

Proceedings of the Fourth 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 25th August, 1958.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair, the nine Ministers, the four Deputy Ministers and eighty-five Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Destructions caused to Jaraguri and neighbouring villages under Bijni police station in the Goalpara District by the erosion of Aie River

Dr GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara Reserved for Scheduled Castes]] asked :

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

- (a) Whether Government are aware that from year to year miseries and destructions are caused to Jaraguri and neighbouring villages under Bijni police station in the District of Goalpara by the Aie River ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that a note was submitted jointly by a Minister and the Local M. L. A. to the Minister-in-charge of Embankment and Drainage Department in February last requesting to take immediate measure to protect the village ?
- (c) If so, whether any amount was sanctioned for the purpose and if so, when it was sanctioned ?
- (d) Whether the local officer concerned was asked to execute the works ?
- (e) If so, when he was asked to take up the work ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Executive Engineer, Embankment and Drainage who studied and surveyed the area and was to start the work, was suddenly transferred and the work could not be started as a result some parts of the village have been totally washed away ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Embankment and Drainage, etc.,) replied :

7. (a)—Government are aware that flood spills of the river Aie affect these areas. In the flood season of 1957, a new spill-channel developed near this area which aggravated the flood problem of the area.

(b)—A note was received from the Minister, Medical Department by the last week of February, 1958 giving his impressions about erosion and floods in the Jaraguri village which he visited a few days back with the local M. L. A.

(c)—A scheme amounting to Rs.50,000 (Rupees fifty thousand only) was administratively approved and financial sanction for incurring expenditure was accorded in May 1958.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Orders for carrying out the work was given on the 1st May 1958.

(f)—No. Executive Engineer, Goalpara Embankment and Drainage Division who studied and surveyed the area handed over charge of the Goalpara Embankment and Drainage Division only on 17th June 1958. This work could not be taken up as no earth-work Contractor was available to take up the work late in the season. The then Executive Engineer also tried to induce the local people to come forward to take up the work without any success.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: Are Government aware that the work by the villagers wanted to be taken up was on test relief basis ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Our information is otherwise. As I have said the then Executive Engineer induced the local people to come forward to take up the work, but without any success.

Dr. GHANAASHYAM DAS: Will the Government please take up the work this year ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Yes, Sir, provided the scheme is still feasible, because there has been certain changes in the course of the river in the meantime.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): Are the Government aware that similar destruction has been caused by the other portion of the river ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: When there is a river there will be erosion in some place or the other. It is bound to happen, Sir. This is the general impression the Government have got.

Using of unapproved edible colour in foodstuffs by the dealers

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that unapproved edible colour is being extensively used in foodstuffs in this State by the dealers ?
- (b) If so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent the use of such toxic and poisonous colouring matter with the foodstuff ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

8. (a)—Yes. It is a fact that coaltar dyes which are prohibited according to the prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 are frequently used for colouring foodstuffs all over the State.

(b)—Necessary instructions have been issued to Local Bodies and Departmental Officers to intensify the work of collection and examination of samples of different categories of foodstuffs and for instituting prosecutions in those cases which contravene the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and the Rules made thereunder.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS: Will the Government be pleased to publish a list showing the approved edible colour ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : That can be done, Sir.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Are these colour examined by the Government, Sir ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : They are examined, Sir.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Number of persons went to Jail in Barpeta Subdivision since 1919 on political grounds

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

12. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many persons went to Jail in Barpeta Subdivision since 1919 on political grounds ?

(b) What are their names ?

(c) Whether they have been given relief ?

(d) What are their names ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that discrimination has been made in granting them relief ?

(f) If so, why ?

(g) Whether it is a fact that all petitions for relief of political sufferers must come through the Congress President of the district ?

(h) Whether all the political sufferers of the Barpeta Subdivision will be given relief without any discrimination whatsoever ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister) replied:

12. (a) & (b)—Government records showing conviction, etc., are destroyed after 12 years, except in cases of conviction involving moral turpitude. As such it is not possible to get records of a date prior to 1946 from any source.

(c) & (d)—As the names of such persons are not available with Government, it is difficult to say whether all have got relief or not. Therefore it is not possible to give the names of such persons also. However, it may be mentioned that 42 persons of the Barpeta Subdivision have been granted relief so far. A list with the names of those persons is laid on the table of the Library. (Please see Library Register No.S. 65.)

(e)—It is not a fact.

(f)—Does not arise.

(g)—According to the revised procedure, all such applications will have to come through the Subdivisional Advisory Board newly constituted to scrutinise the individual cases of political sufferers on merit.

(h)—Cases of all deserving political sufferers will be considered on the merit of each case irrespective of any subdivision.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): Who are the Members of the Berpeta Subdivisional Board, Sir?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister): (1) President, D. C. C., Barpeta (Convener), (2) Secretary, D. C. C., Barpeta, (3) Dr. Homeswar Chowdhury, (4) Shri Dharani Chounhury.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR: Is it a fact that without the recommendations from the President D. C. C., no political sufferer gets any relief?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA: According to the new set up, Sir, without the recommendations of the Subdivisional Board, it will not be considered.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): The definition of a political sufferer was revised recently; may we know what is the present definition, Sir?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA: Let me read out the definition, Sir.

(a)—A person who was a detainee or an externee or was arrested and kept in jail or who was fined or whose property was confiscated or who lost his life or was permanently disabled or who suffered bodily injury for participation in any of the National Struggles launched under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, since 1921, or in any other movement for the attainment of India's Independence,

(b)—A person who was dismissed or removed from service or a civil pensioner whose pension was forfeited because of his or the pensioner's association with the aforesaid national movements or an *ex-Government* servant who resigned his appointments whether such resignation was voluntary or forced the resignation being attributed to such association and not dictated by any other consideration,

(c)—A person who boycotted his educational institution in response to the aforesaid movement, and continued in Congress work for India's Independence till 1947,

(d)—A person who gave up his study due to his participation in the National Movement of 1942 and resumed the same afterwards.

Provided that no such person will be eligible for relief if he gave undertaking to the authority not to continue in any such movement, or he acted subsequently against the national movement."

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) : Sir, it is stated in the first line of the reply that the records showing conviction, etc., are destroyed after 12 years, so how it is possible to know the names of the persons who went to jail in connection with the national movement ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister) : With that end in view the Subdivisional Boards have been constituted. These Boards will consider the matter after proper enquiries.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) : May I know whether political sufferers who are serving under Government at present are enjoying any pension or financial help as political sufferer ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA : I have no information at the moment, Sir.

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : May I know whether the cases of the persons who went on absconding would be considered as political sufferers ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA : Yes, Sir, if they have not acted against the movement.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): Will the case of those person who are serving under the Government be considered for pension or financial help ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister) Yes, if such cases are recommended by the Subdivisional Board, Sir.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: When were those Boards constituted ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA: Very recently, Sir.

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Why are the Subdivisional Boards constituted by Congress men alone, Sir ?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member have not heard the names of all the Members of the Subdivisional Board ; so how can he come to this conclusion ?

Shri MAHENDRA MOHAN CHAUDHURY (Hajo): Dr. Homeswar Chaudhury who is a member of this Board does not belong to the Congress Party ; he belongs to the Praja Socialist Party.

Shri LILA KANTA BORAH (Kaliabar): Is it a fact that those persons who participated in the different movements and were economically ruined due to such participation but did not court imprisonment are not considered as political sufferers according to the present definition ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA: Those who have been economically ruined or physically disabled in the movements, their cases will be considered.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj): How many kinds of relief that a political sufferer can expect to get ?

Shri BIMALAPRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Government have been giving relief in various ways, but the State Advisory Board is yet to consider with regard to the relief to be granted in future.

Regarding the Accountant of Public Works Department Barpeta Division

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

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

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Accountant of Public Works Department, Barpeta Division has not passed the requisite examination to make himself qualified for the post ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that a more qualified man in that line is working under him in that Division?

(c) If so, what step Government is taking in that matter?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

13. (a)—Yes, he has not yet passed the prescribed examination for Divisional Accountant's post in all subjects.

(b)—No. When he was promoted to officiate on 8th January 1955 on the basis of seniority-cum-efficiency he was more qualified than both the two Assistant Divisional Accountants working under him. Even though one of these Assistants has passed the Central Training Institute Test in April 1958, he has not become more qualified than the Accountant because the latter has also passed in two out of five subjects of Combined Divisional Test in which in addition to the three subjects provided in the Central Training Institute Test, one has to pass in two additional subjects.

(c)—In view of the reply to (b) above, no action for the present is called for.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta): In answer to question (a) it is said, "Yes, he has not yet passed the prescribed examination for Divisional Accountant's post in all subjects. Then again in answer to (b), it is said: "No", but in the latter part of the reply it is said "one of these Assistants has passed the Central Training Institute Test in April, 1958". Then how can he be less qualified than the present Accountant who has not passed any such examination prescribed for Divisional Accountant's post ?

Mr. SPEAKER : The reply is very clear ; the other man is more qualified.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)

The reply is already there, but I shall place further information which will help the hon. Member to come to my view that the present person is also not less qualified. At present we have three persons in the Department all of whom were appointed as Assistant Divisional Accountants. The person who is now officiating as Divisional Accountant is a B. Com. and was appointed in the year 1951, while of the other two, one was appointed in 1954 and the third was appointed in the year 1955. So the person now holding this post has not been recruited directly as Divisional Accountant. It is only a question of promotion. As the person who has been promoted because of seniority-cum-efficiency and has already passed in two papers of the combined test and for the remaining papers he is going to sit shortly, is not less qualified than the other two persons.

Cattle population in the State

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

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

- (a) Total Cattle population in the State in 1956-57 ?
- (b) Total number of death of Cattle head in the State in 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?
- (c) Total number of Cattle mortality caused by Rinderpest in 1957-58 ?

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

14. (a)—52,21,804 Nos.

(b) & (c)—Collection of vital statistics of Live-stock is not in force in the State. Only mortality figure from epidemic diseases is collected by the Veterinary Department. Number of death due to epidemic during the years in question is furnished.

1956-57	...	...	...	...	3,621
1957-58	...	...	...	...	36,072 of which
					35,369 was due to
					Rinderpest and the
					rest due to other
					epidemic diseases.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: Is there no necessity of collection of vital statistics ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary): Government do not say that there is no necessity for collection of vital statistics, but the collection of the figures is not possible alone, by the Veterinary Department without the help of the Revenue Department.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS : Is it not necessary to make some arrangement for this ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : At present it is not possible for the Veterinary Department to have a separate machinery for this purpose.

Area of land eroded in Kherija Bijni Mauza of Barpeta Subdivision by Beki, Naljara and Uttai Khunda rivers

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

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

- (a) The area (in terms of acres) that has been eroded this year in Kherija Bijni Mauza, Barpeta Subdivision by the Beki, Naljara and Uttai Khunda rivers ?
- (b) The number of families that has been affected ?
- (c) What are the names of the villages which have been eroded ?
- (d) How many houses have been eroded ?
- (e) Whether the eroded families have been provided with lands ?
- (f) If so, where ?

- (g) What measure Government have taken to stop erosions by these rivers ?
- (h) Whether Government will control these rivers ?
- (i) Whether any survey has been made ?
- (j) If so, by whom and when ?
- (k) Whether representation has been received to that affect ?
- (l) If so, when and who submitted the representations ?
- (m) Whether it is a fact that these rivers are causing more erosions on the right bank of the Beki River ?
- (n) If so, why an embankment has been constructed from Methanguri to Bansbari of the left bank ?
- (o) Whether Government have neglected the right bank of the Beki River ?
- (p) If so, what is the reason ?
- (q) Who are the Ministers who visited Methanguri and when ?
- (r) Who are the gazetted officers of the Department who visited Methanguri and when and how many days they stayed there since its construction showing the date of halt in each case ?
- (s) Whether it is a fact that they have drawn travelling allowances for their visit to Methanguri ?
- (t) Whether those Ministers and officials will like to visit the Kahitoma forest reserve and Kharija Bijni Mauza to see the eroded condition ?
- (u) If not, why not ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister,
Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage)]
replied:

15. (a) to (f)—No reports for the current year have yet been received.

(g)—Government do not propose to take up prohibitively costly anti-erosion measures, not commensurate with the value of properties sought to be saved. There is no provision in the Second Five Year Plan as well.

(h)—There is no such proposal.

(i)—Does not arise.

(j)—Does not arise.

(k)—Yes.

(l)—(i) In May 1954 by Shri Ataur Rahman, M.A., LL. B., Barpeta.

(ii) In July 1954 by the people of Nunmati, Ghilajari, Salmara and Raipur villages of Barpeta Subdivision.

(iii) In September, 1954 by Shri Nando Mohan Majumdar on behalf of the public of Barnager village of Barpeta Subdivision.

(m)—No.

(n)—This embankment is meant primarily to protect the Railway line from flooding and the Railways have borne half the cost.

(o)—No.

(p)—Does not arise.

(q) to (s)—The information is being collected.

(t)—This may be considered if necessity arises.

(u)—Does not arise.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): In reply to question (a) to (f), it is said "No report for the current year have yet been received". May I know why no reports have been sent to the Government?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Embankment and Drainage): If there is no abnormal damage to the land or property, we do not get reports from our officers. No report has come this year to the Government. If there was anything abnormal, naturally we would have got reports from our officers.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR: Where from this information is collected?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: From our local E. and D. officers.

Total number of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, Veterinary Dispensaries and Veterinary Supervisor Field Assistants in the State

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

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

(a) Total number of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons now in the State?

(b) Total number of Veterinary Dispensaries now in the State?

(c) Total number of Veterinary Supervisor Field Assistants in the State?

(d) Total number of Veterinary Field Assistants now serving in the State?

(e) Total number of Veterinary Field Assistants passed in 1957-58?

(f) Total number of Veterinary Field Assistants unemployed in the State?

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

16. (a)—Eighty three.

(b)—One hundred and twenty.

(c)—Thirty eight.

(d)—Four hundred and sixty three.

(e)—Twenty six.

(f)—Nil.

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: Will Government please enquire whether there are unemployed Veterinary Assistants ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: At present there is none as far as I know, but if any such instance is brought to my knowledge I will certainly take steps for his employment.

Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: From the calculation it appears that in as many as 37 veterinary dispensaries there are no Veterinary Assistant Surgeons. May I know that what measures are going to be taken to man these dispensaries considering the high cattle mortality in the State ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: We will have to find out qualified doctors either from inside or from outside the State. That is the only thing that will have to be done and this question is being examined.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Am I to understand that out of 120 dispensaries only 83 have been provided with doctors ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: Yes, there are many dispensaries without doctors.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY: Then some of these dispensaries are not functioning at all ?

Mr. SPEAKER: That is quite obvious.

Selling of Liquor in all Tea Stalls in certain interior places of Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) asked :

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

(a) Whether Government is aware that in the interior places like Lahowal, Ghoramara, Thanai, Naga-ghoolie, Borborooah and Tengakhat of Dibrugarh Subdivision, liquor is sold almost in all tea stalls ?

(b) If so, what action has been taken to prevent the same ?

(c) If the reply to (b) above is in the negative whether Government will be pleased to make an immediate enquiry and stop this malpractice ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) replied :

17. (a)—Government are not aware of this.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Yes, it will be immediately done.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) : Whether Government know that excise officials do not take interest in the detection of such cases ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Government have no such information.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : Before the information was given to the Hon'ble Minister by the hon. Questioner, did any excise official give the Government any instance of such cases in any of these shops ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Government have no such information ; there is no official report.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : May I know from the Minister whether they enquired about the question after the receipt of the question?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : The answer to (c) is that it will be immediately done. So after the receipt of the question we decided an immediate enquiry.

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যোঁৱা বাৰ এনেধৰণৰ এটা প্ৰশ্নোত্তৰৰ ওপৰতেই Half an hour discussion হোৱা নাছিলনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : I cannot remember. It might be.

Mr. SPEAKER : That raises a point.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) : I do not remember it.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) : Will Government be pleased to have a confidential enquiry made and take immediate steps ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS : Instructions have already gone for confidential enquiry.

Settlement of Naharkatia Ferry Ghat

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

18. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the lessee of Naharkatia ferry ghat is also plying a marboat across the ghat ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that no such privileges were allowed in the sale notice ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that complaints are being made against the use of the extra marboat saying that if such provision was made in the sales notice, the bid would go higher ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that this ferry ghat was settled with a Co-operative Society in previous years ?

- (e) Whether it is a fact that this ferry ghat has been settled with a private individual this year ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that this lessee gave higher bid than the Co-operative Society with a view to oust them from this business and this higher bid is being made by plying extra boats ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to take any step for violation of the conditions of sale of Ferry Ghats ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

18. (a) & (b)—Yes. The marboat is operated purely for carrying his men and materials required for his own contract works with Assam Oil Company, Digboi, which is allowable under the Rules. This is also necessary to avoid delay and inconvenience to the travelling public. So this cannot be considered to be a privilege.

(c)—Yes, but as stated above the complaint has no substance.

(d)—It was settled with Naharkatia Fishery Co-operative Society in the year 1954-55 only. Since then it has been settled with private individuals.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—It is true that the present lessee gave higher bid but his intention is not known to Government. But it is not correct that he is earning extra money by plying the marboat to compensate his higher bid. See reply (a) and (b).

(g)—Does not arise in view of reply above.

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** Whether Government know that passengers are also carried in the Mar-boat and thereby the lessee is making extra income ?

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister Public Works Department):** The Mar-boat is meant for personal use of the lessee, and therefore, no extra income can be made by him.

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) :** Whether it is a fact that in the complaint made by the Co-operative Society it was alleged that the lessee was making extra income by use of the extra mar-boat ?

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, P.W.D.) :** Some allegations were made, but they were not substantiated by facts.

***Shri RADHAKISHEN KHEMKA: (Tinsukia)**
 अध्यक्ष महोदय ! इसमें दिया हुआ कि सन १९५४-५५ में नाहरकटिया फेरी घाट में एक सहयोगी संस्था के (Naharkatia Ferry Co-operative Society) दिया गया था । फिर १९५८-५९ में उसे एक व्यक्ति को खर्मा दिया गया ? अथवा इसके Multipurpose Co-operative Society को इसी घाट के लिये २२ हजार रुपये जमा दिये जानेपर एक व्यक्ति को यह घाट क्यों दिया गया ।

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department):** In 1955 the bid was like this: Shri Singh Rs. 25,200, Shri Bhadra Kanta Gogoi, Chairman, the Multipurpose Co-operative Society, Rs. 25,100. Now it is the intention of the Government to help the Co-operative Society also to give facilities to local people to take to this type of trades and callings. In fact, this whole matter was examined, but the laws and rules, I mean the Northern Indian Ferries, Act and the Rules thereunder as also certain rules governing the Ghats under Public Works Department were framed long before they stand in the way of settlement of this Ghat with the Multipurpose Co-operative Society whose bid was lower by Rs. 100/-. This is why we could not settle this Ghat in favour of the Co-operative Society. There was another similar case, not regarding settlement of a Ghat but regarding settlement of the right to collect tolls, was taken to the High Court, and in the High Court we lost the case. I am sure public men in the State are aware that in many hats and ghats high bids are given by certain categories of people with a view to have some ostensible means of livelihood as a cover for their anti-social business. Considering all these, Government are contemplating to see if any change can be brought about in the existing laws rules so that most suitable persons may get settlement of these Ghats and Hats.

Improvement of Public Works Department Road from Saponer to Howli

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

19. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Government has improved the Public Works Department Road from Saponer to Howli ?

*Speech not corrected.

- (b) If not, why not ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that this was a good road during the last war time ?
- (d) If so, why this road is abandoned ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that there will be easier communication by this road than the present one ?
- (f) Whether this road will be improved during this year ?
- (g) Whether Government will give serious thought over the matter on account of breach of communications due to the Beki river ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Public Works Department) replied:

19. (a)—There is no such road in the books of Public Works Department.

(b) to (d)—Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(e)—Not known.

(f) & (g)—There is no proposal to improve this road at present.

This will be examined and the proposal will be placed before the next Assam Road Communication Board meeting for consideration and works will be taken up if and when approved by the Board and funds made available for the purpose.

***Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog):** Do the Government know that there was a Public Works Department Road from Saponer to Howli before the last Great War ?.

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI :** There is no such Public Works Department Road.

***Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR:** Will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department):** What is to be enquired? There is no such Road.

**Principle followed in distribution of Public Works
Department works to Contractors**

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

20. Will the Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any consideration is made as regards old and experienced contractors during distribution of Public Works Department works ?

(b) If so, what principle is followed in making the actual consideration ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

20. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Usually lowest valid tender which is reasonable in rates and from a contractor who is considered capable to undertake the work is accepted. The contractors registered under various categories will only be considered for distribution of Public Works Department works on their tenders submitted according to categories of works. Contractors are registered after taking their past conduct, performance, financial condition, reliability, capacity, etc., into consideration.

***Dr. SRIHARI DAS:** In question No. 20(b) the reply is "Contractors are registered after taking past conduct, performance, financial condition, reliability, capacity etc. into consideration." My question is how these things are judged, and what is the basis ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Public Works Department)?** By their past all round achievements and their present conduct it is judged and the works are entrusted to them.

***Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) :** Whether any special concessions are given by the Department concerned in case of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Claasses in connection with settlement of contracts ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.D.W.):** I understand they are given contracts under lower terms and consideration of their capability to undertake the work is also made at the time of distribution of the contracts.

***Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi):** What is the special concession, Sir ?

***Shrs DEBESWAR SARMAH:** Subject to correction, Sir, it is 7 per cent or $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent less.

***Dr. Shri HARI DAS (Barpeta):** Why is registration required, Sir?

Mr. SPEAKER: I think this question was discussed last time when the House was posted with all facts.

Calling attention to a matter of urgent public importance regarding eviction of cultivating peasants in Samaguri area in the United Mikir and North Cachar Hills District

***Shri GAURISANKAR BATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 54 of the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules I beg leave of the House to raise a discussion regarding eviction of cultivating peasants in Samaguri area in the United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district. About 3,000 cultivating peasant families which are mostly refugees from East Pakistan are said to be involved, and the area covered is said to be about 13 thousand bighas. Now, these people are not recent encroachers to this area. As is well known to the hon. Members of this House, this area, i.e., Barbil Samaguri, originally constituted a part of the district of Nowgong, and in the year 1950 when a new district known as the United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district was formed, this area became a part of this new district, and ceased to be in the district of Nowgong. With the partition of the country in the year 1947, many of our countrymen had to leave their hearth and homes and migrated to this side of the country from East Pakistan. They built huts and hutments and raised crops there. These things continued from a long time past. Of course, it is a fact that some people who have some means of livelihood elsewhere also have come there, and that is why some of the leading men of the United Mikir and North Cachar Hills and some leaders of the All Assam Refugee Association met in a conference wherein it was decided

that both the sets of leaders would try to see that those who might be accommodated elsewhere, those who had means of livelihood or shelter elsewhere would be taken away from those places by persuasion or by agreement. Those who have got no other place to live and who have not got any source of income would be accommodated in that area. I understand that the talks would not fail and that the entire problem was in a process of being solved. Sir, while these talks between the leaders of the Sixth Schedule District and the President and Secretary of the Refugees Association are continuing, the Chief Minister was pleased to meet certain deputationists and encouraged them that the matter should be settled amicably. But now it is not understood why in the middle of the rains, when the peoples' crops are in the fields and when there are so many difficulties, eviction operation has started. The process has actually started from the 18th of this month. Many letters and telegrams came informing us about this and I made an enquiry whether this process still continues. From the telegram received from the General Secretary of the All-Assam Refugees Association on the 23rd of this month, I understand the process still continues and the people are being evicted in batches of 6 families every day by force and with the help of the people said to be volunteers. Sir, I personally don't like the idea of using the help of the so-called volunteers in this process because that creates a very bad feeling among the different sections of our people. If for evicting people known as refugees, some volunteers belonging to another community are used that may be unnecessary and a very unhealthy feeling will be there amongst the different communities and the consequence will be that there will be a danger of racialism and communalism and the situation will be very bad and there will be not unity in the country. Sir, what is at present most necessary in our State is a sense of unity and a sense of understanding amongst our different communities who are living in the State. Therefore, I think this process of using volunteers of one community against another community is not proper and right.

Secondly, Sir, for no fault of theirs, these people have become refugees and when they have been here for 10 years or so, there is no reason why they should be evicted and made helpless without giving any other alternative arrangement for them. That will be rather a national loss. Today what is the good of making people homeless at this moment? Why not wait for some time more? When the matter was

going to be settled amicably what is the purpose at this particular time to evict these poor people from their homesteads? Sir, today we find that due to the border situation between Assam and Pakistan and due to our weakness and our failure to tackle the problem properly, the refugees still come, and if this sort of treatment be meted to the refugees, what would be the feeling of others toward us? So I say that this sort of eviction should not be resorted to at the present time and this should not be encouraged and should not be undertaken by the Government. So I would like to know from the Government what actually the position today is and whether this sort of unhappy situation can be avoided. Sir, I know that there is a certain very delicate problem involved in this process. Sir, on the other hand, there is a question of giving protection to the backward section of our people who are there in the Sixth Schedule Districts, who need all the help and protection of the State so that they can be protected from exploitation either from inside or outside the State in order that they may also come to the level of the other advanced people. Sir, the backward tribals need consideration and help. But on the other hand, there is also a question of rehabilitating the people who have been rendered homeless and shelterless and also foodless due to no faults of theirs. So in such a delicate situation the feeling is apt to rise high. Sir, I am trying to be as modest as possible in saying all these things, but I hope the Government will appreciate that the matter is not so easy and if it is not tackled properly it may take a different turn altogether.

With these few words, I would like to know the latest position from the Government on this subject.

Mr. SPEAKER: I admitted the calling of attention under Assembly Rule 54, but now I find that there are certain misconceptions as to whether this is admissible or not. For the information of the House, I will refer to the Sixth Schedule Paragraph 3, and I would like to draw the attention of the Mover to this.

“3. Power of the District Councils and Regional Councils to make laws—(1) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of all areas within such region and the District Council for an autonomous district in respect of all areas within

the district except those which are under the authority of Regional Councils, if any, within the district shall have power to make laws with respect to—

- (a) the allotment, occupation or use, or the setting apart, of land, other than any land which is a reserved forest for the purposes of agriculture or grazing or for residential or other non-agricultural purposes or for any other purpose likely to promote the interests of the inhabitants of any village or town:

Provided that nothing in such laws shall prevent the compulsory acquisition of any land, whether occupied or unoccupied for public purposes by the Government of Assam in accordance with the law for the time being in force authorising such acquisition ;

- (b) the management of any forest not being a reserved forest ;
- (c) the use of any canal or water-course for the purpose of agriculture ;
- (d) the regulation of the practice of jhum or other forms of shifting cultivation ;
- (e) the establishment of village or town committees or council and their powers ;
- (f) any other matter relating to village or town administration, including village or town police and public health and sanitation ;
- (g) the appointment or succession of Chiefs or Headmen ;
- (h) the inheritance of property ;
- (i) marriage ;
- (j) social customs.

(2) In this paragraph, a “reserved forest” means any area which is a reserved forest under the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891, or under any other law for the time being in force in the area in question.

(3) All laws made under this paragraph shall be submitted forthwith to the Governor and, until assented to by him, shall have no effect."

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Sir, I quite realise this but so far as this problem is concerned, this is a marginal question. After all, it will be seen that I have laid emphasis on two things. Particularly, I have placed my arguments against the use of Police force.

Mr. SPEAKER: The issue I raised was simple. Whether in respect of allotment or disposal of land in the areas covered by District Council in an autonomous district the District Council is empowered to the extent of implementation of those laws only or whether they are also empowered for eviction? Now under this article covering the Sixth Schedule, Paragraph 3, I would like to know whether this House is competent to go into this question at all because from the language of this section, it appears to me, for want of a better word, it may mean interference, so far as disposal and allotment of lands in that part of the area is concerned, I would like to be guided in coming to a decision on this by the House.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : The question has two sides. One is positive and the other is negative. So far as allotment of land is concerned, it is positive and so far as eviction is concerned, it is negative. What I am stressing here is that the State Government has used or has lent its police force for eviction of people from an area within the State but within a District Council in autonomous district. That is one thing. The second thing is that the State Government has directly or indirectly, explicitly or by implication, engaged themselves in it. The policy of using volunteers of a particular community in the process of evicting people belonging to another community go to weaken rather than strengthen the law and order position. It spoils the amicability of different communities in this State.

So far as allotment is concerned, I have already submitted that, that is a matter which is to be decided by the District Council. At this stage in this particular case negotiation is going on with regard to that.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the District Council has got the right to allot why should not they have the right to evict when some persons got into possession of lands under the jurisdiction of the District Council without their previous consent or permission?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :

That was what I was submitting. These people are being evicted from lands where they were in possession long before the birth of either the District Council or the district. This district was born only after 1950 but so far as these people are concerned, they were there in possession of those lands prior to the birth of the District Council or the district. It cannot be presumed that those people are not guaranteed by the Constitution, their right on the lands though they were there before the birth of the District Council or the district itself.

Mr. SPEAKER : If somebody enters now without the previous consent of the regional Council, the District Council will have its right to evict them. I think, it is correct.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : That is a different question. But so far as these people are concerned, I hope, I am quite clear in my mind that those who are already there prior to the formation of the District Council, their rights and privileges should be maintained and there should not be any doubt in it.

Now, I lay emphasis on this because of the peculiar position of the area which is in the process of making. That is an important thing. The second thing is the use of State Government's forces for the purpose of this eviction at this time and also the encouragement of using volunteers of one community for the eviction of people of another community. I want to know, what will be the effect of the State Government's policy of maintaining law and order and amity among different communities of the State by this ? Of course, if the volunteers belonged to the same community that would not have much effect.

Mr. SPEAKER : Now, the point is, whether this House has the right to give judgement on anything done by the District Council in respect of allotment of land which is given to them by Paragraph 3 of the Sixth Schedule.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : May I add that it is not allotment alone but occupation also ?

Mr. SPEAKER Yes.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Sir, so far as this point of admissibility is concerned, my submission is that this point is admissible because the Sixth Schedule as it has been framed leaves so much room for interpretation or misinterpretation.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is why I want to be guided by the wisdom of the Members of this august House.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI. Paragraph 3 of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution says thus—

“Powers of the District Council and Regional Council to make laws.—(1) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of all areas within such region and the District Council for an autonomous District in respect of all areas within the district except those which are under the authority of Regional Councils, if any, within the district shall have power to make laws with respect to—

“(a) the allotment, occupation or use, or the setting apart, of land, other than any land which is a reserved forest for the purposes of agriculture or grazing or for residential or other non-agricultural purposes or for any other purpose likely to promote the interests of the inhabitants of any village or town;

Provided that nothing in such laws shall prevent the compulsory acquisition of any land, whether occupied or unoccupied, for public purpose by the Government of Assam in accordance with the law for the time being in force authorising such acquisition.”

Therefore, I say that ownership has not been vested on the District Council but management has been given.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas): How does it come?

Mr. SPEAKER: This is a very important problem not only as it involves a very important Constitutional point which involves the rights of the autonomous districts and the rights of this House, therefore, any adjudication or misadjudication may lead to complications. Therefore, in order that we come to a decision it is not only correct in regard to the rules and procedures of this House but also in regard to the Constitution.

Shri HARERWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): I am really not happy in saying that ownership has not been vested by the Sixth Schedule, Paragraph 3 on the District Council but management has been given regarding allotment of land and that is not what perhaps many of us want but we have to interpret the rule as it is. So far as this ownership is concerned it is not stated that the lands belong to the District Council. In Paragraph 3(a) it is stated thus:—

“the allotment, occupation or use, or the setting apart, of land, other than any land which is a reserved forest for the purpose of agriculture or grazing or for residential or other non-agricultural purposes or for any other purposes like to promote the interest of the inhabitants of any village or town.”

From it, it appears that all that the District Council is given the power of management of the land and to legislate for that purpose. Therefore, the District Council can legislate regarding allotment. Nowhere in the Sixth Schedule it is stated.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the contention of the hon. Member that the right of management includes the right to allot land but does not include the right to evict persons who enter into land without being allotted ?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: That will be my second branch of argument. The first branch is that so far as the District Council is concerned, it has been given the right to legislate on certain matters and paragraph 3 speaks about legislation on these matters, viz. allotment of land, occupation of land. On these matters the District Council may legislate. But it does not say that the State Assembly cannot also discuss these matters. Nowhere in the Sixth Schedule it is laid down that the State Assembly cannot discuss these matters. All that the State Assembly cannot do is that it cannot legislate regarding allotment, use and occupation of land within the District Council's jurisdiction.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member's contention is “occupation” does not include “eviction” of people ?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I am coming to that, Sir. If the District Council wants to allot that particular plot of land from which these people have been evicted, the District Council is within its powers to make legislation regarding

allotment. But if somebody is already in occupation of that plot of land, what will be the effect of that legislation? Who will have the power to evict him? On this point, I submit, the Sixth Schedule does not lead us anywhere. In the event of a conflict between the persons who are already occupying and those, who under the legislation, will be given the right to occupy, who will have the upper hand, the Sixth Schedule does not give us any indication. My submission will be, in that event, so far as eviction is concerned, apart from the argument that these people have been occupying the land since 1950, my submission is that for the eviction of those who are in occupation, the District Council must take the help of the State Government.

The second argument will be, so far as this occupation is concerned, these people have been in occupation since 1950, *i.e.*, before the District Council came into being and so long as there is no legislation to allot this land to particular persons, the District Council *suo moto*, without any legislation on this subject, cannot say that these people should be evicted. How far that right is a legal right is a different matter, but the fact remains, if this is the position that they have been in occupation since 1950, the allotment is already there in a way. Now, what was the condition before the District Council came into being? The State Government had the power.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the contention of the hon. Member that it is not within the rights of the District Council to question the validity of rightfulness of the occupation prior to its constitution?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Yes that is one point. In this case even if this right is a very flimsy right and not a perfectly legal right, even then on this matter the District Council must come to the State Government for evicting these people and that too after having enacted a proper legislation for allotment and occupation of land.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education):** May I be permitted to rise on a point of order and make a submission? I suppose these discussions over the present question may be considered from a different angle and these highly technical and legal questions may not arise at all. If I may

submit, the notice for calling attention is under rule 54 ; Rule 54 states, "A Member may, with the previous permission of the Speaker, call attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour of the day", and so on and so forth. In this case we are concerned with the admissibility of this Motion. Let us consider it from that point of view. In this case I do not know the facts, and am not making any submission on facts, but the question resolves into this ; whether we can take certain action or resolution for eviction or whether the District Council has any right to evict them, what would be the legal position of the people who were already there before the District Council came into being, these are matters which are not attracted here. So, the hon. Member rightly limited the question to the admissibility of it. Now, let us examine it from the point of view of admissibility. What is the motion for calling attention ? The Mover seeks to call attention of this House, with the permission of the Speaker, to a subject which he considers of urgent public importance. It is not a private matter. Now, you know what are matters of public importance which may be discussed on the floor of this House. So, it must first be considered whether it is a matter of urgent public importance. The Speaker, after application of his mind *prima facie*, not going entirely into it but on the face of it gives permission to raise it. In this case, having done so, I submit, the Speaker rightly thought whether it does not transgress the limits of propriety of this House to discuss a matter which relates primarily to the District Council.

Mr. SPEAKER: Whether it is beyond our jurisdiction ? That is my point.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education) :** Yes, Sir. My submission is this : if we analyse this rule, and its purpose, we need not go into the sphere of the District Council at all, whether they have the right to manage the land, and so on and so forth.

Let us take an analogy and the position will be clear. Oil is a Central subject and is not a state subject. But we took a resolution on the question of oil and the refinery. Foreign affairs are not entirely within the ambit of the Indian Parliament. But in foreign affairs debates, cut motions are admitted

*Speech not corrected.

and discussed. Discussion about foreign affairs, as you will be pleased to recollect, go beyond the Indian limits. They are the concern of the U. N. O. and the world as a whole. Now, here the purpose of this "calling attention" is this : some people, it is said, are being evicted or going to be evicted—again I say I do not know the facts. The Mover thinks it is a question of public importance, and he calls attention of the House. It may be or it may not be that some hills are within the State of Assam as laid down by the Constitution, because the people are within the State of Assam. It is not necessary to go into this thorny question or discuss that aspect of the matter. But here is a matter, which the Mover considers a matter of urgent public importance and he calls the attention of the House to that. What for he calls attention ? Not that instructions should be sent to the Autonomous District Council, that it should be superseded, that it should not be given any right to settle land or evict persons, but he just calls attention of the House so that the Assam Government may exercise their good offices towards amelioration of the condition of this people. Has not the hon. Member a right to call attention of the Government ?

Mr. SPEAKER: He has a right to call attention of the Government.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education):** I submit, Sir, every hon. Member has a right to call attention of the Government. What happened is that by reason of our discussing some foreign affairs nobody feels anything else unless he is a lunatic. Herein the purpose of calling attention of the Government is for the purpose of law, because it simply means that by calling attention of the Government the Minister in-charge is to make a statement and even discussion may be raised on that statement.

Mr. SPEAKER: No, there is nothing. If the hon. Minister refers to Rule 50 of the Assembly Rules he will find that any Member desirous of raising discussion on a matter of urgent public importance may raise discussion with the permission of the Speaker in this House.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education):** It is always the case that we would cross the bridge when we reach it. So, Sir, my submission is this that I have a right to call attention to a matter of urgent public importance. Whether it is of urgent public importance or not, it is for the Speaker to decide and none else.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not asking the opinion of anyone regarding this.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** What I am referring is very simple. I simply refer to Rule 54 of the Assembly Rules. I consider the matter must be of urgent public importance when I want to call attention of the Minister with the previous permission of the Speaker. Here in this case, we have to consider for what purpose the notice for calling attention of the Government has been given and for what purpose it seeks to raise a discussion here in this House. Herein by calling attention of the Government the Mover wants to say that why the people have been evicted by the District Council or whether the District Council has convinced our Government and whether it is necessary that it was a tribal law and, therefore, we want to discuss these matters. These are all simple matters and as such does not relate to matters of urgent public importance. So I submit whether any Member of the House has a right to call attention on this point. I would also like to submit that we will be gone much beyond our ambit, if we discuss about the powers and responsibility of the District Council here in this House.

***Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to discuss matters regarding the powers given to the District Councils. But I want to speak a few words on a very vital state of affairs that the District Councils have the right to manage their own affairs.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** If you ask for a point of order.....

Mr. SPEAKER: No, why a point of order is necessary?

***Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA:** Sir, how the District Council will be able to evict people who have occupied the land before the District Council came into being? The

District Council can only allow occupation of the land. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members of this House to Article 19 of the Constitution of India. It is about the Fundamental Rights. It says—

“19.—(1) All citizens shall have the right—

- (a) to freedom of speech and expression ;
- (b) to assemble peaceably and without arms ;
- (c) to form associations or union ;
- (d) to move freely throughout the territory of India ;
- (e) to reside and settle in any part of India ;
- (f) to acquire and hold and dispose of property ; and
- (g) to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.”

Now if we go through the provision in sub-clause (2) we find—“(2) Nothing in sub-clause (a) of clause (1) shall affect the operation of any existing law in so far as it relates to, or prevent the State from making any law”.....and so on.

In this connection Article 12 may be referred to wherein it is stated that the “State” includes the Government and Parliament of India and the Government and the Legislature of each of the State and all local or other authorities within the territory of India or under control of the Government of India.

The District Council is an administrative authority. Under Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India it is a local authority and it can impose certain restrictions in the matter of land and disposal of property; that means the District Council was conferred powers under Article 19 of the Constitution of India. Therefore, it would not be proper on the part of the hon. Members to come to the conclusion that the District Council has no authority to evict those people.

Now, Sir, the Article 13 of the Constitution of India may also be referred to in this connection, about the ownership of the land by the District Council.

Mr. SPEAKER: I don't think we need go to all these details, regarding Sixth Schedule.

***Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas)** Sir, in my opinion, I must explain the position of the District Council regarding this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the House has jurisdiction to discuss those things they may be discussed.

***Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA:** Sir, it depends on the intention of the Mover. If the Mover simply wants to discuss this problem, Government cannot impose any injunction or can direct the District Council to go from their present position. If the hon. Members after having discussed this problem come to the conclusion that Government should direct the District Council in view of the reasons placed before the House by the hon. Mover that the District Council cannot carry on eviction, then it would be something which would interfere with the authority of the District Council.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Sir, as I said, the Sixth Schedule is an ideal thing. But we have to refer to other paragraphs also. If we go through the State List, land is included under item No. 18 and the provision under the Sixth Schedule under paragraph 3 is beyond the powers of the District Council.

***Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY (Parliamentary Secretary):** Sir, may we have the views of the Revenue Minister about this matter?

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, to my mind, the ownership of land by the District Council does not arise here at all. The question is whether those people who occupied the land before the District Council was constituted could be evicted or not by the District Council. Sir, here the question of occupation of land is very plain. The District Council can make laws regarding allotment and occupation of land in future.

But the question whether the District Council can make laws regarding the occupation of land which was occupied before the District Council was constituted. Sir, the occupation of land is under the law making power of the District Council. The District Council can make laws regarding occupation of land occupied before it was constituted even. There is nothing that can prevent them from doing so, but they will have to see whether those laws contravene or not the Articles in the Constitution. Sir, to my mind the District Council cannot make laws which are against the Fundamental Rights. Here Article 31 of the Constitution under Fundamental Right says, "No person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law". Now, a District Council also is considered as a State that can make laws of its own to protect its own tribal people and also to protect the rights of the people, and the District Council while making laws will have to see those contravene the Fundamental Right as envisaged in Article 31. It is within the purview of the District Council to see to this. So I do not see how this discussion can be made here because, as I said, it is in the power of the District Council to make laws regarding occupation of land, the use of land in future or in the past, but it is for the District Council to see whether any law made by it is contravening the Fundamental Rights as laid down in the Constitution. Therefore, Sir, I say that since the District Council had the power to make laws regarding the occupation or use of land, the question of ownership does not arise.

Here the question whether the District Council is able or not to evict people who occupied land before the District Council was constituted, I consider, Sir, that the District Council is able to make laws regarding that also. But the question raised by the Mover of this matter, which he says is of public importance, is that the Government helped the District Council by utilising their police force that is another point altogether. If Government which has the power and authority to maintain law and order thinks that it should help the District Council to evict some people if there is any riot or trouble, surely Government can use their police force. It is my opinion that the District Council has the power to make laws regarding occupation of land whether in the past or for the future and also has power to evict people who occupy land within its jurisdiction without authority. Any discussion here in this House will not be able to change the power of the District Council. If a District Council does anything which contravenes any provision of the Constitution, it is not this Assembly that has the power to change or correct this.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question before us is to consider whether it is within the privileges and right of this House to discuss a matter of this nature. Sir, as I read Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of this House, I find it only refers to calling of attention by a member in any matter of urgent public importance. Such matters will necessarily be over which the Assam Government or the Assam Legislature has jurisdiction. Now, Sir, I do not know why it has been necessary for us to go into the controversy whether the laws made by the District Council are *intra-vires* or *ultra-vires*. Now, the issue before us is that a certain situation has arisen as a result of the eviction of certain people within the State. Now, even if for the sake of argument, it is accepted that so far as the question of allotment and occupation of land is concerned, the District Council has jurisdiction, we cannot get away from the fact that a citizen for whose eviction Assam police have been used, that is a subject matter under the jurisdiction of the Assam Government and over which hon. Members of this House have the right to call attention. If a situation like the present one has arisen, how can any Member be prevented from drawing Government's attention? We have to decide on facts before us. So, if any hon. Member comes forward to draw our attention to a situation which has arisen as a result of eviction, I feel he is within his right to do so. In making a statement, the Minister is entitled under Rule 54 to place before the House such facts as are within his knowledge or to make out a case why it is not possible for him to place the facts. Now, so far as permission necessary for this purpose is concerned, Sir, you have exercised your discretion and I think hon. Members should not now be prevented from drawing attention in this matter which as I have said is under the jurisdiction of this House. I refer to Articles 160 and 163 of the Constitution. So far as Article 160 is concerned it is provided under it that the President may make such provision as he thinks fit for the discharge of the functions of the Governor of a State in any contingency not provided for in this Chapter. If this is read together with Article 163 which says—"There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions, except in so far as he is by or under this Constitution required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion." When these two articles of the Constitution are read together it will be seen that, unless and until certain parts of the function allocated to the State of

Assam are reserved for individual judgment of the Governor, all such matters as are within the control of Government which means Governor with the advice of the Ministers can be discussed in this House. My further submission, Sir, is that sometimes when a law is passed by a body over which we have no jurisdiction, but subsequently that law is enforced by an authority over which this House has jurisdiction, this Legislature is competent to consider the subsequent act. Of course how position has been explained by the Government it will be for Government to decide it. We cannot to-day decide whether a law passed by an Autonomous District is *ultra-vires* or *intra-vires*—that this is a matter, even if we say one thing other friends say other things which cannot become conclusive in this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: What I wanted to know is whether this House has jurisdiction in whatever the District Council has done, as for instance, in the present matter before us they have done certain things, whether it would be within our right to discuss them. An hon. Member has submitted a thing which may not be germane to the question; all the same when these have been focussed, so far as that aspect is concerned, I would like to know whether that particular issue can be discussed or not.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Here my submission is that so far as the question is concerned, no one can discuss a law rightly or wrongly passed by an autonomous body. Here as a result of the act, some other acts have been committed over which the Government of Assam and also this Legislature have jurisdiction. Therefore the hon. Member has a right to raise this matter and discuss it. This is my submission, Sir.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) There is a clear provision under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, Sir. There is no similar provision in any other State. Under Article 244, it is stated that the provisions of the Sixth Schedule shall apply to the administration of the tribal areas in the State of Assam. Now in the Sixth Schedule paragraph 3, confers the right of making laws by the District Councils on certain matters, such as allotment, occupation or use, or the setting apart, of land, for the purpose of agriculture or grazing or for residential or other non-agricultural purposes. Let me again refer to paragraph 12 of the Sixth Schedule, which lays that no Act of

Legislature of the State in respect of any of the matters specified in paragraph 3 of this Schedule as matters with respect to which a District Council or a Regional Council may make laws. Then something else comes which applies to the autonomous district or autonomous region which says unless in either case the District Council for such district or having jurisdiction over such region by public notification so directs no laws of the state will apply to such areas. So no Act of the Legislature of the State applies to the District Council with respect to matters transferred under para 3. So this House has no power to legislate on such matters. It is the sole power of the District Council to legislate. So when this is a matter of allotment, occupation or use, or the setting apart of land, which means eviction also, it is within the sole power of the District Council; it need not come to this House. This is a matter over which this House has not got any control. So in my opinion, this House cannot discuss this matter. So this motion is out of order.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main issue here is whether this House is competent to discuss the subject which was raised by my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya. Now Article 211 of the Constitution says that no discussion shall take place in the Legislature of State with respect to the conduct of any Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court in the discharge of his duties. So except that, in my humble opinion, the House has the right to discuss any other matter. Further, my submission is that in Assam in the case of autonomous districts they have their representatives elected by the people in this House. Every autonomous district has elected its representatives for this Assembly. So it is a question of privilege whether the representatives of those districts have the right to raise the above matter. So my humble opinion is that it will mean denying that privilege if this matter is not allowed to be discussed in this House.

Mr. SPEAKER : As there is divergence of opinion, I would like to consider the question and give my ruling at some other time. Now let us proceed to the next item of the agenda.

Announcement of the names of the Members elected to the District Minority Board of Lakhimpur District

Mr. SPEAKER : Under rule 7, I have to announce the results of the election of Members to the District Minority Board of Lakhimpur. The number of candidates being equal to the number of seats vacant, the following have been elected uncontested.

1. Yusuf Ali Hazarika, Chairman, Local Board, North Lakhimpur, North Lakhimpur Town.

2. Azizur Rahman, Dibrugarh Town.

3. Dr. Mohibur Rahman, Member Municipal Board, Amlapatty, Dibrugarh.

The Assam Weights and Measures Enforcement Bill, 1958

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Weights and Measures Enforcement Bill, 1958, as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER The motion moved is that the Assam Weights and Measures Enforcement Bill, 1958, as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

(After a pause)

(The question was put and adopted)

The Assam Agricultural Produce Markets Bill, 1958

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for extension of time till the 30th September, 1958, for submission of the final Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Agricultural Produce Markets Bill, 1958, as recommended by the Select Committee. The reason for which I am moving this motion has already been circulated to the hon. Members along with the preliminary report of the Select Committee.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I put the question. That extension of time be allowed till the 30th September, 1958 for submission of the final Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Agricultural Produce Markets Bill, 1958, as recommended by the Select Committee.

(After a pause)

(The question was put and adopted)

The Assam Agricultural Market Registration Bill, 1958

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for extension of time till the 30th September 1958 for submission of the final Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Agricultural Market Registration Bill, 1958 as recommended by the Select Committee.

The reason for which I am moving the motion has already been embodied in the preliminary report of the Select Committee, circulated to the hon. Members.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved is that extension of time be allowed till the 30th September, 1958 for submission of the final Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Agricultural Market Registration Bill, 1958, as recommended by the Select Committee.

(After a pause)

(The question was put and adopted)

**The Assam Land Requisition and Acquisition
(Amendment) Bill, 1958**

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Here is a message from the Governor of Assam.

I recommend Under Article 203 of Constitution that the Assam Land Requisition and Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 1958 be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

SAIYID FAZL ALI
Governor of Assam.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : Sir, I beg to move that Assam Land Requisition and Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 1958 be taken into consideration.

(The question was put and adopted)

The Assam Ganja and Bhang Prohibition Bill, 1958

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Ganja and Bhang Prohibition Bill, 1958, be taken into consideration.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Ganja and Bhang Prohibition Bill, 1958 be taken into consideration.

(The question was put and adopted)

**The Assam Requisition and Control of vehicles
Bill, 1958**

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Here is a message from the Governor.

“I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constituion of India that the Assam Requisition and Control of Vehicles Bill, 1958 be introduced and moved in the Assam Assembly.

SAIYID FAZL ALI, Governor of Assam”

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Requisition and Control of Vehicles Bill, 1958.

(Secretary, Legislative Assembly then read the title of the Bill).

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA: Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Requisition and Control of Vehicles Bill, 1958.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Requisition and Control Vehicles Bill, 1958 be introduced.

(After a pause)

(The question was put and adopted)

The Assam, Basic Education (Amendment) Bill, 1958

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Basic Education (Amendment) Bill, 1958.

(Secretary, Legislative Assembly, read the title of the Bill).

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Basic Education Amendment Bill, 1958 be introduced.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Basic Education (Amendment) Bill, 1958 be introduced.

(After a pause)

(The question was put and adopted)

The Assam Speaker's Salary and Allowances Bill, 1958

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am reading out a message from the Governor.

"I recommend under Article 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Speaker's Salary and Allowances Bill, 1958 be introduced and moved in Assam Legislative Assembly.

SAIYID FAZL ALI, Governor of Assam"

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister)
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Speaker's Salary and Allowances Bill, 1958.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that leave be granted to introduce the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

(The Secretary then read the title of the Bill)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister)
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Speaker's salary and allowances Bill, 1958.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Speaker's Salary and Allowances Bill, 1958 be introduced.

(after a pause)

(The question was put and adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Speaker's Salary and Allowances Bill, 1958 be taken into consideration.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Speaker's Salary and Allowances Bill, 1958 be taken into consideration.

(After a pause)

(The question was put and adopted)

Government Resolution

Resolution to approve of an expenditure of Rs.2,50,000 under head "18-B. and 68.A.B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works" etc.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, E & D.) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.2,50,000 under head "18-B. and 68A.B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works," etc.

The purpose for which this resolution has been brought in has already been circulated to the hon. Members. The expenditure will be met from the sanctioned amount.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved is that this Assembly do approve of an expenditure of Rs.2,50,000 under head "18-B and 68-A.B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works" etc.

(The motion was put and adopted).

Discussion regarding hardship and difficulty experienced by the people of Palashbari due to recent large scale erosions

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under Rule 50 of the Assembly Rules, I beg leave of the House to raise a dicussion on the Palashbari town. Sir, everybody in this House knows about the historic town of Palashbari. Sir, Palashbari is one of the most important towns in the South bank of Kamrup. After Gauhati, the only town that is worth mentioning is Palashbari on the South bank in the Kamrup district. It has a population of about 5 thousand and if its importance as a centre of trade is considered, then it must be said that that this town is of great importance in the business life of our State ; jute, mustard and some other things are imported and exported from this centre, and from this centre also Endi and other cloths are sent out. So from all aspects Palashbari assumes a very important place in the business life of our State. Unfortunately since 1953 this town is being eroded by the mighty Brahmaputra. In about 1954 Pandit Nehru, our Prime Minister, came by plane with a batch of Members of the Parliament to see the erosion, and he was only amazed to

see at what rate the river was cutting the town area. During that visit, he also went to Dibrugarh to see the erosion there. At that time erosion of this town was causing anxiety to the people not only of this State but of other parts of the country as well. Since then, I must say, half-hearted attempts were only being made to save Palashbari. We are now glad to see that Dibrugarh town has been saved, the experiment with spurs has become successful, there and the most important town of our State, *i.e.*, Dibrugarh has been saved. If Dibrugarh had not been saved, it would have created very difficult problem for our State in rehabilitating the people of that town in some other place. Now, so far as Palashbari is concerned from 1953 onward, erosion is going on there and till today practically nothing has been done either to save Palashbari or to erect a new township or to rehabilitate these people in some other place. Now, so far as saving of Palashbari is concerned, sometime ago ten to eleven lakhs of rupees had been spent. This, I must say, was definitely a half-hearted measure to protect the town. At one time foliages were dropped in the river, branches of trees were put down the river. During the second time it was attempted that something like rolling bamboo net was spread over the bank of the river for 80 or 90 feet depth or more than that and in that also money was spent. But after all from 1954 up till now nothing has been done. Sir, the whole portion of the trunk road was damaged last year and this year the whole portion has been washed away and not only that the whole portion of the south trunk road between mile stones 13 and 14½ has also been washed away and the big buildings whatever were left there have also been washed away and at present the river cutting has gone as near as the police station itself and not only that the erosion is coming near the Palashbari Aided High School where the students population is very high. Sir, it is not only that the business centre of the South bank has been washed away but the people also have been rendered homeless and those who are living now in the most congested area are left still at the mercy of God. Nothing concrete has been done to rehabilitate these poor people. These people were told that a new township will be started at Mirza four miles away from there and as a matter of fact, at one time land also was allotted for the purpose, but the people did not see any new township coming up. In this connection, it may be said by the Revenue Minister that delay is due to some cases and that these cases

went up to the High Court. Yes, those cases went to the High Court only for three months from the time of moving to the time of disposal. It may be assumed that for three months only the High Court created difficulties for Government, but before that and after that period, Government have ample opportunity to build up the township. What is amazing is that although the land regarding the dispute was taken to the High Court, even that portion of land which was not under any dispute that could be taken over and a small township may be put up there. Sir, I was all along objecting to plan such a big project for Palashbari. We have the Town Planning Officer who is getting Rs. 1,500 per month and this officer has actually drawn a big plan; if it materialises, it will take time. I urged the Government to build up a township immediately in the vacant land so that we can shift the office, schools, etc. and that would to some extent help the people. But now the erosion has eaten the town of Palashbari and has even threatened the alternative road that we have recently found out from Barjhar *via* Tin-ali, Mirza, etc. and the erosion is still continuing and at the rate the present erosion is going on, in two or three years time the whole of Palashbari will be washed away unless some measures are taken immediately by the Government to stop the present rate of erosion. Sir, I must say this is the callous indifference of the Government towards the people of Palashbari and the absence of a township as important a place as Palashbari is, has not been very much appreciated by the people and we really find that Government is not doing anything to give the people of Palashbari any help. Sir, the saving portion of Palashbari can be saved, it is not for me to say. After all, this is a question for experts and technicians to say and put their heads together to save the remaining portion of Palashbari. Sir, in certain places the depth is about 90 feet and I know that it is not an easy matter to do anything, but it may be possible that near about Majuigaon the depth may not be 90 feet there and therefore, the current of the river can to some extent be deviated because the current of the river there will not be so much. Then again, Sir, we were told that even a portion of Sualkuchi is also being cut up by the river, there also attempts should be made to deviate the current of the river without causing any damage to Sualkuchi, because this is also a very important place. Then Sir, I would like to say that we have read the statement of the *Ex-Chief Engineer*, Shri H. P. Barua in the *Natun Assamiya*

that it is possible by spending 2 or 3 lakhs of rupees, some ways and means may be devised by which the saving portion near Palashbari can be saved. Sir, I do not profess to have any knowledge of these things but that is for the experts and scientists to put their heads together and find out ways and means to save the saving portion. It will mean only an expenditure of two or three lakhs of rupees. It is imperative that at any rate the erosion of the river is necessary to be stopped, because if erosion continues, not only Palashbari but the surrounding areas also may be eroded in future and that will cause a great loss to the State. So far stopping of erosion is concerned, at one time it was said that to save Palashbari it would cost about 73 lakhs of rupees or something like that, therefore, it is not worth undertaking such a scheme in saving Palashbari. Sir, at first to save Dibrugarh it was estimated one crore of rupees but subsequently the amount went up to 2 crores 13 lakhs or something like that, and so much money has been spent for Dibrugarh. But at any rate? Sir, it is necessary to devise ways and means to see whether erosion can be stopped or not. In this connection, I would refer to the articles written by no less a person than Shri H. P. Barua, *Ex-Chief Engineer, Assam*.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.): You are in a weak ground.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): I leave that matter to the experts including the P. W. D. Minister. Sir, so far as rehabilitation is concerned, that is the most important problem. These people have lost their homes and hearths and they are expected to lose more within the next few years. Government should pay more attention to these people and if they cannot be rehabilitated, whether by building a township at Mizra or somewhere, these people will be in hopeless condition and their miseries will not be unbounded and they have to starve also. Therefore, my request is to see that the schools, police station, etc. should be shifted to a safe place. Instead of planning a very big township, an ideal township, let us immediately put up a small township at Mirza or wherever land is available so that the people may find occupation and save themselves, otherwise, unless we can stop erosion, it will create a problematic scheme in the State.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Embankment and Drainage) : Sir, in this case two Ministers will have to reply. The portion so far as relief is concerned which is the primary object of this Motion will be replied to by my venerable colleague, Shri Hareswar Das, and with regard to protection work, I propose to reply.

Sir, in the middle of August, 1954, when a considerable portion of the built up area of the Palashbari town was eroded away, the then Chief Minister, Minister, Planning and Development and the Minister, Finance along with the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, the Chairman, Central Water and Power Commission and some other officials of the Government of India and Assam visited the area on 21st August, 1954. A decision was tentatively taken to give protection to that township and accordingly a scheme was drawn up originally at a cost of Rs.56 lakhs and the same was forwarded to the Central Water and Power Commission for examination. In the meantime, this State Government took certain temporary measures to save that township. My Friend, Shri Hareswar Goswami, wants to call it a half-hearted measure. It is entirely far from truth. Genuine and actual efforts were made by the State Government to protect this town taking temporary measures within the limited budget of this Government till the scheme for permanent protection was considered and decided upon by the Central Power and Water Commission. But the same did not prove successful. Sir, the position is this that the depth of the river at Palashbari side is very much resulting in that protection of such place was found to be not feasible by such temporary measures. Costs for permanent measure was found to be prohibitive for the same reason. This was the view of not only of the Engineers of this State but also of the Engineers of the Central Water and Power Commission. They consider it to be a costly and futile attempt. As a result of investigation a sum of Rs.50 lakhs was found to be insufficient for protection of this township. The scheme was revised and an estimate of Rs.68.74 lakhs was drawn up. Afterwards on further investigation it was found that an amount of Rs.1 crore might also prove to be small, and to protect Palashbari the expenditure might go far beyond this Rs.1 crore even. Now, the question is whether the State Government was in a position to save a township like Palashbari spending a crore or two crores of rupees? It was not possible within the means of this State Govern-

ment and Central Government was also not willing to take up the matter. Therefore, in consultation with the Central Water and Power Commission this had to be abandoned, although my predecessor, Shri Siddhinath Sarma, the then Minister in-charge of Embankment and Drainage did his utmost to induce the Central Government and the Central Water and Power Commission to take up this scheme. We can't blame them also. You know the fund of the Central Government is also ; limited. Even our plan ceiling is being reduced several times at one time it was about Rs.13 crores ; it was reduced to Rs.12 crores ; then to Rs.7 crores and today to about Rs.5 crores or so. The Central Water and Power Commission and the Government of India finally told us that they would not be able to finance such a venture which would not comensurate with the value of the properties sought to be protected. The value of the properties of Palashbari township not being much the Government of India did not like to saddle itself with a financial burden of crores of rupees because this money will have to be paid back either by the people of Palashbari themselves or in their failure by the State Government and neither of them would be able to pay such a huge sum.

In the last Session of the Assembly there was fresh agitation about this question of protecting Palashbari township and the Chief Minister told the House that he would take up this matter again. At his instance this Government took up the matter afresh with the Central Water and Power Commission. Thereafter, no less a person than the Chairman of the Central Water and Power Commission at our instance came to Assam to look into this problem at the spot. It is a known fact that the present Chairman of the Central Water and Power Commission is considered to be one of the best and foremost available experts on this point in whole of India. He came and visited Palashbari last month and again he reiterated his former view that in view of the cost of such a scheme which would not comensurate with the value of the property sought to be protected, it would not be advisable to take up this work.

In the meantime, Shri Barua, a retired Chief Engineer of Assam, wrote a letter, as stated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Assam Tribune giving certain suggestions about protection of Palashbari, this was also referred to the Chairman, Central

Water and Power Commission by our Chief Engineer (E. & D.) and he said that the measures suggested would not help in saving the Palashbari township. The Government of India did not revise their former view and decision.

Therefore, Sir, inspite of our sympathy for the people of Palashbari, we are not in a position to undertake the work either of permanent or temporary protection. Any money sought to be spent either for a permanent protection or for temporary protection, neither will comensurate with the value of the property we are going to save nor it is within the means of the Assam Government. So, the only remedy lies is to find out alternative land for a new township and the Minister, Revenue who is dealing with this aspect of the matter will enlighten the House about the steps already taken by the Government.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Sir, in this matter we all are in full sympathy with the distressed people of the Palashbari town. The charge that Government have not taken any step to give relief to these people is not correct. Till now the Government have given Rs. 2,71,075 as loan to these people. There is another proposal of giving loan at the rate of Rs. 300 per family to 93 families but as alternate lands for these 93 families have not been found yet the loan has not been given.

Sir, regarding shifting of the town, about 551 bighas of land were acquired in Mirza Hill but it is not correct to say that cases were pending in the High Court only for 3 or 4 months. When requisition proceedings started, the owners of these lands appealed to the Government and a report was called for but the first report was found defective. So another report was called for. In this manner a good deal of time passed. Then some people went to High Court and only recently the High Court dismissed their cases. Now, the Government is taking action for settlement of the land.

My Friend, Shi Goswami, said that people are very anxious to go to Mirza Hill, but it is found that out of 140 families only 80 families have actually applied for land in Mirza Hill and these 80 families have been duly allotted land.

These lands are allotted without any premium. Still out of these 80 families only 20 families have shifted. Even yesterday I made an enquiry and the Deputy Commissioner intimated that the other families are unwilling to shift until compelled by the river.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : That is not a fact. They want some amenities there.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : I am saying what they stated to the Government officers who contacted them. If my Friend is not satisfied he should go and make an enquiry first and then contradict what I am saying, because I have got this information only yesterday. Now, this is the position, Sir.

There is another section of these people, who have purchased some land in Upar Hali and have constructed some houses and they have filed a petition that this shifting of the town to Mirza Hill is a misconceived idea, they say this should be abandoned and 90 bighas of land in Upar Hali should be acquired for them. They are resisting this proposal for starting a township at Mirza Hill. But Government will proceed with the establishment of the township at Mirza Hill. Instructions have been issued to all departments accordingly and the P.W.D. have been asked to start construction of Government office buildings and staff quarters immediately. But possibly due to the rainy season the P.W.D. have not been able to make much progress. So, with the end of the rainy season construction of Government buildings will begin. I, therefore, request the Mover to persuade these people, at least those who have been allotted land, and that without any premium, to shift there immediately. If they shift the problem will be solved.

I would add only one thing. A deputation from these people came and met the Chief Minister along with Shri Radhika Ram Das, Deputy Minister. The Chief Minister also assured them that everything on the part of Government about allotment and other things would be done.

Adjournment

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

(After Lunch)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next item is discussion, if any, of Demands for Excess Grants charged upon the Consolidated Fund of the State for 1958-59.

(No Member rose to speak)

Now we may go to the next item.

Supplementary Demands for Grants charged upon the Consolidated Fund of the State for the year 1958-59.

Supplementary Demand No. 1

"7—LAND REVENUE"

Shri BIMALA PARSAD CHALIA (Chief Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs. 1,70,000 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, 1959, for the administration of head "7.—Land Revenue."

Sir, the explanatory notes explain the purpose.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs. 1,70,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "7.—Land Revenue."

There is one cut motion standing in the name of Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBRUAH (Amguri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 1,70,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 1, Major Head 7. Land Revenue, at page 1 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Rs. 100, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 1,70,000 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

Sir, the object of my moving the Cut Motion is to oppose paying compensation to Mizo Chief. If we open the pages of the world history, we know that there were so many revolutions after revolutions. Because it is not that people loved bloodshed, it is not because that the people loved chaos, corruption and disorder but because people were dissatisfied with the then conditions of society. So, Sir, when we are to establish a society, a socialist society, where all will be happy, prosperous, happy

and equal in all respects—economically, socially and politically we do not want that there would be distinction between man and man. We want to live in peace and tranquility. We want that the exploiters of land will be ousted from the society. When there was British rule, we had no hand to change our societies according to our desire and aspirations. That is why we had to agree to overthrow foreign domain from our country and that is why thousands and millions of our people dedicated their lives to oust the British regime from our country. Just after independence it was our main aim to transform the society into one where we shall not exploit people and where we shall have no distinction between class and class. So, Sir, we wanted to have the abolition of the Zamindarship from our society. There should not be any contradiction in human society in India.

Sir, I am very happy that the Mizo Chiefs are going to be abolished by the Government from the Lushai Hills (Mizo District). Personally I would not have granted any compensation to them, because those big people who have got money and who have got big accounts in Banks should not get any compensation at all from the people. The Assam Lushai Hills (Acquisition of Chiefs' Rights) Act was passed in 1954. I want to know from the Government how many of the Mizo Chiefs enjoyed some rights at the time of passing of the Act. I want to know the total number of Mizo Chiefs at that time and the total area of land that could be acquired and the total number of families and population living there. I want to know from Government what was the area in acre or in bighas that has been acquired from the Chiefs by the Government and what amount of compensation has been granted to the Chiefs and the amount of compensation paid so far to the Chiefs and the balance that is yet to be paid to them. Regarding distribution of land also I want to know from the Government whether lands have been distributed or settled with the landless people or to the families just now living under the Chiefs and on what basis the lands have been distributed and the rent for the land that has been levied now should also be clarified according to the amount of land, i.e., per bigha. In our villages in the plains we generally pay as rent for land Re. 1 or Re. 1-4-0 per bigha. I want to know from the Government what is the rent levied by Government at present in those area acquired. Moreover I want to know how people pay the rent—whether it is paid directly to the Government by the people or through the District Council. At the same time, I want to know as the explanatory notes say, why the purpose

could not be foreseen by the Government? I failed to understand whether survey has been made earlier or this has been made just now. The Act itself was passed in 1954 and the Chiefs have already been granted some amount of compensation.

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):

Sir, it is not that the purpose could not be foreseen. But it is that the actual requirement for the purpose could not be foreseen.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri):

It means the same thing. The amount that is required has already been fixed at the time. This is a case which has shown lack of foresight.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Cut motion moved is that the total provision of Rs. 1,70,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 1 Major head—7.—Land Revenue, at page 1 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Rs.100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 1,70,000 do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir. My Friend has misunderstood the implications of this Act. Prior to the constitution of the District Council, the Chiefs used to administer certain administrative and judicial functions. After the establishment of the District Council, the District Council backed by public opinion wanted to take away these rights of the Chiefs. Actually the Chiefs were not zamindars in the sense the word "Zamindar" is used in this part of the country. Certain areas were allotted to each Chief. These are called "rams" In these "rams", the chief exercised certain powers. For example, they distributed lands to individuals for *jhm* and they also exercised some amount of judicial powers. The District Council pressed that these rights of the chiefs should vest in them. The State Government referred the matter to the Government of India and the Government of India advised that these rights are connected with land, so they can be acquired. In exercise of these powers the Chiefs used to get some quantity of paddy which they called "Fathang". Now if you acquire these rights then the right to receive this paddy called "Fathang" will also be extinguished. And when you want to acquire these rights and extinguish the right of the

Chief to receive this paddy, that must be according to law. Article 31 of the Constitution lays down that there must be a public purpose. The rights should be acquired under law and there should be a public purpose and compensation must be paid. So this Act was passed. The right of the Chiefs will go but the Chiefs have also certain customary rights; those rights will remain because paragraph 3 of the Sixth Schedule gives protection to these customary rights and Government even by law cannot take them away.

That the Chiefs used to get certain quantity of paddy, that question has got to be taken into consideration and some compensation has got to be given to these Chiefs. How the compensation will be assessed and how it will be paid, those matters are provided in the Act. In the Mizo Hills District two Councils have been established, one is the Mizo District Council and the other is Pawi-Lakher Regional Council. The Pawi-Lakher Regional Council is the authority over the area under its jurisdiction and the Mizo District Council is the authority over the area under its jurisdiction. After acquisition, Government transferred these rights to these two Councils who are now administering these lands within their respective jurisdiction. Government have no power to administer these lands.

The rights of the Chiefs within the jurisdiction of the Mizo District Council were abolished in 1955 and those of the Chiefs within the jurisdiction of the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council were abolished in 1956. In calculating the rate of compensation the market price of paddy prevailing during the year previous to the year of acquisition was taken as the standards. So in the area which was covered by the Mizo District Council the compensation was calculated on the basis of the rate prevailing in the year 1954 and in the area which was covered by the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council, the compensation was calculated at the rate prevailing in the year 1955. According to that calculation the amount of compensation was estimated at Rs. 13 lakhs, but subsequently when it was found that the market rate was higher this amount was found to be less and an additional amount of Rs. 1,70,000 was required for payment of the compensation. So we have come with this Supplementary Demand.

With regard to number of Chiefs, I have not got the exact number. But as far as I can remember within the Mizo District Council the number will be about 300 and in the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council it will be about 100.

My Friend also said that there must be revenue charge on this land acquired. Actually no land was acquired; only rights of the chiefs were acquired. Under the Sixth Schedule charging of land revenue or tax, whatever it may be called is a subject of the District or the Regional Councils. Paragraph 8 of the Sixth Schedule lays down: "The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of all lands within such region and the District Council for an autonomous district in respect of all lands within the district except those which are in the areas under the authority of Regional Councils, if any, within the district, shall have the power to assess and collect revenue in respect of such lands in accordance with the principles for the time being followed by the Government of Assam in assessing lands for the purpose of land revenue in the State of Assam generally." Now it is a subject which falls within authority of the District Council or the Regional Council as the case may be.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri): Rupees thirteen lakhs have been distributed as compensation. Whether that was distributed on equal basis?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) The matter is like this. The previous practice was and even here in this Act it is provided that chiefs up to 100 families will get at a certain rate and over 100 families will get at another rate. All Chiefs have not the same number of families, some have more and some have less. So calculation is done according to the number of families each Chief used to have under him, and according to that calculation some Chief will get more money and some will get less money. The rate also varies. Up to 100 one rate and over 100 another rate. As I said already the original estimate was Rs. 13 lakhs. Half of this amount the Government of India bears as grant and half the Government India gives as loans.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: The Government have some schemes to implement in the Second Five Year Plan. When the Government is determined to pay compensation, may I suggest that this amount be postponed for the present so that the money can be invested for execution of the Five Year Plan.

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Sir, it is an absurd proposal. It is strange that an hon. Member of the Legislature speaks for violation of the law. Compensation becomes payable immediately on taking away of the right and the Act provides for it.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Sir, I do not suggest cancelling this compensation. We shall pay it in future but at present I suggest that it may be postponed so that the money can be diverted to construction work under the Five Year Plan, it will be better I think. On hearing the Chief Minister, do not like to press my Cut Motion.

The motion by leave of the House withdrawn. Now I put the original Supplementary Demand.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Re.1,70,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "7.—Land Revenue."

(The question was adopted.)

Supplementary Demand No. 2

"25.—General Administration"

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.3,49,400, 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, 1959, for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration". The Explanatory Note shows the purpose for which this demand is necessary and it is there in the List of Supplementary Demand.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.3,49,400 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration."

Shri HAESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.50,100 under Supplementary Demand No.2 Major head 25.—General Administration Minor head (1) A—Heads of States and Ministers—Sub-head A-9.—Government Hospitality organisation, Detailed head—Hospitality charges, at page 2 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.3,49,400 do stand reduced by Re 1.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may move your other motions also.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: No Sir, I do want to move Motion No.2.

Now Sir, in the Explanatory Note we find at page 3—"The expenditure on State Guests is too flexible and it is difficult to estimate the expenditure accurately. Due to frequent visit of State Guests and V. I. Ps. the provision of Rs.45,000 has already been exhausted. It is highly probable that visit of State Guests and V. I. Ps. during the remaining period of the year will be very frequent owing to various discussions in connection with development and other administrative affairs of the State. Hence the demand for Rs. 50,000". Sir, already we have exhausted Rs.45,000 and now we want another Rs.50,000 which brings the total amount of Rs.95,000. Sir, within these few months if we have exhausted Rs.45,000 it is to be considered whether we are entitled to spend such a huge amount and whether it will be in the fitness of things to give again sanction of Rs.50,000 for expenditure on State Guests? I quite appreciate it is not possible to estimate correctly the expenditure because guests come and go and we do not know who will come next. But, Sir, we find at page 15 of this List of Supplementary Demands that in a function like the State Industries Development Conference held in Shillong on 10th, 11th and 12th July last, a sum of Rs.10,000 was spent. Now my submission is this, that when the Zonal Council met here, the amount spent in that connection also was shown under a different head. So, when these functions take place, the expenditure is shown under different heads, therefore the expenditure that has been incurred under this head is regarding the visit of State Guests who do not come for these functions. Now, Sir, my submission is that we have to be very careful in these expenditures. Some Central Ministers and other V.I.Ps when they come, they come according to their programme and they also spend perhaps from the Central exchequer; after that what is left to the State Government to spend for the V.I.Ps? I quite see the need of showing hospitality towards our friends the V.I.Ps, but at the same time we have to remember that for a State like Assam when our finance is not strong, we cannot spend so much money for V. I. Ps. Some of them come for sight-seeing. Have we also got to treat them as State Guests simply because they are big people coming to our State? I think that will be wrong. We should only confine ourselves to that expenditure which is essentially necessary for entertaining people who come to our State for a purpose, say, for developmental works or for doing something good to the State. If we do that, I think we will not need to spend such huge amounts in this regard. We should be very careful in these matters.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.50,100 under Supplementary Demand No.2, Major head 25.—General Administration, Minor head (1)A—Heads of States and Ministers—Sub-head A—9 Government Hospitality organisation, detailed head—Hospitality charges, at page 2 of list of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.3,49,400 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.3,49,400 under Supplementary Demand No.2, Major head "25.—General Administration", at page 1 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs.100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.3,49,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

Sir, the Explanatory Note is that the major amount is required to meet the expenditure in connection with the operation against Naga hostiles. I want to criticise this. Sir, I had given suggestions in the Budget Session of 1957 that to come to a settlement of this Naga affair, three things are necessary. Namely, first cease fire, then grant amnesty and thirdly, a round table conference should be called where leaders of different political parties should be invited and rebel Naga leaders also should be invited to participate. Sir, you may know that the Prime Minister of Malaya Tenku Abdur Rahman in 1950 introduced cease fire in his State to enable him to contact Chingpeng—Leader of the.....

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please confine to your Cut Motion.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Alright Sir. Now, since the 1st of November last year, Naga Administration was taken over by the Central Government, so my sub-ponsibility of the Central Government since, as I have said, Naga Hills is under Central Administration, therefore all expenditure incurred for maintenance of peace and security as a result of Naga depredations should be borne by the Central Government. As I have already said, Sir, the Central Government took away Naga Hills under Central administration and also the Nagas want it, so any attack from the Nagas is the responsibility of the Central Government. Therefore, Sir, the Central Government is responsible for this. Any attack from the Naga Hills, is the attack from the Centre. The Centre must bear all

the expenses that are necessary for maintaining peace and order in the border. Next, we find in the Explanatory Note at page 4, three temporary Bashas were constructed by the Public Works Department costing Rs.15,700 and 8 temporary Bashas were constructed with troops' labour, costing only Rs.10,000. So we find that 8 Bashas had been constructed by the Military at a lesser cost than what has been spent by the Public Works Department for constructing 3 temporary Bashas. I am glad that the money has been saved, as a result of the work being done by the army themselves. I think, in this way in future also money could be saved. The military should not feel ashamed to do manual work. It will enhance the prestige of the Military if they can do such work in future. In other countries we know the military construct roads, clear water hyacinth, etc. Why can they not do it here in our country and thereby save a lot of our money to be utilised for the Five Year Plan?

Another thing, Sir, if we go through the Explanatory Notes, we find everywhere it is said—"Unforeseen" at pages 3, 4, 5, you will find the same thing—"Unforeseen" the expenditure could not be foreseen.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is the very purpose of the Supplementary Demand.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): That is lack of foresight. That is inefficiency. If the military cannot foresee, then it is not safe to rely on them at the time of any conflagration. I do not like to blame the Chief Minister alone, because he cannot keep an eye on the small things. But those who are in charge, they must be very cautious about these things. Then at page 4, first paragraph, 4th paragraph, the same thing is there. Every comma, every word, every full stop—everything is same. Only this that the amount of Rs.20,000 was required to regularise the advance, then Sir, an amount of Rs.30,000 was required to regularise the amount. Why this is so? Why this loss of labour, ink and paper? If our military is such then there is no hope for us. I hope the House will go deep into the matter and accept the Cut Motion, which is quite all right, and I hope the Motion will be carried unanimously.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.3,49,400 under Supplementary Demand No.2, Major head "25.—General Administration" at page 1 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs.100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.3,49,400, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the suggestion of the hon. Leader of the Opposition that there should be economy in running our administration, and in this particular case about State expenditure on State guests. Sir, since independence, as a result of the various development works and also on account of expansion of work on the part of the Government of India as well as of the State Government, the number of conferences and visits have considerably increased. At the same time the number of conferences have increased so much that we also sometimes feel rather difficult to attend to these conferences. At the same time, it seems that at these conferences decisions could be taken more promptly, because all the points of view can be discussed round the table and things could be more promptly decided. If they are left to correspondence, quite a considerable time will be lost in correspondence. Therefore the number of conferences and visits of the Ministers and officers of the Government of India had increased consequently increasing the State expenditure. But I am one with him when he says that these should be economical as far as practicable. We have no dispute on this point, and I assure him that it will be our earnest endeavour to exercise the maximum economy that is possible.

Now with regard to the other cut motion of my Friend Shri Barbarua, I beg to submit in fairness to our army that so far as the manual labour is concerned, our army has given a good account of themselves. I hope the hon. Member knows about the most difficult roads which have been constructed by our army. They are Tuensang-Ziro and Misamari-Bomdila roads. These difficult roads were constructed by our army. They do a lot of manual labour. But sometimes due to more urgent work they cannot take up such work: they have to take the help of others for such construction work.

Now, Sir, I can appreciate the anxiety of the hon. Member to bring about a solution of Naga problem and although the administration of Naga Hills and Tuensang at present rests with the Government of India, I do not feel that our responsibility to solve this problem does not cease with the transfer of the administration from Assam Government to the Government of India. This has been a very difficult problem for all the time and I hope all of us, including the hon. Leader of the Opposition as also other Members, will be only too glad to contribute whatever is possible for the solution of this problem.

Now, Sir, as regards meeting the finance which is necessary for Naga Hills operation, we have been given assistance by the Government of India not only to meet the expenditure which has been incurred by us there but also in regard to various other matters. Therefore I think it would not be quite proper to make a clear distinction or watertight compartment in respect of the amount required for meeting the expenditure for Naga Hills operation. We place our demands not only with regard to this matter but in other matters also before the Government of India and they do consider our demands most sympathetically. What we want is to develop our State with the full co-operation of the Government of India, and therefore, I do not think it would be wise to make such categorical demand. We will be, of course, placing our demands, our difficult financial resources or otherwise, before the Government of India, and I am quite sure, they will receive sympathetic consideration of the Central Government.

Now, Sir, regarding the other question of repeating almost the same sentence in two paragraphs, this is, Sir, necessary to mention separately as these two amounts have been shown separately and in the Explanatory Notes also the explanations have been given serially.

I have nothing more to add, and I hope that the hon. Members will be pleased to accept my explanation and withdraw their Cut Motions.

(Cut Motions were by leave of the House withdrawn)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs. 3,49,400 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "25.—General Administration."

(The question was adopted).

Supplementary Demands No.3

"29.—Police."

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional grant of Rs. 26,80,000 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, 1959 for the administration of the head "29.—Police".

The Explanatory Notes explain the purpose for which this additional fund has become necessary.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs. 26,80,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "29.—Police."

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.12,40,000 under Supplementary Demand No.3, Major head "29.—Police" Minor head B—District Executive Force (a) District Police—4—Contingencies. sub-head (1) Expenditure in connection with the operation against Naga Hostiles in the Plains and Hills sectors (total), at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs. 100, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 26,80,000 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.8,50,000 under Supplementary Demand No.3, Major head "29.—Police" Minor head—B—District Executive Force, Sub-head (3) G—C. I. D. (d) Border Security Force, at Page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Rs. 100. i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.26,80,000 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.26,80,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 3, Major head "29.—Police", at page 4 of the list of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs.100, i. e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.26,80,000, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All the Cut Motions are moved as above.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : I have got another Cut Motion also on the total grant but I shall speak on both at the same time, Sir.

I do not mean that this sum of Rs. 26 lakhs 80 thousand under the grant is not required to meet the expenditure under the sub-head (3) G.-C. I. D. Sir, our boys have been facing risks and undertaking hazardous operations, and therefore, they should be paid the same scale of ration as is paid to army personnel. No one can disquite that. But my purpose in moving this Cut Motion is to draw the pointed attention of the Government to see that the hostiles are kept confined to only Naga Hills as localised. We have to see that these hostiles may not go down to the Plains areas, and with that view we have to carry on our operation much more effectively. We know, recently when at Maibong there was a raid how a poor railway employee suffered. It was not only a case of railway employees but in other places also similar happenings are taking place. The Nagas go down all on a sudden commit dacoities and then escape uncaught and undetected. The other day in the Lok Sabha in reply to a question it was stated that a sum of rupees 20 thousand was looted, I suppose in Sibsagar. I do not remember exactly, but in the Lok Sabha the Union Home Minister, Pandit Pant replied to a question like that. Therefore my request to Government is that they should see to it that such type of raids may not take place in the border areas of plains and for that purpose it is necessary to expand our activity and proceed in such a way so that the Nagas may not come down from the Hills and do ravages in the plains. Therefore, more stricter vigilance should be exercised in the border of the Naga Hills.

Then as regards the Intelligence Department for which quite a lot of good money is spent, we find that this department fail to furnish information as regards the movement of these hostile Nagas. Some of the hostile Nagas went over to Pakistan but our officers of the Intelligence Department fail to furnish timely information to Government as regards these people. These are matters very vital for the interest of the State; we want to know these things in time; we want law and order to be maintained inside the border. But very often it appears the Intelligence Department are more concerned with routine matter. We have got to see

that such vital matters do not become merely routine work. We must try to restrict the activities of the Nagas and see that our people in the plains do not remain in a state of fear of sudden raids from the Naga hostiles.

So far as the Border Security Force is concerned, I do not want to take much time of the House because only on Saturday last we discussed this matter thoroughly. I only hope that the Security Force will see that there may not be any aggression on our land and that our people should not live in fear and that they will be further strengthened so that the people may live in peace and be able to carry on their normal avocations.

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

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as my Cut Motion is concerned, it relates to only one item, *i. e.*, Rs. 8 lakhs 30 thousand, and I also want to speak a few words on the cut motions of my Friends, Shri Barbaruah, and Mr. Goswami. Now, we are all informed in the Explanatory Notes that so far as the Border Security Police in the Indo-Pak Borders are concerned, they are being given an amount of Rs.68 each for nine months in respect of Army scale of ration. It has been said that this is being done to bring it in conformity with those personnel engaged in the skirmishes or operations with Naga hostiles. Mr. Goswami has said something about the question of Naga hostiles and the operation. I shall confine myself only to the question of force in the Indo-Pak border. Now, one thing I would like to know. What is going on in the Indo-Pakistan border? When army personnels are engaged anywhere, naturally we expect the army men to be in perfect uniforms. We do not expect the police men to be in pety-coats; but we should first of all know what is their function? If the policeman is really doing the function of an army man, he may be given the army scale of ration. If he is not functioning as such, then I don't see any reason why there should be any distinction or discrimination from police man to police man. Thereby I don't say that there is no necessity of strengthening the police guards in the frontiers, *i. e.*, the Indo-Pakistan border. I wish, there is very strong guard and I also wish that they

do prove worthy of the special privilege given to them. But what is the information? What are his function and responsibilities? It is said by almost every body in this House that it is very difficult to get a pass-port, or even if one gets a pass-port, it is very difficult indeed to get a visa either from the Pakistan Government or this Government; but it is very easy to cross the border. If one is to get the pass-port or visa lot of time and money will be spent. But if one wants to cross the border it means only Rs. 2, that is a common talk everywhere and that is why the Naga hostiles are crossing over to Pakistan and their Leader Phizo is having consultation and conference with the Pakistan authority and that he was also escorted over the border by a big escort. Sir, these things are going on. But what the border police is doing there? It may be said that the border line is very long and the number of force is very small. Therefore, I would suggest that instead of giving the border police with that lucrative army scale of ration, let the number be increased so that the frontier may be closely watched, because however, efficient a man may be, he cannot guard the area which might be 3 to 5 miles wide. Let him be well fed, let him have two good slumbers, let him be talking sweet and chatting with his wife, and at the same time let him do a little helpful work also. It appears there are some police personnels in our State who are doing nothing. You may not agree with me but I shall prove it by documents. Sir, it was disclosed in the last session of the Assembly that so far as Nalbari thana is concerned, out of 10 cases sent to the Criminal Investigation Department, in 9 cases the police could not do anything. This was disclosed on the floor of this House. Then there are C. I. D. officers, Inspectors, Deputy Superintendents of Police, etc. at Gauhati; what are they doing? I shall present the Chief Minister with some examples. The first example is that my Friend Shri Tarun Sen Deka, a Member of this Legislature, wrote to me a letter about the unfortunate incident that took place in my personal life where he expressed his condolence for me. He wanted to send the letter through a carrier to me but he could not do so because he could not get any body; thereafter, he posted to me a post card. But the post card was intercepted by the Deputy Superintendent of Police (C. I. D.) and the Inspector and on the ground of security of the State it was sent back with a note "When did Bishnu Bora arrive at Nalbari and what are his activities?" Shri Bishnu Bora is a well known political worker of a recognised All-Assam Provincial organisation and he goes from one place to another to do organisation work. Therefore, you will find this is the type of work the police is doing. They have nothing else to do,

atleast something must be shown in their diary; otherwise all the time they are playing poker and gossiping with their wives. if there is really no work for these police officers at Nalbari and elsewhere, instead of keeping them all the time lazy there, they should be sent somewhere else where there is plenty of work for them to do without giving any extra remuneration of Rs. 68-0-0 per month as army scale of ration. After all they will get their food free. In the frontiers there are civilian officials who do not get any extra remuneration of Rs. 68-0-0 per month. If these people can live there without extra remuneration, the police officers also can do the same thing. Then, another letter by the same Legislator to one of his friends at Tezpur, one Kalita, care of Shri Bistu Prasad Rava, every well known person, was intercepted and sent back with the query as to what was the meeting he was going to address and all these things, with copies sent to D. I. G., C. I. D., S. P., D. I. B., Kamrup and so on. This is the sample how our police force is wasting their time here. Another thing, worth mentioning is that there seems to be no civil liberty and everybody is not free in this State. For instance, the Rikshwa pullers of Rangia wanted to register a union of theirs and sent a petition to the Registrar but the Registrar in his turn asked for certain information from the C. I. D., such as, what is the date of start of the organisation, the aims and objects, names of office bearers with their full particulars, the strength of the present membership, then a short note of the organisation, whether their activities are connected with the C. P. I. movement's influence, whether there is any affiliation to any political party and so on. This has become a function of our Criminal Investigation Department. These are the types of civil liberty, trade union rights, full democracy, etc., we are having. Therefore, my humble suggestion is that instead of keeping these officers idle with such petty works they should be profitably sent to the borders for border security and thus we save some money. Now-a-days, the activities of all the political parties are open and well known to everybody, so why these police personnel should waste their time in petty things?

Another thing I should like to raise in this connection is that we find according to the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution under Article 246 of the Constitution of India that Defence is a subject which falls in the Union List and all the measures under the Defence of India form part of the Union List. Now, if the position in the Pakistant border has been such as to threaten the defence of the State or any part

of Indian territory or if measures are to be taken which amount to preparation by army personnel or in the manner that Army personnel should do, I think, the cost for such defence should not be borne by the poor State like ours but it should be borne by the Union because every part of India's defence is the liability of India. If it a matter of policing for the internal law and order situation of a State, that is of course a subject for the State Government but if it is not a question of internal law and order situation, if it is a question of guarding the frontier regions, if it is a question of defending any part of India against foreign aggression or infiltration—it becomes a part and parcel of the Defence of India. Then the expenditure should be borne not by the State but by the Union. Our friends on the other side of the border are not likely to be content with the present pressure and they may continue their activities, as it appears, for longer period and if that is so then the expenditure for defending against them may mean the entire revenue of this State of ours. Therefore, for the defence of borders and security of the State from outside the State, we should impress upon the Government of India that it is their responsibility and not ours. This question, I have raised by way of suggestion because it has agitated my mind whether this State's Exchequer should be made to take the burden in such an affair. This a matter, which should perhaps be discussed with the Government of India, otherwise, we will find ourselves in a great predicament and we will have to involve ourselves into heavy expenditures if the problem becomes more extensive and there is every likelihood that this problem is not going to be solved so soon. Therefore, I think and hope, the House will appreciate the point I have brought in through this cut motion of mine and accept my motion.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take my stand to discuss about the border security of our State. This border security should be entirely a subject of the Central Government and any force deployed in the borders, whether State Government's force or Central Government's force, the entire expenditure for them must be a responsibility of the Central Government and borne by them. I do not know whether the forces in the borders are ours or that of the Central Government. If they are ours then the Central Government must bear the burden of expenditure and also if the forces are that of the Central Government in our borders then the question of supplementary grant in this case cannot arise.

Sir, it is a very pitiable thing if the border security has been so long a liability on this poor and small State like Assam and I am astonished why our State is so shy to move the Centre to pay up the entire expenditure for any such expenditure. The Centre must be clearly explained the position that such an expenditure cannot be borne by this State but it is the Centre who should pay for this. This much I want to say in support of the cut motion.

Shri JOGAKANTA BARUAH (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to say a few words on this supplementary demand. When the Central Government took away the Naga Hills un-ceremoniously from Assam, we thought there will be an end of botheration for expenditures to meet law and order situations created by Nagas. Our Government also thought like that and did not provide any money for the border security. But I am sorry to find that this is not the case and our State has still to pay this money. There is no reason why our State Government should bear the brunt of this expenditure for security of our borders, which is a Central subject.

Sir, at the same time, I make a suggestion here that our Government should make some provision and make arrangements so that our people in the border areas can defend their hearths and homes. These people have lost their morale, they are becoming easy victims of looting, arson, gangsterism, etc., and they have become cowards. I think, our people should be so organised so that they can face these enemy. For this purpose I hope our Government will make liberal grants of gun licence to our citizens. It is really sad that we are to die like cowards when our houses are looted, women and children are killed before our eyes. We should be allowed to die like heroes, gun in hand, if we are to die at all.

With these few words, I support this supplementary demand.

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) :
माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय !

सदन के सामने जो कर्तन प्रस्ताव पेश किया गया है उसका समर्थन करते हुवे में दो-चार अत्यंत आवश्यक बातों की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। महोदय ! हमारी Border Security Force तथा C. I. D. के लिये सरकार ने ईस रकम की मांग की है। किन्तु हमें दुख की साथ कहना पड़ रहा है कि इस रुपये का सदुपयोग नहीं कर रहा है। उदाहरण के तौर पर मैं आपकी सेवा में यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जिस वक्त Naga Delegation काछाड़ से पाकिस्तान गया उसके

चन्द ही रोज पहले भारतस्थित पाकिस्तान के Assistant High Commissioner जनाब अताउल्लाह काछाड़ तथा हाफलांग गये थे और वहां भ्रमण कर रहे थे। Assistant High Commissioner के इस भ्रमण की Report हमारे C. I. D. ने सरकार को दिया था या नहीं? और अगर दिया था तो सरकार ने उस बारे में कोई कारवाई की थी या नहीं। मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूं पाकिस्तान के Assistant High Commissioner का यह भ्रमण किसलिये हुवा था। अलावा इसके मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूं कि हमारी Border Security Force रहते हुवे भी Naga Delegation किस तरह काछाड़ की सीमाओं की पार करता हुवा पाकिस्तान जा सका।

परसों मैं Border Smuggling के बारे में आपका ध्यान आकर्षित कर रहा था। हमें आश्चर्य होता है कि इस Border Security Force के रहते हुवे भी क्योंकि Smuggling हुवा करती है। यह सही है कि जब Firing चल रही है इसलिये Smuggling कुछ हदतक कम हो रही है। जब Firing नहीं थी तब बरोकटोक और जोरों के साथ Smuggling चल रही थी। हम नहीं समझते कि हमारे Border Security Force रहते हुवे क्यों ऐसा हो सकता है। इससे साफ जाहिर होता है कि Border Security Force वाले कोई भी काम नहीं कर रहे हैं। वे बिलकुल ही नालायक से हैं। आज चन्द रोज पहले मैं मैंने यह देखा था कि हमारी सीमा की Check Post पर Border Security Force के सिपाही और पाकिस्तान के सिपाही मिलकर खूब गुलछरें उड़ा रहे थे और दोनों चाय बनाकर पी रहे थे। यह सही है कि पाकिस्तान की ओर से Smuggling के लिये प्रोत्साहन दिया गया हो। किन्तु हमारी Force की ओर से इस तरह का प्रोत्साहन नहीं दिया जाना चाहिये। हमारी सीमाओंपर कड़ा पहरा तैनात किया जाना चाहिये ताकि इस तरह की Smuggling न होने पाये।

और एक विशेष बातपर मैं सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। इस बात को मैं अपने मुख्यमंत्री और अर्थमंत्री महोदयों से कहा भी था। यह है Police Report के बारे में। हम हमेशा यह देखते आये हैं कि हमारी Police कुछ लोगों के बारे में, खासकर अल्प संख्यकों के बारे में गलत Report देती है। मुझे मालूम है कि व्यक्तिगत झगड़े के कारण भी ऐसी Report दी जाती है। मैं सरकार से निवेदन करता हूं कि पुलिस Report पर आधार करके ही किसीपर कोई कारवाई न की जाय। इस बारे में स्थानीय M. L. A. से भी परामर्श लिया जाय। हम जानते हैं कि कौन आदमी कैसा है। इसलिये ऐसे मामलोंपर हमारी राय ली जाय। पुलिस Report पर ही नाहक लोगों का परेशान न किया जाय।

हमने यह भी देखा है कि जब कोई Trucks बगैरह राताबाड़ी थाने के रास्ते से गुजरना है तो इस Truck के Driver को थाने में Diary देनी पड़ती है। वहां अपना नाम दर्ज करना पड़ता है। मुझे मालूम है कि और किसी थाने में ऐसा नहीं होता है। जब Driver वहां थाने में अपना नाम बगैरह दर्ज करने के लिये जाते हैं तो थाने के दारोगा बगैरह को कुछ रुपये दे देने पड़ते हैं। और किसी थाने में ऐसा दस्तुर नहीं है। पाथरकान्दी थाने में भी ऐसा नहीं चलता। हम नहीं समझते हैं कि इस थाने में ऐसा क्यों होता है।

और एक अजीब सी बात रोज हुवा करती है। हमारी Border Security Force के रहते हुवे भी रोज-ब-रोज लोग बिना किसी Pass Port या Visa के ही हमारी सीमा को पार करके पाकिस्तान जाते हैं और बरोकटोक घूम आते हैं। ऐसे लोग कहते हैं कि बस घूम आये। हम नहीं समझते हैं कि हमारी Border Security Force के रहते हुवे भी ऐसा क्यों हो सकता है। सरकार इस बातपर कड़ी नज़र रखें। इतना ही कहकर मैं अपने मित्र के कर्तन प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूं।

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই ও নম্বৰ গ্ৰান্টৰ সমৰ্থনত এটা কথা জনাব খোজো যে আমাৰ মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীবৰবৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে নগা পাহাৰৰ শাসনভাৱ বেহেতু কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ হাতত সেই কাৰণে সেই সম্বন্ধত অসম চৰকাৰে কোনো খৰচ বহন কৰা উচিত নহয়। নগা পাহাৰৰ শাসনৰ দায়িত্ব কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ হাতত হলেও সমস্যা সমাধান হোৱা নাই আৰু সেই বিষয়ত অসম চৰকাৰে দায়িত্ব নোহোৱা নহয়। কাৰণ নগা পাহাৰৰ দাতিকাষৰীয়া ঠাইৰ বাসিন্দাসকলৰ নিৰাপত্তাৰ দায়িত্ব অসম চৰকাৰেই বহন কৰিব লাগিব, কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰক এৰি দিলে নহব। এই দাতিকাষৰীয়া বাসিন্দা সকলৰ প্ৰতিনিধি হিচাপে মই কওঁ যে তেওঁলোকৰ নিৰাপত্তাৰ কাৰণে অসম চৰকাৰেও খৰচ কৰা নিতান্ত আৱশ্যক। গতিকে এই শিতানত বি টকা বৰা হৈছে সেই টকা বেচি হৈছে বুলি কেতিয়াও কব নোৱাৰি। যেতিয়ালৈকে নগা সকলৰ মাজত সম্পূৰ্ণ শান্তি স্থাপন নহয়, যেতিয়ালৈকে তেওঁলোকে অস্ত্ৰ সম্বৰণ নকৰে আৰু যেতিয়ালৈকে তেওঁলোকে ভৈয়ামত লুটপাট কৰিবলৈ নেৰে তেতিয়ালৈকে অসম চৰকাৰে সতৰ্ক দৃষ্টি ৰাখিব লাগিব এই সীমান্তৰ অধিবাসি সকলৰ নিৰাপত্তাৰ বাবে, এই অধিবাসী সকলৰ পৰা নগাই খাজনা আদায় কৰিছে আনকি কাঠ বাঁহ কাতিলেও কব দিবলগা হৈছে। মোৰ সমষ্টি ভিতৰতে নগাই কোঠ মৰাৰ কথাও জনাইছো। এনে অৱস্থাতো যদি কোৱা যায় যে অসম চৰকাৰে কোনো খৰচ বহন কৰিব নেলাগে তেন্তে সেইটো মই কেতিয়াও সমৰ্থন কৰিব নোৱাৰো। পূৰ্বৰ দিনত আহোম ৰজা সকলে গড় নিৰ্মাণ কৰাইছিল ৰাজ্যৰ প্ৰতিৰক্ষাৰ কাৰণে। সেইদৰে এতিয়াও আমাৰ ৰাইজৰ ৰক্ষার্থে গড় নিৰ্মাণ কৰিব লাগে আৰু গড়ৰ সিপাৰে তেওঁলোক থাকক আৰু ইপাৰে আনি থাকো। গতিকে এইবোৰৰ দায়িত্ব সম্পূৰ্ণ অসম চৰকাৰৰ।

নগা পৰ্বতৰ কাষত বহুত আলি নিৰ্মাণ কৰিব লাগে, গড় মাৰিব লাগে আৰু ৰাইজক নিৰাপত্তা দিব লাগে। নগা বিলাকে ভৈয়ামৰ ৰাইজৰ ঘৰ জ্বলাই দিছে; বহুতো লবী, মটৰ, বাচ, পুৰি পেলাইছে। সেইবিলাক মানুহৰ পুণৰ বসতিৰ কাৰণে সহায় কৰিব লাগে। মই সেই কাৰণে এই গ্ৰান্টটো সমৰ্থন কৰিছো। আৰু মাননীয় সদস্য বৰবৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই Cut Motion ত যিবিলাক কথা কৈছে তাৰ প্ৰতিবাদ কৰিছো, কাৰণ নগাবিলাকৰ বিৰুদ্ধে আমি কেতিয়াও যুদ্ধ ঘোষণা কৰা নাই আৰু 'sacrifice' কৰাৰ কথাও নাই। আৰু নিৰাপত্তাৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ চৰকাৰক দায়িত্ব নাই বুলি মই কেতিয়াও কব নোৱাৰো।

***Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think in the course of the debate on this cut motion, following are the main criticisms that have been raised by the hon. Members of this House:—

- (i) About the efficiency of the Intelligence Branch;
- (ii) The need for proper vigilance to see that the Naga hostiles cannot create further troubles in our district; and
- (iii) The need for pressing the Government of India to meet the financial requirement for this additional expenditure and the necessity of preventing smuggling and also about the need of arranging rehabilitation of those people who have suffered as a result of the Naga raids.

There are other matters on which I do not propose to deal with them.

Now, if I have to be very frank, our Intelligence Department, if we are to compare them with those of the advanced countries, then they are still in an infant stage. As a matter of fact, it is not the money alone by which an efficient Intelligence Department could be built up properly. But it depends upon the recruitment of right type of personnel and giving them proper training. If we look into the history of the Intelligence Department in Assam, the Assam Government could only give its attention with a view to build up an efficient Intelligence Department very late and naturally we cannot expect to get that amount of efficient service as we like to get from them. Nevertheless I am happy to inform the hon. Members of this House that with all these handicaps our Intelligence personnel have been able to discover a lot of important cases and our Police personnel who were posted at the Naga Hills border had effected interruptions to the Naga raids of the Maibong railway station and the bazar. Those are really achievements. The House will be happy to know that the Prime Minister and the Home Minister of Government of India expressed their high appreciation for the good job our Police personnel and the personnel of the Intelligence Department have done. Sir, it would be possible for the hon. Members of this House to appreciate the real position if they kindly visit those particular areas where our people have to work in the border areas and also round-about the border areas. All those areas are practically difficult areas, full of jungles. Even if we put one full battalion of armed force one cannot see them because of the jungles all around. Therefore those territories on the border are very difficult areas. Sir, I am really thinking whether it would be a good idea that two teams of our hon. Members from this House to visit these border areas, because such a visit would help them to appreciate much better and they would be able to give valuable suggestions to the Government also.

Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has rightly stated that we must see that not a single raid takes place by the Naga hostiles in our border. As a matter of fact, I am glad to inform the House that since stern actions were taken against the hostile Nagas, the number of such raids has gone down. For some months, I have not received reports of any such raids by the hostile Nagas. I am also happy that the way and the

enthusiasm with which our people in the border areas are organising themselves for self-defence. What I am going to say is that because of such enthusiasms on the part of our people living in the border areas we have been considerably helped to organise village Defence Parties in the border areas. People in the border areas are taking the work with keen enthusiasm.

Then, Sir, a suggestion has been made that for the families of the victims of the raids made by the Naga hostiles Government should give some relief. For the information of the hon. Members of this House, I may say that certain proposals are under consideration of the Government and we shall see what can be done in that respect.

As I said, Sir, I do not feel that there should be a division of responsibility between the Centre and the State so far as these matters are concerned. As a matter of fact, we need the Centre as well as the State to work together in a matter of this kind. I see no reason why we should blame the Centre for being not able to solve this Naga problem. As for ourselves we have not been able to solve this problem relating to the Nagas. As a matter of fact, we took longer time to solve this problem and recently the matter has gone to the Centre. Therefore, let us not divide the responsibility between the Centre and the State in the matter of the Naga problem and in the matter of security of the State. But with regard to finance, we have to incur this expenditure immediately, that is why we have come to the House for the sanction. As a matter of fact we have already moved the Union Home Minister that it will be beyond the means of our State to meet all this expenditure unless the Centre comes to our help and he was pleased enough to say that he is considering our proposal sympathetically.

The hon. Member from Gauhati referred to the activities of some of our Intelligence officers. I think the particular paper which is placed on the table relates to some routine things and I don't know why it is done so. But since he has brought the matter to my notice, I shall enquire..... (Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya—Yes, I admit, they are of routine nature, As regards the disclosure about the activities of the Assistant High Commissioner's office and also the Maibong raid, he will appreciate how difficult these things are, as I have explained.

Sir, I have nothing more to say. I have no difference with the hon. Members in this regard and I value their suggestions. As a matter of fact we are also very anxious to improve the efficiency of our Intelligence Branch and also for the protection of our people. We are also anxious to get assistance from the Government of India. With these few words, Sir, I would request the hon. Members to consider what I have said to see their way to withdraw their cut motions.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are the Hon. Members agreeable to withdraw their cut motions?

(Voices from the Opposition Benches—No, Sir)

Then I put the question.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the total provision of Rs. 12,40,200 under Supplementary Demand No.3, Major head "29—Police", Minor head B.—District Executive Force (a) District Police—4—Contingencies, Sub-head (1) Expenditure in connection with the operation against Naga Hostiles, in the Plains and Hills sectors (total) at page 5 of the list of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs. 100, *i.e.* the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 26,80,000 do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(The question was negatived).

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the provision of Rs. 8,50,000 under Supplementary Demand No. 3, Major head "29—Police"; Minor head B—District Executive Force, Sub-head (3) G.—C.I.D. (d) Border Security Force, at page 5 of the list of the Supplementary Demands be reduced by Rs. 100 *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 26,80,000, do stand reduced by Rs.100.

(The question was negatived)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the total provision of 26,80,000 under Supplementary Demand No.3, Major head "29—Police", at page 4 of the list of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Rs. 100, *i.e.*, The amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.26,80,000, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(The question was negatived)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now I put the original Demand.

The question is that an additional amount of Rs.26,80,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959 for the administration of the head "29—Police."

(The question was adopted).

Supplementary Demand—No.4

"37—Education"

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minisier, Education): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.26,28,388, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1959, for the administration of the head "37—Education"

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:—The motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs. 26,28,388, be granted to the Minister-in-charged to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1959 for the administration of the head "37—Education."

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari East):—Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move my cut motion. That the provision of Rs. 10,04,580 under Supplementary Demand No.4, Major head "37—Education," Minor head 2—L—Grants to State Basic Education Board (Repayment of Contingency Fund), at page 7 of the List of Supplementary Demands be reduced by Rs.100 *i.e.* the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.26,28,388 do stand reduced by Rs. 100. Sir, my cut motion relates to the head "37—Education. sub-head 2—L—Grants to State Basic Education Board" and relates to the amount of Rs. 10,04,580. The Explanatory Note explains that the amount was sanctioned by the Government in the March, 1958 for meeting expenditure for sanction of dearness allowance at Rs. 5 per month to each primary school teacher and met from advance from the Contingency Fund for the purpose and hence the supplementary demand.

Sir, I quite appreciate the action of the Hon'ble Education Minister for providing dearness allowance of Rs. 5 to each of the primary school teachers as they are very much

hard hit and they are in need of relief. I wish some more amount would be given to these distressed teachers. But my contention is this: that there are two kinds of schools—the primary schools and Middle Vernacular schools with primary classes under the Basic Education Board. In a resolution of October 1956 Government fixed up pay scale of Government servants where Government were pleased to include also the teachers of non-Government High schools and also the teachers of the Basic schools. The pay of an untrained teachers is fixed at Rs. 40—1—60, and that of trained teachers started from Rs. 50—1—65 and also the pay of Matric teachers is fixed at Rs. 55—1—70. Then in the case of the Middle Vernacular teachers, normal passed teachers their pay was started at Rs. 60 and it goes to up to Rs. 90 and in the case of Matric teachers this was fixed at Rs. 55 and goes up to Rs. 70. Sir, in the last Budget Session, the Education Minister was pleased enough to grant a relief to the primary school teachers, but I do not know what happened about the untrained teachers of the Middle Vernacular school. Middle Vernacular schools have primary classes also. Normal passed teachers are given their scale of pay and also dearness allowance. The Matric teachers are also given their pay and dearness allowance. But in respect of untrained teachers who are serving in the primary section of the Middle Vernacular schools, they are deprived of the dearness allowance of Rs. 5. I do not know how it happened? A deputation waited on the Education Minister and he gave an assurance, but I understand nothing has been done to remove the grievances of these people and to give them dearness allowance of Rs. 5. As a result of this the primary school teachers of Middle Vernacular schools get less allowance than the primary school teachers because the teacher of the primary section of Middle Vernacular schools gets 5 rupees less than the other ordinary primary school teachers. As also untrained teachers are not getting the benefit that is given to trained teachers of primary schools. So, I would request that the Government will consider the matter to give the same benefit to the untrained teachers of the Primary Schools also and with these words, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই মোৰ পূৰ্ববৰ্তী বক্তা আৰু প্ৰস্তাৱক শ্ৰীযুত চৌধুৰী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিবলৈ ঠিয় হৈছো। শিক্ষা ক্ষেত্ৰত, আজি আমাৰ যিবিলাক স্কুলবৰ্ড পতা হৈছে—সেই বিলাকৰ পৰা বিভিন্ন ঠাইত আমাৰ বাইজে অসুবিধা ভোগ কৰিছে। চৰকাৰে দিয়া টকা, স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেন বিলাকে

খবৰ কৰিবলৈ পাই—তেওঁবিলাকে মাত্ৰ নিজৰ নিজৰ অঞ্চললৈহে লৈ গৈছে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে মঙ্গলদৈ মহকুমাৰ কথাই কও। এই মহকুমাৰ উত্তৰ অঞ্চল আজিও অন্যান্য অঞ্চল বিলাকৰ তুলনাত বহু পিচ পৰা আৰু তাত যিবিলাক বাইজে ভেনচাৰ স্কুল পাতিছে—আৰু চৰকাৰী সাহায্যৰ প্ৰয়োজন হৈ পৰিছে। এনেস্থলত স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেনৰ খামখেয়ালিত পৰি যি দুই চাৰি খন স্কুলক গ্ৰান্ট দিয়া হৈছে—সেই কেইখন চেয়াৰমেন ডাঙৰীয়াৰ নিজৰ অঞ্চলত পৰিছে আৰু বাকীবিলাক স্কুলৰ কাৰণে, দিব লগা বেঞ্চ, ডেস্ক, ঘড়ি আদি যাবতীয় বস্তুবিলাক তেওঁৰ নিজৰ অঞ্চলৰ স্কুলবিলাকে পাইছে আৰু ইবিলাক স্কুলৰ অৱস্থা শোচনীয় হৈ পৰিছে। এই বিষয়ে যদি বিভাগীয় চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে তদন্ত কৰি চায় তেনেহলে আমি প্ৰমাণ কৰি দিব পাৰো। গতিকে এই ক্ষেত্ৰত স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেনৰ খামখেয়ালি দূৰ কৰিবলৈ মই চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিলো। স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেনৰ দুৰনীতি ইমান বেচি হৈছে যে, যোৱা বছৰ আমাৰ চেয়াৰ মোজাৰ উত্তৰ নাওবান্ধা ডেনচাৰ স্কুলখনৰ কাৰণে গ্ৰান্ট বিচাৰোতে ইয়াৰ মানুহক কংগ্ৰেচৰ কৰেণে এণ এণ টকা দিলেহে পাব বুলি কৈছিল। এতিয়া মোৰ হাতত নাই ধৰত আছে বচিদ প্ৰয়োজন হলে কালিলৈ দেখুৱাব পাৰিম।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : আপুনি কাগজ পত্ৰ গোটাই লৈ কথা কোৱা হলে ভাল আছিল।

Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : কালিলৈ মই এই কাগজ পত্ৰ দেখুৱাব পাৰিম। কাৰণ আজি Education বিভাগ নাছিল। গতিকে আজি প্ৰস্তুত হৈ অহা নাই। উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ইয়াৰ পিচত টিন পাত বিতৰণ ক্ষেত্ৰতো চৰকাৰে কিছমান স্কুলত চেয়াৰমেনে এমেয়ে দিছে আৰু যিবিলাকত টিনৰ প্ৰয়োজন তাত বিচাৰিও পোৱা নাই। এই ক্ষেত্ৰত স্কুলবৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেনে তাৰ বিনিময়ে টকাও লৈছে বুলি শুনিছো।

ইয়াৰ পিচত ভেৰগাঁও এম, ডি স্কুল ঘৰটো ভাগি গৈছে তাত স্কুললৈ যোৱা ছাত্ৰই বহি পঢ়িবলৈ অসুবিধা হৈছে। এই স্কুলৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা ৩,৭৫০ টকা মঞ্জুৰ হৈছিল যদিও এই টকা পোৱা নগল আৰু এই বিষয়ে, চৰকাৰ, ইনিস্পেক্টৰ, ডেপুটি ইনিস্পেক্টৰ আদিলৈ আবেদন নিবেদন কৰা সত্ত্বেও কোনো ফল নধৰিল।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : মাননীয় সদস্যই কৰ্ত্তণ প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ভিতৰত পৰা আলোচনালৈ আহিব, বাহিৰা কথাটো নাযাব।

Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA : হয়, L.P. আৰু M.V. ৰ তাৰ ভিতৰত পৰা স্কুলৰ কথাহে কৈছো।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : টকাৰ বিষয়লৈ আহক মঞ্জুৰীটোত টকাৰ কথাহে আছে, আন কথাটো নাযাব।

Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA : হয়, আন কথা আৰু নকও; আন কথা কবলৈ হলে বহুতো আছে

(বিবাট হৰ্ষধ্বনি)

মই কও যি স্কুলবৰ্ড বিলাকত চেয়াৰমেন বা মেম্বাৰ নিয়োগ কৰোতে উপযুক্ত লোকক কৰিব লাগে আৰু এনে কৰিলেহে বাইজৰ উপকাৰ হয়, কাৰণ শিক্ষাই উন্নতিৰ মূল আৰু আমাৰ ল'ৰা ছোৱালী বিলাক শিক্ষাৰ জৰিয়তেই ভবিষ্যতে উপযুক্ততা বা অনুপযুক্ততা প্ৰমাণ কৰি দেশৰ কল্যাণে অথবা অকল্যাণ সাধণ কৰিব। এই শিক্ষা বিষয়ত চৰকাৰে তীব্ৰ দৃষ্টি দিবলৈ আকৰ্ষণ কৰি মোৰ কৰলগীয়া শেষ কৰিলো।

Shri HIRALLAL PATWARY (Panery): মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়া, এই কৰ্ত্তণ প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ প্ৰসঙ্গত মোৰ কব লগীয়া বিশেষ নাছিল যদিও জনসাধাৰণৰ উপকাৰ হব বুলিয়েই দুই চাৰিটা কওঁ।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: মাননীয় সদস্যই আশাকৰো কৰ্ত্তণ প্ৰস্তাৱ নিদিষ্ট গণ্ডীৰ ভিতৰত আবদ্ধ থাকিব।

Shri HIRALLAL PATWARY: বৰ্ত্তমানে cut motion দ্বাৰা শ্ৰীযুত ডাঙৰীয়াই যিখিনি দাবী জনাইছে সেইখিনি পূৰ্বাকৰি যদি আৰু অধিক টকাৰ মঞ্জুৰীও শিক্ষা ক্ষেত্ৰত চৰকাৰে বিচাৰে তেনেহলেও অযুক্তি সঙ্গত নহয় আৰু ইয়াত আপত্তি কৰিব লগীয়া একো নাই। কিন্তু কথা হৈছে যি পৰিমাণৰ টকা চৰকাৰে মঞ্জুৰী বিচাৰিছে সেই টকালৈ সেই টকাৰ সদব্যৱহাৰ কৰিব পাৰিব লাগিব। দেখা যায় বিশেষকৈ প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষা ক্ষেত্ৰত প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষক সকলৰ অভাৱ অসুবিধাই বেচি এই সম্বন্ধে মোৰ বিশ্বাস সদনৰ সকলো সদস্যই কাগজে পত্ৰই পঢ়িছে। এই শিক্ষক সকলৰ নিয়োগ কাৰ্য্যটো আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ পৰিচালনাৰ ভাৰ পোনপটীয়া ভাবে চৰকাৰৰ হাতলৈ আনিলে সমস্যাৰ সমাধান হব বুলি আশা কৰা যায়। নহলে এই ক্ষেত্ৰত স্কুল বৰ্ডবিলাকৰ বেমেজালি আৰু খামখেয়ালিৰ দ্বাৰা বাইজৰ না না বকমৰ অসুবিধা হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে মই পৰামৰ্শ দিও যেন শিক্ষামন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই এই বিষয়ত বিশেষ চকুদিয়ে। আৰু এই বিষয়ত এটা সুপৰিকল্পিত আচনি লৈ উপযুক্ত শিক্ষকক যেন নিয়োগ কৰা হয়। আমি দেখিবলৈ পাওঁ যে, প্ৰাইমেৰী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ ওপৰতেই আমাৰ দেশৰ ভবিষ্যত আৰু তেওঁবিলাকে যদি লৰা-ছোৱালীবিলাকক উপযুক্ত শিক্ষা দান কৰিব পাৰে তেন্তে হলেহে আমাৰ লৰাছোৱালী বিলাক ভবিষ্যতে উপযুক্ত দায়ীত্বসম্পন্ন নাগৰিক হব পাৰিব। এই কাৰণেই শিক্ষক নিয়োগৰ সময়ত উপযুক্ত শিক্ষক নিয়োগ কৰিবলৈ চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰো। কবলগা বহু আছিল সময়ৰ অভাৱৰ হেতু বেচি কবলৈ উপায় নাই—

(কওক, কওক সময় হব—Voices.)

যদি শুনিব খুজিছে শুণক। যোৱা নিৰ্বাচনৰ পিচৰে পৰা মাত্ৰ এই কেদিনতে তিনিজন মন্ত্ৰীৰ হাতলৈ শিক্ষা বিভাগটো বদলিহৈ আহিছে। প্ৰথমজনে এই ক্ষেত্ৰত কৈছিল যে প্ৰাইমেৰী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলে ঘৰত ভাতখাই এ ঘণ্টা কামকৰি শিক্ষকতা কৰে, কিয় দৰ্শনা বেচি লাগে? দ্বিতীয় জনে হয়তো চিন্তা কৰিছিল আৰু তৃতীয় জনে আশাকৰো এই বিষয়ে চিন্তাকৰি তাৰ বিহিত ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব। আজি এই ক্ষেত্ৰত নানা বকমৰ বৰ্ড, কমিটি গঠণ কৰা দেখা গৈছে আৰু এই এডভাইজৰী বৰ্ডবিলাকৰ দ্বাৰাই প্ৰাইমেৰী স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক নিয়োগ ক্ষেত্ৰত যোগ্যতাৰ মানদণ্ড থিক কৰি লোৱা উচিত কাৰণ, গোটেই ভাৰতৰ ভিতৰত অসমৰ প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষক নিয়োগৰ সময়ত পোৱা সম্বন্ধানৰ পৰা জনা যায় যে এওঁলোকেই পিচপৰা। এই সম্পৰ্কে কাগজে পত্ৰে আপোনালোক সকলোৱে পঢ়িছে, মই আগতেই উল্লেখ কৰি আহিছোৱেই কিছুমান শিক্ষক পৰীক্ষাৰ সময়ত থিক জবাব দিব নোৱাৰে তাৰ বাবে সকলো শিক্ষক দায়ী নহয় নিয়োগকাৰীয়ে দায়ী সেই কাৰণে এই যোগ্যতাৰ মান যাতে উচ্চ হয় তাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে তথা মাননীয় শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই চকুদিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো। অৱশ্যে আমাৰ শিক্ষামন্ত্ৰীয়ে ৰাজ্যৰ শিক্ষকসকলৰ দৰমহাৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে যি ধৰণেৰে মনোনিবেশ কৰিছে সি বৰ প্ৰশংসনীয় হৈছে আৰু মই তেখেতক ধন্যবাদ দিছো। তেখেতে প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষকৰ পৰা আৰম্ভ কৰি হাইস্কুলৰ শিক্ষকলৈ বেতন বৃদ্ধিৰ কাৰণে চেষ্টা কৰিছে। আন ৰাজ্যৰ লগত তুলনা কৰি কেনেকৈ প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষকৰ বেতন বঢ়াব পাৰি তাৰ বাবেও চেষ্টা কৰিছে। গতিকে তেখেতে যিমান টকাৰ দাবী কৰিছে তাত আপত্তি কৰিব লগা একো নাই।

আপত্তি কৰিব পাৰি যি এজেন্সিৰ জৰিয়তে এই টকা খৰচ কৰা হয়। এই এজেন্সিৰ খৰচৰ বিষয়ত ভালেখিনি বেমেজালি ঘটে। টকা খৰচ কৰি আছে অথচ আজিলৈকে এম, ডি, স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকক মৰগীয়া বানচ দিয়াই নাই। সেই কাৰণে এই এজেন্সিৰ কামৰ ওপৰত বিশেষ দৃষ্টি ৰাখিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো। প্ৰাইমেৰী শিক্ষক সন্মিলনে মৰগীয়া বানচ ১০ টকালৈ দিবৰ বাবে যি প্ৰামাণ্য আগবঢ়াইছে তাত মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে, আশ্বাস দিছে, আশাকৰো সোনকালে কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত কৰিব।

Dr. GHANASHYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : I am thankful to the Government for sanctioning an enhanced allowance to the Aided Secondary School and the Lower Primary school teachers. But I just want to mention only one simple thing. I want to know why the scale of pay of the teachers in the Deaf and Dumb School has not at all been enhanced. This might be due to the fact that they could not properly represent their case before the Government as they have not yet formed any association amongst themselves and wait upon the Education Minister in a body ; or, it may be just a case of omission through over-sight. I therefore hope that Government will be pleased to go into the question of scale of pay of these teachers and see whatever is possible to enable them to enjoy the same privilege with their colleagues in other schools.

***Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I only want to speak with respect to only one matter, i. e., about the dearness allowance to the Primary School teachers under the Barpeta School Board. It is true mention has been made to enhancement of pay to Primary School teachers by Rs. 5 per month. My point is, if that is a fact, then why should the teachers under the Barpeta School Board be deprived of that ? I know that the teachers under the Barpeta School Board did not get their pay for the last three months. These primary school teachers are very poor people and it becomes very difficult for them to make their both ends meet if their salaries are withheld for three long months. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to pay due attention to regular payment of their salaries. Besides Sir, there were a number of other anomalies in respect of the administration and functioning of this Barpeta School Board. I know many such cases. One particular case in point is the dismissal of as many as 35 teachers by this School Board in the last year. Later on I submitted an appeal to the State School Board here in Shillong and as a result of necessary enquiry these teachers were again reinstated. These things are going on. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to do something with regard to this School Board. Why only about this School Board ? We

discussed about some similar happenings in the Dibrugarh School Board also during the last session of the Assembly. Certain instances of gross anomalies were then brought to light in respect of that School Board also. It appears these School Boards do not function properly and regularly. That is why I want to request the Education Minister to enquire into these matters and try to ensure that the teachers working under the different school Boards do get their pay regularly. If they do not get regularly but after three or four months' interval, it fails to serve the real purpose of monthly payment system. It does not matter much if they get some more money at a time because during the intervening period they have got to pass their time with great difficulty, they have got to starve. I therefore request the Education Minister to see that the existing structure of the School Board may be changed so that better functioning by them can be ensured. That is the point about which I wanted to speak. I hope Government will take some action in the matter and more particularly with regard to the Barpeta School Board.

With these few words, Sir, I conclude.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise here to support the demand moved by our hon. Education Minister and to oppose the Cut Motion. Sir, the Aided High School teachers have been demanding for increased dearness allowance to Rs. 25 and our Government was pleased to come forward to grant Rs. 15 per mensem and similarly, the Primary School Teachers also were agitating for enhancement of their dearness allowance. Government was pleased to concede to that demand also partially. The other items of the demand I found for improvement of present condition of Education. In view of the actions our Education Minister has so far taken in regard to these demands of the poorly paid teachers I whole-heartedly support this demand and oppose the Cut Motion, and I do not see any reason to oppose this demand.

With these few words, I conclude.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 a. m. on Tuesday, the 26th August, 1958.

Shillong:
The 6th May, 1960. }

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