Proceedings of the Second Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled under the Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution of India

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A. M. on Tuesday, the 3rd October 1950.

Present

The Hon'ble Srijut Lakshesvar Borooah, Speaker, in the Chair, the seven Hon'ble Ministers and fifty-one Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table).

Re Shri S. K. Mallick, I.C.S.

Maulavi MAKABBIR ALI MAZUMDAR asked:

50. Will Government be pleased to state the names of the Subdivisions and Districts, Shri S. K. Mallick was in charge of, with period of his tenure of office in each place, prior to his holding the charge as the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied:

50.—Shri S. K. Mallick, I.C.s., held charge of the Golaghat Subdivision during the period from the 7th March 1947 to 3rd April 1948. Cachar is his first District charge, where he took over as Deputy Commissioner on the 10th February 1950.

Sales tax on vegetable seeds

Srijut BELIRAM DAS asked:

- 51. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that sales tax has been realised for selling vegetable seeds in Assam?
- (b) What amount of money Government expect to get by realising sales tax on vegetable seeds?
- (c) Do Government propose to exempt this item from the operation of sales tax to encourage Grow-More-Vegetables?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied:

51. (a)—Yes.

- (b)—The dealers are assessed on the total sales of all varieties of taxable goods and as such the amount of tax expected on sales of vegetable seeds alone cannot be estimated.
- (t)—There is no such proposal at present but Government would be glad to consider the suggestion of the hon. Member.

Upper Assam Regional Transport Authority Board

Srijut BHADRA KANFA GOGOI asked:

52. Will Government be pleased to state the reason or reasons for not nominating a member for Upper Assam Regional Transport Authority Board from Lakhimpur district?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS replied:

52.—The Upper Assam Regional Transport Authority has got two members from the district of Lakhimpur.

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: লক্ষীমপৰ জিলাব পৰা Regional Transport ত দুজন মেম্বৰ আছে বলি ইয়াত কৈছে। তেওঁলোক Official নে nonofficial?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: Official.

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: যি খন জিলাব পৰা গভৰ্নেণ্টে অন্ততঃ Motor Vehicles অব পৰা বোধ হয় আটাইতকৈ বেচি revenue পায় এই জিলাত public আৰু private carrier ৰ সংখ্যাও আটাইতকৈ বেচি। তেনেস্থলত লক্ষীমপুৰৰ পৰা nonofficial মেম্বৰ লোৱাটো উচিত বুলি বিবেচনা নকৰেনে ?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: মেঘৰ দিওঁতে districtwise basis-

ত দিয়া হোৱা নাছিল।

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: Non-official মেম্বৰ কোন কোন Subdivision ৰ পৰা আহে।?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: শিৱসাগব, যোবহাট আৰু গোলাঘাট।

Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: District হিচাপে শিৱসাগৰে বেচি পালে।

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: অৱশ্যে শিৱসাগৰে বেচি পালে হয়। Maulavi ABDUL HALIM: May I know why Dibrugarh was late?

The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS: There was nothing for which Dibrugarh was not taken into consideration, Sir.

Thefts committed during Earthquake tremors on August 15, 1950

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY asked:

53. (a) Are Government aware that during the earthquake tremors on August 15, 1950, thefts were committed in a number of houses in affected

(b) Will Government be pleased to state where these thefis have taken place and whether any thief has been caught?

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI replied:

53. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

Price of Rice and Paddy in Hojai and Murigaon in the district of Nowgong

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH SAMADDAR asked:

54. Are Government aware—

- (a) That the area of Hojai and Murigaon in the district of Nowgong are surplus in rice and paddy?
- (b) That the areas of Nowgong Town, Rupahi and Dhing in the said district are deficit in rice and paddy?
- (c) That during the months of June, July and August 1949, rice was sold at Rs. 16 per maund and paddy at Rs. 9 per maund in Hojai and Murigaon areas?
- (d) That during the said period rice was sold at Rs. 25 at Nowgong Town and at Rs. 30 in Rupahi and Dhing areas and paddy was sold at Rs. 13 at Nowgong Town and Rs. 16 in Rupahi and Dhing areas per maund?
- (e) That the procurement authority did not allow or issue any permit to Patta-holders to bring their own rice and paddy from the lands in surplus areas to their own houses in deficit areas nor did they allow to bring rice and paddy to the bona fide consumers from the surplus areas to the deficit areas for family consumption?
- (f) That the people are not allowed to move with such quantity of rice and paddy as allowed by law and generally they were harassed like anything by the officers of the Procurement Department?
- (g) That the traders of rice and paddy were allowed to purchase the same at a low rate from the surplus areas and sell these at exorbitant rate in the deficit areas?
- (h) That many representations were made to the Deputy Director of Procurement, Nowgong, to check such high price of rice and paddy in deficit areas but that he took no steps whatsoever in this regard?
- (i) That being requested to supply necessary rice and paddy to the deficit areas, the said Deputy Director of Procurement, Nowgong, passed sweeping remarks about the influx of refugees and immigrants and flatly refused to help or supply any rice and paddy in the deficit areas as those are not rationed areas?
- (j) That the Questioner represented the matters mentioned above in full to Government and that many other respectable people of Nowgong also represented the case to Government?
- 55. (a) What steps Government has taken for sweeping remarks, to stop the selling of rice and paddy at exorbitant prices, allow the movement of rice and paddy of the land holders for family consumption and to stop unnecessary harassment of the public by the officers of the Procurement Department of Nowgong?

(b) Is it a fact that later the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong, arranged to supply quantity of rice and paddy in the deficit areas through the help of the Procurement Department?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to state the actual quantities of rice and paddy supplied by the Procurement Department during that period to the deficit area, Mouza by Mouza with their respective population?

(d) Whether the same conditions prevail in that District at present?

The Hon'ble Srijut MOTI RAM BORA replied:

54. (a)—Yes. But during 1949 production of paddy in these areas was much less due to insufficient rains. The local population has on the other hand gone up very considerably due to influx of refugee.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes, those were the prices in June and July last but the price consi-

derably went up since August last.

- (d)—Market price of rice in the Nowgong market during June and July was Rs.20 per maund but towards the latter part of August it rose to Rs.25 per maund. At Rupahi and Dhing the market price of rice rose upto Rs.30 in August and market price of paddy in August only was Rs.13 per maund at Nowgong and Rs.15 to Rs.16 per maund at Dhing and Rupahi.
- (e)—It is not a fact. Permits were issued in deserving cases. There might be some delay in issuing permits in some cases where procurement officers thought that enquiry is needed whether applicant are bona fide producers or consumers.
- (f)-Government do not admit it. But Government have information that various persons under the guise of Procurement staff had caused troubles to the public, one such having been caught by the Procurement staff.
 - (g)—Government have no such information.
- (h)-No such representation was received by the Deputy Director of Procurement. But in any case, high prices cannot be checked merely by local action unaided by ample stock with Government and full public co-operation
- (i)—No. Applications from individuals and Trading Co-operatives for import of rice and paddy from surplus to deficit areas were given due consideration and permission accorded in deserving cases. No reply as to sweeping remarks passed by Deputy Director of Procurement can be given on account of

(i)—Yes.

- 55. (a)—Movement Controls have been considerably relaxed and stringent measures taken to seize hoarded stocks in surplus areas. Unnecessary harassment of public if found true will certainly entail action against officers con-
- (b) & (c)—Yes. Arrangements for the supply of paddy and rice to Nowgong Town, its suburbs and some deficit pockets through reliable dealers and co-operative organisations have been made but the Procurement Department itself did not make any supply.

(d)—According to the latest information, the situation in the district has eased to some extent.

Lowkhowa Game Reserve in Nowgong District

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH SAMADDAR asked:

56. (a) Are Government aware that the Hindu Blocks in de-reserved and settled portion of Lowkhowa Game Reserve in Nowgong district which is known as Haldiasuti Uttar and South is inaccessible during the rainy season?

- (b) Is it a fact that Government has realised huge money as premium from that area which is meant for the development of that area?
- (c) Do Government propose to spend adequate money to build up a road connecting the Nowgong-Juri Public Works Department Road from the Brahmaputra River Bank in Haldiasuti Uttar, Block No. 8?
- (d) Do Government propose to start a dispensary and Bazar in that area?

Srijut HARESWAR DAS (Parliamentary Secretary) replied:

- 56. (a)—Yes. The area is not readily accessible, especially during the rainy season.
- (b)—No. The premium realised from this area is not meant for the development of this area alone. A certain amount is sanctioned for water supply and improvement of communication for the colonisation area in the district but no amount is set apart for any particular area.
 - (c)—There is no such proposal for the present.
- (d)—A plot has been set apart for a bazar. There is no proposal for establishment of a hospital at present.

Establishment of Sub-Registry Office at Ratabari

Moulana MD. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN asked:

57. (a) Is it a fact that as the Patharkandi Sub-Registry Office will suffer, Government did not grant the prayer to establish a Sub-Registry Office at Ratabari?

(b) As the population of Patharkandi and Ratabari areas has since greatly increased, do Government propose to revise their previous decision and sanction at least a Sub-Registry Office on commission basis at a suitable place under Ratabari Police Station?

The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA replied:

57. (a)—Yes, the figures regarding number of documents registered are so low that both the Sub-Registry Offices will be deficit if a separate Sub-Registry Office be opened at Ratabari.

None will be self-supporting.

(b)—The figures regarding number of documents registered particularly of 1949, do not justify opening of a separate office at Ratabari even on commission basis.

Number of Panchayats now working in Assam

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA asked:

- 58. Will Government be pleased to state—
 - (a) The number of Panchayats now working in Assam under the Assam Rural Panchayat Act, 1948.
 - (b) Whether Section 133(1) of the said Act has been applied to all the Panchayats?

- (c) If not, why not?
- (d) Whether as envisaged under Section 59(2) (i) (iv) of the said Act, viz., the sums collected under sub-section (1) of Section 133 such as receipts from public ferries, schools, hospitals, hats, bazaars, pounds, etc., and local rates have been credited to the respective Rural Development Funds?
- (e) If not, why not?
- (f) Whether as envisaged under Section 61 of the said Act Panchayat Funds have been created in all the existing Panchayats?
- (g) If so, who operates them and where the funds are located?
- (h) Whether any bye-laws have been framed by any of the Panchayats and approved by Government, and
- (i) If so, which are those Panchayats?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary)

- 58. (a)-Fifteen.
 - (h)-Yes.
 - (c)—Does not arise.
- (d) \mathcal{G} (e)—So far the Government is aware, this has not been done in all cases yet, but steps are being taken to implement this provision of the Assam Rural Panchayat Act.
 - (f)—Yes.
- (g)—Under rule 5(1) of the Rules framed under Chapter IV of the Assam Rural Panchayat Act, the Secretary, Rural Panchayat operates the fund. The fund is held in a current account at the nearest Branch of the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank, Limited.
 - (h)-No
 - (1)—Does not arise.

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA: With regard to (d), do Government realise that the Panchayats are handicapped in not receiving from the Local Boards the taxes as have been mentioned in Sections 59 and 133 of the Rural Panchayat Act and will Government be pleased to expedite so that receipts may be made available to the Panchayats very early?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): Actually the Panchayats are entitled to get the benefit of all those taxes of the respective Panchayat areas with effect from the date from which the Local Self-Government Act is withdrawn. For example, the Misamara Rural Panchayat of the Golaghat with effect from the Local Self-Government Act was withdrawn from that area Panchayat will get these amounts with effect from the 22nd February 1950 and, therefore, the Misamara Rural hope there will not be much delay in the matter. We are trying to expedite it.

Srijut RAJENDRA NATH BARUA: Sir, is it a fact that the taxes as envisaged under the Rural Panchayat Act have not yet been paid to that area and as such they have been put to great inconvenience?

Srijut BIMALAPROSAD CHALIHA (Parliamentary Secretary): I have already replied to that, Sir. We are looking into the matter.

Result of election to the Gauhati University Board

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: As a result of voting in the election to the Gauhati University Board held on the 30th September 1950, I hereby announce that Srijut Purna Chandra Sarma has been elected. No votes were cast against any other candidate.

Result of election to the Assam Roads Communication Board

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: As a result of voting to the Assam Roads Communication Board held on the 30th September, 1950, I hereby announce that Srijut Haladhar Bhuyan has been elected. No votes were cast against any other candidate.

Result of election to the Kamrup District Minority Board

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: As regards election to the Kamrup District.

Minority Board, I may inform the House that the number of persons belonging to the Minority Community who have filed valid nominations within the prescribed date and hour being equal to the number to be elected, the following persons are hereby declared elected unopposed as Members of the Minority Community to the Kamrup District Minority Board:—

- 1. Maulavi Abul Khair.
- 2. Maulavi Ataur Rahman.
- 3. Maulavi Syed Abdur Rouf.

So far as election to the Goalpara District Minority Board is concerned, the number of candidates having fallen short of the number of persons to be elected from the Minority Community, the Secretary has extended the date and hour for receiving nomination papers for election to this Board and has fixed 6th October, 5 P M. (I. S. T.) as the last date and hour for nomination of candidates. A notification on this behalf published in Assam Gazette Extraordinary of 30th September 1950 has already been circulated to the Muslim Members of this Assembly.

The voting, if required, for election to this Board will take place between the hours of 11 A.M. and 12 noon on Monday, the 9th October, 1950 in the Committee Room No. 1.

As already announced, election to the Cachar District Minority Board will take place in the Committee Room No. 1 on the 5th October between the hours of 1 P. M. and 3 P. M. or as soon as the business of the day is finished, whichever is earlier.

Motion re distressing economic situation arising in the State out of the prevailing high prices of food stuffs and other essential commodities.

Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV: Sir, I received a telegram yesterday from the Secretaries of the Silchar Food Committee, Bar Library, Mukhtears Library, Central Refugee Board, Mahila Samiti, Surma Valley Tea Association, which runs as follows:—

"Food situation in district extremely desparate stop. Price varying between forty to forty-five per maund stop All supplies dried up in rural and urban markets and rice unavailable to seventy-five per cent. consumers even at peak price resulting extensive starvation including Government employees and tea labourers stop Situation already beyond control stop. Deputy Commissioner feeling helpless stop. Extremely chaotic condition prevailing stop Labour trouble and death imminent unless supplies flown for Silchar and Karimganj Subdivisions stop Please move adjournment motion Tuesday stop For emergency arrange supplies and come down immediately."

Sir, I received similar telegrams from the Secretary, Bar Association, I. N. T. U. C. and I had the privilege to attend at the house of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and informed him about these and he assured me that he would do something. I have also informed about it to the Hon'ble Supply Minister.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: There is a Motion in the name of Srijut Gauri Kanta Talukdar. Hon'ble Member will please speak in connection with that Motion in the debate that will fellow.

Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV: Sir, I want a statement from Government.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: In that debate the hon. Member will get the information.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do now take into consideration the serious and distressing economic situation arising in the State out of the prevailing high prices of foodstuffs and other essential commodities.

Sir, I need not narrate at length the evil effects that have been brought about by the prevailing high prices of foodstuffs and other essential articles of our every day use. For, excepting a few fortunate ones, almost all of us are bitterly feeling the cruel pinches of these high prices which are not only making our life miserable but also are demoralising the entire society by spreading corruption and degradation in almost every sphere of our national life.

The prices of rice, dals, atta, maida, sugar, gur, ghee, mustard oil, fish, meat, fruits, spices, etc., and almost all other essential commodities such as cloth, medicine, shoes, umbrellas, house building materials, have risen abnormally high. Consequently the wages of labour in every sphere of our activities have also been highly raised. Therefore, those honest and unfortunate people whose earnings have not been able to keep pace with their ever growing household expenditures have been compelled to live most miserable lives.

Sir, the growers and dealers of these articles are raising the prices at their sweet will, practically without any let or hindrance. There is going on, as it were, a keen competition amongst them in this matter of raising prices. The country has failed to produce the necessary articles as much as is required to meet the heavy demands of an ever increasing population. The shrewd and unscrupulous producers and dealers are taking full advantage of this disparity. They are making money by all imaginable means which human ingenuity is capable of invention. Sir, they are making their fortune by black-marketing of controlled goods, by hoarding of available articles and selling them at prices artificially raised high, by adultering food-stuffs with unwholesome things, and by increasing the weight and volume even of rice, paddy, atta, maida, dal, gur, sugar, spices, etc., which they sell by mixing them with harmful things such as earth, stones, bricks, soap, stones, glasses, tamarind and other obnoxious seeds. Thus, these enemies of mankind are not only robbing us of our precious money, but also are ruining our health to satisfy their morbid greed for wealth.

Sir, people are feeling utterly helpless. They are crying for protection from these robbers and enemies of mankind. Our people want prices of articles of food and other essential articles to be reduced to a reasonable level. They demand adulteration of food-stuffs to be stopped. They want Government to intervene in these important matters. They want our Government to stop and wipe out black-marketing, profiteering, hoarding and such other frauds that are being practised in respect of these commodities.

Sir, our Government, both Central and Provincial no doubt are aware of these terrible state of affairs. They are frequently appealing to the good sense of these black-marketers, profiteers and hoarders to refrain from these sins against society. Our Government have also been threatening these enemies of mankind with dire consequences. But who will listen to these sermons and who will care for their empty threats? If the Government mean to put a stop to these evil practices they must be more serious and let our people know, not by words but by deeds, that they have done all that lies in their power to suppress these vices.

Sir, the common people as well as the Government and semi-Government servants of the middle and lower grades have been hard hit by these high prices of commodities. Our Government have no doubt realised this fact and have endeavoured to give their servants some relief by a small increment in their salaries. But no amount of increase in pay can be expected to give them real relief unless the prices of food-stuffs and other essential articles are brought down considerably.

Sir, two things are absolutely necessary to solve this terrible economic crisis—increased production of food-stuffs and other articles in sufficient qualities and reduction of their prices to a reasonable extent, for, production and prices of articles are inter-related.

As regards increase in production our Government with the generous grants from the Centre have launched the Grow-More-Food Campaign. They are spending huge amounts of money under very many pompous schemes. but it will be no exaggeration to say that most of the money is being spent in maintaining huge staffs. Unfortunately, they have not been able so far to convince our people that the production of food-stuffs has increased to an appreciable extent,

The so-called huge increase of production shown in annual reports are mostly misleading. The picture of production placed before the public is generally arrived at from mathematical calculations based on quantities of seeds distributed and not always based on yields found on actual verifications. Our Government should, therefore, be careful in accepting these reports. For, we have got reports of cases from reliable sources where increased production has been shown on the basis of distribution of seeds. Government should, therefore, try to get correct figures of increased production of food-stuffs on the basis of yields found on actual verification in the locality. Our Government should also take effective steps to prevent losses that are being incurred in prosecution of the Grow-More-Food Drive. We are reliably informed that heavy losses are being incurred in execution of the Tractor Scheme and several other projects.

Sir, as regards reduction of prices, our Governments, both Central and Provincial, are sufficiently conscious of their responsibilities and they are making endeavours in this direction. But, unfortunately, they have not been able to convince our people that they have done all that lie in their power. Prices of some articles have, no doubt, been fixed. But that has not succeeded in giving sufficient reliefs to our people. For, prices of most of the articles remain still unchecked. Our people are still at the mercy of the growers and traders. The Supply and Prices of Goods Act of 1950 of the Union Government applies to only a few articles. It ought to have covered much more items, specially those with which the common man is most concerned.

Sir, I believe, our Government should seriously consider the question of fixing the ceiling prices of most of the articles of our every day use. In doing so, other mal-practices. But if our Government so intend, they can, I believe, to be indulging in these vices.

I believe, Sir, hoarders are greatly responsible in artificially maintaining high prices of commodities. But if our Government mean business, they can the open market and sold at fair prices, the danger of hoarding may be very much diminished. If hoarders are punished with deterrent punishment, if the provisions of the Preventive Detention Act be extended and vigorously applied to the hoarders along with other provisions of law, I believe, hoarding can be sufficiently connection I would like to request our Government to bear in mind that hoarding, patronage or protection of some of their own men whom they employed to suppress these vices. If Government keep vigilant eyes upon such officers, much of Sir, I think over Government keep vigilant eyes upon such officers, much of

Sir, I think, our Government may also consider the question of starting fair and thus see whether such means can give little relief to our people.

I also believe, Sir, our Trading Co-operative Societies may play a very matter of reduction of prices. These societies may be usefully utilised in this put on sound basis and allowed to deal in much more articles than they are at will succeed in reasonably reducing and bringing down the high level of prices of With these words.

With these words, Sir, I place my Motion before the hon. Members of this House for their serious consideration.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That this Assembly do now take into consideration the serious and distressing economic situation arising in the State out of the prevailing high prices of food-stuffs and other essential commodities."

The Hon'ble Minister may kindly give a preliminary reply so that hon.

Members of the House my take part in the discussion.

The Hon'ble Srijut MOTI RAM BORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very much grateful to the hon. Mover of the Motion for giving an opportunity to Government to explain the position of supply and procurement in the State of Assam. As is well known to you, Sir, Government is always ready to welcome discussion and constructive suggestions on matters of public importance. The food position in Assam at present has become a matter of utmost public importance and it is for this reason, Sir, that I readily agreed to the initiation of this food debate on the floor of this House, so that Government may be profited by the wise counsels and constructive suggestions from the hon. Members at this critical time. Sir, I believe the food position in Assam cannot be properly understood and appreciated in an isolated manner. It is very much co-related to the food position of the rest of the country. Without an overall picture of the food position in India it will be a futile attempt if the food situation is studied as an independent proposition without any co-relation with India and measures are sought to be devised to meet the situation as a local affair. If the food situation of Assam is looked at in the above context with an All-India background, you will find, Sir, that the situation in Assam is now almost the same with that of a large number of States in the Indian Union. There is an overall picture of food shortage in the whole country and this shortage is reflected in Assam in the same way in abormal rise of prices as in other parts of India. The question that naturally arises in one's mind is whether there is actually shortage in production of food in Assam. Is this soaring prices of food in Assam due to shortage in production or is due to extensive hoarding by producers and traders or is it due to both? If a satisfactory answer to this cannot be found, it will, in my opinion, be a very difficult task to arrive at a right and permanent solution.

Sir, the present food position in Assam has been a source of great and constant anxiety to Government. Every day reports are coming from almost all quarters complaining to Government about abnormal rise of prices, sometimes very much beyond the purchasing power of the average section of people, not to speak of the poorer classes. These complains have even come from quarters which are generally regarded as surplus areas of our State. We have been all flooded with prayers and demands to come to the rescue of the people and save them from starvation. The Government have therefore given their most anxious thought over the matter. The whole question is being examined from all angles and we are trying to find out a solution of this vital question. The procurement policy is also under careful examination of Government to bring it in line with the rest of the country as far as possible in accordance with the wish of the Government of India. That being the case, Sir, this Government will only be too glad to have the views of the hon. Members on such a vital problem of devising a right and permanent solution of the vexed problem. There is in this country a section of people who think that the present critical food situation in the State is due to the most heinous and anti-social act of hoarding on the part of producers and traders for dishonest profit, and they are urging on the Government to adopt more stringent measures against such hoarders who are fattening themselves on the distress and misery of their fellow brethren. They believe that stringent measures taken with utmost rigour will frighten these hoarders to part with their stock. With the coming of stocks to open market, the situation, it is expected, will be relieved considerably. They are even ready to accuse Government of weakness

and of vacillation. They believe that Assam is a surplus State and the present distress is due to hoarding alone. There is yet another section of people who think that Assam is not a surplus State, and this food crisis is going to be a normal phase in Assam in future. According to this section of people, agricultural statistics made in Assam are not at all dependable and Assam is really not a surplus State in respect of food production, and this food crisis, they apprehend, will be a regular annual visitation in our State. With an amount of apparent plausibility they argue that the theory of hoarding is a myth, and is against the elementary law of demand and supply. When export is banned and there is no possibility of smuggling into Pakistan due to lower prices of food obtaining in that State, what the so-called hoarders can gain by hoarding if there is no shortage of food production in Assam? They are therefore against the adoption of stringent and rigorous measures. They feel that they will not only not serve any useful purpose but will alienate a large section of people, besides driving a large section of people from paddy cultivation to jute growing. They are therefore very much in favour of a regular and planned drive for production of more food in Assam. Government, as I have already stated, Sir, is giving the most anxious consideration to all these arguments before coming to a final decision as to how best to devise measures for a permanent and right solution and what best procurement policy should be adopted in Assam in the best interests of the people of the province as a whole. Personally, I believe that neither of the theory is absolutely correct, and that there may be some truth in both. Government is therefore eager to listen to the views of the hon. Members and I can assure them, on behalf of Government, that their views will be given due consideration before adoption of a long-term plan of solution and revision of the

Sir, I have already stated that the present food position in the State has been a constant source of anxiety to Government. His Excellency the Governor of Assam in his very illuminating Address to the House the other day, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister in his very exhaustive and informative statement about the earthquake and floods have dealt with the causes of this deteriorating food position in the State. The abnormal situation that has arisen in Assam cannot really be contemplated with equanimity. I do not like to go into the causes of this unusual and abnormal rise in prices as they have been already dealt with in this House and will content myself with the steps taken by Government. It seems to me, Sir, that much of this mischief in the abnormal rises in foodstuffs is due to a state of panic created by a section of people by spreading all sorts of rumours through the Press and the know, Sir, that rice and paddy in Assam are controlled commodities and trade in rice and paddy is regulated by Government through the license system. There is a section of people, and very much powerful at that, who is against control and procurement by Government, and if this section of people go on spreading panicky rumours about shooting up of prices in particular places, the inevitable result is the places, the inevitable result is the corresponding rise in other places, and things go on moving thus in a vicious circle culminating in an acute condition. Similarly, if a persistent propaganda is made that the procurement system of Government has failed and control is therefore bound to be removed, the result is obvious and inevitable. If control is obvious and inevitable. If control goes people will be able to sell their commodities at decontrolled and at much higher rates. Why then sell now at controlled rate, why not keep aside your things for the moment? You are sure to get a better price if you can only save now and hoard for some time till control is lifted. The inevitable result of such as a state on the food market can trol is lifted. The inevitable result of such propaganda on the food market can easily be imagined by the hon. Members. I believe this kind of propaganda is to a great extent responsible for this hoarding. I do not know whether these

people do it consciously and with a motive behind. But it is really painful to see that these very people, who complain against hoarding are really encouraging hoarding by their preachings an t statements. To me, Sir, it appears that this kind of statement is not only unjust to Government but is very much damaging to public interest, and this is one of the causes of the present abnormal rise of

prices

Sir, a lot of criticism is being made in press and platform against the present procurement policy and programme of the Government and it is only proper that I should speak something about it to remove, if possible, the misunderstanding that has gathered around it. But before going into that I should request the hon. Members to remember that scarcity is one thing and failure of procurement is quite another. The two should not be jumbled up. The present procurement policy of the Government was adopted about 4 years back. It was done in consultation with the Procurement Advisory Board. It was so devised as to meet the peculiar conditions of Assam. Unlike Bombay and Madras, the conditions of life and agricultural economy in Assam are quite different. Ours is mainly a country of peasant proprietors, and the present policy of procurement was designed to suit the special, social, political and economic conditions obtaining in Assam. This system is loosely called or popularly known as voluntary system of procurement. By this, besides fixing the control prices of paddy and rice in Assam it was generally intended to procure food and feed about only 10 per cent. of the people in Assam.

The Government of Assam had taken the responsibility of feeding about 10 per cent. of the people engaged in important industries or living in important towns like Gauhati, Shillong, etc., which had been declared as rationed areas. The commitment thus is of a limited nature. The rest of the population living in Assam are allowed the benefit of the open market with controlled price. If the matter is looked from this angle of vision you will find, Sir, that this commitment taken up by Government is being duly fulfilled. Not only that, the Government has been able to take very great additional burdens outside this commitment. Thousands and thousands of refugees maintained in different camps in Assam are still being fed and the vast relief required in earthquake and flood affected areas are also being met by the Procurement Department. These are all additional and unexpected burdens. Even about two weeks back a new responsibility has had to be taken to feed a large number of people. Besides fulfilling the commitments and discharging the additional burdens the Procurement Department of Assam had to fulfil to a certain extent their agreement with the Government of India by exporting 10,000 tons of rice in the first part of the current year. Last year the total procurement made by the Government was only 1,46,000 tons, and this year the procurement figure has caused very much difference in these 11 months than the figure of procurement of last year. With this one lakh and forty-six thousand tons of procurement last year we could run the year out almost smoothly. But this year in spite of the terrible communal riots and consequent destruction of a large amount of foodstuffs, less production of food in the affected and other areas due to drought and political and communal tension prevailing, and greater difficulty in obtaining gunny bags and in wagon replacement, we could procure much more than what was done in the last year. Still the food situation has become worse in the current year than what it was last year. This is, as I have explained, due mainly to unexpected influx of refugees and earthquake and floods and partly to hoarding propensities of the people encouraged by panicky rumours and false propaganda.

The Assam Branch of the Indian Tea Association is complaining that the Procurement Department has not been able to give them the requisite

supply this year and the Association is experiencing considerable difficulty. This, Sir, I respectfully submit, is not a very correct statement. The annual demand of the Indian Tea Association according to their figures given to us, is slightly less than 1,20,000 tons. And whatever has been supplied to them at the instance of the Government from various sources, for this year, almost

comes near about that figure.

In December last, there was a tripartite agreement between Labour, Industry and the Labour Department of our Government. In the tripartite agreement, the Tea Industry agreed to cut half a seer of ration per adult labourer and undertook to cause a reduction of 20,000 tons of rice per annum. But in spite of the agreement they did not obviously effect any reduction for reasons not known to us. If they had effected the reduction as agreed to by them the supply given to them so long would have been quite sufficient for this year. If they could not cause the saving as agreed to by them the fault is theirs and certainly it cannot be thrown on Government. Then again the year for which the supply is to be given is not yet out. There is still one month more. Even without reduction the stock supplied to them should have enabled them to run on till the end of October if the stock was evenly distributed. But unfortunately it could not be done due to reasons for which they are solely responsible. If the stock supplied to them was evenly distributed there should have been no difficulty in some South Bank gardens even to last upto the end of October next, but more was kept in the North Bank gardens than in the South. Again, what is more surprising to learn is that the Indian Tea Association gardens in the North Bank, where there was still a large stock, have already gone into cash, conversion without giving us any information of the same. Sir, there was a conference between representatives of Government and the representatives of the Tea Industry on the 29th September last and both myself and the Hon'ble Chief Minister came to know of it only in that conference during the conference during ference during the course of our discussion about supply, etc. and we were really very much surprised at this news of cash conversion in those gardens where there was plenty of stocks, and that without giving any information to Government. Was it a right behavi ur, Sir, on the part of these gardens to make such an aright behaviour, so and retain the stock after these gardens to make such an important change and retain the stock after the change? This stock could certain! have been brought elsewhere to remove the difficulty felt in other places. Thus, Sir, you will be pleased to see that the cry that the Procurement Department has failed is without any basis on facts. As far as I believe the place fortified in this belief basis on facts As far as I believe, and I have been fortified in this belief by what has happened in the North Bank gardens, that this cry is raised with a motive behind. It seems to me that it is done silently and without any information being given to Constant the case for cash any information being given to Government to strengthen the case for cash conversion in the rest of the State. The case of Cachar District gardens is also of a similar nature. They complain of inadequacy of supply from Government but when they were asked to keep some stock, which the Government wanted to provide to them asked to keep some stock, which the Government wanted to provide to them at the time they went into cash conversion, lest there may not be any labour trouble, they refuse to accept our suggestion these Cachar gardens depleted their stocks on refugees they have settled this information happened to come the large large of our late Chief This information happened to come to the knowledge of our late Chief Minister when he had gone on tour to Cachar and then only the Procurement Department got the information. If this is the attitude of the gardens it is simply unjust on their part to complain of inadequacy of supply. Why was not supply taken when proposed to be given and why was not Government given timely information about depletion of the stock to enable Government to make timely arrangement or at least to stop diversion of Government stock

Sir, from whatever angle of vision the matter is looked into, there is no basis in the argument that Government could not give them regular supply. This kind of argument repeated ad nauseam that Procurement has failed only tends to encourage hoarding and blackmarketing and thus complicate the situation which is already critical. From leaflets seized from our Communist friends, Sir, it is found that they have also made the present Procurement Department their main target of attack. By paralysing the Procuremet Department they expect to create acute discontent. It is not unknown to you, Sir, that these Communist friends of ours always like to fish in troubled waters and they use even the acute food situation to their advantage. I think they will also laugh in their sleeves when they see us running into their trap. It is, therefore, more becoming on our part to be cautious lest we really fall into their trap.

Sir, according to me the Tea Indutry in Assam is a national asset of great importance. It is not unknown to us what important role it plays in the general economy of the country. We are not oblivious to the great part this Industry plays in developing the prosperity of our country. I rather look to it as a 'goose that lays golden eggs' and we are ready to protect and safeguard the legitimate and reasonable interests of this Industry. It is for this reason, Sir, that Government have undertaken to supply at controlled rate the food requirements of the Tea Industry, even at the rate which is sometime double the ration rate given to manual labourers employed in other parts of the country and without taking into account also the large quantity of foodgrains produced in the gardens by the garden labourers themselves. Under such circumstances, will it be unreasonable on the part of Government to expect the same reciprocal treatment and co-operation from the Tea Industry? I pause for an answer (Mr. C. W. Morley—Yes, Sir).

Sir, by making a little diversion I have not been able as yet to inform the House of the drastic steps that are being taken by the Government to fight hoarding and relieve the distress of the people arising out of high prices. Before giving an account of the steps taken or contemplated to be taken by this Government against hoarding and profiteering, I should like to state another thing Government, Sir, are expecting some rise in prices of foodstuffs in these lean months and to fight this evil of rise in prices, Government had contemplated opening of fair price shops in places where necessary and had built up reserve stock for the purpose. But unfortunately for us, the refugee camps and other additional burden had eaten up most of our reserve stock and we could not start the contemplated drive against the shooting up of prices by opening fair price shops.

Suggestion has been given from various quarters to relax certain restrictions in movement of paddy and rice inside the State and thus to relieve the situation. This suggestion has been accepted in some places as far as possible and the result seems encouraging. Further, a very large quantity of corrugated iron sheets has been obtained from the Government of India to help in procurement and even sheets has been reduced to 15 with a view to induce the cultivators to part with requesting the people to come forward to the rescue of those in distress. We have also issued leaflets requesting the people to co-operate with the Government in their drive to fight hoarding.

I will now give some of the measures that are contemplated to be taken by Government. To fight this evil of hoarding and blackmarketing Government have, after full consideration of the matter in all its aspects, been compelled to take the drastic steps which I am enumerating.—(1) forceful punitive seizures of paddy from hoarders at the source in almost all surplus areas of the State with the help of the police and armed forces and these operations are now in progress

in full force except in the district of Lakhimpur. The result of these operations now being carried on seems to be encouraging. About 30 thousand maunds of paddy and rice are reported to have been already seized during these days and these operations will be carried on so long the prices do not come down to a reasonable level. Already on account of these operations the price of rice and paddy seems to be on downward trend in most districts and the flow to the markets has considerably increased. With a view to make further improvement of the situation, it has also been directed that the paddy so seized must be sold to the needy people of the locality at controlled rates according to prescribed scale and only after satisfying the local need, the surplus quantity can be allowed to go outside to other places. It is reported that our officers have been following this operation in right earnest and the reaction of the public to this forceful seizure appears to be rather encouraging. I may add here that as a result of these operations there has also been voluntary surrender of considerable stocks, which otherwise would have been hoarded in several places. (2) Drastic measures like prosecution and detention without trial, where necessary, have been ordered to be taken by District authorities against notorious hoarders and profiteers. (3) To ensure fair and honest work on the part of our officers and to check corruption and smuggling of foodstuff, an Enforcement Branch is being created and it is hoped that corruption may decrease with the contribution that the contribution is being created and it is hoped that corruption the may decrease with the creation of this Enforcement Branch. (4) Heretofore, the Department had been running independent of the Deputy Commissioner of the District and it is realised that some of the slackness in procurement is due to this. It has, therefore this. It has, therefore, now been placed under the direction and control of the Deputy Commissioner to make it is placed under the direction and control of the Deputy Commissioner to make it more useful and effective and (5) to ensure better procurement from sure better procurement from rural areas where there are no means of communications, a Road Construction Programme has been undertaken and a sum of Rs 15 lakhs has been sanctioned for the Department. lakhs has been sanctioned for the purpose out of the income of this Department.

And to ensure better and income of the purpose out of the income of this Department. And to ensure better and increased storage of paddy procured by this Department, action is being taken to contrast storage of paddy procured by this Department, action is being taken to construct big godowns in different parts of the State at a cost of 9 lakhs of rupees. Proposals are also under examination of the Government to strengthen the Proposals are also under examination of the that it will be ment to strengthen the Procurement Department. It is hoped that it will be

Sir, as already stated, the Government of India has wished that our Procurement Scheme and Programme be brought in line with the Procurement examining the question very carefully to follow a new policy to be brought into policy so adopted will be in line with the Government of India policy as far as

Sir, a lot of complaints are being made against the offi ers of the Procurement Department and my hon. Friend, Mr. Talukdar also refers to it. I do not deny that there may be soon in Friend, Mr. Talukdar also refers to it. deny that there may be some bad officers as there are black sheep in every fold, but I do not believe it is increased as there are black sheep in every fold, but I do not believe it is justified to tar the whole lot with the same brush. In this Department it is probably not unknown to hon. Members that Government allow an enquiry even on annonymous complaints, but the Government officers are to be dealt with under certain prescribed rules and if on enquiry nothing is found to be true no action is possible. I hope this difficulty of the Government will be appreciated by the public. Ours is a Government established by due process of law and as such we cannot punish an officer merely on suspicion and without due process of law I believe this elementary fact will be realised by the people. Sir, I think hoarding of foodstuffs and thereby trading on human misery is the blackest of all crimes; to fatten on the distress of others is a sin pure and simple and such anti-social behaviour is now manifesting itself on society, on a very wide scale and it is, I believe, the saddest part of the whole story. widespread cvil cannot be cured or checked without some radical operation.

Public opinion and public co-operation may help Government in suppressing this evil and the evil of corruption on the part of the Government Officers. But do we really get them? Is public opinion so strong? Do not the black-marketer and the dishonest officer get plenty of public support? As otherwise, how can they thrive? Does Government get as much of public co-operation as is warranted by circumstances? Now, as I have said, Government is determined to be very strict, and I appeal for public co-operation and public support in the very arduous and rigorous steps taken and contemplated to be taken by Government against hoarders and dishonest officers. Sir, as I have already stated, mere adoption of stringent measures may not help us in achieving the end wholly. What is wanted, along with such stringent and rigorous measures, is a co-related and planned drive for growing more food. If we cannot succeed in growing more food, then I am afraid we may not achieve the desired result fully by adoption of stringent measures only.

Sir, a complaint is made about non-adoption of such stringent measures earlier, and this complaint was also made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Morley, the other day. I may at once say that it was due to practical difficulties of a various nature and preoccupations of Government which had to be surmounted before adoption of such ruthless measures. Sir, my Friend, Mr. Talukdar, has also raised the question of high prices of other commodities, and it will only be better on my part to make a short reference to them. Most of the foodstuffs of daily use are now de-controlled. It is not unknown to hon. Members that only salt, sugar and wheat products are now under control. But due to shortage of production of sugar and wheat products in our country and due to transport bottle-neck they cannot come regularly. The supply of these products is therefore very irregular. There are no laches on the part of Government on this score. Whatever is being imported or we have been able to import is being evenly distributed at controlled prices. I may inform the hon. Members that the supply position of sugar and wheat products has improved to a certain extent and signs are not wanting that better and a more even supply is expected

in the next year.

Sir, the position of salt also needs an explanation. It was a fully derationed commodity, and there was control only in respect of ceiling and retail price of this commodity. Every one could bring salt into Assam from Calcutta previously. Only in Assam the ceiling price was fixed for the retail sale of salt. But the trade in this commodity was so long left to the normal trade channel. The consumers were left entirely to their sweet will. The result is known to the hon. Members of this House more than myself. This normal channel of salt trade was all along playing a very unfair game with the people of Assam. To remove public grievance and bring the prices of salt down, this Government was forced to deprive the normal trade channel from dealing in this commodity to a certain extent, and the monopoly of steamer space is now given to an All-Assam co-operative concern to import salt into Assam. They have been directed to bring the entire salt and distribute the same through co-operative channels as far as possible (Applause). My hon. Friend, Mr. Talukdar, also raised this point in his illuminating speech that the co-operative concerns should be given as much encouragement by Government as is possible and by so doing the prices can be brought down to a certain extent. With this end in view we have not only given this salt distribution business to this co-operative concern but also the distribution of sugar and wheat products wherever possible and wherever available. It was expected that by this action prices would come down, and as a matter of fact there was a decline in the salt prices when the business was given to this co-operative concern. The normal trade channel being thus restricted began to create a lot of difficulties in the way, though in vain. Again, Sir, after this monopoly of steamer space was given to this concern

there happened two important events, (1) the export ban on salt to Pakistan was removed by the Government of India, and (2) a ban against import of foreign salt was imposed to encourage this indigenous industry. These two actions for a time upset the whole market and the result was a steep rise in prices of salt and a partial scarcity of better quality of salt at the source. The Government of India have now imposed control on salt, and I should like to mention here for the information of the hon. Members that it was at our instance, at the instance of the Government of Assam, that control over prices and supply at Calcutta has been reimposed by the Government of India. The credit for the same goes to this Government for this control over salt. It is expected that the prices of salt as a result will go down in the Bazar in a short time.

Sir, I am very thankful to the hon. Members for their indulgent attitude and patient hearing. The lot of a Supply Minister is far from enviable, especially at a critical time like this. It is not unknown to the hon. Members that I have joined the Cabinet and assumed responsibility as Supply Minister only about four and half months back. It is therefore quite possible that due to my inexperience I might have made unconscious mistakes here and there. But I can assure the House that though I may be wanting in experience I will not be found wanting in my earnestness and sincerity in fighting the evil, and I am fully confident the House will give all needed co operation to Government urgrudgingly

in their fight against black market.

With these few words, for the present I resume my seat.

(A Voice-What about Cachar) ?

The Hon'ble Srijut MOTIRAM BORA: Sir, I would like to say a few words about the situation in Cachar. Sir, I am simply surprised to hear the statement made on the floor of the House by my hon. Friend, Mr. Dev. Sir, no such report has come to the Government. It is surprising that a telegram sent by so many organisations jointly to Mr. Dev (A Voice—To all the Cachar Members), but no copy was given to the Government. Neither the Hon'ble

Chief Minister nor I have got any such report. This is very surprising. Any way, Sir, last night my hon. Friend, Mr. Dev, informed me about what has happened in Cachar and he also read out the contents of the telegram. On receipt of the information I at once contacted the Supply Secretary and directed him to make an enquiry and take early steps. I also asked him to divert a portion of the stock from Assam Valley to Cachar in order to relieve the distress. Sir, it seems that a surprising phenomenon has developed in Cachar and I do not know for what. I have just got information from the Subdivisional Officer, Heilakandi that the situation and the subdivisional officer, Hailakandi, that the situation there has considerably improved after the measures that I referred to in my speech were taken. Not only that, Sir, from Karimganj also I have got information that the situation there is not bad. What the people want is removal of certain restrictions on internal movements in the subdivision. I have already passed orders to that effect. Sir, when my hon. Friend, Mr. Dev, came to attend the Assembly Session I met him on the first day and discussed with him about the situation in Cachar. I enquired of him as to what was the rice position in Silchar and he gave me to understand that the situation was improving there. That was the information he gave me. But, in course of 5 or 6 days, I cannot understand how the situation has deteriorated so much. However, I shall ask the Supply Secretary to enquire into the matter and if it is found that the situation has deteriorated to such an extent, some rice stocks will

Babu KAMINI KUMAR SEN.—Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not a little surprised to hear the statement just made by the Hon'ble Minister, Supply with regard to the food situation in Cachar. It is very astonishing that the authorities of the Cachar District did not inform the Government of the acute food position that has been prevailing in Cachar District for sometime past. When I left for Shillong to attend the Assembly Session rice was selling at Cachar between Rs 30 to Rs.35 and in some places between Rs.35 to Rs.40. In Karimganj where there is partial rationing the ration per adult per week has been reduced from

2 seers 10 chataks to only 12 chataks a week.

Before I left, I consulted the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj about this and he informed me that the stock at his disposal would be sufficient for three weeks and that the situation is already acute, I do not think, Sir, there is anything surprising that the price has risen from Rs.40 to Rs.45 in Cachar. If we analyse the situation I hope it will be evident that there is ample justification for this acute food siituation. Firstly Sir, Cachar has been known as a surplus district, but I doubt whether reconstituted Cachar with part of Karimganj added to it is really a surplus district. Secondly, Sir, Cachar had to feed more that I lakh of refugees for over six months. Thirdly, Sir, the communal disturbance, was also responsible for this deteriorating rice position as at that time over 3 lakhs maunds of paddy were destroyed in the Cachar district. Besides that during that disturbance many of the Muslim refugees removed their stock of rice and paddy to Pakistan when they left their homes in the Indian Union.

Then, Sir, there is no big stockists or dealers in Cachar who may be accused of hoarding or profiteering in rice. There is also no scope for smuggling as price of rice in Pakistan is cheaper. Under the circumstances, I do not think, Sir, there is anything unusual in the present acute food situation in Cachar.

I had a talk with the Deputy Commissioner about 15 days before I left for Shillong. He also told me that the food situation is worrying them and it might develop in an acute form. There is little scope for procurement within the district as rice could only be available with small cultivators and no big stock of rice or paddy is available there. So he agreed with me that the only solution to meet the situation at Cachar was to get rice from outside and he assured me that he would try his utmost to do so. But I do not know whether he has informed the Government about this. I would, however, request the Hon'ble Supply Minister to take prompt steps to get some rice for Cachar from outside so that the present crisis may be tided over.

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA: মাননীয় সভাপতি মহোদয়, আমি একটু অবাবে বলবার জন্যই বাংলাতেই বলব। আমাদের মাননীয় সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী মহাশয় আজ খাদ্য সমস্যা সম্পর্কে যে বিবৃতি দিয়েছেন তাহাতে আমার মনে হয়, গভণ মেণ্ডের অসহায় অবস্থারই পরিচয় পাওয়া গিয়াছে। আমাদের বন্ধু শ্রীযুত তালুকদার মহাশয় যে প্রস্তাব উপস্থিত করিয়াছেন সেই প্রস্তাব আমি সহবাস্তঃকরণে সমর্থন করছি। এই সমস্যা সম্পর্কে অনেক কথাই পত্রিকায় প্রকাশ পাইয়াছে এবং আমিও তাহা দেখেছি। এই সম্বন্ধে শ্রীযুত কৃপালনি মহাশয়ের Vigil পত্রিকায় লিখিত Fear of criticism বলে একটি প্রবন্ধ আছে এবং সেই fear of criticism বাস্তবিকই গভণ মেণ্ডের আছে বলে মনে হয়। একটি বিষয় আমি দেখতে পাচিছ—

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: তালুকদার মহাশয় যে প্রস্তাব এনেছেন তারই মাত্র আলোচনা করুন।

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA: মাননীয় সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী প্রথমেই বলেছেন আমাদের সকলকেই constructive suggestion দেবার জন্য। Constructive suggestion বা constructive criticism এর কথা সরকারের তরফ থেকে প্রায়ই বলা হইয়া থাকে। কিন্তু একটা জিনিষ, অনেক সময় আমার মনে হয় যে, Destructive আর constructive uggestion র খুব বেশী পার্থ ক্য থাকেনা যথন destruction থেকেও construction তে পারে। আজ আমরা দেখতে পাচ্ছি যে, দিল্লী কেন্দ্রীয় গভর্ণ মেণ্ট থেকে প্রাদেশিক ভর্ণ মেণ্ট পর্যন্ত নানা রকমের সরকারী propaganda করা হচ্ছে — যেমন, অধিক শস্য

ফলাও, বেশীরকম গাছ লাগাও, কম কম করে থাও। আরও আমরা দেখতে পাচ্ছি—খাদ্য সমস্যা দম্বন্ধে প্রত্যেক পত্রিকার মাননীয় মন্ত্রীদের নানা রকম বিবৃতি এবং বক্তৃতা প্রকাশিত হয় কিন্তু কার্য্য করী পছার কিছুই প্রকাশ পাচ্ছেনা। আমাদের মাননীয় সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী মহাশরের বিবৃতিতে যাহা প্রকাশ পাইয়াছে তাহাতেও নানা পরিকল্পনার কথা আছে অথচ সেই সম্পর্কে বিশেষ ব্যবস্থা না নেওয়ার ফলে লোকেরা বৃভুক্ষার দিন কাটাচ্ছে। এই মাত্র তিনি খাদ্য এবং তার যোগান সম্পর্কে যে বিবৃতি দিলেন সেই প্রসক্ষে আমার নিজের ব্যক্তিগত অভিজ্ঞতা খেকে দুই একটি কথা বলব। মাননীয় সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী কাছাড়ের এই কদিনের খাদ্য পরিস্থিতির সম্বন্ধে কোন খবরই হয়ত জানেন না অথচ তিনি তাঁর বক্তৃতার বলেছেন সবই ঠিক আছে এবং গভণ মেণ্টের যেটা Procurement system আছে তাহার উনুতির জন্য নির্দেশ ও দিয়েছেন। আমরা ত Procurement বাদ দেওয়ার কথা বলছি না পরস্ত ইহাকে অধিকতর কার্য্য করী করার কথাই বলছি। এই দিক দিয়ে গভণ মেণ্টের কর্ত্তব্যের অভাব পরিলক্ষিত হচ্ছে বলে আমার মনে হয়। বিশেষ ভাবে বিভিন্ন সরকারী বিভাগের মধ্যে co-ordination এর অভাব দেখা যাচ্ছে।

আমি শিলং আসার পূর্বে একদিন গ্রামাঞ্জলের একদল মনিপুরী মেয়ে আমার নিকটবর্তী এক বাজারে বিক্রম করবার জন্য বরাবরের মতই চাউল আনিরাছিল। কাছাড়ের ডেপুনী কমিশনারের নির্দেশে Procurement officer সৈন্য সহ তাহাদিগকে আটক রাখে। কাছাড় সম্বন্ধে, কাছাড়ের যে সমস্ত সদস্য এই পরিষদে আছেন তাঁহারা সবাই জানেন যে এই সব মনিপুরী মেয়ে টাকা প্রতি দুকাঠি দরে ধান ক্রম করিয়া তাহাই চাউলে পরিণত করিয়া বাজারে আনিয়া থাকে। চাউল বিক্রয়ের জন্য যে সমস্ত মণিপুরী মেয়ের। বাজারে আসে তাদের আসতে হয় ৭/৮ মাইল দূরবর্তী প্রাম থেকে এবং তাহারা যে চাউল বহুকষ্টে নিয়ে আসে সে সব seize করে, মণ প্রতি ১৫৮০ control দরে বিক্রি করতে বাধ্য করা হয়, এবং তার জন্য তাদেরকে সম্পূর্ণ এক রাত্রির জন্য অনাহারে অনিদ্রায় আট্ কাইয়া রাখা হইয়াছিল। তাদের মধ্যে অনেক বিধবাও আছে যাদের এই চাউলই যাবতীয় সম্পত্তি। এই সমস্ত খবর গভর্ণ মেণ্ডের নিকট পৌছেছে কিনা আমি জানিনা।

The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI: এই সমস্ত খবর কাকে দেওয়া হয়েছে ?

Babu BIDYAPATI SINGHA: Deputy Commissioner এর নিকট দেওয়া

এতদ্ পূর্বে Deputy Commissione। মহাশ্রের নিকট হইতে একটি ফরমান জারী করা হয়েছিল যে প্রামের চাউল বিক্রেতার। অবাধে বাজারে বাজারের চলতি দরে চাউল বিক্রের করিতে পারিবে, এবং সরকারী আফসার তাদেরকে কোন বাধা দিবেনা। কিন্তু কোন রকম ঘোষনা না দিয়ে শুধু পূব্বদিন থানায় জানান হইল যে আউসের দর ১৫১ টাক। আর শালির দর ১৫১০ আনা, এবং প্রামের নিরীহ চাউল বিক্রেতারা, যারা সামান্য চাউল নিয়ে বাজারে আসে, তাদেরকে আটকে রেখে সর্বস্বান্ত করা হয়েছে। যারা প্রকৃত Hoarders তারা Procurement এর নজর এড়িয়ে গেল।

আমি দেখতে পাচ্ছি যে সমস্ত দেশের মধ্যে এমন একটা অবস্থার সৃষ্টি হয়েছে যার সম্বন্ধে মাননীয় তালুকদার মহাশয়, মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয় এবং সকলেরই দৃষ্টি আক্ষিত হয়েছে। আমাদের দেশের মধ্যে যে সাম্প্রদায়ীক দাঙ্গাহাঙ্গামা হয়ে গেছে কাছাড়েও এই সমস্ত দাঙ্গাহাঙ্গামার এই সমস্যাকে আরও গুরুতর করে তুলেছে। আমার ব্যাক্তগত অভিজ্ঞতা পেকে আমি জানি যে কাঠাল যখন ফুরিয়ে গেল তখন একদিনে দুদিনে একবেল। খাওয়া আরম্ভ হল। এখনও অবস্থার বিশেষ উনুতি হয় নাই

পূর্ব্ধ পাকিস্থানের অনেক উন্নান্ত আসামে আসিয়া আসামকে তাদের ঘর বলিয়া গ্রহণ করিয়াছে। এদের সমসাার কথাও মান্দীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদর স্বীকার করেছেন। গভর্প মেণ্ট শিলং - হাফলং রাস্তাতে ২ । কোটির বেশী টাকা বাজে খরচ করেছেন। অথচ ভাল কোন পরিকল্পনার অভাবে এই টাকার সন্থাবহার করতে পারেন নাই।

মাননীয় রাজ্যপাল মহোদয় তাঁহার বজৃতাতে বলেছেন যে শিলং, Khasi and Jaintia Hills এর মধ্যে যে সমস্ত খাদ্যদ্রত্য বাজারে পাচ্ছেনা, এই সমস্ত হচ্ছে কাছাড়, Khasi and Jaintia Hills এবং Lushai Hills এর যোগাযোগের অভাবের দরুণ। এই শিলং-হাফলং রাস্তাতে খরচ না করে যদি ডাউকী থেকে ১৫ মাইল পর্য্য পূর্বে পাকিস্থান সীমান্তে যে P.W.D. রাস্তা আছে তাহাকে বদ্ধিত করিয়া কাছাড়ের সহিত যোগাযোগ স্থাপন করিলে ব্যবসা বাণিজ্য, অন্যান্য জিনিসের স্থবিধা এবং সবদিক থেকে একটা উন্নতি দেখা যাইত। গভর্ণ মেণ্টের যে গুলো waste land আছে সেই গুলোতেও refugee দের দ্বারা খাদ্য-দ্রব্য উৎপাদন করবার ব্যবস্থা করা যাইতে পারে। কিন্তু উক্ত যোগাযোগের জন্য টাকা খরচ না করে গভর্ণ মেণ্টে বাজে পরিকল্পনার জন্য খরচ করছেন।

মাননীয় রাজ্যপাল মহোদয় তাঁর বজ্তার মধ্যে R. C. P. I. সম্বন্ধেও বলেছিলেন যে শিবসাগর জিলায় কি রকম ভাবে তারা sabotage এর কাজ করছে। এই সম্বন্ধে Vigil প্রিকায় দেখেছিলাম অবশ্য Humour হিসাবে লেখা—

It was seen in the Vigil-

"It is reported from New Delhi that in some parts of Sibsagar the so-called Communists are looting the rich and are distributing the booty among the poor. Is it not shocking?"

এই যে পরিস্থিতি হয়েছে যাতে কমিউনিটরা প্রভাব বিস্তার করেছে আমাদের একটু analyse করে দেখা দরকার কিজন্য এই প্রভাব বিস্তার সন্তবপর হয়। বর্ত্তমান দুর্নীতি পূর্ণ শাসন যাহাতে black marketing এবং hoarding চলছে ইহাই কি এই প্রভাব বিস্তার সাহায্য করছে না ? জন সাধারণ যখন অনুবস্তের অভাবে থাকে অথচ চোথের সামনে দেখে দুর্নীতি মূলক শাসন তখন Communist রা যে কোন প্রভাবে পড়বেই। গভণ মেণ্টের তরফ থেকে মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয় বলেছেন যে খাদ্যসমস্যা একটা গুরুতর সমস্যা এবং তিনি তাঁর বিভিন্ন পরিকল্পনার মধ্যে Procurement godown তৈরীর কথা উল্লেখ করেছেন। যেদিন থেকে আমরা এই Assembly তে সদস্য হয়েছি তখন থেকেই এই Procurement godown এর কথা শুনিতেছি, আজ পর্যান্ত যে এগুলি হয়া নাই ইহা আশ্চর্যান্তনক বটে। মোটের উপর খাদ্যসমস্যা সম্পর্কে মাননীয় সরবরাহ মন্ত্রীর বিষ্ঠৃতি rather confusion more confounded করে তুলেছে। আমাদের প্রধান মন্ত্রী পণ্ডিত জণ্ডহরলাল নেহেরু বলছেন যে খাদ্য সমস্যাদ্রীকরণের জন্য War level এ ব্যবস্থার দরকার কিন্তু কাজের দিক থেকে জন সাধারণ কিছুই দেখতে পাচ্ছেনা। খাদ্যাভাব, দ্রব্য মূল্য বৃদ্ধি ক্রমিকভাবে চলছে। এই দুরবস্থা জন সাধারণ বেশী দিন সহ্য করবে না, আচিরে কার্য্য করী পন্থা অবলম্বন না করিলে গভণ মেণ্টের মান সম্মান প্রতিপত্তি অক্ট্রা থাকবে না।

Prof. NIBARAN CHANDRA LASKAR: Mr, Speaker, Sir, the statement made by the Hon'ble Supply Minister seems to me not quite correct, because he made a statement before the House that the people of the Cachar district sent telegrams to the members of Cachar and not to him or to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী যে statement দিয়েছেন তাতে বলেছেন যে কাছাড়ের খাদ্য সমস্যা এত গুৰুতর নয় এবং যার। telegram পাঠিয়েছেন তার ও কোন খবর পান নাই। কিন্তু আমি যে telegram পাইয়াছি District Bar Association থেকে তাহা Hon'ble Chief Minister, Supply Minister, Sree Satindra Mohan Dev, M. L. A., Maulavi Makabir Ali Mazumdar, M. L. A. এবং Babu Bidyapati Singha, M. L. A.র কাছে পাঠান হইরাছে।

The Hon'ble Srijut MOTI RAM BORA: When I referred to the telegram, I meant that it was not a joint telegram. The joint telegram was not sent to Government.

Prof. NIBARAN CHANDRA LASKAR: আমি যে telegram পাইয়াছি তার খবর মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ের নিকট আমি জানাইয়াছি। আমাদের মুখ্য মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ের নিকটেও জানাইয়াছি। মন্ত্রী মহোদয়গণের নিকট টেলিগ্রাম না দিয়া যদি কাছাতের জনসাধারণ শিলংয়ে সেসনের সময় যদি তাহাদের প্তিনিধিদের নিকট কোন একটা টেলিগাম পাঠান তাহা অপরাধ নয় যেহেতু তাহারা জানেন তাহাদের পতিনিধির। অবশ্যই গভণ্মেণ্টকে জানাইবেন।

এবং যে Report গভর্ণমেণ্টের তরফ খেকে এসেছে, on the strength report এখন আমাদের সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী মহোদয় বলেছেন যে কাছাড়ের বর্ত্তমান খাদ্যাবস্থা মন্দ নয়। কিন্তু সম্পতি কাছাড় থেকে যে খবর এসেছে, ত। থেকে অামি বলছি যে সে ধবর সত্য নয়। সেখানে নানারকম দুর্যোগ চলেছে। সেখানকার Communal Disturbance এ আমাদের অনেক ক্ষতি হয়েছে। সেধানে থা লক্ষের মত Refugee আশ্র নিয়েছে, এবং সমস্ত ধান, চাল নিঃশেষ করে ফেলেছে। সেধানে আমাদের

স্থায়ী অধিবাসী রয়েছে, তাদের অবস্থাও একেবারে সঙ্গীন করে তুলেছে। এখন Deputy Commissioner কিম্বা মহকুমা কর্তাকে এই অবস্থা জ্ঞাত করার পর তাঁরা চালের অভাব দুর করবার জন্য অনেক চেটা করেছেন, এবং Procurement Department ও District Authority অনেক চেটা করে ২ হাজার মণের মত চাল মত্র যোগাড় করেছেন। এমতাবস্থায় বাহির থেকে চালের কোন ব্যবস্থা না হলে লোক মারা যাবে। টেলিগামে কাছাড়ের সকল Member কেই বলা হয়েছে "come down from the Shillong" when people are on the point of death, or the verge of starvation they went their relatives or representative nearby. এতেই পুতীয়মান হয় খাদ্যভাবে কাছাড়ের লোক মরণের পথে। কাছাড় এমন অবস্থায় দাড়িয়েছে যে টাকা প্রসা দিয়েও চাল পাওয়া যাচেছ্না। কাছাড় জেলায় চাউল সংগ্রহের চেষ্টা বার্থ হয়েছে। বাহির থেকে যদি চাল আমদানী করা না হয়, তাহলে লোক মারা যাবে। অতএব কাছাড়ের লোককে মৃত্যুর হাত হতে রক্ষা করার জন্য চেষ্টা করা একান্ত আবশ্যক। এই হ'ল আমার গভণে মণ্টের निक्**ं विर**मंद जगूदताव, जामा कति সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী মহোদয় এবিষয় জবিলদে यथायथ ব্যবস্থা

Srijut BELIRAM DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members regarding certain areas in my constituency, i. e., the South Bank of Kamrup District. Due to failure of crops this year on account of insect pestilence, there has been acute shortage of paddy in the South Bank viz., Palasbari, Boko and Chaygaon of paddy in the South Bank viz., Palasbari, Boko and Chaygaon Thanas. In the last part of the month of July there was a meeting at Loharghat which was presided over by our late lamented Chief Minister Shri Gopinath Bardoloi, and in that meeting a resolution was passed to make paddy available at controlled price, but I have been told that no supply has been made and the people are suffering from untold miseries especially at Barduar side for want

of paddy there. Owing to the action of the Communists some granaries of the rich people of that locality were looted and as such paddy is not available in that area. In the Palasbari area there is no paddy and people are purchasing sali paddy for Rs.15 per maund and aus for Rs.12 per maund. Similar is the condition in the Boko and Chaygaon areas. Very recently I had been to these areas and I have been told that people are facing great difficulty there. I approached the Deputy Commissioner also to make paddy available at controlled rate in Palasbari, but no action has yet been taken. If the situation goes on like this there would be no end of the sufferings of the people more especially of the Scheduled Caste people. All the fishes in the Brahmaputra have died and people are not getting proper income from fishing. The fishermen having lost this source of income are now unable to purchase paddy at such a high price. I therefore request the Hon'ble Minister to see that the paddy is made available to the people of the South Bank, particularly to the Scheduled Caste people so that they can have two meals a day. I have been told that they are having only one meal a day. They are not getting any meal at night for they cannot afford to purchase paddy at such high price. Again I request the Hon'ble Minister to see to this and do the needful.

Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of a Resolution for this Session of the Assembly which has been admitted about the reduction of prices of foodstuff and other commodities in this Province. As this Resolution of mine is almost identical with the Motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Talukdar I would like to take part in this debate.

I have got my Resolution No.17 which runs thus: "This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to reduce the prevailing high prices of foodstuffs and other commodities immediately."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, every one in this House is aware of the fact that there is prevailing in the market high prices of foodstuffs and other commodities. The middle class people and the poor people are the worst sufferers. The rich people and the capitalists are not affected by the high prices of things in the market. The petty Government officers and mostly the clerk are finding great difficulty to expenses. Foodstuffs and other commodities ought to manage their attended to immediately. The prices of food and clothing are increasing to such an extent that it is not within the reach of the middle class and poor section of the people to manage their expenses. The price is now more than double the price than what was before. At the same time the rent of houses in the towns has increased considerably higher than before. Sir, the poor illiterate people do not realise the state of things in the present-day world—I mean the crisis of foodstuff and other things. These people are like our children and it is our duty to see that our children are given proper food and clothing. The Government has also to realise this that these people are their children and that they must be provided with food and clothing which is most important. I hope the Government will pay more attention to the supply of foodstuffs and cloth than they are doing in providing money for other projects. These people have only hoped that the Government would give them all the comforts and facilities of their livelihood.

the Government has invited from the Members constructive suggestions and not destructive suggestions. Therefore I suggest a few of them. I suggest that the Supply Department officers should regularly inspect and detect all those hoarders and profiteers who are instrumental that are going on. This is the duty of the Supply for these sufferings Department. I do not say that the Procurement Department and the Supply Department should be given up. But they should be more alert and should give more attention to the supply of proper foodstuffs and other commodities to the people of Assam at reasonable prices.

Another suggestion which I offer is that as a measure of Grow-More-Food Campaign Government should throw open some portions of forest reserve land and professional grazing land for cultivation by landless ex-tea garden labourers as well as some indigenous people of Assam including the Scheduled castes people who are workers and not parasites. Government should provide land for cultivation by these landless people who want to cultivate, but they are not supplied with any land. Government should provide land for these landless people and if they are supplied with land the Government will reap the benefit in the shape of more revenue and so such a step must be welcomed by the Government. Besides, that those people after getting land will not only grow more food for themselves but they will be able to feed those who are now starving. Therefore it is the duty of the Government to throw open more land to the landless people who want to cultivate to grow more food for us.

With these few words, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Motion which has been moved by my hon. Friend, Srijut Gaurikanta Talukdar.

Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়া, আমাব তালুকদাৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো আলোচনা ডাঙি ধৰিছে তাক মই সংবাতঃকৰণে সমর্থন কৰিছো। আজি গোটেই অসমত যি সমস্যাই দেখা দিছে সেই সম্পর্কে তেখেতে আৰু যি সকল সদস্যই আজি ইয়াত বিবৃত্তি দিলে সেই বোৰ শুনি আৰু মাননীয় সৰববাহ মন্ত্রীৰ বিবৃত্তি শুনি দুয়োটা কথা সম্পূর্ণ অমিল যেন দেখা যায়। মন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো statement place কৰিছে তাৰ পৰা বুজিছো যে আমাব দেশত খাবলৈ নোপোৱা মানুহ নায়েই। সকলোৱে যেন মুখেৰে খাই আছে বিবৃত্তিৰ পৰা এই বুলিহে বিশ্বাস হয়।—কিন্তু আমি গাৱঁত থাকো গাৱঁৰ অভাব অভিযোগ তেখেততকৈ আমি বেচি ভালকৈ জানো বুলি দাবি কৰো আৰু আমাব অভিজ্ঞতাৰ পৰা যিটো বুজিছো সেই মতে মন্ত্রী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ statement টো বিশ্বাস কৰিবলৈ টান পাইছো।

আজি গৰণ মেণ্টৰ দুটা বিভাগৰ ওপৰত মানুহৰ অভিযোগ বেচি। এই দুটাৰ এটা Procurement আৰু আনটো হৈছে Supply বিভাগ। Supply বিভাগৰ বিষয়ে মই বিশেষ নকও কিন্ত Procurementৰ বিষয়ে মই ভালকৈ জানো আৰু সেই বিষয়ে অলপ কম। Procurement বিভাগে যি নীতিৰ ওপৰত ধান ৰাখে বা hoard কৰা ধান seize কুৰি আনে সেই ধান বোৰ যাতে দুখীয়া বিলাকেও ভাগ পায়, সকলোৱে খাবলৈ পায়, সেইটোহে নীতি বুলি আমি বুজো কিন্ত আজি Procurement বিভাগে যিটো কৰিব ধৰিছে সেইটো এই নীতিৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ ওলোটা যেন হে দেখিছো। যিবিলাক ধনী মানুহৰ ভৰাল আছে সেইবোৰ চাবলৈ গৈ অফিচাৰ সকলে ধান থাকিলেও নাই বুলি কয়। যি বিলাক দুখীয়া, যাব খাব বোজাখেও অলপ অচৰপ বেচি থাকে—তেওঁলোকৰ ভৰালৰ পৰাহে ধান seize কৰি Procure কৰে। এই সুবিধা পাই ধনী মানুহ বিলাকে তেওঁলোকৰ অতিৰিক্ত ধানবোৰ Black market কৰা দেখিবলৈ পাওঁ। আগতে দুখীয়া মানুহবোৰে গাৱঁৰ economic system হিচাবে গাৱঁৰ ধনী আৰু সৰহ ধান থকা সকলৰ পৰা ধান ধাৰলৈ পাইছিল—কিন্ত আজি কালি তেওঁলোকে আৰু ধাৰলৈ নিদিয়ে কাৰণ Black market কৰিলে তেওঁলোকে বেচি দাম পায়। (A voice:—তেখেতে জানেনে যে ট্রাইবেল সকলে ধানব ভবাল লুটিছিল) তাৰ উত্তৰ মই পিছত দিম ভয় নকৰে যেন। গতিকে এনেকুৱা দেখা যায় যে গ্ৰণ মেণ্ট্ৰ এই বিভাগটোৱে किवा कोम कबिव शीबिव दूनि कव त्नांबाबि। होहरवन विनारक नूहे कविष्टिन विन केरह। किन्छ त्मरेटो। ठिक नरम यमि नूषि निष्ट्न उटानर्टन प्राचीक विश्वान मटा भान्ति मिन नाता। মুঠতে চৰকাৰে যি নীতিৰে বিভাগীয় কাম বোৰ হাতত লয় সেই নীতি অনুসাৰে কাম হৈছে নে नाई (महेटिं। ভान पर्व bia नार्त। Deputy Commissioner वा प्यनाना प्रकितां मकनव ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি থাকিলে কাম কৰা হব বুলি মোৰ বিশ্বাস নহয়। সেই দিনাখন আমাৰ প্ৰিয় নেতা পণ্ডিত জৱহৰলাল নেহেৰুৱে কৈছিল যে অকল file ব ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কবি কাম চলাই থাকিলে নহব। সদলে। কাম যুদ্ধৰ গতিত কৰিব লাগিব ইত্যাদি। অৱশ্যে অফিচাৰ সকলৰ সহযোগীতা লাগিবই তেওঁলোকক শক্ৰ বৃলি ভাবিলেও নহব। কিন্তু বৰ্ত্তমান যুগত অফিচাৰ সকলে নিজৰ দায়িত্ব বুজা উচিত। তেওঁলোকে ভব। উচিত যে তেওঁলোকে নিজৰ দেশৰ কাৰণে কাম কৰিছে। তেওঁলোকৰ কাৰ্য্যৰ দ্বাৰা গোটেই দেশৰ যাতে মঙ্গল হয় আৰু সেই মতে কাম কৰাহে তেওঁলোকৰ কৰ্ত্ত্ব্য।

কিন্তু আজি অফিচাৰ সকলে কৰিছে কি? তেওঁলোকে মিনিষ্টাৰ ডাঙৰীয়া সকলৰ আগত কবলৈ সাহ নকবিলেও আমাক স্পষ্টকৈ কৈ দিয়ে যে চৰকাৰে ইমান কম দৰমহা দিয়ে এনেকুৱা নকবিলে আমি চলিম কেনেকৈ? আৰু কামতকৈ চৰকাৰক তেওঁলোকেহে বেচি সমা-লোচনা কবা দেখিবলৈ পোৱা যায়। তেওঁলোকে ভাবি নেচায় সঁচাকৈ নিজৰ নিজৰ কৰিব লগীয়া কৰ্ত্তব্য খিনি কবিছে নে নাই। তাৰ পাছত Grow-More-Foodৰ কথা অলপ নকৈ নোৱা-ৰিলো। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়—Grow-More-Food আমি কাগজে প্ৰেছে দেখিছো। কিন্তু আচল কাৰ্য্যত হলে আচলতে ইয়াৰ কামটো অজিলৈকে দেখা নাই। এই Grow-More-Foodৰ বিষয়ে কৰা মিটিং টাউনত হলে বহুত দেখিছো—কিন্তু গাৱঁত এতিয়ালৈকে সেই-বিলাকৰ চেঠা বিশেষ দেখা নাযায়। কিন্তু আমি জানো আমাৰ অসমত মাত্ৰ শতকবা ৫ জন মানুহ হে শিক্ষিত। এই ৫ জন শিক্ষিত মানুহে হাল ন'বায়। যিবিলাকে হাল বায় তেওঁলোক অশিক্ষিত দুখীয়া মিৰক্ষৰ মানুহ। তেওঁলোকে কাগজ পঢ়ি কিবা বুজিব বুলি মই বিশ্বাস নকৰে।।

সেই কাৰণে এই বোৰ কথা অকল ফাইলৰ ভিতৰত লিখালিখি কৰি ফুৰিলে বা লয়। লয়। একোটা একোটা বিবৃতি দিলে নাইবা ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ কথা কৈ ফুৰিলে মাখো নহব—লাগে আ থাক কামত। সেই দেখি মাননীয় সদস্য তালুকদাব ডাঙৰীয়াই যি আলোচনা ডাঙি ধৰি আমালোকক এই আলোচনাত ভাগ লবলৈ সুযোগ দিছে তাৰ বাবে তেখেতক ধন্যবাদ দিছে।—আৰু যি বিলাক কথা কোৱা হৈছে—সেই বিলাক কথা আমাব গৱণ মেণ্টে ভালকৈ ভাবি চাব বুলি আশা কৰিলো। ইয়াকে কৈ মই মোৰ বক্তব্যৰ সামৰণি মাৰিলো।

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to my hon. Friend, Mr. Talukdar, for giving us the Members of the House an opportunity to discuss the economic situation in the State of Assam. The economic situation has certainly deteriorated to an extent which we had ne er found at any time here or elsewhere in the country except where famines like the Bengal famine over-took this agricultural country. Assam has always been declared and considered a surplus Province or surplus State in the matter of paddy. The staple food of the people of Assam is rice and we have to consider the price of paddy and rice in talking about the economic position of the people in Assam living in different parts of the State. Rich men do not care, but people who have limited means have to be very careful in providing for their families with rice. At the present moment there are many people among the middle class who are getting just one meal a day-a situation which never happened anywhere in Assam except when such calamities as floods and earthquakes pass over the country. In Jorhat when I left the place, the price of rice was from Rs.30 to Rs.33 per maund. Jorhat subdivision being in Eibsagar District is surplus area in Assam in the matter of paddy and rice, but that does not look as if Jorhat or Sibsagar district is a surplus area when the price of rice and paddy has increased very much beyond 9 rupees and Rs. 16/4 per maund respectively fixed by the Government. When the people have to pay double that amount it does not look as if Jorhat subdivision is a surplus area. This is certainly a very distressing situation for people who have to buy rice especially those whose means are limited.

I would request the House to see that for the moment the condition of low paid Government servants of this State and others who are drawing say, ks.100 or Rs.200 per month and who had been used to a very comfortable way of

living, now cannot meet their needs of rice with the salary they are getting. The Government knows this state of affairs and Government has admitted that; so it is unnecessary for me to dilate on the distress to be found among the people with limited means. In the villages too there are people who are landless; there are labourers who are feeding their families with just what they produce from the land they cultivate, but even this go to the landholders and they have to buy rice for themselves. Those who are near the town may find employment, but what about the find employment, but what about those who are far away from town or far away from places where they can get rice at Government controlled rate; what is going to happen to them? Is it that a calamity of another Bengal famine nature should overtake us in no distant future? Is there no paddy or rice? We do not know, but I am sure we find people having large quantity of paddy. That paddy has to be conserved. Government should prevent that paddy from being smuggled for the purpose of profiteering.

The economic situation has completely disrupted life and we are talking of corruption almost everywhere; almost everyone admits that there is corruption all round. But not to be corrupted means to obey the laws and moral rules of life. But when it is found that starvation was facing his family, will question of corruption be allowed to stand in the way of supplying food to one's family? We find people in Governmet employ corrupt but without proof.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: How long will the hon. Member take to finish his speech?

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: I shall not take long, Sir. (A voice—You may continue after lunch)

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 1 P. M.

Adjournment

The House was then adjourned for lunch till 1 P. M,

After lunch

Prof. P. M. SARWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was speaking about corruption tion— corruption in administration. It is an admitted fact that corruption and nobody thinks that the state of new So exists, and nobody thinks that this can be wiped out by a stroke of pen. So many things are involved, and a very important factor is the high prices of foodstuffs. So long as the prices of t foodstuffs. So long as the prices of foodstuffs and other commodities remain the lower paid officials. So, some sort of price-fixation is necessary; but mere price of paddy has been fixed at Rs 9 and of rice at Rs 17 a maund. That price of paddy has been fixed at Rs. 9 and of rice at Rs. 17 a maund. That has not worked because it has been found that Government godewns, which should have been full if there was sufficient supply of paddy and rice, are almost depleted. There is hardly any paddy and rice to be found in the Government godowns under the Procurement Department. of Jorhat made hysterical appeal to the Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar he said that he could not help the people of Jorhat in getting rice because the Procure-ment Department could not supply the rice that was required. The public of Jorhat had, therefore, either to buy from black market at about Rs.30 a maund or to go without meals. Belonging as I do to the middle class I had sometimes tried to go to the Bazar to get some rice. But to my dismay I found

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a great crowd of people wanting to buy the little quantity of rice that was offered for sale. People like myself could not buy any rice, only those who could jostle about and push out other people from the queue could get rice that was being sold in small quantities to the public. That is the distress of the people, Sir. Now, Government have been trying to grow more food. If more food could have been grown by now the hoarders, black-marketers and profiteers would not have had this chance of their life in putting the poor public to such distress. The Grow-More-Food Campaign has not succeeded, something has been wrong or wanting somewhere. if there was surplus paddy in the State of Assam then with or without Grow More-Food Campaign we would not have had to pay such high prices. If paddy was then hoarded it would have been impossible for the hoarders to put us in such a difficult position. A remedy Government have stated what measures be The found. they have adopted and the plans they have drawn up to tide over the present distressing situation. In a State where there is one party rule centralisation is effective, but in a democratic State centralisation cannot be worked. What is wanted is decentralisation. This must be pursued in every phase of Government activity. From time to time we shall have this difficulty in a poor State like India. We have continued to proceed with the centralisation of economy— centralisation plan that was pursued by the British. We have failed therefore to bring any benefit, and we shall always fail because we are now a democratic State. The sooner we are able to decentralise the Government activities the better for us, for this State and for the people. What is wanted now is for Government to try their best to associate more and more of the people with the activity of the Government in regard to all things, that is anti-corruption work, anti-hoarding work and the antiblack marketing work, and in the work of distribution, in the plans for growing more food. In a democratic State people and the Government are one, if we claim to be a democratic country, if our State is said to be democratic, it is quite possible that profiteers will not play the game. It is possible that corrupted people will think that the old Government is best. There might be disruptors, but I think if the Government is sincere, sincere to better the condition of the people in the State of Assam, what is wanted is the decentralisation of the Government activities, so that Government and the people will work together. At present there is so much centralisation that everything has to be done from the top and nothing to be done at the bottom. Government is expected to do everything and the people are expected to do nothing. Government admit this by their formation of Panchayat; Government admit this by continuing to make the co-operative movement a success. Somehow or other co-operation from the people will have to be obtained by the Government so as to stop the country from drifting towards chaos and abyss. A very dangerous situation stares the country in the face A worse situation we are experiencing just now than that before the Bengal famine. Government will not alone be able to tackle it. People will have to be brought to associate with the Government affairs and we hope that will be done very soon, otherwise we do not know what calamity will overtake the State of Assam, it will be a calamity worse than Bengal famine. So I have just wanted to make out that Government in view of the fact that they have accepted the policy of decentralisation in their laying stress to co-operative movement, to Panchayat, will show by their whole heart by gradually associating the people to all activities of the Government.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Will Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury move his *Motion now? I think he need not as his Motion is substantially the same.

^{*}Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY to move—"That the food situation of the State be taken into consideration".

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: In view of the fact that a similar Motion has already been moved by my Friend Mr. Talukdar, the question of moving my Motion does not arise, They are identical Motion.

Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ মাননীয় শূীযুত তালু কদাৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই বৰ্ত্তমান খাদ্য সমস্য। আৰু মানুহৰ দৈনন্দিন জীৱনৰ নিত্য পুয়োজনীয় বস্তু বিলাকৰ সমালোচনা দাঙি ধৰি তেখেতে আজি আমাক এই সমালোচনাৰ অংশ গুহণ কৰিবৰ স্থাবিধা দিয়াৰ বাবে তেখেতক ধন্যবাদ দিছেঁ। আৰু তেখেতক অভিনন্দন জনাওঁ।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বাস্তবিকতে আমাৰ মাননীয় সদস্য সকলে আজি আমাৰ এই পৰিঘদৰ আগত যিটো খাদ্য আৰু মানুহৰ দৈনদিন জীৱনৰ নিত্য প্ৰয়োজনীয় বস্তবিলাকৰ অভাবৰ কথা কৈছে, সেইটো তেখেত সঁকলেও বেচি ৰকমে অনুভব কৰিছে, হয়তে। তাৰ ফলত দুই এজন মাননীয় সদস্যই আমাৰ চৰকাৰকো দুঘাৰ কবলগীয়া হৈছে। আমি এতিয়া ভাবি চাব नांशित त्य यिथिनि वस राज प्रामांब कनमांशाबरण मानूर रिहारत वाहि थाकित शास्त्र, रमरे वस्त्रिशिनव কাৰণে বৰ্তুমান আমাৰ চৰকাৰে কিবা চেটা কৰিছেনে নাই। মোৰ মনেৰে জনসাধাৰণে যিখিনি পাব লাগে সেই খিনি তেওঁলোকক দিব লাগিব। মোৰ বোধেৰে জনসাধাৰণে যিখিনি পাব লাগে সেই খিনি যোগায় তেওঁলোকক স্থাবিধা দিবৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ চৰকাৰ কেতিয়াও কুষ্টিত হোৱা নাই। আৰু তেঁখেত সকলে তাৰ কাৰণে যৎপৰোনাস্তি চেষ্টাও কৰিছে। প্ৰজা সাধাৰণৰ নিত্য প্রয়োজনীয় খাদ্যদ্রবাৰ যোগানৰ বাবে ইমান চেষ্টা কৰা স্বত্বেও খেতিয়ক আৰু পূজা ু সাধাৰণে আমাৰ চৰকাৰক দোঘাৰোপ কৰিছে কিয় আৰু চৰকাৰেও সেই খিনি মুব পাতি লবলগীয়া হৈছে কিয় ? চৰকাৰে যথাসাধ্য চেষ্টা কৰা স্বত্বেও চৰকাৰৰ ওপৰত দোঘু পৰাৰ কাৰণ কি ? কাৰণ ইয়াৰ মূলতেই আছে কিছুমান চৰকাৰী কৰ্লচাৰী যি সকলৰ দুৰ্ণীতিৰ কাৰণে আজি দেশত এই বিলাক হাঁহাকাৰ (গুনক, গুনক) চৰকাৰৰ কিছুমান ওপৰৱালা কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে দোঘ কৰিব আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ দোঘৰ বোজা চৰকাৰে মুব পাতি লব লাগিব ৷ অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমি জানো আমাৰ ওপৰৱালা কৰ্মচাৰী সকলক আমাৰ চৰকাৰে জনসাধাৰণৰ আৱশ্যকীয় দুব্য যোগানৰ order দিয়ে—আদেশ দিয়ে। কিন্তু তেওঁলোকৰ অৱহেলাৰ কাৰণেই হওক নাইবা সময়ৰ অভাৰতেই হওক, বা বৃটিছৰ আমোলৰ মনোবৃত্তিৰ কাৰণেই হওক, তেওঁলোকে সেই বিলাক यारम्भ waste paper basket ত পেলাই থৈ দিয়ে (applause) তাৰ ফলত জনসাধাৰণে দুঃখ পায় আৰু লগে লগে জনসাধাৰণে চৰকাৰক দোঘ দিয়ে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, কবলৈ বাধ্য হৈছো যে, এনেকুৱাও কিছুমান officer আছে যি বিলাকক ৰাতিপুৱা ৬ বজাৰ পৰা দিনৰ ১০ বজালৈকে ঘৰতেই অফিচ কৰা দেখা যায়। তেওঁলোকৰ ঘৰৰ আগত 'চেলোলেট', 'পুীমাউথ' 'ইুডিবেকাৰ' 'জীপ' আদি গাড়ী লাগি লাগি থাকে, তেখেত সকল, সদায় ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ মহাজনৰ কামতে ব্যস্ত থাকে (হৰ্মংবনী), যি বিলাক ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ সহাজন hoarders, black-marketers আছে, তেওঁলোকৰ ঘৰে ঘৰে বাই আছে৷ মাৰে, ১০ বজাত অফিচাৰ সকলক বিচাৰি গলৈ অফিচত নাপায়। যদি কোনো বিপদ্পুস্ত মানুহে বহু কটেবে খাপ লৈ দেখা কৰি ৰাইজৰ অভাব অভিযোগৰ কথা কৈ তাৰ সমাধানৰ কাৰণে তেওঁলোকক অনুৰোধ কৰে, সেই অফিচাৰ বিলাকেই নানা কামৰ অজুহাত দেখুৱাই কয় যে এতিয়া সময় নাই, অইন এটা দৰ্কাৰী কামত যাব লাগে আন এদিন আহিব। এই ধৰণৰ অফিচাৰ সকলক দেখিব, অফিচ ছুটিৰ পাছত সন্ধ্যা তেওঁলোকে Plymouth গাড়ী লৈ হয় নিজে নহয় লৰা ছোৱালী পৰিবাৰ লৈ ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ বেপাৰী আৰু মহাজন সকলৰ অন্দৰ মহলত বহি থাকে। যি সকল কল্মচাৰীৰ কৰ্ত্তবাপৰায়ণতাৰ কাৰণে, দেশৰ উদ্ধাৰ হয়, যি সকল কৰ্ল্ডাৰীৰ মুখলৈ দেশবাসীয়ে চাই থাকে, সেই সকল কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে জনসাধাৰণৰ দুঃখদৈন্যৰ ফালে আওকাণ কৰি, সময় নাই বুলি ডাঙৰ মহাজনৰ ঘৰত আড়ো মাৰি বহি থাকি যদি দুৰ্দশাগ্ৰন্ত ৰাইজক আৰু দুখ দিবলগীয়া হয়, তাতকৈ আৰু দুখৰ কথা কিবা আছেনে ? তেনেকুৱা কৰ্মচাৰীক কামত ৰখা নৰখা সমান কথা বুলি মই (छनक, छनक), गरे माठि कव शारव। त्य एउँएलाटक आगाव চबकावव गर्यामा वरहांत। नाई।

जनाक मरहाम्य. मुट्टीच चकर्प जांक वहा छिनंतरे, मार्यिबिहा, निषु जांनि nonrationing area ৰ কথা কৰ খোজো, ডিব্ৰুগড subdivisionত ৭ লাখ লোকসংখ্যা, তাবে চাবে তিনি লাখ চাহ বণুৱা, দেব লাখ industrial labour আৰু দেব লাখ কলম পিহি খোৱা মানুহ। সেই ঠাই বিলাকৰ কাৰণে এশ মোণ বা ১৫০ মোণ চাউল একোৱেই নহয়। যি খিনি চাউল পঠোৱা হয় তাকে। জনসাধাৰণৰ বহুতে নাপায়। ২৫ মোণ, এশ মোণ আদি চাউলৰ licence কেইবাজনবো আছে। কিন্তু চাউল বিলাক নি কত দিয়েগৈ কব নোৱাৰি। ভনিব পোৱা যায় যে ডিগবইৰ এজন মহাজনে এবাৰ এশ মোণ চাউল নি বাটতে নোহোৱা কৰিলে। থেতিয়া ৰাইজে চাউল নাপালে আৰু আপত্তি কৰিলে অফিচাৰে তদন্ত কৰি উক্ত মহাজনৰ মাত্ৰ licence খন ৰদ কৰিলে। সেই মহাজন জনৰ ওপৰত আৰু আন কিবা ব্যৱস্থা लाल रम मार्च कर रमावारवा। अरेपरव रमाकानी मकरन ठाउँन भि कि करव नकरव कव रमावावि। দিদিন। যেতিয়া ডিগবইত চাউলৰ হাঁহাকাৰ লাগিল আৰু ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ অফিছলৈ আহি ৰাইজে আপত্তি কৰিলে তেতিয়া তেখেত সকলে কলে যে আমাৰ চাউলৰ বৰ অভাব, তথাপি ৫০ মোণ চাউল পঠাইছো। সেই খিনি শেষ হলে আকৌ দিম। এতিয়া আপোনালোকে চাওক যি বিলাক কৰ্ম চাৰীৰ দোষত আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত এনে বিলাক জটিল সমস্যাৰ উদ্ভব হৈছে, যি বিলাক অফিচাৰে দেখাদেখিকৈ কলাৰজাৰক সহায় কৰে, সেই বিলাক অফিচাৰৰ ওপৰত আমাৰ চৰকাৰে চকু দিয়া উচিত হয়নে নহয় ? অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আপোনালোকে জানে যে, ডিব্ৰুগড়, ডিগ্ৰই, মার্ষেৰিটা, তিনচকীয়া, লিড আদি অঞ্চলৰ খেতিৰ উপযুক্ত অলপে৷ মাটি নাই আৰু সেই কাৰণে উৎপাদনৰে৷ কোনো উপায় নাই। তাত চাউলৰ কাৰণে ইমান হাঁহাকাৰ আৰু গৱণ মেণ্টে পয়োজন অনুসাৰে চাউল যোগাৰ পৰা নাই। তেনেস্থলত তাৰ কাৰণে যিখিনি চাউল নিছে, সেই খিনিও তেওঁলোকে ঠিকমতে সেই ঠাইত দিব পৰা নাই। মোৰ বোধেৰে যি বিলাক কৰ্ম্মচাৰীয়ে বা মহাজনে তেওঁলোকৰ স্বাৰ্থ ৰ বাবে দেশৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ ফালে চকু নিদি স্বাৰ্থান্ধী সকলে দেশ খনক জৰুল৷ কবি সমাজ খনক পদু কৰিব বিছাবিছে তেনে লোক সকলৰ পতি অতি সোনকালে যথোচিত বিছাৰ কৰিব লাগে।

অধ্যক্ষ ডাঙৰীয়া, চাওক যদি ডিগ্ৰইৰ নিচিনা ঠাইত, ড্মড্মাৰ নিচিনা ঠাইত মাৰ্ঘেৰিটাৰ নিচিন। ঠাইত আৰু লিডুৰ নিচিন। ঠাইত য'ত অলপে। (খতিৰ মাটি নাই ২৪ ঘণ্টাই পৰিশ্ৰম কৰি थाव नार्ग, তেনে ঠাইত চাউলৰ হাঁহাকাৰ হলে কি উপায় আছে? সেইবিলাক ঠাইব মহাজন বিলাকক লাইচেঞ্চ দিয়া হৈছে তেওঁলোকে চাউলবোৰ কি কৰিছে চৰকাৰে বিচাৰ কৰিছে নে ? বৃটিছৰ আমোলত আৰু চাদলা গৱৰ্ণ মেণ্টৰ দিনত আমাৰ নিচিন৷ কত মানুহক বহিচ্চাৰ কৰিছিল তেওঁলোকৰ দেশৰ শান্তিৰ বাবে. তেন্তে আজি যিবিলাক মহাজনে যিবিলাক অফিচাবে দেশক বিপনু কৰিছে দেশত অশান্তিৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিছে তেওঁলোক ক দেশদ্ৰোহী বুলি ধৰিব নোৱাৰি নে ? আৰু এইদৰে দেশদ্ৰোহী কাম কৰাৰ বাবে তেওঁলোকক বহিন্ধাৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰি নে? কিন্তু চৰকাৰী চাকৰীয়াল সকলে দু পীতি কবাৰ কথা কলে চৰকাৰে কয় আমাক উপযুক্ত প্ৰমাণ লাগে। প্ৰমাণ আমি দিব পাৰো। কিন্তু এতিয়। সেইবোৰ কথা এই হাউচৰ ভিতৰত কোৱা উচিত নহয়। যেনেকৈ পুলিচ আৰু C. I. D. এ মানুহৰ কাৰ্য্য কলাপ দেখিয়েই কমিউনিট বা আন দেশদোহী বুলি আটক কৰিব পাৰে ঠিক তেনেকৈ এই অফিচাৰ বা মহাজন সকলৰ ওপৰত সেই ভাবেই তেওঁলোকৰ কত্তব্যৰ প্ৰতি অবহেল। কৰাত তেনে ব্যৱস্থা অবলম্বন কৰিব নেংৱাৰি নে ?

এটা অতি লাগতিয়াল কথা। আজি খাদ্য মন্ত্রীৰ পৰা জানিলো $I.\ T.\ A.$ ই বোলে চাউলৰ কাবণে অনর্থ ক আপত্তি কৰিছে। I.T.A. ক বছৰি যি ১ লাখ ২০ হাজাৰ টন চাউল লাগে চৰকাৰে ইতিমধ্যে ১ লাখ ২০ হাজাৰ টনৰ ভিতৰত ১ লাখ টন চাউল I.T.A. ক দিছে। মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে কৈছে যে লোক প্রতি /।।০ সেৰকৈ কাটিলে সেই ২০ হাজাৰ টনে। পুৰি যায়। আৰু চাউলৰ কম নপৰে। কিন্তু চাওক লোক প্রতি /।।০ কৈ কিয় $I.\ T.\ A.$ ই /৪ সেৰৰ পৰা /১০ সেবলৈকে বাগানৰ বনুৱাৰ চাউল কাটিছে। বনুৱা সকলক কয় যে আমি চাউল দিব নোৱাৰো, চৰকাৰে আমাক চাউল নিদিয়ে। তেনেহলে এই /৪ ৰ পৰা /১০ সেবলৈকে যে কাটিছে এইবোৰ চাউল কলৈ গল? /।।০ সেবকৈ কাটিলেই যদি ২০ হাজাৰ টন পুৰা হয় তাৰ ঠাইত ১০ সেবলৈকে কাটিছে কিয় ? আৰু এটা বৰ পৰিতাপৰ কাম কৰিছে যে North Bank ৰ

বাগান বিলাকত বেছনৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে নগদ পইছা দিছে। তেনেহলেএই চাউল বিলাক কি হল ? এইবোৰ hoard কৰা নাইনে ? আৰু এই hoard কৰা চাউল বিলাক যে কলা বজাৰলৈ নাযাব তাৰ কি প্ৰমাণ আছে। গতিকে এই কথা চৰকাৰে অনুসন্ধান কৰিবনে ?

আৰু এটা কথা অৱশ্যে কথাটো গোজেই গজালী বুলি ভাবিব পাৰে। আমাৰ যোৰহাটৰ চাহ মজদুৰ সজ্পৰ সভাপতি শ্ৰীযুত সংৰ্বেশ্বৰ বৰদলৈয়ে যেতিয়া ৰেছনৰ বিষয়ে মজদুৰ সকলক কয়গৈ যে বৰ্ত্তমান আমাৰ দেশৰ অৱস্থা বৰ বেয়া গতিকে বৰ্ত্তমান অৱস্থাত আমি ৰাইজক সহায় কৰিব লাগে, অন্ততঃ কিছু দিনৰ বাবে চাউল কম লব লাগে। তেখেতে কৈছিল যে ত্ৰিদলীয় সন্মিলনত হোৱা সিদ্ধান্ত মতে বাগানৰ মেনেজাৰ বা I. T. A. ই মানি লোৱা নাই। গতিকে আমি চাব লাগিব যে সেইবিগাক যেন গোজেই গজালী নহয়। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় খাদ্যমন্ত্ৰীৰ বিবৃত্তিৰ পৰা স্পষ্ট বুজা গল যে চাউল থকা স্বন্ধেও I. T. A. ই চাউল নাই বুলি অজুহাত দেখুৱাইছে। তাৰ দ্বাৰা বনুৱা সকলৰ যথেও অন্যায় হৈছে ভৰিষ্যতেও তেওঁলোকে তেনে কৰিবৰ বাবে পাঙি থৈছে। এইবিলাক সত্য কথা কবলৈ যাওতেই শ্ৰীযুত সংৰ্বেশ্বৰ বৰদলৈক মৰিয়নি বাটৰ পৰা ধৰি ২১ চেপ্তেশ্বৰ তাৰিখে ৰাতি যোৰহাট থানালৈ লোনানান কথা কৈ পিছ দিনা যোৰহাটৰ বৰচাহাবৰ বঙলাত ভয় দেখুৱাই ধমক দি নানা লাঞ্চনা কৰে।

শেইদৰে মাৰ্ঘে ৰিটাৰ চাহ মজদুৰ চাৰ্কেল সম্পাদক শ্ৰী প্ৰফুল্ চৰকাৰকে। মাৰ্ঘে বিটাৰ পুলিচ ইন্সপেক্টৰে নানা কথা কৈ অপমান কৰে। এবাৰ দকৈ ভাবি চাওক যে আজি দেশৰ শৃঙ্খলা বাখিছে কোনে ? বনুৱা সমাজে। পুলিচ বাহিনীয়েও আজি সেইখিনি কৰিব পৰা নাই। কিন্তু আজি যদি গোটেই বনুৱা সমাজে লুটপাট কৰি দেশত অশান্তি সৃষ্টি क विवर्तन विठारव एउटनश्राम प्रश्नित प्रमान क विव श्रीविवरन ? कि उन् वा गर्भारक সেইটো কৰিবলৈ নিবিছাৰে ? দেশৰ প্ৰতি তেওঁলোকৰ কিখিনি দায়িত্ব আছে সেই কথা ভালকৈ বুজে। বনুৱা সমাজ আৰু তেওলোকৰ নেতা সকলে দেশত সদায় শান্তিস্থাপন কৰিবলৈ বিছাৰে ৷ অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, চৰকাৰে সদায় কৈ আহিছে বেচি শস্য উৎপাদন কৰিব লাগে किछ करन कि इव ? त्वांत्न "छान नार ज्वांबान नार जाव नाम निधिबाम छर्जाव" এইবোৰ নকলেও নহয়। কাৰণ ঃ—"সভাত থাকি নামাতে উচিত দোষে পায় কিঞ্চিৎ কিঞ্চিৎ"। কৃষক সকলৰ খাবলৈ ভাত নাই, খেতিৰ মাটি নাই এনেকুৱা অৱস্থাত সৰহ শস্য উৎপাদন কৰে কেনেকৈ ? আজি কৃষক সকলৰ অৱস্থা ইমান শোচনীয় যে তেওলোকে খেতিৰ বাবে এহাল গৰু কিনিবলৈ অসমৰ্থ । আজি নিজৰ দেশতে কৃষক সকল আলহীৰ দৰে হৈছে। তেওলোকৰ খেতিৰ বাবে আজি যথেষ্ট মাটি নাই। মাটি থাকিলেও হালোৱা গৰু নাই।এই নানান অসুবিধাৰ কাৰণে আজি তেওলোক জুৰুলা হৈ পৰিছে। যেতিয়ালৈকে এই খেতিয়ক সকলক চৰকাৰে উচিত সাহায্য নিদিয়ে তেতিয়ালৈকে বেছি শস্য কেতিয়াও উৎপনু হব নোৱাৰে। চৰকাৰে কৃষি ধান দিছে কাক ? যি সকলে Law জানে ভাল, খুব ভাল মতে ইংৰাজী কথা কৈ yes, sir, yes sir, কব পাৰে সেইসকলেই সহজে কৃষিধান পায়। আচল খেতিয়কক আজি পৰিমিত কৃষিধান দিয়া হোৱা নাই। তেনেহলে তেওলোকে বেছি শস্য উৎপাদন কৰে

এই প্ৰদন্ধতে মই আৰু এঘাৰ কথা নকৈ নোৱাৰো। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যোৱা পৰিষদত যেতিয়া মই ৰাজনৈতিক নিৰ্ম্যাতিত কৰ্ম্মী সকলৰ কথা উথাপন কৰি তেওলোকক ৩০ বিঘা মাটিৰ লগে লগে চৰকাৰে এহাল হালোৱা গৰু, এজনী থিৰতি গাই আৰু কিছু কৃষিধাণ দি কৰ্ম্মী সকলক সেই সময়ত এইদৰে সহায় কৰা হলে হয়তো আজিব খাদ্য সমস্যা বহুখিনি লাঘৰ কৰিব পৰা হল হয়। যি কৰ্ম্মীয়ে নিজৰ প্ৰাণ উৎসগা কৰিও দেশৰ স্বাধীনতা আনিব পাৰে কৰ্ম্মীয়ে নিজৰ প্ৰাণ আৰু স্বজাতিব কাৰণে সকলো স্বাথ কৈ জলাঞ্জলী দিব পাৰে সেই সকল ক্ষ্মীসকলে যথেষ্ট সহায় কৰিব হয়। কিছু দুখৰ বিষয় সেই নিৰ্ম্যাতিত কৰ্ম্মী সকলৰ অৱস্থা জাজি শোচনীয়। আজি তেওলোক নিজৰ দেশতে ভিক্ষাৰী। যিসকল বীৰ বীৰাঙ্গনাই দেশৰ হকে

স্বজাতিৰ হকে নিজৰ প্ৰাপ দি গল হাহি হাহি ডিণ্ডিত চিপজৰী ললে আজি তেওঁলোকৰ সতি সন্ততি পথৰ ভিক্ষাৰী। ইয়াতকৈ আৰু পৰিতাপৰ বিষয় কিবা হব পাৰেনে ? গতিকে সাতেপাছে এইবিলাক কবলৈ বাধ্য হৈছো। আজি যে দেশত খাদ্য সমস্যা চলিছে ইফালে কমিউনিষ্ট সকলে বিশুখলা আনিছে ইয়াৰ কাৰণে দায়ী কোন ? মোৰ বিশ্বাস ইয়াৰ বাবে চৰকাৰৰ কিমান উচচত্ৰম কৰ্মচাৰী কিছু দায়ী। আজি যি বনু ৱাসমাজে দেশত শান্তি ৰক্ষা কৰিছে সেই বনু ৱা সকলৰ স্বধ-শান্তিৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে বিশেষ কিবা যত্ন লবনে ? কাজেই মই চৰকাৰক অনুবোধ কৰো দেশবাসীৰ খাদ্য বস্তব স্থবিধা কেনেকৈ হব পাৰে তাক ভালদৰে চিন্তা কৰি নেতৃন পথ অনলম্বন কৰি হলেও জনসাধাৰণৰ নিত্য প্ৰয়োজনীয় বস্তুখিনি যোগান দি মানুহ হিচাবে টিকি থাকিবলৈ স্থবিধা দিব লাগে। আৰু লগতে এই বনু ৱা সকলকো এটা উচচ আদশৰ পথলৈ নিবৰ বাবে যৎপৰোনাষ্টি চেটা কৰিব লাগে। ইমানকে কৈ মোৰ বজব্যৰ সামৰণী মাৰিলো— জয় হিন্দ।

Srijut CHANOO KHERIA: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, খাদ্য সমস্যা আলোচনা প্ৰসঙ্গত মই বেচি কথা নকঁও বুলিয়েই ভাবিছো কাৰণ এই পৰিষদৰ বহুতো সদস্যই নানা ফালৰ পৰা নানা ৰক্ষৰ কথা ঁকৈ গৈছে। গতিকে মই মোৰ সাধাৰণ মগজুৰ পৰা যি দই-চাৰিটা কথা ওলায় তাকে কৈয়েই মোৰ বক্তব্যৰ ওৰ পেলাম। দেশত খাদ্যৰ অভাৱ হৈছে— णांक তारक रेन वहरा पारनाहना रेह रेशरह। क'ठ थानाव नाहेनि পৰিছে, क'ठ थाना অতিৰিক্ত হৈছে, ক'ৰপৰা ক'লৈ পঠোৱা উচিত আদি বহুতো কথাই শুনিলো কিন্তু আমি দেশৰ খাদ্য সমস্যা কেনেকৈ সমাধান কবিব পাৰিম তাৰ কোনে৷ উপায়েই সেই বিলাক কথাৰ পৰা বিজিব পৰা ন'গল। গতিকে এই সম্বন্ধে মই মোৰ অভিপ্ৰতাৰ পৰা দু-আঘাৰ মান কথা এই পৰিষদৰ সদস্য সকলৰ আগত দাঙি ধৰিবলৈ ইচছা কৰো। অতীজৰে পৰা আমাৰ দেশত যিখিনি খেতিৰ মাটি আছে—সেই খিনিয়েই আজিও আছে—তাৰ আয়তন বৃদ্ধি কৰিব পৰা নাই। গতিকে মোৰ মতে অতি সোনকালে অসমৰ পতিত মাটি বিলাক, বাঢ়ি অহা আমাৰ মাটি হীন Indigenous মানুহক খেতি কৰিবলৈ দি দিব লাগে। কিয়নো যোৱা ১৫ আগষ্টৰ ভমিকম্প আৰু তাৰ সহচৰ বানপানীয়ে, বিশেষকৈ ভূমিকম্পই আমাৰ দেশৰ বছতে৷ খেতিৰ উপযোগী মাটি খেতিৰ অনুপ্ৰ ক্জ কৰিলে। তাৰোপৰি যোৱা বছৰৰ তুলনাত এইবাৰ আন দেশৰ প্ৰা আমাৰ দেশলৈ বছতে অনাঅসমীয়া মানুহ আহি ভৰি পৰিছেহি আৰু কালক্ৰমত সিবিলাককো ঠলুৱা অসমীয়া মানুহৰ ওপৰঞ্চি হিচাবে মাটি দিব লগা হৈছে। কাজেই, এতিয়াই অতি সোনকালে, যিখিনি খেতিৰ মাটি চন পবি আছে, সেই খিনি বাঢ়ি অহা ঠলুৱা অসমীয়া খেতিয়কক দি দিয়াতে। সমিচীন হব। বেলব লাইনৰ আৰু গড়-কাপ্তানি বিভাগৰ আলিবোৰৰ দয়োকাষে বহুতো খেতিৰ মাটি এনেয়ে পৰি আছে। সেই মাটি বিলাক তাৰ ওচৰে পাজৰে থকা মাটি নাইকিয়া মানুহ বিলাকক দি দি ৰাইজক খেতি কৰিবলৈ স্থবিধ। দিব লাগে আৰু তাৰ লগে লগে খেতিৰ সজ লিৰ কাৰণে আথিক সাহায্য ও দিব লাগে। আৰু এনে কিছুমান খেতিৰ উপযোগী মাটি আছে য'ত সকলে। সময়তে পানী থকাৰ কাৰণে খেতি কৰিব নোৱাৰে—সেই विनाक गाँउ शवा नेना, थान जापि करोडांडे शानी विनाक छेनिसांडे (थे जिब छे अरवांजी किवरेन বিশেষ ৰাৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। আমি, সেই বিলাক কাম কৰিবলৈ হাতত লৈছে।—কিন্তু বঙালী ভাষাত কোৱাৰ দৰে সেই বিলাক ধিমাতেতালা অথাৎ মন্থৰ গতিত চলিব লাগিছে। তেনেকৈ लार्च घटन नहन । युक्तन नमग्र एरानरेक मानुर नाजि मिन थि तनारहातारेक काम किन পৰা হৈছিল- ঠিক তেনেকৈ কাম হব লাগিব, তেতিয়াহে সেই বিষয়ে আগ বাঢ়িব পৰা হব। তাৰোপৰি যিবিলাক বানপানীয়ে উপদূব কৰা অঞ্চল সেই বিলাকত মঠাউৰি বান্ধি দি খেতিৰ উপযোগী কৰিবলৈ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত। এইদৰে ঠলুৱা আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলক সকলো খেতিৰ উপযুক্ত মাটি দি, সজুলি দি, খেতিৰ সঁচ দি, আথিক সাহায়া দি, जिसक भेगा छे९ शामन के बिवटेन कार्या कवी शेश (पर्युवारे गांग शिक निर्देश कि, गरांस फिलार আমাৰ দিনে দিনে বাঢ়ি অহা জটিল খাদ্য সমস্যাৰ ওৰ পৰিব। নহলে দেশৰ মঙ্গল সাধন হোৱাটে। সম্ভৱ নহয়।

এই সম্বন্ধে আন এটা কথালৈ ইঞ্জিত দিয়াটো নোৰ উচিত হব যে—আমাৰ নিঃসহায় দুখীয়া খেতিয়ক সকলক অৰ্থ সাহায্য বা অন্য প্ৰকাৰে সহায় কৰিবলৈ অথ কৰ পৰা পাব ?

এই পথত এহেজাৰ বা দুহোজাৰ টকা—টকাই নহয়। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে এক লাখ বা এন কোটি টকা ও একো নহব কেইবা কোটিও টকা লাগিব আৰু দেই টকা ভাল মতে খৰছ কৰিব লাগিব। আমাৰ গভৰ্ণ মেণ্টে Grow More Food অভিযান আৰু কৃষি বিভাগত যিখিনি টকা ব্যয় কৰে সেই খিনি টকা যদি ভালকৈ খেতিব কামত লগাব পাৰে তেন্তে মোৰ বিশ্বাস—সি বেচি কাৰ্য্যকাৰী হৈ উঠিব আৰু সেই কাৰণে তাৰ দিহা কৰিব লাগিব।

আৰু এটা নতুন কথা মোৰ মনত পৰিছে যিটো কথা শুনিলে হয়তো আপোনালোকে মোক বিপুৰী বুলি নাভাবি নোৱাৰিব। পাচে মই বিপুৰী নহও। কথাটো হৈছে--সকলোৱে আমি শুনিছো যে, খেতিয়ক বা বেপাৰীয়ে যিবিলাক ধান মজুত ৰাখিছে—সেই বিলাক Sieze কৰা হৈছে আৰু তাব বিৰাট অংশ এটা কেন্দ্ৰীয় গভৰ্ণ মেণ্টে অসমৰ বাহিৰলৈ লৈ গৈছে। খেতি কৰিব নোৱাৰাৰ কাৰণে খাদ্য উৎপাদন কম হোৱাত আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ ভিতৰতে খাবলৈ নাইকিয়া হৈছে। যেতিয়ালৈকে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ ভিতৰতে প্ৰচুৰ পৰিমাণে উৎপাদন নহয় তেতিয়ালৈকে চৰকাৰে এমুঠি ধানো আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ পৰা বাহিৰলৈ যাবলৈ দিব নালাগে। যেতিয়ালৈকে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ ভিতৰত ধান উত্তৈনদী নহয় তেতিয়ালৈকে আমাৰ ধান্য আমাৰ ৰাজ্যতে ৰখাৰ দিহা কৰিব লাগে। আনকালে কেন্দ্ৰীয় গভণ মেণ্টেও আমাক যথেই টকানিদিয়ে আন কালৰ পৰাও পাবৰ বাট নাই; গতিকে থিবিলাক ধনী মানুহৰ বেচি টকা জমা আছে—দিবিলাকৰ অতিৰক্ত অংশটো ও Seize কৰিব লাগে। যিমান খিনি টকা হলে তেওঁলোক চলিব পাৰে সিমান খিনি দি বাকা খিনি টকা State property কৰিব লাগে আৰু দৰিদু জন সাধাৰণৰ সৱাত ব্যয় কৰিব লাগে।

ইয়াৰ লগতে মই এইটোও কব খুজিছো যে আজি খাদ্য সমস্যাৰ ভীষণ চাপ আগতলৈ যি বিলাক নতুন পৰিকল্পনা আমাৰ চৰকাৰে হাতত ল'ব খুজিছে তাক কাৰ্য্যত পৰিণত কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰাৰ আগতে প্ৰকৃততে সেই বিলাক আজিৰ এই পৰিস্থিতিৰ সমুখত দকাৰী নে অদকাৰী সেইটো বিৰেচনা কৰিব লাগে। যিবিলাক আঁচনি দুবছৰৰ পিচত কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিলেও হব, সেই বিলাক আজি নকৰি তেতিয়ালৈ থৈ সেই টকাৰে আজিৰ দকাৰী ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লোৱা যুগুত বুলি মই ভাবো। কাৰণ মানুহে খাদ্য সমস্যা পাচত সমাধান কৰিম বুলি খেতিবাতি নকৰাকৈ নেখোৱা নোবোৱাকৈ কেৱল পানী বা বায়ু খাই জীয়াই খাকিব নোৱাৰে। সেই কাৰণে, মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰে৷ যেন—অনাৱশ্যকীয় কিছুমান পৰিকল্পনা কাৰ্য্যকৰী এনে স্থবিধা দিয়ে যাতে পৃথিবীৰ বুকত সোনোৱালী শইস উভৈনদী হৈ উঠে। তেনে কৰিব পাৰিলেহে দেশ ৰক্ষা কৰা হব, সমাজৰ কল্যাণ হব, দুখীয়া খেতিয়কৰ আথিক অৱস্থাৱ উনুতি হব। আধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই ইয়াৰ ভিতৰতে, ভালপোৱা বেয়াপোৱা বহুখিনি কথাই কৈ পেলালো; যদি কাৰবোৰ কাৰণে দোঘণীয় হৈছে তেন্তে মাজৰ্জন। কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো। ইয়াকে কৈ

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that a large number of speeches have already been delivered on the floor of the House regarding the high prices of foodstuff and other essential commodities. I am glad and very glad indeed that the Motion has been brought in by an hon. Member of the Party in power. I am very glad to hear the fiery speech that has been made on the floor of the House by my Friend, Srijut Dalbir Singh Lohar, and it appears from his speech that he almost lost his temper and had he got a lathi with him, he would have struck—and I wish he had done so—the officer or officers guilty of corruption. I can assure him that should he require help I can supply him with a contingent of force from my college, viz., the J. B. College, to hammer out the brains of those who are

corrupt and those for whose activities or inactivities people like him or myself continue to suffer and suffer in the way which has been eloquently described by certain hon. Members on the floor of the House.

Sir, it has already been reported in the papers that a large number of deaths from starvation have occurred in certain Provinces in the country. This cast a reflection on the Government. A quiet denial has come from high officials and from those who hold important portfolios. But as a matter of fact, we do not exactly know what the actual intention is. People like Jai Prakash Narain of India have gone to the length of charging Government with having failed to give a satisfactory reply with regard to the distressing food situation in the country and the starvation deaths which have been reported. I should like to warn the Government that they should take note of the views of the people—especially of the views of my hon. Friend, Srijut Dalbir Singh Lohar. Government ought to know that if they allow the present conditions to continue for any length of time, the only thing they will have to face is a revolution which all the people will have to join. I am not advocating the cause of revolutionaries in Assam or in any other part of India, but the stomach must be kept satisfied. You want service from them, you want duties from them, you want everything from them and I think you are getting all these from them in adequate measure. But on the other hand they are not getting the dues that they ought to get at the hands of Government because of the inefficiency of some Ministry or some department of the Government. Today people have got to suffer from so many kinds of hardships and difficulties.

people have got to suffer from so many kinds of hardships and difficulties.

Explanations have been given by the Government that it is because of black-marketing, hoarding or vagaries of Nature, of the monsoon, earthquakes, this and that and the other that the country is being confronted by such a situation, such an acute shortage of foodstuff. With those explanations the country will not be satistisfied. The difficulties and hardships have already been brought to the notice of this House. There are about 1,000 tea gardens in Assam with about 1 million labourers on those tea gardens. These people have to go without food at least one day in the week. They are half-fed, undernourished. You can very well realise the conditions of these people. The activities of the anti-social people like the Communists who will take advantage of the situation will induce or force these people to take the extreme step such as revolution and so on. The Central Government has already brought to the notice of the country that the cost of living has gone up specially since the Korean war. Now I am glad that the Northerners-I mean Koreans of the North—are getting set-back after set-back and are receding from the South. I hope this will improve the situation and will bring normalcy not only to India but to other parts of the world. In spite of this we have been hearing a lot about self-sufficiency in food-stuff. Of late I came across a statement made by Shri K. M. Munshi, Central Food Minister, where he expressed concern as to the actual time of obtaining self-sufficiency in the country in regard to food-stuff because of the various calamities that befell the country such as earthquake, cyclone, flood and other things. In this state of affair if the hoarders, black-marketers and other anti-social elements are allowed to carry on their nefarious activities, the country will have to suffer immensely.

I am sorry to mention here that certain administrators and officers holding high positions should be doing things for which anybody would be ashamed. Since enough has been said by my Friend on the opposite side I do not like to harp on the same tune Suffice it to say corruptio optimi pessima—"corruption of the best is the worst of all". If people in high responsible position should go corrupt, just imagine what will be the plight of the masses in the country. I do not know what measures are taken or are proposed to be taken by Govern-

ment in order to bring these people to book.

Till recently the Government Procurement Department used to be getting rice by offering corrugated iron sheets at the ratio of one bundle for 25 maunds

of paddy. This has now been reduced to 15 maunds.

Sir, since enough has been spoken I do not propose to take any more time of the House. I should like to offer one suggestion to the Government. In 1948 we had here in Assam a Food Council which used to sit from time to time and review and assess the then prevailing food situation in the country But unfortunately for some reason or other the council has disappeared The Central Food Minister, Shri K. M. Munshi, has in a statement referred to the need of the creation of such Councils in the States. I hope Government will take this suggestion into consideration in view of the present acute shortage at times of secarcity of food-stuffs and set up a Food Council as soon as possible with members of this House and others outside the House in order to meet from time to time to assess the present food situation in the country and devise means how best the situation can be controlled. Otherwise, as I have said, you will not be able to control the Socialists and the Communists. Sibsagar appears to have gone out of control, so also some parts of Dibrugarh Subdivision. That does not mean that there is no Government there and that there is only chaos. Everyone knows that they are creating a bad situation for you in those places, I mean in Sibsagar and Dibrugarh. It is because of this scarcity of food-stuff and various commodities essential for decent living in our country that such a situation of the such as such as situation of the such as su in our country that such a situation has arisen.

Sir, I do not know what reply was made by the Hon'ble Shri Motiram Bora, the Supply Minister to the Motion moved by Shri Gauri Kanta Talukdar. That is why I am not in a position to discuss the same thing. I should like to hear from the Supply Minister after other speakers have expressed their views as to what he has got to say in regard to the distressing food situation in Assam.

Mr. LARSING KHYRIEM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government with regard to the food situation in the border of know that these people used to get rice from Nongstoin right up to Narpuh. You and after the Partition the rice is supplied from Shillong. Some time back down and they were given only ½ seer per head per week, but suddenly their ration was cut time when they used to get 3 seers they had to supplement their ration by side. These people, as we all know, have nothing to do but to grow betel nuts any land fit for cultivation, because all the land in the surrounding is rocky and per head per week, they would surely die of starvation and I am afraid there are suffering greatly and they do not know how long they will have to suffer like Government to see that these people be given ration of rice at the rate I.

The next point is that the

The next point is that the road from the point of starvation. ki is an important factor for those people because when they get their rice from backs to a distance of about 20 to 25 miles to their villages, sometimes staying a it would be a great help to them to bring it to their villages without much loss of time, and difficulty if the road is from Dawki to Muktapur is completed.

With these words, Sir, I request the Government to see that these people who have no foodstuff produce be given a full ration of rice and to save them from their difficulties.

Mrs. BONILY KHONGMEN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that hon. Srijut Gaurikanta Talukdar has moved such a Motion that it has got the whole hearted support of everybody in this House. Many hon. Members have already acquainted us with the food situation all over the State of Assam. I should also like to acquaint the hon. Members with the acute shortage of food in the border areas. People living in the border of Pakistan, as we have heard, used to get their supply of rice previously, before Partition, from Sylhet. These people, as we have heard from the hon. Member, Mr. Khyriem, do not grow rice, and I do not see the chance of doing so even now, their areas being very rocky and steepy and not being suitable for cultivation. The hon. Members may ask how these people managed to live soon after the Partition of the country. The answer is that these people used to get a small quantity of rice from outside the border and many of them had to depend on black market. It is really difficult to think how, when we from Government side are always crying for shortage of food everywhere, those people in the border areas can obtain a big amount of rice provided they can pay a very high price amounting to Rs.35 to 40 per maund. On the other hand these people could not also sell their crops as was mentioned in a statement made by one of the hon. Members that 1/60th of the oranges produced by them could be sold. These people always depended on their cultivation of oranges for their food and when they could not sell their oranges they had to exchange a large amount of oranges for a little food and sometimes they had to sell their household and utensils for the purpose. Such is the situation in those areas. Many women have to part with their ornaments and even had to sell their wedding rings in order to buy food for their hungry children. Such is the situation. They cared more for independence and only their self-respect had prevented them from coming here and be a burden to us all. I admire those people for their patience and bravery. As long as they could bear the burden they would not come to trouble us.

There are no hospitals in those areas, no dispensaries and no medical aid available. There are no schools. So, some of the boys and girls have to come to the town of Shillong for their studies. Though these few boys and girls come here to get education there is none to help them, and most of them had to abandon their studies as their parents cannot support them.

We have heard from the speech of His Excellency the Governor the other day that even after the two Prime Ministers' Agreement, I mean the Nehru-Liaquat Agreement, there was no improvement in the hats in these border areas and those people are exposed to all sorts of difficulties and temptations. Imay, for the information of the hon. Members state one instance. At Lakhat Bazar there used to be a big bazar and people from all over the border areas used to go and sell their oranges, pan leaves and other produce, and the Pakistani people used to go and buy their produce from there. But now they refuse to do so and they started another hat just a few yards opposite that market and were telling the people from our side, "you can come over here and sell your produce and you can get plenty of rice; or better still, you can join Pakistan and you be well-fed and clothed".

Hon. Members have already spoken about how Government were helping the people in various parts of the country. I should like to give a few suggestions before I resume my seat. The people in these border areas are hardworking people, they are day labourers and they need not less than a seer of rice per head per day. So far the quota of rice given to them was about 3 seers per head

per week and that has been cut down now to 3 powas per head per week and I understand they are going to get only about half a seer of rice per head per week. So long they were able to sustain their lives by depending on jungle fruit and wild roots and shoots, but even these, I may inform the hon. Members, are exhausted. So it is the duty of Government to see that these people are given immediately adequate supply of rice.

I am grateful to the Government for the grant that they have given in the shape of a sum of Rs.500 for these 70 thousand souls living in these areas. And also I am grateful to the Government of India for their air-lifting of oranges in Shella. Oranges are already in the market now and I expect that there will be good crop this year. I should like to suggest to the Government to start some more airstrips in these areas. I would suggest the names of places where these airstrips can be started—for instance at Mawlong, Lakhat Bazar, Nongtalang, Duara, Nongburnai, Satpator Doloiship, Dawki and Shella.

I would also like to suggest to Government to consider the question of giving stipends to these boys and girls who have to abandon their studies and who are eager to prosecute their studies and also to immediately make enquiries and then to distribute rice to these people who are living in the border areas before it is

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Srijut SANTOSH KUMAR BARUA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank my hon Friend, Sri Talukdar, for initiating this debate on the floor of this House as it gives me an opportunity of speaking a few words with regard to food situation in our district. Food situation in our district specially in areas under Dhubri, Golakganj, Bilashipara thanas and part of Gossaigaon thana in the Dhubri subdivision is selling at Rs.60 per maund at Dhubri, Gauripur and other places. Though it is sunbelievable, it is true and it is more than 2 months now that this deterioration of for a common man to bear and as a result of this, there is no wonder that starvamany families in these areas on half a meal or without a meal for days together.

Sir, I do not know what is the information of the Government from the Agricultural Department, but as far as I know, our district taken as a whole is In normal times, when there was no control system operating, these deficit areas were fed from the surplus areas through normal trade channels and scarcity of over the movement of foodgrains from one area to the other for procurement during this part of the year. The situation, however, developed into a serious crisis bances has been considerable and on the top of it these deficit areas have further displaced Muslims.

It appears that Government have undertaken definite responsibilies with regard to certain classes of people in the matter of supplying food to them and I am sure, Government have no less responsibility towards these hungry and at least at a reasonable price—I say reasonable because controlled price has no relation to fact, just to keep up their bare existence.

As I have already said that though food crisis has accentuated in these areas out of all proportion this year for various reasons this is the annual occurrence and the reason is obvious. Government procurement to be successful necessitates cordoning of surplus areas and rigid restriction over the movement of paddy outside these areas. The consequences are unfortunate but inevitable. The deficit areas are left starving, getting no benefit out of Government procurement,—the whole quantity procured from surplus areas being diverted to meet the commitments of Government. So, this is the unhappy situation in which these areas have been placed. The attention of Government has been drawn to these facts more than once, but to no avail. The trouble is that the Dhubri subdivision seems to be nobody's baby. However, I would ask the Government to take immediate measures to relieve the distress of the people in the present crisis. Not only that, I would also ask Government to take measures to stop this recurrence of food crisis in these areas every year, either by allowing the normal trade channel to operate or arranging supply of rice and paddy from the procurement stock to meet the deficit.

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ মাননীয় তালকদাৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো বিষয় আজি পৰিষদত আলোচনাৰ কাৰণে আগবঢ়াইছে তাৰবাবে তেখেতক মই ধন্যবাদ দিছো। মই তেখেতক আৰু এটি কাৰণে ধন্যবাদ দিব খুজিছো সেইটো হৈছে এইযে আজি খাদ্য সমস্যা লৈ দেশত মানুহৰ মনত যিবিলাক ধাৰণা উপস্থিত হৈছে সেই ধাৰণা বিলাক আলোচনা কৰি পৰিকাৰ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে আমাৰ পৰিষদৰ সদস্য সকলে এটা স্থবিধা পাইছে। আজি কোনোৱে ভাবিছে যে যিটো খাদ্য সন্কট দেশত উপস্থিত হৈছে সেইটো গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ নিজৰ দোঘৰ কাৰণে হৈছে আৰু কোনোৱে ভাবিছে যে আজি খাদ্য সমস্যাৰ যি পৰিস্থিতি পৰিলক্ষিত হৈছে তাৰ মূলতে আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ এদল উচচ বিষয়া, যাৰ ওপৰত এই বিষয়ৰ দায়িত্ব আৰোপ কৰা হৈছে সিবিলাকৰ কাৰ্য্য শিথিলতাৰ কাৰণে, আকৌ কোনোৱে ভাবিছে মজুতদাৰ (Hoarder) বিলাকে অধিক শস্য মজুত কৰি থোৱাৰ কাৰণে थामाव এই জটिन সমসা। एपथा निष्ठ्। नानाकरन नानाভारत, जननामनक ভাবে विश्वम বিশ্ৰেষণ কৰি এই সম্যায়ৰ সমাধানৰ কাৰণে আলোচনা চলাইছে। হৰপাৰে কোনো কোনো ক্ষেত্ৰত গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ অৱহেলাৰ কাৰণে বা কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ গাফিলীৰ কাৰণে অথবা কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ অকৰ্মন্যতাৰ কাৰণে এই বিৰাট খাদ্য অভাৱৰ জটিল সমস্যাৰ উদ্ভৱ হৈছে। কিন্তু আচল কথাটো কি ? আমি কি দেখিছো ? আমি দেখিছো যে আজি কিছুদিনলৈকে আমাৰ সোনৰ অসমত এই क्षामा नाहिनित्य प्रिथा निया नाहिन जांक विजया प्राप्त न्यापाई कहिन ভार्त प्रथानिएहा ইয়াৰ কাৰণ বিলাক কি কি ? আমাৰ বহুতেই দেই কাৰণ বিলাক বুজিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিছে আৰু বহুতেই বুজিছে আৰু অনেকে বুজিও নুবুজাৰ ভাওধৰি মনৰ সন্তোমেৰে দুই আঘাৰ কথা কৈছে। আমাৰ অসমত আজি যিটো গুৰুতৰ সম্প্ৰা, যিটো সন্ধট সেই সন্ধটটো অসমৰ পজাই আহ্বান কৰি অনা নাই নাইব। অসম চৰকাৰেও আহ্বান কৰি অনা নাই অথবা ভাৰতবৰ্ষ তথা। ভাৰত চৰকাৰেও আহ্বান কৰি অনা নাই। আজি আমি যি অৱস্থাৰ সন্মুখীন হৈছে। সেই সমস্যাৰ সমাধান কল্পে সমগ্ৰ পৃথিবীৰ মানুহেই চিন্তাভিভুত হৈছে। পৃথিবীৰ মানুহ বাদ দিও, আমাৰ ভাৰতবৰ্ষ তাৰ পিচত সৰু আমাৰ এই অসমৰাজ্য যি ৰাজ্যত আজি পুক্তিৰ বিষম বিপৰ্যয়ে জৰুলা কৰিছে। আমি ভব। নাছিলো, কেতিয়াও, যে আচম্বিতে এটা পুলয়কাৰী ভূমিকম্প আহি আমাৰ গোটেই দেশ চাৰধাৰ কৰিব আৰু ৰাইজৰ বিৰাট এক অংশ ভূমিকম্পৰ ২বংশলীলাই কাললৈ সামৰি লব। আমি ভবা নাছিলে। এই প্ৰলয় ভূমিকম্পৰ ঠিক পাচতেই সহচৰী বানপানীয়ে কৌটিকলীয়া ধলুৱা অসমীয়া মানুহৰ গাওঁ-ভূঁই বিলাক উটুৱাই নিব, ভড়ালৰ ধান, গৰু-মহ-ছাগলী, খেতিৰ সজুলি, সম্পত্তি, পথাৰৰ লহপহকৈ বাঢ়ি অহা ৰূপোৱালী শস্য একেবাৰে নষ্ট কৰি থৈ যাব। কেতিয়াও আমি এই বিলাক ভাবিব পৰা নাছিলো।

তাৰ পিচত, আন এটা ভয়াবহ আৰু শোকলগা ঘটনা যিটো Communal disturbance অৰ ফলত, হিলু-মুছলমানৰ মাজত মৰা-মৰি, কটা-কটি লাগি, এই দেশৰ খেতিয়ক মুছলমান বিলাক

পাকিস্থানলৈ গুচি যাব লগা হয় আৰু পাকিস্থানৰ খেতি বাতি নকৰা আমাৰ দেশৰ কাৰণে অকলী হিলু সকল আহি দলে দলে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত ভৰি পৰেহি আৰু আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত নানা ৰকমৰ নতুন পৰিস্থিতিয়ে দেখা দিয়ে। এই দৰেই ভাবিব নোৱাৰা অথচ অতি জটিল কিছুমান সমস্যাই, এটাৰ পিচত আনটোকৈ আমাৰ সন্মুখত দেখা দিছে। আজি যিদৰে এই সমস্যা বিলাকৰ সন্মুখীন হব লাগিছো, যিদৰে প্ৰাকৃতিক দুৰ্যোগ আৰু বিপৰ্য্যয়ত জনসাধৰণৰ মন বিচলিত হব লাগিছে তেনে অৱস্থাত অসহায় প্ৰজা সমুহক যদি আজিৰ এই অৱস্থাটো সাহস আৰু ধীৰ-স্থিৰ ভাবে মূব পাতি লবলৈ উদ্দীপনা দিয়া নহয় তেনেহলে সেই মানুহ বিলাকক আগবঢ়াই নিয়া দূৰৰ কথা সিবিলাকক স্বৰ্নাশৰ আন্ধাৰ পথলৈ আৰু ঠেলি দিয়াহে হব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই খিনিতে এটা কথা উল্লেখ কৰাটো মই যুক্তিসক্ষত বুলি বিবেচনা কৰো, সেইটো হৈছে আমাৰ মাননীয় বন্ধু শ্রীযুত বিদ্যাপতি সিংহ দেৱে কোনো এখন বাতৰি কাকতৰ নামধনি উপমাদি কৈছিল এই অলপ আগতে যে, আমি আমাৰ কর্দক্ষেত্রত সাহসব ওপৰত ভবি দিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰা উচিত আৰু সাহসেবে নিজৰ অভিমত ব্যক্ত কৰা উচিত। মই ভাবো, তেখেতৰ সেই কথাটো মূল কথালৈ লক্ষ নকৰাকৈ প্রকাশ কবিছে। আমাৰ এই পৰিষদত যি সকল সদস্য আছে তেওঁলোক সাহিয়াল মানুহ নহয় নেকি? নে নতুনকৈ সাহস শিকিব লাগিব? আমি সাহসৰ ওপৰত ভবি দিয়েই এই পৰিষদত যোগদান কবিছো আৰু সাহসৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰিয়েই সকলো বিলাক আলোচনাত যোগদান দি আছো বুলি মই বিশ্বাস কৰো।

তেখেতে কৈছে যে আজি শিৱসাগৰত যিটো কমিউনিপ্টৰ উৎপাত সেই উৎপাত কেৱল এই খাদ্য সন্ধট আৰু বস্তুৰ নাটনিৰ কাৰণেই হৈছে। তেখেতৰ বাহিৰেও আৰু দুই এজনে, একে কথাই কৈ গৈছে। পাচে পুকৃততে কাৰণ সেইটো নহয়। হব পাৰে এইটো যে, Communism ৰ যি Theory সেই Theory ৰ লগত শিৱসাগৰৰ কোনো এক শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহৰ কোনো প্ৰকাৰৰ মত মিল (moral support) থাকিব পাৰে। কিন্তু ভিতৰৰ ফালটো ভালকৈ ফহিয়াই চালে বুজিব পাৰি যে, শিৱসাগৰৰ যিটো Communist আন্দোলন সেই আন্দোলন ভাত কাপোৰৰ আন্দোলন নহয়। খাবলৈ নোহোৱা কিছুমান মানুহো সেই আন্দোলনত থাকিব পাৰে সেই বুলি সেই আন্দোলন ভাত-ভড়াল নোহোৱা মানুহৰ পুচেটা নহয়। সেই মানুহ বিলাকক এটা ভ্ৰান্ত ধাবণাৰে অনুপাণিত কৰি, বিপদগামী এটা শক্তিয়ে চলাই লৈ গৈছে আৰু চলাই লৈ যাবলৈ চেটা কৰিছে। তেওঁলোকে হেনো মিচা কথা পুচাৰ কৰিছে যে তেওঁলোকৰ বন্দুক আছে, বাৰুদ আছে, ষ্টেন গান আছে, লাখ লাখ সৈনিক আছে আৰু সৈন্য সামন্তব সহায়েৰে আমাৰ চৰকাৰক ওফৰাই দি তাৰ ঠাইত এটা নতুন চৰকাৰ পুতিষ্ঠা কৰিব।

যদি ভাত কাপোৰ নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে কমিউনিই সকলে আন্দোলন কৰিছে, আৰু ভাত কাপোৰৰ কাৰণে মানুহক দৌৰাতা কৰিব পাৰে, আমনি কৰিব পাৰে, সম্পত্তি কাঢ়ি নিব পাৰে, কিন্তু, মানুহক হত্যা কৰে কিয় ? মানুহৰ বংশ নই কৰিছে কিয় ? কমিউনিই সকলৰ এই আন্দোলনৰ ফল স্বৰূপে আজি শিৱসাগৰ অঞ্জ্ঞলত সাধাৰণ মানুহে জীৱন-যাপন ক্ৰাটো অসম্ভৱ হৈ পৰিছে কিয় ?

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: মই এটা কথা শ্রীবৃত বৰুৱাৰ পৰা জানিব পাৰোনে যে আজি গোটেই পৃথিবীতে কমিউনিই আন্দোলন কিয় হৈছে বা হয়? তেখেতে Marx, Lenin, Engels বা আন কোনো লিখকৰ কিতাপৰ পৰা বা কোনো Theoryৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি কব পাৰেনে যে Communist আন্দোলন অভাবৰ কাৰণে এই দেশত বা আন কোনো দেশত বিস্তাৰ হোৱা নাই?

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Is this relevant in this connection, Sir?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: ইয়াত এটা কথা মনত ৰাখিব যে আমাৰ Motion টো হৈছে দেশত খাদ্যবস্তুৰ দাম বঢ়াৰ কাৰণ কি ? আৰু তাৰ এটা suggestion লাগে।

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA: হয়, মই তাকে কৈছো।

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: তাকে অলপ চমুকৈ কব লাগে।

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS: তেখেতে শিৱসাগৰত খাদ্যবস্তুৰ অনা-টন কমিউনিটৰ কাৰণে হৈছে বুলিহে কৈছে।

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY: মই কৈছো গোটেই পৃথিৰীতে হয়।

The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS: তেখেতে অকল শিৱসাগৰৰ কথাহে কৈছে।

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA: মই Marxৰ কিতাপ দুখন এখনহে পঢ়িছো; কিন্তু যেতিয়া জ্ঞানৰ অভাব হব তেতিয়াহে নতুন জ্ঞান পাবৰ কাৰণে তেখেত সকলৰ নিচিনা জ্ঞানীৰ ওচৰ চাপিম। যাহওঁক মোৰ কথা হৈছে এইটো যে আজি আমি যি অৱস্থাৰ সন্মুখীন হৈছো, হয়টো ইয়াতকৈ আৰু গুৰুতৰ অৱস্থাৰো ভবিষ্যতত আমি সন্মুখীন হব লাগিব। অসমত যিবিলাক নৈ আছিল যোৱা ভূমিকম্পত তাব তলিবিলাক ওপৰলৈ উঠি আহিছে আৰু নদীৰ গৰা বিলাক বহি গৈছে। তাৰ ফলত গোটেই দেশতে বান পানী উঠি গাওঁ আৰু শস্য বিলাক নই কৰি নিব। ইয়ো এটা চিন্তাৰ বিষয় হৈ পৰিছে।

Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN: সেই নিমিতে চাউলৰ দাম বাঢ়িছেনে কি?

Srijut HARINARAYAN BARUA চাউলৰ দাম সেই নিমিত্তে উঠা নাই ভবিষ্যতলৈ যে এই কাবণেই উঠিব তাক আজিয়েই খাটাং কৈ কৰ পাৰি। মই কওঁ যে এই সমস্যা বিলাকৰ সমাধান কল্পে যিবিলাক suggestion এই পৰিঘদত দাঙি ধৰিছে, সেই suggestion বিলাকৰ গভৰ্ণ মেণ্টে ভাল বিচাৰ কৰিব। Procurement ৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত গভৰ্ণ মেণ্টে এতিয়া যি ধান সংগ্ৰহ কৰা নীতি গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে এই নীতি কিমান দূৰ কৃতকাৰ্য্য হয় আমি দেখিবলৈ পাম। কিন্তু এই নীতিৰে চৰকাৰী অফিচাৰে গাঁৱলৈ গৈ যিবিলাকৰ ভঢ়ালত ধান আছে তেওঁ বিলাকৰ পৰা ধান আদায় কৰা কঠিন। আমাৰ যোৰহাটৰ তিতাবৰৰ কোনো কোনো খণ্ডত procurement অফিচাৰ আৰু ৰিলিফ কমিটিৰ চেক্ৰেটেৰীয়ে গাৱলৈ গৈ বল প্ৰয়োগ নকৰাকৈয়েই বঢ়াই বুজাই বছত হাজাৰ মোন ধান সংগ্ৰহ কৰিছে। কোনো কোনো ক্লেত্ৰত তেওঁলোকে আমাৰো সহযোগ লয়। চৰকাৰৰ হাতত বন্দুক আছে। আজি চৰকাৰে বন্দক দেখ बाहे वा भू निष्ठ नगठ रेन मानू इब छड़ानब भवा धान जानिव भारव, किन्छ एकरन कार्य उब बीबा এই সমস্যাৰ সমাধান কেতিয়াও কৰিব নোৱাৰি আৰু তেনে কৰা উচিতে। নহব। মানুহৰ মনত এনৈ এটা ভাব জগাই ভোলাহে উচিত হব যে দেশত মানুহে খাবলৈ নাপাই মৃত্যু বৰণ কৰিছে আৰু তেওঁলোকে যদি তেওঁলোকৰ ৰাহি ধান দি বক্ষা নকৰে তেওঁলোকেও তাৰ বাবে দোষৰ ভাৰ বহন কৰিব লাগিব। এনে বিশ্বাস যেতিয়ালৈকে মানুহৰ মনত জাগি নুঠে তেতিয়ালৈকে সমস্যাৰো সমাধান নহয়। মই এটা মাত্ৰ suggestion মাননীয় সদস্য সকলৰ আগত দাঙি ধৰিব ধোজে।—সেইটো হৈছে—সহযোগ; আৰু সমস্য। সমাধানৰ কাৰণে দায়িত্ব বহণ কৰা আৰু সেই ভাবে ব্যাপক প্ৰচাৰ কাৰ্য্য চলোৱা। মোৰ বিশ্বাস এই নিয়মে আমি কামত আগ বাঢ়িলে আৰু চৰকাৰী অফিচাৰ সকলেও তাত সহযোগ কৰিলে অনতিপলমে সমস্য। সমাধান হব আৰু তাকে নকৰিলে সমস্যা আৰু জটিলহে হব। কাজেই এই সমস্যা বিলাকৰ সমাধান কল্পে আমি সকলোৱে সংযোগ কৰা উচিত আৰু এক মত হোৱা উচিত। সঁচাই মিচাই অফিচাৰ সকলক সদায় আক্ৰমণ কৰি থাকিলে সমস্যাৰ সমাধান নহয়, বৰঞ সমস্যা আৰু জটিলতৰ হৈহে উঠিব। মই মাননীয় সদস্য সকলক অনুবোধ কৰিব পাৰোলে যে অফিচাৰ সকলক শক্ৰ জ্ঞান নকৰিব ? তেওঁ বিলাকক আপোন কৰি লওক আৰু সহযোগ দিয়ক। সকলোৰে সহযোগতেহে দেশ খন গঢ় খাব।

(A voice) जान हिन्नी सँ (वानिस्स ।

Mr. KEDARMAL BRAHMIN: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বর্ত্তমান খাদ্য পৰিস্থিতিকো লেকৰ সভামেঁ বহুত গ্রমাগ্রমী আউৰ বাদ্যিবাদ হুৱা হেয়। চারল, দাল, আটা, মৈদা, তথা কপৰা আদি খাদ্য দ্রব্যোকা অভাৱ আউৰ অত্যাধিক মুল্যবৃদ্ধি পর আপলোগোনে কাফী বিচাব বিমশ কিয়া হেয়। লেকিন আপ সোচিয়ে কি খাদ্যাভাৱ আউৰ মূল্যবৃদ্ধি কবসে হোনে লগী হেয়। য়হ মুদ্ধকে সময়মে হোনে লগী হেয়। উগী সময়মে চীজোঁকা দাম ইসত্বহ বঢ়তা জা বহা হেয়। যুদ্ধ কে সময় মেসার্গ প্তীল বাদার্গ হব সপ্তাহ দাম বঢ়াকৰ চারল খ্রীদতা থা।

হমাবে প্রান্তকী জে। Procurement Policy হের রহ গুরুমেঁ বহুত আচছী বহী হের। আউৰ বঢ়ী সফলতা পূৰ্বক চল ৰহী थी। লেকিন পীছে যহ ঠীকসে নহী চল সকী। আসাম এক Surplus Area था। লেকিন অব যুদ্ধকে কাৰণ আউৰ কল্প কৰনোঁসে Surplus Area नহী वহা। আজকল কুছ এসী ঘট্যারোঁ।হোতী হেঁ জিসমে ব্যাপাৰিয়োঁকো ভী বহুৎ নুক্ষান উঠানা পড়তা হেয়। উছেঁ কাফী দিককতোঁকা সামনা ক্ৰন। পড়তা হেয় খাসক্ৰ এক বাতকী ওৰ মঁই আপ লোগোক। ধ্যান আকৰ্ষিত কৰনা চাহতা ছঁ। আপ সব জানতে হেঁয় কি টিছমেঁ পাঁচ চাবল কী মিলেঁ হেঁয়। ইস স্থানকী আমদনী ভী আচ্ছ্মী হেয়। মিলেঁ ফসল দে আৰতমেঁ অচছী তৰহ চল ৰহী থা। লেকিন এক দিন শামকো ৫३ বজে হী এক দলকে কুছ লোগ ৱহাঁ প্হঁচে উনকে সাথ ষ্টেন গন, বন্দুকঁ, ৰিভলভাৰ জৈসে ভয়ানক অস্ত্ৰ য়ে আউৰু উনসে ৱে অধাধুন্ধ গোলিয়াঁ চলালে লগে আউব এক মিলপৰ হমলা কৰ দিয়া। ইদমে ক্যা হুৱা কি বেচাৰ। भिन र्राटनकां माना गंगा चाछेन छेग मिनरक करे लोग घांग्रन रहत । छेगरक नाम छेन लोगिन ইস মিলকো আউৰ এক দুসৰী মিলকো লুট লিয়া। মুৰো পতা নহী কি সৰকাৰ কী ওৰসে উসকে লিয়ে ক্যা কিয়া গ্ৰা। আজকল জে। ইসতৰাহ কী লুট খনোট আউৰ এক তৰহ আতক্ষণ কুছ্দলোঁনে নচনা শুৰু কিয়া হেয় ইসসে ব্যাপাৰ কৰনা ভী বহুত সন্ধিল হেয় হেয়। ইসকে। বন্ধ কৰণে কি লিয়ে সৰকাৰকে। কোসিশ কৰহা চাহিয়ে। ইস ঘটনা কে North Bank (में बान जाना ही वस दश गया। यिमदम मितन ठीकरम हन मदन ।

Control কে বাবেমেঁ ভী চন্দ চন্দ মঁই আপ লোগোকী সেৱামেঁ পেশ কৰনা চাহতা হুঁ। জহাঁতক আসাম সৰকাৰকী জো বায় হেয় উপকে অনুসাৰ control হট জানা চাহিয়ে লেকিন ভাৰত সৰকাৰকৈ মতানুসাৰ control জাৰী হেয়। মঁই তো সমৰতা হুঁ কি control হট জায় তো ঠিক হেয়। Control হট জায় তো Corruption, Hoarding বগৈৰহ কে লিয়ে কোই সুৱিধা নহী হোগী control হট জায় তো হেয় সকতা হো কি কুছ দিনোকোঁ লিয়ে লোগাঁকো দিকাভ হোঁগী। লেকিন মই সমৰতা হুঁ কি বহুত জলদী স্থিতি মুধুৰ জায়গা—ইসলিয়ে আপ কোই ঐসা উপায় কীজিয়ো কি control উঠ জায়। আজ জো লোগ Hoard কৰতে হেঁয় মহ বহুত হী চুৰা হেয়। লোগ Hoard ইসলিয়ে কৰতে হেঁয় কি বর্ষ কে শেঘনেঁ যাকৰ চাৱল য়া ধান কা দাম জ্যাদা মিলেগা। আউৰ জ্যাদা জৈসা মিলেগা। Control হট জায় তো ইসকে লিয়ে কোই স্থান নহী ৰহেগা কিসান আজকল ধান বাজাবনেঁ কম যাতে হেঁয়। কাৰণ বর্ষকে আধিবনেঁ সৰকাৰ টিন দেতা হেয়। মঁই তো বহুঁগা কি চীন কিসানোঁকো ধানকে বিগ্ৰহ গভণমেণ্ট হী খৰীদ কৰেঁ ঐসা হোগা তো বহুত ফায়দা হোগা। ঐসা কৰনেপৰ হী Hoard কৰনেকে লিয়ে কিসীকো মৌকা নহী মিলেগা আউৰ Monopoly Procurement মে ধান কা দামভী ৱৈসা নহী হোগা। উসকা চাৱল সৰকাৰ মে।

আজকল Post Parcel মে কপড়ে আতে হেঁয়। Fine কপড়ে আতে হেঁ। জব কোঈ ব্যাপাৰী ইসতৰব মাল লাতা হেয় আউৰ উসক। মাল Post office পহঁচতা হেয় তৱ উসে কেসী Textile অধিকাৰীকে পাস জানা পড়তা হেয়। উসসে বহুত বিনতী কৰন। পড়তা হেয় কি আপ, হমাৰা Parcel আয়া হেয় ইগে ছুড়ানে কা ছকুম দেয়ে । উসকে বাদ উগে Co-operative Societies কে মেনেজৰ য়া Secretaries কে পাস জানা পড়তা হেয় कि য়ে মাল লো লেকিন উনকো ঐসে কপড়েকে লিয়ে জ্যাদা দাম দেনা পড়তা হেয় । আউৰ উসপৰ য়ে সব দেকতে আউৰ খৰচ পড়তা হেয় । ইসনে কাপড়কা দাম আউৰ ভী জ্যাদা পড়তা হেয় । ইসতৰহ বাজাৰমে বে উস কপড়েকো লাগতকে হিসাবসে নহী বেচে তো ক্য কৰে । সৰকাৰী Inspector আউৰ Sub-Inspector বগৈৰহ আতে হেঁয় আউৰ ৱে control ভাৱসে মাল লেতে হেঁয় । ইসতৰহ খামখোৱালী বঢ়তী জাতা হেয় আউৰ Black Market য়া White Market বোলিয়ে উসে কৰনা পড়তা হেয় । ৱানা ব্যাপাৰীকো Black Market কৰনে কী Force কিয়া জ্যাতা হেয় । ঐস্যা কোদ Force নহী হোনা চাহিয়ে । ঐস্যা ব্যাপাৰী জো Parcel লাৱে উসে বিনা দিকত বেচনে কা মৌকা দিয়া জানা চাহিয়ে জিগনে উস কাপড়েকা দাম নহী বঢ়ে ।

এক বাত Distribution কী হেয়। Retailers লোগ মাল লাতে হেঁয় whole salers গে। উদদে কহা জায় ১০০ মণ মাল ১০ লোগোমেঁ Distribute কৰো য়া বিতৰণ কৰো। আপ স্বয়ং অনুভৱ কৰ সকতে হেঁয় কি উসমেঁ কমী হোগাহী। আপ স্বয়ং দেখিয়ে কি৷ মগৰ আজ বাজাৰমে সেবভৰ কোট চীজ লাৱেঁ আউৰ ঘৰমে জাকৰ বজন কৰেঁ তো দেখেক্ষে কি থোড়া বহুত কম হোগা হী। অগৰ ১০০1২০০ আদমীমেঁ ইসতৰহ ভাগ কিয়া জায় তো বহুত কুছু কমী ৰেশী হোনা সম্ভৱ হেয়। অৱ যদি Retailer ১,০০০ মণ মাল যাকৰ উতনা হী আদমীয়োমেঁ বাঁটেকা তো জৰুৰ কুছু কমো।। বহী কমী সৰকাৰ পূবা কৰে নহী তে উসে পূবা কৰণকে ৱান্তে উসে দুসৰা উপায় কৰনা হী পড়তা হেয়। য়হ ভী একতৰহ ক৷ Force হী হেয় এসা Force নহী হোনা চাহিয়ে।

ইস সাল ধানকে Surplus হোনেকী কোই আশ। নহী । খাসকৰ বৰপেটা North Bank কে স্থানোমেঁ। ইন স্থানোকে দালাকে সময় বছত মসলমান পাকিস্তান চলে গয়ে থে। অৱ ৱে রাপস ভাবে লগে হেঁয়। আউৰ উনকে সাথ পাকিস্তানমে বছত হিন্দু শ্বণাৰ্থী য়াহঁ। আকৰ ৰসে হেঁয়। ইসলিয়ে Surplus হোনকী কোঈ আশা মঁই নহী দেখতা ছঁ।

ইতনে বৰ্ঘ আপ Control বৰ্ধকৰ দেখ চুকে হেঁয়, কোট ফায়দ। নহী হুৱা। অব Decontrol কৰকে দেখে। কিন্তু ইসকৈ সাথ সাথ Transport কা পূৰা পূৰা বন্দোৱন্ত কৰকে আউৰ Supply Department কো উঠা দে। নহী তো বহু আপকো গলত ত্ৰীকা বতলায়ে গা Hoarding পৰ স্থত নজৰ বাখিয়ে তব আপ দেখেকে কি সব দিকতেঁ পূৰী হেয় গদ। যদি ঐসা নহী কৰ সকতে তো সব ধান আপ খৰীদে আউৰ উসে অপনে হিসাবপৰ milling কৰাৱে নহী তো Procurement পূৰা সফল হোনা মুক্ষিল হেয়। Decontrol সে ক্তি ভী জ্যাদ। হোগী। এক বাত আউৰ হৈসে কিসানোঁকো টিন দেতে হেঁয়, বৈসে Industry কো ভী টিন, সিমেন্ট আদি দে জিসে বহু পূৰা কাম কৰ সকে।

Sree SATINDRA MOHAN DEB: নাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমি প্রথমতঃ আমার বন্ধু তালু কদার মহাশয়কে ধন্যবাদ জানাইতেছি। আমার ধারণা ছিল যে, তিনি কেবল গো সধা, কেবল গোধনের কথাই চিন্তা করেন, আর মানবের কথা চিন্তা করেননা। কিন্তু আজু যে তিনি এই পরিষদে মানবের জন্যও কিছু বলিয়াছেন, সেই বিষয়ে আমারও অন্ন বক্তব্য আছে।

আমাদের মাননীয় সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী মহাশয় বলিয়াছেন যে শিলচর হইতে আসার পর আমার সক্ষে তাহার আলাপ হইয়াছিল, তিনি আমাকে বলিয়াছিলেন, যে কাছাড়ের অবস্থা আগের চেয়ে অনেক ভাল। আমি উত্তরে বলি হ্যা কিছুটা, কিন্তু সে কথা হইয়াছিল ২৬শে আগষ্ট, যে হঠাৎ সরবরাহ মন্ত্রী মহাশয়ের বক্তৃতাতে জানিতে চাহিয়াছেন কাছাড়ের অবস্থা হঠাৎ এমন হল কেন। আমার বন্ধু বিদ্যাপতি মহাশয়ের বক্তৃতাতেই তিনি তাহার কারণ জানিতে পারিয়াছেন। কেন এত অন্ন সময়ের মধ্যে চাউলের দর ৪০।৪৫ টাকায় উঠেছে এই ৮।১০ দিনের মধ্যে। কারণ আমি যখন শিলচর ছেড়ে আসি, ২৫ তারিখ, তখন চাউলের দর ছিল ২৮।২৯ টাকা, ২৮।২৯ টাকা

থেকে 80/8৫। একমাত্র কারণ Government র wrong Policy. তাদের ভুল ধারণা যে কাছাড়ে Big hoarder আছে। এই ধারণা থেকে Order দিলেন forceful Seizure at the source. এই Order এর কথা আমরা মন্ত্রী মহাশরের অভিভাষণ হইতে জানিতে পারিয়াছি। কিন্তু বিদ্যাপতি মহাশরের বক্তৃতাতে গুনিলাম যে মনিপুরী মেরের। সামান্য চাউল, যারা ২৫।৩০ সের চাউল বাজারে আনে, সরকার শসন্ত্র সিপাহী নিয়া তাদের চাউল বাজারে seize করিয়াছেন। তাদের বিড়ম্বনার কথা আর নাই বলিলাম। কাছাড়ে পুলিসের অত্যাচার, অনাচার দৈনন্দিন ব্যাপার; আমি জিজ্ঞাস। করি ইহাই কি forceful seizure at source, বাজারে যারা ২৫।৩০ সেরের মত চাউল আনে, তারাও কি Hoarder, তাদের পথেই ধরিয়া Hoarder বলিয়া আটকাইয়া রাখিয়াছেন, ইহা কি রীতিমত অত্যাচার নয় ? আর তারা কি করিয়া মজুতদার হইতে পারে যাদের ঘরে সংব্যাট ৫০ মোনের বেশী জিনিম নাই।

আর একটি কথা। মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহাশয় বলিয়াছেন যে টেলিপানের কোনো নকল মন্ত্রী-দের কাছে আসে নাই। কারণ মন্ত্রীদের হয়তঃ টেলিগাম দেখিবার সময় নাই। এমন কি তাহাদের অধীনের কর্মচারীদেরও তদরাপ অবস্থা। তাহাদের সামান্য ভদুতা (courtesy) টুকুও নাই যে কোনো বিষয়ে তাহাদের লিখিলে বা wire করিলে একটি সহি করিয়া পঠিছিতে পারেন না। কিন্তু আমাদের কাছে অনেক টেলিগ্রাম আসিয়াছিল। আশা করি মন্ত্রীদের কাছে কপীও পাঠানে। হইয়াছিল। যাহা হউক এখন আমর। নানা রকম দুর্যোগে পড়িয়াছি। ভূমিকম্প influx of Refugee প্রভৃতি আসামের গুরুতর সমস্যা । বিগত হিন্দু মুছলমানের ডাঙাও একটি। সেইজন্যেই আমি বলিতেছি যে এখন সরকারের দৃষ্টি ভঙ্গী পরিবর্ত্তন করিতে হইবে। অথাৎ এই ৮ লক্ষ্ Refugee র পুনরবসতির ব্যাবস্থা করিতে পারিলে It will be an asset for the State. এই Refugee দের অধীকাংশ লোকেই কৃষক এবং Skilled Labourer ञ्चताः अपन भाता जागारमत लाख इटेरव । देशता थूव छाल कृषक ; देशता অত্যন্ত পরিশ্রম করিতে পারে। যে কোন স্থানে ফসল জন্মাইতে পারে। কাছাড়ে I. T. A. Relief সম্বদ্ধে সাহায্য করিয়াছেন সত্য এবং কাছাড়ের চা বাগানে সমূহ ১৭॥ হাজার লোকে। বসবাসের ব্যবস্থা করা হইয়াছে। ১৭াা হাজার লোকের ৩॥ হাজার পরিবারের বেশী হইবে না । চাবাগানের কোটা হইতে তাহাদের চাউল দেওয়। হইয়াছে ্যত্য কিন্ত চা বাগান গুলি যখন তাহাদের চাষের জমিজ্মা দিবে এবং তাহারা হালের বলদ ইত্যাদি পাইবে তখন তাহারা চা বাগানের জঙ্গলে শোন। ফলাইবে ইহা আমি দৃঢ়তার সহিত বলিতে পারি। সরকার যদি বাকী শরনার্থীদের জমির ব্যবস্থা করিয়া দেন তবে আসামের অনেক সমস্যা সমাধান হইয়া যাইবে।

তার পর Mr. Lar Singh Khyriem বলিয়াছেন ডাউকী থেকে কাছাড়ে যাতায়াত করিবার স্থাবিধা করিয়। দিবার জন্য। তাহার সহিত আমি একমত। ডাউকী থেকে এই ২৬ মাইল রাস্তার স্থাবিধা করিতে পারিলে ডাউকী অঞ্জলের লোক জালালপুর কাছাড়ের সহিত যাতায়তের স্থাবিধা হইয়। যাইবে। তাহার। কাছাড়ের সহিত আনায়াসে ব্যবস। বানিজ্য করিতে পারিবে পাথর কয়লা ইত্যাদির খনি আছে। এসবের আমাদের অভাব। এই সবের অনেক সমস্যা সমাধান হইবে এবং সরকারের একটা নতুন আয়ের পথ হইবে।

মন্ত্রী মহাশ্য বলিয়াছেন Grow more food এর কথা এবং Grow more food এর leaflet ও নাকি সমস্ত জারগায় পাঠানো ইইয়াছে। আমর। কিন্তু কোন leaflet দেখি নাই। ইহাই ইইল আমাদের অবস্থা—তার উপর আজ ৪ মাস যাবৎ আমরা কোন কাপড় পাই নাই। শুনিয়াছি কাছাড়ের কোটা নাকি গৌহাটাতে বিক্রয় ইইয়া গিয়াছে। এখন পুজার কাপড় পাওয়া যাইবে কিনা জানিনা তবে ঈদের কাপড় তো পাওয়া যায় নাই। এখন আমি corrugated iron sheet এবং iron rod এর কথা বলিতে চাই। গত ৫/৬ মাস যাবৎ আমাদের এলাকায় কোনোও জিনিম পৌছায় নাই। শুনিলাম কাছাড়ে নাকি কোনও stockist এবং কেইই stockist ইইতে চায় না। কারণ কি? এবং কাছাড়ের কোটা কোথায় গেল ? তালুকদার মহাশব্যের motion এ ছিল other commodities, তাই আমি food

problem এর সংগে আর অন্যান্য দরকারী জিনিষ corrugated iron sheet এবং iron rod এর কথাও উল্লেখ করিলাম। আমি গবর্ণমেণ্টকে সমালোচনা করিতে চাই না। আমি এই উদ্দেশ্যে বলিতেছি যে Government এর জানা দরকার কোন খানে কোন জিলার কি অবস্থা এবং গবর্ণমেণ্ট সংবঁদা তাহাদের কর্মচারীদের রিপোর্টের উপর নির্ভর করিয়া চলিলে বিপথগামী হইবার ভয় থাকে। এই সম্বন্ধে মেমারদের নিক্ট অনুসন্ধান করা কর্ত্তব্য।

তার পর মন্ত্রী মহাশর suggestion চাহিয়াছেন। আমাদের নিকট suggestion চাওয়ায় এবং আজকের food motion এ আমাদের discuss করিবার সুবিধা দেওয়ায় অবাক হইয়া গিয়াছি। ভাবিয়াছিলাম আমরা কেবল গওায় আওা দিবার জন্য থাকিতে হইবে।

আমি বলিতেছি যে land record দেখে জমির পরিমাণ নির্নয় করিতে হইবে। তার পর পরিমাণ ও শ্রেণী অনুযায়ী বিঘা প্রতি একটা নির্দিষ্ট নিরিখ করিয়া প্রতি বিষায় কত মন ধান তাহাদিগকে দিতে হইবে তাহা ঠিক করিয়া দিলে প্রত্যেক পরিবার খোরাকী ও পূজা পাবে নের ধান নিজের জন্য রাখিয়া বাদ বাকী ধান সরকারের নিকট বিক্রয় করিতে পারিবে। এবং তাহারা যেন যেই ধানের একটা reasonable দাম পায় তাহাও দেখিতে হইবে। বর্ত্তমান দরে কৃষক্দের নিকট হইতে যে ধান সংগ্রহ হইতেছে আমার মতে ইহা তাহাদের প্রতি জুনুম হইতেছে। ধানের দর অতি কম করিয়া নির্দ্ধারণ করার গতিকেই procurement রীতিমত ধান সংগ্রহ করিতে পারিতেছে না। আমার প্রতাব অনুযায়ী আমি বলিব অন্যান্য বস্তুর দাম যে পরিমাণে বাড়িয়া চলিরাছে সেই অনুপাতে অন্ততঃ মন প্রতি আরও ২/১ টাকা বাড়াইয়া দেওয়া উচিত। কৃষকগণ ধান সরকারী গুদামে পৌছাইয়া দিলে পর গুদামের কর্মচারীরা একটা clearance certificate কৃষকদের দিবেন। clearance certificate না দেখাইয়া কেইই সরকারী রাজস্ব দিতে পারিবে না। এবং রাজস্ব সময় মত না আনিলে আইন অনুযায়ী যে বিধান আছে তাহা প্রোগ করিতে হইবে। যাহারা জমির মালিক নহে তাহাদের জরিমানার ব্যবস্থা করিতে হইবে।

কৃষকের। সামান্য মুনাফার জন্যই হাড়ভাঙা পরিশ্রম করিয়া চাঘ করে। এবং অতিরিজ্ঞ কসল বিক্রয় করিয়া সংসারের যাবতীয় জিনিঘ ধরীদ করিয়া কোন পুকার জীবন নিবর্বাহ করে। কাজেই তাহাদিগকে উপযুক্ত দর দিলেই সরকারকে ধান দিবে—ইহাই আমার বিশ্বাস। বিদেশ হইতে যদি আমর। ২৮/৩০ টাকা দরে ধরিদ করিতে পারি তবে আমাদের আপন জনকে কেন দাম বাড়াইয়া দিব না। তার কারণ আমি বুজিতে পারিতেছি না। হঠাৎ suggestion চাওয়ার জন্য আমি বিঘদ ভাবে বলিতে পারিব না। যদি পুয়োজন হয় আমি লিখিত ভাবে জানাতে পারি। আমি পূনর মন্ত্রী মহাশয়কে আমার suggestion চাওয়ার জন্য ধন্যবাদ জানাইয়৷ বক্তব্য শেষ করিতেছি।

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: Sir, I think the debate will have to continue till next day as there are only 10 minutes which is not sufficient for the Government to cover its reply. So, I want to speak a few words.

Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR: Sir, will the debate continue on the next private Members' day?

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Yes.

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is much controversy about the food situation and about the Procurement Department of the Government and the Hon'ble Minister for Supply and Procurement has perhaps adequately explained the position of the Government in this regard and the difficulties for which this problem has not been satisfactorily solved up till now. He has amply justified his explanation by saying that the present food position was

due to large influx of people from Pakistan, shortage of cultivation in this year owing to the communal riots and unexpected earthquake and floods in some parts of Assam. Of course we from the public side naturally expected that Government would be supplying us rice and other food-grains at as cheap a rate as conveniently possible, but the people do not generally appreciate the difficulties of the Government. They generally find fault with the Government officers and then with the Government. Sir, one thing strikes me most and that is that during the last 3 years after independence many of our people seem to carry the same ideas about the Government as they used to do before the independence in 1947. The officers also seem to think that they are simply servants of the Government and that they have nothing to do with the public. It is time that we should change that out-look of ours and we must not find fault with the officers alone. I am not saying this with any motive, ill or otherwise, and shielding the servants of the State. But, no doubt, it has been a fashion throughout the country, I repeat, to find all the faults with the officers. At the same time I know and I do believe that certain officers are not conducting their duties properly nor behaving well as disciplined workers. The officers should know that they are not only servants of the State, but they are servants of the people as well and they must have the sense of responsibility as citizens of the State on whose good work the country's peace and prosperity depend. On our side, instead of criticising the officers and to speaking agaist them, if we discuss and meet them to solve the difficulties in the best way possible it may really go a great way in obviating our difficulties and solving our problems. I therefore appeal to the hon. Members of this House as well as to the public not to find fault with the officers as often as they do now and demonstrate the second of th and demoralise them generally for the fault of a few of them.....

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHOUDHURY: Should we admire them then?

Srijut PURNA CHANDRA SARMA: The hon. Member could take them into his confidence instead of criticising. I know many of the hon. Members who do not with the obvious intention of slurring the Government criticise them all. We cannot expect good work from Government if these officers are demoralised by our criticism that they are not carrying out their duties and that they are corrupt. We ought to know as well as they themselves that they are as good citizens as we are and because they are paid to serve the country they should feel themselves as servants for 24 hours. Though we do not know many things about their working yet we condemn them, but we fail to bring cases against them to the notice of Government to take proper action if anything done wrongly. You can easily find that you can go to every officer, however humble he may be because he is trustee of the State and of the people and thus holds an honoured position. As a trustee of the State he ought to discharge his duty and similarly we also expect of him to serve the country with an idea that he is trusted citizen of the State which entails very great responsibility.

One point more is that we are not concerned with the Marxism to which Dr. Emran Husain Chaudhury has referred. Dr. Choudhury is a professor of economics of the Jorhat College and as such he takes interest in the theories of Marxism, but here we are least concerned with such class room lectures far from the practical politics of this House. On a point of.....

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHOUDHURY: On a point of personal explanation, Sir. It was farthest from my mind and I was not preaching Marxism, but in the course of his speech Mr. Harinarayan Barua said that the economic causes...... The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: But Mr. Sarma is not giving way.

Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHOUDHURY: I am also not giving way.

The Hon'ble the SPEAKER: Order, Order.

The House stands adjourned to 10 A. M. of the clock on Thursday the 5th October.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Thursday the 5th October, 1950.

SHILLONG:

The 1st December 1950.

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

A.G.P. (L.A.) No.126/50-118+2-5-12-1950.