Cut Motion যো উঠাই লবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰো,

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, about the calamities and its extent what my hon. Friends have said are substantially correct. Government would also have been very glad if they could have provided more money. A misconception has been made by assuming that test relief is the only relief we give. We give relief in several ways. Regarding test relief I find from my experience that test relief is given where it is wanted and also where it is not wanted as people come with their demand for construction of roads and so on. There are instances where villagers engaged Bihari labourers and roads were constructed under the test relief scheme. From our experience we know that villagers do not know flood level, which way water will pass and culverts are to be put; then there is no proper superpass and maintenance, as a result when a road is constructed it is washed by flood and no trace of it is left. Money is simply wasted. So test relief becomes merely gratuitous relief. The intention of Government was that some public work should be done and the people would get some money, which would increase the purchasing capacity of the people. But when demand for test relief work comes from certain subdivision for Rs.10 lakhs and from some other for Rs.19 lakhs, we cannot provide money. Such amounts for roads will mean opening up of many Public Works Department Divisions.

Now Government has adopted a policy for test relief work that it should be spent on productive work. For example if there is a marshy land, and if a canal is cut and the water drained the land, can be reclaimed or if by cutting a canal certain area can be irrigated and food grown, test relief money will be given. According to the policy adopted now by the Government test relief works should not be done here and there on roads alone. The money should be spent on productive works.

I think, Sir, my hon. Friend, Shri Deka, knows full well where in his constituency, drought and erosion took place

I give a list showing the amounts given in the shape of various relief measures throughout the State.

We have given gratuitous relief of Rs.5,20,240-6-0, in those affected areas.

For test relief there is a Budget provision of Rs.3 lakhs, but we have given about Rs.3,60,000 up till now and there are other proposals under consideration.

In Agricultural loans this year we have distributed Rs.12,58,822.

As rehabilitation loans we have spent Rs.7,10,814.

All these are relief given to affected people, and if all these are added the amount will not be very insignificant. So I would request my hon. Friend to bear in mind all these things. This is the position with regard to test relief and other reliefs given to the people. So I would like to request my hon. Friend to see his way to withdraw his cut motion.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the house withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER : I now put the question.

The question is :

That an additional amount of Rs.34,64,221, be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief."

(The Motion was adopted.)

No.20

(55—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions)

Shri DEVESWAR SARMAH (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.4,920, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions."

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 42,47,100

II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year

Additional amount now required ... 4,920

III — Sub.head under which the Supplementary demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
H.—Charges in England—(a) Expenditure by the High Commissioner of India-Superannuation and retired allowance (Voted)	10,173	..	..	..	4,920	..	4,920
Total	..	..	..	..	4,920	..	4,920

This is a small amount and the reason for this is given in the Explanatory Note.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This additional amount is required by the High Commissioner of India in London on the basis of his estimate.

Mr. SPEAKER : There are no cut motions :

The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.4,920, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "55.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions."

(The motion was put from the Chair as a Question and was adopted.)

No.21

(56—Stationery and Printing).

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.1,623, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1958, for administration of the head "56.—"Stationery and Printing".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	17,03,100
II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year ...	2,41,290
Additional amount now required ...	1,623
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Grant will be accounted for:—	

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
C.—Stationery Offices and Stores—Shillong and Gauhati Offices—							
1. Pay of Officers	2,760	..	10	...	533	...	533
2. Pay of Establishment	15,900	..	6,636	..	682	...	682
3. Allowances and Honoraria	11,840	..	3,918	..	408	..	408
Total	..	..	..	..	1,623	..	1,623

This is a small amount and the reason for it is given in the Explanatory Notes.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The amount is required for meeting the Pay of Superintendent, Stationery Stores, Gauhati which was drawn by him on account of advance increment granted by Government for his service rendered in Supply Department.

2. The amount is required to meet the expenditure for entertainment of substitutes against leave vacancy in the Stationery Office Shillong.

3. The amount is required to meet the expenditure for entertainment of substitutes against leave vacancy in Stationery Offices at Shillong and Gauhati.

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.1,623 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

(The motion was put as a Question from the Chair and was adopted.)

No.22

[57.—Miscellaneous—(1.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners), etc.]

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister):** On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.2,22,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head '57.—Miscellaneous—[1.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenus, etc.]'.

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	13,40,100
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year.	2,11,143
Additional amount now required	... 2,22,000

*Demand No. 22 was moved by the Finance Minister in the absence of the Chief Minister.

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
"B.—Miscellaneous Durbar Charges.	5,000	48,000	..	11,143	..	10,000	10,000
2nd Five-Year Plan—							
E.-7—Grants-in-aid (Removal of untouchability).	1,66,000	..	..	..	12,000	..	12,000
E.-8—Grants-in-aid to Scheduled Castes/Tribes people for construction of houses.	..	..	2,00,000	..	..	2,00,000	2,00,00
Total	..	..	..	..	12,000	2,10,000	2,22,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B.—Because of the abnormal conditions in the Naga Hills, it was considered necessary to give financial assistance to some persons and groups helping the Government towards easing the situation. The amount was provided by obtaining an advance from the Contingency Fund. Hence the demand to regularise the advance.

E.7.—As recommended by the State Advisory Board for Welfare of Scheduled Caste, the provision of Rs.12,000 originally provided for hostel facilities under the head "Education" has been diverted for increasing the provision of "Housing Scheme" under removal of untouchability programme for the year 1957-58. This amount has been provided by taking advance from Contingency Fund. Hence the demand to regularise the advance.

E.8.—For the implementation of the "Housing" Scheme under the centrally sponsored programme the Government of

India have sanctioned a grant of Rs.2,00,000 during the financial year for giving subsidy to the Scheduled Tribes people for the construction of houses. The decision for the the implementation of the scheme was taken recently, no provision could be made in the current year's budget. Hence the Supplementary Demand.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.2,22,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 22, Major head—57.—Miscellaneous, at page 40 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs.100 *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 2,22,000, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

The object of my moving this cut motion Sir, is to criticise the financial assistance to the persons and groups helping the Government, etc., in this demand because it is not clear from the Explanatory Note where it says. "it was considered necessary to give financial assistance to some person and groups helping the Government towards easing the situation." Sir, it is not clear from the Explanatory Note whether this consideration was after the 1st December 1957 or before that. Because we know that on 1st December 1957 a separate Naga Unit was formed consisting of the whole Naga Hills and the Tuensang Division according to the Central Act recently passed. It is not clear whether after the enforcement of this Central Act to the Naga Unit this Demand was considered to be spent or before that. If it was after that, then I say this demand is entirely unnecessary and it should be declared to be out of order and if it is before the 1st December 1957, then one thing I cannot understand. When the last session of the Assembly sat in November 1957, the then Chief Minister, Shri Medhi, also gave a long statement regarding the Naga situation and from the month of November up to 1st December 1957 it was only two or three weeks, not even 2 weeks but 12 or 10 days—whether this demand is required for only those few days or it was for the period before the November session of this Assembly? If it was before the November-session of the Assembly, then why was it not placed before that session? I cannot understand it. I hope the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge will explain the exact position. Along with it I like to say another thing. That, who are the persons who assisted the Government in easing the situation in the Naga Hills at the time of the disturbances and who are the groups of persons? Whether they are Nagas or other than Nagas? If they are Nagas, were

they loyal to the Government—the word loyal has been liberally used by the Government on the floor of this House. If they are loyal Nagas, were they really loyal by themselves or were they made to be loyal by promises of gifts or bribes, if I may say so? If they were really loyal in assisting the Government to restore peace in the Naga Hills then it is good, but if they were made so by promises of bribes and such other things then I say it is quite improper and not decent on the part of Government. Again, if these persons were non-Nagas, who are they? I hope all this will be explained by the Minister-in-charge. I hope the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge will give full explanation as to who are these persons or groups of persons for whom financial assistance was given for assisting the Government in restoring peace in the Naga Hills. Unless we get proper and adequate explanation the real presumption will be that the whole amount is really wasted.

With these few observations, Sir, I commend my motion to the acceptance of the House.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this amount of Rs.2,22,000 was used and spent towards payment of emoluments to those Naga personnel during the intense activities of the hostile Nagas. These hostile Nagas, as is well known, used to attack people here, burnt villages there and loot properties of the villages everywhere. So, with a view to get information for protection of lives and properties, a large number of people had to be employed and those people had to risk their lives for collecting the information and they had to be paid. The expenditure was checked by the Chief Secretary also. Sir, the money had to be spent for the very important and urgent works for the purpose of protecting the lives and properties of the plains people and non-hostile Nagas also.

(The Cut Motion was by withdrawn with the leave of the House.)

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that an additional amount of Rs.2,22,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head '57.—Miscellaneous—(I.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Detenus, etc.).

(The motion was adopted.)

No.23

(57—Miscellaneous—II.—Donation for Charitable purposes, etc.)

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.2,44,469 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—II.—Donation for Charitable purposes, etc."

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	20,27,300
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year.	2,44,700
Additional amount now required ...	2,44,469
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—	

Minor and sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	
(1)	(2) Rs.	(3) Rs.	(4) Rs.	(5) Rs.	(6) Rs.	(7) Rs.	(8) Rs.
B.—Donation for Charitable purposes.	57,600	1,200	..	..	..	8,700	8,700
D.—Other Petty Establishment—							
(a) Circuit and Session Houses.	1,67,470	18,648	..	..	..	2,579	2,579
(b) Other Petty Establishment.	55,430	5,79,410	..	..	..	97,390	97,390
G.—Rates and Taxes	23,900	1,568	..	..	..	100	100
H.—Contributions—							
(iv) Grants to District Councils under Art. 275 (i) of the Constitution.	..	..	..	..	..	40,000	40,000
J.—Miscellaneous and Unforeseen charges—							
Miscellaneous Charges.	5,28,853	50,200	..	1,24,700	..	95,700	95,700
Total ..			..	..	..	2,44,469	2,44,469

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B.—The amount is required to meet the expenses for physical removal of offenders to Pakistan in Garo Hills, for payment of dietary charges of non-criminal lunatics in Naga Hills and also for burial charges in Khasi-Jaintia Hills.

D (a) and (b).—The excess is due to the revision of pay scales.

G.—Due to the payment of arrear taxes.

H. (iv).—On the request of the State Government, Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs.40,000 as grants-in-aid to Pawi-Lakher Regional Council to enable it to complete its office buildings. This being an unforeseen expenditure, funds could not be provided in the current year's budget. Hence the demand.

J.—A sum of Rs.1,24,000 was sanctioned by the Government on behalf of the Khasi-Jaintia Hills District Council for conducting General Election of the Council. 50 per cent of the total expenditure incurred for the purpose will be recovered from the Council. Out of that, Rs.35,000 was available from the current year's budget provision and Rs.89,000 was provided for by an advance from Contingency Fund. This demand is only to regularise the advance.

Another amount of Rs.6,700 is required for meeting the expenditure in connection with the general election to the Mizo District Council and Pawi-Lakher Regional Council being conducted by the Government on behalf of the Councils. The expenditure is reimburseable by the Councils. This being an unforeseen expenditure, no fund could be provided in the budget. Hence the demand.

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.2,44,469 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration for the head '57.—Miscellaneous—II—Donation of Charitable purposes, etc.'.

(The Motion was put and adopted.)

No.24.

(57 Miscellaneous—III—contribution)

Shri DEBESWAR SARMA (Finance Minister) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs. 70,650 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—III—Contribution."

								Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the	Assembly	...						11,55,800
II.—Additional grant voted by the	Assembly	...						7,500
	during the year.							
III.—Additional amount now required	...	...						70,650
	Sub head under which the Supplementary							
	Demand will be accounted for—							
Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required			
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	Total	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
A.—Contributions—								
Grants to Local Bodies for General purpose.	6,55,734	...	7,500	..	70,650	..	70,650	
Total	..	..	...	..	70,650	..	70,650	

EXPLANATORY NOTES

An amount of Rs 30,000 was urgently required for improvement of Kamakhya Town by providing essential amenities like drinking water, seats and waiting sheds to the temple approaches and surrounding areas for pilgrims coming to Kamakhya from different parts of the county. As there was no fund for the purpose an advance from Contingency Fund was taken.

With a view to improve the living condition of the scavengers the Government of India have been pleased recently to sanction Rs.41,000 to certain municipal bodies who were prepared to undertake the Scheme of providing handcarts wheel barrows to the sweepers employed by them on scavenging works. Out of this grant, an amount of Rs.40,650 has been sanctioned to certain municipal bodies by taking advance from Contingency Fund.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.70,650 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—III.—Contribution."

(The Motion was put and adopted).

No.25

(57.—Miscellaneous—IV.—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Supply) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.69,213 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc."

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 5,36,000

II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year. Nil.

III.—Additional amount now required Rs.
 Sub-head under which the Supplementary 69,213
 Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A.—Expenditure on issue of free ration to Govt. servants.	167	833	...	..	39,213	..	39,213
B.—Losses on supply of foodstuffs to Government servants and others at conces- sion prices.	5,167	5,25,833	..	..	10,000	20,000	30,000
Total	..	...	..	...	49,213	20,000	69,213

EXPLANATORY NOTES

General Areas—

The increased demand represents the expenditure in connection with the payment of the pending bills of the contractor dealers for supply of rations to Government servants and others for previous years to the extent of Rs.1,0,000 and payment of Cash Allowance worth Rs.39,213 payable to the Armed Branch personnel for the period from 1st January 1955 to 31st March, 1955.

Supplementary Demand for this amount of Rs.39,213 is to regularise the amount of advance taken from Contingency Fund.

Sixth Schedule (Part A) Areas—

The balance of Rs.20,000 is required due to Government decision to subsidise transport cost of food-stuffs to be supplied to the United Mikir and North Cachar Hills District. This could not be foreseen at the time of framing the Budget as the subsidy scheme there has been introduced by Government very recently. Hence the Demand.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.69,213 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st march 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—IV.—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc."

(The Motion was put and adopted)

No.26

[57.—Miscellaneous (V.—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc.)]

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.1,39,959 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous (V.—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc").)

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly .. 2,45,000

II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957 Session of the Assembly. Nil.

Additional amount now required ... 1,39,959

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during Nov. 1957 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B.—Transport Organisation— Pooled Transport ...	69,000	..	..	..	1,39,959	..	1,39,959
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,39,959

*Supplementary Demand No.26 was moved by the Finance Minister in the absence of the Chief Minister.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The additional amount of Rs.1,39,959 is required to meet the expenditure for cost of four cars in view of the increased demand of the Pool Cars by by touring officials of both Central and other States and increased in expenditure for use of vehicles by the States Guests during the Congress Session.

Hence the Demand.

Mr. SPEAKER : There are 4 cut motions.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Only one will be moved, Sir.

Shri Deka will move the cut motion.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA : (Nalbari-West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.1,39,959 under Supplementary Demand No.26, Major head—57—Miscellaneous (V—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc.), at page 46 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.1,39,959 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(The object of moving this Cut Motion is to criticise this demand).

Sir, in the Explanatory Note it is said that the amount is required for cost of four cars in view of the increased demand of the Pool Cars by touring Officials of both Central and other States and increase in expenditure for use of vehicles by the State Guests during the Congress Session.

Sir, the other day also when we discussed about the expenditure under head 'Police' we raised this point. We submitted that this demand was unnecessary as the expenditure was quite unnecessary because the persons who had come to our State they came not as State guests. They came as Congress members or leaders. So to help them by spending a huge sum of money like this in pool cars were unnecessary and it shows how the ruling party behaves with the public money for their party's interest.

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

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Cut Motion moved by Friend, Mr. Deka. Sir, during this Session of the Assembly, we have already voted about three lakhs of rupees for the purpose of the last Congress Session, and this sum of about Rs. 1 lakh 39 thousand will bring it to about 4½ lakhs. We do not know what is more in store to be presented before this House which was already been spent in connection with the last Session of the Congress. Sir, we are really very glad that such a big session of the Congress took place at Gauhati in Assam. Sir, from information we have been able to receive about Rs.20 lakhs were spent by the Congress, which was collected by various people. Over and above this we find that the expenditure from the Government will perhaps come to a similar figure. Sir, I quite see that the Government have certain responsibilities to discharge, they have to maintain law and order, they have to see to the question of conservancy, they have also to do something in connection with the exhibition, but if I remember correct, our Prime Minister in course of an interview in Gauhati said, "I am here as Jawaharlal and not as the Prime Minister". We believe all the delegates who came there came as delegates to the Congress Session and not as State guests, as Ministers of the Government of India or of other States. I do not know what was the occasion for this State to entertain them as State Guests. When they actually came for the purpose of attending the political meeting of a Political party no expenditure for them should have been incurred by the Government. Sir, from the Explanatory Note it is difficult to know as to how this whole amount was actually spent. It is really very unfortunate that the House is presented with certain *fait accompli*? certain expenditure already incurred, the details of which are not given. We do not know, Sir, how this sum of Rs.1,39,959 was spent. I presume, Sir, that this amount was not spent in only four cars. This money must have been spent for purposes other than these four cars which Government, perhaps, do not like us to know. This Explanatory Note by itself does not give us any idea regarding the nature of the expenditure. I know, Sir, during the Congress Session certain things were done. Vehicles were requisitioned virtually, though not legally, by various D. T. Os. Sir, D. T. Os. went round and said that this or that vehicle is requisitioned for the Congress Session. And

the people knew what might be result of the refusal of such an unwritten order, for if the order was not complied with in toto, the consequence would have been surely very fatal, the owner might have been deprived of his vehicle license, his permit would have been cancelled. And in that manner scores of vehicles were used. Our Ministers have got very beautiful cars which could have been used by some of the highly esteemed guests of the Congress, such as the Prime Minister or the Home Minister of India. I had also seen during the Congress Session that State Cars were used by people who were not actually State Guests but by some people of our State for their personal use. We cannot afford to ignore the waste of public money in the manner. We as the custodian of public money demand an answer from the Government on the points raised from this side of the House. It can only be used for the purpose for which this House sanction it ; it cannot be used for the furtherance of aims and objects of a certain political party. Unless we know all these things, it is impossible for us to sanction this amount. With these few words, Sir, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Leader of the Opposition is right when he says that the Explanatory Notes are meagre. When the Government have come up for additional amount of the order of Rs. 1 lakh 39 thousand, I submit, Sir, the representatives of the ratepayers, I mean the people, of the State are entitled to know how the money had been spent. I therefore, Sir, with your permission beg to read out a statement which, I hope, will dispel any misgivings in the minds of the hon. Members. The entire amount under the provision was not meant for purchase of the 4 State Cars.

Most of the vehicles in the pool are very old and not fit for long and strenuous tours due to their worn out condition. Therefore we had to supplement the pool cars. The position of the pool cars as they exist now is briefly this : we have two Consul cars of 1953 model which are not reliable ; 5 Vanguard of 1954 model which are also not reliable ; 2 Chevrolet cars of 1952 model—not reliable ! one Plymouth of 1952 model which is also not reliable. We have got only one Jeep Station Wagon and one Land Master in good working order,

We sent a number of cars to Naga Hills during the Police operation there. These vehicles have since been taken over by the Central Government on the 1st of December and when we requested the Central Government that our jeeps should be returned to us, they expressed their inability to comply with our request.

Sir, now this is the strength of our pool cars. It is so much deplorable that even when the Prime Minister was pleased to pay a visit to Shillong in December last, the car provided from the Pool to his staff broke down on the way. So, that was the condition of it.

Now as regards the break-up of the expenditure, this is like this.

	Rs.
1. Expenditure since incurred up to ... December 1957.	43,200
2. Expenditure awaiting adjustment for repairs of pool car in ST. Work- shop during the year 1956-57.	26,501
and in 1957-58	15 000
3. Hire charge of pool vehicles for use during the Congress Session.	
(a) Private Taxis	21,200
(b) Hire charge of S, T. cars placed in pool during the Congress Session 7 cars and Rs. 120 per day for 10 days.	8,400
4. Estimated expenditure of pool cars for January 1958 to March, 1958.	
(a) Establishment, allowance and Honoraria at Rs. 2000 per month ...	6,000
(b) Contingency at Rs.5,000 per month cost of petrol, lub-oil and Mis. contingency ..	15,000

5. Cost of taking over the following cars in the pool transport—

(a) To be paid for the car of late .. 10,000
Dr. L. C. Dutta Chaudhury now
in the pool.

(b) Studebaker Commander utility Van.....

Mr. SPEAKER: So, it appears that the Explanatory Note is not quite comprehensive. The whole amount was, therefore not spent in the purchase of four cars. I therefore think that it will be better if we not only place on the table of the House the statement just made in this connection but circulate it to the hon. Members.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : This Explanatory Note should be entirely *re-written* and a new note covering the entire amount may be also given.

Mr. SPEAKER : If all these facts were circulated to the Members for their information then there would not have been so much misapprehension or misunderstanding.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister) : Now the only point I need answer is why cars were placed for the use of those Ministers and others who came from other States in connection With the Congress Session. In India a convention has been made that wherever a Minister goes he does some work of the State he belongs to even if he goes in a private capacity. This is followed in every States of India and we are only following that convention. Whenever a Central Minister comes here, even if he comes in a Private capacity, he does some work of our State and as a matter of courtesy we do place a car, telephone, etc. at his disposal for his use. This is done in return of their courtesy which is extended to Ministers and others from Assam. I do hope that our Friends will appreciate that Assam should not be lacking in hospitality and courtesy which were in the past extended to the people from Assam.

Mr. SPEAKER : Does the Members want to withdraw his Motion ?

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari West) : Yes, Sir.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,39,959 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous (V—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc.)"

(The Motion was adopted.)

No.27

(VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc.)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Education): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.7,907 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous (VII—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc.)"

- I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly 7,500
 II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year ...
 Additional amount now required 7,907
 III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A.—Miscellaneous and Unforeseen charges—Miscellaneous Development Schemes—Passage Expenses of overseas stipendiaries.	1,300	..	..	..	1,267	..	1,266
B.—Charges in England—Development Schemes—Scholarships.	6,160	..	..	..	6,640	..	6,640
Total	..	6,460	..	..	7,097	..	7,907

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—The amount is required to meet the passage expenses of one Scholar (Dr. Bangshidar Barua, Assistant Professor, Assam Medical College) who returned to India during January, 1957 after obtaining Ph. D. Degree in Pathology from the University of Sheffield U. K.

The original provision voted by the Assembly is particularly meant for another scholar who is due to return to India from U. K. within March, 1958.

B.—This additional amount is required by the High Commissioner of India in London on the basis of his estimates.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.7,907 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head “57.—Miscellaneous (VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc)”.

(The Motion was adopted).

No. 28

(XLVI.—A.—Road Transport Scheme Working Expenses)

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Finance Minister):** On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.11,19,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958 for the administration of the head “XLVI.—A.—Road Transport Scheme Working Expenses.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	85,32,500
II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957, Session of the Assembly.	Nil.
Additional amount now required ...	11,19,600

*Supplementary Demand No.28 was moved by the Finance Minister in absence of the Chief Minister.

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for :—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assem- bly during Nov. 1957 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1-A—Direction ...	2,32,670	..	..	..	20,000	..	20,000
2-B—Operation— Section I— Gauhati-Nowgong Service.	2,23,680	..	..	..	61,400	..	61,400
3. Section II— Nowgong Jorhat Service.	4,87,700	..	..	..	1,07,000	..	1,07,000
4. Section III— Pandu-Gauhati- Shillong Service.	34,39,500	..	..	..	2,34,000	..	2,34,000
5. Section IV— Jorhat-Sibsagar- Dibrugarh Service.	6,47,750	..	..	..	1,11,000	..	1,11,000
6. Section V— Gauhati-Goalpara Service.	6,67,900	..	..	..	94,300	..	94,300
7. Section VI Dhubri-Jogighopa Service.	5,70,449	..	..	..	80,000	..	80,000
8. Section VII— Dibrugarh-Saikho- waghat Service.	3,35,500	..	..	..	48,800	..	48,800
9. Section VIII— Shillong-Jowai Khliehriat Ser- vice.	3,34,500	..	..	..	2,600	..	2,600
10. Section X— North-Gauhati. Tezpur Service.	6,10,700	..	..	..	1,31,700	..	31,700
11. Section XI— Tezpur-North Lakhimpur Ser- vice.	6,52,500	..	..	..	2,16,800	..	2,16,800
12. Section XVI— Silchar-Badarpur- Karimganj Ser- vice.	..	..	..	..	12,000	..	12,000
Total	..	..	..	..	11,19,600	..	11,19,600

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1.—A.—An amount of Rs.20,000 is required for payment of arrear pay and allowances to the staff due to the revision of pay scale.

2.—B.—(a) An amount of Rs.5,17,000 is required for payment of arrear pay and allowances to the staff due to the revision of pay scale.

- (b) An amount of Rs.5,70,600 is required to meet the depreciation charges on newly purchased vehicles during the year. The charges are to be transferred to State Transport depreciation fund.
- (c) The additional amount is required for meeting operational expenditure of Silchar-Badarpur-Karimganj Service as it has been decided to nationalise it with effect from 1st March 1958.

Hence the demand.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.11,19,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "XLVI.—A.—Road Transport Scheme Working Expenses".

There is a Cut Motion in the name of Shri Deka.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari West): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.11,19,600 under Supplementary Demand No.28, Major head "XLVI.—A.—Road Transport Scheme Working Expenses, at page 49 of the list of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re.1 i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.11,19,600 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, under this head it is stated that an amount of Rs.12,000 is required to meet the expenditure of Silchar-Badarpur-Karimganj Service as it has been decided to nationalise it with effect from 1st March, 1958. We do support the policy of nationalisation because it brings as more amenities and more revenue to the State coffer also. But here in this respect we want to know why nationalisation of a particular road the length of which will be about 30 miles only has been taken up so hurriedly by a Supplementary grant? I came to know from the records of the Government that three roads were to be taken up and they are—N.T. Road, Jorhat-Sibsagar Road and one road at Lakhimpur District upto Lekhapani. These three roads are going to be nationalised this year, but no mention was made of this particular road. Without implementing the proposal of nationalising the other three roads why this particular road just before this Budget Session has been decided to be nationalised and why in the Supplementary Demand this amount has been asked for when our budget is going to be introduced on the 14th March, a few days hence. I do not find any reason to make such a hurried decision by the Government.

Moreover from the information I have gathered I have come to know that the road which has been nationalised is not

fully metalled—one portion of it still remains to be metalled... and for this reason our transport vehicles which run on this road consume more petrol and they get worn out more quickly. One can easily infer the motive why such a hurried decision was made for nationalising this road. It is because a bye-election was going to take place in that area in which our present Chief Minister was going to contest and to capture more votes probably such a hurried decision was taken leaving aside taking up other roads of equal importance. Therefore, Sir, I have raised this Cut Motion.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): Sir, the conclusion of my Friend has come to on this account is not correct. The decision for nationalising this road was taken long ago and in fact purchase of buses to run on this road was made early to connect those places. The decision in this connection was taken perhaps much earlier than our present Chief Minister decided to contest in the by-election at Badarpur area. This Silchar-Badarpur-Karimganj road is as important as any national high way. So, Sir, the conclusion he has made is an invented one.

Mr. SPEAKER: Does the mover want to withdraw his Motion ?

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): I withdraw it.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.11,19,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge at defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "XLVI-A.—Road Transport Scheme Working Expenses".

(The motion was adopted.)

Mr. SPEAKER: As it is 4 P. M. now, I ask the Hon'ble Ministers to place their motions before the House and I will put them to vote.

No.29

(63.-B.—1 Community Development Projects, National Extension Service, etc.)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister, Community Development Projects): On the

recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.5,40,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "63.-B.—1—Community Development Projects—National Extension Service and Local Development Works".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	20,00,000
II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly ...	17,850
during November 1957 Session of the Assembly.	
Additional amount now required ...	5,40,000
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:—	

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during Nov. 1957 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
C.—Local Development Works—							
Water Supply—Grants-in-aid.	6,80,545	2,00,000	..	—	—	—	—
Roads and buildings including small bridges culverts Grants-in-aid.	7,86,002	2,85,453	15,400	2,450	4,40,000	1,00,000	5,40,000
Total ..	..	..	..	..	4,40,000	1,00,000	5,40,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Government of India have since sanctioned another grant of Rs.5.40 lakhs in addition to their contribution of Rs.10 lakhs for Local Development Works during the current year. As the State Government have also contributed an amount equivalent to the contribution made by India earlier, the provision of Rs.20 lakhs in the budget for the purpose has since been exhausted. Hence the demand.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.5,40,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "63.-B.—1—Community Development, etc."

(The motion was adopted.)

No.30

(81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account)

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister Finance): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.11,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account".

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 5,41,38,000

II.—Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957 Session of the Assembly. 4,40,173

Additional amount now required ... 11,500

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during November 1957 Session		Additional amount now required		Total	
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)		(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Development Schemes (2nd Five Year Plan).	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
A—6.—Original Works—(b) Communication—								
Ropeway-Shella-Amingaon Project.	..	..	..	..	11,500	..	..	11,500
Total	..	..	..	..	11,500	..	..	11,500

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The amount is required to meet the expenditure incurred by the Survey of India in 1956-57 on ground survey work for Cherra-Umtyngar-Ropeway. The Planning Commission has since agreed to in principle to include the Project in the 2nd Five Year Plan and advised the State Government to take up survey of the Project. The Commission has also allocated Rs.1 lakh for the next year.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.11,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of the payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account".

(The Motion was then put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted.)

No.31

(81-A—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister, Electricity): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.7,57,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "81.-A.—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes."

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	58,53,800
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year.	17,00,000
III.—Additional amount now required	7,57,000

IV.—Sub-head under which the supplementary grant will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I—Hydro-Electric Scheme.—							
(1)—Umtru Hydro Electric Scheme—							
Civil Works Section							
A—Works ..	5,00,000	..	..	..	6,81,855	..	6,81,855
B—Establishment—							
1. Pay of officer ..	14,000	..	..	..	3,251	..	3,251
2. Pay of Establishment.	19,000	..	..	..	23,258	..	23,258
3. Allowances and Honoraria.	21,500	..	..	..	38,636	..	38,636
C—Tools and Plant	10,000	..	..	..	10,000	..	10,000
Total ..	..	..	..	..	7,57,000	..	7,57,000

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The work was originally scheduled for completion substantially during 1956-57 and as such, no expenditure excepting a sum of Rs.5.86 lakhs for some minor works inclusive of Establishment charges for 3 months only was envisaged during 1957-58. But due to unforeseen calamities like unprecedented flood at the work site, dock strike at Calcutta, etc., holding up works and transportation of materials the work could not be completed as scheduled. Hence provision of funds to carry out a larger balance of work during 1957-58 is necessary. A further sum of Rs.7,000 is also necessary to meet the residual debits of the Survey of India Department on account of their works in connection with further development of the Umtru Hydro Project during previous year.

For Details—Please see Appendix 'A' (Subsequent page).

APPENDIX "A"

(Details for Supplementary Demand No.31)

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(2) "81.-A.—Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes— I.—Hydro Electric Scheme—(1) Umtru Hydro-Electric Scheme— II.—Civil Works Section—A.—Works—General—Voted."	1,31,39,000	1,31,39,000	6,74,855	6,74,855	(1) The work was originally scheduled for completion substantially during 1956-57 and as such, no expenditure excepting a sum of Rs 5-86 lakhs for some minor balance works inclusive of establishment charges for 3 months only was envisaged during 1957-58. But due to unforeseen calamities like unprecedented flood at the work site, dock strike at Calcutta, etc., holding up works and transport of materials, the work could not be completed as scheduled. Hence provision of funds to carry out a larger balance of work during 1957-58 is necessary.
(1) Construction of the Umtru Hydro Electric Project in the United Khasi Jaintia Hills.
"B.—Establishment:—
1. Pay of Officers.	3,251	3,251	3,251
2. Pay of Establishment.	23,258	23,258	23,258
3. Allowances and Honoraria.
C.—Tools and Plant.	10,000	10,000	10,000
(3) "81.-A.—Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes—I.—Hydro-Electric Scheme—(1) Umtru Hydro-Electric Scheme—II.—Civil Works Section—A.—Works—General—Voted."	1,33,345	1,33,345	7,000	7,000	(2) The amount is necessary to meet the residual debit of the survey of India Department. This amount could not be provided in the budget duly as the Survey Department did not raise the debit in time.
(2) Survey for further development of the Umtru Project (to step up the capacity of the Project).
Total	7,57,000	7,57,000	7,57,000

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.7,57,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "81.-A.—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes".

(The Motion was then put by the Chair as a question before the House and adopted).

No.32

(82.-B.—Capital Outlay on Road and Water Transport Scheme outside the Revenue Account—Road Transport)

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):** On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.5,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1958, for the administration of the head "82-B.—Capital Outlay on Road and Water Transport Schemes outside the Revenue Account—Road Transport".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ..	39,29,200
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year.	Nil.
Additional amount now required	8,20,000
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—	

Minor and Sub-head (1)	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during the Session		Additional amount now required		Total (8) Rs.
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
	(2) Rs.	(3) Rs.	(4) Rs.	(5) Rs.	(6) Rs.	(7) Rs.	
Section XVI—							
Silchar-Badarpur- Karimganj Service—							
1. Lands..
2. Buildings
3. Vehicles	4,80,000	..	4,80,000
4. Plants and Machinery.	10,000	..	10,000
5. Tools and Plants	5,000	..	5,000
6. Furniture and Equipment.	5,000	..	5,000
Total	5,00,000	..	5,00,000

*Demands No.32 was moved by the Finance Minister in the absence of the Chief Minister.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The additional amount is required for acquisition of capital assets in connection with nationalisation of Bus service in Silchar-Badarpur-Karimganj route with effect from 1st March, 1958.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.5,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "82-B.—Capital Outlay on Road, etc."

(The Motion was then put by the Chair as a question before the House, and was adopted).

No.33

(Loans and Advances, etc.)

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) :
On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.42,99,353 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc."

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly .. 4,89,80,500

II.—Additional amount voted by the Assembly 35,10,000
during the year.

Additional amount now required 42,99,353

III. —Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by Assembly during the year		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	General	Sixth Schedule Areas	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(II) Loans and Advances by the State Government.							
B.—Loans to local Funds Private Parties, etc.							
1. Loans to Local Bodies.	20,00,000	..	..	..	41,600	..	41,600
2. Advances to cultivators.	13,25,000	5,39,220	..	1,00,000	1,50,000	..	1,50,000
3. Loans to Autonomous District and Regional Councils.	..	..	..	60,000	..	2,07,753	2,07,753
Development Schemes (Second Five-Year-Plan).							
C.—Loans to Local Funds, Private Parties, etc.							
Grow-More-Food Loan,	..	..	..	..	34,25,000	4,75,000	39,00,000
Total	..	..	..	..	36,16,600	6,82,753	42,99,353

EXPLANATORY NOTE

B. 1. Almost all of the original provision for the current year for the sanction of loan to different local bodies have already been spent as the demand for loan from different Local Bodies for improvement of water works and communication was high.

A few proposal for loan for urgent improvement of water works, etc., from Municipal Bodies is outstanding. Hence the proposal for Supplementary Demand.

2. The amount is required for issuing cattle loans to the most of the deserving cultivators who have lost cattles due to flood and wide-spread epidemic.

3. An amount of Rs.1,82,753 is required for payment of a loan to Mikir Hills District Council to enable it to build its permanent Council office building and members' hostel and another amount of Rs.25,000 is required for payment of a loan to North Cachar Hills District Council to enable it to tide over its difficulties due to the burning of District Council Office building. The loan is interest-free and recoverable in ten equal annual instalments commencing one year after the full payment of the loan. As there was no provision in the budget, the amount had to be advanced from the Contingency Fund to meet the expenditure.

Hence the demand to regularise the advance.

C. The amount represents the short term loan recently sanctioned by the Government of India to assist cultivators particularly in areas not covered by Co-operatives for furthering the food production programme in the State. Part of this loan will be given in cash and part in kind in the shape of seeds and fertilisers. The entire amount has been advanced from the Contingency Fund and hence the demand to regularise the advance.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.42,99,352 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc."

(The Motion was then put by the Chair as a question before the House, and was adopted).

All the supplementary demands for grants for 1957-58 are passed.

Half-an-hour discussion on matters arising out of Starred Question No.5 on Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act under Assembly Rule 49.

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, I come to the next item, *i. e.*, half an hour discussion under Assembly Rule 49 on matters arising out of answer to starred question No.5.

The rule is very simple. I have received two notices, one from Shri Tarun Sen Deka, supported by Shri Nilmoney Barthakur, and the other from Shri Radhika Ram Das, supported by Shri Sarbeswar Bardoloi. Under the Rules, Shri Tarun Sen Deka and Shri Nilmoney Barthakur have got the precedence. The rule is: "There shall be no formal motion before the House nor voting. The member who has given notice may make a short statement and the Minister concerned shall reply shortly. Any member who has previously intimated to the Speaker may be permitted to ask a question for the purpose of further elucidating any matter of fact." So, the rule is very simple. I find that Shri Radhika Ram Das is not present in the House. Shri Tarun Sen Deka will initiate the discussion and he may speak for ten minutes. The Minister may also speak for 10 minutes and the two other hon. members, Shri Barthakur and Shri Bardoloi, may speak for five minutes each.

The discussion will have to be finished in exactly 30 minutes.

Sri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari West): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই, যোৱা ২৮ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰীৰ দিনা সদনত তোলা এনং তাৰাক্ষিত প্ৰশ্নৰ, বাজহ বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে Assam Fixation of ceiling on Land Holdings Act., প্ৰসঙ্গত—যি উত্তৰ দিছিল—তাকে পৰিষ্কাৰ কৰিবলৈ—এই আলোচনাৰ উত্থাপন কৰিলো।

ইয়াৰ ভিতৰৰ প্ৰথম কথাটো হৈছে Act ধাৰা অনুসৰি—যি সকল বায়তৰ "Occupancy right ১৯৫৬ চনৰ ১২ নভেম্বৰ আগতে আছিল আৰু তাৰ পিচত আইনৰ ৪নং ধাৰা অমান্য কৰাৰ বাবে মাটিৰ মালিক সকলে তেওঁলোকক উচ্ছেদ কৰিলে সেই বায়ত সকলে পুনৰ সেই মাটি পাবনে নাপায়? তাত, মন্ত্ৰী ডাক্তৰীয়াই আদালতৰ সহায় লবলৈ পৰামৰ্শ দিছে। এই Actৰ কল খন ২৫ ডিচেম্বৰৰ আসাম গেজেটত প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে। আইনত কোৱা হৈছে যি ১৫০ বিঘাৰ ওপৰ হলেই বাকী মাটি ওপৰৰি বুলি ধৰা হব আৰু তেনে ক্ষেত্ৰত মাটিৰ মালিকে, ১৯৫৫ চনৰ পৰা মাটি খাই থকা বায়তক বে-আইনীভাৱে উচ্ছেদ কৰিলে বায়তৰ অৱস্থা কি হব আমি ভাবি পোৱা নাই।

দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে—সিবিলাক তেনেকুৱা অৱস্থাৰ বায়ত—তেওঁলোকে কেনেকৈ অথবা অভাৱত আদালতৰ সহায় লব পাৰিব?

এয় কথা হৈছে—তেওঁলোক যদি এই সংক্ৰান্ত ব্যাপাৰত আদালতৰ ওচৰ চাপে তেন্তে তাৰ খৰচ পত্ৰৰ বাবে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা ক্ষতিপূৰণৰ সুবিধা পাবনে? দেখা গৈছে এনে অৱস্থাত এই বায়ত বিলাক নিষ্ঠুৰ হৈ পৰিছে আৰু কৰ্মহীন বেকাৰ হৈ জীৱন যাপন কৰিব লগা হৈছে। এইবিলাক বিশ্লেষণ কৰি উপায় নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰা প্ৰয়োজন। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও—কিছমান বায়তে ১৯৫৫ চনৰ ১২ নভেম্বৰ আগৰে গৰা মাটি খাই

থকা (Possession) স্বত্বও—সেই মাটিৰ ওপৰত তেওঁলোকৰ Right of occupancyৰ অধিকাৰ নাই বুলিও মালিক সকলে উচ্ছেদ কৰিব খোজে—সেই বিলাকৰ নিৰাপত্তাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে কিবা ব্যৱস্থা লবনে ?

কাৰণ আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ সমস্যা বৰ জটিল, বিশেষকৈ অসমৰ ভূমি সমস্যা অতি গুৰুতৰ। এই সমস্যাৰ সমাধান নহলে ৰাজ্যৰ খাদ্য সমস্যাৰ সমাধান হোৱা সুকঠিন।

যোৱা কংগ্ৰেছ অধিবেশনৰ সভাপতি শ্ৰীদেৱৰজীয়ে Land Reforms ৰ ওপৰত গুৰুত্ব আৰোপ কৰিছিল।

এইটো সচা কথা, যে চৰকাৰে এই ক্ষেত্ৰত কেদিনমানৰ আগেয়ে Ceiling Act প্ৰয়োগ কৰা বুলি ঘোষণা কৰিছে। কিন্তু আইন বিলাক যথা নিয়মে প্ৰয়োগ কৰাত পলম কৰিলে তাৰ সুফল পোৱা টান।

Ceiling Act সম্বন্ধে আমাৰ অৱশ্যে মতভেদ আছে। তথাপি তাৰ কাম যাতে সোনকালে হাতত লব পাৰে সেইটো আমি বিচাৰিছো। অকল Ceiling Act, ৰচনা কৰি ৰহি নাথাকি চাহ বাগিছাৰ ওপৰত মাটি যিবিলাক পৰি আছে আৰু অন্যান্য যিবিলাক চনপৰি থকা মাটি আছে চৰকাৰে সোনকালে তাৰো এটা সুব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে।

এইবিলাক কাৰণে বহুতে বিশেষকৈ চাহ বাগিছাৰ লোকসকলে বিশেষ অসুবিধা ভোগ কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে। গতিকে চৰকাৰে তালৈ মন দিয়া উচিত।

ইয়াকে কৈ মই মোৰ বক্তৃতাৰ সামৰণী মাৰিলোঁ।

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Mr. Speaker, Sir, these questions relate to interpretation of this Act. I am not a lawyer, but if you so permit I may give my own interpretation. This may be right or this may be wrong, because these questions are not seeking information but interpretation of this Act.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is upto the Hon'ble Minister to decide what he should speak to the House.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: The first question put by my Friend is outside the scope of this Act. The tenants who have acquired any right under the Temporarily Settled District Tenancy Act have protection of their rights under that very Act and this Ceiling Act need not be invoked. For protection of their rights they are to take recourse to that Act and the Ceiling Act has nothing to do with protection of their rights. And whether or not they are legally or illegally evicted by the landlords, that is a matter for the Court to decide. With regard to transfer of land, there seems to be a misconception, the demand was that as the owners are transferring land why it should not be stopped? I replied that this Act does not stop it. This Act is not a penal Act, it is a reforms Act and there is no prohibition to transfers here. If people themselves

transfer their excess land and themselves come within the Ceiling they are welcome. No bar has been put in this Act. Formerly I said that the right to dispose of one's property is a fundamental right of the citizen. We cannot derogate from that right. Originally we also wanted to prevent such transfers, we wanted that such transfers should be stopped from a certain date. This was the provision of the original Act. "Any transfer made after the 12th day of November, 1955 with a view to evading the provisions of this Act shall be null and void". That was the original provision. The Law Ministry agreed to that provision and the President's assent was given ; but an instruction was given that provision was repugnant to the Constitution and "until you change this provision do not bring the Act into force". So the Act was subsequently amended. Now there may be Benami transfer, so they agreed to keep a provision to meet them, and it was to this effect. 'No Benami transfer made after the 12th day of November 1955 shall be taken into account in determining the limit upto which the transferor shall be entitled to hold lands under sub-section (1) above'. If a man makes a Benami transaction and keeps the land in the name of another person, thereby he evades the provision of this Act. But we need not touch the Benamdar. In calculating the limit of lands for the purpose of ceiling we do not take into account the Benami transaction. The transfers therefore do not gain anything by such transactions. There is no provision in this Act where it has been laid down that after 12th November 1955 any transfer is void.

In the notice it has also been written that if an owner transfers his excess land to evade the provisions of this Act then that matter should be looked into. But the transfer of excess land by any owner is not evasion of the Act but is a co-operation with this Act.

Then the hon. Member said "why Government cannot provide safeguards and help the illegally evicted tenants by holding Courts in local places ?" This is quite a separate matter. In the speech of the hon. Member he has not mentioned it. It is of course possible for Criminal Courts to hold Courts anywhere but that is not possible for the Civil Courts. But if there be occasion where a large number of cases arise and if that justifies the holding of a Court, then the question will be examined. These are the only points raised.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has said that this Act is not a penal one, but its very purpose is to acquire excess land from those people who own land over the ceiling fixed by the Act in order to distribute the same among the landless people. The basic purpose is certainly not to dispossess the land owner altogether. With that end in view excess land should be taken over. But this very purpose is being defeated by the way in which the Act is being implemented. If a landlord had more than 150 bighas of land before the prescribed date the excess may be kept separate in a variety of ways, in order to evade the Act. I want to know whether the Minister is prepared to institute an enquiry as to the extent to which this Act is being evaded as also to assess to what extent the implementation of this Act has given relief to the landless people.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Sir, in this connection I refer to Section 20 of the Act itself. There is an elaborate provision.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় মোৰ ওপৰঞ্চি প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰত মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে কৈছিল যে এই আইন পুনৰায় কৰাৰ পিচত আৰু পুৰণি কৰাৰ আগতে ১৫০ বিঘাৰ ওপৰঞ্চি মাটি নিজৰ লৰা-ছোৱালীৰ মাজত ভগাই দিব পাৰে। যদি এইদৰে ভাগ কৰোঁৱাৰ কৰিব পাৰে তেনেহলে এই আইন কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰাৰ আগতেই ইয়াৰ মুখ্য উদ্দেশ্যত ব্যাঘাত জন্মিব। কাৰণ এই আইন পুনৰায় কৰা হৈছিল দ্বিতীয় পঞ্চ বার্ষিকী পৰিকল্পনাৰ অংশ স্বৰূপে যাতে ই সমাজ বান্ধি বাঢ়ি গঠনত যথেষ্ট বৰঙনী জোঁগাব পাৰে। ইয়াৰ উদ্দেশ্য আছিল ওপৰঞ্চি মাটি খেতিয়ক সকলক ভগাই দিয়াত অৰ্থাৎ বিমান পৰা যাই সমানে ভগাই দিয়া যদি এই ওপৰঞ্চি মাটি অধিগ্ৰহণ কৰিবৰ বাবে চৰকাৰৰ অধিকাৰ নাই সমাজৰ অধিকাৰ নাই বৰঞ্চ মাটিগিৰীয়ে নিজৰ লৰা-ছোৱালী আৰু আত্মীয়-কুতুম্বৰ মাজত ভগাই লব পাৰে তেনেহলে সমাজত ক্ষমতা থাকিলক'ত? সামাজিক ভিত্তম্য আতৰিব কেনেকৈ? এই আইনখন পুৰণি কৰা হ'ল যোৱা ১৫ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰীৰ পৰা কিন্তু সেই তাৰিখৰ আগতেই ওপৰঞ্চি মাটি অসমৰ সকলো মাটিগিৰীয়ে নিজৰ লৰা-ছোৱালী আৰু আত্মীয়ৰ মাজত ভগাই শেষ কৰি থৈছে। গতিকে ইয়াৰ পৰা দ্বিতীয় পঞ্চ বার্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাৰ মাটি নীতিৰ সাৰ্থকতা হ'ল ক'ত? আইনৰ সাৰ্থকতা হ'ল ক'ত? কংগ্ৰেছ নীতিৰ সাৰ্থকতা হ'ল ক'ত? মাটিবেইবা সমবিতৰণ হ'ব কেনেকৈ?

Mr. SPEAKER: আপোনাৰ প্ৰশ্নত উত্তৰ দিবৰ নিমিত্তে মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক সুবিধা দিব সময় পাৰহলে নোৱাৰিব।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): মোৰ কথাটো হৈছে যে খেতিয়ক যেতিয়া মাটিৰ স্বত্বাধিকাৰী নহৈ তৃতীয় পক্ষৰো যেতিয়া মাটি পাব পাৰে তেনেহলে খেতিৰ মাটি কেনেকৈ প্ৰকৃত খেতিয়কৰ হাতত পৰিবগৈ? খেতিয়কৰ নিৰাপত্তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা আছেনে?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Sir, attention has been wrongly focussed on Section 4 of this Act. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of my hon. Friend to Section 23 of the Act. I feel, Sir, these matters should

not have been discussed here on the floor of the House. If certain questions are put to me I have to give replies which are mainly about the interpretation of the Act and this may lead to disclosure of certain loop-holes.

Mr. SPEAKER: Well, then the loop-holes will be known to the House in the discussion. But the responsibility rests with the Government to stop these loop-holes.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Some loop-holes are there as a result of the constitutional provisions and Planning Commission's directions which the State Government have to follow.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Planning Commission's Report laid down the broad principles. It is for the Assembly to provide for all contingencies. In case the Government finds that there are loop-holes, then it is for the Government to bring forward an amending Bill. The House has the right to discuss matters and then to provide for all contingencies.

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The purpose of this Act is to bring land into the hands of the tillers. That is the main purpose which will be served by Section 23 onwards. Section 4 of the Act is only one of the provision. Under Section 4 a family will be allowed to retain 150 bighas of land.

Now if a man resides in a vantage and cultivates himself he will be allowed to retain that 150 bighas of land. But if a man resides in town and does not cultivate himself he will never be allowed to retain 150 bighas of land.

Then there is the question of resumption of land, on the ground of personal cultivation, this has been provided as laid down in the five year plan. If a man is in possession of 150 bighas of land and resides in town and lets out land after some time he wants to resume the land on the ground of personal cultivation, he has to leave at least 10 bighas with each of his tenant or Adhiar. Now if this 150 bighas of land are let out to 15 people at the rate of 10 bighas each he cannot resume any land at all. In this way resumption is controlled, and this reinforcement of this Act. After five years, the lands in the hands of the tillers will remain in their hands.

Then the Planning Commission's direction is that the State Government should bring in legislation to give the right of purchase to these tenants and they suggest ten years rent to be

the maximum compensation payable to owners. [All these things are coming. We are dealing with land reforms in a phased programme. This phase deals with fixing the ceiling and bringing the land into the hands of the tillers.]

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Tuesday, the 4th March, 1958.

Shillong.

The 21st November, 1958.]

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

