

# Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

## OFFICIAL REPORT

SECOND SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY AFTER THE FIRST GENERAL  
ELECTION UNDER THE SOVEREIGN  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN  
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

## SEPTEMBER SESSION VOLUME II

No. 17



सत्यमेव जयते

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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A.M., on Monday, the 15th September, 1952.

**P R E S E N T**

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha, B.L., Speaker, in the Chair, eight Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers, one Parliamentary Secretary and seventy-two Members.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**STARRED QUESTIONS**

(To which oral answers were given)

**Amount earmarked for Garo Hills District out of the amount allotted for use in Autonomous Hills Districts**

**Shri EMERSON MOMIN** asked :

\*14. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) What amount has been earmarked for the Garo Hills District during the current budget year (i.e., 1952-53) from the allocation of 39 lakhs of rupees for use in Autonomous Hills Districts ?
- (b) What are the heads under which the money would be spent in the Garo Hills district during the current budget year ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

44. (a)—A provision of about Rs.35.5 lakhs was made in the current year's Budget for the development of Autonomous Districts under Article 275 of the Constitution including a sum of Rs.18.5 lakhs for road construction in the Autonomous Tribal Districts of which Rs.1,20,000 was earmarked for the construction of the Dalu-Baghmara road, in the expectation that this amount would be sanctioned by the Government of India as grant-in aid for the purpose during the current year. The Government of India have since sanctioned only a sum of Rs.27 lakhs as grant-in-aid for the development schemes in the Autonomous Districts for the current year under Article 275. The allotments for the various development schemes are accordingly being revised as to fit them in to the overall grant-in-aid of Rs.27 lakhs sanctioned by the Government of India.

Allocations out of this grant-in-aid from the Government of India are made scheme-wise and not district-wise. The following schemes which will be financed out of this grant will benefit the Garo Hills district also. The allocations proposed for the schemes which are being formulated exclusively for the Garo Hills have been specified ; but in the case of those schemes which cover all the Autonomous Districts no separate allocations have yet been decided upon for the Garo Hills, but it is intended that out of the total expenditure to be incurred on such schemes, a fair proportion of the expenditure would be incurred in the Garo Hills.



## I. EDUCATION

(i) *Grants-in-aid to Secondary non-Government schools.*—The Government of India have allocated a sum of Rs.20,500 for this scheme as against the State Government's demand of Rs.55,120. By suitably adjusting the expenditure on the other schemes, it is intended to raise the allocation for this scheme to Rs.55,120 as originally proposed by the State Government. A fair proportion of this allocation will be expended in the Garo Hills.

(ii) *Scholarships.*—The State Government had suggested a provision of Rs.53,000 for this scheme but the Government of India have allocated only Rs.20,000 for this purpose. By suitably adjusting some of the other schemes, it is intended to raise the allocation for this scheme to Rs.53,000 as originally suggested by the State Government. A fair proportion of this amount will be expended in the Garo Hills and on Garo students by way of scholarships.

(iii) *Construction of High School buildings at Tura.*—An allocation of Rs.24,500 has been made for the purpose against the State Government's demand of Rs.69,346. In addition, a sum of Rs.42,275 has been provided in the current year's State Budget for the purpose of construction of a Girls' hostel at Tura.

## II. MEDICAL

(i) *Establishment of a dispensary at Rongjeng.*—An allocation of Rs.20,000 has been made for this scheme.

(ii) *Reconstruction of dispensary buildings at Baghmara.*—An allocation of Rs.10,000 has been made for this scheme.

## III. AGRICULTURE

(i) *Administration and extension (officers and staff).*—A total allocation of Rs.1,30,000 has been made for this scheme and a fair proportion of this amount will be expended in the Garo Hills. No allocation separately for the Garo Hills has been made.

(ii) *Construction of quarters for officers and staff.*—The allocation for this scheme has not yet been finally decided upon.

## IV. FORESTS

(i) The construction of the following roads and bridges will be taken up

(a) Construction of timber bridges on the Thapa-Songsok Road.

(b) Improvement of Thapa-Songsok Road.

(c) Construction of timber bridges on the Damra-Mendipathar Road.

An allocation of Rs.30,000 has been made for the construction of these roads and bridges.

## V. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

(i) *Stipends for training in various Cottage Industries.*—A total allocation of Rs.8,500 has been made for the award of stipends for training of suitable persons from the Autonomous Districts in Cottage Industries. Stipends will be awarded to suitable candidates from the Garo Hills for this purpose, but no separate allocation for the Garo Hills has been made.

(ii) *Grants-in-aid to Private individuals for encouragement of Cottage Industries.*—A lump sum allocation of Rs.9,000 has been made for this purpose for all the Autonomous Districts. Grants-in-aid will be made to suitable individuals from the Garo Hills who are engaged in such Cottage Industries.



## VI.—SERICULTURE AND WEAVING

- |                                   |     |  |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--|
| (i) Boakata societies             | ... | } Provision of Rs.50,000 under (i) and Rs.2,000 under (ii) has been made for all the Autonomous Districts. |
| (ii) Contribution to individuals. |     |  |
- No separate allocations have been made for the Garo Hills, but it is expected that a fair proportion of these allocations will be expended in the Garo Hills.

## VII.—CO-OPERATIVE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (i) Entertainment of Co-operative staff.      | } A lump sum provision of Rs.1,00,000 has been made for all the Autonomous Districts under these heads. A fair proportion of this provision will be expended in the Garo Hills. |
| (ii) Grants-in-aid to Co-operative Societies. |   |

## VIII.—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ROADS

(i) *Tura-Damra Road*.—Survey on this road will be taken up and a provision of Rs.8,000 has been made for the purpose.

(ii) *Datu-Baghmara Road*.—A sum of Rs.1,20,000 was proposed in our development proposals under Article 275 during the current year for the construction of this road. Survey work on this road had been completed earlier, but in view of the proximity of the road to the border, a realignment and fresh survey was considered desirable. The new survey is now in progress and a sum of Rs.80,000 has been provided for the purpose. Construction of the road will be started as soon as the survey is complete, and whatever funds are necessary for the purpose will be provided.

(b)—The heads are as follows:—

- (1) Education.
- (2) Medical.
- (3) Agriculture.
- (4) Forests.
- (5) Cottage Industries.
- (6) Sericulture and Weaving.
- (7) Co-operation.
- (8) Public Works—Roads.
- (9) Miscellaneous.

**Shri EMERSON MOMIN:** May I know, Sir, from the Chief Minister whether the allotments shown now will be spent in the current financial year?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** Yes, Sir, we want to spend every farthing of the allotments. Rather in case of road construction we may ask for more money.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Under whose direction, Sir, the principle of allocation of fund schemewise and not districtwise has been adopted?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** All the schemes were sent to the Government of India for approval and accordingly allotments were made.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Were the schemes approved districtwise and on what basis the priority was fixed?



**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** The whole idea is that we prepare five-year schemes regarding construction of roads, education, etc., and send them up to the Government of India, but we want the money that is to be spent for the current year for all the schemes. Government of India approves some schemes only. This is the meaning of "scheme-wise".

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** May I know whether at the time of sending up schemes the needs of the various Autonomous Districts are taken into account?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** That is always done, Sir.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Are priorities assigned to the different schemes?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** Yes, Sir.

### Kokrajhar-Patalpuri Road

†**Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB of Sidli** asked :

- \*45. (a) Is it a fact that a project to connect Kokrajhar with Patalpuri was started a few years ago in the district of Goalpara?  
 (b) Is it a fact that a portion of the said road from Kokrajhar upto the bank of the Terang was almost completed?  
 (c) Is it a fact that sign board at Kokrajhar still indicates a road called Patalpuri Road?  
 (d) Is the project abandoned now?  
 (e) If so, why?

‡**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

45. (a)—Yes from Post-war Fund in December 1948.  
 (b)—A portion of 2·7 miles from Kokrajhar to Adabari has been completed.  
 (c)—The information is being collected.  
 (d)—and (e)—The balance length of the road has been included in 5 years' Development Plan and is proposed to be taken up as and when funds are made available.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Sir, certain roads were taken up under the post-war development plan as far back as 1948-49; some of them were completed but others were left incomplete. May I know whether these incomplete roads would be taken up and whether any money has been provided for them?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** These will be taken up when funds will be available in future.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** What will be the relative priority in taking up these incomplete projects?

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†**Shri Ranendra Mohan Das** put the questions on authorisation.

‡**As Shri Siddhinath Sarma (Minister) was absent Shri Ramnath Das (Minister) replied the questions.**



**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister)** : Priorities were fixed in 1949-50. Those roads on which more than 51 per cent. of the expenditure had been incurred received priority over the other roads. Some of these were included under the Development Plan and some were also considered by the Road Communications Board.

**Protective measures against the threatened erosion of the Dhubri Town and Assam Access Road at Bilashipara**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN** asked :

\*46. (a) Are Government aware that the Dhubri Town is now threatened with erosion by the Brahmaputra as a result of the erosion of Panchpirerchar which existed as a buffer so long ?

(b) Have Government received any report in the matter from local officers and if so, have Government deputed any expert to inspect the course of the river, etc., and report on remedial measures ?

(c) If not, do Government now propose to depute an expert to visit Dhubri immediately ?

(d) If the reply to the first part of question (b) above is in the affirmative, what protective measures do Government propose to take against the threatened erosion of the Dhubri Town ?

\*47. (a) Are Government aware that the Assam Access Road at Bilashipara, i.e., 29th mile from Dhubri is being threatened with erosion by the Gaurang river ?

(b) If so, what steps, if any, have Government taken for the protection of the road ?

†**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

46. (a)—Yes, Government have received reports that Panchpirerchar has been eroded and channel past Dhubri Town has developed.

(b)—Yes, the place has been inspected by officers of the Embankment and Drainage Branch and proposals for temporary protective measures have been submitted by them.

(c)—This does not arise in view of reply to 46 (b) above.

(d)—Taking protective measures against erosion of Town is primarily a Municipal responsibility, and in case the Municipality or the rate-payers are prepared to contribute towards the scheme the matter may be examined by the Government.

47. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Permeable screens (with bushy trees, etc.), in the river channel to promote silting and bamboo spurs for protection of bank were provided but most of these have been damaged and washed away by July (1952) floods.

A survey of the river is being taken up and further protection by spurs and pitching with boulders are proposed.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN** : Is it not a fact that some experts from the Government of India visited our State to examine some of the towns affected by the Brahmaputra ?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister)** : Yes, Sir.

†As Shri Siddhinath Sarma (Minister) was absent Shri Ramnath Das (Minister) replied the questions.



**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN :** Which are the towns the experts visited ?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) :** They went to Dhubri also.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN :** On what basis the cost of protecting a town from erosion will be divided between the Municipality and the Government ?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) :** Government will decide about the ratio when they will get concrete proposals from the Municipality concerned.

**Exclusion of Namati Mouza from the Mikir Hills District**

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA** asked :

\*48. (a) Will Government be pleased to state if any representation has been made to Government or the Governor of Assam by the non-Mikir of the Mikir Hills portion of the Namati Mouza for exclusion of Namati Mouza portion from the Mikir Hills District ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state if any action has been taken or proposed to be taken by Government for a revision of the boundary ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Mauzadar of Namati has still been collecting land revenue from the Namati portion of the Mikir Hills District ?

\*49. (a) Is it a fact that a portion of the areas of the Mikir Hills district on the border of Nowgong district has been encroached upon by unauthorised occupants ?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken by Government to remove the encroachers ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

48. (a)—Yes.

(b)—On 3rd October, 1950, the Governor appointed a Commission under paragraph 14 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution to examine and report on the boundaries of the Mikir Hills Autonomous District. All parties and groups interested in the matter were represented on the Commission. The Commission after examining all aspects of the matter, and taking into account the representations submitted to it by the various groups and interests, submitted its report with its recommendations regarding the boundaries of the Mikir Hills Autonomous District. The report of the Commission along with the recommendation of the Governor and an explanatory memorandum regarding the action proposed to be taken on the report by Government, namely that the recommendations of the Commission would be accepted and implemented, was laid before the Assam Legislative Assembly on 27th March, 1951. On the same day a resolution to the effect that Government's proposals be accepted was unanimously adopted by the Assembly. The boundaries of the Mikir Hills Autonomous District were notified by Government in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission which were accepted by them and approved of by the Assembly, on the 13th April, 1951 in the Gazette. It is premature to consider the revision of the boundaries, fixed so recently, at this stage, but if in the light of experience to be gained in future it is considered desirable that the present boundaries should be revised, the matter will be examined further.



(c)—Yes. He is Mouzadar also for the portion of the Namati Mouza falling in the United District of Mikir and North Cachar Hills.

49. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Deputy Commissioner, United District of Mikir and North Cachar Hills has been ordered to summarily evict some 200 to 300 families who encroached on lands in the district in June, 1952. In respect of those who hold refugee certificates and have been living in the district for several years, Government have allowed them to hold the lands now in their possession.

Some Bodo Kacharies have been living in different mouzas in the district for 2 to 6 years. As they are also tribals they have been allowed to retain the lands now in their possession on condition that they do not encroach on any other lands. The Deputy Commissioner has been directed to survey the lands now in possession of the encroachers and the Bodo Kacharies and prepare records of such lands so that it could be ensured that they do not encroach on other lands.

Government have however received report that in most cases such unauthorised encroachments were connived at by certain Mikir Gaonburas.

**Shri BIMALA RANTA BORA:** Is it not a fact that the portion of the Namati mouza which has been included in the Mikir Hills is predominantly inhabited by non-Mikirs?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** In fixing boundaries some non-Mikirs residing in the outskirts might have been included as boundaries are generally fixed on natural demarcations, administrative convenience, etc. Shri Motiram Bora, who comes from Nowgong, was the Chairman of the Commission and he had a fair idea about the place.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA:** Was public opinion consulted before the recommendations were made?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** There was some apprehension in the minds of the non-Mikirs included in that district that their interests might be jeopardised. But they were given an assurance that their interests would be safeguarded. As a matter of fact some non-Mikirs were nominated to the Mikir Hills District Council to represent their interests.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA:** Was there any representation from the non-Mikirs after the partition was made?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** At the time of inauguration of the District some non-Mikirs gave expression to their apprehension that they might not be treated fairly by the Mikirs. I told them that since the district was created to safeguard the interests of the Mikir minority in the State, it was expected that the Mikirs would also protect the interests of non-Mikir minorities in their district. If they do not Government would take all steps to see that interest of minority is protected.

**Shri KHORSING TERANG:** Sir, যিবিলাক Representation আহিছে সেই বোৰ মহদীয়া সকলৰ পৰা অহা হয় নে? আৰু নম্বাটী মৌজাৰ মহদীয়া সকল অতি কম লোকসংখ্যা গণা নে?

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** Is there any agitation among the Mikirs to drive out the non-Mikirs?



**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** There was some allegation to that effect, but on enquiry it was found that the allegation was incorrect, Sir.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA:** Can Government give an approximate idea of the non-Mikirs living there ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** It is a new question, Sir, I want notice of it.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA:** Can Government give an idea of the areas of the non-Mikirs included in the Mikir Hills ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** There are Mikirs also in those areas, Sir. So it is difficult to say.

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** About my question regarding the agitation, Sir.....

**Mr. SPEAKER:** That has been replied. The allegation was found to be not correct.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA:** Can Government give an approximate figure of the refugees ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** About 200 to 300.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA:** None of the refugees would have been allowed to settle down without permission, Sir.

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** Some of the Mikirs who were in difficulty lived with some of the Mikirs there as guests and they settled down in some places. It will be hard for the Government to remove them.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA:** Are there more refugees settling there ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** No. New-comers will not be allowed to settle.

### Self-help Projects

†**Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEV of Sidli** asked :

\*50. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) If any amount is provided for payment to the public to encourage Self-help Projects ?
- (b) If so, what is the amount (to be shown separately for each District) sanctioned ?
- (c) If the replies to the above are in the affirmative, whether Government propose to appoint Advisory Boards for distribution of the sanctioned amounts ?



**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister)** replied :

50. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Rupees 3,50,000 has been provided for this year for the purpose. Keeping an amount of Rs.67,500 in the Provincial Rural Development Fund, balance has been distributed to different Subdivisions and Districts as follows:—

*General Districts—*

						Rs.
1. Dhubri	...	...	...	...	...	15,000
2. Goalpara	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
3. Barpeta	...	...	...	...	...	12,500
4. Gauhati	...	...	...	...	...	20,000
5. Mangaldai	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
6. Tezpur	...	...	...	...	...	11,000
7. Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	19,000
8. Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
9. Jorhat...	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
10. Golaghat	...	...	...	...	...	15,000
11. Dibrugarh	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
12. North Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
13. Silchar	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
14. Karimganj	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
15. Hailakandi	...	...	...	...	...	10,000

1,82,500

Provincial Rural Development Fund

67,500

2,50,000

Allotments for the Sixth Schedule Districts for the year 1952-53 are as follows:—

						Rs.
1. North Cachar Hills and Mikir Hills	...	...	...	...	...	13,000
2. Naga Hills	...	...	...	...	...	17,400
3. Garo Hills	...	...	...	...	...	17,400
4. United Khasi and Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	...	...	34,800
5. Lushai Hills	...	...	...	...	...	17,400

1,00,000

(c)—Reconstitution of the Self Help Advisory Boards is under consideration of Government.

**Quantity of whole wheat purchased by Government for Assam**

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA** asked :

\*51. Will Government be pleased to state:—

- What quantity of whole wheat was purchased for Assam by Government during 1951-52 and 1952-53 and at what cost ?
- Whether any whole wheat was sent to the tea gardens of Assam during the two years mentioned above and, if so, what quantity ?
- How much wheat was sold out during these two years and what quantity is now lying in the different godowns of Assam ?



- (d) Whether there is any prospect of sale of the stock now lying in the godowns ?
- (e) If not, what probable loss is likely to be sustained by Government on this account ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that most of the stock now in the godowns has become unfit for human consumption ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister)** replied :

51. (a)—Total whole wheat purchased on Assam Government account at Calcutta was 14,42,806 mds. 9 srs. and 3 ch. during 1951-52 and 2,24,576 mds. 21 srs. and 11 ch. during April 1952 to July 1952 at a total cost of Rs. 3,06,77,434-0-6 pies.

(b)—A total quantity of 18,41,400 mds. of whole wheat was sub-allotted to the Tea Gardens in Assam during the two years mentioned above to be moved on their account. Besides the said sub-allotment, a further quantity of 1,09,606 mds. 11 srs. 7 ch. whole wheat was issued to Indian Tea Association out of the stock purchased on Government account.

(c)—Out of the above total purchase on Government account a net quantity of 1,90,783 mds. 36 srs. 15½ ch. whole wheat was received at different stations in Assam during the two aforesaid years. Out of the above receipt a total quantity of 1,31,890 mds. 36 srs. 15½ ch. had been disposed of upto 30th August 1952 leaving a balance of 58,893 mds. only in different Government Procurement Godowns.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—No, but to avoid any possible deterioration steps have been taken to dispose of the same by milling locally.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA :** For how long this 14 thousand and odd maunds of whole wheat has been lying in the godown ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) :** It seems, it is very difficult to say for how long this quantity is lying in the godowns. When the stocks are received, they are despatched to different stations wherefrom they are distributed. But I cannot say for how long this particular stock has been lying in the godowns.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA :** What was the last date of receipt ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) :** Since July last, and after that time we have not received anything.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA :** Did the hon. Minister-in-charge, in course of his visits to Mufassils, examine any of the whole wheat ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) :** In some places.

**Shri BIMALA KANTA BORA :** What are those places ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) :** I have seen at Gauhati personally, and in Jorhat, I have seen the sample.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Is there any Procuring Agent for the whole wheat ?



**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister):** Sir, the Government of India allot us the wheat which is taken delivery at Calcutta. From there we bring certain quantity share and the rest is milled by Messrs. Shaw Wallace and Company at Calcutta and they send the wheat products to different stations in our State according to our directions.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** What is the percentage of deterioration of wheat in stock ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister):** When the entire stock will be exhausted, we shall be in a position to know that.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Has the Hon'ble Minister found any wheat in stock attacked by weevils ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister):** No, Sir, it has not come to my knowledge.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Is it a fact that a large stock of atta is lying undisposed ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister):** That is a new question, Sir.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Is it a fact that large stock of wheat product, namely, atta, is lying undisposed in Lakhimpur ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister):** I am sorry, Sir. I cannot give answer to that question off-hand ; it may be so.

**Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BAROOAH:** May I know whether it is a fact that when atta was issued in lieu of rice in Dibrugarh Subdivision, there was complaint from public that the atta supplied was not fit for human consumption ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** How can the question of Dibrugarh arise here ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister):** This does not arise, Sir, but I am ready to answer it. The question is this ; this very idea of issue of atta is repugnant to most of our people, because we are accustomed to take rice and whenever we received atta in lieu of rice naturally the clamour is there. But we had to issue atta in lieu of rice under definite instruction from the Central Government. In the rationed areas we give 50 per cent. of rice and 50 per cent. of atta. I am also one of those who prefer rice to atta because of habit.

**Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS:** The atta which is being supplied at Karimganj has been declared by the Public Analyst, Asam the other day as unfit for human consumption. Will the Government take steps to stop such bad atta from pushing it to consumers ? I mean the portion of atta which is declared as unfit for human consumption at Karimganj—if it is so—will the Government issue orders not to issue the same to the public through ration cards ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister):** This question does not arise, but I am answering it, as it involves a vital question. The atta which is found to be unfit for human consumption will never be issued to the public. This is the standing order of the Government, Sir.



## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table.)

**Mobile Clinic for Medical Treatment in out-lying villages**

**Shri SARJU PRASAD SINGH** asked :

22. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is any arrangement for Mobile Clinic to give medical treatment to those people living in out-lying villages of the State of Assam ?
- (b) If so, whether such Mobile Clinics are fitted with X-ray equipment and operating table ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to make the necessary arrangement to give at least one Mobile Clinic in each Subdivision of the State ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister)** replied :

22. (a)—Yes. There are 12 (twelve) travelling dispensaries functioning in the State. Government have also sanctioned another 10 but they are not functioning due to shortage of medical personnel.

(b)—No.

(c)—No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN** : Sir, many Members have not got the printed copies of Unstarred Questions from No.22 onwards.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY** : Yes Sir, we have not got copies of the questions.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : These are questions of the 12th. All the Members were supplied with a copy on that day. In this connection will you please note Rule No.23 of the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules, which reads:—"All business appointed for any day and not disposed of on that day shall stand over until the next day of the session available for business of the class to which it belongs". So the questions which could not be taken earlier have been taken up today.

**Veterinary Dispensaries in Goalpara Subdivision**

**Shri HAKIM CHANDRA RABHA** asked :

23. Will Government be pleased to state —

- (a) The number of Veterinary Dispensaries in the Subdivision of Goalpara ?
- (b) Are these sufficient for the whole Subdivision ?
- (c) Do Government propose to establish more Veterinary Dispensaries in the Subdivision of Goalpara ?
- (d) If so, have Government selected suitable sites for the purpose or will it be done by the local authorities ?



**Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Minister)** replied :

23. (a)—Two.  
 (b)—No.  
 (c)—Yes.  
 (d)—The matter is under consideration.

**Officers of the Medical and Public Health Departments who joined the Military Service in 1942-43**

**Shri SARJUPRASAD SINGH** asked :

24. Will the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge of Medical and Public Health be pleased to state—

- (a) What were the concessions granted to the Medical and Public Health Department officers and doctors by the Government of Assam who joined Military Service in 1942-43 ?  
 (b) How many Assistant Surgeons were deputed to Army Service from the Public Health Department of Assam ?  
 (c) How many of them had their active military service counted double for pay and pension ?  
 (d) Whether any discrimination was made in giving these concessions to some Assistant Surgeons ?  
 (e) What are the names of those Medical and Public Health Department Officers who joined the Military Service and who were given the concessions as per Government Communique, dated Shillong, the 28th January, 1943 ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister)** replied :

24. (a)—The concessions granted are as laid down in items 1-3 of the Government Communique, dated the 28th January, 1943.

(b)—Forty-eight Assistant Surgeons (4 Assistant Surgeons I and 44 Assistant Surgeons II) were deputed to Army Service from Public Health Department.

(c)—Four only. Some cases are under consideration and for some cases full information has not yet been received.

(d)—No.

(e)—Two lists, one showing the names of the officers who joined the military service and the other showing names of officers and doctors who have been granted the concessions up-to-date according to the communique, are placed on the Library table.

**Treaty between Sohbarpoonjee and the Government regarding sharing of income from limestone quarries**

**Shri A. ALLEY** asked :

25. (a) Are Government aware of the Treaty between Sohbarpoonjee and the Government regarding sharing of income from limestone quarries within Sohbar ?

(b) What is the share of Sohbarpoonjee from the income of the Komorah limestone quarry paid by the Assam-Bengal Cement Company to the Government ?

(c) Do Government propose to pay the share of Sohbarpoonjee to the fund of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District ?



**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

25. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The share of Sohbarpoonjee has been 50 per cent. of the royalty or 50 per cent. of the dead rent, whichever is paid by the Assam-Bengal Cement Company, the lessee of these quarries as being greater of the two.

(c)—Under paragraph 9 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution such share of the royalties accruing each year from licenses or leases for the purpose of prospecting for, or the extraction of minerals granted by Government in respect of an area within the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District as may be agreed upon between Government and the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District Council, is to be made over to the District Council. From the date of its coming into being therefore, a share of the afore-referred to royalties will be made over to the District Council. What this share would be will have to be agreed upon between the Government and the District Council, and failing such agreement it will be determined by the Governor. It is not necessary that the District Council's share of the royalties should be the same as the share hitherto paid to Sohbarpoonjee.

**Kamrup Anusandhan Samity, Gauhati**

**Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BOROOAH** asked :

26. Is it a fact that the Government of Assam make an annual contribution to the Kamrup Anusandhan Samity, Gauhati ?

**Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister)** replied :

26.—Yes.

**Allotment of areas to the Backward and Plains Tribal for  
Community Project, Ford Foundation Schemes and  
Community Block**

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** asked :

27. Will Government be pleased to state whether any special consideration has been made for the Backward and Plains Tribal people in the matter of allotting areas for Community Project, Ford Foundation Schemes and Community Block ?

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister)** replied :

27.—Yes.

**Registered Public Works Department Female Contractor**

**Shri SARJU PRASAD SINGH** asked :

28. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of Government registered Public Works Department female contractors in Assam ?

(b) What step Government has taken to encourage the females in this field of business ?

(c) How many female contractors have been given Government building contracts in Assam ?



**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

28. (a)—There is no system of registration of contractors in vogue in the State. A record in the form of a Register of Contractors doing work in each Public Works Department Division to show the type and value of work done every year and in the manner in which this is done by each contractor is maintained.

There are, however, a few female contractors working in some of the Divisions.

(b)—None whatsoever. Public Works Department settle contract on the basis of competitive tenders which is well known to the public and it is open to all whether male or female to submit tenders. There is no bar for females to submit tender when called for. In case any female submit tender for any work it is given due consideration along with others on merits, if other conditions, etc., are fulfilled.

(c)—The information is being collected.

#### **District Transport Officer, Cachar**

**Maulavi NAMWAR ALI BARBHUIYA** asked :

29. Will Government be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Questions No.5(e)—(f) asked by the Questioner during the last Budget Session of the Assembly on the 22nd March 1952 (Cf. pp.441-442 of the Assembly Debates) and state whether all complaints against the District Transport Officer, Cachar have since been enquired into and the steps if any, taken against the official ?

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

29.—The complaints were enquired into and generally found to be baseless. A case of alleged assault on driver, Manindra Gh. Chakravarty, is reported to have been filed before the local Court.

#### **Sub-Registry office at Anipur**

**Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA** asked :

30. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reason for shifting the Sub-Registry Office at Anipur (Karimganj Subdivision) ?

(b) Where this Sub-Registry Office will now be located ?

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister)** replied :

30. (a) & (b)—There is no Sub-Registry Office at Anipur. The question of shifting does not arise. Some people of Ratabari Police Station in Cachar want a Sub-Registry Office at Ramkrishna-nagar while others at Anipur. The matter is under consideration of Government.



### Reclamation works of the Puni Haor

**Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA** asked :

31. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reason for non-starting the reclamation works of the Puni Haor so far though the survey has been completed long before ?

(b) Whether the work of this project will be completed in the ensuing winter season ?

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

31. (a)—The estimate and plans for the scheme is under preparation and the work is proposed to be taken up in hand in the next cold weather. The delay is due to the fact that, in addition to land survey, hydrological data have to be collected for a season or two before a detailed and correct scheme can be prepared.

(b)—Attempt will be made to complete the work before the next rains, if possible.

### Improvement of Road Communication in Cachar District

**Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA** asked :

32. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have lately got public representations regarding the irregular maintenance of Silchar-Kabuganj and Dholai-Koloship Road which is one of the most important and heaviest vehicular traffic roads in Cachar ?

(b) If so, what action is going to be taken for immediate improvement of this road ?

33. (a) Do Government propose to take up roads from (1) Sonai to Matinagar (Didarkhosh)-Amraghat *via* Bauri and Kachudaram (about 14 miles) and (2) Silchar-Chincoori (about 3½ miles) which are situated in the most backward and thickly populated areas and also the first ones in Procurement area of Sonai Thana immediately for ameliorating the condition of the suffering people ?

(d) If so, when the works will be started ?

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

32. (a)—No. One letter however from Shri Moinul Haque Chaudhury, M. L. A., has been received with regard to Silchar-Sonabari-Sonai Road and Sonabari-Kabuganj Road.

(b)—Arrangement for proper maintenance of the road has already been made.

33. (a) (1)—Yes. The first section (5 miles) of this road has been recommended by the Assam Road Communication Board for improvement out of "Petrol Tax Fund", at a cost of Rs. 2 lakhs, and Government of India's approval to this proposal has been asked for.

(2)—No. The scheme has not been recommended by the Assam Road Communication Board.



(b) (1)—The work on road at question 33 (a) (1) will be started as soon as the preliminaries regarding approval of Government of India to the Scheme, Administrative approval and Technical sanction are completed.

(2)—Does not arise so far as question 33 (a) (2) is concerned.

**Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA:** Are Government aware of the fact that the maintenance of this road is not being made properly?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Whether it has been done in the meantime or not, I cannot say.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** With reference to question No. 33, will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state when the work will be actually started?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** When I have said that arrangement has already been made, that means that the work will be taken up by the Executive Engineer as soon as possible.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** Arrangement may be in paper. May I know when arrangement will be made for actual operation of the work?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** I have already said that the Executive Engineer will take up the work as soon as possible.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** May I know the approximate time that would be taken for completion of arrangement and when the work will be actually started?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** I cannot say about the approximate time but I can only say that it will be taken up as soon as possible.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Will it be taken up before the end of the financial year?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Yes, Sir.

### Reservation of lands for Plains Tribal People

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** asked:

34. Will Government be pleased to state the steps hitherto taken by them for giving protection to the Plains Tribal people in regard to lands?

35. Is it a fact that there are many landless people among the Plains Tribal and that many of them are being deprived by the more advanced people of getting lands even within the Tribal Blocks in several places particularly in the Rangia Circle?

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister)** replied:

34.—For the protection of the backward classes mainly Plains Tribal People of the State and also for their welfare in so far as such welfare depends on their having sufficient land for their maintenance, Government have amended the



Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, 1886 by adding a chapter to it, viz., Chapter X, under the provisions of which areas predominantly inhabited by the tribal people have been constituted into Tribal Belts and Tribal Blocks in the plains districts of the Assam Valley except Sibsagar. In those Tribal Belts and Tribal Blocks, for the benefit of the backward classes, transfer of periodic land has been restricted and in the matter of settlement of waste land also preference is given to the aforesaid people.

35.—There may be landless Tribal People but Government have no information that such people are deprived of lands by people of advanced Community.

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** Is it a fact that the suggestion has been made to the Deputy Commissioners to exclude land from Tribal Blocks and make settlement with other non-Tribals ?

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister):** No, Sir.

### **Government of India grant for improvement of Highways in Assam**

**Shri SARJU PROSAD SINGH** asked :

36. Will Government be pleased to state—

- (a) The total amount of grants received from the Government of India for the improvement of highways in Assam from 1946-51 ?
- (b) Details as to how the money was utilised ?
- (c) How long the portion of the Trunk Road between Dhansiri bridge and Moran in the Sibsagar District has been lying unsurfaced ?
- (d) How long it will take in macadamizing this portion of the road ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that this road is completely macadamized in the Kamrup and Nowgong Districts?

**Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

36. (a)—Presumably the Member refers to the National Highways in Assam which were taken over by the Government of India for maintenance and improvement with effect from 1st April 1947. The total grants for National Highways received are as follows:—

(i)—Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways Rs.1,40,27,800 from 1947 to 1951, inclusive of 10 per cent. agency charges.

(ii)—Improvements to National Highways (Original works) inclusive of 10 per cent. agency charges. Rs.31,22,400

(b) (i)—General maintenance, F.D.R. and S.R. to National Highways consisting of 900 miles.

(ii)—Construction and improvement of roads and bridges as per list attached.



## National Highway (Original works) in progress (in Assam)

Serial No.	Job No.	Name of work
1	242-AS-31	... Constructing Buxirhat-Agomoni-Golokganj Road N.H.31.
2	319-AS-31	... Construction of footpath along the Bhogdoi bridge N.H.37.
3	...	... Decking of Dehing bridge at Margherita N.H.38.
4	350-AS-31	... Metalling Agomoni-Buxirhat Section of N.H.31.
5	351-AS-31	... Metalling Agomoni-Golokganj Section of N.H.31.
6	352-AS-31	... Surfacing Agomoni-Buxirhat Section of N.H.31.
7	353-AS-31	... Surfacing Agomoni-Golokganj Section of N.H.31.
8	556-AS-37	... Improvement of the road within Goalpara Municipal area leading to the ferryghat near the Circuit House—(1·53) miles.
9	473-AS-40	... Partial reconstruction of abutments of the Umiew bridge at 14th mile of Shillong-Dawki Road—N.H.40.
10	342-AS-40	... Reconstruction of bridge No.49/9 on G. S. Road—N.H.40.
11	454-AS-40	... Special protective works to Shillong-Dawki Road—24/7.
12	417-AS-37	... Surfacing A. T. Road in Jorhat Division (miles 194-209).
13	418-AS-37	... Surfacing A. T. Road miles 209-223 (Jhanzi to Sibsagar in Lakhimpur Division).
14	524-AS-37	... Surfacing works on A. T. Road in Lakhimpur Division in 1951-52 (N.H.37) (Sibsagar to Khowang).
Part I—226-44		
Part II—245-56		
15	508-AS-38	... Metalling and surfacing Makum-Digboi Road (N.H.38) miles 308-324.
16	579-AS-37	... Construction of bridge over the Kullong River at Nowgong N.H.37.

(c)—8·72 miles of the road in this section was surfaced before 1947. The remaining length which has been a gravelled road has since been taken up for surfacing as follows:—

194—209—During 1950-51.

209—223—During 1951-52.

226—256—During 1951-52.

157—189—To be taken up in 1952-53.

(d)—Surfacing work on the above portions is likely to be completed as follows:—

Miles 194—209—During 1952-53.

Miles 209—223 } Mainly During 1952-53.

&

Miles 226—256 } Wholly during 1953-54.

Miles 157—189—Partly during 1952-53.

Mainly during 1953-54.

Wholly during 1954-55.

(e)—Yes, this was done at the direction and cost of the then War Transport Department of the Government of India during the War period.



**Manager, Borbam Tea Estate (Sibsagar)**

**Shri SARJU PROSAD SINGH** asked :

37. (a) Is it a fact that a garden Manager can appoint his own lessee Manager in L. M. Shop with the approval of the Deputy Commissioner ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Manager, Borbam Tea Estate (Sibsagar) did not recommend the name of the present lessee Manager of Borbam L. M. Shop, nor his name was approved by the Deputy Commissioner, Sibsagar ?

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister)** replied :

37. (a)—No. A lessee Manager is appointed by the Deputy Commissioner in consultation with the garden Manager concerned.

(b)—The present lessee Manager of Borbam L. M. Shop was selected in a joint meeting of the Subdivisional Officer, Sibsagar, the Manager, Borbam Tea Estate and the Superintendent of Amguri Tea Estate Limited, who is the administrative head of Borbam Tea Estate. This action was approved by the Deputy Commissioner.

**\*Shri SARJU PROSAD SINGH :** With regard to (b), my question is, "Is it a fact that the Manager, Borbam Tea Estate (Sibsagar) did not recommend the name of the present lessee Manager of Borbam L. M. Shop, nor his name was approved by the Deputy Commissioner, Sibsagar ?" and the reply is—"The present lessee Manager of Borbam L. M. Shop was selected in a joint meeting of the Subdivisional Officer, Sibsagar, the Manager, Borbam Tea Estate and the Superintendent of Amguri Tea Estate Limited, who is the administrative head of Borbam Tea Estate. This action was approved by the Deputy Commissioner". May I know whether there is any rule in the Excise Manual under which he was appointed ?

**\*Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister) :** There is nothing in the Excise rules to prevent such an arrangement before the Deputy Commissioner gives his sanction.

**Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA :** Is it a fact that the present lessee Manager of Borbam L. M. Shop was recommended by the Superintendent of the Amguri Tea Estate, Ltd ?

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister) :** That is, Sir, already there.

**Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA :** My question is, Sir, whether the lessee was recommended by the Superintendent or by the Manager ?

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister) :** I have already replied to that question Sir, in 37(b).

**Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA :** My information is, Sir, that the present lessee was not recommended by the Manager of the Borbam Tea Estate but was recommended by the Superintendent of Amguri Tea Estate, under whom Borbam Tea Estate is included.

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister) :** I have placed before the House the information that has been supplied to me by the local authorities. Besides that I have nothing more to say.



**Settlement of Government waste land covered by Dag No.3819 of Jorhat Town Mouza**

**Shri SARJU PROSAD SINGH** asked :

38. (a) Is it a fact that Government waste land covered by Dag No.3819 of Jorhat Town Mouza has been settled ?

(b) Who are the landless persons with whom the land in question has been settled ?

**Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister)** replied :

38. (a)—Yes, it was settled under periodic lease before the last Resettlement of the district, which was concluded in 1929.

(b)—The Resettlement periodic patta in respect of this dag is patta No.147, which now runs in the name of Shri Digendra Kumar Bhattacharjee.

**Destruction of crops and dwelling huts by wild Elephants**

**Shri AARAN SANGMA** asked :

39. (a) Are Government aware that—

(i) the wild elephants are destroying various kinds of crops and are creating troubles to the poor cultivators in the District of Garo Hills ; and

(ii) the dwelling houses as well as the barn are ravaged in good numbers in many villages annually by the said animals ?

(b) What steps have Government taken to remove the distress of the people from the said animals ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

39. (a) (i) and (ii)—Government receive occasional reports of the destruction of crops and dwelling huts by the wild elephants.

(b)—The following measures are taken for destruction of rogue wild elephants and for protection of crops and persons :—

1. By opening Kheda and Mela Shikar Mahals.
2. By opening Gajali Shikars.
3. By issuing special elephants shooting licenses to suitable persons.
4. A crop protection officer with a squad has also been appointed for protection of crops from elephants, monkeys and other wild animals. Immediately, on receipt of information of damages the officer proceeds to the spot with his shikaries to kill or scare away the animal or animals.
5. Rogue elephants are proclaimed immediately on receipt of information and rewards are paid according to the prescribed rates and any one can kill such elephants.

**Shri AARAN SANGMA** : May I know Sir, when the Crop Protection Officer for Garo Hills District was appointed ?



**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** The Protection Officer and the squad are meant not only for one district but for the whole of Assam. As soon as reports of destruction of crops and huts, etc., by wild animals are received from local officers this Protection Officer with his squad move from place to place.

**Shri AARAN SANGMA:** Will Government be pleased to appoint a special Protection Officer and a squad for the Garo Hills district in view of repeated depredations of these wild elephants in the Garo Hills ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** I am sorry, Sir, this is not quite possible in view of the financial difficulties. As a matter of fact we have adopted several methods for protection of life and property from the depredations of these wild animals as enumerated in my reply 39(b). Besides these, we are encouraging local people to shoot elephants by issuing shooting licenses.

**Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS:** Will Government be pleased to say how many wild elephants were killed in the Garo Hills District by these Protection Officers ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** I have no information, Sir.

**Shri AARAN SANGMA:** May I know Sir, what is Gajali Shikar and what is Mela Shikar ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** You better ask yourself. Question No.40 please.

#### **Damages of Cotton in dumping places and opening of small Irrigation Scheme in Garo Hills**

**Shri AARAN SANGMA asked :**

40. (a) Is it a fact that large quantities of cotton from the Garo Hills district were damaged in many dumping places in March to June 1952 ?

(b) If so, what is the quantity so damaged and what are the causes of such damage ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to prevent the recurrence of such damage ?

41. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of small irrigation schemes the Government opened in the Garo Hills upto the end of 1951 ?

(b) The amount of money spent on these projects ?

(c) Whether all these people employed in the construction of these projects were paid ?

(d) If not, why not ?

(e) The number of Irrigation Schemes which has become successful ?

(f) The number of Irrigation Schemes at present not in working condition ?

(g) The names of places served by the Irrigation Schemes mentioned in (f) above ?

(h) Whether Government propose to repair them ?



**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

40. (a)—Yes, some cotton purchased by the Garo Hills Central Trading Co-operative, Tura was damaged.

(b)—It has been ascertained from the office of the Central Trading Co-operative, Tura that about 355 maunds of cotton purchased by that body was damaged due to lack of godown space and exposure to sun and early rain.

(c)—This is a matter for the purchasers and stockists. The Garo Hills Trading Co-operative is not an agency of Government.

41. (a)—Thirty-eight small irrigation schemes were completed in Garo Hills upto 31st March 1952.

(b)—A total sum of Rs.69,877-3-6 was spent on these projects of which Rs.34,641-14-0 was Government contribution and the balance of Rs.35,235-5-6 contributed by the public.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—All small Irrigation Projects executed have been successful.

(f)—None.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—Does not arise.

#### **Allotment of Government Guns-Rifles for Jowai Subdivision**

**Shri KISTOBIN RYMBAI** asked :

42. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of Government Guns-Rifles allotted for the Jowai Subdivision ?

(b) Are all of them serviceable and distributed to the villagers ?

(c) Are Government aware that the number falls short to meet the demand of the villagers ?

(d) Do Government propose to increase the number of guns for the use and benefit of the Subdivision ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

42. (a)—There are 69 Government Guns including 7 rifles at the disposal of the Subdivisional Officer, Jowai which are allotted as and when necessary to responsible persons in the villages for the purpose of protection of crops.

(b)—Fifty-one weapons are serviceable and 18 weapons including two rifles are reported to be unserviceable at present. The serviceable weapons are allotted to villagers as stated above.

(c)—Yes. The Subdivisional Officer has requested for the replacement of the unserviceable guns as also for an additional allotment of ten guns.

(d)—The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

#### **Amounts of agricultural income-tax realised from the years 1947-48 to 1951-52 and number of assessment cases instituted**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN** asked :

43. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the amounts of agricultural income-tax realised for each of the years 1947-48 to 1951-52 from—

(i) proprietors of permanently-settled or Lakhiraj Estates,

(ii) tea gardens,



14,535

51,51,570



## 1949-50

						Rs.
(i)	...	...	...	...	...	1,75,339
(ii)	...	...	...	...	...	63,19,824
(iii)	...	...	...	...	...	14,479
(iv)	...	...	...	...	...	30,665
						<hr/> 65,40,325 <hr/>

## 1950-51

(i)	...	...	...	...	...	2,07,676
(ii)	...	...	...	...	...	75,75,490
(iii)	...	...	...	...	...	11,235
(iv)	...	...	...	...	...	31,881
						<hr/> 78,26,282 <hr/>

## 1951-52

(i)	...	...	...	...	...	1,53,153
(ii)	...	...	...	...	...	90,55,039
(iii)	...	...	...	...	...	23,347
(iv)	...	...	...	...	...	58,244
						<hr/> 92,89,783 <hr/>

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—The basis of assessment of Agricultural Income-tax in respect of the categories III and IV of the question (a) is the output of agricultural produce from land. No limit has been fixed on the basis of the agricultural holding, as the owner of a smaller holding may earn bigger income in respect of a particular crop if he grows double crop in the same plot of land, or money crop such as jute, the price of which is much higher than that of paddy. The assessments are based on actual information gathered through departmental officers by enquiries on the spot and through the local officers who are in the know of the things. In respect of category (iii) the assessee generally have their accounts and if those accounts are found reliable and in consonance with the reports obtained, the assessments are made on that basis. If there are no accounts assessments are based on the basis of the reports obtained after local enquiry.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Will Government be pleased to state as to what is the primary basis on which agricultural income-tax was assessed for each of the years 1947-48 to 1951-52?

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister):** Quantum of agricultural produce is the basis of assessment.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** It is not clear, Sir. Is it not the area of holding the basis?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** That is not necessarily so.

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister):** No, Sir, it is the quantum of produce not the holding. Suppose a man has 100 bighas of land and in a certain year he gets only one maund of produce but another has 100 bighas and he gets 1000 maunds, in that case the quantum of produce becomes the basis of assessment and not the 100 bighas of his holding.



**Mr. SPEAKER :** That is a matter for the Agricultural Minister to reply. Question No.44 please.

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) :**

44.—(a) The numbers are as follows:—

District			1949-50	1950-51	1951-52.
			Case in-stituted	Case in-stituted	Case in-stituted
Cachar	...	...	Nil	47	29
Nowgong	...	...	351	421	693
Darrang	...	...	1	50	448
Goalpara	...	...	3	200	743
Kamrup	...	...	1	185	710

(b) (i)—Nil.

(ii)—Three cases in Nowgong district in the year 1949-50 and 2 cases in Goalpara district in 1951-52. They were assessed as they had double cropping including jute and that the price of jute and paddy was very high during those years.

(iii)—

District			1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
Cachar	...	...	Nil	2	4
Nowgong	...	...	77	81	235
Darrang	...	...	Nil	10	75
Kamrup	...	...	Nil	10	25
Goalpara	...	...	1	10	73

(iv)—

Cachar	...	...	Nil	16	15
Nowgong	...	...	163	227	335
Darrang	...	...	1	15	235
Kamrup	...	...	1	98	385
Goalpara	...	...	1	39	205

(v)—

Cachar	...	...	Nil	29	10
Nowgong	...	...	108	113	123
Darrang	...	...	Nil	25	138
Kamrup	...	...	Nil	77	300
Goalpara	...	...	1	151	463

(c)—No person whose land, according to land records or zemindary staff is so small as not likely to earn assessable income has been served with notices in the Goalpara district or for the matter of that in any district.

It may so happen, however, that a person who has got sufficient land under him according to land record or zemindary papers, subsequently contends at the time of hearing that there has been an amicable partition or that he had made some gifts of his lands and his share is too small as to yield any assessable income. In such cases if the assessee can prove it to the satisfaction of the officer, and by local enquiry if the statement turns out to be true, he is certainly exonerated. But for that matter the assessee has got to be served with notices and have to be examined by the assessing officer.



(d)—No. The taxable limit is the income, not the extent of the holding. Income is not determined by the extent of the holding but by the extent of the cultivation, the nature and price of the crop, the advantages of the holding and so on.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—No.

(g)—No.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to state the reasons for the wide discrepancies in revenue and in the number of cases for the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 in Goalpara district?

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister):** This is easily explainable, Sir. Because in a certain year the number of assessee may be more and the amount assessed to each men may be small.

**Maulavi Md. UMARUDDIN:** Naturally there are small hoarders?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** You cannot argue here what are big and what are small hoarders.

### Re-organisation of the Transport Department

**Maulavi MEHRAB ALI LASKAR** asked:

45. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there was a scheme for the Government of Assam to re-organize the whole of Transport Department and if so, has that since been given effect to completely or partly and in what manner?

(b) Is it a fact that there are two offices each separate from the other in every district known as Motor Vehicles Office and Regional Transport Authority Office under the administrative control of one official but having double designations as District Transport Officer and Secretary, Regional Transport Authority?

(c) Is it a fact that motorists and drivers pay their Taxes and Fees in cash to the Motor Vehicles Office, but they cannot pay their permit fees, in cash for some vehicles?

(d) Is it a fact that permit fees are paid by motor owners to the Treasury after obtaining the payment chalans passed from the Regional Transport Authority Office, in doing which owners are required to visit once to the Regional Transport Authority Office and then to the treasury office?

46. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representation from the Members of Legislature and other public bodies in Cachar District against the sudden transfer of the Motor Vehicles Office from Silchar Town to Masimpur at a distance of nearly 5 miles off from Silchar?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to shift the same office immediately to Silchar where it was situated for so many years past to bring an end to the public sufferings?

47. Is it a fact that two ladies have been appointed recently by the District Transport Officer, Cachar as Office Assistants for his Motor and Regional Transport Authority Offices at Masimpur, without properly verifying the character, antecedents and domiciled Certificates, and ignoring other better local male candidates?



**\*Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister)** replied :

45. (a)—The Scheme sanctioned by Government for the re-organization of the Transport Department was given effect to from 16th October 1951 by appointing eight District Transport Officers to work under one part-time Transport Commissioner for the administration of the Motor Vehicles Act, Motor Vehicles Taxation Act and rules made thereunder, keeping in abeyance the post of the whole-time Deputy Transport Commissioner for the present.

(b)—No. Work of the Regional Transport authorities are performed by five District Transport Officers with Regional Headquarters at Shillong, Gauhati, Tezpur, Lakhimpur and Silchar.

(c)—Yes, as Regional Transport authorities have no Cashier clerks of their own.

(d)—Yes.

46. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It is proposed to shift the office again to Silchar Town as soon as accommodation is available there.

47.—Of the two female Assistants one was entertained in a leave vacancy from the 7th to 28th July, 1952 and the other has been continuing in a temporary vacancy. Government are satisfied that she possesses the requisite qualifications.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state that ever since the duties of checking the motor vehicles by the Police department was withdrawn there has been loss to revenue on account of evasion of tax because of less checking on the roads ?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Duties from the police have not been withdrawn.

**M MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** My question is that due to shortness of time and as the duties were exclusively transferred to the Motor Vehicles Department, there was less checking ?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** That is not a fact.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Will Government propose to appoint more checkers to check the motor vehicles on the road ?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** That is a new question.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Is it a fact that after opening of the new Motor Vehicles Department administrative control has been improved ?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Yes, Sir.

**Shri SARJU PROSAD SINGH:** May I know whether taxes are being collected at District Transport Officer's office at Masimpur, where there is no Treasury or Sub-Treasury ?

\*As Shri Siddhinath Sarma (Minister) was absent, the supplementaries were answered by Shri Ramnath Das (Minister).



**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Taxes are collected at Masimpur because they are paid in cash, but the permit fees are paid in the Treasury.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state what was the income before the re-organisation, and what was the income after the re-organisation?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Definitely I cannot give the accurate figures. The report received by me is that immediately after the separation of this department from the control of the Police Department many lapses have been detected by the Transport Officers.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Is the Hon'ble Minister aware that a Cashier-clerk of D. T. O. at Masimpur which is five miles away from Silchar has to visit Silchar for depositing even small deposits and that the Cashier has been put to great inconvenience for lack of communication, and that this scanty communication has resulted also to public inconvenience and harassment?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** It may be so Sir, but, as soon as suitable accommodation at Silchar will be available the office will be shifted to Silchar.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Is it not a fact Sir, that there was accommodation for many years at Silchar town for this office?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Yes, Sir, that office was attached to the Police office, but the department was separated from the Police department, the Police department could not spare the office to the Transport Department and so the Motor Vehicles Office had to be transferred to Masimpur.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Sir, with reference to reply to 46(b), will Government be pleased to state what is the approximate time that will be taken?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** The approximate time Sir, I cannot give now. As soon as suitable accommodation to locate the office will be available it will be shifted.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** How much time will be necessary to find the suitable accommodation?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I disallow that question.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to state that out of so many local candidates who applied for the post, was none of them found suitable for it?

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** The report from my office is that this girl is found qualified along with others, and therefore, she was appointed.

**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY:** How is it that two vacant posts occurred simultaneously, only females are available and no male?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I disallow the question.



**Extra Assistant Commissioners and Sub-Deputy Collectors  
belonging to Hills not passing Assamese language**

**Shri A. ALLEY** asked :

48. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of Extra Assistant Commissioners and Sub-Deputy Collectors belonging to the Hills who have not passed the Assamese language ?

(b) Is passing the Assamese language a condition precedent for confirmation in the service ?

(c) Is it a fact that questions in Assamese contain difficult passages from English literature ?

(d) Is it a fact that officers are expected to have a working knowledge of Assamese and not literary qualification ?

(e) Are Government aware that students of the Hills, particularly Khasis, Lushais and Garos, are not taught Assamese, Bengali or Hindi in the Schools ?

(f) Are Government aware that the hills officers, most of whom are stationed in the hills, experience great difficulties to acquire literary excellence in the Assamese language ?

(g) Is it a fact that the hills officers have to learn Hindi, Assamese and Bengali ?

(h) How many of the hills officers (Extra Assistant Commissioners and Sub-Deputy Collectors) who appeared in the last Departmental Examination passed in Assamese ?

(i) Is it a fact that during the British Rule, hills officers were exempted from passing the Assamese and Bengali languages ?

(j) Do Government propose to direct the Assam Public Service Commission to set up a special easier standard for the hills officers ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

48. (a)—Two Extra Assistant Commissioners and nine Sub-Deputy Collectors belonging to hills have to pass in Assamese language.

(b)—Yes, for non-Assamese speaking officers only.

(c)—Questions are set according to the rules regulating the examinations in Assamese, and Government do not consider that any passage from English literature is set contrary to the standard prescribed to be followed in the matter.

(d)—Officers are expected to have a working knowledge of Assamese so far as the examination by the Lower Standard is concerned. For the examination by the Higher Standard they are expected to know the Assamese language with reasonably correct grammar, idioms and spelling.

(e)—Facilities for teaching Assamese, Bengali or Hindi are available in many schools of the hills although they are not compulsory subjects and Government are considering as to how they can be extended.

(f)—Officers are not expected to acquire literature, excellence in the Assamese language.

(g)—All officers are required to learn Hindi, Assamese and Bengali except that Assamese officers are not required to pass in Assamese, and Bengali officers in Bengali.

(h)—Two Extra Assistant Commissioners and four Sub-Deputy Collectors appeared in the last examination in Assamese, but could not pass.

(i)—No officer was permanently exempted as a general rule from passing Assamese and Bengali languages during the British Rule.

(j)—Government do not consider that any lowering of the standard prescribed for the examinations will be justified.



### **Opening of Government Reserved Forest in Garo Hills for cultivation**

**Shri HARISON MOMIN** asked :

49. (a) Do Government intend to lay open for cultivation the cultivable lands lying waste within the Government Reserved Forest in the Garo Hills ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to convert these lands into khas lands and thus make the cultivators free from all obligations put upon them by the Forest Authorities ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

49. (a) & (b)—Government are not aware of any cultivable lands lying waste in the Reserve Forests in the Garo Hills. The policy of Government is not generally to dereserve cultivable lands in the forest reserves, but to encourage cultivation in cultivable lands available within forest reserves by accommodating suitable cultivators as forest villagers.

### **Scheme for development of Plains Tribal People**

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** asked :

50. Will Government be pleased to state whether any scheme for the development of the Plains Tribal People has been made in the Five-Year Plan of the Government of Assam and if so, what amount has been earmarked for the same ?

**Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister)** replied :

50.—Yes. A Five-Year Plan for the development of the Plains Tribal Areas has been submitted to the Planning Commission for incorporation in the Five-Year Plan for the development of the State. The total sum proposed to be earmarked for the development of the Plains Tribal Areas is Rs.12½ lakhs. The Planning Commission has not yet communicated its approval to the incorporation of the plan for the Plains Tribal Areas in the State Five-Year Plan.

### **Public Health Dispensary within the jurisdiction from Agia to Lakhipur**

**Shri HAKIM CHANDRA RABHA** asked :

51. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any Public Health Dispensary within the jurisdiction from Agia to Lakhipur in Goalpara District ?

(b) If not, whether Government propose to open a Public Health Dispensary in this Kala-azar area ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister)** replied :

51. (a)—There is a Public Health Dispensary at Agia with two Sub-centres on the Agia-Lakhipur Road at Maladhara and Baida at a distance of 6½ and 10 miles respectively.

(b)—Does not arise.



**Shri HAKIM CHANDRA RABHA:** Will Government be pleased to state whether they will consider to open a Public Health Dispensary at Baida ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister):** If funds permit we may consider the desirability to open a Public Health Dispensary in that locality.

### **Names of communities included in the Plains Tribes in Assam**

**Shri HAKIM CHANDRA RABHA** asked :

52. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Which are the communities included in the Plains Tribes in Assam ?

(b) What is the number of graduates altogether in the Plains Tribes in Assam ?

(c) The numbers of graduates separately against each of the Plains Tribal Communities in Assam ?

(d) Do Government propose to safeguard the backward communities amongst the Plains Tribes in Assam ?

**Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister)** replied :

52. (a)—Boro-Borokachari, Deori, Hojai, Kachari, Lalung, Mech, Miri, Rabha

(b) & (c)—The information is not available with Government, as such statistics have not been maintained.

(d)—Government are doing everything possible to safeguard the interests of the Plains Tribal People and to promote their welfare. Government have formulated a Five-Year Plan for the promotion of the welfare of the Plains Tribal People covering the fields of education, medical relief, public health, drinking water supply, improvement of communications, development of sericulture and cottage industries, promotion of the co-operative movement etc., and are implementing this plan within the resources available to them.

### **Number of Burglary cases under Dibrugarh Police Station**

**Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BOROOAH** asked :

53. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) The number of burglary cases registered at Dibrugarh Police Station during the year ending 31st March, 1952 ?

(b) The number of cases detected and sent up ?

(c) The number of cases ending in conviction ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

53. (a)—269.

(b)—57.

(c)—3.



**Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies, Gauhati****Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BOROOAH** asked :

54. (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are now considering a proposal for handing over the Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies, Gauhati, to the Gauhati University ?

(b) If not, do Government propose to take necessary steps for economic management and better utilisation of the Department as a research institution under the Gauhati University ?

**Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister)** replied :

54. (a) & (b)—There is no such formal proposal. But the question is being informally discussed with the University authorities. But no decision has been arrived at.

**General Development of the Plains Tribal People****Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI** asked :

55. Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether they propose to keep some provision earmarked every year in the budget for general development of the Plains Tribal people ?

(b) The amount spent for the various development of the Plains Tribal people by the Assam Government from the year 1942 to 1951 ?

**Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister)** replied :

55. (a)—As the Scheduled Tribes inhabiting the Plains Districts are scattered all over the State, the development schemes which aim at the welfare of the State as a whole, will benefit the Plains Tribal people also. Nevertheless, Government drew up a separate Five-Year Plan at an estimated cost of Rs.121 lakhs for the development of the Plains Tribal people and applied to the Government of India for grants-in-aid under Article 275 of the Constitution in the year 1950. No grants-in-aid were however received from the Government of India during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52. During the current financial year, Rs.10 lakhs have been sanctioned by the Government of India as grants-in-aid under Article 275 of the Constitution for implementing the various development schemes in the Plains Tribal Areas. This amount is being included in the current year's budget through supplementary demands to be voted by the Assembly. Similar provisions will be included in the future budgets of the State to the extent of the grants made available by the Government of India.

(b)—No separate accounts of expenditure incurred for the welfare of the Plains Tribal people have ever been maintained for the reason explained in (a) above. The enclosed statement will, however, show approximately the amounts spent by the State Government for the welfare of the Plains Tribal people under the various heads during 1950-51 and 1951-52.



**Statement showing expenditure incurred by the State Government  
on the welfare of the Plains Tribals under the different  
departments during 1950-51 and 1951-52**

Department	Amount spent by the State Government	
	1950-51	1951-52
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Public Health ... ..	2,10,905	2,67,376
2. Education (General) ... ..	4,10,640	4,59,340
3. Education (Primary) ... ..	7,21,666	7,21,666
4. Medical ... ..	1,15,580	1,57,590
5. Roads (Public Works Department) ..	2,84,563	6,20,913
6. Agriculture ... ..	16,709	11,769
7. Forest—		
(1) Roads ... ..	65,000	1,66,300
(2) Dispensaries ... ..	.....	.....
8. Rural Water Supply (Public Health)	50,000	.....
9. Rural Panchayat (Rural Development)	54,000	63,000
Total ... ..	19,29,063	24,67,954

**Burglaries and dacoities committed in Nalbari, Barama, Hajo and  
Rangiya Thanas**

**Shri PRABHAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI** asked :

56. (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of burglaries and dacoities committed during the period from January to July 1952 in Nalbari, Barama, Hajo and Rangiya Thanas respectively ?

(b) Do Government propose to adopt more stringent measures to bring the wanted persons not yet arrested under custody immediately ?

(c) Is it a fact that in some places under those thanas the villagers themselves have caught hold of some criminals and handed them over to Police ?

(d) If so, do Government propose to give any special reward to these villagers for their daring and laudable service ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister)** replied :

56. (a) —Number of burglaries and dacoities committed during the period from January to July 1952 are shown below thana-wise :—

	Number of burglary	Number of dacoity
Nalbari Police Station ...	57	5
Barama Police Station ...	19	3
Hajo Police Station ...	32	1
Rangiya Police Station ...	21	8

(b)—Stringent measures have already been taken during the last Anti-Dacoity operations in the Kamrup District and as a result most of the wanted persons were arrested. Only a small number of absconders are still at large and action has been taken to bring them under custody.

(c)—Yes, at Musalpur under Barama Police Station some members of the Village Defence Party arrested an absconding dacoit of Goalpara district and some villagers of Barikadanga under Barama Police Station rendered valuable



help to the Police in making some arrests and seizing some unlicensed arms during the Anti-dacoity operations.

(d)—These villagers have already been rewarded by the Inspector General of Police with money rewards of Rs.50 each.

**Shri PRABHAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** What was the number of dacoities and burglaries committed during 1951, and what was the number sent up for trial during 1952 ?

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** Materials of this period are not available. I want notice of that question, Sir.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I notice that Mr. Ranendra Mohan Das has submitted one amendment\* to the Resolution after the discussion has already begun.

**Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS:** But I think there is no objection from any quarter, Sir. It is an important road connecting capitals of two States, namely, Shillong to Agartala *via* Badarpur.

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** Sir, this is purely an independent Resolution and has got no connection with the main Resolution. As such, I think it cannot be allowed.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Yes, it seems to me to be a new and independent Resolution and therefore I disallow it. But apart from that you submitted it after discussion already begun. You should at least have tabled it two days before.

**Resolution regarding taking up of the North Trunk Road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur by the Union Government as a National Highway.**

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was speaking on the\* \* Resolution moved by my Friend, Mr. Sarveswar Barua, about taking up the North Trunk Road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur as a National Highway. In this connection I have tabled an amendment by which I want to have the entire North Trunk Road from the western extremity of Goalpara *via* North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur as a National Highway. Sir, before we consider this Resolution we have got to trace the background of the Government of India's policy with regard to National Highways.

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** On a point of order Sir, where the Government of India is concerned, we cannot discuss anything here.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN:** But I am only giving the background of the policy under which the Government of India have accepted the principle of taking over certain roads as National Highways. Unless we know the background of the circumstances under which the Government of India took up these National Highways, how can this

**\*\*Shri Ranendra Mohan Das to move:**

I beg to move the following amendment to Resolution No.3 of Shri Sarveswar Barua in the list of Private Members' Resolution—

“That for the words ‘as a National Highway’ at the end of the Resolution, the words ‘and the road which connect Shillong with Agartala *via* Badarpur, as National Highways’ shall be substituted.”

**\*\* Shri Sarveswar Barua:** This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Union Government for taking up the North Trunk Road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur as a National Highway.



House be in a position to know whether this Resolution is in proper form or not. ? I am not discussing the policy, but I am only touching on the relevant criteria to the requirements as laid down by the Government of India under which certain roads can be taken as National Highways. Is it irrelevant, Sir ?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Carry on.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN:** Sir, as far back as 1927 a sub-committee was constituted by the Government of India to investigate the whole question of road development in India and that was under the Chairmanship of Dr. Jayakar, and that Committee, after full deliberation, was of the opinion that the question of road development in India was passing beyond the capacity of the Provincial Governments and Local Bodies and that it had become a matter of great national importance ; therefore to that extent, important and strategic roads should be charged to the revenues of the Central Government. These are the findings of the Jayakar Committee, Sir. These are the circumstances under which National Highways were taken up by the Centre because Provincial Governments and Local Bodies were incapable with their slender resources at their disposal to take up development of roads of national importance. That is the policy. That is the finding of the Jayakar Committee. And as a result, the Central Road Fund was created.

Then, Sir, again in 1943 all the Chief Engineers of India met at a Conference at Nagpur which formulated what is known as the Nagpur Plan. In that conference the whole question of road development in India was thoroughly examined by all these experts and they classified roads under certain categories. These I am quoting from the report of the Nagpur conference. They gave their opinion with regard to National Highways like this—"National Highways were defined as main Highways running through the length and breadth of India connecting ports, foreign highways, capitals of provinces and of large States and including roads required for strategic movement for the defence of India". This, Sir, is the basis, the background under which certain roads were being taken up as National Highways.

Then, Sir, another thing, these National Highways should form also the main arteries with which the State highways, major and minor district roads, are to be linked and developed. Therefore, Sir, they place the roads in the following categories ; National Highways, Provincial Highways, major strategic and minor roads and village roads. Then again in April 1947 the Government of India accepted full responsibility for the construction and maintenance of National Highways. Sir, on that basis the Nagpur Conference was of the opinion that at least 20 thousand miles of roads should be taken up as National Highways. Of course, Sir, after the Partition, the length in Highways has decreased and requirements readjusted according to the changed situation. Sir, it is clear that National Highways are the responsibility of the Centre. Let us therefore see whether the entire North Trunk Road starting from the western extremity of the district of Goalpara right up to North Lakhimpur, can be placed on the category of a National Highway.

Sir, we all know that Assam is divided by the Brahmaputra into two main lands, the North Bank and the South Bank. The South Bank is now served by the present Assam Access Road. This is the only National Highway in our part of the State. This road serves only a small portion of the district of Goalpara on the North Bank of the Brahmaputra. Sir, you will find that there are several plains districts on the North Bank of the Brahmaputra, namely Kamrup, Goalpara, Darrang and North Lakhimpur.



In population and in economic importance and more particularly from the strategic point of view, they are as important as those in the South Bank, if not more. As a matter of fact Sir, owing to certain developments in Tibet in recent months this part of our State has assumed a special importance. Therefore, Sir, unless this road is taken up as a National Highway, there will be difficulties for movements for the purpose of defence of the country as a whole. Sir, at the same time we cannot develop the North Bank of the State of Assam on a planned basis unless we take up this road as the frame work for the development of the entire road system, namely the provincial highways, major district roads and village roads, etc. As I said, Sir, this road runs from one end of the State to the other and as such it should be improved. And if this road is developed it can be connected with West Bengal and Jalpaiguri and so it will be a road of great strategic importance. Therefore, Sir, I say that both from strategic point of view and for national economic development, if this road is developed, it will be a very important and useful road, and as such we can rightly request the Centre for taking up the entire length of the North Trunk Road, from the District of Goalpara right up to North Lakhimpur. Unless we have a main road to run parallel with the road on the South Bank of the Brahmaputra we may have difficulties for transport on certain occasions. Already we were having great difficulties as a result for the last great earthquake and floods for movement of the people. So, Sir, we must insist on the appropriate authorities for having more roads both for economic development and for movement of goods and also for strategic purposes. We know, Sir, during the last flood some portions of the national highways in Assam were breached and the railway line from Jalpaiguri to Alipurduar and Fakiragram and certain other places was also breached. There were also breaches on the Assam Access Road in the district of Goalpara. Unless we have an alternative means of communication, we shall be in great difficulty in times of emergency. So, Sir, we must look ahead and provide alternative means of communications for emergencies so that we are not cut off from the rest of India. Assam's case has special importance as it is a strategic State and in view of the many momentous developments that are taking place on the borders, we must take into account all the possible complications and emergencies that may arise in future and that it is time we should take up the matter with the Government of India so that the entire length of the road as I have suggested is taken up as a national highway.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Amendment to the Resolution moved by Mr. Barua for the acceptance of the House.

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

**Shri GHANA KANTA GOGOI** I want, Sir to add a few words in support of the Resolution moved by Mr. Barua. I also fully agree with the amendment moved by my Friend, Maulavi Md. Umaruddin, that is, the North Trunk Road should connect.....

**The Deputy SPEAKER:** The amendment in question I think has not been moved formally, because I do not get it here.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN:** Sir, I placed the amendment in proper time and was accepted.

**Shri GHANA KANTA GOGOI:** I want to say that this proposed road should not end at North Lakhimpur town only ; it should go right up to the bank of



th Brahmaputra ending at Sissi and Paikmahal, that is it should extend from North Lakhimpur right upto the bank of the Brahmaputra and in that case the whole length of the North Trunk Road will come right upto the boundary of Dibrugarh which is on the north bank of the Brahmaputra opposite Dibrugarh town. In that case it will serve a very useful purpose by connecting many outlying Mouzas of North Lakhimpur and thus it will serve a national purpose. This is all what I want to say.

**Shri JOGAKANTA BARUA :** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আগৰে পৰা এনেকুৱা এটা গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ কথা যায় যে উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰ মহকুমাটোক অসমৰ কলীয়াপানী কৰিব খুজিছে। এই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ কথাটোৰ সত্যতা যিমানেই নাথাকক, বৰ্তমান অৱস্থাত উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰ মহকুমা আৰু ডিব্ৰুগড় মহকুমাৰ চিচি, ধেমাজি আদি অঞ্চলবিলাক যে কলীয়াপানীৰ নিচিনাই তাক কোনেও অস্বীকাৰ কৰিব নোৱাৰে। তাত যিবিলাক মানুহ আছে তেওঁলোকে ৰাস্তা-ঘাটৰ অভাৱত বহিৰ্ভাগতৰ পৰা একবকম বিচিহ্ন হৈয়েই আছে। যান-বাহন চলাচলৰ কাৰণে ৰাস্তা-ঘাট নথকাত, সেই অঞ্চলৰ বাহিৰৰ বাহিৰোৱা উৎপন্ন বস্তু বিলাক অসমৰ ঘাট পৰা অঞ্চল বিলাকলৈ যাব নোৱাৰে। ফল-স্বৰূপে, এফালে যেনেকৈ তাৰ উৎপাদনকাৰী লোকসকল ক্ষতিগ্ৰস্ত হৈছে, আনফালে তেনেকৈ ঘাট পৰা অঞ্চলৰ বাহিৰ তাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত হৈছে আৰু ই আমাৰ সবিশেষ উৎপাদনৰ অভিযানৰ অন্তৰায়।

দ্বিতীয়তে এই অঞ্চলৰ শিতানে কাষৰে আমাৰ অকা ডকলা আদি সৰল পৰ্বতীয়া ট্ৰাইবেল ভাই সকলৰ বাস। বৰ্তমানৰ যি কোনো পৰিস্থিতিতেই এই সহজ সৰল লোকসকলৰ তথ্য অসমৰ নিৰাপত্তা বজায় ৰখাটো চৰকাৰৰ একান্ত কৰ্তব্য। বিশেষকৈ বহিৰাক্ৰমণকাৰীয়ে বাৰে বাৰে এই লোকসকলক অত্যাচাৰ কৰি থাকিলে সময়ত তেওঁলোক ক্ষুণ্ণ হবৰো আশংকা আছে। গতিকে দেশৰ প্ৰতিৰক্ষাৰ ফালৰ পৰাও এই অঞ্চলত আমাৰ প্ৰতিৰক্ষা বাহিনী যাবলৈ এটা ৰাস্তা লাগে। কিয়নো ওচৰতে চীন আদি জাতি আছে। আজি তেওঁলোক মিত্ৰ ভাৱেই আছে। কিন্তু কেনেকৈ যদি সেই মিত্ৰভাৱ নথকা হয়, তেনেহলে তেওঁলোকৰ আক্ৰমণৰ প্ৰথম চাপ পৰিব এই উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰ মহকুমা আৰু চিচি ধেমাজি অঞ্চলতেই। গতিকে সেই অঞ্চললৈ যদি ভাল ৰাস্তা-ঘাট ৰখা নহয় তেনেহলে অসমক ৰক্ষা কৰিবৰ একো উপায় নাই আৰু অসম তথা ভাৰতৰ নিৰাপত্তাও বিপন্ন হব। গতিকে সময় থাকোঁতেই সাৱধান হোৱা ভাল।

বহুতেই এই অঞ্চলৰ লোকসকলক পিচপৰি থকা বুলি আখ্যা দিছে। কিন্তু আচলতে উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰৰ মানুহ বিলাক পিচপৰা নহয়, ঠাই ডোখৰহে ৰাস্তা-পদূলীৰ অভাৱত পিচপৰা বুলি পৰিগণিত হৈছে। এখন ঠাইৰ উন্নতি ঘাইকৈ নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে সেই ঠাইৰ যাতায়তৰ সুব্যৱস্থাৰ ওপৰত। তেনেস্থলত ৰাস্তা-ঘাটৰ অভাৱত সেই অঞ্চলৰ বাহিৰ হোৱা বস্তুবিলাকো তাতে বাগৰি থাকে, অথচ আমাৰ অভাৱ নটনিতো সেই বস্তুবিলাকৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত হোৱাটো বৰ পৰিতাপৰ কথা। দেশৰ লোকসকলে আশা কৰিছে যে আমাৰ জনপ্ৰিয় চৰকাৰে গাঁওবিলাৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিব। জীৱনৰ মানদণ্ড উচ্চ কৰিবলৈ ভাল ভাল নগৰ প্ৰতিস্থা কৰিব। কিন্তু এনে অৱস্থাত যে আমি গাঁও উন্নত কৰিব পাৰিম—ভাল নগৰ কৰিব পাৰিম তাৰ আশা নিচেই কম।

কাজেই উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰ, ধেমাজি, চিচি আদি অঞ্চলক অসমৰ আন আন ঠাইৰ লগত সংলগ্ন কৰিবলৈ এই North Trunk Road চো যেনেতেনে National High Way কৰিয়েই হওক বা International High Way কৰিয়েই হওক নাইবা আন যি কোনো উপায়েৰে হওক অতি সোনকালে নিৰ্মাণ কৰিব লাগে।

সেই কাৰণে মই বৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াৰ এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সৰ্বসন্মতিক্ৰমে সমৰ্থন কৰো আৰু চৰকাৰকো অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে এই ৰাস্তা নিৰ্মাণৰ কাম অতি সোনকালে হাতত লয়।



**Shri KHAGENDRA NATH NATH :** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ বন্ধু মাননীয় সৰ্বেশ্বৰ বৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ এই সদনৰ আগত ডাঙি ধৰিছে, সেই প্ৰস্তাৱ মই সৰ্বান্তঃকৰণেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। কিয়নো আজি আমাৰ অসমৰ North Bank ত বিশেষকৈ উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰ, তেজপুৰ আৰু লগতে বন্ধাইগাঁও আদি অঞ্চলত কোনো আভ্যন্তৰীণ চলাচলৰ সুবিধা নথকাত আনকি সাম্প্ৰদায়িক সম্প্ৰীতি স্থাপনতো বাধা পৰিছে। এই বাস্তা-ঘাটৰ অভাৱত আমি নানা বিষয়ত পিচপৰি যাব লগীয়া হৈছে।

এনে ক্ষেত্ৰত আমাৰ বৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই আমাৰ আগত যি প্ৰস্তাৱ ডাঙি ধৰিছে সি অতি সমৰোপযোগী হৈছে। লগতে মই জোৰ দিও যাতে এই বাস্তাটো বন্ধাইগাঁৱৰ পৰা একেবাৰে উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰলৈকে হয় আৰু এই বাস্তাটোক North Trunk Road বুলি আখ্যা দিব লাগে।

মই আশা কৰোঁ আমাৰ চৰকাৰে মোৰ কথাটো ভালকৈ গমি চাব আৰু এই বাস্তাটোৰ কাম অতি সোনকালে হাতত লব। ইয়াকে কৈ মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ।

**Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS :** Sir, we have not received any amendment to the Resolution in connection with this National Highway.

**The Deputy SPEAKER :** That is what I mean also. Mr. Umaruddin says that his amendment was accepted.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN :** Yes, Sir, I spoke on the Amendment . . . . .

**The Deputy SPEAKER :** It was not formally moved and accepted it seems.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN :** Sir, that day I moved the amendment, but it was not actually disallowed, and on the next day I placed the amendment in proper form . . . . .

**The Deputy SPEAKER :** There is no question of allowing or not allowing the amendment now. It was not moved in a formal way, but as you have already spoken about it I allow that your speech will be in the body of the Resolution.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN :** The position is that the other day I moved the amendment and after a few minutes the House was adjourned and so I could not finish my speech on the amendment. When I placed my preliminary remarks on the amendment the House was adjourned. I placed the amendment with the Speaker, Sir. It might have been lost.

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) :** It is not in order, Sir, because in the original Resolution, it is from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur.

**The Deputy SPEAKER :** This amendment is not before the House ; so I am sorry, it is not accepted.

**Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN :** It is not my fault, Sir, My impression was that my amendment would be placed before the House.



**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই পোন প্ৰথমতে এই লাগতীয়াল প্ৰস্তাৱটো দাঙি ধৰাৰ কৰণে মাননীয় বৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াৰ ধন্যবাদ জনাইছো। আমি স্বাধীনতা পোৱাৰ পিচত আমাৰ দেশখন উন্নত কৰিবৰ কাৰণে ৰাস্তা-ঘাটৰ সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি কৰি তাৰ লগে লগে আমাৰ দেশত কেইবাটাও national high ways কৰাৰ কথা ভাবিবলৈ দৰকাৰ হৈ পৰিছে। দক্ষিণ পাৰে খুবুৰীৰ পৰা সদিয়ালৈকে এটা high way অৱশ্যে আছে; কিন্তু উত্তৰ পাৰে তেনে কোনো ৰাস্তা হোৱা নাই। সেই কাৰণে উত্তৰ পাৰে যাতায়তৰ বৰ অসুবিধা গতিকে বৰুৱাদেৱে প্ৰস্তাৱটোত অকল উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰৰ পৰা উত্তৰ গুৱাহাটীলৈকে national high way কৰিবলৈ নিবিচাৰি যদি তেখেতে উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰৰ পৰা আৰম্ভ কৰি পশ্চিমে, জলপাইগুড়িলৈ ধৰিলে হেতেন তেন্তে আমাৰ লগত ভাৰতৰ সকলো ঠাইৰে সংযোগ ৰাখিবলৈ সুবিধা হ'লহেতেন। সেই কাৰণে জলপাইগুড়িৰ পৰা উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰলৈকে ৰাস্তাটোহে লব লাগে, কাৰণ আমি যদি দেশ উন্নতি কৰিব খোজো, তেনেহলে অসমক ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ লগত কেনেকৈ ৰাস্তাৰে সংযোগ কৰিব পাৰি সেইটো চাব লাগে।

**The Deputy SPEAKER:** মই এটা কথা ক'ব খোজো যে আমি গোটেই ৰাস্তাৰ কথা আলোচনা কৰিব নোৱাৰো কাৰণ আমাৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটোত সেইটো কথা নাই। ইয়াত আছে মাত্ৰ উত্তৰ লক্ষীপুৰৰ পৰা উত্তৰ গুৱাহাটীলৈকেহে।

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** বাক উত্তৰ লক্ষীপুৰৰ পৰা উত্তৰ গুৱাহাটীলৈকে হ'লেও হ'ব। কিন্তু তেতিয়াহ'লেও এই ৰাস্তাটোৰ উত্তৰ গুৱাহাটীৰ পৰা চাৰি আলিলৈকে ১২ মাইল ৰাস্তা পকা হৈয়ে আছে। গতিকে এই ১২ মাইল ৰাস্তাটো নধৰিলেও হ'ব বুলি ক'ব বিচাৰিছিলোঁ।

**The Deputy SPEAKER:** So that cannot be allowed at this stage. Kindly confine to North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur.

**Shri DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:** যদি উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰ আৰু উত্তৰ গুৱাহাটীৰ পৰা বঢ়াবলৈ নিদিয়ৈ তেন্তে মই তাত আপত্তি নকৰো। কিন্তু মই ক'ব খোজো যে যোৱা বানপানীয়ে বিধস্ত কৰাৰ কাৰণে বহুত ৰাস্তাৰ ক্ষতি হ'ল। সেই কাৰণে তাৰো কিবা এটা ব্যৱস্থা কৰিবৰ কাৰণে ভাৰত চৰকাৰক অতি সোনকালে অনুৰোধ কৰা উচিত। লগে লগে বৰুৱাদেৱৰ প্ৰস্তাৱিত এই দকাৰী ৰাস্তাটোও সোনকালে ল'বৰ কাৰণে ভাৰত চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিব লাগে যাতে আমাৰ উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰৰ লগত যাতায়তৰ সুবিধা হয়।

**The Deputy SPEAKER:** Are you Speaking Mr. Goswami ?

**Shri PROBHA CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় শ্ৰীযুত বৰুৱাদেৱে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ ডাঙি ধৰিছে, সেইটো অতি আৱশ্যকীয় প্ৰস্তাৱ। সেই কাৰণে মই তেখেতৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো স্বৰাস্তঃকৰণে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। অৱশ্যে আমি জনো যে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ সম্বন্ধে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ লগত ইতিমধ্যে লিখা-লিখি কৰিছে আৰু আমি জনো যে এই ৰাস্তাটোৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ খৰচৰ বোজা আমাৰ চৰকাৰে বহন কৰা অসম্ভৱ। সেই কাৰণে মই আশা কৰো আমাৰ চৰকাৰে আৰু বেচি লিখা-লিখি কৰি ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ সহযোগ লাভ কৰিব লাগে আৰু যাতে তাৰ ফলত বৰুৱাদেৱৰ প্ৰস্তাৱিত ৰাস্তাটো অৰ্থাৎ উত্তৰপাৰৰ এক মাত্ৰ ডাঙৰ ৰাস্তাটো যাতায়তৰ উপযোগী হয় তাৰ কাৰণে যি কোনো আৱশ্যকীয় কাম হাতত ল'ব লাগে। যদিও বৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই গোটেইটো ৰাস্তা ধৰা নাই মাত্ৰ এটা অংশৰ কথা উত্থাপন কৰিছে, সম্প্ৰতি তাৰ কাৰণেই আৱশ্যকীয় কৰ্মপদ্ধতি হাতত ল'বৰ কাৰণে তেখেতৰ লগত ময়ো আমাৰ চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিছোঁ আৰু সদস্য সকলকো প্ৰস্তাৱটো গ্ৰহণ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে অনুৰোধ কৰিছোঁ।



**Swami KRISHNANANDA BRAHMACHARI:** নমস্তে মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় আৰু মাননীয় সদস্য সকল; বাস্তা সম্বন্ধে আমি সকলোৰে জানো যে দক্ষিণ পাৰেদি ইমূৰৰ পৰা সিমূৰলৈকে আৱশ্যকীয় বাস্তা এটা আছে কিন্তু উত্তৰ পাৰেদি তেনে কোনো বাস্তা নাই সেই কাৰণেই জনপাইগুৰিৰ পৰা উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰলৈকে এটা ওখ বাস্তা বৰ আৱশ্যক। এতিয়া প্ৰায় জনপাইগুৰিৰ পৰা উত্তৰশালমৰা পৰ্য্যন্ত আছে আৰু উত্তৰশালমৰাৰ পৰা বেকী নদীলৈকে প্ৰায় ২৫ / ৩০ মাইল দূৰত্ব, সেই বাস্তা বঢ়াইদি কামৰূপৰ বাস্তাৰ লগত লগ লগাই দিলে ভাল হয়।

**The Deputy SPEAKER:** আপুনি প্ৰস্তাৱত যি আছে তাতে আৱদ্ধ থাকক।

**Swami KRISHNANANDA BRAHMACHARI:** হয় মই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ভিতৰতে আছে। গতিকে মই আৰু বেচি কবলৈ ইচ্ছা নকৰো। মই আশা কৰো প্ৰস্তাৱটো যেন গৃহীত হয়।

**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I whole heartedly support the Resolution moved by my Friend, Mr. Barua. Now from the strategic point of view and from the military point of view and other considerations, this road is essentially necessary. Sir, Assam is surrounded on all sides by foreigners and enemies. There is a Trunk Road on the south bank of the Brahmaputra, but on the north bank there is none at present. In case of emergency the areas lying on the north bank will be cut off from the rest of Assam. I am grateful to the Government of Assam for taking the initiative in moving the Central Government for taking up this matter. This Resolution in the House will strengthen the hands of the Government of Assam in securing help from the Central Government for making it a National Highway.

With these few words, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Resolution moved by Mr. Barua.

**Shri SARVESWAR BARUA:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the Members of this House for the support they have extended to my Resolution. It appears, Sir, that some of my Friends wanted me to extend the scope of my Resolution so as to include the entire North Trunk Road in the Resolution. I would have been simply glad to do it and it would not have been my endeavour to exclude any portion of that road from the scope of the Resolution. As I have put it in my initial speech, very recently the Government of India have turned down that proposal which was put forward from this House once and again by our representatives at Delhi. When this was turned down, it would be premature to come forward with such a request again so soon after the former was turned down. Therefore, I have reduced the mileage almost by half. The road from North-Salmara to Sawldhowa about 24 miles beyond North Lakhimpur is about 400 miles and the road which I have taken is only 231 miles. I have reduced the mileage by half in order to induce the Central Government to accept this modest proposal.

Sir, my Friends will agree with me that this portion of the road is the worst part of the North-Trunk Road from the point of view of communication, especially, the portion from Tezpur to North-Lakhimpur. There is no railway communication there and that part is not even served by steamer. There are steamer stations on the North Bank upto Gamirighat. This steamer service is scheduled to run on alternate days, but it is very irregular and the Steamer Company do not care to see to the convenience and need of the passengers. Besides, it has become almost impossible to board a steamer with the idea of reaching the



destination in time. Therefore, it is almost useless to rely on the steamer communication from Tezpur to Gamirighat. Beyond Gamirighat there is no steamer-ghat except a feeder steamer station at Badatighat. There is no other alternative arrangement except the road communication from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur and beyond. I have stated about the condition of communications beyond North Lakhimpur. Even bullock carts are not seen plying. Sometimes carts pulled by elephants are seen. That is the state of affairs in that roadless country. Therefore, if any part of Assam suffers most for want of communication, it is the North Bank from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur and the area beyond.

**Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS:** What about communication into the Hills ?

**Shri SARVESWAR BARUA:** That is a different matter altogether. The matter relating to communications in the Hills has already engaged the attention of the Central Government and it is their responsibility to take care of them.

In reducing the length of mileage of the road as far as possible, I have not forgotten the point of view which has been urged by my Friend, Maulavi Umaruddin. He said that portion which I have taken will not satisfy the criterion which is necessary for an additional highway. Now, in order to bring it within that criterion, I have taken this road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur so as to connect that strategically important area of the North-East Frontier Agency and the Tribal areas near about North Lakhimpur with South Trunk Road which is a national highway and other national highway in Assam, I mean, the road from Dawki via Shillong to Gauhati. To connect those national highways with those utterly neglected and strategically important areas, this road is absolutely necessary. The proposed national highway from North Lakhimpur to North Gauhati will meet the other national highway of Assam at Gauhati. I have pointed out that the road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur will be practically an extension of the national highway from Dawki via Shillong to Gauhati and it will not only connect North Lakhimpur, but it will connect headquarters station of the North-East Frontier Agency, I mean Jero with Shillong. Therefore, practically two national highways in Assam one from East to West and the other North to South, will cross each other at Gauhati. Therefore, the proposed road derives the requisite strategical importance as it will connect the capital of the State with the North-East Frontier area and it will also help to develop that undeveloped Plains Tribal area near about North Lakhimpur and Hills Tribal area, which is called North-East Frontier Agency. This road will thus also meet the criterion of connecting that area with the capital of the State which my Friend, Maulavi Umaruddin Saheb, apprehends it will lack for which he fears that it will not be acceptable to the Government of India. But in the aspect in which I want to present the proposal the road will acquire that importance and as such, I would request my Friends to lend support to my Resolution as it stands.

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I must say that I am thankful to Mr. Barua for moving the Resolution, as it will enable Government to explain the steps so far taken to move the Government of India to accept the North-Trunk Road as a national highway and maintain it by them. But I am sorry that I shall not be able to accommodate him by accepting the Resolution and the reasons for which I am not in a position to accept the Resolution will be presently explained by me.

*(At this stage the Speaker re-occupied the Chair.)*

Mr. Barua now does not like to accept a suggestion from other Members of the House to extend the jurisdiction of the Resolution to include the road from the border of Dhubri to Dhemaji on the ground that the



Government of India is not likely to accept the whole road. Similarly, Sir in view of the fact that although the Assam Government have requested India to accept the North-Trunk Road as the national high-way not only once or twice but even four times, and when after the fourth request they have declined to accept the request of the Assam Government, I do not see any chance of its acceptance by them now. Therefore, Sir, I am afraid, I am unable to accept the Resolution that is before us, I mean the Resolution moved by Shri Barua. In this Resolution Mr. Barua has asked Government to take steps to move India for taking up the North-Trunk Road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur as a national highway. Sir, we have already taken steps in the line and therefore this Resolution now appears to be also redundant—I shall explain the steps that we have so far taken to move the Government of India. Sir, at first move was made in 1946 by our colleague, Shri Omeo Kumar Das in the Road Communication Board. He moved that from Salmara to Sadiya—the whole portion of the road should be declared as a national highway, and we should from our side move the Government of India to accept the road as such. Since then we have been moving not only for that portion of the road which is wanted now by Shri Barua but also for those portions which were mentioned in the speeches delivered by some of the Members of this House. If the House is willing to hear, I may read out all the correspondence that we have had with the Government of India. But I think it will not be necessary to waste the valuable time of the House by reading in detail all the letters that we had written to the Government of India in different stages and also the letters that we have received from them in details. If the House wants to hear them Sir, I am prepared to read them before the House. (*Voices from the Opposition—We want to hear the last letter.*)

The last letter to our last request was written.....

**Maulavi Muhammad UMARUDDIN:** Sir, we will not be able to understand the implication of the last letter received from the Government of India unless the last letter written by our Government is also read out.

**Shri RAM NATH DAS (Minister):** I am prepared to read it. As I have already stated that the first move was made by our Colleague, Shri Omeo Kumar Das. He proposed like this, that the North Trunk Road should be included as a national highway and the Government of India.....

**Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister):** Only the last letter, and not the first letter what the Members wants to be read.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The resultant effect of your last correspondence.

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister):** In the meantime I would like to say that on the 3rd August 1946 the Assam Government requested India for the inclusion of the North Trunk Road in the National Highway System; but India, by their letter dated 9th October 1946 declined to include the North Trunk Road in the National Highway System of India, and they pointed out the following figures to show how the National Highway mileage in Assam compares with the average



of all Governors' Provinces :—

Length of National Highways in miles				Assam	Average all Provinces
Per					
1	1,000 sq. miles of total area	...	...	20.5	17.3
2	1,000 „ „ of cultivable area	...	...	90	33
3	100 Nos. of Motor Vehicles	...	...	20.8	10.7
4	1,000,000 Nos. of inhabitants...	...	...	111	47

On 6th November 1947 a resolution unanimously adopted by the Assam Road Communication Board was forwarded to the Government of India requesting them to reconsider the proposal for inclusion of the North Trunk Road in the National Highway System of India. The Government of India regretted that they did not see any justification for a reconsideration of the decision communicated previously.

On 18th January 1951 a copy of the Resolution which was moved by Shri Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati, M.L.A. in the last Autumn Session of the Assembly and which was adopted unanimously was sent to the Government of India reiterating the same demand, but still the Government of India regretted their inability to include the North Trunk Road in the National Highways System of India. The Government of India stated that since the inception of the National Highways Scheme, not only Assam but many other States have been pressing for the inclusion of more and more of their roads in the National Highways System, but the Government of India have always had to adhere to their policy of not deviating from the mileage and financial limits that necessarily had to be set to their obligations in respect of the roads classed as National Highways. It may also be noted that these limits were set after a long process of detailed consideration by, and discussion between the Central and the State Government concerned. Sir, due to the financial stringency at the Centre the scope and pace of development of the National Highways System has been restricted according to limitations.

Another Resolution was adopted by the Assam Road Communication Board on 14th June 1952 and a copy of the same was sent under this Government's letter No. dated the 22nd July, 1952 requesting the Government of India to reconsider the matter.

Now, Sir, I am reading from the letter dated 6th February 1951 which was sent from the Government of India to the Development Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Transport and Industries Department, Shillong.

“Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. TIRY-72/50/18, dated 19th January 1951, which puts forward three proposals, namely, that the Central Government should undertake :—

1. Entire responsibility for developing and maintaining the Assam “North Trunk Road” by classing it as a National Highway.
2. Extension of the Assam Railway from Rangapara North to North Lakhimpur.
3. Replacement of the Tezpur-Balipara Tramway and extension of the Assam Railway from Rangapara North to Tezpur.

I am to say that proposals (2) and (3) will be dealt with by the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board).



As regards proposal (1) I am to observe that it had already been explained to the State Government (in the Government of India's previous letters quoted in the 3rd paragraph of your letter) that the facts—

- (a) that the North Trunk Road links up with the National Highway System ;
- (b) that it will open up large areas and improve agricultural conditions therein ; and
- (c) that the State Government's finances may not permit of the development of this road up to the standard desired, do not in themselves provide valid grounds for including that road in the National Highway System.

I am, therefore, to state that it is not possible for the Government of India to deviate from their policy of first developing the roads already included in that system. They wish also to await the passage of a National Highways Act before any new roads are included in that system.

In the circumstances explained, the Government of India regret that they are unable to agree to the State Government's proposal that the Government of India should take over the liability not only for the development but also the maintenance in perpetuity of the Assam North Trunk Road by including that road in the present National Highway System."

This is the 3rd reply we have got from the Government of India in 1951.....

**Mr. SPEAKER :** The House stands adjourned till 1-30 p.m.

#### Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 1-30 p.m..

#### After lunch

**Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the House was adjourned this morning, I was reading that letter which was the reply to our third request to the Government of India. If the House desires, I may read our letter with reference to which India gave that reply.

That letter was dated 18th January 1952, from D.C. Das, Esqr., i. c. s., Development Commissioner, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Railways. It says—"I am directed to enclose herewith copy of extract from the proceedings of the Assam Legislative Assembly which are self-explanatory, on a Resolution moved by Srijut Bejoy Chandra Bhagavati, M. L. A., in the last Autumn session of the Assembly, and to say that the Resolution was accepted by the Hon. Srijut Ramnath Das, Minister in charge, and adopted unanimously. I am also directed to add that this Government are in complete agreement with the sentiments expressed by that Member in the course of the debate. The Resolution is divided into three parts. The first part recommends taking over the North Trunk Road by the Government of India as National Highway. The second part recommends extension of the Assam Railway from Rangpara North to North Lakhimpur, and the third recommends replacement of the Tezpur-Balipara Railway by the Assam Railway. As regards declaration of the North Trunk Road as National Highway and inclusion of some new National Highway system of India, this Government had already moved the Government of India twice before, *vide* letter No. PWR. 38/45/6513, dated 3rd August 1946 and No. PWR. P/116/1199, dated 6th November 1947, but the proposals were turned down, *vide* Government of India's letters dated 9th October 1946



and dated 31st December 1947, on the ground that Assam is served better by National Highways in comparison with other States in India. Moreover, Assam is linked with the rest of India by National Highway No. 31 which is a new construction." The subsequent portions are with regard to the Railway and, therefore, I think I need not read this portion. Only the last part which says, "...The State Government with its limited resources are not in a position to maintain the road properly as the road negotiates many extremely troublesome hills, rivers and streamlets. All the recommendations embodied in the Resolution are of imperative necessity and of vital interest to this backward State, but bearing in mind the financial handicaps of the Government of India themselves, this Government would suggest the following order of priority to the recommendations :—

(1) Taking over the North Trunk Road by the Government of India as a National Highway and its maintenance as such". It will be seen that we have given the highest priority to this item, namely, taking over by the Government of India of the North Trunk Road and its maintenance as such. Then, item (2) "Extension of the Assam Railway from Rangapara to North Lakhimpur and (3) Replacement of the Tezpur-Balipara Tramway Company and extension of the Assam Railway from Rangapara to Tezpur". The letter further says—"This Government are convinced that Assam's peculiar position, conditions and responsibilities, necessitates special treatment. During the recent earthquake and the floods that followed in its wake the entire lifeline of the State was paralysed and air-dropping of essential food stuffs had to be resorted to. Sufficient materials have been given in the Assembly discussions in support of the case". That is the context of our request in a nutshell. And in the last part the letter says—"I am to add that the general public opinion in Assam including that of the people inhabiting the tribal belts as well as the mercantile community supports this opinion which in fact is an inescapable conclusion following from the relevant facts stated". This was our third request, Sir. To this request the reply that we received from the Government of India was the letter that I read out before the House was adjourned for lunch.

Then, again we submitted another representation dated 22nd July 1952 which is our fourth request. This is rather a very lengthy letter, Sir, in which were described all the stages of our correspondence from beginning to end. I think I need not read this letter, Sir, as it will take a long time—it contained 8 pages. But I will only give the gist. That is, that we have narrated from beginning to end all our correspondence. But in the meantime, before any reply to this last letter of our Government was received by us from the Government of India, the Committee of Experts headed by Mr. Ayyangar came to Assam, before whom the Chief Minister placed a Memorandum regarding this road. As a result of this Memorandum we have got an assurance which is their last say in the matter. If necessary I may read that letter in which that assurance is contained. It is dated 30th August 1952—From Shri K. Ranganathan, Under-Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of Assam, Public Works Department, on the subject—"Proposed construction of bridges over the Ranganadi, Buroi and Dikrong rivers on the North Trunk Road (Tezpur-North Lakhimpur section). I am directed to say that Shri H. P. Mathrani, Consulting Engineer, Government of India (Roads), who inspected the system of communications in the North Bank of the Brahmaputra river recently, has recommended that the North Assam Trunk Road from Tezpur to North Lakhimpur should be made an all-weather road as there is no railway line in this area. He has recommended that this section of the road has reasonably good surface at present and that what is immediately necessary is to erect four bridges over (1) Gia Bhorali, estimated to cost



about 50 lakhs and the other three Buroi, Dikrong and Ranganadi crossings estimated to cost about 40 lakhs altogether.

It appears that a bridge has been provided on the Ranganadi crossing but it was partly washed away during the last earthquake. In the estimate for earthquake damage restoration, which is to be financed half by the Central Government and half by the State Government, a provision of 10 lakhs has been made for the construction of the Ranganadi bridge.

The Consulting Engineer to the Government of India (Roads) considers that the construction of the proposed bridge at Jea Bhoralu can be held over for the present, as there are power driven ferries at this crossing to cater for road traffic. He has recommended that the construction of the two smaller bridges at the Buroi and Dikrong crossings should be taken up as soon as possible.

The Government of India agree generally with the recommendations of the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India (Roads). They are prepared to offer a grant to the Assam Government from the Central Road Fund (Ordinary) Reserve equivalent to half the cost of the two proposed bridges over the Buroi and Dikrong rivers, subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 15 lakhs".

This was the last thing we got from the Government of India as a result of our repeated requests made to them to take over and maintain the North Trunk Road.

Sir, before we got this communication there was a discussion here in Shillong with the Expert Committee and our Governor, the Chief Minister and some of our Ministers. We placed our demands regarding this road in that discussion and they explained their difficulties and ultimately we had to agree to accept the offer they made then. At that stage they asked us to keep it confidential, but now the offer has been confirmed by India *vide* extracts from their last letter which I read out. On the top of this if we now make immediately further request about this road, the Government of India will not agree to accept this request. We, therefore, feel that we should at this stage accept whatever help we are getting from the Government of India and start construction of the bridges, meeting half of the cost from our State revenues and after sometime we should move the Government of India again and not now. I would therefore appeal to my Friend, Mr. Sarveswar Barua, not to press his Resolution. I, however, thank him in giving us an opportunity for explaining the different steps taken so far for this road. With these few words, I would again request him to withdraw his Resolution.

**Shri SARVESWAR BARUA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, after hearing what our Government have done in this matter and what offer the Central Government have already held out to us for taking up the construction of the bridges, and after hearing that our Government would take up this matter after the bridges are made, I think, Sir, I should not press this Motion and I beg leave of the House to withdraw it.

At the same time I would like, and I think this is the sense of the House also, that the proceedings of to-day's debate should be sent to the Government of India with a view to strengthen our cause.



**Mr. SPEAKER** :—Has the hon. mover got leave of the House to withdraw his Resolution ?

*Voices* :—Yes.

*A voice* :—No.

**Mr. SPEAKER** :—Then I put the Resolution itself.

The question is that: "This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Union Government for taking up the North Trunk Road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur as a National Highway."

(The question was negatived.)

**Shri SARVESWAR BARUA** : The question to be put was whether the House granted me leave to withdraw the motion or not.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister)** : May I make a submission, Sir, in this connection for our future guidance ? In such cases the practice hitherto has been (of course, you are at liberty to introduce a new convention) that when a Member wants to withdraw a Resolution he begs for the leave of the House and the Speaker ascertains whether the majority of the Members are in favour of granting him leave to withdraw or not. That is the form in which the question is put. If it is found that the majority is not in favour of granting him leave, the leave is disallowed and then the original Resolution is put to the House. The question of leave is to be decided first by the vote of the House.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : I am grateful to Mr. Mookerjee for his new suggestion. I do not know what was the practice here, but the general procedure obtaining elsewhere is that the granting of leave to a Member to withdraw his Motion should be unanimous. If, however, there is any dissentient voice, the Chair has no other alternative but to put the original Motion. I have followed this procedure.

**Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister)** : We bow down to your ruling, Sir.

**Mr. SPEAKER** : Thank you.

**Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the Government have already introduced a Bill wherein the object of my \*Resolution has been included, I do not like to move the next Resolution standing in my name.

**Resolution regarding formation of a Board to proceed with the Work of Registration and Listing in pursuance of the recommendation of the Assam Homeopathic Enquiry Committee**

**Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :—

"In pursuance of the recommendations of the Assam Homeopathic Enquiry Committee, this Assembly is of opinion that a Board consisting of the Inspector

\*Shri Nilmami Phookan—This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to amend the Assam Adhiars Protection and Regulation Act of 1948 in such a way so as to give the tenants occupancy rights as well as incentive for cultivators to improve the land belonging to landlords.



General of Civil Hospitals, Assam, two Homeopathic doctors and two members of the Assembly be forthwith constituted to proceed with the work of Registration and Listing to avoid influx of quacks into the profession and that necessary expenses for the purpose be borne by the Government which will be reimbursed from the fees of Registration and Listing”.

Sir, this Resolution may be said to be an outcome of the recommendations of the Assam Homeopathic Enquiry Committee which was constituted by the end of 1950 with Col. Chopra as Chairman, myself as one of the members and Dr. Rudra Kanta Sarma as another member. Sir, this Committee was constituted by the Government. I will refer to the proceedings of 1950 when I tabled a Motion for devising ways and means for regulating the practice of Homeopathy. The Resolution ran thus: “That this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to set up a Provincial Board consisting of the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals, Assam, three recognised Homeopaths of repute, one Medical Practitioner of the Regular System and two members of the Legislative Assembly to be nominated by Government, to devise ways and means as to how the practice of Medicine and Medical Education pertaining to Homeopathy be regulated, eliminating treatment by quacks who have not only exploited innocent masses but endangered their lives too.”

After this Resolution was moved, the Hon'ble Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy, the then Minister for Medical, said at page 1161 of the Assam Assembly proceedings of the 7th October, 1950 as follows:—

“So, Madam, they recommended that there should be a Central Homeopathic Council first, then there will be Provincial Boards. But these Provincial Boards can be properly set up when there are colleges and institutions to give training in Homeopathy. At the present juncture, Madam, it is not possible for the Government of Assam to constitute a regular standing Provincial Board. Nevertheless we propose to accept the principle of this Resolution by asking the hon. Mover to accept a small committee which will do the same thing preliminarily. When this Committee has functioned and submitted its recommendations to the Government and when also the Central Government has set up its Central Council, then and only then a real Provincial Standing Board can be constituted for the sake of controlling the homeopathy system of treatment in the State.” Sir, after this Resolution was accepted this Committee was set up and we made enquiries moving throughout all the Districts of Assam. We found that Homeopathy system was quite popular almost in all the Districts and we found that about 1,000 applications from the rural Homeopaths came to us and there were many more, I presume, who did not apply. Altogether I guess that there would be about 3 to 4 thousand Homeopaths in Assam, the figure throughout India will be about 30 lakhs. Now, Sir, the purpose of my present Resolution is to constitute a Provincial Board which will regulate and check quacks coming into this profession of homeopathic treatment. In the name of Homeopathy, Sir, we find people carry a little bag and one stethoscope and we also find that injections of Homeopathy-medicines are given which I believe is not a practice amongst the regular Homeopaths, and it is also noticed that in some places, owing to these quacks some valuable lives have been lost. Therefore, Sir, my Resolution seeks to have such a Board as in Bengal which was constituted on 1st April, 1943 on the order of the Government of Bengal dated 24th June 1941. Of course there it is called ‘the Bengal State Faculty of Homeopathic Medicine’. I read a few portions about the functions of this Board:—

“(a) The registration of homeopathic practitioners according to rules and regulations made by them and approved by the Local Government ;



(b) to enable persons who desire to practice medicine according to homeopathic system after proper training and on passing examination to receive a diploma or license testifying to their adequate training and proficiency in these subjects ;

(c) to advise the Government and the general public on all matters relating to the advancement of homeopathic studies and medical relief ;

(d) to appoint sub-committees for the above purpose ; and

(e) to register and control the homeopathic pharmacies and homeopathic charitable institutions of Bengal under rules framed from time to time by the Council and approved by the Local Government".

We also find that in Bihar there is a similar Board which was constituted by the order of the Government of Bihar dated 5th June 1948, and in Bombay, Madhya Pradesh and United Provinces there are Acts to regulate the practice of Homeopathy. I have been informed by some associations that at present the Medical Council of India has rather supported the minority report of the All India Homeopathy Enquiry Committee in which they say that this homeopathy should be a post-graduate study only and it should not have its own individuality. Sir, I would refer to the Medical Council Resolution which runs as follows :—

The Resolution, moved by Dr. K. C. K. E. Raja, Director General of Health Services, said : "There are such fundamental differences in theory and practice between modern medicine, the indigenous systems of medicine and homeopathy that it would be most unsatisfactory from the point of view of the interests of students and of the advancement of these systems, to arrange for simultaneous teaching of modern medicine and of any of these other systems during the undergraduate course in modern medicine.

The study of indigenous systems and of homeopathy should, therefore, be promoted only at post-graduate course of training after the intending practitioner has obtained basic qualifications in modern medicine as is the case in respect of homeopathy in the United Kingdom, Europe and America".

The Council, the resolution said, considered it essential that every person trained hereafter should have a basic qualification in modern medicine in order that the provision of adequate medical care, curative and preventive, to the civil population and to the Armed Forces might be facilitated.

Sir, to this the State Faculty of Bengal has taken serious objection and they had sent resolutions to the Government of India which I am reading :—

"At a meeting of the General Council held on 1st May 1952 the following resolutions were passed regarding the recent decision of the Medical Council of India :

1. This Council views with great disappointment the decision of the Medical Council of India to the effect that there should exist only one system of medicine, in India, namely the modern system, with a minimum uniform standard as prescribed by the Medical Council of India.

2. This Council strongly reiterates its demand for teaching Homeopathy during the undergraduate course either as a bicameral system in a common medical institution (as suggested by the President, Medical Council of India) or preferably in a completely separate Homeopathic medical institution.



3. This Council is strongly of opinion that Homeopathy is not a subject for post-graduate study for graduates in modern medicine. Homeopathy is not an extension of the modern medicine (the so-called Allopathic medicine) but a supplantation of it.

4. This Council strongly feels that the introduction of the teaching of Homeopathy only at a so-called post-graduate level is impracticable psychologically, physiologically and economically; and that this arrangement might lead to rapid strangling of the Homeopathic profession and eventual extinction of its practice in the country, due to shortage of human materials.

5. This Council considers that the establishment of a Central Council of Homeopathy as envisaged in the Homeopathic Enquiry Committee Report, not subservient to M. C. I., is essentially necessary for the healthy growth of Homeopathy conducive to the best interests of the people. The Central Council should be directly responsible to the Health Ministry of Government of India. It will be the function of this Central Council to frame syllabus of study of Homeopathic and other auxiliary subjects satellite to medicine according to the needs of a complete Homeopathic physician.

6. This Council is of considered opinion that the scientific techniques adopted for research-works for each system of medicine must vary according to the distinctive approach of each system for the investigation of disease—Phenomena, drug-actions and other problems of general interest in medicine.

7. This Council requests the Central Government not to be guided by the recommendations of the M. C. I., but to abide by and put into immediate effect the recommendations of the Homeopathic Enquiry Committee Report as accepted *in toto* in the Third Health Ministers' Conference.

8. The Council likes to draw the attention of the Central Government that the M. C. I., as constituted under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933, has no *locus standi* to pass resolutions regarding systems of medicines other than the modern medicine [*Vide* Act XXVII of 1933, The Preamble and Sec. 2(d)]".

Here I am just quoting from the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933. The Preamble says—“Whereas it is expedient to constitute a Medical Council in India in order to establish a uniform minimum standard of higher qualifications in medicine for all provinces; it is hereby enacted as follows, etc: Now Section 2 (d) says, ‘medicine’ means modern scientific medicine and includes surgery and obstetrics, but does not include veterinary medicine and surgery.” So their contention is that the M. C. I. cannot pass resolutions regarding other systems of medicine like Homeopathy or Unani or Ayurvedic medicine.

9. “This Council considers the resolution of the M. C. I. regarding the indispensability of having a basic qualification in modern medicine in order that the provision of adequate medical care, curative and preventive, to the Civil population and to the Armed Forces might be facilitated—as highly fallacious. This Council requests the Central Government to take note of relevant sections No.31,32,46,47,48,49,58,59,60,63 of the Homeopathic Enquiry Committee Report.

10. This Council is strongly opposed to the idea sponsored by the M. C. I. of having only one system of medicine current in the country. It is of considered opinion that the days for one system of medicine are still far off as it has got to be a synthetic system of medicine which will accommodate and rightly assess the different methods of approach to the study of diseases and drug-actions



which have resulted in the evolution and practice of different systems of medicine, the therapeutic efficacy of each of which has been firmly acknowledged by the professionals and the laity as well, and the existence of which systems is unmistakably justified by the popular demand in spite of modern medical-system-ridden State apathy, and in many ways, active antagonism.

11. This Council draws the attention of the Central Government to the fact that a dissentient report made by two allopathic members of the said Committee was incorporated in the body of unanimous report during the publication of the Report of the Homeopathic Enquiry Committee, 1940 by the Ministry of Health Government of India and that this report has been apparently taken into consideration and upheld by the M. C. I. and that the acceptance of the recommendations of M. C. I. would be virtually to accept the minority dissensions of a Committee appointed by the Government itself."

Now, Sir, it appears that there is a sort of tug-of-war between the Medical Council of India and the acknowledged Homeopaths of India. Sir, I have no objection if this Resolution is thrown out if a uniform policy is adopted in all the States of India. We find in the State of Bengal there is a Board to control the Homeopaths and in Bombay, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh there are Acts to regulate the practice of Homeopathy. So, Sir, my humble submission is that if we accept this Resolution and have a Board then we shall give permission to practise to those who are qualified Homeopaths, who are registered under the Assam Medical Act and those who have foreign degrees and those who can pass the test in Homeopathy which will be conducted by this Board. Apart from these three categories, those who are in practice for five to six years, may also be allowed to practise and they may be listed. In some States those who are in the practice for 7 to 10 years have also been allowed to practise. In our report we have been lenient. We have fixed the period to be three years only for the purpose of listing. So if we have these categories of Homeopaths, then the public will be vigilant and they will be in a position to know whether they are approaching a quack or a qualified Homeopathic doctor. So the purpose of this Resolution is to have a Board which will take into account the cases of those Homeopaths who are practising in Assam, and this Board can have an Examining Body and they may also make rules subject to the approval of the Government as in Bengal. Sir, after we have done this, we can pass an Act, say a Bill to punish quacks, or a Bill regulating the practice of Homeopathy. This Board in my Resolution will have done the preliminary portions of the work. That is the point, Sir, why I have brought this Resolution. I believe our Government, who have been rather keen to have an Enquiry Committee will give some status to the Homeopaths who are practising in Assam, and may well afford to set up immediately a Board to stop quacks coming into the field.

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

**Mr SPEAKER:** The Resolution moved is that in pursuance of the recommendations of the Assam Homeopathic Enquiry Committee, this Assembly is of opinion that a Board consisting of the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals, Assam, two Homeopathic doctors and two members of the Assembly be forthwith constituted to proceed with the work of Registration and Listing to avoid influx of quacks into the profession and that the necessary expenses for the purpose be borne by Government which will be reimbursed from the fees of Registration and Listing.



**M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very much indebted to the hon. Member for bringing this Resolution before this House as it deals with one of the burning problems of the day.

The homeopathic practice in this country has assumed a great importance and as such it requires to be controlled from the side of the State. There was a time when the science of homeopathy itself was considered as a quackery and, therefore, many countries in the world did not give recognition to it, but the very fact, that this branch of medicine has earned great popularity amongst common men it must be realised that there is something in it, and it is time that this is not neglected, as it had been, but controlled by the State.

The practice of medicine was controlled by an Act of the Central Government, viz., the Indian Medical Degrees Act, 1916, by which the Government of India laid down some definite qualifications and titles for practising medicine. But, Sir, in doing so, it deliberately did not include Unani, Homeopathic and Ayurvedic systems of medicine. Subsequently in 1943, another Act was passed, viz., Indian Medical Council Act of 1943, to give the Indian Medical Council supervisory powers over certain 'Western System of Medical Education'. This time also homeopathy was excluded. But what was and is the result? As stated in course of the speech in moving the Resolution by the hon. Member that there was a tug-of-war going on between the Medical Council and the Homeopathic Scientists, over the question of recognition of Homeopathy. But, Sir, in this way Homeopathic Science could not be neglected any longer. An Enquiry Committee was appointed by the Government of India in 1948 and this Enquiry Committee after going through all the pros and cons of the matter made certain observations, in course of which they recommended to the Government of India for the establishment of a Council of Homeopathic Medicine in India which would have powers to control through Provincial Boards or Councils:—

“(i) The standard, equipment and training of affiliated homeopathic institutions ; (ii) standard of examinations to be held for homeopathic students ; (iii) registration of existing homeopathic practitioners ; and (iv) homeopathic pharmacies, pharmaceutical laboratories and manufacturing concerns.”

But, unfortunately, nothing has yet been done by the Centre to establish such a Council. Some of the States, however, as has already been mentioned by the hon. Mover, have taken steps in this direction. As for example, the State of Bengal took up this question in 1941 and they decided to have a Council on the same line by a Resolution of the Government and actually some time after a Council was established for the control of homeopathic medicine and its practice and distribution, etc. But the step taken by the Government of Bengal is not as effective as it seems on an apparent look. After getting the notice of this Resolution, I made a reference to the Secretary of the General Council and State Faculty of Homeopathic Medicine, West Bengal on the other day to know as to what extent they have been successful in stopping quackery or unregistered Homeopathic practice in that State. I have been informed by the Secretary that although a Council had been established by the Government of West Bengal, but the Act cannot and have not been able 'to stop quackery or unregistered practice in Homeopathy.' These are the actual wordings, the Secretary used in his letter to me. Therefore, I say, Sir, this Resolution, if passed, will not be able to protect us fully from the evils of quackery. To take a step towards stopping practice of quacks we should immediately start compilation of a regular register of qualified Homeopathic doctors together with their qualifications. This would stop further



infiltration of unqualified doctors. If we have too many quacks, it would put us to difficulties. It is not unknown to the Members of this House that when the Government decided to grant loans, advances, etc., to the refugees, homeopathic doctors have become more cheap and common and you will to-day find display of signboards of these doctors here and there with alleged degrees containing words from A to Z, of which, if you make any attempt to find meaning thereof you cannot possibly find those in the dictionary. These people in order to get greater help from Government pose, if nothing is available, as Homeopaths, by purchasing a box of homeopathic medicine and one or two books. So, Sir, in the present context of things, this Resolution has assumed greater importance and as such, we must take immediate steps to stop such unauthorised and further infiltration to save the lives of the people. So, I would request the hon. Members to accept this Resolution so that a Council is established in the line of the reports of the Homeopathic Committee appointed by the Government of Assam to examine this matter in details so that in near future we may be able to control the practice of Homeopathic medicine fully by a full-fledged Act to be passed by this Legislature. This is absolutely necessary prior to the passing of the Act itself to fulfil the real object of such an Act. I know that the Central Government is also moving in this matter, but we may not wait so long as there is no harm in our taking a good measure. If this Resolution is accepted today and we satisfactorily work in the line of this Resolution, then in the next Session we can possibly come forward with a Bill by which we may be able to control the practice on homeopathic medicine and also the homeopaths.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Shri Rajendra Nath Barua.

**Shri NILMANI PHOOKAN :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, life is cheap for diseases. It is still cheaper for the quacks. As such this Resolution which is meant for preventing quacks from practising homeopathic medical treatment and treat the lives of men as very cheap, is commended to the Assembly for acceptance. If there is a tussle between the Medical Council and the Homeopaths and if homeopathy has to be established as a full-fledged medical treatment, of course, it does not mean also that I believe in homeopathy as unscientific, still the very fact that it is not accepted as a reliable science even by the highest Medical profession, it is all the more reasonable that this Resolution cannot wait any longer. If that be the case, it is our sad experience that in the interior of our State, we have seen that unwary and unsophisticated villagers who allow these quacks access to enter their homes, they are using the sick people as a prey rather than heal them. Some of the quacks with homeopathic bags, even go to the extent of injecting *Kala-azar* patients. I know of such doctors in my own part of the country where in the *Kala-azar* affected areas, where there is a *Kala-azar* Hospital also, our ignorant people engage them for *Kala-azar* treatment. This is a serious thing. Even in fell diseases, they apply medicine and create havoc in the interior. They make it a means of their livelihood not for healing the ailing humanity but for their total elimination. As such, Sir, we cannot tolerate this class of people in our midst. Therefore, Sir, if the Resolution is accepted by the House, at least it will have one effect and that is that we will be in a position to know those persons who have definitely some knowledge of Homeopathy, some diploma and some genuine knowledge of the science. As one of my Friends has already said that those persons who have no means of livelihood in their houses, take up Homeopathy as a vocation and come to the countryside for treatment. It costs the dear lives of many unwary people. As such, I am sure, Sir, the Resolution will receive due consideration from all sections of the House and that the Government will have no objection to accept the Resolution.



**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other day in reply to a Question put by the Mover of the Resolution I said that this Question was under consideration of the Government of India for formulating a common policy in the matter. By this Resolution the hon. Mover wants to constitute a Homeopathic Board for the purpose of registration and listing of the Homeopaths. I do not understand how this can be done without first having a legislation. I have already said on that day that we have got a definite instruction from the Government of India, and for the information of the hon. Members I may read the relevant portions. First we received a letter from the Government of India dated the 20th October 1949 which runs—I am quoting only the relevant portions:—

“The Government of India are of opinion that it will not be desirable for the provinces to embark on any legislation which might render difficult the implementation of the decision which may be taken on the report of the Committee. For any hasty action in the matter is likely to create difficulties in the way of integrated progress of the medical science which both the Central Government and the Provincial Government desire. I am to express the hope that the Provincial Government will accept this ”

Now Sir, after this we also sent another reminder asking the Government of India to let us know as to how the matter stood in the year 1951. We received a reply dated 7th September 1951 as follows:—

“With reference to your letter dated the 14th August 1951 on the subject mentioned above, I am directed to say that the matter is still under consideration of the Medical Council of India whose views are still awaited”.

After that also recently we sent another reminder to which we received the following reply. This letter is dated 5th March 1952:

“With reference to your letter dated the 19th February 1952 on the subject mentioned above, I am directed to say that the Government of India are still awaiting the views of the Medical Council of India.”

Sir, this is the position. In view of this and what I have already stated and the fact that a Committee was appointed under the chairmanship of the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals, of which the Mover of this Resolution was also one of the members, it will be quite apparent that this Government is also very keen to put a stop to the harm done by the quacks. As soon as the Government of India comes to a decision regarding formulation of a common policy in the matter, we shall certainly take up the matter and see how best we can have our Homeopaths trained. Sir, in view of what I have stated, I request the Mover to withdraw his Resolution.

**Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA:** Have the Government of India asked the other States also to move on this matter on the same line ?

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister):** I cannot say, Sir, but as the whole of India is concerned, I think, the Government of India might be issuing similar directions to other States also.

**Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA:** Sir, in view of what the Hon'ble Minister has said, I have no objection to withdraw my Resolution.



**Mr. SPEAKER:** Is it the pleasure of the House that the Motion be withdrawn?

**Voices from the Government Benches:** Yes, yes.

**A voice from the Opposition—**No, Sir.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I would now like to point out the rule regarding withdrawal of a Resolution. You will find in May's Parliamentary Practice, 15th Edition at page 387 the following:—

“The Member who has proposed a motion can only withdraw it by leave of the House, granted without any negative voice. This leave is signified, not upon question, as is sometimes erroneously supposed, but by the Speaker taking the pleasure of the House. He asks, ‘Is it your pleasure that the motion be withdrawn?’ If no one dissents, he says, ‘The motion is by leave withdrawn’: but if any dissentient voice be heard, or a Member rises to continue the debate, he proceeds to put the question as the motion cannot now be withdrawn even though the dissentient subsequently signifies that he has no longer any objection to that course.”

There is also a ruling given in our own Central Legislature which runs as follows:—

“A Member asking leave to withdraw his motion after it had been debated upon, the President declared it had been withdrawn, when Pandit Motilal Nehru asked why the motion was not put as he had said ‘No’.”

The President said: “I must regret I did not hear that. When I put the request for leave to withdraw, the hon. Member did not rise in his place in order to say ‘No’, otherwise I should have seen him and the matter would have gone to a division. Where leave is refused, then the decision on the motion must rest with the House. But where leave is not refused, the reduction proposed is automatically withdrawn.”

Before adjourning the House for the day:

The President explained further the procedure regarding withdrawal of motions as follows:

“Before I adjourn the House I think I should perhaps offer a word of explanation regarding the course which I took in putting the request for leave to withdraw a motion. The Parliamentary practice is that when an hon. Member having moved a motion, rises to ask leave to withdraw, if that leave is objected to, in the House of Commons the question is put forthwith without further debate, and I propose to follow that course here. If it does not happen to suit condition in the Legislative Assembly then any necessary amendment to the procedure can be made in the Standing Orders. It so happens that never before has a request for leave to withdraw been objected to, and I did not actually hear Pandit Motilal Nehru when he rose in his place. Therefore, I want to make



quite clear the procedure I adopt, and that I propose to adhere to, unless in good time the Select Committee on the Standing Orders should take another view, which it is perfectly entitled to take."

So I propose to follow the above practice.

**Maulavi FAIZNUR ALI:** Sir, Rule 50(2) of the Assam Legislative Assembly Rules also supports your above ruling.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Yes, it is quite true. But my attention has been drawn to a ruling published in the Assam Legislative Assembly Proceedings of the 5th December 1938, which I do not like to follow, and which is contrary to what I have said already. I therefore rule that in this present case and also in future any single dissentient voice can put the House into a division. Here is the authority of May: "A Member who has proposed a motion can only withdraw it by leave of the House, granted without any negative voice."

The House is in seisin of the Motion and a single Member can refuse withdrawal of the same.

(The Resolution of Shri Sarveswar Barua was then put and lost.)

**Resolution regarding bringing a Temple Administration Bill for the better management of temple affairs and temple properties.**

**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of the fact that constant clashes are going on between the Dalois and the Paiks, Shebais and tenants in almost all the temples of Assam and in view of the fact that many of the Dalois have failed to pay the Government dues and the temple properties have been attached for non-payment of Government revenue and Puja and Bhog have to be stopped in some of the temples due to mismanagement by the Dalois, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do immediately bring a Temple Administration Bill for the better management of the temple affairs and temple properties.

Sir, the Ahom Kings gave land for rendering services to the temples and for performance of Puja and Bhog of the temples. There are two kinds of such properties, one is Paikan land and the other is Bhogdhani land. The Paikan lands were given for rendering services to the temples and the Bhogdhani lands were meant for performance of Puja and Bhog of the temples. The Paikan lands were in occupation of Bardeuris and non-Bardeuris. During the British regime some time in 1835, the British Government assessed these lands and Paiks had to pay half the land revenue to the Government and settled the lands which were in occupation of the Bardeuris with them and the lands which were in occupation of Non-Bardeuris remained in the name of the temples and were managed by the Dalois. The Dalois used to manage these temple lands and they practically became the owners of the lands, and they realised rents from Paiks and Shebais; some of them misappropriated the money, and as a result the Dalois failed to pay the land revenue to Government in some cases. So these temple lands had to be attached and the Dalois had to be removed in some places and as a result constant clashes are going on in some cases. These temples in Assam hold several lakhs of bighas of land. In Kamrup district alone there are 33 temples holding about one lakh 70 thousand bighas of land, the biggest of these temples in Kamrup district is Hyagrit Madhab Temple. This Temple holds about 55 thousand bighas of land and the annual income is about Rs.70,000. Kamakhya Temple holds about 45 thousand bighas of land, and the various other temples hold thousands of bighas of land. It is true that there are some other small temples holding very few bighas of lands.



Sir, due to the mismanagement of the temple affairs by the Dalois, the Puja and Bhog had to be stopped in some of the temples and in some temples Dalois had to be dismissed. There is no Daloi in the Umananda temple for the last 12 years as the Daloi had to be dismissed for mismanagement of the temple properties, and it had to be attached by the Government. Now for the last eight or nine months there is no Puja and Bhog in the Umananda temple. Similar is the case with Billeswar and other temples where Puja and Bhog have to be stopped. To improve all these things I request the Government of Assam to bring a Temple Administration Bill as has been done in Bengal and is now going to be done in Puri. Now in some cases schemes have been drawn up by the High Court, but it is not possible in all cases for the raiyats to bring scheme cases. A question may also arise that it will be an interference with the religious rights of the people, but I submit that this is not interference with religion but protection of the Hindu rites. So with these few words I commend my Resolution to the acceptance of the House and request the Government to bring a Temple Administration Bill for the better management of temple affairs and temple properties.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** The Resolution moved is: "That in view of the fact that constant clashes are going on between the Dalois and Paiks, Shebaites and tenants in almost all the temples of Assam and in view of the fact that many of the Dalois have failed to pay the Government dues and the temple properties have been attached for non-payment of Government revenue and Puja and Bhog have to be stopped in some of the temples due to mismanagement by the Dalois, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do immediately bring a Temple Administration Bill for the better management of the temple affairs and temple properties."

**Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise in support of the Resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Das. Huge plots of lands were given to the gods and goddesses of Assam for their Bhogdhani by the Ahom Kings, but due to the constant clashes amongst the Dalois and Paiks and among so many men that our gods and goddesses are starving. As our Government cannot allow our people to starve, in the same way our gods and goddesses also should not be allowed to starve. I hope, Sir, if necessary, our Supply Minister will bring out a law to ensure that our gods and goddesses should not starve. I do not want to discuss anything as regards administration of temples. So with these few words, I support the Motion that has been moved just now to make an Act so that our gods and goddesses do not starve.

**Shri MOHENDRA NATH DEKA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise in support of the Resolution moved by my Friend, Mr. Radhika Ram Das. Sir, some property of the temple at the time of the British rule has been kept as a Shebait (Service) land for the maintenance of the deity and administration of the temple. In the British rule this land is divided, one becomes personal property of the Brahmins and the other becomes the temple property. This property which was given by the Ahom kings to the Brahmins was meant for the Shebaites of the temple and was never the personal property of the Brahmins. It was in the year 1835 that the Brahmins took it to their head that since the property was given in their names, they wanted it to be remained so and to be settled as such. Accordingly Sir, practically half of this temple property which was at first given as a service land, is still standing in the names of some Brahmins as their personal property.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** What is the area of the land ?



**Shri MOHENDRA NATH DEKA :** May be about a lakh acres. Some of this property has been sold to non-Hindus and there are a number of cases lying before the courts for redeeming such land by those who want to redeem it for the temples. Also in many instances such land is sold to non-Brahmins, non-Hindus. If some of this property is sold as personal property even in these days of our present Government which is a Government by the people and for the people, then temple property or other public property will not be safe, it will soon go to the hands of undesirable people.

On the other hand Sir, the property which is given to the non-Brahmin Shebait of temple, is practically managed by the Brahmin Shebait. Dolois are elected by members of the Brahmin Shebait by practice and that practice is approved by the British Government and those elected Dolois are approved by the Deputy Commissioners under instruction of the then Government. He is elected Dolois of Shebait Brahmin and the temple property is practically his property. So, Sir the property which originally belong to non-Brahmin Shebait is practically managed by Brahmin Shebait, Dolois.

Again Sir, the revenue of these properties was at half rate granted in 1884 and from those days half the revenue is debited to the temple and half is paid to Government. In this way most of this revenue is wrongly utilised and misappropriated by the dolois in the name of the deity. The default of such revenue is for years together, not for one year or for two years, but it is for 20 years, and that is why the temple revenue is always in default. I know of the case of one big temple where the revenue was not paid for a long time. It is the duty of Government to look that public property are properly managed. It is also the duty of Government to bring in some legislation so that the property which is in the hands of personal possession of the Brahmin Shebait is returned to the temple and thereby ensure the safety of the public property so that they can be properly managed by its own income and not to be mis-managed by the person in whose name the property stands.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution.

**Shri CHANOO KHERIA :** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমার মাননীয় সভাপতিশ্রীবাৰ্দ্ধিকা বাম দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই আমাৰ দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ মাটি সম্বন্ধে এই সদনত যি প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিছে তাক মই সৰ্বান্তঃকৰণেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিবলৈকে আগ বাঢ়িছোঁ।

অসমৰ ইমূৰৰ পৰা সিমূৰলৈ এই দেৱ-দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ তলত থকা মাটিৰ এটা পিয়ল কৰিলে দেখা যাব যে প্ৰায় ৭ লাখ বিঘা মাটি এনেকৈ দখল হৈ আছে। এই মাটি বিলাক আহোম ৰজা সকলে দি গৈছিল; ইয়াত এটা আধ্যাত্মিক উদ্দেশ্য নিহিত আছিল। সেই কাৰণেই যাতে এই লাখীৰাজ মাটিবিলাকৰ আয়ৰ পৰা দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ ভোগ-পূজা আদি নিয়মিত ভাবে চলি থাকে তাৰ কাৰণে এইবিলাক মাটি দেৱালয়ৰ দলৈ সকলৰ তত্ত্বাবধানত দি গৈছিল। এই সম্পত্তিৰ তত্ত্বাবধানৰ কাৰণে যদিও কোনো আইন সঙ্গত নীতি নাছিল তথাপিও ধৰ্মসম্বন্ধীয় নীতি মানি চলাটোৱেই উদ্দেশ্য আছিল। এতিয়া শুনা যায় যে বৰ্তমান দলৈ সকলে যি নীতি গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে, সেই নীতি অনুসৰি যিবিলাক মানুহে চান্দামি দিলে সেইবিলাককেই দিয়ে। ইয়াৰ পৰা এইটোৱেই অনুমান হয় যে এনেকুৱা কাৰ্য্যকলাপ এটা সুস্থ আধ্যাত্মিক ভাৱৰ পৰিপন্থী। সঁচাকৈয়ে যদি দলৈ সকলৰ এনেকুৱা মনোবৃত্তি হয় ই আমাৰ দুখীয়া ৰাইজৰ উপকাৰৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে বেচি অপকাৰহে কৰিব। যি দেখা গৈছে, আমাৰ দুখীয়া মানুহবিলাকে ইতিমধ্যেই তাৰ কাৰণে জ্বালা-যন্ত্ৰণা ভোগ কৰিছে।



যি উদ্দেশ্যে আহোম বজা সকলে এই মাটি বিলাক দলৈ সকলৰ তত্ত্বাবধানত দি গৈছিল প্ৰকৃততে এই উদ্দেশ্যৰ বিশৃঙ্খলা ঘটিছে।

এতিয়া আমি গুনিবলৈ পাইছো যে আজি কেইবাবছৰো কিছুমান মঠ মন্দিৰত আনকি পূজা ভোগ আদিও চলা নাই। যদি সঁচাকৈ এইটোৱেই সত্য হয় তেন্তে বোধ কৰো সেইকাৰণেই দেৱ দেৱী সকলে আমাক অভিশাপ দিছে; আৰু হয়তো সেই কাৰণেই আমাৰ শান্তিপূৰ্ণ অসমত আজি কেইবছৰমান ধৰি বানপানী ভূমিকম্প আদি নানা প্ৰাকৃতিক দুৰ্য্যোগে দেখা দিছে (হাঁহি)। আগতে অসমত এনেকুৱা কেতিয়াও ঘটনা নাছিল। আজি ৯।১০ বছৰৰ আগতে এনেকুৱা জ্বালা যন্ত্ৰণাও আমাৰ মাজত নাছিল। মানুহবিলাকৰ স্বাস্থ্যও ভাল আছিল, আৰু অভাবো নাছিল। কিন্তু এতিয়া আমি দেখিছো সেইবিলাকে আমাক আগুৰি ধৰিছে। এনেকি আমাৰ অভাব অভিযোগৰ কাৰণে কৰা দাবী দাওৱা বিলাকো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে আওকাণ কৰি আহিছে (হাঁহি) বা পূৰণ কৰাত জোৰ দিয়া নাই।

যি হওক আমাৰ দুখীয়া মানুহবিলাকৰ ওপৰত যদি দলৈ সকলৰ এনেকুৱা অত্যাচাৰেই চলি থাকে তেন্তে আমাৰ আৰু বেচি বিপদ আহিব পাৰে। ধৰ্ম্মৰ নীতি ভঙ্গই কৰিছে যেতিয়া, দেৱালয়ৰ ভোগ আৰু পূজাৰ কাৰণে যি মাটি দিয়া হৈছিল, তাৰ অপব্যৱহাৰ কৰিছে যেতিয়া সেই মাটি বিলাকৰ তত্ত্বাবধানৰ ভাৱ চৰকাৰৰ হাতলৈ আনিলেও মোৰ বোধেৰে ধৰ্ম্মত হাত দিয়া কথা নহ'ব। গতিকে আহোম বজা সকলে এই দেৱ-দেৱীৰ পূজাৰ কাৰণে যি ৭ লাখ বিঘা মাটি দিছিল সেই ৭ লাখ বিঘাৰ পৰা আমাৰ চৰকাৰে ১ টকাকৈও যদি খাজনা পায় তাৰে এহাতে দেৱালয় বিলাকো ভালকৈ চলিব আৰু আনহাতে দুখীয়া নিৰ্যাতিত মানুহবিলাকৰো উপকাৰ হ'ব। কাজেই মই ভাবো, অতি সোনকালে ইয়াৰ এটা সুব্যৱস্থা কৰি যাতে দেৱালয় বিলাকতো ভোগ আৰু পূজা নিয়মিত ভাবে চলে তাৰ এটা দিহা কৰা নিতান্ত দৰ্কাৰ। সেই কাৰণে মই আমাৰ চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো গ্ৰহণ কৰি সেই বিষয়ে এটা ভাল ব্যৱস্থা কৰে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই আমাৰ দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমর্থন কৰিছো।

**Shri MOHENDRA HAZARIKA :** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে, সেই প্ৰস্তাৱ সমর্থন কৰোতে এই কথা কব খুজিছো যে আহোম বজা সকলে যিবিলাক মাটি দ'ল দেৱালয়ক দিছিল, সেইবিলাক মাটি দলৈ বা অন্যান্য মানুহ অৰ্থাৎ অদলৈ সকলেও খোৱা দেখা যায়। কিন্তু যি দেৱতাৰ নামত এই দেৱালয়ৰ মাটি দিয়া হৈছিল সেই মাটিৰ আয় দেৱ-দেৱীৰ কামত লগোৱা হোৱা নাই। দ'ল দেৱালয়ৰ দলৈ বিলাকেহে জমিদাৰৰ দৰে ভোগ কৰিছে, অৰ্থাৎ নিজৰ কামত লগাইছে। আৰু সেই মাটিৰ প্ৰকৃত অধিকাৰীক বঞ্চিত কৰি যি মানুহে বেচি টকা দিব পাৰে তেনে মানুহ অহিন্দু সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ হলেও সেই মানুহক মাটি দি সাম্প্ৰদায়িকতাৰ অশান্তি বীজ সৃষ্টি কৰিছে। তাৰ ফলত সাম্প্ৰদায়িক দাঙ্গা হাঙ্গামাৰ উপক্ৰম হৈছে। আহোম বজা সকলে যি কামৰ কাৰণে এই মাটিবিলাক দিছিল তাৰ প্ৰকৃত কাম একো হোৱা নাই। দেৱতাৰ নামত ভোগ আদিতো দিয়া নহয়— আনকি দেৱ দেৱীৰ ওপৰত থকা পূৰ্বৰ মন্দিৰ আদি ভাঙি-চিঙি যোৱাৰ পিছত ঘৰ বা চালি এডোখৰৰো কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নাই। দেৱ-দেৱীৰ নামত যি হেজাৰ হেজাৰ টকা-পয়ছা গোটে খাই তাকো দলৈ বিলাকেই ব্যক্তিগত ভাবে ভোগ কৰিছে। সেই কাৰণে এই মাটিবিলাক চৰকাৰৰ হাতলৈ আনিব লাগে আৰু আহোম বজাসকলে যি উদ্দেশ্যে মাটিবিলাক দান দিছিল সেই উদ্দেশ্যে যাতে সফল হয় তাৰ কাৰণে যথোচিত ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই শ্ৰীযুত বাৰ্ধক্য ৰাম দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই অনা প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমর্থন কৰিছো।



**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is one of the rare instances where we in the Opposition have been able to agree with a Resolution moved by Members sitting on the Opposite. This is an important Resolution and as a matter of fact a very innocuous Resolution. The Resolution only wants that the Government should take step to bring in a Temple Administration Bill. It does not tie down the hands of the Government. The Government will take time to give deep thought into the matter and, after considering various aspects of the question, may come with a Bill before this House. Sir, I hope, Government will accept this Resolution. This is also an overdue Resolution, because, Sir, it is our desire that lands should really belong to the cultivators. In the present set up of things it may not be possible to transfer the ownership of lands to the cultivators. But surely it is possible to stop anarchy where anarchy really prevails and we have seen that in the administration of temple land and temple properties, there is utter anarchy and utter chaos to-day. My friend Mr. Das has stated how these temple properties have come into being. The Ahom Rajas gave these Devattar properties, temple properties only for the purpose of dieties residing in the temple. But as time has rolled on we see that instead of the god being the owner of the properties, the Dolois and other people have been usurping the properties and there is no hope to save the properties from their hands. I know a particular case just near my own house. The Satrakar dewaloi realise annual revenue of about Rs.9,000 and yet if one cares to go to this temple to see how the money is wasted will be horrified and how the money is usurped by people for whom it was not meant. Bhog is not given properly within the temple. During the time of Durga Puja things are not done in the manner they should be done. The heads of temple is the owner of thousands of rupees, but things are done in a bad way, money is shown to have been spent, but is not actually spent. Sir, as a matter of fact there is exploitation not only of the gods but also of the tenants, also other people who live on those lands. We have seen how oppressive the landlord Dolois can be. Sir, this kind of oppression should be stopped. As in Madras and Orissa these temple properties should be in the hands of the Government so that the power of the Dolois can be curbed and things done in a better way so that not only the gods can live there but also the people can live and serve for the god.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution and hope that Government will see its way to accept the Resolution.

**Swami KRISHNANANDA BRAHMACHARI:** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য সকলে যদি ঈশ্বর বা ভগবান বা God আছে বুলি বিশ্বাস করে তেনেহলে আপোনালোকে এইটোও বিশ্বাস করিব যে তাহানির বজা সকলে ঈশ্বর বা দেবদেবীর পূজার কারণেই মাটি দান দিছিল। বর্তমানে যদি সেই মাটি বাবী বোর অপচয় হৈছে বুলি ভাবে আর মথাবিহিত দেব-দেবীর পূজা সেবা হোরা নাই বুলি ভাবে তেনেহলে তাব ব্যৱস্থা অতি সোনকালে করা উচিত হব। এনেকুরা দেৱালয় বহুতো আছে যাৰ আয়তকৈ ব্যয়হে বেচি। যদি গৱৰ্ণ মেণ্টে সমস্ত দেৱালয় হাতত লব ইচ্ছা কৰে তেনেহলে তাৰ কি ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে? যদি মথ মন্দিৰ বোৰ চৰকাৰে হাতত লোৱাৰ ইচ্ছা কৰে তেনেহলে আগৰ বজা সকলৰ দৰে সমস্ত মথ মন্দিৰত পূজা পাতল নিয়মিত ভাবে যাতে হয় তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগিব। কিন্তু কথা হৈছে তেতিয়া দেৱ-দেবী, বা ঈশ্বৰৰ পুতি সকলোৰে বিশ্বাস আছিল আৰু শ্ৰদ্ধাও আছিল। কিন্তু বৰ্তমান আমাৰ চৰকাৰে সেই ভক্তি শ্ৰদ্ধাৰে চলোৱা সম্ভৱ হব বুলি ভাবেনে? কোচবিহাৰৰ দেৱালয় বোৰ চৰকাৰে হাতত লৈ সি অৱস্থাত পেলাইছিল সেইটো আমি শুনিবলৈ পাইছো। সেই কাৰণে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপিত হৈছে তাক মই সম্পূৰ্ণ সম্মত নকৰো। কিন্তু বিল খন পাচ হোৱাৰ আগতে গৱৰ্ণ মেণ্টে যাতে সকলো ফালৰ পৰা চিন্তা কৰি চায় এয়ে মোৰ কব লগীয়া কথা।

**Maulavi MD. UMARUDDIN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall be confining my speech only with regard to the administrative aspect of Temple lands.



Sir, I had the opportunity of associating myself with the administration of Temple lands about 17 years back. During the depression years of 1932 to 1936, there was a spate of Bakijai cases in Kamrup district in which many Dolois were involved. Sir, the Dolois, etc., who were managing Temple lands and properties of the Lakheraj and *Nisf-khiraj* Estates were in the nature of heirs of these endowments made originally by the Ahom kings and subsequently also recognised by the British rulers. Sir, I discovered certain basic difficulties standing in the way of the Dolois, etc., in realising the rents from the tenants. There were not even records properly maintained by the Revenue staff of Temple lands settled with tenants. The Dolois who were responsible for payment of revenue to the Government, have no legal authority to realise the rent from the tenants, except through lengthy and costly civil suits. I do not think the law has been changed yet. That is why, Sir, the present difficulties of the Dolois arise from the absence of any laws by which they could get any real relief. I would like to be enlightened by the Hon'ble Revenue Minister if there is any proposal to enact any law like the Certificate Act. The Dolois in that case will get protection under such Act. It is no good blaming the Dolois only. Many Dolois explained to me their difficulties in this respects. It is most desirable, Sir, that we have a process by which they can realise the rents from the tenants more easily instead of going through expensive methods because among tenants there were many unwilling persons. The best provision would be anything on the line of the Certificate Act. It is known as the Bengal Certificate Act. This can apply as in the case of the Court of Wards Estates but I do not think the Temple lands can be taken under the Court of Wards.

Sir, the whole question of management and realisation of rents for Temple lands must be thoroughly examined. That can be done by a separate Bill so that the Dolois, etc., can be placed on a stronger footing in the matter of realisation of rents. Then only, Sir, it will serve the purpose for which the endowments were created.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution.

**Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI:** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, শ্রীবাধিকা বাম দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱ সমৰোপযোগী হৈছে যদিও প্ৰস্তাৱটো সম্পূৰ্ণ হোৱা নাই। কাৰণ প্ৰস্তাৱটোত কেৱল মঠ মন্দিৰৰ কথাহে আছে সত্ৰবিলাকৰ উল্লেখ নাই। সত্ৰবিলাকবোৰ কিছু মানৰ হাজাৰ হাজাৰ বিঘা নিষ্পিথেৰাজ মাটিৰ সম্পত্তি আছে। আজি ৪।৫ শ বছৰৰ আগতে দেৱালয় মঠ মন্দিৰৰ বাবে মাটি দিয়াৰ উদ্দেশ্য আছিল যে সেই কালত আমাৰ সমাজৰ শিক্ষা সভ্যতা জ্ঞান বিজ্ঞান সঙ্গীত শিল্প কলা ইত্যাদিৰ আৰু ধৰ্মৰ চৰ্চা হৈছিল। সমাজৰ ত্যাগী সাধু মহন্ত সকলৰ দ্বাৰা এই কেন্দ্ৰ বোৰত জ্ঞান বিজ্ঞান আৰু ধৰ্ম চৰ্চা হৈছিল, কেৱল ভগবানক ভোগ দিবলৈ আৰু পুৰুষিতৰ পেট পূৰাবলৈ এই বোৰ দল দেৱালয় সত্ৰ স্থাপন হোৱা নাছিল। কিন্তু বৰ্তমানে এই দেৱালয় বোৰত এটা সুবিধা বাদী সম্পত্তি ভোগ কৰা স্বার্থ জড়িত শ্ৰেণীৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। সেইটো শ্ৰেণীয়ে আজি ভগবানৰ নামত মাটি বাৰী ভোগ কৰি এটা ব্যক্তিগত মালিকানা জমীদাৰৰ নিচিনা শ্ৰেণীত পৰিণত হৈ সৰ্বসাধাৰণ ৰাইজক শোষণ কৰিছে। আজি আমাৰ এছেন্সলীত, এইটো সমস্যা হোৱা নাই যে ভগবানক খুৰাবলৈ বা মন্দিৰৰ ভোগ দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লোৱা বা নোলোৱা। সেই বোৰৰ বাবে বিল অনা গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ উদ্দেশ্য নহয়। মই কোৱাৰ আগতে এজন সদস্যই কৈছে যে ভগবানক ভোগ দিবৰ কাৰণে Supply Minister এ ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লব লাগে। ভগবান এনে দুৰ্বল নহয় যে ভগবানৰ ভোক পলাবৰ বাবে চৰকাৰে ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগিব। ভগবানৰ প্ৰতি যাৰ ভক্তি আছে সেয়ে নিজ নিজ বিশ্বাস অনুসৰে পূজা পাঁতল বা প্ৰাৰ্থনা কৰিব। ৰাষ্ট্ৰই ভগবানৰ যত্ন লব লাগে। ৰাষ্ট্ৰই মানুহৰ আৰু সমাজৰ হে যত্ন লব লাগিব।



ভগবানৰ নামত কিছুমান সুবিধাবাদী লোকে মাটি বাৰী ধনসম্পত্তি ভোগ কৰি জনসাধাৰণক শোষণ কৰিছে। দেৱালয়ত যিবোৰ দলৈ আছে তেওঁলোকৰ কিছুমান চতুৰ লোকে মাটিবাৰী বোৰ নিজৰ ব্যক্তিগত সম্পত্তি হিচাবে ভোগ কৰিছে। প্ৰায় বিলাক দেৱালয়তে আগৰ দৰে সেই ভোগ আৰু সমাজ সেৱা বা ধৰ্মচৰ্চাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থাই নাই। কিছুমান দেৱালয় আছে (যেনে হাজো) যিবিলাকত দলৈৰ নিবৰ্চন হয় গোটেই জীৱিত কালৰ বাবে। এবাৰ দলৈ নিবৰ্চন হলে বেয়া কাম কৰিলেও দলৈক ভাঙিবৰ কাৰো সাধ্য নাই। ধন সম্পত্তি ব্যক্তিগত ভাবে ভোগ কৰাৰ সুবিধা থকা বাবে দলৈ নিবৰ্চনৰ সময়ত তেওঁলোকে টকা পইছ'ও খৰছ কৰে। দলৈ নিবৰ্চন হলে তাৰ পাচত বৰদেউৰী আৰু Managing Committee ৰ সভাসকলকো দলৈয়ে ধন সম্পত্তিৰ ভাগ বা আন আন কিছুমান সুবিধা দি নিজৰ হাতত ৰাখে। দেৱালয়ৰ সম্পত্তি সুন্দৰ সুন্দৰ কাঠৰ হাবি বোৰ যেনে তেনেকৈ মানুহক দলৈয়ে টকালৈ কাটিবলৈ দি এই জাতীয় সম্পদ বোৰ নষ্ট কৰিছে। গতিকে দেৱালয় পৰিচালনা কৰা লোকসকলৰ আগৰ সেই সমাজ সেৱা বা ধৰ্মৰ ভাব নাই। বৰ্তমানে আমাৰ সমাজত এইদৰে সমাজৰ সম্পত্তি নিজৰ কৰি ভোগ কৰা স্বাথ জড়ীত শ্ৰেণীৰ এটাৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ বহুতো জাতীয় বা সমাজৰ সম্পত্তি আৰু সম্পদ আছে—যেনে মূল্যবান কাঠৰ জঙ্গল, মাছৰ বিল, পুখুৰী আদি। এই সম্পত্তি বিলাক দেশৰ আৰু সমাজৰ কল্যাণৰ বাবে জাতীয় সম্পদ হিচাপে ব্যৱহাৰ হ'ব লাগে কিন্তু দুঃখৰ বিষয় বহুতো দলৈয়ে এইবোৰ যেনে তেনেকৈ টকা লৈ বিক্ৰী কৰি দিছে আৰু সেই বোৰ মানুহে যেনে তেনেকৈ কাটি চিঙি বা ব্যৱহাৰ কৰি নাইকীয়া কৰি দিছে। গতিকে এনেকুৱা এটা অৱস্থাত আমাৰ জাতীয় গণতান্ত্ৰিক চৰকাৰ উদাসীন হৈ থাকিব নোৱাৰে। আমাৰ সমাজত আজি জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত মুষ্টিমেয় কেইজন মান লোকৰ যি শোষণ চলিছে, ধৰ্মৰ বা ভগবানৰ নামত যিবিলাক অত্যাচাৰ আৰু ব্যভিচাৰ চলিব লাগিছে সেইবিলাক সমাজবিৰোধী অন্যায় কামক বাধা দিয়া জনসাধাৰণৰ চৰকাৰৰ একান্ত কৰ্তব্য আৰু তাৰ বাবে দৰকাৰমতে আইন প্ৰণয়ন কৰা একান্ত প্ৰয়োজন।

দ্বিতীয়তে, দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ হকে যিবিলাক মাটিবাৰী দিৰা হৈছিল তাৰ পৰা দেৱালয় পৰিচালক সকলৰ বহুতে নানান প্ৰকাৰে উপাৰ্জন কৰি নিজ নিজ স্বাথ পূৰণ বা ব্যক্তিগত ভাবে ভোগ কৰিছে আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ মনৰ পৰা জনসাধাৰণৰ কল্যাণ বা ধৰ্ম বন্ধাৰ ভাব আঁতৰি গৈছে আৰু লগে লগে জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত শোষণ আৰু উৎপীড়ণৰ চাপ বৃদ্ধি হৈ গৈছে। এই প্ৰসঙ্গত আমাৰ সদস্য শ্ৰীকৃষ্ণানন্দ স্বামীজীয়ে ঠিকেই কৈছে যে, চৰকাৰে ভগবানৰ অস্তিত্ব আৰু পৰিপোষণৰ হকে চিন্তা কৰিব লগা অৱস্থা হোৱা নাই। তেখেতে কৈছে ভগবান হৈছে—ভক্তি আৰু বিশ্বাসৰ বাবেহে বাপ্তিৰ দাবা বন্ধনা-বেন্ধন কৰা এটা বিগ্ৰহ নহয়। অ'বশ্বনতে এই দ'ল দেৱালয় সত্ৰৰ বিলাকৰ যোগেদি আমাৰ দেশত যি সভ্যতা আৰু কৃষ্টিৰ উৎকৰ্ষ সাধণ হৈছিল এতিয়া সেইটো হৈ উঠা নাই আৰু হয়তো আজিৰ সভ্যতাই ও তেতিয়াৰ সেই সমাজ ব্যৱস্থা সম্পূৰ্ণ ভাবে নিবিচাৰে। ৪/৫ শ বছৰৰ আগতে সেই অনুস্থান বিলাক আমাৰ দেশৰ সভ্যতা সাংস্কৃতিৰ কেন্দ্ৰ আছিল কিন্তু এতিয়া দলৈসকলৰ বহুতে দেৱালয়ৰ পৰা খাজনা উঠাই সকলোখিনি নিজৰ পৰিয়ালৰ ভোগ বিলাসৰ বাবেই নিজেই খৰচ কৰি খায় আছে আৰু চৰকাৰক যিখিনি খাজনা আদায় দিব লাগে তাকো নিদিয়ৈ। দল দেৱালয়ৰ মাটিবাৰীৰ পৰা যি উপাৰ্জন হয় সেইবিলাকৰ এটা অংশ যে তেওঁলোকে চৰকাৰক দিব লাগে তাৰ বিষয়ে কোনো চিন্তা নকৰে। আজি সেইবোৰ অনুস্থান জড়াজীৰ অৱস্থাত—তাত কোনো সাংস্কৃতিৰ বা শিল্প কলাৰ উৎকৰ্ষ সাধণ হোৱা নাই—সুন্দৰ সুন্দৰ মন্দিৰ বা সম্পত্তিবোৰ নষ্ট হৈ যাব ধৰিছে আৰু কিছুমান মন্দিৰৰ সম্পত্তি দলৈৰ ব্যক্তিগত সম্পত্তি পৰিণত হৈছে। আনফালে ডেপুটী কমিচনাৰ অফিচত কৰ্মচাৰী সকলক বা তেওঁকে ধৰি মেলি খাজনা উঠাব পৰা নাই বুলি বা নানান কাৰণ দেখুৱাই চৰকাৰক আদায় কৰা খাজনা খিনিবো দিব লগা অংশখিনি নিদিয়ৈ। গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ কৰ্মচাৰীয়েও সেই বোৰ খাটিবতে আদায় নকৰে আৰু দেৱালয়ৰ নামত বছৰৰ পিচত বছৰ বাকী বৃদ্ধি হৈ যায়। কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ অবহেলাত বা ভাল নিয়ম কানুণৰ অভাৱত বহুতো দেৱালয়ৰ পৰা হাজাৰ হাজাৰ টকা চৰকাৰে আদায় কৰিব পৰা নাই। তাৰ লগে লগে এতিয়া দেৱালয়ৰ ৰায়ত অৰ্থাৎ পাইক সকলবোৰ বহুতে দলৈক খাজনা দিবলৈ এৰিছে। কিছুমান নিৰীহ দলৈয়েও খাজনা আদায় কৰিব নোৱাৰি দুৰাবস্থাত পৰিছে। বহুতো ঠাইত দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ পৰিচালনাত এটা অচল অৱস্থাই দেখা দিছে। সেই



কাৰণে বাটৰ ধৰ্ম নিৰপেক্ষ নীতিৰ ওপৰত ভৰদি ধৰ্মৰ ওপৰত হাত নিদিয়াকৈও ধৰ্মৰ নামত হোৱা শোষণ বা অন্যায় বোৰ বন্ধ কৰিবলৈ চৰকাৰ যত্নপৰ হব লাগে। কাৰণ দেৱালয়ৰ নামত দিয়া ইমান বিলাক মাটিবাৰী কেতিয়াও এটা মুষ্টিমেয় সম্প্ৰদায়ৰ কেইজনমান লোকৰ ব্যক্তিগত সম্পত্তি হব নোৱাৰে আৰু সমাজৰ মঠ মন্দিৰ শিল্প কলা বা জাতীয় সম্পত্তি বোৰ এইদৰে আমি ধ্বংস হবও দিব নোৱাৰো। এই সমস্যাতোৰ এটা সমাধান সোনকালে হব লাগে। শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপন কৰিছে সেইটো অসম্পূৰ্ণ এই সমস্যাতো সমাধানৰ বাবে আমি ভাল দৰে চিন্তা কৰি সকলো বিষয়কে সামৰি লৈ এটা সম্পূৰ্ণ প্ৰস্তাৱ অনা উচিত। এই বাবে অলপ দেৰি হলেও কথা নাই কিন্তু আমাৰ সকলো বিলাক মঠ-মন্দিৰ আৰু সত্ৰ বা তেনেকুৱা ধৰ্মানুস্থান বা অনুস্থান যাৰ নামত সমাজৰ সম্পত্তি নষ্ট হৈছে সেইবিলাকৰ বিষয়ে ভালদৰে এই বোৰৰ সংৰক্ষণ আৰু জনসাধাৰণৰ ওপৰত হোৱা শোষণ সম্বন্ধে তদন্ত কৰি এখন বিল বা নিখুট প্ৰস্তাৱ এটা আনিব লাগে। গতিকে আজি লৰা লৰিকৈ এই প্ৰস্তাৱ গৃহণ কৰাৰ কোনো আৱশ্যকতা নাই। এইটোৰ তাৰ গৱৰ্ণমেন্টৰ ওপৰতে দিয়া হওক। সেই বাবে বৈজ্ঞানীক দৃষ্টি ভঙ্গীৰে সমাধান কৰিব পৰা এটা সম্পূৰ্ণ প্ৰস্তাৱ বা “বিল” আমাৰ সদনত দাঙি ধৰিবলৈ চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিলো। সেই কাৰণে বৰ্তমান আকাৰত থকা অসম্পূৰ্ণ প্ৰস্তাৱটো মই সমৰ্থন কৰিব নোৱাৰি দুখিত—যদিও ইয়াৰ উদ্দেশ্যটো মই সমৰ্থন কৰো।

**Shri KHAGENDRA NATH NATH:** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটি সমৰ্থন কৰিবলৈ থিয় হৈছো। বাস্তৱিকতে দেৱ দেৱীৰ পূজাৰ নামত ধৰ্মৰ প্ৰচলনৰ হেতু যিবিলাক ভূসম্পত্তি দান পাইছিল, সেইবিলাকৰ উপাৰ্জন দলৈ আদি সকলে নিজেহে ভোগ কৰি আহিছে। দেৱতাৰ পূজা-ভোগ, পূজা পাতলৰ হকে, কোনো উন্নতি মূলক কাৰ্য্য হাতত লৈ জনসাধাৰণৰ উপকাৰ সাধন কৰা নাই। আমি জানিব পাৰিছো, কামৰূপৰ হাজো দেৱালয়ৰ ৫৫ হাজাৰ বিঘা মাটি আছে আৰু তাৰ বাৰ্ষিক আয় ৭০ হাজাৰ টকা হয়। হাজোৰ পাৰ্চখন দেৱালয়ৰ ভিতৰত গমেশ দেৱালয় আৰু কামেশ্বৰ দেৱালয়ৰ দুৱাৰৰ তলা বন্ধ হৈ ৰৈছে। তাত কোনো পূজা পাতল নহয়। কামখ্যা ধামৰো একেই অৱস্থা। তাতো বহুত আয় হয়, পাচে তাৰ ভিতৰুৱা অৱস্থা আনবিলাকৰ দৰে একেই। সেই টকা পয়চা বিলাক তেওঁলোকে নিজে নিজে ভোগ কৰিছে। এই ৰীতি কেৱল কামৰূপৰ দেৱালয় বিলাকৰেই নহয়, অসমৰ সকলো ঠাইৰ দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ একেই অৱস্থা। আমাৰ গোৱালপাৰা জিলাতো এনেকুৱা ধৰণৰ দেৱালয় আছে। তাত সেৱাইট সকলে নিজে নিজে টকা পয়চা বিলাক ভোগ কৰে আৰু পূজা-পাতল তেনেকৈ নাইকিয়া হব ধৰিছে। মেচপাৰা জমিদাৰী ষ্টেট দেৱালয় আছে, যত বহুত মাটিৰ ৰাজনা উঠাই তেওঁলোকে নিজেই ভোগ কৰে আৰু দেৱালয় বিলাকত পূজা পাতলৰ কোনো বৰকমৰ দিহা নাই। আমাৰ গোৱালপাৰা চহৰত শ্যামসুন্দৰ হাতীৰ যি দেৱতাৰ মাটি আছিল, সেৱায়েতে ৬০ বিঘা জমী এজন অহিন্দুক বছৰে মুঠে ৬ টকা ৰাজনাত দি দেৱালয়-খন একেবাৰে ধ্বংস কৰি পেলাইছে। এই দেৱালয়ৰ এতিয়া একেবাৰে শোচনীয় অৱস্থাত পৰিছে। শ্ৰীমান গোস্বামী ডাঙৰীয়াই কোৱাৰ দৰে, এই দেৱ-দেৱীৰ দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ ভূ-সম্পত্তিৰ ওপৰত মুষ্টিমেয় এক শ্ৰেণীৰ শোষণকে—জনসাধাৰণক শোষণ কৰি আহিব লাগিছে। এওঁবিলাকৰ শোষণ নীতিৰ অবলম্বনৰ ফলত ধৰ্মৰ হকে পূজা-পাতল কৰিবলৈ পূৰ্বতে আহোম ৰজাই দিয়া আৰু গোৱালপাৰা জিলাত বিজনী ষ্টেট আৰু মেচপাৰা ষ্টেটৰ ভূ-সম্পত্তি দানৰ উদ্দেশ্য আজি ব্যৰ্থ হৈ গৈছে। ধৰ্মৰ প্ৰতি বিশেষ মন-কান নিদি, তেওঁবিলাকেই সেইবিলাক ভোগ আজি ব্যৰ্থ হৈ গৈছে। ধৰ্মৰ প্ৰতি বিশেষ মন-কান নিদি, তেওঁবিলাকেই সেইবিলাক ভোগ কৰিছে। গতিকে আজি, শোষণ শ্ৰেণীটোৰ উৎপাদন বন্ধ কৰি দিয়া, চৰকাৰৰ একান্ত কৰ্তব্য। ভগৱানৰ নামত, ধৰ্মৰ নামত আজিয়ে এই শ্ৰেণীটোৱে শোষণ কাৰ্য্যত পৰিপূৰ্ণ সাধন কৰিব ধৰিছে সি কেতিয়াও হব নোৱাৰে। সেই কাৰণে, শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ আজি এই সদনত উপস্থাপিত কৰিছে, সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিছো।

**Shri HARINARAYAN BARUA:** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই এই সম্পৰ্কে কেই আধাৰমান কথা কব খুজিছো। আমাৰ শ্ৰীযুত দাস ডাঙৰীয়াই, আজি এই সদনত যিটি প্ৰস্তাৱ উপস্থাপিত কৰিছে, তাৰেই আলোচনা প্ৰস্তুত কেইটামান নতুন কথাৰ অবতারণা



কৰিবলৈ থিয় দিছো। অৱশ্যে নামনি অসমৰ দল-দেৱালয় বিলাক কেনেকৈ পৰিচালিত হৈছে আৰু তাৰ দলৈ সকলে জনসাধাৰণৰ কল্যাণৰ হকে কি দৰে আচৰণ কৰিছে, সেই বিষয়ে মোৰ বিশেষ অভিজ্ঞতা নাই। বহুকাল ধৰি চলি অহা আমাৰ এই সমাজ খনৰ এটা সমাজ ব্যৱস্থাৰ ভেটিৰ ওপৰত প্ৰতিষ্ঠিত হোৱা কিছুমান ৰীতি নীতিৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি, এই দল-দেৱালয় বিলাক স্থাপিত হৈছিল। পৌৰাণীক সেই ৰীতি নীতিতেই আজিও সেই দল-দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ মৰ্য্যদা বিদ্যমান; যদিও আজি বহুতেই প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে যে সেই দল-দেৱালয়ৰ দলৈ সকলে দেৱোত্তৰ মাটিত মানুহ বহিবলৈ দি সিবিলাকৰ ওপৰত কৰ কাটল বহুৱাই সেই বিলাক টকা পয়চা—তেওঁলোকে আত্মসাৎ কৰিছে আৰু দেৱালয়ৰ পূজা-ভোগৰ প্ৰতি অৱহেলা কৰিছে। তেওঁবিলাকৰ এই যুক্তিৰ দ্বাৰাই, চৰকাৰক নিবেদন কৰিছে যে অনতি পলমে চৰকাৰে এনে এখন আইন প্ৰণয়ণ কৰিব লাগে যাৰ দ্বাৰাই মন্দিৰ বিলাকৰ এই ৰীতি নীতিৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তন আনিব পাৰি। চৰকাৰে অৱশ্যে এই বিষয়ে চকু দিব লাগিব। কেৱল চৰকাৰৰ ওপৰতেই এই দায়িত্ব আৰোপ নকৰি, সেই সেই অঞ্চলৰ ৰাইজৰ দ্বাৰা নিৰ্বৰাচিত প্ৰতিনিধি সকলেও এই কাৰ্য্যত অংশ গ্ৰহণ কৰি প্ৰকৃততে ৰাজহুৱা ধনৰ অপব্যৱহাৰ হৈছেনে নাই বিচাৰ কৰি তাৰ প্ৰতিকাৰ কৰিবলৈ উঠি পৰি লাগিব লাগে আৰু তেনে কৰা একান্ত কৰ্ত্তব্য নুলি মই জোৰ দি কব পাৰো। এই সম্পৰ্কতে আমাৰ মাননীয় শ্ৰীমান গোস্বামীয়ে কৈছে যে— উজনি অসমৰ সত্ৰবিলাকো নামনি অসমৰ দল-দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ ভিতৰতেই পৰিব। নামনি অসমৰ লগত উজনি অসমৰ সত্ৰবিলাক পৰিবনে নপৰে মই কব পৰা নাই—কাৰণ.....

**Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI:** মই সমগ্ৰ অসমৰ কথাই কৈছো—  
উজনি অসমৰ সত্ৰবিলাকো।

**Shri HARINARAYAN BARUA:** ভাল বাৰু। কাৰণ আজি অসমীয়া জাতি অসমীয়া জাতিৰ সভ্যতা আৰু কৃষ্টিৰ পৰিচয় দিবলৈ হলেই, আমি পোন প্ৰথমতে আঙ্গুলীয়াৰ লাগিব—আমাৰ এই সত্ৰ বিলাকলৈ। এই সত্ৰবিলাক আমাৰ সভ্যতা আৰু কৃষ্টিৰ সৃষ্টি ধাম। উজনি অসমৰ সত্ৰবিলাক যি নীতিত চলিছে, নামনি অসমতো সেই নীতিতেই চলিছেনে নাই মই ঠিক কব নোৱাৰো। পাচে এইটো মই কব পাৰো যে, উজনি অসমত যিবিলাক সত্ৰ আছে তাৰ দলৈ বা মুক্তিৱাৰ বিলাকে সত্ৰৰ ভূ-সম্পত্তিৰ ওপৰত হোৱা আয় কেৱল তেওঁলোকেই ভোগ কৰা নাই, দেশৰ কল্যাণৰ হেতু—ৰাজহুৱা অনুস্থান বিলাকলৈকে হাজাৰে হাজাৰে টকা দান কৰিছে। সেই সত্ৰবিলাকে ৰাইজৰ নানা কামত নানা অনুস্থানত হাজাৰ হাজাৰ টকা দি সহায় কৰে। এনে ক্ষেত্ৰত নামনি অসমৰ দেৱালয়বিলাকৰ লগত উজনি অসমৰ সত্ৰবিলাক একত্ৰিত কৰাটো সমীচিন হবনে নহয় সেইটো বিশেষভাবে বিবেচনা কৰিবলগীয়া কথা। তাৰ উপৰিও অলপ আগতে আমাৰ ব্ৰহ্মচাৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই আমাৰ সমাজৰ আধ্যাত্মিকতাৰ বিষয়ে আৰু এটা বিবেচনা কৰিবলগীয়া কথা কৈ গৈছে। হওতে এইটোও এটা বিষয় কথা। আমাৰ ধৰ্ম্মৰ প্ৰতিষ্ঠিত দেৱ-দেবী সকলৰো যদি এখন আইনৰ জৰীয়তেহে চলিবলগা হয়, এইটো এটা বিশেষ চিন্তাৰ বিষয় (হাঁহি)ই আমাৰ আধ্যাত্মিকতাৰ সলনি বাধ্য বাধ্যকতাৰেহে পৰিচায়ক। এনেকুৱা বিষয়তো যদি আইনৰ দ্বাৰা শাসন কৰিবলগা হোৱা বিষয়টো নীতি বিৰোধী কথা বুলিয়েই মই ভাবো। আনহাতে আমাৰ দেৱ-দেবী সকলৰ পূজা সেৱাত যিটো বিশৃঙ্খলাৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে বুলি শুনিছো, সেইটোও আমি নিৰবে চাই থাকিব নোৱাৰো। মোৰ বোধেৰে সেইটো আমি সামাজিক আৰু ধৰ্ম্ম সম্বন্ধীয় দৃষ্টিকোণৰ পৰা পৰ্য্যবেক্ষণ কৰি এটা স্মৰ্ম্মাংসত উপনীত হোৱা দৰ্কাৰ। মই ভাবো, এই দেৱ-দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ নিশ্চয় কিছুমান প্ৰতিনিধি আছে। এই প্ৰতিনিধি সকলে এই কামবিলাক যাতে স্ৰাৰুৰূপে চলে তাত বিশেষ মনোযোগ দিয়া উচিত। ইয়াৰ এটা সুব্যৱস্থা কৰিবলৈ হলে সেইসকলৰো এটা পৰামৰ্শ লব লাগিব। যি হওক এই দেৱালয় বিলাকৰ এটা সুব্যৱস্থা কৰা দৰ্কাৰ।



**Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) :** I have listened to the speeches made by the Mover of the Resolution as also by other Honourable Members. The matter referred to by the Mover, namely that of constant clashes said to be going on between the Dalois and Paiks, Shebaitis and tenants in almost all the temples in Assam is only true so far as the district of Kamrup is concerned. I agree to that. As regards the other districts we have not received any complaint. All the troubles arose in the Kamrup district. As my Friend said, there are 33 temples, but there are the Satras besides the temples. I may give the correct position regarding their administration and management. The total arrear revenue of these temples is about Rs.85,500. Under the law the Government cannot interfere with the administration and management of the temples. Under section 69B of the Assam Land and Regulation Act Government is entitled to intervene only when there is default in the payment of land revenue. In that case Government can attach the temple properties. There are six temples, namely Umananda, Sakreswar, Janardan, Poamecca and two others have been so attached. In Umananda there is a Satra Sangrakhyan Sabha. We have entrusted the representative of that Sabha with the task of realising the land revenue on the condition of paying 10 per cent. commission on collection. In the other five temples we have appointed Revenue Agents, who also get 10 per cent. commission. But still the collection of revenue is not very satisfactory. In certain temple we received complaints that the Dalois do not give receipts at all. In others ryots are not paying rent and so on. So it is very difficult to ascertain actually how much revenue has been realised and how much has been appropriated by the Dalois themselves. We have deputed a Sub-Deputy Collector to supervise collection work. Similar other conditions have also been laid down in respect of other temples. In this way we are trying to realise arrear revenue. But still it has not made much satisfactory progress. So at present we have drawn up a scheme according to which we shall provide for a Sub-Deputy Collector with necessary staff to make collections and pay 25 per cent. of the collection to the temple for running daily worship, etc. There are many temples where daily Pujas are almost absent. There are again some others where daily worshipping is managed by donations and 'pranamis' etc. So according to the scheme that I have already stated, 25 per cent. of the collection will be spent for daily worship and temple management retaining the other 75 per cent. for payment of revenue, current and arrears.

Sir, the position of the Shebaitis is secured by certain judicial pronouncements. There are judicial pronouncements in their favour.

That an Act to control temple administration is necessary is admitted by all. Government is at present engaged in examining the different Acts governing temple administration in different parts of India.

But there are certain difficulties. How are we to proceed? Will the temple be abolished and their lands resumed by Government and allotted among landless people or will the proposed Act simply aim at controlling their administration? In the former case compensation will have to be paid, which possibly Government cannot do. Government will appreciate very much if the hon. Members send in their suggestions which will help Government very much. We want co-operation from all. Government therefore proposed to formulate its scheme in the light of the rules and Acts that prevail in other places of India. Government also want to study the conditions in all its aspects that obtain at present in this Province. When all these have been done, we shall go ahead with our scheme and give it a final shape. In this we want the co-operation of all the Members of this House.

In view of what I have said, I request the Mover to withdraw his Resolution.



**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the statement made by the Deputy Minister and with the hope that the Bill will be brought immediately, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** I want to ascertain whether the hon. Member has the leave of the House to withdraw his Resolution.

(There were cries of "No" from the Opposition).

Then I shall have to put the question.

The question is: "That in view of the fact that constant clashes are going on between the Dalois and Paiks, Shebais and tenants in almost all the temples of Assam and in view of the fact that many of the Dalois have failed to pay the Government dues and the temple properties have been attached for non-payment of Government revenue and Puja and Bhog have to be stopped in some of the temples due to mismanagement by the Dalois, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do immediately bring a Temple Administration Bill for the better management of the temple affairs and temple properties."

The House divided.

Ayes—12.

Noes—63.

1. Shri Ranendra Mohon Das.
2. Mr. A. S. Khongphai.
3. Md. Umaruddin.
4. Maulavi Md. Pahar Khan.
5. Maulavi Mukhtar Ali.
6. Dr. Homeswar Deb Choudhury.
7. Shri Radha Charan Chaudhury.
8. Shri Hareswar Goswami.
9. Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.
10. Shri Dandiram Dutta.
11. Shri Sarju Prasad Singh.
12. Shri Ghana Kanta Gogoi.

1. Shri Bishnu Ram Medhi.
2. Shri Motiram Bora.
3. Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy.
4. Shri Rupnath Brahma.
5. Maulavi Abdul Matlib Mazumdar.
6. Shri Ram Nath Das.
7. Shri Omeo Kumar Das.
8. Shri Baidyanath Mookerjee.
9. Pu R, Dengthuama.
10. Pu Lalbuaia.
11. Pu Ch. Saprawnga.
12. Shri Ramesh Chandra Das Choudhury.
13. Maulavi Mahmud Ali.
14. Shri Ram Prosad Chubey.
15. Shri Raghunandan Dhubi.
16. Shri Raichand Nath.
17. M. Moinul Haque Choudhury.
18. Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha.
19. Shri Kistobin Rymbai.
20. Shri Nihang Rongpher.
21. Shri Khorsing Terang.
22. Mr. Emonsing Sangma.
23. Mr. Aaran Sangma.
24. Shri Jatindra Narayan Das.
25. Swami Krishnananda Brahmachari.
26. Shri Hareswar Das.
27. Shri Khagendranath Nath.
28. Shri Hakim Chandra Rabha.
29. Shri Baikuntha Nath Das.
30. Shri Sriman Prafulla Chandra Goswami.
31. Shri Prabhat Chandra Goswami.



32. Shri Dharanidhar Basumatari.
33. Shri Mahendra Nath Deka.
34. Shri Radhika Ram Das.
35. Shri Purandar Sarma.
36. Shri Davidson Bhabora.
37. Shri Biswadev Sarma.
38. Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwalla.
39. Shri Gahan Chandra Goswami.
40. Shri Baliram Das.
41. Shri Mahendra Hazarika.
42. Shri Bimala Kanta Bora.
43. Shri Lila Kanta Bora.
44. Mohammed Idris.
45. Shri Rajendranath Barua.
46. Shri Chanoo Kheria.
47. Shri Mal Chandra Pegu.
48. Shri Debeswar Rajkhowa.
49. Shri Nilmani Phookan.
50. Shri Harinarayan Baruah.
51. Shri Girindranath Gogoi.
52. Shri Ananda Chandra Bezbarua.
53. Shri Purnananda Chetia.
54. Shri Sarveswar Barua.
55. Shri Hem Chandra Hazarika.
56. Shri Karka Chandra Doley.
57. Shri Ramesh Chandra Barooah.
58. Shri Indreswar Khaund.
59. Shri Jadunath Bhuyan.
60. Shri Manik Chandra Das.
61. Shri Jogakanta Barua.
62. Shri Harihar Chowdhury.
63. Shri Jadab Chandra Khakhlari.

(The Resolution was negatived.)

*Adjournment*

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 a.m., on Tuesday, the 16th September, 1952.

Shillong,  
The 19th December, 1952. }

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