

**Proceedings of the second Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly  
assembled under the Sovereign Democratic Republican  
Constitution of India.**

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The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A.M., on Monday, the 9th October, 1950.

**PRESENT**

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

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**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**

(To which answers were laid on the table)

**Security Prisoners in Silchar Jail**

**Maulavi MAKABBIR ALI MOZUMDAR** asked :

100. (a) Is it a fact that on 28th March, 1950 four respectable Muslim gentlemen of Silchar were arrested, on security measures and were huddled together in a single-seated cell in Jail for the night ?

(b) Is it a fact that there was ample space in other blocks where they could easily be accommodated ?

(c) If so, what were the reasons for putting them in a single cell ?

101. Will Government be pleased to state whether they have lately received a joint complaint submitted by some of the detenus of both the communities against Babu Umapada Purkayastha, an Assistant Jailor of Silchar Jail ?

102. Is it a fact that a copy of the Preventive Detention Act deposited with the Silchar Jail authorities for Babu Birendra Nath Das, a Security Prisoner, was not given to him on alleged administrative grounds ?

103. Is it a fact that as many as nine Security Prisoners were transferred from Silchar to Nowgong Jail on 26th April, 1950, but none of them was examined to ascertain his fitness to undertake the journey, though some of them were fairly old and one of them namely Babu Birendranath Das has been suffering from heart troubles from long before his arrest and was treated both in Silchar and Nowgong Jails for the said disease ?

104. (a) Is it a fact that on 30th June, 1950, Babu Amiya Kumar Nandi, a Security Prisoner, was released from Silchar Jail because he was seriously ailing from heart troubles ?

(b) Are Government aware that the said Babu Amiya Kumar Nandi just on his release covered about 30 miles on motor and 1 mile on foot with a procession at Hailakandi ?

105. Is it a fact that none of the Security Prisoner of Cachar was allowed any family allowance in spite of repeated prayers ?

106. Will Government be pleased to state whether the District Magistrate of Cachar was given the authority to release the persons whom he detained under the Preventive Detention Act ?



107. (a) Is it a fact that one Gani of Karimganj was detained under the Preventive Detention Act on the grounds that he incited the Muslims of Cachar to violence ?

(b) If so, what is his (i), age, (ii) education and (iii) profession ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI** replied :

100. (a)—They were locked up in one cell, which was considered spacious enough for the four prisoners.

(b)—No. The jail was badly over-crowded on that day there being 516 prisoners against accommodation available for 211 only including cells and female wards.

(c)—Does not arise.

101.—Yes ; but it was found on enquiry that the allegations were baseless.

102.—Information has been called for.

103.—Every security prisoner transferred to Nowgong Jail was declared fit to undertake the journey by the Medical Officer in-charge. Babu Birendranath Das was not being treated for heart trouble at the time of his transfer.

104. (a)—Babu Amiya Kumar Nandi was released on 30th June 1950 on the ground of ill health but he was not suffering from heart trouble.

(b)—Yes.

105.—Yes, because it was found on enquiry that the financial condition of the families of the prisoners did not justify the payment of any family allowance.

106.—The detaining authority has got the power of revoking the order of detention passed by it.

107. (a)—Yes.

(b)—(i) Middle age, (ii) Illiterate, (iii) Cultivator.

#### **Mayang Mouza of Nowgong District**

**Babu KHAGENDRA NATH SAMADDAR** asked :

108. (a) Are Government aware that the Mayang Mouza of Nowgong District is one of the biggest Mouzas of the Province ?

(b) Are Government aware that the said Mouza is most backward in communication, education and health ?

(c) Are Government aware that the Baropak, Burgaon and Buraburi areas of that Mouza are predominated by the backward class, scheduled castes people ?

(d) Is it a fact that there is no dispensary within ten miles radius of those three areas ?

(e) Are Government aware that diseases and mortality are very heavy and that there is no arrangement for the treatment of the people residing in those three areas ?

(f) Do Government propose to start three dispensaries for those three areas soon ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

108. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It may be backward like many other Mouzas in the State— There are 31 Lower Primary and 2 Middle English Schools and 2 Public Health dispensaries within the Mouza.

(c)—Yes. Borapak and Burgaon areas of the Mouza are predominantly inhabited by scheduled caste people but Buraburi by Muslims. A village statement showing total population of these three areas is placed on the table.



**Statement showing the total population according to house lists prepared in connection with the preparation of Electoral Rolls under the New Constitution**

Thana :—Mrigaon

Mouza :—Mayang.

Name of village	Total population	Scheduled Caste Hindus	Other Hindus	Muslims
1. Barpak Jonghal ... ..	618	618	Nil	Nil
2. Buragaon Pam ... .. Buragaon Pam N. C. Nos. 1 and 2.	429	429	Nil	Nil
3. Buraburi ... ..	360	141	...	219

(d)—No. Approximate distance from Lonmati Public Health Dispensary to Baropak six miles, Burgaon eight miles and Buraburi 10 miles. From Manaha Public Health Dispensary Baropak is 6 miles, Burgaon seven miles and Burabur, four miles.

(e)—The mortality is being ascertained. It is however not correct to say that there is no arrangement for the treatment of the people of those areas in view of answer to question 108 (d).

(f)—Opening of dispensaries in these areas is under consideration.

**Grow More Jute Campaign**

**Babu KHAGENDRA NATH SAMADDAR** asked :

109. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Central Government has donated a large sum to the Government of Assam for the Grow More Jute Campaign ?
- (b) If so, what is the amount ?
- (c) Whether from that amount any money has been allotted to the different districts and subdivisions ?
- (d) If so, what has been that allotment according to subdivision-wise ?
- (e) What steps were taken in the said Grow More Jute Campaign in the district of Nowgong and what amount was spent so far there ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the price of the jute seeds of the same standard was higher in the Nowgong Agricultural Office than the price prevailing in the market ?
- (g) Whether the Agricultural Department at Nowgong has taken any concrete scheme for Grow More Jute Campaign and if so, what are they ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

109. (a) & (b)—Government of India have sanctioned a grant of Rs.85,000 for the Grow More Jute Campaign in this State.



(c)—The Scheme has been operated in all the plains districts of the State. Allotment of funds on a subdivisional and district basis has not been made.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Ten Demonstration plots were organised in the Nowgong District, and in addition (1) 98 maunds 9 seers 12 chattaks of jute seeds were distributed free and (2) 82 maunds 30 seers 4 chattaks of seeds were sold at subsidised rates in that district. The information regarding the amount spent so far is being collected.

(f)—The matter is under enquiry.

(g)—The information is contained in reply to question No.109 (e) above.

### **Realisation of Royalty on Lac in Mikir Hills**

**Srijut KHORSING TERANG** asked :

110. (a) Is it a fact that Government realised royalty on lac grown by the Mikir people to the extent of Rs.1,20,000 last year ?

(b) Is Government aware that this lac is not a forest produce ?

(c) If so, why has this royalty been realised ?

(d) How that royalty has been spent ?

(e) Whether that royalty was spent on the development of the Mikir people ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA** replied :

110. (a)—The royalty realised on lac last year, *i.e.*, 1949-50 is not yet available. However, the royalty for 1948-49 realised from the Nowgong Division, *i.e.*, mostly from the Mikir Hills was Rs.1,15,202.

(b)—Lac is a forest produce *vide* Section 3(4)(a) of the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891 (VII of 1891).

(c)—Does not arise.

(d) & (e)—All the royalties derived from the forest produce are credited to Government. Nothing is specifically allocated for any particular item of expenditure out of any particular item of revenue.

### **Number of wells and tanks constructed in the Mikir Hills area**

**Srijut KHORSING TERANG** asked :

111. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of tanks and wells constructed in the Mikir Hills area during the last decade ?

(b) The corresponding figures of other districts in respect of tanks and wells during the same period ?

(c) What steps have been taken by Government to tackle the acute water problem of Diphu and other areas in the Mikir Hills ?

(d) Whether Government propose to give special attention to this problem ?



**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

111. (a)—Eleven wells and 1 tank.

(b)—The required information is being collected from District Officers.

(c)—Three tube wells are proposed to be constructed at Diphu during the current financial year. The number of houses in a Mikir village is very small, generally varying from 2 to 10. The water problem is common with several other important problems, cannot be effectively tackled till larger villages are formed in the Mikir Hills. Steps to form such larger villages will be taken immediately after the elected District Councils start functioning, and thereafter the problem of water supply will be tackled.

(d)—Yes, within the limits of the State's financial resources.

### **Opium smuggling in Mikir Hills**

**Srijut KHORSING TERANG** asked :

112. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) What effective measures have been adopted to check the prevalence of opium smuggling in the Mikir Hills ?

(b) How many times during the last six months the Excise Commissioner or the Honorary Prohibition Commissioner visited the Mikir Hills area ?

(c) Whether there is any Opium Prohibition Staff in the Mikir Hills ?

(d) If so, how many Mikir Officers are there ?

(e) Whether Government are aware that the number of Opium addicts in the Mikir Hills is very high ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

112. (a)—There is one Inspector of Excise at Hojai who is in charge of the Mikir Hills areas to check smuggling of Opium in the Mikir Hills. Another Inspector of Excise is posted at Kampur, the gateway to the Mikir Hills. The Excise Staff at Lumding and Chaparmukh in the district of Nowgong and at Burpather and Dimapur in the District of Sibsagar are checking the smuggling of opium by train as well as by Road to the interior of the Mikir Hills.

Opium Prohibition Committees have also been constituted in the Mikir Hills by the Honorary Prohibition Commissioner in order to mobilise public opinion against opium evil. Besides this, there are two Prohibition Officers at Jamunamukh and Chapanalla, another two gateways to the Mikir Hills. Centres for treatment of opium addicts are also going to be opened in the Mikir Hills from November next.

(b)—The Commissioner of Excise visited Lumding once and the Honorary Prohibition Commissioner visited the area three times.

(c)—At present, there is no separate Prohibition Staff for the Mikir Hills District but there is a proposal before Government for creation of certain Excise Staff for the Mikir Hills.

(d)—Though there is no separate Prohibition Staff for the Mikir Hills District, there is one Mikir Officer of the District Staff who has been posted at Kampur. Moreover, there are 7 Mikir Prohibition Workers, appointed by the Honorary Prohibition Commissioner, Assam.

(e)—Yes, it is believed that the number of opium addicts in the Mikir Hills is high.



**Realisation of sales tax on Biris, Cigarettes, Books, Fountain Pens, Drugs and Medicines**

**Dr. EMRAN HUSAIN CHAUDHURY** asked :

113. Will Government be pleased to state the amount of sales tax obtained per month from *biris* and cigarettes in the Province ?

114. (a) Are Government aware that the sales tax on books, fountain pens, drugs and medicines has been adversely affecting the people most of whom are poor ?

(b) Do Government propose to exempt the above items from the operation of the Sales Tax ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

113.—The dealers are assessed half-yearly on the total sales of all varieties of taxable goods and as such the amount of tax obtained per month on sales of *biris* and cigarettes is not separately available.

114. (a)—Government have no such information.

(b)—No.

**Dibrugarh College**

**Srijut DALRIR SINGH LOHAR** asked :

115. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they grant aid to Dibrugarh College ?

(b) Are Government aware that the name of the Dibrugarh College has been changed to Hanuman Box Surujmal Kanoi College ?

(c) Is it a fact that an educational institution receiving grant-in-aid from Government should obtain previous sanction from the Government to change the name of the Institution ?

(d) If so, was such sanction asked for by the Dibrugarh College authorities ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state whether the grant-in-aid was drawn from the Treasury in the name of the Hanuman Box Surujmal Kanoi College for July and August 1950 ?

(f) Are Government aware of the public protest expressed in public meetings held on 10th August 1950, 17th August 1950 and 12th September 1950 against naming of the entire College as Dibrugarh Hanuman Box Surujmal College or Hanumanbox Surujmal College ?

(g) Do Government propose to stop the College authorities from taking any steps to name the College as anything else than Dibrugarh College until sanction from Government is received ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary)** replied :

115. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes. But Government find no reason to interfere in such matters unless the conditions of the grant-in-aid are violated or any way affected.

(d)—No.

(e)—No.

(f)—No.

(g)—An enquiry is pending and necessary action will be taken.



**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR :** প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰ (d)ৰ সৰ্ব্বমুখী চৰকাৰে এই কথা জানেনে যে বাইজক প্ৰতাৰণা কৰি, চৰকাৰৰ অনুমতি নোলোৱাকৈ ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজৰ Sign Board খন নমাই দিছে ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** নেজানে ।

**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR :** এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰলৈ ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ বাইজৰ কোনো Deputation অহা চৰকাৰে কৰ পাৰেনে ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** Sign Board নামোৱা কথাটো কোনো Deputation অহা নাই ।

**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR :** মোৰ পৰা চৰকাৰে জানি লব যে ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ বাইজক প্ৰতাৰণা কৰি ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজৰ Sign Board নামোৱা হৈছে ।

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** বাইজক যদি প্ৰতাৰণা কৰিছে, তাৰ বিচাৰ বাইজে কৰিব ।

**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR :** Regarding (e) চৰকাৰৰ পৰা মই জানিব পাৰোনে যে ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজে যি সাহায্য পায়, সেই সাহায্য ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজৰ নামত ট্ৰেজাৰিৰ পৰা Draw কৰে নে হনুমান বক্স স্মৰজমল কানই কলেজৰ নামত Draw কৰে ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজৰ নামত Draw কৰে ।

**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR :** মোৰ পৰা চৰকাৰে জানি লবনে যে হনুমান বক্স স্মৰজমল কানইৰ নামতহে Draw কৰিছে, ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজৰ নামত নহয় ।

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** Sign Board ৰ লগত সাহায্যৰ সৰ্ব্বমুখী নাই । অকিচৰ নথি-পত্ৰত যি নাম আছে, সেইটো নামতহে সাহায্য দিয়া হয় । সেইটো হৈছে ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজ ।

**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR :** যদি ডিব্ৰুগড় কলেজৰ নামতহে সাহায্য দিছে তেন্তে হনুমান বক্স স্মৰজমল কানইৰ নামত কিয় Draw কৰিছে ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** হনুমান বক্স স্মৰজমল কানইৰ নামত কোনো সাহায্য Draw কৰিব দিয়া হোৱা নাই ।



**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR :** (f) আগষ্টৰ ১০, ১৭ আৰু চেপ্টেম্বৰ ১২ তাৰিখে ডিব্ৰুগড়ত যি তিনি খন মিটিং হৈছিল, তাৰ কোনো Proceedings চৰকাৰে পাইছেনে ?

**Srijut MAHENDRAMOHAN CHOUDHURY (Parliamentary Secretary) :** সেইটো ছাপা হোৱা উত্তৰত দিয়া আছে।

### **Creation of a new post of Assistant Development Officer (Livestock)**

**Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

116. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a new post of Assistant Development Officer (Livestock) has been recently created ?
- (b) If so, when was the post created, who is the person holding the post and what are his functions and qualifications ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that cattle are being sold off from all the Livestock farms in large numbers ?
- (d) If so, what are the reasons ?
- (e) Whether it is for reducing the cost of maintenance of the Farms ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

116.—(a) Yes,

(b) 1st April 1950.

Maulavi T. Ahmed.

To supervise the works of the Re-organisation Scheme of Dairy, Fodder, Poultry and Cattle Rehabilitation Scheme.

Qualifications: I. D. D.

(c)—No.

(d)—Surplus animals are sold when necessary.

(e)—Yes.

### **Management of Agricultural Farms**

**Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

117. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Director of Agriculture controls the Upper Shillong Livestock Farm, the Deputy Director (Livestock) together with the Assistant Deputy Director (Agriculture) controls the Khanapara Farm and district works and the Assistant Development Officer (Livestock) controls the Barpeta Farm and the Dairy Farm at Dibrugarh ?

(b) If so, what are the reasons underlying this distribution of administrative duties and appointment of so many highly paid officers for looking after these farms ?

(c) For the sake of efficient and economic administration of these Livestock sections of the Agricultural Department, do Government propose to place all these farms under the Veterinary Department ?

(d) If not, why not ?

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR** replied :

117.(a)—Yes.

(b)—For efficiency and convenience in administration.

(c)—The matter is under consideration.

(d)—Does not arise.



**B. C. G. Inoculation****Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

118. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of persons who received B. C. G. inoculation in Assam (to be shown district by district) up to the end of June 1950 ?
- (b) The total amount of money spent on this account and the amount this Government contributed ?
- (c) Whether the work of B. C. G. inoculation is still going on in the State ?
- (d) If so, in which district and by whom the work is being done ?
- (e) Whether this Government is getting any aid from outside on this account ?
- (f) If so, from where and what is the amount received annually or otherwise ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

118. (a)—The following number of persons (shown district by district) have received B. C. G. Vaccination in Assam up to the end of June 1950—

District						No. of persons
1. Kamrup	...	...	...	...	...	12,535
2. Khasi and Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	...	...	7,027
3. Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	5,041
4. Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	20,150
5. Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	...	12,020
6. Cachar	...	...	...	...	...	9,188
7. Lushai Hills	...	...	...	...	...	2,999
8. Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	3,330

(b)—Approximately a sum of Rs.30,000 has been spent upto June 1950. The whole expenditure is now being met from the Provincial Budget.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—At present the work is being undertaken in Shillong in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills district and in Barpeta Subdivision in the Kamrup district by two teams each consisting of one Assistant Surgeon II, one Health Visitor and one Office Assistant.

(e) & (f)—Only the Tuberculin, B. C. G. Vaccine and Syringes are supplied free of cost by Government of India through the Director, B. C. G. Laboratory, Guidy, Madras and propaganda materials in English by the UNICEF, New Delhi.



**Scheme for establishment of a T. B. Clinic and Hospital at Gauhati**

**Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

119. (a) Is it a fact that Major P. L. Burman, T. B. Officer, submitted a Scheme for establishment of a T. B. Clinic and Hospital somewhere at Gauhati to the Government of Assam?

(b) If so, when was the Scheme submitted and whether Government have taken the Scheme into their consideration?

(c) Whether Government have rejected the Scheme?

(d) If so, why?

(e) Are Government aware that Major P. L. Burman is a specialist in the treatment of patients suffering from T. B.?

(f) If so, do Government propose to utilise his services in fighting the fell disease T. B. in Assam?

(g) Do Government propose to engage the said gentleman for treating T. B. patients sheltered in district Hospitals such as Gauhati so long as Government may not be able to establish a big T. B. Hospital and Clinic?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

119. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The scheme was submitted in 1948 and preliminary arrangement for starting the clinic was made.

(c) & (d)—The Scheme was abandoned owing to the huge reduction in the post-war grant by the Government of India to the State.

(e)—Yes.

(f) & (g)—No. Government have no such contemplation.

**Introduction of Coffee Cultivation in Assam**

**Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

120. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government have attempted to introduce the cultivation of coffee in Assam?

(b) If so, when and where was it tried and with what result?

(c) Whether Government propose to examine the possibilities of coffee cultivation in Assam for increasing the Forest resources of the State?

**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

120. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—No.



**Suppression of opium smuggling****Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

121. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) What effective steps, if any, have been taken by the Government of India to give effect to Resolution No.6 adopted by the All India Opium Conference held in August 1949 as quoted by this Government in reply to Unstarred Question No.145 asked by the Questioner during the last Budget Session of the Assembly (*vide* Assembly Debate of 27th March 1950 at pages 570-572) ?
- (b) What practical measures, if any, the Central Government have undertaken in the matter of "Administrative control over cultivation and manufacture of opium in the provinces, the States and Unions of States, and closure of factories which are not essential and where direct co-ordinated control by the Government of India is not possible" ?
- (c) If the reply to Question (b) above is in the negative, whether this Government propose to move the Central Government to take early steps in this direction as Assam is vitally interested in this matter and cannot combat opium smuggling ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

121. (a) & (b)—Government have no information as to what steps have been taken by the Government of India to give effect to Resolution No.6 adopted by the All India Opium Conference held on August 1949.

(c)—Yes.

**Cotton Research Station at Tura****Srijut GAURI KANTA TALUKDAR** asked :

122. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Cotton Research Station established at Tura in February, 1949 at the instance of the Indian Central Cotton Committee has started functioning ?
- (b) If so, when and with what progress ?
- (c) If not, why ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that climatic condition of the place where the station has been located is mainly responsible for preventing the normal progress of the station ?
- (e) If so, whether Government propose to remove the station to some more favourable place or to improve the hygienic condition of the locality ?
- (f) Whether this Government or the Central Government have made any Botanical survey of tracts in the State suitable for long and short staple cotton cultivation ?
- (g) If so, when and with what success ?
- (h) If not, why not ?



**The Hon'ble Srijut OMEO KUMAR DAS** replied :

122. (a) & (b)—The Cotton Research Station at Tura started functioning since 20th February 1947 and the object of the Scheme is to improve the hill Cotton of the State. Research and experiments are being made with success.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Government have no information.

(e)—The proposal for shifting of the station to Rangram which is a better site is under consideration of Government as the Government buildings at the Tura station were gutted by fire on the 9th April 1950.

(f)—For want of staff no Botanical survey was made by this Government.

(g) & (h)—Do not arise.

### **Expenditure incurred in connection with Opium Prohibition Campaign**

**Maulavi ABDUL HALIM** asked :

123. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The total amount of travelling and other allowances drawn by the Honorary Prohibition Commissioner, Assam, during the period from 1st January 1949 to 31st March 1950 ?

(b) The amounts drawn as travelling allowance, pay or honorarium and other allowances by the Organisers, Opium Prohibition Officers and other non-official staff of the Prohibition Campaign during the period from 1st January 1949 to 31st March 1950 ?

(c) The total amount of honoraria, travelling and other allowances drawn by each of the Organisers and Prohibition Officers in the Dibrugarh Subdivision during the period from January 1949 to 31st March 1950 ?

(d) The total amount spent in Opium Prohibition Campaign from its beginning till the end of June 1950 ?

124. (a) Will Government be pleased to state how far the Opium Prohibition Campaign in Assam has been successful and the smuggling of Opium to this province totally stopped ?

(b) Is it a fact that in Dibrugarh Subdivision smuggling of Opium has been on the increase ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

123. (a)—Rs.8,070-6-0.

(b) (c) & (d)—Information is being collected.

124. (a)—The Opium Prohibition Campaign has been successful to a great extent in checking smuggling of Opium.

(b)—No.



### List of Suspected Smugglers

**Maulavi ABDUL HALIM** asked :

125. (a) Is it a fact that there is a list of " Suspected Smugglers " of opium prepared by the Excise Staff of the District ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether there is any circular not to give any business to those people whose names appear in the said list ?

(c) What measures have been taken to safeguard the position of innocent persons and good citizens from being dubbed as opium smugglers merely for private reasons actuated by personal difference and animosity on the part of the persons who prepare the list ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

125. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—There is hardly any scope for such mischief as the officers who prepare the list are required to submit History sheets of each case which is further scrutinised by higher authorities.

### Doctors passing from the Dacca National Medical Institute

**Moulana Md. MUFAZZAL HUSSAIN** asked :

126. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether those who passed the final examination from the Dacca National Medical Institute are eligible for medical practice within the State of Assam ?

(b) Whether all such persons are eligible for registration of their names in the list of medical practitioners ?

(c) If not, who are eligible and who are not and what are the reasons therefor ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that some of the persons who passed from the Dacca National Medical Institute are not allowed to have their names registered ; and yet they are allowed to do Medical practice within this State ?

(e) If so, whether Government propose to allow all such persons to have their names registered, as they have been allowed to carry on their practice within the State and allow others of same qualifications to have their names registered ?

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY** replied :

126. (a)—There is no law in force which debars the doctors who passed from this Institute from private practice within the State.

(b)—No.

(c)—(I) Those doctors are eligible for registration who passed the final examination of the institute before 24th May 1916 and those who can produce a certificate granted by the Assam Medical Examination Board to the effect that they passed a special examination conducted by the latter.

(II) All Medical Practitioners other than those mentioned above.

(d)—It is not known to Government.

(e)—No. Unless they passed the special examination of the Assam Medical Examination Board.



**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** সেই বিষয়ে মই খবৰ পোৱা নাই। কেৱল Circuit House is in imminent danger. সেই কাৰণে Circuit House ভাঙি সঁজুলি বোৰ ৰক্ষা কৰাৰ অনুমতি বিচাৰি টেলিগ্ৰাম পোৱাত Chief Engineer অক তালৈ গৈ ঠাই পৰীক্ষা কৰিবলৈ নিৰ্দেশ দিয়া হৈছে। তেওঁ পৰীক্ষা কৰি যদি Circuit ঘৰটো নদীয়ে খহাই নিয়াৰ আশঙ্কা কৰে তেন্তে যি ভালদেখে সেইমতে কাম কৰিবলৈকে। নিৰ্দেশ দিয়া হৈছে। ইতিমধ্যে কেন্দ্ৰীয় গভৰ্ণমেণ্টক Telegram কৰিছে যে ডিব্ৰুগড় টাউনত ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰৰ গড়াখহনীয়া বন্ধ কৰিবলৈ অনতিপলমেই Measure লোৱাটো নিতান্ত প্ৰয়োজন হৈ পৰিছে। গড়াখহনীয়াই Town ৰ বহু ঠাইত Public ৰ ঘৰবাৰী আৰু অফিচ ঘৰ ভাঙি নিছে। নদীৰ গতি বদলাই চৰকাৰী ঘৰ আদি ৰক্ষা কৰিবলৈ উপায় দিয়াৰ বাবে এজন Expert পঠিয়াই দিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰিছে। উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰত ভূমিকম্পই বিধ্বস্ত কৰাৰ পৰা যিবিলাক সমস্যাৰ উদ্ভৱ হৈছে, সেই সমস্যাবিলাকৰ এটা স্থায়ী সমাধানৰ কাৰণে আৰু যাতে প্ৰত্যেক বছৰে বানপানীৰ পৰা সেই অঞ্চলৰ খেতি-বাতি নষ্ট নহয়, তাৰ কাৰণে কি ব্যৱস্থা লব পাৰি সেই সম্বন্ধে পৰামৰ্শ দিবৰ কাৰণে আৰু এটা plan কৰি নদীবোৰৰ গতি নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰি যি ভাগ পানীৰ উৎপাতৰপৰা ৰক্ষা পোৱা যাব পাৰে সেই বিষয়ে পৰামৰ্শ দিবলৈয়ো এজন বিশেষজ্ঞ পঠিয়াই আসাম গভৰ্ণমেণ্টক সহায় কৰিবলৈকে। অনুৰোধ কৰা হৈছে।

**Srijut DALBIR SINGH LOHAR:** তেনেহলে বাতৰি কাকতৰ খবৰবিলাক বিশ্বাস যোগ্য নহয় বুলি ধৰিব পাৰোনেকি ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** বাতৰি কাকতৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি এই প্ৰশ্নবিলাক উত্থাপন কৰাৰ আগতে খবৰটো কিমান নিৰ্ভৰশীল সেইটো সদস্য সকলে নিৰ্ভৰযোগ্য মানুহৰ পৰা জনা যুগুত বুলি মই বিবেচনা কৰো।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** বাতৰি কাকতত যিবিলাক খবৰ প্ৰকাশ হয়, সেই খবৰ বিলাকৰ সত্যাসত্য নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰিহে পৰিষদত উত্থাপন কৰিব লাগে। সেইটোৰ সত্যতা কিমানদূৰ তাক চাইহে অৰ্থাৎ সেইটোৰ সত্যতাৰ বিষয়ে সদস্য সকলে প্ৰথমতে নিশ্চিত হৈহে Assembly ত উত্থাপন বা প্ৰশ্ন কৰিব লাগে—কাৰণ সদস্য সকলে জানেই খবৰ কাগজত প্ৰকাশিত খবৰ বিলাক সদাই সঁচা নহয়।

We will take up non-official business now.

Resolution No.4, of Srijut Gauri Kanta Talukdar. He is absent, but he has authorised Srijut Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati, Srijut Nilmani Phookan and Srijut Haladhar Bhuyan to move his Resolutions. Which of the hon. Members propose to move the Resolution ?

**Srijut HALADHAR BHUYAN:** I understand that Srijut Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati was entrusted to move the Resolution.

**Resolution re amalgamation of the Livestock Section of the Department of Agriculture with the Veterinary Department**

**Srijut BIJOY CHANDRA BHAGAVATI:** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় শ্ৰীযুত গৌৰীকান্ত তালুকদাৰ ডাঙৰীয়া অনুপস্থিত থকাত, তেখেতে দিয়া ক্ষমতাৰ বলত মই এই



প্ৰস্তাবটো ডাঙি ধৰিছে। প্ৰস্তাবটো হৈছে এই:—

“This Assembly is of opinion that for the sake of better and more efficient administration, the Government of Assam do take steps to amalgamate the Livestock section of the Department of Agriculture with the Veterinary Department and do henceforth designate the Director of Veterinary Department as the Director of Veterinary Services and Animal Husbandry.”

আমাৰ দেশত যিমান খাদ্য বস্তুৰ প্ৰয়োজন, সিমান খাদ্য বস্তু আমাৰ দেশত উৎপাদন নোহোৱাটো আমাৰ এটা ডাঙৰ সমস্যা হৈ পৰিছে বুলি সকলোৱে জানে। কিন্তু যি ধৰণৰ খাদ্য বস্তু অৰ্থাৎ যিবিলাক গুণ থকা খাদ্য বস্তুৰে শৰীৰ আৰু মগজৰ পৰিপূৰ্ণ সাধন হব পাৰে তেনে গুণ থকা খাদ্য বস্তুৰ অভাৱ হোৱাটোৱেই হৈছে আটাইতকৈ গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ সমস্যা।

আমি সকলোৱে অনুভব কৰিছো যে, আমাৰ এই ৰাজ্যৰ মানুহৰ কাৰণে অতি আৱশ্যকীয় খাদ্য, গাখীৰৰ একান্ত অভাৱ হৈছে। এই অভাৱ কেনেকৈ দূৰ কৰা যায়, সেইটো, মোৰ মনেৰে আন খাদ্য বস্তুৰ উৎপাদনতকৈয়ো অতি বেচি গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ প্ৰশ্ন।

যদি আমাৰ এই ৰাজ্যত যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে গাখীৰ উৎপাদন কৰিব নোৱাৰো, যদি ভাল গাখীৰ উৎপাদন কৰিব নোৱাৰো, তেনেহলে এই ৰাজ্যৰ লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকক খুল কলৈজত পঢ়িবলৈ দিয়াৰ বিশেষ সাৰ্থকতা কি হব মই নেজানো। কিয়নো, যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে মগজৰ খাদ্য যোগান দিব নোৱাৰিলে, আমাৰ লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকৰ পক্ষে ভাবতৰ্কৰ আন আন ৰাজ্যৰ লগত আৰু পৃথিৱীৰ আন ঠাইৰ লগত মানসিক প্ৰতিযোগিতা কৰা, বুদ্ধিৰ প্ৰতিযোগিতা কৰা অত্যন্ত কঠিন হৈ পৰিব। দেশৰ লৰা ছোৱালীৰ মগজৰ খাদ্যৰ অভাৱৰ ফলত দেখা দিয়া সমস্যা ভবিষ্যতে যে কিমান ডাঙৰ হৈ দেখা দিব, আজি সেইটো আমি অনুভব কৰিব নোৱাৰিব পাৰো; কিন্তু এদিন আমি উপলব্ধি কৰিব লাগিব যে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত আটাইতকৈ ডাঙৰ সমস্যা হৈছে খাদ্য সমস্যা আৰু তাৰ ভিতৰত আমাৰ লৰা ছোৱালীবিলাকক উপযুক্ত পৰিমাণে গাখীৰ যোগান দিয়াৰ প্ৰশ্নই হৈছে প্ৰধান।

ইয়াৰ লগতে আৰু এটা প্ৰশ্ন আছে, সেইটো হৈছে খেতিৰ প্ৰশ্ন। এই বিষয়েও চিন্তা কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে। আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে যিবিলাক গৰুৰে হাল বাই, আমি দেখিছো সেই গৰু বিলাক একেবাৰেই লেবেলা চেপেটা আৰু সেই গৰুৰে উৎপাদনৰ কাম কৰি খাদ্য বস্তুৰ উৎপাদন যে বঢ়াব পৰা সম্ভৱ নহয় তাক নকলোও হব। গৰু বিলাক ইমান নিশকতীয়া আৰু ক্ষীণ হৈ পৰিছে যে সেই গৰুৰে হাল বাই খেতিয়কে যে উন্নতি কৰিব পাৰিব সেইটো এটা সন্দেহৰ কথা। কাজেই আমাৰ খাদ্য প্ৰশ্নৰ ফালৰ পৰা আৰু খেতিৰ উন্নতিৰ প্ৰশ্নৰ ফালৰ পৰা, গৰুৰ উন্নতিৰ কথাত আটাইতকৈ বেচি জোৰ দিব লগীয়া হৈছে।

এতিয়া প্ৰশ্ন হৈছে, এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰে কেনে ভাবে কাম কৰা সম্ভৱ হব। এই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ বিষয়টো চৰকাৰৰ বিভাগ বিলাকে কেনেকৈ হাতত লব পাৰে আৰু কেনেকৈ হাতত ললে ভাল ফল পাব পাৰে, সেইটোৱেই আজিৰ এই প্ৰস্তাবটোৰ বিবেচনা আৰু আলোচনাৰ বিষয়।

মোৰ বিবেচনাৰে শ্ৰীযুত তালকদাৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই এই প্ৰস্তাবৰ জৰিয়তে পৰিষদৰ আগত যিটো বিষয় ডাঙি ধৰিব খুজিছিল, সেইটো চিন্তা কৰিব লগীয়া বিষয়।

Veterinary Department আৰু Live Stock Department, এই দুটা বিভাগে একেটা বিষয় বস্তু লৈ কাম কৰে। এই দুয়োটা বিভাগৰ কাম হৈছে গৰুৰ উন্নতি সাধন। গৰুৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰা এই দুয়োটা বিভাগ বেলেগে ৰখাৰ প্ৰয়োজনীয়তা আছে নে নাই বিবেচনা কৰি চোৱা উচিত। মই ভাবো যে এনেকৈ দুটা বিভাগ বেলেগে ৰখাৰ ফলত গৰুৰ উন্নতিৰ প্ৰশ্নটো সম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে হাতত লোৱাত ব্যাঘাত জন্মিছে। গৰুৰ উন্নতি কৰিব লাগিলে নিশ্চয় গোটেই প্ৰশ্নটো বিজ্ঞানসন্মত ভাবে চাব লাগিব। পশু চিকিৎসা সম্পৰ্কে সকলে বিজ্ঞানসন্মত ভাবে পঢ়ি শুনি আহে তেওঁলোকক লৈয়ে Veterinary বিভাগটো গঠন কৰা হৈছে। কৃষি বিভাগত থকা Live stock শাখা গঠন কৰা হৈছে পশুৰ উন্নতিৰ বিষয়ে শিক্ষা পোৱা লোক লৈ। কাজেই গৰুৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে বিজ্ঞানৰ ফালৰ পৰা কৰিব লগা সকলো কাম কৰিবলৈ Live stock আৰু Veterinary বিভাগ একেলগে কৰা সমীচীন।



গৰুৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে artificial insemination ৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগিব। কিন্তু উপযুক্ত শিক্ষা পোৱা লোক নথকাত সেই কাম বিলাক হৈ উঠা নাই। Live stock ৰ লগত লগ লাগিলে Veterinary বিভাগৰ লোকে এই বিষয়ে বিশেষ সহায় দিব পাৰে। এই কালৰ পৰা Veterinary বিভাগটো কৃষি বিভাগৰ Live stock শাখাৰ লগত একে কৰা মই উচিত বুলি ভাবো। চৰকাৰে বিভিন্ন বিভাগৰ কামৰ সম্বন্ধ ঘটোৱা বৰ থয়োজনীয় কথা। তাৰ ভিতৰত যিবিলাক বিভাগৰ কামৰ সম্পৰ্ক খুব ওচৰ আৰু যিবিলাক বিভাগে কেৱল একেটা বিষয় লৈ কাম কৰে, সেইবিলাক বিভাগ বেলেগে বখা ভাল নহয়। সেই কাৰণে এই দুটা বিভাগ একেলগ কৰাৰ যুক্তিযুক্ততা কোনেও বোধহয় অস্বীকাৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰে।

ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ ভিতৰত বিশেষকৈ পাঞ্জাবতে গৰুৰ উন্নতি হৈছে বুলি কব পাৰি। আমি জানিব পাৰিছো যে পাঞ্জাবত Veterinary বিভাগ Live stock শাখাৰ লগত একেলগ কৰি লোৱা হৈছে। সেইদৰে ভাৰতৰ আন কেইবাখনো প্ৰদেশত এই দুটা বিভাগ একেলগ কৰা হৈছে। পৃথিৱীৰ যিবিলাক দেশত গৰুৰ বিশেষ উন্নতি হৈছে, যেনে New Zealand, Denmark আৰু আমেৰিকাৰ যুক্তৰাষ্ট্ৰ, সেইবিলাক দেশত Veterinary আৰু Live stock বিভাগ একেলগ কৰি বখা দেখা যায়। সেই দেশ বিলাকৰ অভিজ্ঞতাৰ কালৰ পৰা চালে এই প্ৰশ্নটো আমি নিশ্চয় বিবেচনা কৰি চাব লগীয়া হৈছে। যদি দুয়োটা বিভাগ একেলগ কৰা হয় তেনেহলে খৰচ বেচি হব বুলি গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে ভাবিব পাৰে কিন্তু দুয়োটা বিভাগ একেলগ কৰিলে খৰচ নাবাচে বৰঞ্চ কমিবহে পাৰে। তাৰ উপৰি কামৰ সমন্বয় ৰাখিবলৈকো সুবিধা হব। কাজেই যি প্ৰশ্নটো দাঙি ধৰা হৈছে আশা কৰো গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে সেইটো বিবেচনা কৰি চাব আৰু পৰিষদে গ্ৰহণ কৰিব।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Resolution moved is:

That this Assembly is of opinion that for the sake of better and efficient administration, the Government of Assam do take early steps to amalgamate the Livestock section of the Department of Agriculture with the Veterinary Department and do henceforth designate the Director of Veterinary Department as the Director of Veterinary Services and Animal Husbandry.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi Abdul MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of amalgamation of the Department of Veterinary and the Livestock section of the Agricultural Department has engaged the attention of the Government of Assam for many years past. As far back as 1948, a scheme was submitted by the Additional Director of Agriculture which contemplated to amalgamate the two Departments and, Sir, the new department was to come under the Post-War Development Scheme. There was some difficulty, Sir, because our Livestock Farms, for example the Upper Shillong Farm was originally made a potato seed farm and later it was developed into Livestock Farm. A section deals with potato seeds and other agricultural things and there is another section which deals with cattle. At present we are managing this section under the Director of Agriculture and our Veterinary officers are engaged to look after the animals. We have another farm at Khanapara. There was a contemplation, Sir, to develop this farm into a paddy seed farm for the District of Kamrup, but it has not yet been done so, as it still remains very busy with the livestock. We have a farm at Barpeta and another at Jorhat which was made over to the Agricultural Department. There was a contemplation to make over the latter farm to the Agricultural College. It has been done so and now it is under the control of the Principal, Assam Agricultural College. Sir, the scheme that was submitted was found to contain a proposal like this that the Department of Livestock which is now controlled by the Director of Agriculture—and under him is the Deputy Director of Livestock who mainly looks after the Livestock section—should with his staff be taken under the Director of Veterinary Department reducing his post to that of Deputy Director of Veterinary and both of



them were to come under an Animal Husbandry Commissioner. Sir, that contemplated a heavy expenditure—for the new creation of a post of Animal Husbandry Commissioner and his staff—and so Government later found that they were not in a position to incur such a heavy expenditure and thought it advisable to leave things as they were. This proposal is again being pushed for some time past. Now, Sir, the proposal of the hon. Member who wants to amalgamate the Veterinary and Livestock Departments is a simple one which intends to take the Livestock Department from under the Director of Agriculture, to the Director of Veterinary Department, so this is only a simple amalgamation of the Live-stock and Veterinary Departments. Sir, it is a matter for consideration whether the simple taking of the Livestock section under a Veterinary Officer without any change of the staff would bring in any improvement. We find that the change contemplated will be confined to the Head of the Department only. So long it has been under the Director of Agriculture, but now it will go under the Director of Veterinary Department. This is the change proposed, other things remaining the same.

Now, Sir, we have already asked for information from other States in India as to how arrangements are going on there—whether they have been managing a combined Department, as has been proposed to be done in this State of ours or whether they have any other arrangements besides this. We have been examining this matter and when we will be in possession of facts and informations asked for from outside and if on examination of all these it is considered that the Livestock section will serve better under the Director of Veterinary than under the Director of Agriculture, Government will surely do the needful as early as possible.

I shall be glad to have any other suggestions from other hon. Members as to whether this amalgamation will serve better or whether any other steps are to be taken in this regard.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN :** Mr. Speker, Sir, we understand that the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Livestock has invited some suggestions from us whether the simple amalgamation of these two Departments will serve a better purpose to our country or any other step is necessary. To my mind, if these two Departments are amalgamated there is no reason that the post of Deputy Director of Livestock who works under the Director of Agriculture shall be retained as such. He might be absorbed in the natural Department of his, that is the Agriculture Department. This internal arrangement might be made in and in his place one who has the knowledge of Veterinary science and of rearing livestock be appointed. If the financial question stands in the way I may say that I do not think other States are extravagant and they did this amalgamation without considering matter financial. If we find that this amalgamation under an Animal Husbandry Director has been successful in other States and is successful in this arrangement, we possibly should take up this now. If we think that our State will not be in a position to give effect to this proposal as contemplated, though it will ultimately be remunerative, I shall advise Government to beg, borrow or steal if necessary to rehabilitate this useful Department, because the real basis of our life, that is the village reconstruction, ultimately depends upon two things, the child and the cattle “গোবন আর পোবন” These are the two kinds of wealth according to our ideals and if we do not take care of the child and if we do not take care of the calf certainly this big and beneficial scheme will remain in the paper and there would be no reconstruction of our country. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that even if there be any financial difficulty our Government will be in a position to adjust that difficulty somehow or other so that this useful Department may develop



and it will so develop that within a few years—say 5 or 6 years—the money that has been spent now more than what Government can spare, they will be repaid, amply repaid I believe.

Now, we have this experience during the war; the whole cattle strength has been almost depleted because of the military requirements and after that we now find a pair of bullock which cultivators used to buy at one hundred rupees, they are now buying at five or six hundred rupees. That is apparently the position now and however glibly we can talk in the Assembly or outside, with this state of things how can we expect the cultivators to assist us in the Grow-More-Food Campaign unless they have a pair of bullock—healthy bullocks to work with.

Again, regarding the re-organisation of the society; it is necessary to have the army of healthy class of young men who will be able to take up serving the country administratively and in other ways. Wherefrom can we get this force of healthy youngmen?

**Srijut DANDESWAR HAZARIKA:** On a point of information, Sir. Are human beings also included in animal husbandry? (*Laughter.*)

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** My friend is here today with his bulk because he used to get sufficient milk in his childhood, otherwise he would not have carried this physique.

We are told, Sir, that at least half a seer of milk is necessary for each individual. In place of that we do not get here in Assam even a chhatak. In the Punjab I believe they get 22 ounces, but in Assam 1 ounce. So how can you think that with such quantity of milk it will be possible to bring up those healthy young men who will take up the services of the country in a healthier way? It is a very serious thing for us. If we have to take up this scheme even by giving up other schemes, we must do so to be able to produce a healthier class of youngmen and a healthier class of cattle. These two things we cannot ignore. It will be criminal folly if we do that. So, I say the amalgamation of these two Departments is the only thing necessary at the present moment. Science will approve of this, quackery will not.

Of course, Sir, if we want to build up our State scientifically as we always talk, then these two Departments must be amalgamated at any cost because the experience gained by other States will embolden us to do so. If good results have been obtained in other States, why should we be hesitating to amalgamate these two Departments, even if by doing so a little more financial commitments is necessary; we must face it. If we grow potatoes we must improve our cattle also if potato seeds and livestock are growing together. Because we do not do this, potato seed is also scarce now-a-days. We do not get good potato seeds, but only mixed potato seeds are given to us which never grow well, perhaps for reason of mixed department. So these patch works which have been done by our former alien Government so long from the heights of Shillong must be done away with and these two Departments, the Agriculture Department and the Livestock Department should go down to the plains and bring their results in actual field. Therefore, I think the Hon'ble Minister will accept this Resolution, or we should know clearly whether this amalgamation is not desired at the top and whether the financial commitment will be too exorbitant so that we cannot take it up at the present moment. Sir, if these two Departments are amalgamated there will only be a change of officers. The Deputy Director of Livestock who does not know livestock should go to his proper place in the main Agriculture Department and somebody must be put



in his place—one who has got knowledge of livestock: we have got the Veterinary College and we shall have an army of qualified Veterinary doctors within a short time who will take up this work.

Then, Sir, with regard to artificial insemination as suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhagavati, I must say that is a very good idea at the present moment when we cannot secure improved breed. I am told that by this process, sometimes ten to twelve times of cows can be served. I feel it is very necessary at the present moment when we have got no good livestock. So I believe this also may be experimented upon.

Another thing in this connection I may incidentally bring to the attention of the Government is that the Agricultural College, the Veterinary College and some other Departments are spread over in different places and different districts. This patchwork will ultimately be quite unsatisfactory and for these reasons the public may not be taken to task. My idea is this, a full-fledged Veterinary College must be developed as proposed at Barahmpur in Nowgong district, or a full-fledged College developed at Khanapara where there is ample space and also where livestock is available, or it may be developed in Jorhat where there are Agricultural College, Livestock Department and ample space or at any other place. But it should not be scattered in different places. This patchwork, as I said, will not wear well.

Therefore, in all seriousness I should advise Government that kindred Departments should be placed in the same locality as the atmosphere of the locality has something to do with the growth of animal life or vegetable life or even human life. Therefore, this atmosphere must be created. We do not like the idea of this patchwork here and there and for these reasons I hope Government will not say that the people are apathetic and that public co-operation was not forthcoming, and that the public have not understood all these things.

With these words, Sir, I simply want to stress that the Livestock Department and the Veterinary Department should be amalgamated and scientifically worked. If we do not do this then other provinces will call us a quack province.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subject has got some fascination for me for I am a great believer in the adage “পোষন পোষন” which has just now been mentioned by my hon. Friend, Sri Jut Nilmani Phookan, whom for the last 50 years I have treated as my elder brother. We came together in the year 1901 to the Cotton College. I was in the First Year and he in the Second Year class. Since then I have been calling him with the endearing term of “Borkokai” and although our paths lay separate, I kept track of his career and I was pleased to find that the Assamese public has dubbed him as “Bagmibor” or the “eloquent orator” so, keeping the alliteration I refer to him as “Bagmibor Borkokai”.

He started by giving a very true bent to the discussion of this very important subject but later on he digressed from his point.

The crux of this Resolution is not merely the amalgamation of the Livestock Section of the Agriculture Department with the Veterinary Department. The entire idea of the promoter of this Resolution is to see that the breed of cattle in the province is improved, and according to him one of the methods is to have both the Veterinary and Livestock Sections under one head. How far he is correct in his assumption one should analyse. From a study of the curriculum of the Veterinary Colleges in India one will find that it does not comprise specialised



study in the subject of Genetics of the cattle world. So, a mere amalgamation of the Departments of Livestock and Veterinary will not serve the purpose in view.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** Is not Genetics a part of the curriculum of the Veterinary College?

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** No, not advanced study in cattle Genetics. It is just like the Doctors of Medicine who have to learn a bit of Gynaecology in order to make easy delivery, and things of this sort. Some amount of knowledge in Genetics is imparted in the Veterinary College, but the science of improving the breed of cattle is not one of the subjects taught there. That is a specialised course which in India goes under the name and Diploma of Dairy and Animal Husbandry. That is entirely a separate course.

Sir, I think everyone, be he a white-capped patriot in my front or a bald-headed person like me on this side of the House if he wants to see that our population, especially the rural population, improve their standard of living, will agree that the condition of the cattle-wealth should first be improved. This brings me to the subject that we in Assam are the worst people throughout the Republic of India as regards our treatment to cattle. I know, Sir, that the indigenous Assamese cultivator thinks that he has no responsibility whatsoever for feeding his cattle. I have not seen the system of stall-feeding adopted by the Assamese people. They let loose their cattle to the great detriment to the health and growth of the cattle. These cattle fight amongst each other for a bite of the few patches of grass that may be growing in the village fields. That is hardly sufficient to appease their hunger, and they practically go hungry, which is not at all conducive to their growth or improvement. The second disadvantage of this system is that as you let loose your cattle amongst all the cattle of the village or the countryside, some of which may be diseased, your own cattle get infected and therefore there is a very big number of deaths from infectious diseases like rinderpest amongst our cattle. Thirdly, the worst, and what I should say a criminal neglect on our part, is that our cows get mated by the very weedy bulls that stray about in village grounds. Therefore the very idea of improving our cattle wealth goes by the board. We ought to take a lesson in the art of rearing cattle from non-Assamese outsiders, who have settled in Assam. Go to the house of any Bihari cultivator in Assam and you will find that they take sufficient care of their cattle. They keep them inside their houses and would not allow them to be contaminated by the common village herd. You go one step further to our immigrant Muslim cultivators and you will find that they take as much care of their cattle as of their children. I have seen in their villages that not only their cattle are properly fed, but they also keep them under mosquito curtains at night in order to keep them immune from mosquito bite which brings many diseases.

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** মানুহে গৰু বিলাকক চাওঁৰ ওপৰত তুলি ধোঁৱা দি ৰাখে। কিন্তু আঠুৱাৰ তলত গুৱাই ৰখা দেখা নাই।

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** In Assamese villages fumigation is adopted.



**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** হয়, অসমীয়া গাভী বিলাকত আঁঠুৰাৰ তলত গৰু শুৱাই ৰখা দেখা নাই।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** সেইটো অলপ আচৰিত যেন লাগিছে।

**The Hon'ble Srijut MOTIRAM BORA:** Yes, it is done in Nowgong.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I am speaking of what I have seen with my own eyes. Of course my Friend, Mr. Basumatari is correct that the Assamese people are so poor that the human beings cannot afford mosquito curtains, and so how can they afford mosquito curtains for their cattle? But who is responsible for this? We, the Assamese, have been a race of lotus-eaters. Formerly our vitality was sapped by the taking of the drug opium. Even now in spite of all Government efforts, whether Congress or non-Congress Government, to root out this big menace to the progress of our society, what do we find today? Hundreds and thousands of smugglers of opium are carrying on his nefarious but lucrative trade. All our excise staff are engaged in detecting and punishing these anti-social activities of a certain section of our own people. We ought to hang down our heads in shame for the failure to stop this trade. Governmental machinery has been found to be not competent enough to check this remunerative but illegal smuggling of opium. Therefore the present Government had enlisted public co-operation by appointing an Honorary Prohibition Commissioner with a large number of non-official helpers in the subdivisions. Whereas from the same land when outside cultivators grow as many as three crops, we are satisfied if we get our *sali dhan*.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATIIB MAJUMDAR:** It will be better to come to the point.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** I am coming to the point, and coming much better than the Hon'ble Minister. I am just refuting what hon. Mr. Basumatari said.

Sir, if we take our lessons how to rear our cattle all the effort of Government in that direction will come to fruition and the desired end will be achieved, but on the other hand, if Government sends a pedigree bull to serve the country side and even after the services of this bull, the cows are not kept confined in their own houses and are allowed to roam in the village there to graze with and served by emaciated and diseased bulls, every effort in this regard will go in vain. The improvement of cattle must be in two directions, first if we want to improve our cultivation then we must have stronger draught bulls for tilling our lands. If we want more milk to feed our children, we must improve the milk strain of our cows and all the Government farms in Assam are meant for this dual purpose, but I have heard criticism and very right criticism from almost all the public men of Assam that this livestock section has not produced the result that we had expected. Mr. Talukdar thinks that if the Department of Livestock is amalgamated with the Veterinary Department which strives to prevent diseases of cattle, by this probably the country will be more benefited.

Sir, my purpose in rising to participate in this debate is to prove that a mere change of the Department of Livestock from Agriculture to Veterinary will not achieve the result that we all want. We must have and, I think, we have at the present moment some officers who are qualified with scientific training that can be obtained in either the United Kingdom or United States of America. The advance that those countries have made will be apparent from this simple fact—that whereas the average milk yield of a cow there is in the



neighbourhood of 20 seers a day, the average yield in Assam is only half a seer a day. But if proper care is taken I do not see why we cannot improve our milk yield. If we take proper steps probably we can do it. In my own household, I have got two cows, one probably an offspring of the famous short horn breed of Scotland gives milk of about 12 seers per day and the second cow gives 5 seers milk per day. For these two cows, I have one Goala, a Gurkhali entirely devoted to look to the feeding, cleaning and milking. These cows are given stall feeding. They are fed not only with matikalai, oilcake and *bhusi*, which are rationed articles now but they are given green grass. As I have taken special care for these cattle, therefore, I am getting good result in milk yield.

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** On a point of information, Sir, ১৫ সের গাখীৰ তেখেতে কি কৰে ?

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** যদি বসুমাভাৰী ডাঙৰীয়া মোৰ ঘৰলৈ যায়, মই ফ্ৰিম ভৰা এক গ্লাচ গাখীৰ খুৱাম। (*Laughter.*)

Sir, I am citing my example only to say that if an Assamese like myself can obtain such big yield of milk every Assamese can get better result if only they try to take more care of them and feed them properly. The Mali who sold me the big cow said that if I properly feed it four days I would get 14 seers of milk a day as he used to get and already I have got an average quantity of 12 seers of milk per day by feeding thrice. Sir, as I said, my hon. Friend, Srijut Nilmani Phookan, gave the proper bent to our discussion when he originally started and I hope every hon. gentleman will try how best he can improve the breed of cattle. Our breed of cattle cannot be compared with the cattle in the Upper India which I have seen myself. The average cow there produce a much higher yield of milk. In Delhi, I have seen even goats producing 5 seers of milk per day, whereas we get 1/10 of the quantity from our average cow in Assam. My Friend, Srijut Nilmani Phookan, said that our number of cattle have dwindled very greatly since the last war. Then this is the present time when we should replenish our shortage and that can be done with a new breed and our cattle wealth will increase.

I will close with another Assamese adage, apart from the one quoted by Srijut Nilmani Phookan. বাঁহে বলদ, ভাতে মৰদ, *i. e.*, if you want a strong healthy cow you must feed her with good grass and if you want a good health of a man you must feed him with rice (*Bhat*).

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** ভাত must be ডাঙৰীয়ে দিব নোৱাৰা।

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA:** So we should not only urge upon the Government by not only accepting this proposed Resolution but give prominence to the entertainment of separate staff with proper Livestock training, irrespective of the Department be in the Agriculture or Veterinary Department. I would want that our cattle should be improved and efforts of Government will not come to anything unless it is backed by intelligent, reasonable and proper co-operation from the public in general. There ought to be no difficulty as regards finances because I see that there will be not much expenditure in merely making the change that is proposed in this Resolution. The Deputy Director of Livestock will be there whether he is under the Director of Agriculture or Veterinary Director and probably there will be the technically trained head and I do not think an M.R.C.V.S., who is the present head of the Veterinary Department has got the proper training in Genetics of cattle, will be alone suitable for this post.



**Srijut BIJOY CHANDRA BHAGAVATI:** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই প্রস্তাবটোৰ মূলপ্ৰশ্ন হৈছে এই যে কৃষিবিভাগৰ লগত থকা Livestock শাখাটোৰ সম্পৰ্ক Veterinary বিভাগৰ লগত বেচি নে কৃষিবিভাগৰ লগত বেচি। ওপৰে ওপৰে চালেও দেখা যায় যে Livestock শাখাৰ সম্পৰ্ক কৃষিবিভাগতকৈ Veterinary বিভাগৰ লগতেহে বেচি। কাজেই এই দুটা বিভাগ আৰু শাখা একেলগ কৰিলে গৰুৰ উন্নতিৰ বিষয়ে হাতত লব লগিয়া কাম বিলাক বেচি ভালকৈ চলাব পৰা যাব বুলি অনুমান কৰা হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে এই প্ৰস্তাৱত Livestock শাখাটো কৃষিবিভাগৰ পৰা আঁতৰাই Veterinary বিভাগৰ লগত একেলগ কৰাৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ কৰা হৈছে।

মোৰ মনেৰে আজি এই প্ৰস্তাৱটোত এই কথাটোতে জোৰ দিলে আৰু আন্তৰ্জনিত ভাবে আছে, কেনেকৈ গোজাতিৰ উন্নতি সাধন হয় আৰু সম্ভৱপৰ ব্যৱস্থা লব পাৰি।

মাননীয় বিৰোধীদলৰ নেতা ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে—‘ভেটেৰিনেৰী’ বিভাগত যি সকল লোক আছে তেওঁলোকে ভেটেৰিনেৰী কলেজত অধ্যয়ন কৰোতে animal husbandry ৰ সম্পৰ্কীয় কথা নপঢ়ে। মই নেজানো। সেই কথা ঠিক হবও পাৰে। কিন্তু কথাহৈছে ‘এনিমেল’ হাচবেন্দী’ৰ সম্বন্ধে শিক্ষাপ্ৰাপ্ত লোকসকলক বাখিব নেলাগিব বুলি প্ৰস্তাৱত কোনো প্ৰশ্ন তোলা হোৱা নাই। ‘এনিমেল হাচবেন্দী’ৰ সম্বন্ধে শিক্ষাপ্ৰাপ্ত আৰু ভেটেৰিনেৰী বিষয়ে জনা এই দুয়োবিধ লোককো একেলগে লগ লগাই দিলে বোধ কৰো কাম ভাল হব আৰু গৰু-মহৰ উন্নতি সম্বন্ধে বিজ্ঞান সম্মত ভাৱে কাম কৰাটো সম্ভৱপৰ হব। এয়ে হৈছে প্ৰস্তাৱৰ কথা। Live-stock শাখা কৃষিবিভাগৰ লগত নেৰাখি Livestock আৰু ভেটেৰিনেৰী দুয়োটা বিভাগ একেলগ কৰিবলৈ কোৱা হৈছে। তাৰ পিচত, কেনেকৈ আমাৰ দেশৰ জনসাধাৰণে, গো-জাতিৰ উন্নতি-সাধন কৰিব লাগে, কেনেকৈ পোহ-পাল দিব লাগে, কেনেকৈ বাখিব লাগে, কেনেকৈ Breed ভাল কৰিব লাগে সেইবিলাক বিষয়ে তেওঁলোকক সচেতন কৰাই, দুয়োটা শাখা লগ লগোৱাৰ মূল উদ্দেশ্য। সেই কাৰণে এই শাখা দুটা লগলগালে বিভাগীয় কাম সুচাৰুৰূপে সমাধা হব আৰু গো-জাতিটোৰ উন্নতিও হব। ই বিজ্ঞান সন্মতো হব। ‘ভেটেৰিনেৰী’ বিভাগৰ লগত livestock ৰ সম্বন্ধ বেচি; কাজেই এই বিভাগ দুটা পুনৰ গঠন কৰি আমাৰ অতি তল খাপত থকা গো-শ্ৰেণীৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰা আজিৰ দিনত আমাৰ একান্ত কৰ্তব্য আৰু চৰকাৰে তাকে কৰিব বুলি মই বাঞ্ছা কৰো। ইয়াকে কৈ পৰিষদৰ আগত এই প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ যথোচিত বিবেচনাথে দাঙি ধৰিলো।

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard with great attention the points raised one after another by the hon. Leader of Opposition. There are many factors which are responsible for the deterioration of the cattle wealth of the Province and one of the main factors is the negligence of our people to their cattle. The primitive way of rearing their cattle is another factor which cannot help to develop the livestock in Assam. We are trying our utmost to develop our cattle but it will be difficult to develop them as they have been in other Provinces; because on account of the climatic condition of Assam there will be some difference between the cattle of Assam and those of other Provinces in the up-country. As I have said, our people take very little care of their cattle. Stall feeding is another main factor for the development of the cattle which our people have not yet adopted. By feeding at large not only the cattle waste their energy but also they require more fodder. I have ascertained from experts of Livestock and Veterinary Departments that if the cattle were stall-fed, they would require half the fodder they require otherwise, and the same cow as yields 10 seers of milk will only give 4 or 5 seers if let loose, because milk dries as the cow moves on. So, Sir, there are many factors in developing our cattle wealth which are overlooked by the people of our Province. Over and above, if we let our cattle graze at large, they get mixed up with other diseased cattle and thereby contact infection. There are other sources also from which our cattle contact diseases by grazing at large. There are parasites everywhere in



the field. If our cattle are allowed to graze at large, they are generally attacked by rinderpest and other fell diseases which once broken out, become widespread and last for a long time. Sir, our people are lagging very much behind the people of other Provinces in taking proper steps and care for their animals. As the hon. Leader of the Opposition said, there are certain immigrants who take better care of their cattle than the indigenous people and the Hon'ble Srijut Bora told me that there are certain immigrants who throw mosquito curtain over their cattle. That, of course, is not possible everywhere. But the fact is that our cattle require careful treatment from the owner for their development. Government are however trying their utmost to improve the cattle wealth of the Province for a long time, but we have not yet achieved the desired result inspite of our efforts.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The Hon'ble Minister should confine his reply to the point raised.

**The Hon'ble Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR:** My Friend, Srijut Nilmani Phookan, is under the impression that the Deputy Director of Livestock has no training in his work, but, Sir, I should say that he has special training in the livestock work.

Of course, it is a fact that the Director of Veterinary is not a fit person to deal with all aspects of livestock.

Now, as regards the question that has been raised regarding amalgamation of the Livestock Section with the Veterinary Department, we have collected certain facts from other Provinces and we are reviewing the replies we have received so far. Sir, we have also asked the Director of Veterinary Department to submit a scheme for amalgamation of Livestock Section with Veterinary Department and also to report whether this scheme will involve any heavy expenditure. After examining all these we will come to a decision. I think, Government should be allowed some time to examine all the facts. Just to take the Livestock section from the Agriculture Department to the Veterinary Department, the result might not be as desired by my hon. Friend. As has already been pointed out that a number of facts are to be examined and opinions also will have to be collected from other provinces. For all these purposes, I think, Government should be allowed some time before coming to a final decision for amalgamating the departments. With this assurance, I hope, the hon. Mover will withdraw the Resolution. I can assure that this matter will not be dropped and we shall see if the departments can be amalgamated to have better result.

**Shri BIJOY CHANDRA BHAGAVATI:** মাননীয় মন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে যি আশ্বাস দিলে তাৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি মই নোৱাৰোঁ প্ৰস্তাৱটো উঠাই লৈছোঁ।

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution?

The Resolution was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

**Resolution re: taking over of all important roads within the State by Government**

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move: "That this Assembly is of the opinion that all important roads within the State should be taken over by Government and maintained until such time as essential improvements can be effected under the Post-War Development Scheme."



The present Resolution was tabled some months ago before Assam was so seriously affected by the earthquake, and it may now appear that in pointing to the deterioration of roads we are referring to something which is in reality of less importance compared with the great damage that has been caused by the earthquake. We trust, however, that special assistance will be forthcoming to deal with the very extensive damage caused by the earthquake and this will quickly be repaired. But, Sir, we are facing in so many areas the menace of a gradual process of deterioration which is affecting all communications.

Earlier in this Session I had attempted to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the fact that the expenditure on repair of an important National Highway between Makum and Lekhapani had declined from one lakh to half a lakh of rupees and the Government was aware of the very unsatisfactory condition of the road and had been approaching the Government of India for assistance. We do not doubt Government's earnestness in this matter, but the fact remains that the road is bad and really unfit for traffic. Government have recognised that the condition of this road is unsatisfactory. We can equally well point to many other roads. The road from Jorhat to Dibrugarh is in poor condition and many other roads are in no better condition and this applies equally whether these are maintained by Government as agents of the Central Government or on their own responsibility out of State funds, and all roads require a greater measure of attention than they appear to be receiving at the moment. We are not certain what is the cause of this. We are only concerned at this time with the results. Whether it is that the cost of repair has risen so high that sufficient money for that purpose is not available at present or that on account of the preoccupations on those vast projects such as the Shillong-Jowai-Haflong-Silchar Road, the link road to Tripura and the various roads of the Garo Hills that the Public Works Department cannot pay that attention which is needed for the day to day supervision? One suggestion which I would like to give at this stage and this has been sent to me by one of our experts is in regard to the portion of the National Highway Jorhat-Dibrugarh-Makum-Lekhapani that it may be advisable to concentrate on a much narrower width say, 12-15 ft. instead of having an unsatisfactorily maintained width of 30 ft.

The main purpose, however, of our Resolution is to emphasise the unfortunate condition of those important portions of the communications system which are maintained under Local Boards. Their revenues have not, I fear, increased in proportion to the rise in the cost of road repair and we find that deterioration is going on at a very great pace. These road systems are collapsing and it is essential, if Assam is to retain an integrated road system, that some assistance should be given to the Local Boards either by taking over their roads or by providing finance or by giving them expert and technical assistance or modern machinery for road maintenance. A recent development is somewhat perturbing; we find that Local Boards are now attempting to economise on their road construction by preventing motor transport using the roads. It means we are rapidly returning to the bullock-cart days! They are imposing legal restrictions on the weight of motor vehicles allowed to use bridges, and the limit is such that it will virtually exclude all motor transport from the roads. Incidentally these bridges have for many years carried heavy transport and we see no reason why such restrictions should now be imposed. Again we recognised that Local Boards have difficulties, but it seems to me it would be better to try and solve the problem by affording proper facilities for road transport which is so necessary in areas which are inadequately served by railway.



We would like to take this opportunity to refer to the Road Communications Board. I have been a member of this Board for some years and there appears to be a development which we feel is somewhat contrary to the interests of the State as a whole. The obvious intention of this Board was to consider road communications of Assam as a whole—how the available funds, how the available resources could be so utilised that the whole of Assam benefited. There is however a practice which is frustrating this purpose and on recent occasions we have found that all the available money received from the Petrol Tax Fund was evenly distributed over all the Districts of Assam. It does not follow that the interest of the State as a whole require that there should be an equal distribution of money in all areas. We find that some of the work which is going on in some localities is of no value whatsoever to the majority of the residents of the State. We consider that the main purpose of the Communication Board was to prepare a co-ordinated and integrated plan of road development so that roads could be developed on a scientific and material basis.

We have repeatedly drawn attention to the failure to provide approach roads to steamer ghats. While we have become extremely dependent on the river-steamer service, no progress however has been made on the Kharupatia-Mangaldai approach road. We had succeeded in securing the inclusion of the Bokakhat-Dhansirimukh road in the Post-War programme, but no work seems to have been done so far excepting a small amount of earthwork, so all the important work on this project has still to be done. In the last Session of the Assembly we had emphasised the great importance of constructing a new approach to a river ghat in North Lakhimpur at No Ali and pointed out that a small approach road of 3 miles or so would enable the town of North Lakhimpur to be linked with the Steamer Service. Now North Lakhimpur is completely severed from Bardutighat as the Ranganadi bridge has been completely destroyed. This is a project which now merits tackling as a special earthquake scheme and it will enable communications in the North Lakhimpur and Subansiri area to be re-established.

Another project which is of great importance and is not only a Post-war scheme but also an earthquake scheme. This is the Laikajan-Tinsukia road which we find is now the main approach road to the Sadiya Frontier Tract. We would ask the Government to go ahead with these projects. There is an equally urgent necessity of pressing through another important project. The approach road to the Neamati river ghat over the Neamati railway bridge which has been arched to make it available for motor traffic and a similar arrangement over the Dehing at Margherita, have been completed through the exertions of Government. We are grateful for the work that has been completed and the cost of this I understand has been borne by the Assam Government. There was a third bridge scheme which we had pressed, that is on the road between Silchar and Karimganj. This has long been pending and we do not see any reason why it should not be taken up. I hope this will receive the earnest attention of the Government, as we certainly think that it will benefit all travellers between Karimganj and Silchar. Another important project is to connect Silchar directly with the rest of the State of Assam. We understand that the road which was constructed between Jowai-Hailong will not be fit for traffic all the year round unless a large amount of money is again spent. Therefore we would recommend Government to take up a project of connecting Dawki with Silchar. During the war there was a road constructed through Jaintiapur and part of this road can be utilised, but it requires a small diversion. This would provide a permanent road connecting Silchar with the rest of Assam without entering Pakistan and I am certain that it will be a great boon to that area.



In conclusion we trust Government will give their very careful consideration to the suggestions that we have made. We have no ulterior motive in suggesting that there is any deterioration in the roads. The observations we have made, we regard it as our duty to place before the Government. What the remedies are we are not at the present moment in a position to suggest, but we consider that these could easily be ascertained by enquiries and we consider that the question should be taken up resolutely as communications are essential for national prosperity.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Resolution moved :

"That this Assembly is of the opinion that all important roads within the State should be taken over by Government and maintained until such time as essential improvements can be effected under the Post-War Development Schemes."

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to Mr. Hardman not because the Resolution that he has moved can be accepted by me but because he has given me an opportunity to explain the position of the State Government with regard to the roads of the State. By his Motion, Sir, he wants that the Government should take up all the important roads within the State including those roads which are at present run by different Local Boards. Financial position of the State is such that it is not possible for me to accept the Resolution that he has moved. Sir, it has already become difficult on the part of the Government to maintain properly those roads which were already taken up by Government in the process of execution of the Post-War Development Scheme for want of finance. The Government in the year 1946, included about 1900 miles of roads under the Post-War Development plan and they started the programme with great difficulty. But in the year 1949 the Government of India reduced the Post-war grants and consequently the programme that we pushed on by Assam had to be stopped in June 1949. Since then there is no new construction of roads and the roads that have already been taken up in the process of the execution of the programme came to about 1,100 miles. These 1,100 miles of road are at present not being properly look after only for shortage of funds. In face of this, if I am to accept the Resolution of my hon. Friend, Mr. Hardman, we shall have to take up and maintain the roads at present by Local Boards, in addition to the Post-war roads already taken over. Sir, when the State Government is not in a position to maintain all those roads already taken over, it will not be desirable to take up the roads at present maintained by Local Boards. In addition to what has been said, the earthquake by damaging some of the roads and buildings has brought to the State a heavy burden and this is being felt also by Mr. Hardman. So, Sir, in view of the circumstances under which the State Government is placed now, I would request my hon. Friend to withdraw the Resolution that he has moved.

He has, in his speech, referred to certain roads which are included in the Post-War Development Scheme. I have already said, Sir, this Post-War Development Scheme was stopped when the grant out of which the programme was to be executed was curtailed; if the grant would not have been curtailed the programme would have been allowed to proceed. When there will be sufficient fund the roads referred to by him will be given due consideration.

As regards the Katakhal bridge which is long standing, I can assure him that the Railway Department has undertaken to deck the bridge by this winter.



But as regards the other roads that he has referred to we will need sufficient fund and if funds permit that will be considered by us ; but now to take over all the roads as contemplated by this Resolution, will not be possible for the State Government. Therefore, I would request the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

**Mr. C. W. MORLEY:** On a point of information, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has referred to the Katakhal bridge and we are grateful to him for that. But what about the other suggestions about the Silchar-Shillong Road via Badarpur ?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** I can assure the hon. Member that the Silchar-Shillong Road will be maintained by the State Government. For that certain funds have been provided, but the Government of India want to construct another road via Badarpur and the survey of the execution of this road is in progress.

**Shri SATINDRA MOHAN DEV:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just heard my hon. Friend, Mr. Hardman, requesting the Government to take all roads under the Public Works Department. In my district we have mapped out systematic programme for the improvement of our roads and under this programme we have taken up our portion of the Silchar-Shillong road in a systematic manner. I hope my Friend, the Hon'ble Minister, who had been to our district 3 or 4 months ago has marked that. Sir, if you go to Silchar through Pakistan you will not be able to know the boundary between India and Pakistan but as soon as you reach that portion of the road where your car gets bumping and jerking as if your steering will break, then you will know that you have reached the Indian Union boundary—(Laughter)

As regards the Silchar-Haflong road, which is under the Public Works Department—the people in our part used to call it a 'Public Waste Department' but now they have changed that name and call it "Pocket Wallah Department".....(voices—what is the meaning of that ?) I do not know its meaning but that is what the people call this Department now-a-days.

Then, Sir, I am a member of the Communications Board and I have been getting assurance since 1945 that the Katakhal bridge is in progress and that the Railway Department will complete it in 1948. I got this assurance in those days when my Friend, Mr. Das, was not in charge of this Department and that provision had been made in the budget for 50 thousand rupees and that this bridge would be completed in 1948 ; now I am here speaking in 1950 in the month of October over the same thing. I do not know when it would be done. I would request my hon. Friend, the present Minister in charge, to take up this matter immediately.

My attention has also been drawn to the fact that in the course of his speech Mr. Hardman requested Government to take over all Local Board roads also under the Public Works Department. I am opposed to this after seeing the result of the progress they are making. I would rather like to amend the second portion of his Resolution that Local Boards should be provided with funds to make improvement to their roads.

With these words Sir, I resume my seat.

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ইয়াত যি প্ৰস্তাৱ ডাঙি ধৰিছে মই সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিবলৈ উঠা নাই। মই উঠিছো কিছুমান information পাবলৈহে। আমি জনিছো যে Post-war Reconstructionত যিবিলাক ৰাস্তা লোৱা হৈছিল Post-war Reconstruction scheme উঠি যোৱাত সেই বিলাকৰ



ভিতৰত কিবা এটা percentage হে লোৱা হব—আমি জনিবলৈ পাইছোঁ কিবা হেনো 49 per cent. formula হিচাপেহে কাম কৰিব। যদি এই হিচাপে কাম কৰে তেনেহলে সেই 49 per cent.ত কোন কোন বাস্তা লোৱা হব নাইবা কি কি কাৰণে তেনে কৰা হৈছে সেইটো জানিবলৈ পালে ভাল পালোহেতেন। আৰু আলোচনা প্ৰস্তুত জানিবলৈ পাইছোঁ যে যিবিলাক Petrol taxৰ বাস্তাৰ কাম চলি আছে সেই বিলাকৰ কাম বন্ধ নহব, চলিয়েই থাকিব। পিছত আকৌ জনিবলৈ পালোঁ যে তেনে কৰা নহব বাস্তা বিলাকৰ section কৰি লোৱা হৈছে আৰু সেই sectionত পৰিলে হে বাস্তাৰ কাম কৰা হব। কিন্তু এই section আৰু 49 per cent.ত কিমান বাস্তা পৰিব কব নোৱাৰো। যদি ও মই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিব নোৱাৰো কাৰণ আমাৰ সিমান টকা নাই গতিকে যিবিলাক বাস্তা ভাল নকৰিলে নহয় আৰু যিবিলাক অঞ্চলৰ পৰা Procurement বেচি হয় আৰু য'ত বাস্তা নাই বা একেবাৰে পিচপৰা অৱশ্যে মই ট্ৰাইবেল বুলি নক'ও কাৰণ ট্ৰাইবেল ট্ৰাইবেল জনি জনি হেনো কান কলা হৈ গল। সেই কাৰণে যিবিলাক অনুন্নত ঠাই, সেই বিলাক ঠাইত percentage বা section হিচাবে নপৰিলেও সেই বিলাক ঠাইৰ বাবে যেন special consider কৰে আৰু তাকেই কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিলোঁ নহলে তাৰ দ্বাৰা সকলো পিছ পৰা ঠাই বাদ পৰি যাব। কিয়নো petrol taxৰ প্ৰায় ভাল বাস্তাৰ পিছ পৰা অঞ্চলতেই পৰিছে। মজী মহোদয়ৰ পৰা 49 percentage কি আৰু section কি তাক জানিবলৈ ইচ্ছা কৰিলোঁ—অথাৎ কিয় নাই বা কিহৰ কাৰণে তেনে কৰিলে ?

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** What does Mr. Hardman exactly mean by the expression, "and maintained until such time as essential improvements can be effected under the Post-War Development Schemes" ?

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** By "maintenance" I mean making suitable for traffic. I leave it open whether this should be done directly by Government through Public Works Department or by means of subvention to Local Boards. We merely want that they should be maintained either by Government directly or by means of financial assistance to the Local Boards for the purpose.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** What does the hon. Member mean by, "until such time as essential improvements can be effected under the Post-War Development Schemes ?" I am asking these questions for facilitating the debate.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** As hon. Members are aware, large schemes were prepared under the Post-War Development Plan—I cannot give off hand the extent of the mileage involved, but we found that most of these roads, which we regard as important lines of communication, were included in the Post-War Development Scheme which was to be taken up over a five or ten-year period. We thought that that would be sufficiently comprehensive to cover the important roads which we considered should be maintained as part of the main communication system. The scheme was worked out with the assistance of the Central Government's experts who were considering the problem of communications in Assam in all categories from National Highways down to the State Highways and local roads, and therefore it represented an integrated plan.



**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think that Mr. Hardman can explain his Resolution in the way he has done now, consistent with the wording of the Resolution. The Resolution says, "This Assembly is of opinion that all important roads within the State should be taken over by Government and maintained, etc." So, he wants that Government should take over all important roads including the Local Boards' roads and maintain them until such time as essential improvements can be effected to the roads under the Post-War Development Schemes. The Resolution as moved do not complete the maintenance of the Local Board roads by giving grants to them.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** On a point of explanation, Sir. I do not think there is any road, which I contemplated, which had not been included in the Post-War Development programme.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** Anyhow, Sir, as I have already said in my preliminary reply, Government cannot now take up any other road beyond those they have already taken up. I confess, Sir, that Government are not in a position to maintain properly those roads, which they have taken up, for want of funds. So, Sir, Mr. Hardman's proposal to Government to take up those roads which are now maintained by Local Boards cannot be accepted.

Mr. Dev, has said that Government had stated in the year 1948 that the Katakhal bridge would be decked in that year. I do not exactly remember when that statement was made. Neither did I expect that there would be a reference to that matter to-day. But as I also hold charge of the portfolio of Transport I remember that the Railway as well as our Transport Department have agreed on the budget that is necessary for the construction of the Katakhal bridge. The arrangement is that it would be done within this winter.

As regards maintenance of roads, Mr. Dev says that there is a gulf of difference between maintenance of roads which were in Pakistan and those in India. But it must be remembered that the road to which he has referred to was built by India before Partition and the same road is now maintained by them. I do not know what is the financial condition of Pakistan, but I know that the financial condition of this State is not good enough to maintain the roads as they should have been maintained in the Public Works Department standard. Therefore, there may be some deterioration, I think, in our roads.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** How long the Hon'ble Minister will take to finish his speech?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** I will finish it soon, Sir.

To the enquiry of Srijut Basumatari, I would like to say that under the Post-War Scheme over certain roads more than 49 per cent. of the expenditure has been made and we propose to take up those roads. Now from the Petrol Tax Fund in order to save the expenditure from waste he wants to know what is meant by section of a road also.



**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** It seems the Hon'ble Minister will take some time more.

### Adjournment

Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 1 P. M.

### After lunch

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The Hon'ble Minister of Public Works Department will continue.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend, Srijut Basumatari wanted to know what we mean by "a section of a road". By section of a road, we mean a portion of a road.

As I have already explained, Sir, why we cannot accept the Resolution and, so, I would request my hon. Friend, Mr. Hardman to withdraw his Resolution.

**Mr. J. S. HARDMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are grateful to the Hon'ble Minister for the informative reply which he has given and we hope that from this debate certain positive achievements will flow. We are somewhat concerned that when the State is expending a sum of 12 crores of rupees and when we have so recently voted an additional crore of rupees that it should be admitted that Government cannot maintain adequately the roads which are under their charge. We hope, Sir, that when in the coming months Government will be preparing their budget, they will see first of all what retrenchment is possible in a number of departments which appear to be over swollen, what retrenchment is practicable in activities which are of less importance to the State and see that funds are allocated to ensure efficient communications. We will then see what funds are needed and what funds can be provided to bring our road system into an efficient condition. We did not expect, Sir, that Government would accept the Resolution which we have moved. But we hope that from our discussions there will materialise positive road improvement, and we are grateful, I say once again, to the Hon'ble Minister for his agreeing to take into consideration the suggestions we have made here.

With these words, Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my resolution.

The Resolution was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Now, Resolution No. \*6 standing in the name of Srijut Bhadra Kanta Gogoi.

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not going to move my \*Resolution.

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\*6 Srijut Bhadra Kanta Gogoi—This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to make Assamese the State language of Assam.



**Resolution re taking up of the North Trunk Road in Assam as a National High Way and extension of the Assam Railway from Rongapara North to North Lakhimpur and to Tezpur Station**

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** Then, Srijut Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati to move his resolution.

**Srijut BIJOY CHANDRA BHAGAVATI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India and impress upon them the urgency of taking up the North Trunk Road in Assam as a National High Way and also of connecting that part of Assam which has suffered most for very bad communication, with railway by extending the Assam Railway from Rangapara North to North Lakhimpur and to the Tezpur town station in the place of Tezpur-Balipara Railway; and of giving top priority to these proposals.

Sir, the resolution deals with three questions: *viz.* (i) Taking over the North Trunk Road by the Government of India as a National High Way, (ii) Extension of the Assam Railway from Rangapara North to Lakhimpur North and (iii) Replacement of the Tezpur-Balipara Railway by the Assam Railway.

First, let me take up the case of the North Trunk Road. Its importance for the people in the North Bank of the Brahmaputra, more particularly for the people of Tezpur and North Lakhimpur subdivisions cannot be over estimated. The people there have no other way either for travelling or for transport of goods. And it seems to have great strategic importance. I cannot venture to estimate the importance of this road from Military point of view. I must not hazard any opinion. But when I look at the map, I can see as a lay man that this road is bound to play an important part in any emergency that may arise in the North-East Assam. This road also caters to the needs of the hill people, such as Dafilas, Apatanias, Gashis, spreading from the Balipara Frontier Tract to the Subonsiri area.

But it is as difficult a road as it is important. Geographically it falls in the most unstable region of the North East India. The road has to negotiate with very many troublesome rivers or streamlets. Five out of them are problem rivers for the Engineers. They are: the Dhansiri, Gabharu, the Bharali, the Burai and the Dikrong. So far construction of permanent bridges has not even been attempted on these rivers. So in the rainy season one has to cross these five rivers by boat to travel a distance of about 150 miles. Then again, rising or subsiding of water in these rivers is most uncertain. In any moment it may rise or subside. So they are known as mad rivers; and people do not know when the crossing will be possible, and where they will be held up. In the rainy season people travelling from North Gauhati to Tezpur and from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur very often find it difficult to cross over and they have to wait for hours. Sometime crossing becomes impossible and passengers or buses have to pass a day or a night on the bank. The travellers carrying goods have to wait to the last. They have to wait for days and nights to get a chance.

There are many small bridges on this road. But the mad fury of the hilly rivers always threatens the approaches to these rivers and tries to bypass them by taking different courses.

Such being the natural condition, one can well imagine how difficult and expensive it is to maintain this road. Owing to financial and other difficulties the State Government has not been able to construct permanent bridges over the rivers mentioned above and to improve the road to such a standard as it should



be. So the people in these subdivisions have continued to suffer and with all the potentiality for development they have remained as backward as ever. But things have much worsened now after the recent earthquake. It is a matter of supreme misfortune that the worst damages that have been effected by the earthquake of the 15th of August, 1950 are on this road. It has been twisted and broken to pieces in many parts. Depression on the road in some parts will not be less than 5 to 8 ft. In most parts of 28 miles from Narayanpur to North Lakhimpur town, and of 24 miles from North Lakhimpur to Pathalipam, the road has also been torn asunder horizontally and vertically, causing yawning gulf. Again as many as 17 wooden bridges have been washed away by the flood consequent of the earthquake. Some bridges have been badly damaged and the longest iron bridge in Assam on the Ranga-nadi measuring more than one thousand feet has been broken to pieces by the earthquake disconnecting North Lakhimpur and making travelling or transport to that place still more difficult. What is more unfortunate is that, erratic as the rivers and streamlets in the North bank are, they have been made more so by the upheavals of the recent earthquake. This must have very damaging effect not only on the roads but also on cultivation and homestead lands in the villages or towns. The mighty Brahmaputra has been badly shaken. It is not easy to guess the consequences. The floods in Dibrugarh, North Lakhimpur and Tezpur subdivisions after the earthquake indicate the danger. The effect of the earthquake on the riverine system in the State may prove to be the most grievous of all injuries. I apprehend that it will not be possible to protect the road, fields and villages from the most devastating annual floods or erosion, if a thorough scientific enquiry into the condition of rivers in Assam is not made without delay and effective steps are not taken in the light of this enquiry. I feel that the river problem of Assam demands all attention. Yet, I must not make any digression. I refer to this problem as I feel that the safety of the North Trunk Road depends on its solution. Main trouble with the rivers and streamlets in the north bank is that they are very shallow and they change their courses very often, causing damage to the North Trunk Road every year. I can well imagine that as a result of the recent earthquake this phenomenon will manifest in all its fury. It is, therefore, apparent that for the maintenance of the North Trunk Road the rivers falling on this road are to be first trained so as to make each of them steady in one deep channel.

We have seen that the riverine system of Assam and the North Trunk Road are the first casualties of the earthquake and the flood. The problem created thereby are so great that the Government of Assam with the very limited resources at its disposal cannot be expected to solve it. The Government of Assam has not the money and technical organisation or experts to cope with the situation; moreover the Government of Assam has been overwhelmed by the loss sustained in the recent earthquake and the floods and has been overburdened also. It is, therefore, wholly unlikely that the Government of Assam will be able to bear the expenses of rebuilding the North Trunk Road, and constructing necessary bridges on it and also of training the rivers which may prove to be essential for the upkeep of the road and improving it to modern condition.

The Government of India may render a great help to Assam in this hour of crisis by taking up the North Trunk Road as a National High Way. The claim of the North Trunk Road to be converted into a National High Way needs no special pleading. Its case has been very strong all through. And it has been very much strengthened by the events of the great earthquake. I believe its claim has become irresistible. The Government of Assam will do well to impress upon the Government of India to take up the North Trunk Road as a National High Way. The sanction of this August House will very much strengthen the hands of the Government of Assam in making its request. I, therefore, hope that the House will accept this proposition and give its sanction.



Secondly, I submit that the subdivisions of North Lakhimpur and Tezpur are so far deprived of the benefit of the railway system. Railway is a line of communication which is prerequisite of modern life. I need hardly say that no country or part of it can develop in the modern sense of the term without such an essential communication as the railway. It is rather astonishing that no attempt has so far been made to connect the North-East of Assam with railway. There is no railway beyond Rangapara North where the Assam Railway terminates. The recent earthquake has amply demonstrated the risk and danger of depending on road communication alone. North Lakhimpur was cut off for days together and supply to the affected areas in that subdivision has continued to be very difficult even now. Rail and road communications are to supplement one another. So I request the Government to urge upon the Government of India in the Railway Department to extend the Assam Railway to North Lakhimpur. I hope India will see the urgency of giving this project top priority.

Thirdly, the Tezpur-Balipara Railway has been allowed to be run by a Company. This Railway has prevented the Assam Railway from coming to the headquarter town of Tezpur. It is a misnomer to call it a Railway. It could have fit in in medieval condition; but it is an anachronism to-day. The difficulties created by this Railway are manifold. The travelling public has to undergo transhipment at Rangapara. This causes much trouble and loss of time. As regards transport of goods, one instance will illustrate the problem. Some two or three months ago, more than 400 maunds of Atta were booked to Tezpur station. The consignor M/S Shaw Wallace or the Assam Railway Authority did not inform the Tezpur-Balipara Railway to take the goods from Rangapara North. So this 400 maunds of Atta rotted at Rangapara for weeks. This fact came to the light only when, after a considerable time, some outsiders informed the Supply Department at Tezpur about it. Then this was brought to Tezpur and got examined by the Health Officer. It was declared to be unfit for human consumption. Thus the Government has sustained a heavy loss and what is more important so much food has been wasted in these days of critical food situation. Of course, criminal negligence on the part of somebody somewhere is responsible for this wastage. The culprit is to be found out and severely dealt with. But my point here in giving this instance is to show how the public have to suffer for the unnatural transhipment that has been caused by the termination of the Assam Railway at Rangapara North at a distance of about 20 miles from Tezpur Town and confusion thus created in the minds of the outsiders about the route of sending goods to Tezpur. Such instances are not rare. Complaints of this nature are very general.

Then again if a passenger from Tezpur has to go by Tezpur-Balipara Railway to catch the night train of the Assam Railway at Rangapara, he will have to start at about 12 noon. So he has to waste about 7 good hours to cover a distance of 20 miles from Tezpur to Rangapara. In case the Assam Railway is extended to Tezpur, so many hours can be saved for the travellers.

I, therefore, feel that the Tezpur-Balipara Railway should be replaced by the Assam Railway. The public has agitated for this from a very long time. I hope, the Government of India will see the view point of the public and extend the Assam Railway to Tezpur. I understand that the lease granted to the company to run the Tezpur-Balipara Railway will expire next year. I strongly urge upon the Government of India through the State Government not to renew the lease any more. State-ownership of Railway is a universally accepted principle. I do not see, why this sound principle should not be adhered to in this case.

I also submit that the taking over the Tezpur-Balipara Railway will not mean much money. It will not be necessary to take up any major project of road or bridge building. So there is no financial reason in not acting up to this



proposal. I request the Government of Assam to urge upon the Government of India to take over the Tezpur-Balipara Railway and extend the Assam Railway to Tezpur from Rangapara North.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER :** Resolution moved is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India and impress upon them the urgency of taking up the North Trunk Road in Assam as a National High Way and also of connecting that part of Assam which has suffered most for very bad communication, with railway by extending the Assam Railway from Rangapara North to North Lakhimpur and to the Tezpur town station in the place of Tezpur-Balipara Railway ; and of giving top priority to these proposals.

**The Hon'ble Sri Jut RAMNATH DAS :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to Mr. Bhagavati who has moved this Motion so ably. In this Motion he wants this Government to move the Government of India to take up the North Trunk Road as a National Highway and maintain it as such and to connect North Lakhimpur with the Assam Railway and also to connect the Tezpur Town with the said Railway.

This Government have already moved India twice to take up this North Trunk Road as a National Highway and to maintain it as such, but unfortunately the Government of India have not seen their way to accept the request made by us. In reply to our request India has said that Assam is better served by a National Highway than any other States in India and of late Assam has been connected with the rest of India by a new National Highway No.31 which runs from Fakiragram to Purnea. But, Sir, after the earthquake for the damage that has been done to this road, particularly in the North Lakhimpur Subdivision, it is felt by one and all including Mr. Bhagavati who has moved this Motion that it will not be possible on the part of the State Government to repair the road with their own finances. Apart from that the importance of the road is to be viewed in consideration of the development that is to be made in the tribal areas. The tribal areas, such as Mishmi Hills districts and other frontier areas, which are directly under the responsibility of the Government of India are to be developed by India at their own expense. If these areas are to be developed then there must be a road to link these areas with the other parts of India. If that be the case, it is right and proper that India should take up this road and maintain it as their own road. I am grateful to Mr. Bhagavati because the argument he has advanced in moving this Motion to-day will help us to add to the argument that we had advanced before and we would again request India to take up this road.

With regard to the extension of the railway from Rangapara North to North Lakhimpur, we had also moved India, but in reply they said that North Lakhimpur is connected with the State highway, that is the Trunk road and also with the steamer transport. Therefore they are of the opinion that the connection by railway with that part of Assam will be a waste of transport and in addition they are of the opinion that that railway line will not be an economical one. So they did not see their way to accede to our request. But after what has been said by my friend Mr. Bhagavati and after what I have said with regard to the responsibility of India for the development of those tribal areas which are directly under their charge, the importance of the railway transport will be realised by India much more than before. We would request India again and in so doing we would forward the speeches and arguments that have been made by my friend Mr. Bhagavati.



With regard to the extension of Assam Railway from Rangapara North to Tezpur, we had also requested India to examine the position. They examined it and said that the lease for the Balipara-Tezpur Railway would expire in 1952 and before that they could take no action. As the time of expiry of the lease is approaching we would request India again to consider our proposal. I do not like to add anything more than what I have said but I want to thank Mr. Bhagavati again for the Resolution which he was moved and which I would also like to accept.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Resolution moved by my friend Mr. Bhagavati. He has seen the necessity of extending the Assam Railway from Rangapara North to Tezpur. I myself too see the great necessity for so doing and therefore in this session I asked the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department and Transport to see what he could do. He replied that before 1952 this subject had to be shelved or rather we cannot give any consideration. I again request very earnestly the Hon'ble Minister for Transport to press our necessity of having the Assam Railway line extended from Rangapara North to Tezpur and also to extend it up to North Lakhimpur. I hope the Hon'ble Minister will not at the same time forget that as the highway roads in Assam serve a very useful purpose similarly, the railway from Rangapara North to Tezpur serves the people.

With regard to the present Balipara-Tezpur rail I may point out that the compartments are open having no doors and thus liable to accidents. Over and above that on "Hut" and other days the coaches are very overcrowded with passengers which is quite unsafe. After the expiry of the present lease this should not be extended any more and should be handed over to the Assam Railway.

With these words, Sir, I request the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge to take due interest in the matter.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to add a few words on this very important Resolution moved so ably by my friend Mr. Bhagavati and so well received by the Government Bench. The North Trunk Road is absolutely not a new thing. It was there in the long historical period and without this North High Trunk Road Srikrishna would not have been able to elope with Rukmini of Kundilnagar and Usha could not have been taken away from Sonitpur which was along the mighty Brahmaputra and which was the seat to spread the civilization of old Kamrup throughout the length and breadth of the Kamrup Empire, up to the hills and in those days this North Bank of Brahmaputra was thickly populated and there were cities, capitals and kingdoms on it. That very fact shows that we people remaining with historical background in the north bank of Brahmaputra has much to develop. My Friend has spoken everything in this regard and left nothing for us. The highway system is one of the modern weapon of civilization to travel and the railway system about which he has spoken is not only important from the point of view of districts but I should say it is important from the view point of whole of Asia. If we can believe in our present position, if we can believe that the heart of Asia will ultimately run from the veins of India then this railway line cannot be ignored and in fact the Hon'ble Prime Minister hinted at this that this tiny State of Assam cannot be ignored from the fact that it is a meeting ground of Burma, China and Tibet and in time to come who knows that this State will not be a sort of connecting link between India and China, Burma and Tibet. Just as you can imagine a Southern Railway system will some day run through the Stilwell Road to Burma and South East Asia similarly this northern railway system



will some day run through Sadiya to Tibet. For that we can imagine—but it is not an imagination only, it may, some day materialise. Of course I am certain I shall not live to that day to see it, but posterity will, I believe say that some day when the whole of Asia will throb in unison with one heart and one head and one mind, possibly this road will be an artery line for Assam and for that reason we must be prepared to see that eventuality materialises. Therefore, we have every reason to say that the Central Government should go deep into the matter and see that Assam is no longer a neglected Province of old days, but it is an important strategic State as has been admitted by the highest in the land and so they should now consider resumption of this question of Highways and Railways which will not only serve the purposes of the State but will some day be a connecting link between other parts of Asia with India and on that view I strongly urge upon our Government to place the matter as clearly and as definitely as possible before the Central Government so that the Central Government cannot sleep over the matter but shall have to take up the whole question that it is really not the question of the State of Assam alone, but it is a vital question for Delhi as well.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

**Srijut HEM CHANDRA HAZARIKA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have heard the Hon'ble Minister stated in connection with the extension of the Railway to North Lakhimpur, that North Lakhimpur is well served by steamer service and so the necessity of extending the railway line to North Lakhimpur is out of the question. I beg to submit that North Lakhimpur is rather worst served by steamer service because though there is a feeder service from Bordutti to Subansirimukh from where we have got to go elsewhere, during the cold weather season for days together for want of proper steamer traffic and for want of proper arrangement our goods from Bordutti and Subansirimukh are held up either at Subansirimukh or at Bardutti thereby the people suffer a lot.

Again, Sir, during the cold weather season we find that unusual delay in transshipment of kerosine and other foodstuffs, the people of whole northern part from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur have got to suffer for scarcity of kerosine oil and other foodstuffs. So, the argument set forth against the necessity of extension of this Railway system cannot be said to be a valid argument as we always suffer a great lot for not having proper rail communication to North Lakhimpur.

Another difficulty for not having this railway system extended to North Lakhimpur is that the Tea Gardens also suffer a great deal, owing to no proper arrangement for transshipment of their tea which they have sometime to send by motor boats which take them days together and thereby suffer great loss. Therefore, I submit, Sir, that the necessity of extending this railway system to North Lakhimpur is of great importance as has been explained by my hon. Friend Srijut Bhagavati.

Now, Sir, it has been said that North Lakhimpur is well connected with roads. As Srijut Bhagavati has explained.....

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** I did not say, Sir, that it is well connected with roads nor did India say that.

**Srijut HEM CHANDRA HAZARIKA:** All right I withdraw that statement.

Well, Sir, it has been stated that the question of improving the conditions of the tribal people will be taken up both by this Government and the Central Government. It is well known, Sir, that North Lakhimpur is the home of quite



a large number of plains and hills tribals. Now, Sir, I cannot understand how a Nation can rise which is locked up in a place like North Lakhimpur without proper communications and without having Highways or railways or even good roads within the Subdivision itself. Therefore, I strongly urge upon our Government to urge upon the Central Government after giving all view points that until and unless communications both by rail and road systems are improved in that area the so-called slogan of improving the conditions of the tribal people both of the hills and the plains will merely remain in paper, and in words. How the economic condition of the tribal people will be improved if they cannot send their products and other articles for sale, and send their children for education to other places if they are locked up in a place where they are? This is more so in the case of the Apatani tribals. We know in what great difficulties these tribals people of the Subansiri area are moving from place to place without any means of communications. I suppose no amount of labour and no amount of money to be spent will improve their condition if proper communication facilities are not forthcoming. Therefore, I strongly urge the Government to place all these view points before the Central Government to take up this road as a National Highway, and also for extending the railway system up to North Lakhimpur.

I realise the trouble and difficulties of the Tezpur people while taking the train at Rangapara. Even in these days, we have got to spend hours together sitting at Rangapara station from 12 mid-night waiting for the next train. It is an economic loss to the whole Nation.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Srijiut Bhagavati.

**Maulavi Saiyid MUHAMMAD SAADULLA :** Emboldened by the statement of the Hon'ble Minister that he will forward the debate on this Resolution to the Central Government for their consideration with Assam Government's recommendations that the subject matter of this Resolution be accepted by the Central Government, I want to participate in this debate and lend my feeble voice for the acceptance of this Resolution by all concerned.

This Resolution is divided into three branches. The first point is that the North Trunk Road be declared a National High Way and maintained by the Government at the Centre as such. The second recommendation is that the Railway system which now ended at Rangapara in Tezpur subdivision should be pushed right up to North Lakhimpur and the third recommendation is that the town of Tezpur should be connected with Assam Railway from Rangapara.

I find, Sir, that sentiment has crept in the discussion of this Resolution. My revered Friend Srijiut Nilmani Phookan dealt with the past, of five thousand years ago, recited before us the "Rukmini Haran" and "Usa Haran" *Puranas*. A scholar like him has been imbued by reading of H. G. Wells' novel, "Shape of Things to Come" for he visualises probably that 500 years after to-day, this Railway, which is not yet in existence, might be pushed to Burma on the one side and to Tibet and China on the other. But he very conveniently ignored the present, and we are to think about present and not of the past and the future.

Sir, the first thing, as it will be admitted by every one, not merely in the House but outside as well, is that North Lakhimpur is very badly served with communications. Any one who has travelled by the North Trunk Road, as I have travelled from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur (a distance of about 125 miles), must have been struck by the fact that with development of communications in that area, vast tracts of land, which have not come under plough, would be fruitfully utilised in the production of foodgrains which are in very



short supply throughout the Republic of India. They have also been struck by the fact that one has to cross many hill streams with very strong currents in passing from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur. I simply want to urge on the hon. Members to view these recommendations from a practical angle. Is there any chance of the Government of India accepting both the recommendations, *i.e.*, maintain a highway or road communication with the North Lakhimpur Subdivision as also an unremunerative but very expensive railway line? The hon. mover of this Resolution, Mr. Bhagavati, had to admit that this tract is full of very many hill streams which swell at a moment's notice into mighty raging torrents. Bridging these streams would be an extremely costly affair. Will it not be prudent for the public and the Government of Assam to press upon the Central Government to start only with one scheme, either the Railway or the National Highway? To ask for both, to my mind, will be to ask for the moon and we won't get either. Now, when memories of people, especially the Members of Parliament at Delhi, are fresh about the disaster and havoc caused by the earthquake to our communications, and when it is fresh in the mind of everyone that North Lakhimpur was practically cut off from the rest of the world for 3 weeks, and even now communications have not been restored to its normal level, it would draw the sympathy of everyone if we simply press for one of the two, and the less expensive one, *i.e.*, the National Highway. Everyone knows that on account of various contingencies, the coffers of the Central Government at Delhi are not over-full. They promised large development grants to all the States of India, but a few months ago these grants were curtailed very seriously causing much loss to the Central coffers as the expenditure already incurred will mostly be wasted and the public works go so rack and ruin. So, under these circumstances I believe that it will be much better for this House, with a greater chance of acceptance at the hands of the Centre, just to press for one recommendation, *viz.*, making the North Trunk Road a National Highway and maintain it at that standard.

The third recommendation is a very easy one, I mean connecting Rangapara with Tezpur by the Assam Railway. Till a few years ago, this transport system connecting these two places went by the name of Tezpur-Balipara Tramway; it was not a Railway at all. How it has been dignified into a Railway I do not know. The track is there, the bridges are there, only the gauge of the Railway line would have to be broadened. At present it is narrow gauge, but all the other systems of Assam are of the metre gauge. So, only the rails shall have to be brought to metre gauge. It will be quite easy and inexpensive to join Tezpur with the main system of the Assam Railway, and I think this is the time when vigorous steps should be taken in this direction. We have been told just now that the lease that was granted to the Company for operation of this transport line will expire in 1952. Whether it will cease by the end of middle of 1952 or earlier I do not know (The Hon'ble Srijit Ramnath Das :—By August 1952). Thank you. So we have got very nearly 18 to 20 months in which to convince the Central Government of the necessity of converting this Railway into metre gauge and bring it to the level of the general system of Railways in Assam. From our past experience, I can say that it will take that length of time to get any final decision from either the Railway Board or the Government of India. If this line is to be taken over by the Government that should be ready with its conversion into metre gauge from the beginning of 1952 so that as soon as the lease expires, the new system may be in operation.

Sir, with these few words, I will request the House to consider whether they will push forward all the three recommendations that are made in this Resolution or confine to only two, as I have suggested.



**Srijut BIJOY CHANDRA BHAGAVATI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to the Hon'ble Minister for kindly accepting the recommendations of my Resolution. I am also thankful to hon. Srijut Nilmani Phookan, the leader of the Opposition, Saadulla Saheb and to Srijut Hem Chandra Hazarika for their support. The Leader of the Opposition has suggested that it will be prudent to press for one of the schemes. I quite appreciate his view point. But I think that two systems of communication are essentially necessary if we really mean to develop this region. It is rather risky to depend on only one way of communication. So I have recommended for taking over the North Trunk Road as a national highway and also to extend the Assam Railway to North-Lakhimpur from Rangapara North. If financially it becomes impossible to take up both the schemes at a time, one scheme may be taken up earlier with an idea of taking up the other immediately afterwards. Out of the two schemes I will give priority to taking over the North Trunk Road as a National Highway.

Sir, it is suggested that it will not be remunerative to open a Railway line upto North-Lakhimpur. I do not, however, think so. Sir, you know that Bardalani and some other parts in the North-Lakhimpur Subdivision are the granaries of Assam. Much paddy can be exported out of that Subdivision. And there is much scope also to grow more paddy in those areas. From the point of view of procurement and from the point of view of growing more food, I think, it is essential to have that area connected by a Railway also. There are some tea gardens also. And it is very difficult to send tea from that area. Without a Railway Branch I am afraid, whether the area can be very well developed. I am sure the Railway can be run remuneratively.

I, therefore, hope that Government will press for all these schemes, but they can give priority as suggested by the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

I thank the Hon'ble Minister for readily accepting the Resolution and the hon. Members for giving their support to it.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAMNATH DAS:** The suggestion as regards giving priority made by the learned hon. Leader of the Opposition has been accepted by the hon. Mover and as such, I have got nothing to say about it.

**The Hon'ble the SPEAKER:** The question is:

That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India and impress upon them the urgency of taking up the North Trunk Road in Assam as a National High Way and also of connecting that part of Assam which has suffered most for very bad communication with railway by extending the Assam Railway from Rangapara North to North Lakhimpur and to the Tezpur town station in the place of Tezpur-Balipara Railway; and of giving top priority to these proposals.

The question was adopted.



**Resolution re: throwing open of some portion of Forest Reserve land in Pabhoi Reserve Forest Circle for cultivation by the landless Ex-tea garden labour tribes.**

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to throw open some portion of Forest Reserve Land in Pabhoi Reserve Forest Circle, for cultivation by the landless Ex-tea garden labour tribes who have applied for land for cultivation as a measure of Grow-More-Food Campaign".

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

Madam, in moving my Resolution, I beg to point out to this House that though the Government have their policy of Grow-More Food Campaign yet not much has been done in this respect. In order to help the Government and the poor landless people, I have moved this Resolution. There are hundreds of landless ex-tea garden labourers, and some indigenous Assamese people and Scheduled Caste people in the district of Darrang from where I come. They require land for cultivation and for this purpose they have submitted petitions to the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang. These landless people applied for cultivable land in some portions of non-cadastral Forest Reserves in the Pabhoi Reserve Forest Circle. Those people who applied were either holding not enough land or are landless and their petitions were sent by the Deputy Commissioner to the Sub-Deputy Collector and Kanungo of the Behali Circle for enquiry and report. The Circle Sub-Deputy Collector and Kanungo after enquiring about the plot of land as applied for, and also finding that these people were really landless recommended and forwarded their reports to the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang so that the land as applied for might be thrown open for them. These recommendations were submitted to the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang, on the 8th February, 1950. No decision has yet been made with regard to their petitions.

Madam, as now it is a matter of Government policy to sanction opening of any forest reserve land after receiving favourable recommendation of the local authorities, I draw the attention of the Government and request that they might pass orders in these special cases, so that these poor landless people might be allowed to cultivate this portion of the non-cadastral forest reserve land in Pabhoi Circle, and thereby they will be able to grow more food for themselves and for others and Government also will receive more revenue.

Madam, as there has been so serious food situation in our country and so for meeting the demand of the people, I request that the Government might adopt all ways and means for food production. That there may be technical difficulties in the Land Revenue Manual and Forest Manual for settling land with these people, but considering the serious food situation in our country, I think, Government should make some exception in these cases.

Madam, I have come to know that in some places particularly in the Goalpara district Government are allowing the refugees and the local tribal people to cultivate the land left by the immigrants who have gone to Pakistan. Similarly, I hope that Government will consider the case of the landless people, I mean the ex-tea garden labourers, the scheduled caste people and some indigenous people, who are really landless and who have applied for land for cultivation. These people are not immigrants, they are our local people and they are workers and not parasites. They want to grow more food for them and also for others. So, it is our duty to provide these people with land so that they



can grow more food for the country. I think, Government have received reports from the local authorities of the Darrang District regarding these landless people.

Madam, with these words I commend my Resolution for the acceptance of the House.

**The Deputy SPEAKER :** Resolution moved :

"That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to throw open some portion of Forest Reserve Land in Pabhoi Reserve Forest Circle, for cultivation by the landless *ex-tea* garden labour tribes who have applied for land for cultivation as a measure of Grow-More-Food Campaign".

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA :** Deputy Speaker, Madam, on principle I am against any proposal for dereserving our valuable forest reserves. It is very unfortunate that people are now casting their eyes on our reserve forests. The problem relating to landless people is so acute now and the demand for land is so great that it is impossible for Government to satisfy the demand of the people even by disforesting the whole of the forest reserves which we have got at present. I have been continually receiving representations from almost all districts of the Province for throwing open forest reserves in the different divisions. The expert opinion is that it is due to disforestation and clearance of forests in the hill regions and even in the plains portion of our country that the country has been facing every year the havoc of floods and the erosion by rivers. It is really strange, Madam, that Mr. Sarwan comes in every Session of the Assembly with a proposal for throwing open some portion of a forest reserve at one time and some portion of another forest reserve at another time. I have always been telling the hon. Members that we have got a very small percentage of reserve forest in the Province. The normal requirement is 25 per cent of the total area of a State, whereas we have got at present only 12 per cent. Lately we had only 8 per cent. and we have now increased the area to 12 per cent. In view of this, I do not think that any hon. Member of the House should come up with such a proposal to throw open any part of our valuable reserve forests. On the other hand, Madam, it should be the endeavour of all to help the Government to reserve more forest now.

Now, so far as the particular reserve forest referred to in the Resolution is concerned, it seems to me, Madam, that a considerable portion of it falls within the tribal area and only 6,307 acres falls within the Darrang Division and out of this small portion of the reserve, about 750 acres have already been dereserved and some Mikirs have been accommodated there. It is not clear to me what the hon. Member means by the words "to throw open". If he means that he requires land for growing agricultural crops within the reserve, I may tell him that we are prepared to accommodate some people as forest villagers if there is any culturable land available within the reserve. But if he wants dereserving the forest reserve, then I am against it.

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN :** On a point of information, Madam, as the Hon'ble Minister wants clarification of what I mean by "to throw open", I may inform him that about 200 bighas of the reserve have already been given to some Mikirs and the landless people—some *ex-tea* garden labourers for whom I have tabled this resolution have already applied to the Sub-Deputy Collector and the Kanungo for the same for paddy cultivation. The local officers have sent up their recommendation to the Deputy Commissioner and if the Government have not got it, will the Hon'ble Minister call for the report from the local authority and consider their cases as has been done in the case of the Mikirs ?



**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** Mr. Sarwan has now just said that some *ex-tea* garden labourers have submitted their applications to the Deputy Commissioner for the land in the reserve, but I have not yet received any such application from the Deputy Commissioner. Moreover, the Deputy Commissioner is not responsible for the land in the forest reserve but it is the Divisional Forest Officer.

I may, however, make enquiry in the matter and see what can be done.

With this assurance, I hope, Madam, that the hon. Mover will withdraw his Resolution.

**Srijut BELIRAM DAS:** Deputy Speaker, Madam, we are wholly opposed to the principle of throwing open reserves—and more so—the forest reserves. Forest reserves are our national wealth and we cannot forego the benefit of the forest reserves. Hon. Members might have known that due to the last earthquake all the forest reserves on both sides of the Subansiri river have been devastated and Government are going to incur a loss of 50 lakhs of rupees in these reserves. So, we have suffered this huge loss of revenue, and we must not at any cost propose to dereserve any forest reserve. The income from forests comes next to land revenue. Unless we increase our forest reserves and regenerate them we cannot improve our forest revenue which comes next to our land revenue. I can tell the hon. Mover, my Friend, Mr. B. K. J. Sarwan, that we have passed an Act called the Requisition and Acquisition Act. We can very well acquire surplus lands of the tea gardens and if my hon. Friend wants land for the *ex-tea* garden labourers then he can approach the Government in stead of trying to open out forest reserves for accommodating those people. So we wholeheartedly oppose this Resolution and we suggest that Government will not open any forest reserve in the future.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Does the hon. Member want to withdraw his Resolution?

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** I was rather very pleased when the Hon'ble Minister said that he would see that something will be done in this respect. I don't want very much. A little portion of the forest reserve may be thrown open to accommodate these landless people.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** I want to know whether Mr. Sarwan wants land for paddy cultivation or for some other purpose.

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** They have applied for cultivation of paddy. The Sub-Deputy Collector and the Kanungo say that they can accommodate them in that small portion.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** I have already stated that I will look into the matter.

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** I am not asking for land for my own purpose but for the poor landless people. If the House has sympathy for them, something can be done by allotting a small portion to them. So I have moved this Resolution for the sympathetic consideration of the House and hope the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge will try to meet the urgent demand of these landless hungry people.



**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Is the hon. Member withdrawing the Resolution ?

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** If the Hon'ble Minister gives me an assurance I will have no hesitation to withdraw the Resolution.

**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** I have already stated before the House that I shall look into the matter and see what can be done. Beyond that I have nothing to add. I am against dereservation of reserve forests.

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** In view of what has been stated by the Hon'ble Minister, Madam, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

**Resolution for not allowing to hold more than one Government Business contract by one person**

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** Madam, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps not to allow to hold more than one Government business contract to one person at a time thus giving facility to others to get chance for employment.

Madam, in moving my Resolution I beg to point out to the Government the fact that there are some people who are getting more than one Government business contract thereby other people are not getting chance. So I have tabled this Resolution to bring to the notice of the Government the above fact. I need not mention the names of those who have got more than one Government contract. What I say is that those who have no work should be given some contract instead of giving the same person several contracts.

Madam, I am very sorry that nepotism and all sorts of favouritism are being done. Government should also think that those who have got no work they should be provided with work and there should be no selfish way of having everything for one-self. Government should also adopt the policy of granting chance to every section of the community whether he is a Hindu or a non-Hindu and the question of fairness and justice should be watched by the Government so that the people will be satisfied and Government will gain great popularity thereby. Madam, I hope this House will whole-heartedly support my Resolution.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Resolution moved :

"That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps not to allow to hold more than one Government business contract to one person at a time thus giving facility to others to get chance for employment."

**The Hon'ble Srijut BISHNURAM MEDHI:** Madam, Deputy Speaker, I really do not understand what is the meaning of this Resolution. It is so vague that it cannot be properly appreciated and I anxiously waited to hear what Mr. Sarwan had to say in support of this Resolution, and I wanted some elucidation and explanation giving me some idea to know what is the subject-matter of the Resolution. But in spite of my best effort to understand him, I have not been able to understand what is the meaning and purport of this Resolution. Is it the intention of the Mover of the Resolution that any one and every one without caring for his efficiency, experience or financial ability is to be given a



chance by way of an experimental measure? If that be his suggestion, such a suggestion cannot be accepted by Government. Government cannot spend money on contract or other business that is entrusted to public men and cannot make an experiment of wasting public money to give a chance to any one and every one having no experience or financial backing. The other thing he said is that there should not be any discrimination between caste and creed. Government have all along acting up to the principle and no discrimination between caste and creed is made in the matter of allotment of contract. Justice and fairness is the basis of dealing with any class of people and Government stands on the basis of this principle. But the main principle of allotting Government business is whether the man has experience, whether he has financial ability to execute the contract or whether he is efficient in the line justifying allotment of certain business or contract. These are the main considerations and not the consideration of caste and creed in the matter of allotment of contract. In view of what I have stated I would request the hon. Mover to withdraw such a vague Resolution which he has sponsored and which cannot be properly appreciated or understood by us.

**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** In my speech I only stated that I do not like to mention the names of those who have got more than one Government contract, but it has been in practice. Government must be careful in allotting Government business or contract works, so that others who have no work may get chance. I do not at the same time recommend the persons who are not fit for such works, but Government should keep an eye so that no partiality is done depriving others to get chance for works.

I have no more to add, Madam. If the Hon'ble Minister wants me to withdraw my Resolution then, Madam, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution

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

**Resolution re : provision of sufficient lands suitable for paddy cultivation to those people whose lands have been badly damaged by the last great earthquake**

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ। মহোদয়, যোৰা প্ৰস্তাৱ এই যে This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to provide sufficient lands suitable for paddy cultivation to those people whose lands have been badly damaged by the last great earthquake, by requisitioning the lands owned by the Tea Companies which are lying fallow in the districts of Lakhimpur and Sibsagar.

উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আপুনি জানে যে যোৰা ১৫ আগষ্টৰ ভূমিকম্পই, বিশেষকৈ লক্ষীমপুৰ জিলাৰ উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰ মহকুমা আৰু ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাৰ অনেক মানুহৰ ঘৰ-বাৰী নষ্ট কৰিছে; আৰু মাটি ফাটি বালি ওলাই প্ৰায় ৫০ ফুট বালি পৰি মাটিবিলাক খেতিৰ অনুপযুক্ত কৰি পেলাইছে। তাৰ ফলতেই কিছুমান ঘৰবাৰী একেবাৰে ধ্বংস হৈ গৈছে। আজি সেই ধ্বংসলীলা কাগজে পত্ৰইয়ো প্ৰাণপূৰ্ব্বকৈ থকাশ পাইছে। এতিয়া এফালে মানুহৰ ঘৰবাৰী, মাটিবাৰী আৰু খেতিবাৰী ভূমিকম্পৰ ফলত বিধ্বস্ত হৈছে, আৰু আনফালে, যিবিলাক মাটি এতিয়াও শিৱসাগৰ আৰু লক্ষীমপুৰ জিলাৰ বহুতো বাগানৰ ভিতৰত পৰি আছে, সেইবিলাক মাটিত খেতি নকৰি বনবীয়া হিংস্ৰ জন্তুৰ বাসভূমি কৰি ৰাখিছে। গতিকে সেইবিলাক মাটি গৱণমেটে লৈ যিবিলাক মানুহৰ খেতিৰ মাটি ভূমিকম্পৰ ফলত নষ্ট হৈছে সেইবিলাক মানুহক অতি সোনকালে সেইবিলাক মাটিৰ দখল দিবলৈ মই আমাৰ মাননীয় মুখ্যমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিলো।



ভূমিকম্পৰ পিছত ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাৰ টিংখং চাচনি আৰু খেৰেগীয়া আদি মৌজাৰ বাইজৰ কিছুমান মানুহে ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ উপায়ুক্তক গৈ দেখা কৰিছিল। আৰু তেওলোকে কৈছিল যে তেওলোকৰ খেতিৰ মাটি ভূমিকম্পৰ ফলত বালিয়ে ঢাকি একেবাৰে খেতিৰ অনুপযুক্ত কৰিছে। গতিকে তেওলোকক কিছু খেতিৰ উপযুক্ত মাটি দিব লাগে। আমি তেখেতক কিছুমান এনেয়ে পৰি থকা খেতিৰ উপযুক্ত মাটিও দেখুৱাই দিছিলো। কিন্তু তেখেতে সেইটো Long term proposal ব অজুহাত দেখুৱাই, মাটি দিয়া বিষয়েই একোৱেই নকৰিলে। ভূমিকম্পৰ পাছত and Advisory কমিটীৰ এখনো সভা বহা নাই। তেখেতৰ ওচৰলৈ দৰ্শনাগত খেতিয়ক সকল যোৱাতো Long term proposal বুলি তেওলোকক ঘূৰাই পঠিয়াই দিলে। ভূমিকম্পৰ পিছতেই সেই খেতিয়ক সকলক খেতিৰ উপযুক্ত মাটি দিয়া হলে তেওলোক ভবিষ্যতে বিপদত নপৰিলহেতেন।

টিংখং, চাচনি, খেৰেগীয়া আদি মৌজাত নাই নাই বলিও ২ হেজাৰ বিঘা খেতিৰ মাটি বালিয়ে ঢাকি নষ্ট কৰিছে। অথচ বাগানবিলাকত ইমান মাটি এনেয়ে পৰি আছে, সেই মাটি বিলাক ততালিকে এই খেতিয়ক বিলাকক দিলে তেওলোকে খেতি কৰি আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত ষটা খাদ্য সঙ্কটো কিছু পৰিমাণে দূৰ কৰিব পাৰিলেহেঁতেন। বাম শস্য কৰিবলৈ বহুতে এতিয়াও উপায়ুক্তৰ ওচৰলৈ গৈয়ে আছে। কালি চাচনি মৌজাৰ পৰা মানুহ আহি মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী আৰু বনবিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰীৰ ওচৰত মাটিৰ কাৰণে নিবেদন জনাইছেহি। ইয়াতেই বুজিব পাৰি মাটিৰ কাৰণে মানুহৰ কি বিলৈ হৈছে। এই খেতিয়ক বিলাক মাটিৰ কাৰণে হাৰাখৰি খাই ফুৰিছে। এই মানুহবিলাক খেতি নকৰি বহি থাকিলে ৰাজ্যৰ ভবিষ্যত খাদ্য পৰিস্থিতি অতি সঙ্কট পূৰ্ণ হৈ পৰিব। গতিকে মই গৱণমেন্টক অনবোধ কৰে। যাতে গৱণমেন্টে ডিব্ৰুগড় আৰু শিৱসাগৰ জিলাৰ Deputy Commissioner ক এখন খেতিয়কৰ সভা আহ্বান কৰি, ভূমিকম্প বিত্বস্ত লোক সকলক উপযুক্ত খেতিৰ মাটি সোনকালে দিবলৈ নিৰ্দেশ দিয়ে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই মোৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ এই পৰিষদৰ সদস্য সকলৰ আগত দাঙি ধৰিলো আৰু মোৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সকলোৱে সমৰ্থন কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো।

### The Deputy SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

"This Assam Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to provide sufficient lands suitable for paddy cultivation to those people whose lands have been badly damaged by the last great earthquake, by requisitioning the lands owned by the Tea Companies which are lying fallow in the districts of Lakhimpur and Sibsagar."

**Srijut HARE SWAR DAS: (Parliamentary Secretary)** Madam, I have every sympathy for this Resolution. Government are as anxious as the hon. Member to give relief to those distressed people in the quake affected area. The Hon'ble Chief Minister made a statement on the floor of this House on the earthquake situation of Assam a few days back, where he surveyed in detail the havoc caused and the measures taken by Government, and the House approved those measures and adopted the statement. After that statement I think this Resolution is absolutely redundant. This Resolution aims at giving cultivable land to the distressed people. There is some difficulty in this respect because it has not been possible by now to ascertain as to when and how much land has been damaged by the last earthquake. Earthquake has got two fold action on land. Some lands are damaged no doubt, but others get improved due to fluvial action of the flood water. It can be ascertained only after flood water has subsided. When the flood water subsides possibly we will be in a position to ascertain the damage. We have already issued instructions to local officers that in matters of settlement of wastelands, they will give priority to those who lost their lands due to the earthquake. So the principle of providing land to the quake affected people Government have already accepted.



As regards the point raised by my hon. Friend, the problem of landlessness is an acute one in the whole State. There is not sufficient land to meet the demands from the landless people. As regards this question also we have given instruction to requisition lands wherever available and give them to the landless people. But as regards surplus lands in the Tea Garden, there is some difficulty. These tea gardens also have suffered heavy damage after the earthquake. The Land Settlement Enquiry Committee sat several times, but they recommended requisition of only 400 bighas. That was before the earthquake. The position prevailing after the earthquake is not known. But if there be any surplus land in the district, we have also issued instructions to requisition such land with a view to provide the landless people. That is the position. My Friend is also a member of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee, he will therefore know if there be any surplus land and he can submit his suggestions to the Committee and they will take steps accordingly. The Deputy Commissioners have been authorised to do this and they need not come to Government. So, Madam, this is the position with regard to the settlement of land with the landless people. I must inform the hon. Mover of this Resolution that the Government are as anxious as he is to provide these landless people with land. When we have done so much and when we are doing everything possible in our power, we want some sort of appreciation and thanks from the hon. Member and not a direction like this.

With these words, Madam, I would request my hon. Friend to withdraw his Resolution.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Any hon. Member wants to take part ?

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** মাননীয়া উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়া, মাননীয় পালিয়ামেণ্টেৰী চেক্ৰেটৰী মহাশয়ে প্ৰথমেই মোৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো ভুল কৰি ললে, চৰকাৰে যেহেতু এই বিষয়ে বেচি মনোযোগ দিছে সেইটো বৰ সন্তোষৰ কথা। কিন্তু চৰকাৰে দিলেও কিছুমান চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীয়ে নিদিদে। আমি নিজে চেষ্টা কৰিও ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ বৰ চাহাবৰ হতুৱাই মিটিং এখন পতাৰ নোৱাৰিলো।

ভূমিকম্পত বাগানবোৰ বহুত ক্ষতি হৈছে বুলি মাননীয় পালিয়ামেণ্টেৰী চেক্ৰেটৰীয়ে কৈছে। ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাৰ কেৱল ডুমডুমা অঞ্চলৰ কেখনমান বাগানৰ বহুত ধ্বংস হৈছে। উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰত কেইখন হৈছে সেইটো নেজানো। অৱশ্যে এতিয়াও ডিব্ৰুগড়, তিনিচুকীয়া অঞ্চলৰ বহুত বাগানত এক লাখ কি দুই লাখ একৰ মাটি এনেয়ে পৰি আছে, যত বনৰীয়া জন্তুৱে অৰ্থাৎ বাঘে শান্তিৰে বিচৰণ কৰিছে। সেইখিনি মাটি যাতে সোনকালে পাব পাৰি তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবলৈ এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো দাঙি ধৰিছে। আৰু আমাৰ জিলাৰ উপায়ুক্তই যাতে long term proposal বুলি পেলাই থবলৈ নেপাই তাৰ কাৰণে দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰা হৈছে। চৰকাৰে যেতিয়া মনোযোগ দিছে মই সেই কাৰণে চৰকাৰক ধন্যবাদ দিছো আৰু মোৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো উঠাই লবলৈ সন্মত হৈছো।

**Srijut HARESWAR DAS (Parliamentary Secretary):** But there have been many meetings, Madam.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Resolution ?

(Voices—Yes, Yes)

The Resolution was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.



**Mr. BINODE KUMAR J. SARWAN:** As there has been a long debate on this subject, I do not wish to move my \*Resolution standing in my name, Madam.

**Resolution to abandon the proposal of grouping the Assam Railway with parts of E. I. R., B. N. R. and O. T. R.**

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** I want to move this Resolution (No.18) Madam, standing in the name of Srijut Gauri Kanta Talukdar.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Has the hon. Member been authorised to move it ?

(Voices from the Government Benches—he has been authorised to do so).  
Then the hon. Member may move it.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** Deputy Speaker, Madam, as authorised by my Friend, Srijut Gauri Kanta Talukdar, I beg to move that :

“This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do immediately move the Government of India, in the Ministry of Railways to abandon the proposal of grouping the Assam Railway with parts of E. I. R., B. N. R. and O. T. R. with a view to form an Eastern group and do earnestly request the India Government to constitute the Assam Railway into a separate unit having regard to its Geographical position and strategic importance.”

Madam, it is known to Government that this very important matter has been taken up by the Assam Railway Employees Union some time back and the whole question was thrashed out in such a way that the importance of this strategic railway was emphasised and other things also point to the need for retaining this railway as different from the already contemplated group ; they proposed to make another group added to that separately for Assam Railway due to strategic position and due to difficult communications and also the present difficulties we have already experienced for want of an independent railway system. And so far as I remember the Assam Chamber of Commerce also have elaborately dealt with the question and submitted resolutions to the Assam Government and also to the Government of India ; and so far as I know our Government is also of the definite opinion that this system of railway should not also be tagged with that grouping system, but it should be created separately. That is why I like to move this Resolution.

As to the importance of this separate system of railways for Assam, I need not emphasise any more. It has been mentioned already in the press and platform and in other places as well. I am sure that the Government, as they also felt that this is an important matter, will accept this Resolution and not only accept it but will emphasise this side of the question and move the Government of India in time so that this cannot be taken into the group already proposed by the Railway Administration.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Resolution moved :

“That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do immediately move the Government of India, in the Ministry of Railways to abandon the proposal of grouping the Assam Railway with parts of E. I. R., B. N. R. and O. T. R. with a view to form an Eastern group and do earnestly request the India Government to constitute the Assam Railway into a separate unit having regard to its Geographical position and strategic importance.”

\* Mr. Binode Kumar J. Sarwan.—This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam to take necessary steps to reduce the prevailing high prices of foodstuffs and other commodities immediately.



**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** Madam, Deputy Speaker, as the learned Mover of this Resolution has already stated that not only the Government has opposed this proposed grouping, the Chamber of Commerce and other institutions also opposed it. I am grateful to him for the Motion that he has moved and the reasons that he has given to oppose the proposed grouping. We from our side have already written to India opposing the proposed grouping. We have given three grounds, *viz.*, (1) Assam's position in relation to the rest of India, (2) Assam's position in relation to the surrounding foreign States and (3) internal security. As is well-known to the hon. Members, Assam is linked with the rest of India with only a thread, *i.e.*, by the new Rail Link, which is susceptible to interruption, and sometimes breaches, due to natural causes and the activities of anti-social elements. Giving all these reasons we have said that if the proposal of regrouping is given effect to with regard to other Railways, the Assam Railway should be a group by itself, considering the factors that we have stated. Therefore, Madam, I do not like to say anything more except to thank the hon. Mover for helping us in our stand by moving the Motion.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** I am thankful to the Hon'ble Minister for Railways that he has appreciated our point of view, and I am glad to learn that the matter which we are pressing here has already been insisted upon the Central Government by our Government. I am sure this Resolution, embodying the sense of the whole House, will strengthen his position further in pressing the question to the Government of India. I again thank the Hon'ble Minister for what he said on behalf of Government.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I think the hon. Member is not correct in saying that Hon'ble Mr. Das is Minister for Railways. He is Minister of Transport.

**Srijut NILMANI PHOOKAN:** I meant Minister of Transport who has also connection with Railways.

**The Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY:** Madam, should it not be ascertained whether it is the sense of the House to accept the Resolution?

**The Hon'ble Srijut RAM NATH DAS:** As I have already said, Madam, we have taken steps in the way my learned Friend wants us to do by this Resolution. Therefore we have got no objection to accept this Resolution and send it to India in support of our move.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I will put the question.

The question is:

"That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do immediately move the Government of India, in the Ministry of Railways to abandon the proposal of grouping the Assam Railway with parts of E. I. R., B. N. R. and O. T. R. with a view to form an Eastern group and do earnestly request the India Government to constitute the Assam Railway in a separate unit having regard to its Geographical position and strategic importance."

The question was adopted.

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** Madam, I am not going to move my \*Resolution.

\*Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI: This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to supply woods from Government Forest Reserves free of royalty to those people of Assam whose houses have been damaged by the last earthquake.



**The Hon'ble Srijut RUPNATH BRAHMA:** For the information of the House I may say, Madam, that we have already taken steps in the matter.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** It is not necessary, as the Resolution has not been moved.

**Resolution urging to take steps to improve the condition of the Tingkhong Road**

**Srijut BHADRA KANTA GOGOI:** Madam, Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to improve the condition of the Tingkhong Road which is the only source of communication of Tingkhong Mouza—a tea and paddy producing area of Dibrugarh Subdivision from where Government derive a good revenue.

মাননীয়া ডেপুটি স্পিকার মহোদয়া, খাদ্যপৰিস্থিতি সম্পৰ্কে যি আলোচনা হৈ গৈছে সেই আলোচনা প্ৰসঙ্গত আজিৰ এই আলোচনা সম্পৰ্কে মাননীয় শ্ৰীযুত লোহাৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই গভৰ্ণমেণ্টক কৈ আহিছে—আৰু ময়ো কৈছিলো। টিংখং বাস্তাটোৰ বিষয়ে মই বিশেষকৈ কম। টিংখং মৌজাৰ এই বাস্তাটোৱেই ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাৰ লগত এই অঞ্চলৰ যোগাযোগৰ প্ৰধান বাস্তা। Dibrugarh Subdivision টো এটা deficit area হলেও এই বাস্তাটোৰ সংস্পৰ্শত থকা কেইটামান মৌজা যেনে, টিংখং, চাচনি, খেৰেবীয়া paddy surplus area। এই মৌজা বিলাকত ধান যথেষ্ট উৎপন্ন হয় অৰ্থাৎ যাতায়তৰ সুবিধাজনক বাস্তা পথ নথকাত, ইয়াৰ খেতিয়ক বিলাকে এই বিলাক ধানৰ উপযুক্ত মূল্য নাপায় আৰু বাহিৰলৈ সহজে ওলাই আহিবলৈ টান হয়। এই প্ৰসঙ্গত এটা কথা আপোনালোকৰ সন্মুখত এইখিনিতে উল্লেখ কৰা মোৰ উচিত হ'ব যে, আলি পদূলিৰ অভাৱত যোৱা বছৰ Procurement Department এ seize কৰা কেইবা হাজাৰ মৌন ধান আনিব নোৱাৰিলে। গতিকে, এই আলিটো যানবাহন চলাচলৰ উপযোগী কৰি টিংখং অঞ্চলৰ বায়তৰ যাতায়াতৰ সুবিধা আৰু সেই অঞ্চলত উৎপন্ন হোৱা ধান চাউল আদি সন্মুখৰ বাহিৰলৈ উলিয়াই আনিব পৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা অতি সোনকালে যেন হাতত লয়, তাৰ বাবে অনুৰোধ কৰিলো।

এই আলিটো হলে, কেৱল খাদ্যসম্বন্ধে যে পোৱা হ'ব এনে নহয়—এই আলিটোৰ দাঁতিয়ে দাঁতিয়ে ১৪ খন মান চাহ-বাগানও আছে—য'ৰ পৰা গভৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ যথেষ্ট আয় হয় আৰু হ'ব। জঙ্ঘলী বিভাগোৰ অনেক কাম এই আলিৰ ওপৰতে নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে, আৰু যথেষ্ট আয়ো হয়। বাস্তাটোৰ ওপৰেদি দহ চকীয়া গাড়ী, যেনে G.M.C. গাড়ী যাতে চলিব নোৱাৰে তাৰ দিহা কৰক। খৰালীবতৰতো যাতে চলাব নোৱাৰে। কেৱল বাইজৰ সুবিধা আৰু চৰকাৰৰ আমদানীৰ কাৰণেই এই আলিটোত মই গুৰুত্ব দিয়া নাই। এই আলিটোৰ দুৰৱস্থাৰ হেতুকে কোনো চৰকাৰী চাকৰীয়াল টিংখং অঞ্চললৈ সহজে নেযায়। সেই হেতুকে সন্মুখৰ বান্ধী সকলে সেই অঞ্চলত গোপন আড্ডা কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা পাইছে, গতিকে এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰক সচেতন হ'বলৈ অনুৰোধ জনায় মোৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিলো।

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Resolution moved:

“This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to improve the condition of the Tingkhong Road which is the only source of communication of Tingkhong Mouza—a tea and paddy producing area of Dibrugarh Subdivision from where Government derive a good revenue.”

We will resume the debate to-morrow. The House stands adjourned to 10 A.M., to-morrow.

**Adjournment**

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

SHILLONG:

The 30th December, 1950.

A.G.p. (L.A.) No. 132/50—118+2—2-1-1 51.

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