

# Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

# OFFICIAL REPORT

FIRST-SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE SECOND  
GENERAL ELECTION UNDER THE  
SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC-  
CAN CONSTITUTION OF  
INDIA

# BUDGET SESSION

## VOLUME I

No. 8

The 17th June, 1957



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

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 10 A.M. on Monday, the 17th June, 1957.

**P R E S E N T**

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker, in the Chair, three Ministers, the eight Deputy Ministers and sixty-nine Members.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

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**STARRED QUESTIONS**

(To which oral answers were given)

**Re: Construction of Public Works Department Road from No-Ali to Borkhamukh in North Lakhimpur Subdivision**

**Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :**

\*12. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether the Chief Minister had received a representation from Shri Mal Chandra Pegu, *ex-M. L. A.*, in the matter of getting a Public Works Department Road constructed from No-Ali to Borkhamukh in North Lakhimpur Subdivision during the second week of March, 1957 ?
- (b) If so, what step has been taken by Government for construction of the said road ?
- (c) Whether Government would give top priority in the matter of construction of the said road ?



†**Shri MOTIRAM BORA** (Minister, Education) replied :

12. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—The report received in this connection from the Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur, shows that the proposed road, falling outside the E. and D. Bund and consequently in flooded area, is of doubtful feasibility and would cost about Rs. 2.5 lakhs.

The construction of the road will depend on technical feasibility and availability of funds.

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

#### Provincialisation of the Jagannath Barooah College, Jorhat

**Srimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA** (Katonigaon) asked :

27. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government propose to provincialise the Jagannath Barooah College, Jorhat ?

(b) Whether Government are aware of the existence of a Girls' College at Jorhat ?

(c) If so, whether any financial help has been granted to this Institution ?

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

27. (a)—No.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No.

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† The question was replied by Shri Motiram Bora, Minister, Education on account of the absence of Minister, P.W.D.



**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa):** Sir, with regard to Question No.27 will the Minister-in-charge enlighten the House if there is any proposal to grant financial help to this Girls' College at Jorhat?

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Education):** There is no proposal at present.

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi):** Sir, will the Government consider this question favourably?

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Education):** It will be taken into consideration in due course.

**Touring Allowance of the Chairman, Subdivisional Primary Education Board.**

**Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari)** asked:

28. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) What is the amount taken by the Chairman, Subdivisional Primary Education Board as his touring allowance during the years 1955 to 1957?

(b) What is the profession of the Chairman, Barpeta Subdivisional Primary School Board?

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

28. (a)—1955-56—Rs.1,562.81 N.P.

1956-57—Rs.1,916.62 N.P.

(b)—Lawyer.

**Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi):** Sir, with regard to Question No.28 (a) put by Maulavi Tajuddin Ahmed which runs as "What is the amount taken by the Chairman, Subdivisional Primary Education Board as his touring allowance during the years 1955-1957" and the answer given is "1955-56



Rs. 1,562·81 N.P., 1956-57 Rs.1,916·62 N.P.” It is not clear which Board he means.

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Education):** It is Barpeta Board.

### **Posting of Excise Staff to Dhamdhama Centre**

**Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** asked :

29. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state why the necessary Excise staff are not posted to Dhamdhama Centre ?

**Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Excise)** replied :

29.—One Excise Inspector and three Excise Peons have been posted at Dhamdhama since December, 1954.

**Further information to a Supplementary Question of Shri Ranendra Mohan Das asked on 15th June, 1957, about the principle of selecting sites for N.E.S. Blocks.**

**Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I would like to speak a few words. On 15th June last in reply to supplementary question of hon. Shri Ranendra Mohan Das to Unstarred Question No.17, regarding principle of selection of sites for N. E. S. Blocks, I could not make it clear. I was under the impression that hon. Member meant the principle underlying the selection of sites for headquarters. What I replied to referred only to the principle for selection of headquarters of a Block. As regards the principle guiding the Sub-divisional Boards with matters of selection of N. E. S. Blocks is backwardness. The Subdivisional Boards select the Blocks and give priority according to degree of backwardness.



**Short Notice Resolution *re*: Location of Oil Refinery in Assam**

**Mr. SPEAKER :** Next item. It is with regard to Short Notice Resolution to be moved by Shri F. Ali Ahmed, Shri Biswadev Sarma, Shri Ram Nath Sarma and Shri Dandeswar Hazarika. As Shri F. Ali Ahmed is absent I call upon Shri Biswadev Sarma to move it.

**Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, with a sad heart I beg to move that—

“With a view to remove that imbalance in the economy of Assam to help the regional development of undeveloped areas like Assam and also to bring about reduction in the gap of industrial development between Assam and the rest of India, this Assembly reiterates the Short Notice Resolution unanimously adopted by the Assam Legislative Assembly in its sitting on the 3rd April, 1956 and is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India to take immediate steps to instal the Oil Refinery in Assam for processing the crude oil of Assam.”

Sir, it is needless to say that the public mind in Assam is greatly agitated over the question of location of the proposed Oil Refinery in Assam to refine the expected proved crude oil said to be of the order of 1.5 million tons per year.

From rational, strategic and economic points of view and from the point of view of employment potential, the obvious choice must be a place in Assam from where the crude oil will be drilled.

In this connection Calcutta in West Bengal and Barauni in Bihar were suggested by some interests which perhaps inadvertently could not appreciate the full implication of the Project.

The most relevant points in favour of setting up the Refinery in Assam was elaborately dealt with in a unanimous Resolution passed in this august House last year and I need hardly recapitulate them here now.



Keeping those points in view, I want to deal with some points to counteract the few unfavourable points sought to be made out now on the basis of comparative profit that may accrue to the Oil Company and the facility of transport of the refined oil for the distribution of the product. Here I shall briefly deal with them.

It is reported that the profit at the following rate is likely to accrue to the Company if the Refinery is set up at the following places:—

1. At Gauhati—About 7 annas per gallon. (This will be about 16 per cent of the selling price, and this is quite reasonable; rather it may be said to be on the high side, in view of India's Social Policy.)
2. At Calcutta—About 8 annas and 8 pies per gallon. It is about 19 per cent.
3. At Barauni—About 8 annas and 4 pies, the percentage is almost the same as at 2.

From the above comparative figures it will be seen that the difference in the incidence of profit is negligible. Moreover the location of the Refinery at Calcutta or Barauni will attract some disadvantages which are as follows:—

If the crude oil is to be transported to a place outside Assam, the first pre-requisite is the setting up of a pipe line of about 700 miles, which is estimated to cost about 40 to 50 crores. Faced with the very tight foreign exchange position, will it be worth our while to go in for such a very costly project? Apart from this, we must consider the utility of the pipe line in future. Hon. Members would bear me out that the source of raw material, I mean the crude oil, may not be perennial and as such when the source will dry up what should we do with the costly pipe-line? This poor country cannot afford to invest its resources without a well thought out plan. We must be very careful about utilising our national resources—there cannot be two opinions about it. So the argument that the crude oil can be transported by pipe line alone cannot hold good. On the other hand, if the capacity of the Railways is increased in order to transport the refined product from here, in the shape of stabilising the Railway line, increasing the number of wagons and other connected things, it will be a national asset, which the Government of India can utilise at any time and anywhere.



Sir, the refined oil can meet the requirement of Assam, North Bihar, North Bengal and U. P., and it can be transported by the meter gauge wagons. It may be mentioned here that the average carrying capacity of the meter gauge wagons is reported to be higher than those of the present broad gauge wagons.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):** You mean tanker ?

**Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara):** Yes. It may be pointed out that during the last War about 12 to 13 goods trains were handled by this line with a double line. This can be done in the case of the Refinery products also. So, Sir, our legitimate claim cannot founder on the bed rock of transport facilities and the like.

Sir, when the similar Sundarban (West Bengal) and Jwal-amukhi (in Punjab) Projects materialise, the total output of oil in the country will naturally go high which will meet the requirements of Calcutta, the Punjab and West India respectively and in turn it may go to induce a uniform rate of profit throughout the country irrespective of the location of the Refinery.

The hon. Members will agree with me in what I have said before that the location of the Oil Refinery will bring in its train—

(1) the much needed stabilisation of the Assam Railway Link, our life line, on which the country's security does depend to a great extent also and as such it is a positive national gain. This will open new vistas of industrial development in the State which is so essential as capital investment in Assam is very shy in view of the industrial bias as was said by our Industries Minister, Sri K. P. Tripathi, the other day. In this connection I would like to refer to an article on Social Effects of the Oil Industry in Iraq.

Mr. Kinch, the Personal Adviser to the Iraq Petroleum Company observed as follows:

“The oil industry has introduced into the Middle East an economic factor of immense possibilities. It has directly affected the economy of the region by bringing in modern technology, developing wage-earning employment and improving the occupational skills of the



local population ; similarly, the large sums invested on the spot for prospecting, working the oilfields, and transporting and refining the oil have greatly improved conditions in areas that were formerly little more than desert. Indirectly where Governments have invested wisely, the wealth produced by the industry in the form of royalties has made it possible to undertake major development works”

(2) it will also do away with the need of much needed foreign exchange to the extent necessary in setting up the pipeline which will be of doubtful utility in future,

(3) it will augment the State resources directly and indirectly,

(4) it will help industrialisation of this backward region to an appreciable extent.

Sir, I would like to mention a few industries that can be developed if the Refinery is located in Assam :

(i) A plant to produce 10 tons of carbon black per day. Carbon black is not produced in the country at present and it is very essential that it must be produced so that the rubber industry utilising this important material is rendered independent of imports.

(ii) By utilising the gas, a plant for the production of 500 tons of nitrogenous fertilizer per day can be established, and

(iii) A power plant to generate electrical energy by utilising the gas. The capacity of this will be about 10,000 kw. at the outset. It will be possible to raise this capacity to 30,000 kw. for the requirements of the growing industries in the area.

(5) It will have an employment potentiality and last but not the least important it will produce soothing effect in the minds of about one crore of inhabitants of this unfortunate State who are unitedly behind this demand.

Sir, we are completely unconvinced of the justness of the decision of the Government of India which may deprive Assam of the Refinery in the face of the above.

Sir, I hope, I have dealt with the economic, technical and practical side of the scheme and I shall beg to refer to the various memoranda submitted to the Government of India in



this connection which will fully justify our case. Sir, I make a fervent appeal to the Government of India to appreciate our genuine demand and arrange to locate the Refinery here in Assam. The people of this State where there is no major industries worth the name, will greatly appreciate this gesture and it will restore the confidence in the minds of the people.

Sir, I would appeal to the hon. Members of the House as well to unite on this issue irrespective of caste, creed or political affiliations. This is an issue on which depends the future of Assam. I am confident, Sir, as we have the heritage with us that if we can rise to the occasion, I am sure justice will be given to us. At the same time, Sir, we must not forget that we are citizens of a free country. We must behave in that way. Our steps should be measured, bold and determined. United we stand, divided we fall. With these few words, Sir, I commend my Resolution for the acceptance of this House.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** Resolution moved is—“With a view to remove the imbalance in the economy of Assam to help the regional development of undeveloped areas like Assam and also to bring about reduction in the gap of industrial development between Assam and rest of India, this Assembly reiterates the Short Notice Resolution unanimously adopted by the Assam Legislative Assembly in its sitting on the 3rd April, 1956, and is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India to take immediate steps to instal the Oil Refinery in Assam for processing the crude oil of Assam.”

There are three amendments standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Goswami and Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. I think only one of them will move the amendments. Will Mr. Goswami move ?

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Yes, Sir. I can move all three together.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

### Amendment No.1

*Delete* the words “With a view ” occurring at the beginning of the Resolution.



**Amendment No.2**

*Add* the following at the beginning of the Resolution: "This Assembly, while standing behind the people of Assam in their demand for the location of the Oil Refinery in Assam and while taking into account their resentment against the reported decision of the Central Government to locate the Oil Refinery outside Assam".

**Amendment No.3**

*Delete* the word "and also to bring about reduction in the gap of industrial development between Assam and the rest of India" occurring between the words "areas like Assam" and "this Assembly" and substitute the following in their place: "and also to bring about even industrial development of all States in India."

Sir, when we discussed the original Resolution which today's Resolution is to reiterate, we never thought that the Central Government would ride rough-shod over public opinion and would flout so unceremoniously the feelings of this House. Sir, today as I rise to speak on my amendments, I feel pained that in this country when the Central Government has declared in most unequivocal terms that their goal is a Socialistic Society in our country, when they have professed from house-tops that they will have regional development in our country, we find that this Refinery which naturally belongs to Assam will not be given to Assam and will be taken out of Assam. We feel that we are absolutely left in the lurch and we feel that we have been condemned to a place where we are to remain as hewers of wood and drawers of water.

Sir, before I speak on my amendments I feel it my duty also to trace the history of this whole demand. Before it was decided that there would be a third Refinery, we demanded from the House through a unanimous Resolution that this Refinery should be situated in Assam. We were not concerned in what place Assam it is situated. Even today, we are not concerned about



it, all we want is that this refinery should be located in Assam. We had strong grounds for it. Assam is the natural bed of oil and as such had a claim for it and topmost priority should have been given to Assam for location of this refinery. When on 28th August last, the people spontaneously and of their own volition decided to observe a Day, just a day or two before Mr. Malaviya, the Minister of State of Central Government, came to Gauhati. We had an opportunity of meeting him and discussing matters with him. We were told that the Central Government was most sympathetic towards Assam's cause ! We found that whenever Ministers of Central Government visited Assam, they allowed their hearts to flow out of sympathy towards the people of Assam. But as soon as they left, they forgot Assam and, therefore, I feel that a time has come when we need not invite Ministers of the Central Government to express their lip sympathy for us and praise the natural beauty of Assam. We want action ; they should come to do service to Assam and not to pay us lip sympathy ! Then we put a straight question to him, "What are the chances of Assam getting the refinery ?" The question was evaded and he said that the chances were from 1 per cent to 100 per cent. We put him another straight question, "Have you got any other place in contemplation for location of this refinery ?" He said "Yes, so many other places". Therefore, from that very moment we were very apprehensive about the Central Government's intention. We found that they were talking in slippery words and, therefore, we wanted to make the people alert and cautious about things to come. On the 28th August, the people of Assam observed the Oil Refinery Day. Some cases of stray violence were committed. We are sorry for that and we have taken full responsibility for them. But I can tell this House that had it been any other State in India, it would have created a greater calamity than in Assam. We have patience, we have with great calm and quietness allowed the Central Government to go their own way. Sir, then we were told that an Expert Committee would be appointed. The Committee was appointed and we expected a decision within two months. November passed, December passed, in January a report was submitted, but no decision was taken from December to June. The Central Government at least should have had the courtesy of taking the Assam Government into confidence and saying "These are the difficulties against locating the oil refinery in Assam, what have you got to say ?". But, Sir, they did not take the Assam Government into confidence and contradictory statements were issued one after another making things worse confounded. Sir, had the decision been taken in January or



February, the people would have been in a position to express their opinion democratically. That opportunity was not given to our people and today it is not only a reported decision but is a decision taken at the back of the Assam Government without taking our Government into confidence. We have every right to resent it. Sir, I do not want to reiterate the reasons behind our demand for location of the oil refinery in Assam. Much had been said at the time of discussing the main Resolution, which we passed a year ago. We expressed in no uncertain terms why we wanted the refinery in Assam. The refinery will, as if, open the floodgates for Assam's economic development. There is an inertia in our economic development, the capital is shy and the entrepreneurs are not coming and it is time for the State Government or for the Central Government to take the initiative in this matter and show to the people that Assam is also a place where economic enterprises can be started and with profit. So, we expected that this refinery would open the floodgates for Assam's economic development. We know that the refinery will not bring a millenium for the people of Assam, it will not give employment to the thousands of unemployed here. But we know that if the refinery is established here, the railway system is bound to improve and this will stimulate the growth of different industries and this will set in motion the process of our economic development. Sir, after what the Expert Committee has stated and what our experts have stated, I do not want to enter into the economic aspect of the matter. The Mover of the Resolution has spoken about the location of the refinery and has shown that the transportation of oil by wagons would be cheaper than taking the crude oil by pipe-line to Barauni or Calcutta or whatever place that may be. Also it is not necessary for me to say that there is a vicious circle and one has to cut it at some point. If the Central Government believes in regional development, then here is a case where they should have decided that the refinery should be in Assam. It would have given a fillip to the regional development of this area, the most important area.

Sir, another point has been stressed that for the sake of defence it is necessary that the refinery should be in Barauni or some other place away from the frontier. Sir, I am sorry that the Central Government have lost all perspective regarding defence. In these days of hydrogen bomb, atom and guided missiles there is no place on earth which can be said to be safe for defence. Any place is vulnerable. If, however, the Central Government say that we shall give up this area completely in the event of an attack by an enemy and that we will not care for Assam, then I would say that the Central Government is bold



enough to say what is in there in their mind. But if they still say that they have a responsibility for building up the defence of India as a whole, and for that even the defence of Assam, then it is necessary that the refinery should be here which will promote to build up better defence in this region so that we never fall a victim to any attack. I cannot subscribe to the view of the Central Government that the defence is the only factor which should be taken into consideration towards the establishment of the oil refinery and that the region where the oil refinery is to be established should be properly defended. This fact should have been discussed with us, and at least for the sake of defence the location of the oil refinery should be in Assam and not in other places.

Sir, I do not want to indulge, at this moment, in mutual reproach, and I do not want to bring the incidents of 28th August, because this is the time—at this crucial hour—when the whole House must be united and when the whole House stand determined to protect its right. It is not only the right of this House but also the right of the Assamese people that we want as a people to prosper, and as a people to develop the potential resources of our State. If somebody comes and takes away the very thing which is in front of us, have we not the right to resent against it? Have I not the right to defend my food? Sir, we have a right in such a matter even to go against the Central Government and see that the oil refinery is started here. During these three or four days, I have received letters from people written to me in this connection from many places. I have been reading the newspapers that the whole State is agitated over this question. People are expressing their resentment and people are looking forward to us as to what action will be taken by us in this House. Sir, I think it will not be wrong if I suggest, on this issue, the Government to be bold enough to resign and allow the Central Government to run the administration and the State Government cannot run the administration with the co-operation of the people. And then only the Central Government would consider the political aspect of the matter seriously and understand what we mean. If the Resolution which we want to pass unanimously in this House is flouted, then we have no alternative but to resign in due deference to the wishes of the people. Therefore, Sir, when I move the amendment on this Resolution, I want Government to take note of the unanimous demand of the people for the location of the oil refinery here in Assam, and I also want Government to take



note that there is not only resentment by the people throughout the State but also that a serious situation is developing fast. If we do not canalise the resentment of the people in a proper way, there is no doubt that it will go astray. So let us take courage in our hands and go to the people and stand behind the people, and canalise the feelings of the people in proper way that will satisfy the aspiration of the people. It is only with this purpose in view that I have moved this amendment. This may be called a parochial view. If it is parochial, I will suffer to be parochial rather than to live in a house where I have no rights over my belongings. This is a question of regional development and we stand by it. Let Barauni, Calcutta and any other place have their regional development, have as many refinery as they can ; let Assam must have the oil refinery which is its natural abode, because it will open the floodgate for industrial development : it will break the inertia for industrial development and also it will bring about the regional development not only in the interest of Assam but also in the interest of India as a whole. Central Government cannot afford to be a Bania, having professed to build up a Welfare State. Even if in cash accountancy another place might bring a little more profit that will have to be sacrificed if the location of the refinery in Assam brings other perceptible benefit to this area. People are looking forward to us to this House for a correct stand and a correct lead and we cannot let them down. Posterity will judge us by what we do today.

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

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Regarding the amendment Nos. 1, 2 and 3 to the Resolution moved by Shri Biswadev Sarma, the hon. Member from Rampur has spoken. I now request the hon. Member from Gauhati to speak on those amendments as he has also given notice of the same amendments.

**Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are thankful to our Friend, Shri Biswadev Sarma, for bringing the Resolution whereby he seeks to reiterate by this House the Resolution which was unanimously adopted in this House one year ago. By our amendments we seek to make this House associate with the hearts that are burning outside the House—I mean the heart of everyone living in Assam—and to take note of the resentment—silent though it may be—it is also burning in every heart in Assam—at the reported news that no place in Assam, but Barauni in Bihar is going to be the location of the Oil Refinery for processing the



crude oil found in Assam. Not that we have any hatred for Bihar or Calcutta. We have nothing but love for everybody on earth. Let it not be understood by any stretch of imagination that the people of Assam in demanding the location of the Refinery in Assam has done so from a provincial or parochial point of view. It is in the interest of even development of different regions in India that the demand has come for establishment of the Oil Refinery here in Assam. It is not only in the interest of the State but also in the interest of India as a whole. It is in the interest of an even economic development of the people of the neglected north-eastern region of India that we want the Oil Refinery here. Although we are rightly agitated and full of sentiment against the ill-advised tentative decision of the Union Government, we must take note of the fact that even at the height of emotion and sentiment, the people of Assam are splendidly disciplined and determined. The entire State is calmly and quietly but with grim determination looking towards this House for a proper lead. Let some in this world think that this calm and grim discipline of the people of this State indicates their weakness. As it is very well said, "Beware of the fury of a silent people". The people of Assam are fully prepared for any action—for any eventuality in their grim determination to have the Refinery in Assam. They are eagerly awaiting a decision from this House. Therefore, our responsibility today is very great indeed.

If we go to consider about the question of oil refinery, we should go to the very beginning of the history of oil industry here in Assam. Oil industry in Assam began as early as 1865 when the first oil company in Assam was established at Digboi. It was by 1899 that the oil wells began to be drilled by Assam Oil Company. Thereafter in 1920 the Assam Oil Company became a subsidiary of the powerful Burma Oil Company which is a very big oil concern in the world; it has got connections with other trusts and cartels. The Oil Company in Assam has got a link with the oil kings of the world, and, therefore, we have been seeing that in their own interest the oil kings have been from the very beginning trying to have the refinery outside Assam. At first they made efforts to have it in Calcutta and thereafter it has been decided that the place will be at Barauni.

Now, my Friends, Mr. Sarma and also Mr. Goswami, have given arguments as to why the refinery should be here in Assam. I do not want to repeat these arguments, but I want to place only a few facts. We know, for example, that this oil production in Assam has been increasing. In



1944 it came to an all time peak figure of 82·3 million gallons. Here in Digboi in the decade that followed it has been on the average of 65 million gallons per year. In 1953—the latest year for which complete figures are available—the output was 68·3 million gallons. Now, when the Naharkatiya oil fields came into operation from February, 1954 the combined yield from Digboi and Naharkatiya could be seen together. For the first nine months in 1954, it stood at 60 million gallons. And according to Shri K. D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Scientific Research, the new output of oil from the Brahmaputra Valley alone will be 3 to 4 million tons annually. If this is the prospect of oil in the Brahmaputra Valley, that is Assam, there is no reason why there should not be a refinery here specially when the pledge of the Union Government is for industrial development of the country as a whole. I refer to page 191 of the people's edition of the First Five-Year Plan where it was stated—"Industrial development in India has so far been concentrated in a few selected areas. If this is to proceed in a balanced manner, increased attention will have to be paid to the establishment of industries in those States and regions which have so far remained backward". Again Dr. J. C. Ghosh, Member of the National Planning Committee, while addressing a meeting of the Members of Parliament recently, dwelt upon the Second Five-Year Plan and said, "At least one heavy industry on a modest scale should be located in each part of India so as to give an opportunity to the people of the locality to be trained in the manufacturing process". So far as Assam is concerned, the above pledge of the Government under the First Five-Year Plan as well as under the Second Five-Year Plan still remains to be redeemed.

Sir, some arguments that are given by those who speak against Assam's demand have been mentioned by my Friends, Mr. Sarma and Mr. Goswami. Now I beg to add only another point. We should remember that Barauni, where the refinery is sought to be located, does not produce crude oil. Crude oil will have to be pumped through a long pipeline from the source which produces crude oil in Assam into the refinery there. I do not understand why if there can be any pipeline for crude oil, there may not be a delivery pipeline, if necessary, for petrol if the available and prospective railway space or steamer space are not sufficient.

Now, I beg to place only a few arguments in favour of our case. I know that so far as we are concerned, these arguments are redundant because everyone of my hon. Friends



here knows these arguments. The first thing that is said is that, if the location of the refinery is to be in Assam, it will not be an economically profitable proposition. Now, we all know that the existing oil refinery operated by the Assam Oil Company has been yielding golden dividends to its shareholders as well as a good income to the Union Government in the form of income-tax. In 1953-54 the total income-tax collection from Assam was Rs. 3.38 crores out of which collection from the Assam Oil Company alone amounted to Rs. 1.75 crores, that is more than 51 per cent of all income-tax collected in the State. There is no valid reason why the new refinery to be set up in Assam would fare otherwise. If this income-tax is to be collected outside Assam, which it will be if the refinery is located elsewhere, we shall be deprived to that extent of the legitimate share of our income-tax.

Secondly, it is said that it will not be profitable because of transport difficulty. If the meter-gauge line of the Assam Rail Link be made a double-track line or converted into a broad-gauge line or even dieselised, not only Assam but the whole of North-Eastern India will derive benefit from it. So, it is not a demand, it is not a plea for Assam only, it is a plea for the entire region of North-Eastern India.

Thirdly, if after a specified period of time, the projected refinery to be constructed with the participation of the Assam Oil Company, will be taken over entirely by the State, there should not be any consideration of commercial profitability in the matter of location of the refinery because after all State enterprises are not so much for earning profits on a commercial scale as for supplying consumer goods at equitable prices and providing workers with gainful employment. As I said the day before yesterday, the ideal pattern of a socialistic Government is not on the basis of profitability in a commercial sense but in the sense that it is "socially cheaper" that it stands for the society, that it serves the society at large. Now, if there be a refinery here, transport difficulty also can be overcome. We find that on the plea of these difficulties, many of our just and legitimate claims have already been evaded. The plan for construction of the 60 mile long railway line connecting Garo Hills with Goalpara was shelved by the Central Government on the plea that ultimately traffic over this route would not be much due to absence of industries in the State and that that project would be a financial loss. Lack of industrial initiative was also responsible for not improving the Assam Link Section of the North-Eastern Railway. One of the grounds for the decision that the new Oil Refinery be located outside Assam



is that the transport difficulties would hinder the smooth functioning of the industry if it is located in this State. It seems we are in a vicious circle in this. Transport system cannot be improved unless there is sufficient industrial pressure behind this and industries cannot be developed here unless transport difficulties are removed. Has not the time arrived to break this vicious circle? Let us break this vicious circle by locating the Oil Refinery in Assam.

Sir, as a long time solution there can be a still-water canal connecting the Brahmaputra with the Ganges and this will not cost more than one hundred crores of rupees as estimated by the experts of the Government of India itself. If there be such a still-water canal which according to experts is a feasible proposition, there will develop many industries on both the banks of the canal and it will thus help in raising the industrialisation of India. So taking a long time view, the Refinery in Assam will not only be in the interest of the people of Assam but it will be in the interest of the whole of India.

There are some special advantages behind this demand of the people and the Government of Assam. Firstly, there are natural advantages. Up till now, Assam is the only State in India producing crude oil and in the near future it is expected that another 3 or 4 millions of tons of this crude oil will be available from the Brahmaputra Valley alone. So the claim is justified that the Refinery should be located in Assam.

Of course, Sir, there is a doubt raised, whether there will be sufficient and cheap labour available for this purpose. It has already been stated by my Friend, Mr. Upadhyaya, from Patharkandi Constituency and my Friend, Mr. Sarma, and others that there are thousands of labour in the tea estates whom we have not been able to give employment and it has been said by different Members of this House how unemployment is growing rapidly not only in urban but also in rural areas of Assam. So if the refinery is located here, labour will not only be available but will be available in sufficient numbers. Of course, it is a fact that so far as technicians and technologists and organisers of industries are concerned they shall have to be brought from outside the State because the Oil Company has been following a policy of shutting its doors for the posts in the Company to the sons of the soil. If the Oil Company had an iota of love for the children of Assam they could have taken some of our youths and trained them in oil technology but in this respect they have totally neglected us. This state of affairs needs immediate attention which will also remove industrial



backwardness of Assam, which as has been said by my Friends who spoke before me is a snag not only in the development but also in the prosperity of Assam and of India as well. So at this critical time when the very future of our State is at stake, when the very future of the generations to come is dependent on the stand we take, I hope and I believe that this House will be unanimous in its resolve to fight for the just and legitimate demand.

Sir, I take this opportunity of saluting the people of Assam for the calm determination they have shown up-till now in this respect. This House will fail in its duty if this House does not associate itself with the people in this respect and if it does not take note of the resentment which is there in every part of Assam, and, therefore, so as to make ourselves completely identified with the people of Assam, we have sought to move this amendment. I hope, we shall all be unanimous in accepting the original Resolution along with the amendment which will make the picture complete and which will mean that we have been able to identify the demand of the people and the Government of Assam. Further, as has been said by Mr. Goswami, if it is necessary, our Cabinet should resign on this issue. Not only that, Sir, if occasion arises, all legislators in Assam, whether they are in this House or in the Parliament, should also resign and show that this demand is so very urgent that for the very existence of Assam we cannot remain as legislators or Ministers and so long as the demand is not fulfilled, we will continue to fight.

With these words, I support the amendment moved by my Friend, Mr. Goswami. (*Applause*).

**Shri RAM NATH SARMA (Lumding):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take my stand here to support the Resolution moved by my Friend, Mr. Biswadev Sarma. The Mover of the Resolution explained clearly the actual position of our State regarding location of the new oil refinery and the legitimate demand of the public of this State.

One point I noticed after reading the minds of the people of this State and after studying when the Government of India formed an Expert Committee to determine the location of refinery a major section of the public took it as an honest attempt of the Government of India to know the real position in the matter, though another section of the people described it as a clue from Government of India's side to side-track the



issue. But when the Government of India again proposed to form a Second Expert Committee, the people of Assam suspected this move. Because after the findings of the First Expert Committee they found that the report was almost in favour of Assam. It is learnt that the findings of the First Expert Committee is that the Refinery in Assam is not only technically feasible and economically sound, but necessary in the wider national interests. Moreover the finding was that a refinery located near Gauhati can supply oil to north Indian markets.

Seeing these two important points in favour of Assam they propose to form a Second Expert Committee. What does it mean? Was it not a clever move to take away the Oil Refinery from Assam? Is it not evident that the Government of India decided the issue before the formation of the First Expert Committee? One thing, Sir, when the Central Government found that the minds of the public of Assam have been agitated so greatly, in order just to cool down the agitation they took time to issue the announcement about the location of the Oil Refinery outside Assam, as the British did when they ruled over us. Sir, I feel and I am sure, that I am cent per cent correct in this respect if I say that Central Government treated us as their subjects and not as equal partners in developing the country. Because, Sir, not only once but on several occasions when the top ranking people come from the Centre to Assam, I find that except their promises and sweet words and after having received hundreds of garlands and thousands of receptions from the people of this State and except meeting our Ministers, officials and others, they have done nothing for the development of our poor and undeveloped State.

May I be allowed to refer, Sir, what is the position of the Brahmaputra bridge? Till to-day, we are not getting it. On top of that, Sir, our railway link is not strengthened and this is still going on as usual. The railway line to Garo Hills is also not going to be constructed for want of which we could not bring out the coal from Garo Hills and we fail to build the cement factory there. The public have demanded for the improvement of our State, but, Sir, instead of developing our State, now they want to take away the Oil Refinery from Assam. The location of the Oil Refinery in Assam will no doubt improve the economic condition of our State to a considerable extent. Sir, India is a democratic country and I think it is not fair on the part of the Centre to look down upon the Assamese like this.



Sir, if the Central Government think that Assam's case is less than others, that is a different thing, but as a matter of right, we must say that Assam is never less to any other country. Then another things. Just ten days before the announcement of the location of the Oil Refinery, we find that the Central Government is going to give us another railway zone and now, Sir, within these ten days we find that the location of the Oil Refinery will go outside Assam. Sir, considering the bad economic condition of Assam and from the defence point of view, the location of the Oil Refinery should be in Assam. But these points are never considered by them and, therefore, it means that they consider us as so many beggars here in Assam. Should we stand any longer in this position? Have we no right in this democratic set-up? Should we not think that we are equal partners under the democratic set-up of the Constitution of India?

One thing is quite clear, Sir, that this Oil Refinery, if located in Assam, will develop our country to a great extent and will correct the regional economic imbalance to a considerable extent and, therefore, we consider that every drop of oil in Assam is as sacred as a drop of blood of every Assamese. We cannot allow it to be sucked by others, rather we should poison it so that others would not be able to suck it.

Sir, I am sure, this is not the voice of this poor self but I am speaking along with the minds of a crore of people living in this sacred soil of Assam.

Sir, Mahatma Gandhi has left us a lesson to fight for the right cause rightly. So we will fight out this right cause rightly; we are sure to win the cause and surely the Divine Atma of Bapuji will bless us.

With these few words, Sir, I second the Resolution moved by my Friend, Shri Biswadev Sarma.

**Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra):** अध्यक्ष महोदय, कुछ दिनोंसे तेल शोधनागार के प्रश्नको लेकर इस प्रांतमें एक विषाक्त वातावरण पैदा हो गया है। जनता का प्रत्येक वर्ग असंतुष्ट हो उठा है। चारों ओर इसीकी चर्चा चल पड़ी है। इस समय तो जनता की घबड़ाहट अपनी अंतीम सीमापर पहुंच गयी है। ऐसी स्थितिमें हमें किस गंभीरतासे विचार करना है, कदाचित इसका सही अनुमान सदन के भीतर और बाहर सभी को है। मैं तो प्रत्येक क्षण यह अनुभव कर रहा हूँ कि जनता की सही भावनाओंको व्यक्त करना भी कठिन है। कारण जनता इस प्रश्नको उलझता देखकर दिनोंदिन अपना संतुलन खो रही है।



इस समस्यापर विचार करते समय दो बातें हमारे सामने उपस्थित होती हैं। एक तो इसका Technical स्वरूप है, दूसरा है इस प्रांतकी अपनी आवश्यकता। यह आवश्यकता साधारण नहीं है। यह तो इस प्रांत के जीवन मरण का प्रश्न है। रोटी और रोजी का सवाल है। आगे बढ़ने और पीछे पड़े रहकर रोनेका सौदा है। हजारों नंगे और भूखों को दिलासा देने अथवा निराश करने की समस्या है। यही कारण म इस समस्याको इसी रूपमें देखता हूँ और यह चाहता हूँ कि शोधनागार की स्थापना इस प्रदेश में ही हो।

जब हम प्रदेशकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक समस्याओं की ओर अपनी दृष्टि दौड़ते हैं तो प्रदेशकी दुर्दशाओं का नग्न चित्र अपने आप हमारे सामने आ जाता है। औद्योगिक दृष्टिसे हम कोसों दूर हैं। आज भी हम उद्योगोंका सुनहरा स्वप्न ही देख रहे हैं। बड़े उद्योगोंका अभाव यहाँ की संपूर्ण अर्थ व्यवस्था को क्षत विक्षत कर रहा है। बेकारी और गरीबी प्रांत भर की जनता के भाग्यको अपने पैरों तले कुचल रही है। सामाजिक चेतनाओंका गला घोटा जा रहा है। लोगोंमें नैराश्य, असंतोष और भाग्यवादिता का प्रसार हो रहा है।

देशकी सामुहिक उन्नतिका अर्थ है देशके प्रत्येक भागका विधिवत उत्थान। यदि कोई भाग अवनति के गर्भमें पड़ा रहे तो वह इस अतंनोगत्वा देशके उभयन में बाधक सिद्ध होगा। इस लिये हमें इस बातका ध्यान रखना चाहिये कि देशके समस्त अंगोंका साथ साथ तथा समुचित विकास हो, और साथ ही पिछड़े हुए भागोंको अग्रगामी प्रदेशोंके स्तरपर लाया जाय। जिससे देशकी गाड़ी अपनी गतिसे बढ़ सके। हमारी योजनाओंके निर्माताओंने इसी मूल सिद्धान्तको अपनाया है कि क्षेत्रीय तथा प्रादेशिक विभिन्नताओंको दूर किया जाय। पुनः इस प्रदेशके बड़े उद्योगों का स्थापित करना न केवल प्रदेश की दृष्टिसे, अपितु अपनी योजनाओं की पूर्तिके विचारसे भी अत्यंत आवश्यक है। यह आवश्यकता और भी महत्वपूर्ण हो जाती है, जब हम यह देखते हैं कि द्वीतीय पंच वार्षिक योजनाओंमें भी यहाँ किसी भी बड़े उद्योगकी स्थापनाकी व्यवस्था नहीं हुई है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, यद्यपि Technical पक्षपर मैं अपनी कोई आधिकारिक राय दे देनेकी बात नहीं कर सकता, फिर भी मैं एक साधारण व्यक्तिके रूपमें यह देखता हूँ कि जहाँ एक “शोधनागार” डिगवोई में सफलतापूर्वक चल रहा है। तो फिर क्या कारण है कि दूसरा “शोधनागार” यहाँ स्थापित नहीं हो सकता? जहाँतक मैं जानता हूँ कि किसी विशेषज्ञ समितिने भी ऐसा विरोध नहीं व्यक्त किया है जिसके कारण यह “शोधनागार” यहाँ स्थापित न हो सके।

कुछ क्षेत्रोंमें यातायात की कठिनाइयों की चर्चा चलती है, परंतु सिक्के के दोनों पक्षोंको अलग अलग करने की बात समझना और कठिन है। कौन नहीं जानता कि ये दोनों प्रश्न एक दूसरे के पूरक हैं न कि विरोधी। उद्योगोंके लिये यातायातकी सुविधाओं की आवश्यकता है और यातायातके साधनोंका विस्तार उद्योगोंपर आधारित है। अतः यातायातके साधनों की कमी हमारे लिये, अथवा इस “शोधनागार” की स्थापना के रास्तेमें बाधक सिद्ध नहीं होनी चाहिये। भारत सरकार को आगे बढ़कर हमारी सहायता करनी चाहिये, और ऐसा प्रयत्न होना चाहिये कि यह प्रांत यातायात की कठिनाइयोंसे शीघ्र शीघ्र त्राण पा जाय !

पंचवर्षीय योजना की सफलता हमारे लिये गर्वकी बात है। परंतु उसके आंकड़े भी हमारे ही पक्षका समर्थन करते हैं। संपूर्ण देशमें प्रति व्यक्ति की औसत आयमें ३५ प्रतिशतकी वृद्धि हुई है। और राष्ट्रीय आयमें १८ प्रतिशत वृद्धि हुई है, परंतु अपने



इस प्रांतमें प्रति व्यक्तिकी औसत आयमें केवल ६.२ प्रतिशत और राज्यकी आयमें केवल १५.८ प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है। क्या इससे यह सिद्ध नहीं होता कि हम पीछे पड़े हुए हैं। फिर घरके बीमारके लिये दवा और दूध की व्यवस्था केवल इसलिये न हो क्योंकि उसमें खर्च कुछ अधिक बढ़ जायेगा। हम देखते हैं कि दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंतमें बेकारीकी समस्या यहां अधिकतर रह जायेगी।

इन तथ्यों के आधारपर मैं यह अनुभव करता हूँ कि जनताकी इस क्षुब्धता के पीछे तर्क है, बल है, और उनका उद्दिग्ग हो उठना स्वाभाविक है। मैं इसीलिये हृदयसे चाहता हूँ कि जनताकी इस मांगकी मान्यता दी जाय। और “तेल शोधनागार” की स्थापना का निश्चय अंतिम रूपमें इसी प्रदेशमें किया जाय। मैं इस प्रस्ताव का पूर्ण समर्थन करता हूँ।

**Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj—North) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to associate myself with the amendment which has been moved by my Friend, Shri Hareswar Goswami. Sir, we know that oil is the most important factor in this present-day world. Those who have studied the subject must have seen that in the present century nothing is more precious than oil. Time for gold and silver has gone and even electricity or iron or any other precious metal which was thought to be very precious cannot come to the standard of oil which is considered to be most important factor in the whole world. Sir, we have been seeing the trouble which is going on—and I think never the trouble will end—in the Middle East, and that is all for oil. Now, Sir, please think for a moment, if Assam were a separate State having no connection with the Central Government or any other State in India, what would have happened? Don't you think that if an attempt was made by anybody to take away the oil from Assam which is most precious in the present day world, people of Assam would have declared a war against that party? But in the present set-up we cannot declare a war against our counterpart. The thing is that when we are denied of our legitimate share there is every reason, there is every justification to show our resentment in various ways. Think for a moment even under the present administration of the Government of India; had it happened in Calcutta what would have happened? The other day we saw that there was an increase of only one pice in the bus and tram fare there and what happened? There was a repetition of 1942 movement in Calcutta. One pice increase in the bus or tram fare is nothing when compared with the oil situation of Assam. First of all, Sir, I must say with due apology that the attitude of the Government of India particularly the leader of the Government of India—the Prime Minister—is not quite happy so far as Assam is concerned. As my Friend, Shri Goswami has said they have their lip sympathy whenever they come to Assam.



But as soon as they leave Assam they forget all about Assam and thus it only means hoodwinking the people of Assam when we find one expert committee after another which were set up by the Government of India. It was revealed by my Friend from Lumding that the report of the Committee was almost favourable to Assam. Unfortunately the Government of India kept it confidential. Why? Did it contain any war materials? Did it contain any policy matter which should be kept confidential? The people of Assam know the findings of the experts. Then obviously it comes to our mind that the Government of India was not determined to work out according to the decision of the Expert Committee and therefore this report of the findings of the Expert Committee was kept confidential. Now it has come out somehow that the First Committee gave the preference that the oil refinery should be somewhere inside Assam from economic and many other points of view and, besides, it would also solve our unemployment problem to a great extent. But this has not been done. It pains us to know that when we read the newspaper of yesterday we found that Pandit Nehru had received the telegram from our Chief Minister and after reading it he kept it and left India for Damascus and he did not care to leave any instruction with his subordinates or to send a reply from Delhi. If it is the attitude of the Government of India where do we stand? As I told you, Sir, that as the people of Assam are very peace-loving, they do not make so much agitation in Assam. But everybody, both inside the House and outside, has a right to oppose the sinister move which is being undertaken by the Government of India. It has been said by my Friend, Mr. Goswami, that we had taken many a unanimous Resolution and sent from here to the Government of India, yet they have taken such an action which goes against us. So, the only weapon left in a democratic set-up is the resignation of the present Ministry. We from this side will co-operate with the Government of Assam fully, leaving aside our 101 disputes with the Government on this issue of oil refinery. They may say that they belong to the Congress Party and so they cannot oppose the dictation of the higher authority. But, Sir, I want to let them know is it democracy? In democracy everyone of us here, whether he belongs to the Congress Party or any other party, has every right to say what he has got to say. If everything is to be done under the dictation of Jawaharlal Nehru then what is the good of sitting over here? Sir, what lesson Mahatma Gandhi taught you? I was in Congress also and he taught us all: "Don't submit to anything which you consider wrong to you and you must protest it, you must rise against it no matter whoever he is". So, Sir, by



being even in the Congress Party you can work under the direction of your great leader, Mahatma Gandhi. You have every right to revolt against the Government of India if you do think that they have done you a wrong.

Secondly, Sir, the Government of India said that for the reason of defence they want the oil refinery somewhere outside Assam. Leaving it alone, many facts come to our mind that the Government of India has given little importance to this State of Assam, they consider the oil refinery to be much more valuable than one crore of people living in Assam. It is the impression of the Government of India it seems, 'if Assam goes let it go, but we must have the oil refinery outside Assam for its safety'. My Friend, Mr. Goswami, has said already that in this age of hydrogen bombs no place, not to speak of Shillong or Gauhati, even Delhi, can escape from its reaction. Any part of India probably is vulnerable to attack by hydrogen and atom bombs. Pandit Nehru living in Delhi is not more safe than us living in the easternmost part of the country. Sir, when the oil source is in Assam and when it is lost, what the refinery would do? So, the question of defence will hold no good. Moreover, in this long length of 500 to 600 miles of pipe-line if any portion anywhere goes wrong or if there be any trouble, it will be very difficult to locate this wrong or trouble in the pipe-line. Everybody now-a-days knows it that a single bomb is quite enough to dislocate things in this great pipe-line. So, the argument given by the Government of India that for the sake of defence the refinery should be outside Assam holds no water. It is only to sidetrack the main issue.

It has been said by my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, that we do not want the refinery here only for employment of Assamese people. It is not the only thing. We find that our State is lagging far behind the other States of India. So far as industrial development is concerned, it has been pointed out by many eminent persons that there should be at least one big industry in every State. In other words, the industrial capital should be decentralised so that all the States can live in with some amount of peace. Pandit Nehru said the other day that the disparity between a State and a State should not remain much if it is developed properly. But what was there before 1951-52? So, if you want to remove the disparity or to check it you must see that every State is treated in such a way that it can properly develop. Keeping one part of the country underdeveloped you cannot say that you have developed the whole of it. Rather in the growth of progress that underdeveloped portion of the country will try to retard the progress



of whole of India. Considering this point also we have seen that if the oil refinery is established in Assam, many of our problems, industrial or otherwise, will be solved to a great extent. But we are moving in a vicious circle when the Oil Company as well as the Government of India do not want to start the industry here for want of good communication, because they know that if the communication is not good then the cost of production will be higher and it will be difficult to compete in the foreign market. This was our main subject which we have discussed the other day, and we all these years have been appealing the Government of India for improvement of our railway communication and for a bridge over the Brahmaputra. If the refinery would have been here then the problem of communication along with other problems would have been solved by them. Government would not have spent huge amounts for construction of the pipeline. So, the communication which is retarding the progress of our poor State, if it is solved, many big and small industries would be flourishing in our State. Sir, I am convinced that the Government of India have done a wrong to our people and it is time that we all, both here and outside, pull the rope together for the fulfilment of our object and for that reason we, in the Opposition, will be behind the treasury benches if they do take a serious move to show their resentment by offering their resignation.

With these few words, I support the amendment moved by my Friend, Mr. Goswami.

**Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take my stand to support the Resolution before the House with a deep sense of sorrow, because the previous Resolution which was unanimously adopted on this very issue about a year ago by this House has been flouted, not by any alien Government, not by any enemies of our country, but by our own Government and by the persons whom we revere most. For this the State of Assam has been suffering from a sense of frustration. Sir, several proposals had been submitted by this State from time to time and we have got rebuff one after another. We have been hearing about the various development schemes, we have been hearing about the various projects which will be undertaken in our State, we have been hearing about the Brahmaputra bridge, we have been hearing that the railway line would be extended to the Garo Hills, we have been hearing that the Tezpur-Balipara railway line will be extended to North Lakhimpur and so many other things. But in spite of these repeated assurances, our State has got nothing up till now. Rather, we find that the people of



Assam have been treated differently and the popular Government of Assam is not taken into confidence whenever a major decision is taken by the Central Government. We were told, when the State of Cooch-Bihar was to be merged, whether with Assam or West Bengal, that the wishes of the people would be ascertained. The people of Cooch-Bihar, even to the extent of 80 per cent of them, favoured merger with Assam. But, Sir, one fine morning it was given out that the State of Cooch-Bihar was merged in West Bengal without the least reference to their own wishes or of the Government of Assam. In this way, this State of Assam has been subjected to various injustices, if I may be permitted to say so. As regards this issue of locating the oil refinery in Assam, we have been hoodwinked by a camouflage, viz., the so-called transport bottle-neck. There is transport bottle-neck no doubt, but so far as the refinery issue is concerned, may I ask, is the railway communication the only means to take the refined oil to the different points of distribution? During the last Great War, did we not see that a pipe-line of 6 inch was constructed from Calcutta to Burma touching all the different places where the oil was distributed? If that could be done during the war, then why in normal times the oil refinery cannot be established in Assam and the refined product sent to the different points of consumption by a pipe-line? Will it also not serve to relieve the congestion of railway transportation? For instances, if the crude oil is to be pumped out from Assam to Barauni or whatever place it may be, it will entail a heavy capital outlay because in order to pump out crude oil a very big pipeline system, with 2 ft. pipes will have to be installed, whereas the refined product can be pushed away with greater ease through a pipe of 6 inch. Then, again, the velocity of crude oil is very high, the pipeline will have to be heated and the pumping stations will have to be very powerful. In the face of all these facts, can we not say that the so-called transport bottle-neck is only a camouflage to hoodwink the legitimate claims of Assam? I can very well say, or even the experts may bear me out if the report of the Expert Committee is made available to us, that the transport bottle-neck may stand in the way so far as the by-products are concerned, because out of the crude oil 70 per cent is liquid and 30 per cent solid and from this 30 per cent solid elements we could produce different things which only may have to be transported by rail or steamer services. But as regards the refined oil, in the same pipeline from the aviation spirit to ordinary fuel could be despatched without being mixed up with each other. Then again, if the refinery is to be located at Barauni or any other place outside Assam, the refined oil will have to be taken back to Assam for distribution to consuming



points and this will cost something more. In all the advanced countries, oil is distributed by a network of pipe-lines and not by railway transport. The only scientific and cheapest method of distribution of the finished liquid product in the world to day is through pipe-lines. Then, as regards the defence issue, I do not know whether the Central Government have raised this question. I do not know whether they have taken the plea that in the event of a war, this part of the country being very vulnerable, the oil refinery may be lost to India. But, Sir, why should we think of war? Is war knocking at our door? Are we not living in normal times? Are we not planning all these things in view of the normal situation? If war comes at all, the consequences and the eventualities that it will entail will have to be borne as the case may be. But, if forgetting the people of Assam, forgetting the fact that sources of oil is in Assam, forgetting that the development of Assam is linked up with the instalment of this refinery in our State, we merely think of the safety of the refinery and instal it outside Assam, then, Sir, I should say we are weeping over the plumes forgetting the dying bird. The Central Government very conveniently sets aside to discuss the possibility of carrying the finished product from Assam to different distributing points. The utility of gas from the oil-wells in running the machinery of the installation is also not taken into consideration that favours the location of the refinery in Assam. The leaders have given us assurance one after another. Even the other day, when the Prime Minister came, different deputationists waited upon him to represent the case of Assam that the oil refinery should be established in Assam. He gave them assurance that if there be no insurmountable difficulties, he was in favour of the location of the oil refinery in Assam. Sir, we are not fighting against any alien Government. The Central Government is ours, and it is our own Government and the leaders are very revered leaders. Sir, is it not a fact that the Government should take the people into confidence? They should have told the people that these are the difficulties, and it is not possible and feasible to locate the oil refinery in Assam. Had the people been informed like that then they would have taken into consideration the insurmountable difficulties with which they have been confronted with. We are not crying for the moon. The proposed refinery is technically feasible and economically sound according to the findings of the expert committee constituted by the Central Government. So if the refinery is not located in Assam, it is a flagrant violation of the trust reposed with the Central Government.

Then so far as the Resolution goes my hon. Friends have referred to the report that the Oil Refinery can be located



in Assam, though there is the suggestion that the profit earned by such location of the oil refinery will be a bit less than that if located at Barauni. But by this as my hon. Friend, Mr. Goswami, has stated that the Government is playing into the hands of the foreign capitalists and it is absolutely unconcerned to the best interests of the people as a whole. The refinery must be established in Assam for the interest of Assam as well as for the interest of India. We must see that it is established in Assam. This is the people's demand. We, the Assamese people are, by nature and by temperament, not suited to make any sort of cheap agitation, but when occasion demands we must fight against the indifferent Government at the Centre. So, Sir, I appeal to the House, let us stand united and let us do whatsoever is possible under the circumstances to see that the oil refinery is established in Assam.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Resolution before the House.

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):** At the very outset, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the speech made by the Planning Minister, Mr. Tripathi. Specially his speech, referred to the location of the oil refinery has special significance. He says that the Government of India is helpless in the hands of the oil magnets. The Government of India has to submit to the dictates of the oil magnets. To be sure such a view receives corroboration from other oil dealers of India concerning the oil refinery at Trombay.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to Rule 97 of the Assembly Rules which says that the discussion of a resolution shall be strictly limited to the subject of the resolution. We are concerned with the location of the oil refinery in Assam.

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH:** I now come to the point, Sir. We are lacking in machinery and we lack in technical hands, still I would like to say that we have other things which justify the establishment of an oil refinery in Assam. If we would have no special attraction, if we would be less fond of this particular set of oil bosses elsewhere for technical and financial aid, I refer to U. S. S. R., we could have gone upto Russia's proficiency which is as good as any parts of the world and her willingness to help us requires no fresh proof. Bhilai is the standing proof.



Though this Government is not responsible for this perverse judgment, though it is anxious for the establishment of the oil refinery in Assam, still this Government failed to represent our case to the Centre. This Government follows the 'Jo hukums' of the Central Government. If an All Party Committee should have been formed and constituted to represent our case to the Central Government as well as to the people of other State, in that case in face of perverse judgment we could have got the help and co-operation of other States in India. Instead we are being fed by the Assam Government and the Congress Party with parochial propaganda—which has harmed our cause.

We have heard the other day that the Chief Minister who is the Leader of the House was pleading that Assam is a democratic country and here is a democratic Government. Well, Sir, this democratic Government has failed to appreciate the democratic movement. No democratic Government treats the democratic movement in a manner the Assam Government treats the oil refinery movement. In this way this Government has strengthened the hands of the Central Government. Central Government thinks that it would be able to thrust anything into the throat of Assam. A democratic Government respects a democratic movement and pays heed to the demands of the people and helpfully responds to it. The Assam Government is guilty of its incompetence, guilty of its negligence. Here we have seen so many Rip Van Winkles. Now, my Friends, there is still time for you to retrieve your mistaken policy. There is still time to retrace your steps by refusing to take burden of suppressing the mass movement on behalf of the great Moghuls of India, on behalf of the autocrats of Delhi. I invite you to cross over to the Opposition and cross the floor of the Assembly and join with the mass people.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):**  
Rather cross the Himalayas ! (*Laughter*).

**Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri):**  
Join to the side of the people in their struggle and demand for the establishment of the oil refinery in Assam. I can boldly say that the Central Government by their action cannot cow down the spirit of the mass people of Assam.

In this connection let me remember a Russian Army song—

“Comrades ! Bugles are sounding  
Shoulder your arms for the fray  
Boldly we will fight for freedom  
Bravely we will lead out a way”.



**Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion moved by my Friend, Mr. Sarma. Sir, there has been an agitation in the country for the last few years for locating the oil refinery in Assam. In that agitation there is no caste distinction, there is no party distinction, there are no two opinions, the people of Assam are one in their unanimous demand for the location of this refinery in Assam. As a result, on the 3rd April 1956, this Assembly had to adopt a unanimous resolution for locating the oil refinery in Assam and the Government of Assam also have moved the Central Government for locating this refinery in Assam. But it is distressing to note that in spite of the unanimous demand of the people, in spite of the unanimous demand of this Assembly and in spite of the unanimous demand of the State Government, the Government of India has decided to locate the oil refinery outside Assam. Sir, had it been in any other State excepting Assam, the question would have been quite different. We in Assam are a calm people, a disciplined people. But there is a limit to everything. The Central Government by their action have gone beyond that limit and it is now time for our Government to take sufficiently strong step in this regard. What is the reason for taking out the oil refinery from Assam? The reason is the difference of one anna per gallon. Sir, if the oil refinery is taken outside Assam, the Central Government will have to incur a loss of 40 to 50 crores of rupees for pipe-lines—have they calculated that? Now, I submit that this is not the reason. There must be some other reason behind it which is not known to us.

Sir, Assam is economically backward. Our part of the region is undeveloped. Although we have completed the First Five-Year Plan, the economic condition of the people has risen only by 5.5 per cent *per capita* whereas in other States it has risen by 10.2 per cent *per capita*. This is so because every time we have been refused to have any major industry in Assam. As has been rightly said by some of the previous speakers that every time we make a demand for development of our State, our demand is rejected by the Central Government. Sir, Assam is a component part of our country, India. The development of India depends on the development of our State. If our State remains undeveloped specially when it is a border State, development of India as a whole suffers. For this reason also the Central Government should have considered the reasonable demand of the people that the oil refinery should be located in Assam. It is a fact that by merely locating or establishing the oil refinery in Assam, Assam will not be advanced overnight industrially, but this refinery will give an



incentive to other major industries to be established here for the development of the State and as a result the economic condition of the people will also increase. So, I request our Government to impress upon the Central Government that considering this aspect of the matter the Central Government should locate the refinery in Assam, that they should not neglect the unanimous demand of the people any longer. Also our State Government should, if necessary, take extreme measures for establishing the oil refinery within the State and I can assure the Government that the people of Assam are at their back if they take a bold step in the matter of establishing the oil refinery in Assam.

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our discussions here are without any report about the findings of the Expert Committee. We have got in this Assembly no grounds of the Government of India for locating the refinery somewhere else, we have not seen any writing for that at all. The only report we have is from the Press. Many a time we say that we do not believe Press reports, but now we are discussing this very important matter about this oil refinery on the basis of these reports. I would like to know whether the Government of Assam have actually got the decision of the Government of India in this matter?

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance)**: Yes, Sir, I am going to make a statement later to-day in this connection. The Government of India and the Prime Minister have communicated to us that tentatively this decision has been taken.

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY**: Did they say 'tentatively'? If so, then there is hope that it will be changed.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance)**: Yes, sir, there is hope.

**Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY**: As I have already said, Sir, we do not know the reasons why the Government of India have decided tentatively to locate the refinery at Barauni and not in Assam. If we could know the reason, we could argue from our stand point. One hon. Member from Lumding said that defence might be a reason for which this refinery is not going to be located in Assam. Well, Sir, that is vague reason. It may be said that there may be a war and Assam being a Frontier State, it is vulnerable to attack and therefore this refinery should not be here. But war now-a-days will not be fought by



means of road or railway or air common places. An enemy will use Hydrogen and Atomic bombs and it may be that they will bomb the very source of the oil which is in Assam. They will bomb Digboi itself and they will bomb the refinery wherever it may be situated. They may bomb Barauni if the Oil Refinery is situated there. Instead of bombing Barauni, they will bomb even the very source of supply and thus there will be no oil and in that case how will the refinery run? (*Laughter*). For the sake of the defence of the country, Government of India will want oil. Supposing oil sources in Assam are bombed we do not think Government of India will decide to leave Assam at the mercy of the enemy who may come from the east and will retreat to the west. Many reasons can be given, but it is no use going into such imaginary reasons because we do not know the real reasons why the Government of India has decided tentatively to situate the Oil Refinery at Barauni, but we shall only say that we in Assam, naturally expect that when this oil is found from the wells in Assam, the Refinery should be also in Assam. That is our natural feeling that when we have the source of oil wealth in this State, we have the right to claim that the processing of crude oil also should be here in Assam. If we do not get that we cannot help but feel that there is great injustice. Whether we live in the Hills or Plains of Assam (although I am in the Hills) our feeling is one in this regard. We the people living in the Hills and Plains of Assam feel strongly that this Refinery should be located in Assam. Considering the fact that we have no other natural wealth of Assam worth the name, except this, and that if this refinery is not located in Assam, it will deprive a large section of our people from employment, to claim that the Refinery should be in Assam. Why should this refinery be located in some other place in a different State? The Government of India should seriously consider the feelings of the people of Assam. A peaceful democratic administration should regard the real feelings of the people otherwise there may be unrest. Wise administration has to be guided by the policy of maintaining peace. That is the philosophy of good administration. If the feelings of the people are disregarded there will be great resentment and repercussions. Because the Government of India are wise, they will not go against the feelings of the people of this State, and they are wise enough to change their tentative decision and decide to locate this refinery in Assam and get the blessings of the people of this State. It may be possible that the Company may lose some money by establishing the Refinery in Assam, but for sake of keeping peace and not creating discontentment,



the company will be greatly benefited by getting the good-will of the people. Good-will and peace must be bought at any cost. As we have been informed by the Finance Minister that the Government of India has given indication that *tentatively* only it has been decided to establish the refinery outside our State, I believe and hope that the Government of India will revise their tentative decision and will agree to locate the refinery in Assam. (*Loud applause*).

With these words, I support the amendment that has been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Goswami.

**Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Mr. Speaker Sir, I find the amendments that I moved and the Resolution which was moved by my Friend, Mr. Sarma, are to be fitted in and I find that they do not fit in exactly. So, I have drafted a new amending Resolution keeping the whole amendment and Resolution in tact. I would like to place it before the House.

Sir, I beg to move that: "This Assembly takes into account the resentment of the people of Assam against the reported decision of the Government of India to locate the Oil Refinery outside Assam and stands behind the people in their demand for its location in Assam.

This Assembly reiterates the Short Notice Resolution unanimously passed by this House on 3rd April, 1956 and is of the opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India to take immediate steps to instal the Oil Refinery in Assam for processing the crude oil of Assam with a view to remove the imbalance in the economy of Assam and to help the regional development of underdeveloped areas like Assam so that there may be even industrial development of all States in India".

I hope this Resolution in the amended form will be accepted by the House.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** I notice that this amended form of the Resolution which is necessary by the virtue of the amendment moved by the Member from Rampur makes the Resolution more stream-lined; so this Resolution in the amended form will be taken up if and when it is accepted by the Government.



**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the stand already taken by the Ministry and the present position of the matter will be explained by my esteemed colleague, the Finance Minister, at the end of the debate to-day. I take my stand simply to give vent to the feelings of the important section of the people of Assam whom I represent in this House.

Sir, it is not so much the question of any sentiment or emotion, it is a question of ventilation of the grievances and legitimate rights of the people of Assam as a whole.

Sir, I endorse the views expressed by some of my Friends, particularly, my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, when he said in his speech on the discussion of the Budget that in this grave and important issue people of Assam are one, no matter whether they are from the Hills or Plains, we are one. We may have different political ideology but that does not matter and when the interest of the State is at stake we are one.

Sir, Shri Goswami as well as Shri R.M. Das wanted to know the stand of the Ministry on the issue. Sir, we are here in the Ministry with the support of the people. We stand for the people and that we are to look to their interest. To-day if we find that the legitimate right of the people is being taken away, then there is no meaning of our remaining in the Ministry. Our position is therefore clear. The matter was kept pending so long though to-day we hear from the Finance Minister that a tentative decision has already been taken regarding the location of the Oil Refinery outside Assam. Sir, I am not happy on this decision of the Central Government, but I hope even now, there is a chance of revising the decision. I hope the Central Ministry under the able leadership of our beloved Leader, Pandit Nehru, in whom we have got so much confidence, this matter will be revised and they will certainly see that the legitimate right of the people of Assam will be properly protected. Sir, I have nothing more to say and I think we can accept the Amendment now moved by my Friend, Shri Goswami, to our general Resolution. I hope all the Members both from the Hills and Plains belonging to different political parties will be unanimous on this issue.

**Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as has been said on this question of Oil Refinery by many hon. Members, I am also strongly against the



decision of the Government of India. Sir, from the very beginning of this question when the Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, came to Gauhati on the very evening he said that the Oil Refinery will be located in Assam and the people will get their justice. Since then, Sir, we are very much in confidence that the location of Oil Refinery will be in Assam. Sir, the long delay in deciding to locate the Oil Refinery in Assam was thought of to be due to elections, but that is not the reason. Even after the elections were over, this question is still hanging undecided. So, Sir, we find that the delay in this respect is not due to elections, there is some of other thing behind it. These things have happened on several occasions and my Friend from Lumding has rightly said, for example, the construction of a bridge over the Brahmaputra, the construction of a railway line to Garo Hills. These things have not been done as yet. Sir, when there are 800 new railway lines under the Second Five-Year Plan, why a railway line could not be constructed in Garo Hills? But in other States many important projects have already been taken up, for example, in Orrisa they have already got River Valley Projects as well as multipurpose schemes; here we have nothing. Sir, the Hirakud Project is there with the Rourkela Steel Plant. Again for the training of turbulent rivers there is the Damodar Valley with seven projects, but here in Assam, perhaps we could not make the Central Government understand our difficulties and needs; so there is nothing here.

This reminds me one thing. Sir, Late Shri R. K. Choudhury once asked on the floor of Parliament about the strength of Assamese personnel in the Central Secretariat to which he was replied that there were fourteen. Being not satisfied with the information, he then went round the Central Secretariat in search of the Assamese personnel but there he found only Iyyers, Ayyangers, etc., but no Assamese. Then he said whether the Assamese vanished like the 14 missing points of President Wilson and the 14 missing points of Mr. Mahammad Ali Jinnah.

Sir, if the Central Government did not consider that a single Assamese is suitable for service in the Central Secretariat what kind of State is there in the Union having not a single representative in the Central Secretariat? Then we felt that Assamese people may be kept aloof, as they consider Assam to be a disgraceful Province. So I say, Sir, how Assam is being neglected by the Central Government times without numbers! Sir, I take my stand now to strongly support the Amendment moved by Shri Goswami wherein he has stat-



that, if necessary, the whole Ministry should resign because our demand for the location of the oil refinery in Assam is not fulfilled. Sir, if the Central Government will not review their decision, I also say that the whole Ministry should resign and all the M.L.As. both in the Hills and in the Plains should also resign. I hope the Central Government will surely understand that we have all done this according to the wish of the entire people of Assam.

**Shri BISHWANATH UPADHAYA (Patharkandi):** अभी हाल ही में मैं दिल्ली गया था। वहाँ केंद्रीय सरकार के एक मंत्री से मेरी बातचीत हुई थी। उन्होंने मुझे बिल्कुल साफ़ शब्दों में कह दिया था कि हम आसाम को तेल शोधनागार नहीं देंगे। यह बड़े अफसोस की बात है कि आसाम के प्रति वहाँ के लोग बड़े उदास हैं। वे हमेशा आसाम को अवहेलना की दृष्टि से देखते आये हैं। मुझे वहाँ ऐसा लगा कि आसाम के बारे में वहाँ के लोगों की जानकारी बिल्कुल नहीं के बराबर है। वहाँ मुझसे ऐसा प्रश्न पूछा गया था कि लुसाई पहाड़ कहाँ है? क्या वह बर्मा में है? अब सोचिये कि लोक सभा के सदस्य जैसे जिम्मेदार लोगों की यही जानकारी आसाम के बारे में है तो इससे बढ़कर अफसोस की बात और क्या हो सकती है? वे आसाम को अभी भी जादू मंत्र से परिपूर्ण एक देश समझते हैं।

इसके अलावा आसाम को वे हमेशा से शोषण करते आये हैं। आसाम की चाय तथा इस तेल उद्योग से केंद्रीय सरकार को आयकर के रूप में काफी रुपये मिलता है। आप जानते हैं कि केवल चाय उद्योग से ही उन्हें सालाना १०९ करोड़ रुपये मिलते हैं। किन्तु तो भी वे हमेशा आसाम के प्रति अवहेलना करते आये हैं। कोई सहानुभूति उन्हें आसाम के प्रति नहीं है। यह अजीब तमाशा हमेशा से होता आ रहा है। आसाम की न्यायोचित तथा जरूरी मांगों को केंद्रीय सरकार हमेशा ठुकराती आयी है।

अभी हाल ही में रेल के तीसरे दर्जे के यात्रियों के सोने की व्यवस्था की गयी है। बंबई, मद्रास आदि जगह जाइये, तो वहाँ के रेलवे में तीसरे दर्जे के यात्रियों के सोने की अच्छी व्यवस्था हुई है। किन्तु यह बड़े खेद का विषय है कि आसाम के रेलवे में इस तरह की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। यहाँ तक कि आसाम के रेलवे के डिब्बे भी बिल्कुल खराब हैं। जो डिब्बे भारत के और किसी स्थान में नहीं चलते हों, वे आसाम में भेज दिये जाते हैं। इस तरह हर विषय में वे आसाम के प्रति अवहेलना करते हैं। क्या आसाम में आदमी नहीं बसते हैं? क्या, आसाम के रहनेवाले लोगों की सुख-सुविधा का ध्यान देना उनका काम नहीं है?

तेल शोधनागार का प्रश्न आसाम प्रांत के लिये जीवन मरण का एक प्रश्न है। इस प्रश्न में आसाम के सभी मनुष्य एक मत हैं कि यह शोधनागार आसाम में ही स्थापित हो। तेल आसाम की देन है। यह आसाम का संपद है। आसाम की जनता की यह मांग, कि तेल शोधनागार आसाम में ही हो, एक न्यायोचित मांग है।

मैंने यह देखा है कि आसाम के लीडरान इस मामले को ठीक तरह केंद्रीय सरकार के पास रखने के लिये समर्थ नहीं हुए हैं। वे दिल्ली जाते हैं, तो वहाँ आसाम की समस्याओं को जोरदार शब्दों में रख नहीं सकते हैं। वे जाते हैं तो अपना स्वार्थ सिद्ध करने के लिये ही जाते हैं। कोई कहता है कि मुझे मंत्री बनाइये, कोई कहता है मुझे अध्यक्ष बनाइये। इस हालत में आसाम के लीडरान भी इसके लिये जिम्मेदार हैं।



কিন্তু ফিৰ ভী আৰাম কী জনতা কী য়হ মাংগ কেন্দ্ৰীয় সরকারকী পূৰী কৰনী পড়গী । ইয়কী বিনা আৰাম কী জনতা চীন সে নহী বৈঠগী । ইয়কী লিয়ে ভাৰী সে ভাৰী ত্যাগ কৰনে কী লিয়ে ভী আৰাম কী জনতা সহৰ্প তৈয়াৰ হৈ । উয়কী লিয়ে হম জনতা কী প্ৰতিনি-  
ধিয়ী কী অগৰ বিধান সভাকী সদস্য পদসে ইস্তীফা দেনা হৈ তো হম সব সহৰ্প তৈয়াৰ হৈ ।

আখিৰমঁ মঁ ইয় প্ৰস্তাব কী সংশোধনী কী সাথ অগনে হৃদয় সে সমৰ্থন কৰতা হুঁ ।

### Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur): মাননীয়া

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, তেল শোধনাগাৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰো আৰু এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ওপৰত অন্য সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱটো গ্ৰহণ কৰাত কোনো আপত্তি নাই, কিয়নো সংশোধনীত কোনো উত্তৰ বা টান কথা কোৱা হোৱা নাই । এই প্ৰস্তাৱ প্ৰসঙ্গত যিসকল সদস্যই এই সদনত শোধনাগাৰ সম্পৰ্কে বক্তৃতা দিছে তেওঁলোকৰ চিন্তাধাৰাতকৈ নোৰ চিন্তাধাৰা অলপ বেলেগ ধৰণৰ । বহুতে হয়তো মনত এটা ভয়ৰ ভাব লৈ কথা কোৱা দেখা গৈছে । কিন্তু নোৰ সেই ভয়ৰ ভাব মূলি হোৱা নাই । কিয় হোৱা নাই ? এই কাৰণে হোৱা নাই যে এটা বস্তু যাৰ অধিকাৰিত থাকে সেই বস্তু কোনোৱাই বনেবে বা কলমেৰে খোচ নাবি কাটি নিব নোৱাৰে, আৰু এইটো কেতিয়াও হব নোৱাৰে । আমি জানিব পাৰিছো যে অসমৰ খাৰুৱা তেলৰ শোধনাগাৰটো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে ইয়াৰ পৰা নি বিহাৰৰ 'বাকণী' নামে ঠাইত পাতিব খুজিছে, ইয়াত কিছুমান যুক্তি দাঙি ধৰিছে যি বোৰ যুক্তি আমাৰ গাঁৱলীয়া কথাত কবলৈ হলে 'গছত গৈক উঠা আৰু হোলোন্ধাৰে কাপ বিদ্ধা' বুলি কোৱা হয় ।

কেন্দ্ৰীয় মন্ত্ৰী এজনে এটা যুক্তি দাঙি ধৰিছে যে প্ৰতিবন্ধাৰ কাৰণে ইয়াত পাতিলে অসুবিধা হয় । দুখন মহাযুদ্ধ পাৰ হৈ গল ; ডিগবৈৰ তেল কোম্পানী আৰু তাত থকা শোধনাগাৰ তাতেই থাকিল—তেতিয়া প্ৰতিবন্ধাৰ কোনো অসুবিধা হোৱা নাই । তাৰ পিচত ইয়াৰ পৰা শোধন কৰা তেল নিয়াৰ সুবিধাৰ কথা উল্লেখ কৰা হৈছে । এইটো বুজিব নোৱাৰা কথা । খাৰুৱা তেল যি পৰিমাণে ওলাব গোধিত তেল সেই পৰিমাণ নহব । যদি খাৰুৱা তেল ৭০০ মাইল পাইপেৰে নিব পাৰে তেনেহলেকে শোধন কৰা তেল সৰু পাইপৰ সহায়েৰে যি বজাৰত বেচিব খোজে সেই বজাৰলৈকে নিব পাৰিব । সেই কাৰণে এইটো 'গছত গৈক উঠা' যুক্তি বুলি কব পাৰি । আপোনালোকে জানে যে ডিগবৈত যি খাৰুৱা তেল উৎপন্ন হয় তাক শোধন কৰি তেল নলীয়েদি আনি তিনচুকিয়া 'ডিপো'ত জমা কৰি থোৱা হয় । নাহৰকটিয়া, নৰাণ আৰু দুই এঠাইৰ কথা আজি আমাৰ মাজত ওলাইছে । কিন্তু বন্ধুসকল মই জনাব খুজিছো অসমৰ নাহৰকটিয়া আৰু নৰাণতহে যে খাৰুৱা তেল আছে এনে নহয় ; আৰু আন কোন কোন ঠাইত খাৰুৱা তেল আছে এতিয়াও জনা নাই । যি হওক এই যে তেল শোধনাগাৰৰ দাবী, ই অসমীয়া ৰাইজৰ দাবী । এই দাবী উপেক্ষা কৰিবৰ কোনো শক্তিৰ ক্ষমতা নাই । যি সময়ত আমাক Grouping ত সন্মতৰ খোজা হৈছিল সেই সময়ত মহাত্মা গান্ধীয়ে কৈছিল যে যিটো যুক্তি ন্যায্য সঙ্গত হয়, সেই যুক্তিৰ ওপৰত কোনেও হাত দিব নোৱাৰে । এটা জাতিৰ বিৰুদ্ধে কোনো চৰকাৰে বা কোনো বিৰুদ্ধ শক্তিয়ে এটা কলমৰ খোচতে কোনো জাতিক নিজৰ ন্যায্য স্বত্বৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰিব নোৱাৰে । সেই কাৰণে অন্যান্য বন্ধুসকলে ভয়ৰ যি এটা ভাব প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে মোৰ মনে সেই ভয় অমূলক । ভয় নাই এই কাৰণে যে মই অনুভৱ কৰিছো অসমৰ গাঁৱে ভুঞ্চে চুকে কোনে থকা প্ৰত্যেকবেই এটা দাবী আৰু ই ন্যায্য দাবী । আমাৰ কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰ আৰু পণ্ডিত নেহেৰুৰ কলমৰ এটা অঙ্গত অসমৰ যিটো ন্যায্য সঙ্গত দাবী তাক আমাৰ বুকুৰ পৰা লৈ যাব নোৱাৰে ।



অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় মহি প্রস্তাবটো সর্বান্তঃকরণেৰে সমর্থন কৰিছে। এই দাবী শক্তিশালী কৰিবলৈ হলে অকল সদনৰ ভিতৰত দুইচাৰি কথা সমালোচনা কৰিলেই নহয় আমাৰ পিচত যি বিৰাট জনতা যাজু আছে তাক লৈ আগবাঢ়িব লাগিব। ই এটা ডাঙৰ কথা। এই পন্থাত আমি আগবাঢ়িব পাৰিলে পৃথিৱীত এনে শক্তি নাই যি আমাৰ ন্যায্য দাবী আমাৰ বুকুৰ পৰা ফালিলৈ যাব। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় মহি ইয়াকে কৈ তেল শোধনাগাৰ অসমত স্থাপনৰ, প্রস্তাবটোত মোৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ বৰঙনী যোগালোঁ।

**Maulavi JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara):** On a point of information, Sir, may I know what is the time limit for discussion on this Resolution?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** My idea was that in view of the fact that this Resolution is of vital importance to this State, I might request that we should take the whole day for the discussion.

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):** May I make one submission, Sir? If the hon. Members are so pleased and if the debate is considered sufficient, we may not prolong it so that we may resume the general discussion on the Budget. Here I can inform the House that we have received a message from our Public Works Department Minister in this connection.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The hon. Minister wants to make a statement. I think he can do so at the close of the debate, and I think I can call upon the Minister to make the statement at 3-45 P. M. The debate may continue upto 4-30 P. M.

### (Adjournment)

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

### (After Lunch)

**Shri RADHA KISHAN KHEMKA (Tinsukia):** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজ আসাম প্রান্তमें तेल शोधनागार की समस्या को लेकर प्रांत की जनता के दिल एवं दिमागमें एक भयंकर बेचैनी उत्पन्न हो रही है। तेल शोधनागार आसाम में स्थापना करने की जो हमारी मांग है वह उचित है और यह मांग प्रांत के कोने कोने में, पहाड़ों से लेकर समतल भूमि में बसी हुई विभिन्न जाति के एवं विभिन्न भाषाभाषी जनता की आवाज है। हम तेल शोधनागार की मांग करके सिर्फ अपने प्रांतका ही विकास का ख्याल नहीं कर रहे हैं, बल्कि हमारा विश्वास है कि सारे भारतवर्ष के विकास की चिंता कर रहे हैं। क्योंकि यह प्रांत भारतवर्ष के पूर्वी सीमान्त में अवस्थित है। इस प्रांत की शक्ति भी भारतवर्ष की शक्ति है। इस लिये आज हमारे सामने जो समस्या आई है उसका हमें दृढ़तापूर्वक धैर्य तथा शांतिमय तरीकों से समाधान करने की कोशिश करनी चाहिये। आज से १० वर्ष पहले भी हमारे सम्मुख इसी तरह जीवन मरण की



সমস্যা আঘী থী। লেकिन हमारी जनता के श्रेष्ठ एवं विद्वान नेताओं के, विशेषकर स्वर्गीय वरदल जी के नेतृत्व तथा वापूके आशीर्वाद से दृढ़ता के साथ रहकर उस समस्याका समाधान करके Grouping से अपने प्रांत को बचाया। आज ठीक उसी तरह की एक विकट समस्या हमारे सामने है। प्रांत भर की जनता इस समस्याका समाधान चाहती है। और हम भी प्रांत भर की जनताके प्रतिनिधि बनकर इस समस्याके समाधानके लिये गंभीरता पूर्वक विचार कर रहे हैं। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि अगर हम दृढ़ता पूर्वक हमारी एवं जनता की जो उचित मांग है, उसपर अटल रहेंगे तो उसे अवश्य पूरी कर सकेंगे। मुझे विश्वास है कि हमारी केंद्रीय सरकार भी इस समस्या पर फिर से विचार करके प्रांत की समस्त जनता की यह मांग पूरी करेगी। लेकिन आज हमें आवेश में नहीं आना चाहिये। ठंडे दिल व दिमागसे इस समस्याके समाधान का पथ हमें निकालना चाहिये। इसलिये आज जो प्रस्ताव हमारे माननीय सदस्य श्री शर्मा जी महोदयने इस सदन के समीप रखा है उसका मैं हृदयसे समर्थन करता हूँ। एवं साथ ही अध्यक्ष महोदय ने मुझे यहाँ अपने विचार प्रकट करने का जो मौका दिया है, उसके लिये मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

—जय हिन्द—

### **Shrimati PADMAKUMARI GOHAIN (Amaran) :** মাননীয়

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, অসমত তেল শোধনাগাৰ স্থাপন সম্বন্ধীয় বিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উপস্থাপিত হৈছে তাৰ আলোচনাত এই সদনত সদস্য সকল এক মত হৈ, অসমত তেলশোধনাগাৰ স্থাপন কৰিবলৈ কৰা দাবীত মই সমর্থন জনাও। যেতিয়া দেশখনত এটা ডাঙৰ সমস্যাৰ আবিৰ্ভাব হয়, তেতিয়া সমস্যাৰ ওকত্ব বুজি দেশবাসী একমত হব লাগিব আৰু আজিৰ এই সদনত তাৰেই প্ৰতিকৃতি ভাৱি উঠিছে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ পূৰ্ব প্ৰাপ্তত অবস্থিত অসম এখন ক্ষুদ্ৰ ৰাজ্য। ৰাজ্যখন ক্ষুদ্ৰহলেও ইয়াৰ সমস্যা বিলাক বহুমুখী আৰু অভিনব। আজি, যি স্বলত সমগ্ৰ ভাৰতবৰ্ষকে পঞ্চবাৰ্ষিকী পৰিকল্পনাৰ আঁচনিৰ জৰিয়তে ভাৰতৰ অন্যান্য ৰাজ্য সমূহ উন্নতিৰ পথত আগবাঢ়ি যাবলৈ সমর্থ হৈছে আৰাৰ অসমৰাজ্যখন তাৰ তুলনাত একেবাৰে পাছ পৰা—কোনো উল্লেখযোগ্য কোনো আঁচনিৰ পৰা নাই তেনে স্বলত আৰাৰ অসমৰ নিচিনা এখন পিচপৰা ৰাজ্যৰ বুকুত ওলোৱা প্ৰাকৃতিক সম্পদ—তেলৰ শোধনাগাৰটো অসমৰ বাহিৰৰ অন্য প্ৰদেশত স্থাপন কৰিবলৈ কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে সিদ্ধান্ত লোৱাটো অতি পৰিতাপৰ কথা। যদি সেয়ে হয় তেনেহলে আৰাৰ অসমৰ দুৰ্গতিৰ সীমা নোহোৱা হব। কাৰণ, তেল শোধনাগাৰ স্থাপনৰ লগত অন্যান্য শিল্প আৰু তাৰ লগত বিভিন্ন খৰণৰ কুটীৰ শিল্প স্থাপনৰ সম্ভাৱনা বুকুত লৈ দিনক দিনে প্ৰবলবেগে বাঢ়ি যহা আৰাৰ নিবনুৱা সমস্যাৰ সমাধান হব পাৰিব বুলি আশা কৰিছিলো আৰু তাৰ লগে লগে দেশৰ অভাব অভিযোগ সমাধান হৈ এখন—অষ্ট সনাত্ন ব্যবস্থাৰ যি সপোন দেখিছিলো যি ভাঙি যাব। আজি তেলশোধনাগাৰ শিতানত বাতৰি কাগজত ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ আখৰেৰে ওলোৱা বাতৰিয়ে—পৰ্বত তৈয়াৰ নগৰ চহৰ, গাঁওভূঁই সকলোতে এটি দুঃচিন্তাৰ কাৰণ বুলি প্ৰকাশ পাইছে। আৰাৰ বুকৰ সম্পদ কাঢ়ি নি অন্য ৰাজ্যক চহকী কৰাৰ যুক্তি বিচাৰি নাপাও। এই শোধনাগাৰ, অসমত স্থাপন হব নোৱাৰে বুলি যি বিলাক যুক্তি দিয়া হৈছে সেইবিলাকক আমি যুক্তি বুলি কব নোৱাৰো। যদি অসমত তেল শোধনাগাৰ স্থাপিত হলে, শোধনাগাৰটো নষ্ট হোৱাৰ ভয় আছে তেনেহলে যত তেলৰ খাট আছে আৰু যৰ পৰা খাঁকুৱা তেল উৎপন্ন হৈছে সেই ঠাইতো তেনে বিপদ আপদ হব পাৰে। সেই কাৰণে “মাটিৰ তলৰ সম্পদ মাটিৰ তলতেই থকা উচিত; ইয়াৰ উদ্ঘাটন কৰি বাহিৰলৈ উলিওৱাৰ প্ৰয়োজন আৰু আবশ্যকতা নাই” বুলি কোৱাৰ যেনে যুক্তি নাই, ঠিক সেই দৰে অসমত শোধনাগাৰ নোহোৱাৰ যুক্তি দেখুৱাইছে।



সেই যুক্তি কোনো অৰ্থ নাই বুলি ভাবো। সেই যুক্তি অসমবাসীয়ে মানি লব নোৱাৰে। মই সম্বোধন পাইছো যে অসমৰ হাজাৰ হাজাৰ শিক্ষিত অশিক্ষিত পৰ্বৰত-ভৈয়ামৰ সকলো জনসাধাৰণে উপলব্ধি কৰিব পাৰিছে যে অসমৰ সম্পদ অসমতে থাকিব লাগে, অসমৰ সম্পদৰ দ্বাৰা অসম চহকী হব লাগিব আৰু ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই অসমৰ নিবনুৱা সমগ্ৰ সমাধান হব লাগিব। অসমৰ ভবিষ্যত আৰ্থিক আৰু সৰ্ব্বপ্ৰকাৰ উন্নতি নিৰ্ভৰ কৰিছে এই গভীৰ বিষয়টোৰ ওপৰত। গতিকে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ মন্তব্যত অসমবাসী মন্তাহত হৈছে এনে পৰিস্থিতিত এই বিধান সভাই আজিৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সকলোৱে এক মত হৈ গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে। অসমীয়াৰ প্ৰাণত শেষ নিশ্বাস থকা পৰ্যন্ত অসমবাসীৰ এই দাবী দৃঢ় হৈ থাকিব। অসমীয়াই কেতিয়াও নাপাহৰে, লাচিতে কৈ যোৱা কথা—আমাৰ যে দেশতকৈ সোমাই ডাঙৰ নহয়। গতিকেই মই বিধান সভাৰ এই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ প্ৰস্তাৱটো মই সবাস্তঃকৰণে সমৰ্থন কৰিছো।

**Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad to support the Resolution moved by my Friend, Mr. Sarma, in its amended form. The Resolution raises a vital demand of the people of Assam. The moment the newspapers carried the news of the decision of the Central Government of locating the refinery at Barauni, the feelings of the people of Assam ran high. They felt that they have been let down, they felt that they fell victim to the machinations of the Gulf merchants. Once again we remember, as my hon. Friend from Rampur has said, that our beloved leaders who paid glowing tributes to the robust patriotism of our people, who said that the people of Assam have a very high sense of artistic taste and that our womenfolk weave the song of our lives into their garments, seem to forget us the moment they cross the Brahmaputra. But I am optimistic. I have faith in our people, who have strength of mind and unity of purpose. I believe that the people of Assam will be able to convince our leadership that we have a right to live and a right to progress and prosper and above all we have a right to have the scope for the full flowering of our potentialities. I do not think that the refinery alone will solve all the problems of the State. But it will not only give a good start, it will open the floodgates of rapid industrialisation of the State. The people realize that, and that is why I believe the movement for the establishment of the oil refinery in Assam has become symbol of the burning urge of the people for rapid industrialisation of the State and for raising the national income and the living standards of the people. Sir, I find it difficult to persuade myself to believe that our people are loathe to adjust themselves to industrialisation as my hon. Friend, Shri Tripathi had said in reply to the debate on the Governor's address. The movement for the location of the oil Refinery disproves it.

I do not think technical difficulties or economic reasons stand in the way of establishment of the oil refinery in our



State. The reason is to be sought elsewhere. The oil monopolists want to have a control over the entire eastern market. The findings of the Vasist Committee show that the cost of establishing an oil refinery in Assam is the lowest while it is the highest in Barauni. According to their estimates the cost comes to 50.94 crores and 68.67 crores respectively. Of course the working cost in Assam will be the highest as it includes the transportation charges, which is estimated at 15.23 crores. They also argue that because of transport difficulties and distance from the consumption centres it will not be a feasible proposition to locate the refinery in Assam. But, Sir, transport and industry have formed a vicious ring in Assam. Whenever the demand for development of transport is put forward we are told that it won't be worth while because the State is industrially deficient and whenever we ask for new industries we are told that the transport system of the State is undeveloped. We are told that as there are no giant industries in our State the capital invested in transport would be wasted. Sir, this ring of arguments must end. This entire region must be industrially developed and for that purpose the transport difficulties must be solved. The transport systems, not of Assam as also of North Bengal and North Bihar, are deficient. To develop this region which has immense industrial potentialities the transport system must needs be developed for a lasting solution of this problem.

A still water canal connecting the Brahmaputra with the Ganges was conceived of as early as 1952 by the Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Transport Board. Sri Mansingh, Head of the Irrigation Department of the Water Transport Board, worked out a plan of this canal and estimated it roughly to cost about 41 crores of rupees. This was again re-considered in 1955 and I am told that Vasist Committee also took this into account but could not come to a decision. Now, Sir, after this decision of the Central Government the question of industrialisation of the State and of the entire North-Eastern region will recede to the background.

Then argument has been advanced that the remodelling of the railway transport will take sometime and the canal is necessarily a long drawn programme. But the refinery is to be started immediately and therefore it should be located at a suitable place. But for the purpose of setting up the refinery immediately the services of the Steam Navigation Companies can be utilised. At present they carry cargo upwards to the tune of about 9 lakh maunds per year in the form of machinery



and iron goods. They will also carry oil from the oil fields to the tune of about 2.5 lakh maunds per year. The river route can be profitably utilised to solve the problem of transportation for the present. Some of my Friends have suggested that the best solution would be to have a delivery pipe line from the refinery to be established in Assam. That has been considered to be the most modern solution because that will resolve the transport difficulties and will relieve traffic congestion. We can have a delivery pipeline from the oil fields to the places of distribution. Sir, even if we do not have a regular pipe line, the petrol can be carried by the link line, provided an alternative link line is constructed from Dhubri to either Jalpaiguri or Siliguri *via* Cooch-Bihar and Domohoni with an additional bridge over the Teesta. It would not be very expensive either. This can be done pending the digging of the canal about which I mentioned. It is only the canal which can solve the economic ills of Assam and the whole natural wealth of this part of the country can be developed.

Now, Sir, the establishment of the refinery will not only open up the prospect of developing transport, it will also open up the prospect of developing power. The natural gas which comes out of the oil field of Naharkatiya is wasted and no nation can prosper if it wastes its natural wealth. That natural gas can be used at the source for supplying power to the refinery itself. Then, Sir, if the refinery is established in Assam, many ancillary industries would be set up to utilise the by-products, which would be obtained in the process of refining the crude oil. Thus, the establishment of the refinery will set in motion a chain of industrial activities and organisations in Assam.

Then, Sir, speaking about technical personnel, we may have to bring some technical personnel from outside the State or even outside the country, but the bulk of the workers can be found in the State or the neighbouring States. We have an apprentice class at Digboi, and about 75 per cent of the trainees are out of employment. This trained personnel can be absorbed either in the refinery or in the subsidiary industries that will spring up.

Sir, I am very happy to find that all sections of the House and all sections of the people of this State are unanimously behind this demand and with this unanimity we will be able to convince our leadership that the children of Assam have the right to suck their mother's breast.



**Maulavi JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether I shall be able to do justice to the subject, because when my heart is full my words may be very few.

In supporting the amended Resolution, I am very sorry to remark that the Government showed their weakness in moving the first Resolution in this House. In the very Resolution itself I found that they had forgotten to mention about the sentiments of the people of Assam. It should have been stated that the people of Assam are very much agitated over this matter and if the refinery is not established in Assam the people will not tolerate it. The very wording of that Resolution gave us no hope and they expressed the weakness of their policy in this House by sponsoring that weak Resolution. We, in the Opposition, wanted to apprise the Central Government about the feelings of the people of Assam, so that they may not dare to flout the wishes of the people. I am very glad, Sir, that the Government, after due consideration, has accepted the strong wording of our Resolution and we hope the Central Government will not dare now to flout the wishes of the people of Assam.

Sir, I am sorry to say that when we, from this side, asked some questions about the report of the Expert Committee regarding oil refinery the Treasury Benches replied that the report, which has been received from the Central Government, is confidential and they are unwilling to disclose it. I do not know, Sir, why they have kept the report so long without disclosing it to the people of Assam, who are vitally interested and anxious for it. We wanted to know from Government the gist of that report, even that has not been given to us. I am sorry, Sir, when I asked the Hon'ble Ministers whether they were ready to resign on this issue if the refinery was not established in Assam, there was no reply. (*A Voice:—Alas!*) Yes, the people of Assam will also say 'Alas' that our leaders are so weak not to press our demand that the oil refinery should be established in Assam at any cost. So far as my information goes, the Government have not been able to place our case well and have not been able to place the sentiments of the people of Assam to the Centre.

Sir, we are going to establish a socialistic pattern of Society but still we are being guided by the capitalist in the establishment of our industries in this region. There may be less gain to the capitalists, but for that we cannot forego our claim. Assam also cannot remain undeveloped in future. The location of the refinery outside Assam may bring the greatest benefit



to the world oil kings, but from the point of view of Assam's economic interests, the refinery should be established in Assam. This would give incentive to the development of other industries. Sir, whenever we have spoken about industrial development we have got the reply that communications of Assam are so bad that development of industries may not be possible and profitable. No capitalist would come there, because there is no easy transport for the transport of their produce, and when we speak that the transport is not improved, the reply is that: what will you do with this transport when you have no industry and no goods to carry on? Sir, is this the way we are going to be treated in the matter of Industry and Transport? I hope the Government should be very very strong in this matter. Sir, if the Centre does not yield to this Resolution, I think the people of Assam know how to deal with the matter and people of Assam know how to give their blood for the cause of Assam. I hope again that the Government of Assam should prevail on the Central Government to have the oil refinery located in Assam.

With these few words I have been able to support the Resolution which has been proposed to be amended by the hon. Members.

**Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar :)** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, তেল শোষণাগাৰ সম্পৰ্কে আজি এই সদন যি সংকটৰ সম্মুখীন হৈছে, এনে অৱস্থাত এই সদনৰ সকলো সদস্যৰ মনটো পূৰ্বৰ কথা এটা আহিছে যে তেল শোষণাগাৰ সম্পৰ্কত আকৌ হয়তো ৰাজনৈতিক আন্দোলন কৰিব লগা হ'ব পাৰে। যিসকলে আগতে ৰাজনৈতিক আন্দোলনত যোগ দিয়া নাই সেই সকলেও এতিয়া যোগ দিব লাগিব আৰু দিবলৈ বাধ্য হ'ব। আজি এটা ৰাজনৈতিক আৰু অৰ্থনৈতিক আন্দোলন নহলে আমি অসমত নিজক প্ৰতিস্থা কৰি ইয়াৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ উন্নতি কৰা সম্ভৱপৰ নহয়। আজি অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণ আৰু এই সদনৰ সদস্য সকলেও এটা আন্দোলন কৰিব লগীয়া অৱস্থাত উপনীত হৈছে। এই প্ৰসংগত আমাৰ গুৱাহাটীৰ সদস্যজনে এটা কথা কৈছে যে আমি তেল মালিক সকলৰ হাতত পুতলাৰ দৰে নাচিব লাগিছো। এই কথাই আমাক আকৌ পূৰ্বৰ কথা এটা মনত পেলাইছে, ই বহু পৰিমাণে সঁচা।

পূৰ্বৰে পৰা ডিগবৈত তেল শোষণাগাৰ এটা চলি আছে। এতিয়া নতুন তেলৰ সন্ধানতহে তেলমালিক সকলে এই সংকটৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিছে। ৰূপী কোম্পানী গঠনৰ সময়তো এই তেলমালিক সকলেই বাধাৰ সৃষ্টি কৰিছিল আৰু দলিলত চহি কৰিবৰ সময়ত চুক্তি ভঙ্গ কৰাৰ দৰেই কৰিছিল। কিন্তু ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ কঠোৰ নীতিৰ ফলতহে আজি ৰূপী কোম্পানী গঠন সম্ভৱপৰ হৈছে। এই ৰূপী কোম্পানীৰ ৫১ ভাগ চৰকাৰৰ আৰু বাকী ৪৯ ভাগহে কোম্পানীৰ ভাগত পৰিছে। ইয়াৰ ফলত তেল মালিক সকলে লাভৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ অংশ লৈ যাব নোৱাৰিব। তথাপি তেওঁলোকে গেলনে প্ৰতি এক অনা ৮ পাইকৈ বেচি লাভ কৰিবৰ বাবে এতিয়া আকোৰগজালিকৈ লাগিছে, সেই কাৰণেই আজি অসমত এই পৰিস্থিতিৰ উদ্ভৱ হৈছে। অসম চৰকাৰে যদি কিবা কথা গোপন ৰাখিছে আমি ক'ব নোৱাৰো। কিন্তু অসম কংগ্ৰেছ তেল শোষণাগাৰ সম্পৰ্কত অসমৰ ৰাইজৰ লগত এক মত, অসমৰ ৰাইজে তেল শোষণাগাৰ অসমতে লাগে বুলি দাবী কৰিছে আৰু অসম কংগ্ৰেছও সেই দাবীত যোগ দিছে। এই বিষয়ত কেতিয়াও কংগ্ৰেছ পিচপৰি থকা নাই।



১৯৪৮ চনৰ পিচত আমি ভাবিছিলো যে আমাৰ দেশত চাহ আছে, তেল আছে, কয়লা আছে, কাগজ কলৰ বাবে কাঠ-বাঁহ আছে, বিলাতীনাটি কলৰ বাবে তেনেকুৱা চুণ শিলা মাটি আছে, আৰু কাপোৰৰ কলৰ বাবে যথেষ্ট কপাহ আছে। চেনী, মৰাপাটি আদিবো কল হ'ব পাৰে। কিন্তু তেল, চাহ, আদি থকা সূত্ৰেও আমি আমাৰ দেশখন চহকী কৰিব পৰা নাই, অন্য শিল্পও আজিলৈকে নহল।

যেতিয়া অসমৰ বাহিৰৰ মানুহে কোম্পানীবিলাকৰ পৰা খনে খনে চাহ বাগিচা কিনি লৈছিল-তেতিয়া শিল্পপতি সকলৰ বহুতে আবেদন কৰা কথা শুনিছিলো আৰু তেওঁ বিলাকৰ কিছুমানে চিনি—জানি পোৱা আমাৰ নিচিনা মানুহৰ লগত কথাবাতীও হৈছিল। তেতিয়া অসম গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে বিলাক preference দিব নে হিমংসিংকাক preference দিব এনেকুৱা কথা উঠিছিল আৰু তেওঁ বিলাকে শুধিছিলো—অসম চৰকাৰে মোক সুবিধা দিব নে? মই তেতিয়া কেইবাজনকো কৈছিলো যে আমি সমবায় ভিত্তিত শিল্প গঠন কৰিব খুজিছোঁ। অসমৰ মানুহক নিযুক্ত কৰাৰ ভিত্তিত অসমত শিল্প স্থাপন কৰাত মই ব্যক্তিগত ভাবে আপত্তি নকৰোঁ। এই সম্পৰ্কে অসম চৰকাৰ বা কংগ্ৰেচৰ নীতি কি এইটো আলোচনা কৰা দৰ্কাৰ। মই অসম চৰকাৰৰ দুই এজন বন্ধু-বান্ধৱৰ লগত এই সম্পৰ্কে আলোচনা কৰিছিলো। কিন্তু আজি মাননীয় শ্ৰীত্ৰিপাথীয়ে বৃহৎশিল্পৰ মন্ত্ৰী হৈ কলিকতাত—অসমত শিল্প গঠন কৰিবলৈ শিল্প পতি সকলক অনুৰোধ কৰিব লগা হৈছে। কিন্তু শিল্প পতি আজি অসমলৈ আহিব নোখোজে। এইটো প্ৰকাশ কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে যে আমি যি এটা নতুন সপোন দেখিছিলো—অসমত আমি বহুত শিল্প গঢ়ি তুলিব পাৰিম, আৰু অসমীয়া বাইজৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা বহুত উন্নতি হ'ব, সি আজি আঠ বছৰে হৈ নুঠিল। ইং ১৯৫৭ চনত আমাৰ সেই সম্ভাৱনা বিলাক বহুত পিচুৱাই গল। এই কাৰণে আমাৰ অন্তৰত ভয় হৈছে যে অসমত শিল্পৰ উন্নতিৰ যি সম্ভাৱনা আছিল সেই সম্ভাৱনা বিলাক সম্পূৰ্ণৰূপে মৰি নহ'ল নেকি? আজি চিমেণ্টৰ কাৰখানা খুলিবলৈ পাৰ্ট-বিচাৰি পোৱা নাই, কাপোৰৰ কল খুলিবলৈ পাৰ্ট বিচাৰি পোৱা নাই, মৰাপাটৰ কাৰখানা খুলিবলৈ পাৰ্ট বিচাৰি পোৱা নাই, সমবায়ৰ ভিত্তিত চেনিৰ ফেক্টৰী এটা নোখোলা হলে সিয়ো নহলে হেতেন। আজি এই পৰিষদৰ প্ৰতিজন সদস্য উনানটোৰ হাজাৰ মানুহৰ প্ৰতিনিধি। (A voice—নটোৰ লাখ) নহয়, এই পৰিষদৰ প্ৰতিজন সদস্যই নটোৰ হাজাৰ লোকৰ প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব কৰিছে। মই ভাবোঁ যে বৰ্ত্তমান পৰিস্থিতিত অসমত এটা বিৰাট আন্দোলনৰ নেতৃত্ব আমি কৰিব লাগিব। আজি অসমৰ বুৰঞ্জীত আৰু এই পৰিষদৰ বুৰঞ্জীত এটা উল্লেখযোগ্য ঘটনা হৈছে যে বিৰোধী পক্ষ আৰু চৰকাৰী পক্ষই একেলগ হৈ এটা প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে, আজি বিৰোধীপক্ষৰ পৰা চৰকাৰী পক্ষৰ প্ৰস্তাৱৰ যিটো সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰা হৈছে সেই সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ চৰকাৰী পক্ষই সমৰ্থন কৰিছে। এইয়ে উল্লেখযোগ্য ঘটনাৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে ইয়াৰ পৰাই বুজিব পাৰি যে আমি অসমীয়া বাইজৰ নেতৃত্ব কৰিব পাৰিম। দৰ্কাৰ হলে এই মন্ত্ৰী সভাই পদত্যাগ কৰিব আৰু আন্দোলনত যোগ দিব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, স্বাধীনতা লাভ কৰাৰ পিচতো শুলিক আন্দোলনত মই পুলিচৰ জোৰ-জুলুম সহ্য কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছিলো। এতিয়াও এই পৰিষদৰ সদস্যই পদত্যাগ কৰি আন্দোলনত যোগ দিলে পুলিচৰ জোৰ-জুলুমৰ হাত সাৰিব নোৱাৰিব। আমি অসমীয়া বাইজৰ সামান্য এটা অংশ মাত্ৰ। অসমীয়া বাইজে যি বাটেদি টানি লৈ যাব সেই বাটেদিয়েই আমি যাব লাগিব। অৱশ্যে আজি অসমীয়া বাইজক পৰিচালনা কৰা—তেওঁলোকৰ নেতৃত্ব কৰা আমাৰ নৈতিক কৰ্ত্তব্য। এই নৈতিক কৰ্ত্তব্যৰ কাৰণেই এই পৰিষদত প্ৰকাশ কৰিছো যে আমি অসমীয়া বাইজৰ এই মূল দাবী—অসমৰ অৰ্থ নৈতিক আৰু শিল্পৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে Oil Refinery অসমত প্ৰতিস্থা কৰিব লাগিব। যেতিয়ালৈকে Oil Refinery আমাৰ অসমত প্ৰতিস্থা কৰিবলৈ ভাৰত চৰকাৰ আৰু তেল-মালিক সকলক মান্তি কৰাৰ নোৱাৰো তেতিয়ালৈকে আমাৰ আন্দোলন শেষ নহ'ব আৰু এই মন্ত্ৰী সভা বা পৰিষদ কত থাকে আমি ক'ব নোৱাৰো। ইয়াকে কৈ মই সংশোধনীৰ আকাৰত প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিলোঁ।



**Mr. SPEAKER** The hon. Member from Silchar will please speak.

**Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not like to go into the details about the Oil Refinery in Assam as we have long discussion on this issue on the floor of this House. I would like to suggest one or two points regarding this.

1. The construction of the pipe line upto Barauni would involve a heavy capital expenditure which will, I think reduce our sterling but if the refinery is located adjacent to the source of oil, the Railway tankers if doubled to capacity, will be able to maintain marketing of the oil produce in the eastern zone.

2. The loss, which may involve in the production cost per gallon in the Refinery in Assam will be easily borne by conversion of gas and other gas products.

I would suggest that our State Government should also take steps to induce on the proposed company which is the parent organisation of Assam Oil Company to urge on the Union Government for location of the Refinery in Assam.

I think it is our birth right to have it in Assam.

**Dr. RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhimpur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, now the people of Assam are very much agitated over this question of location of the oil refinery in Assam. We have heard many hon. Members spoke in this connection, so I am not going to repeat or reiterate what my hon. Friends, the previous speakers, have said. I would like to add only a few words in support of the motion moved by my Friend Mr. Sarma. In addition to what has already been said, I would like to cite a Sloka.

हत्वा वा प्राप्त्यसि स्वर्गम्  
जित्वा वा भोग्यसे महोम् ॥

तस्मादुत्तिस्य कौंतेय ।

युद्धाय कृतनिश्चय ॥

Sir, now what we have to do is to fight. And if we have to fight, let us fight in the spirit of 'Sloka'. Whatever the result may be, this is at least the gist of our move. We should now prepare for a fight. And as I have said, if we have



to fight, let us fight in this spirit of 'Sloka'. Now, if some of my Friends do not understand what this spirit of 'Sloka' is, I would like to say that the spirit of the 'Sloka' is this. It was an instruction or advice given to Arjun. He was told that 'if a man die in battle while fighting for his rights, he will enjoy 'Swarga' or heaven: and if he wins then he will enjoy the rights for which he fought'. So either way he will not be a loser. This is the position which is now in front of us. When we have already proceeded so far, we must not look back, but we must fight for our rights whatever the result may be.

Sir, I am not going to dilate much on this subject. So with these few words, I resume my seat.

**Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMA (Digboi) :** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি Refinery সম্বন্ধে আমাৰ বন্ধু শ্ৰীবিশ্বদেৱ শৰ্ম্মাই উত্থাপন কৰা প্ৰস্তাৱটো মই সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, Refinery অসমৰ বাহিৰত হ'ব, অসমত নহয়—এই কথাটো যেতিয়া প্ৰথমতে খবৰৰ কাগজত ওলাইছিল তেতিয়া সচাকৈয়ে মই বিশ্বাস কৰা নাছিলোঁ আৰু ভাবিছিলোঁ যে মাজে সময়ে এনেকুৱা কিছুমান অনুমানিক সংবাদ খবৰ কাগজত ওলোৱাৰ দৰে এইটোও এটা উৰা বাতৰি। কিন্তু আজি অলপ আগতে আমাৰ মাননীয় বিত্তমন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কোৱাৰ পিচত মই আচৰিত হৈছোঁ যে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে ইমান দিনৰ মূৰত বহু প্ৰতিশ্ৰুতি দিয়াৰ পিচত বহুত আশা ভৰসা দিয়াৰ পিচতো বাকণীত Refinery কৰিবলৈ সিদ্ধান্ত লৈছে। ভাৰতীয় জাতীয় কংগ্ৰেছৰ সভাপতি শ্ৰীধেৱৰ যেতিয়া প্ৰথমতে অসমলৈ আহিছিল তেতিয়া ডিগবৈত তাৰ কংগ্ৰেছৰ ফালৰ পৰা যি অভিনন্দন দিয়া হৈছিল সেই অভিনন্দনত Refinery সম্বন্ধে উল্লেখ কৰা হৈছিল আৰু নতুন Refinery যদি হয় বা হোৱাৰ আৱশ্যক হয় তেনেহলে সেই Refinery অসমতে হ'ব লাগে বুলি দাবী কৰা হৈছিল আৰু সেই দাবী সমৰ্থন কৰাৰ নিমিত্তে শ্ৰীধেৱৰক অনুৰোধ কৰা হৈছিল। মই যেতিয়া শ্ৰীধেৱৰৰ লগত এই বিষয়ে কথা বৰ্ত্তা হৈছিলো তেতিয়া তেওঁ ভাবি চাব বুলি আশ্বাস দিছিল আৰু কৈছিল যে Technical কোনো অসুবিধা নাথাকিলে অসমতে Refinery হ'লে তেওঁ সুখী হ'ব। সেই ধৰণে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ নেতা সকলে পণ্ডিতজীৰ পৰা আৰম্ভ কৰি পন্তলৈকে সকলোৱেই Refinery ৰ কথা উলিয়ালেই আশ্বাস দিছিল যে Refinery অসমতে হ'লে তেওঁলোক সুখী হ'ব। অসমত হ'বৰ কাৰণেহে তেওঁলোকে Expert Committee নিয়োগ কৰিছিল; কিয়নো অসম অৱেল কোম্পানী অসমত Refinery পতাৰ বিৰোধী। তেওঁবিলাকে ভাবে যে কলিকতা বা বাকণীত তেওঁ-বিলাকৰ সুবিধা হয় আৰু লাভো বেচি হয়। কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে যিটো Expert Committee গঠন কৰি দিছিল সেই Expert Committee ৰ Report আশি পঢ়া নাই। দুখৰ বিষয় আজিৰ দিনতো Expert Committee ৰ Report পঢ়িবলৈ নাপালে। † সেইটো হেনো Confidential Report. আশি শুনিবলৈ পাইছোঁ যে যদি অসমত Refinery পাতে তেন্তে ১৮ লাভ কম হয়। কিন্তু তাৰ লগৰ আনবিলাক কথা বোধকৰোঁ তেওঁবিলাকে উল্লেখ কৰা নাই। এই ১৮ পাই কোম্পানীৰ লোকচান হ'ব পাৰে হয় কিন্তু তাৰ বিনিময়ত পৰিবহনৰ বাবদ Central Government ৰ যি আয় হ'ব তাৰ তুলনাত এই ১৮ পাই লোকচান অতি নগণ্য। আনহাতে নাইবকটীয়াৰ তেলৰ পুণ্ডৰ পৰা যি গেচ পাইছে Refinery হ'লে সেই গেচ কামত লগাব পাৰিলে হেতেন আৰু তেতিয়া বৰ্ত্তমান Expert Committee এ দেখুৱা খৰচতকৈ আৰু কম খৰচ হ'লহেতেন।



আপোনালোকে জানে নে নেজানে কব নোৱাৰে। নাহবকটীয়া তেল খাদত নিতৌ 200 million cubic feet গেচ পুৰি গৈছে। বিশেষজ্ঞ সকলৰ মতে নাহবকটীয়া তেল খাদ সম্পূৰ্ণ হলে 45,000 (fourty-five thousand) million cubic feet gas পোৱাৰ সম্ভাৱনা আছে। অসম তেল কোম্পানীয়ে গেচৰ ওপৰত 'টেক্স' দিব লগা হোৱা নাই আৰু ডিগবই, নাহবকটীয়া, মৰাণ খাদৰ পৰা যি পৰিমাণৰ গেচ ওলাব তাৰেই পৰিকল্পিত শোষণাগাৰ চলাই তাৰ খৰচ কমাৰ পাৰিব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, সিদিনাখন দিল্লীৰ নিখিল ভাৰতীয় কংগ্ৰেছ কমিটিত, প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী নেহেৰুৱে 'সমাজতান্ত্ৰিক সমাজ ব্যৱস্থাৰ' (Socialistic Pattern of Society) ব্যাখ্যা কৰি কৈছিল—যে, এই ব্যৱস্থা কেৱল ব্যক্তিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতে নহয় আঞ্চলিক ক্ষেত্ৰতো হব লাগিব। যেতিয়ালৈকে ভাৰতৰ কোনো এটা অংশ, কোনো এটা চুবুৰী অনুভৱ কৰিব যে যেতিয়ালৈকে Socialistic pattern of Society ৰ গাঁঠনি সম্পূৰ্ণ হোৱা বুলি কব নোৱাৰিব। Expert কমিটিৰ বিপৰ্টি আৰু পণ্ডিতজীৱ Socialistic pattern of Society ৰ ব্যাখ্যাৰ পিচত অসমত বিকাইনাবী হোৱাৰ বিষয়ে কোনো সন্দেহ কৰা নাছিল। কিন্তু আচৰিত হৈছে যে শেষত অসমৰ তেল অসমত শোষণ কৰাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত অসমক তাৰ পৰা বঞ্চিত কৰি অন্য প্ৰদেশত শোষণাগাৰ স্থাপনৰ চূড়ান্ত সিদ্ধান্তত উপনীত হৈছে। এই দৰেই অসমৰ উন্নয়নৰ কথাত যেতিয়াই কোনো আৱশ্যকীয় কথাৰ কাৰণে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰ চপা হৈছে—তেতিয়াই তেওঁলোকে কিবা নহয় কিবা এটা অজুহাত দেখুৱাই অসমৰ ন্যায্য অনুবোধ ওফৰাই দিয়াৰ প্ৰয়াস পাইছে।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, অসমৰ পৰিবহন ক্ষেত্ৰতো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে একেই নীতি অনুসৰণ কৰা পৰিলক্ষিত হৈছে। পণ্ডিতজী, পাণ্ড, ভাঃ প্ৰসাদ আদি দেশৰ নেতাসকলৰ প্ৰত্যেকেই অসমৰ পৰিবহন ব্যৱস্থাৰ অসুবিধাৰ কথা যেতিয়াই অসমলৈ আহিছিল তেতিয়াই উপলব্ধি কৰিছিল আৰু ইয়াৰ উপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লব বুলি আশ্বাস দিছিল। কিন্তু আজিলৈকে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ত কোনো ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লোৱা দেখা নগল। ইয়াৰ কাৰণ কি আনি বুজি নাপাও। এই ক্ৰটি পূৰ্ণ পৰিবহন ব্যৱস্থাৰ কাৰণেই অসমৰ আৰ্থিক সমস্যা অতি জটিল হৈ উঠিছে। ইয়াৰ ফলত যি দুৰ্যোগ আৰু জটিল পৰিস্থিতিৰ উদ্ভৱ হৈছে তাৰ কাৰণে অসমবাসী দোষী নে? অসমবাসী নহয়—ইয়াৰ কাৰণে দায়ী কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰ, কাৰণ তেওঁলোকে এই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ সমস্যাৰ সমাধান কৰিবলৈ কোনো কাম হাতত লোৱা নাই।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, তেল শোষণাগাৰটো অকল কেইটামান চাকৰী পাবলৈ বা তেল-শোষণাগাৰটো আমাৰ ইয়াত হলে এটা অত্যন্ত গৌৰৱৰ কথা বুলি আত্মতৃপ্তি লাভ কৰিবলৈ আমি আজি ইয়াত স্থাপন কৰিব লাগে বুলি কোৱা নাই। যদি তেল শোষণাগাৰটো অসমতেই প্ৰতিষ্ঠিত হয় তেনেহলে অকল অসমৰেই নহয়—সদৌ ভাৰতৰেই মঙ্গল হব। কাৰণ, ভাৰতৰ পূব প্ৰান্তত থকা জটিল সমস্যাপূৰ্ণ এখন ৰাজ্য অসম। ই ভাৰতৰে এটা বিশেষ অঙ্গ। এই ৰাজ্যত শান্তি ৰক্ষা—সমগ্ৰ ভাৰতৰে নিৰাপত্তাৰ কাৰণে দৰ্কাৰী। আমি আজি তেল শোষণাগাৰ আমাৰ ইয়াত লাগে বুলি দাবী নকৰিলো হেতেন যদি বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটিয়ে ইয়াৰ সপক্ষে মত নিদিলে হেঁতেন। বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটিৰ বিপৰ্টিৰ পৰা জনা যায় যে তেল শোষণাগাৰ কোনো লোকচান নোহোৱাকৈ অসমত স্থাপন কৰিব পৰা যায়। লোকচানটো নহয়ই—এক গেলন পেট্ৰলত 120 (গাত) অনা লাভহে থাকে। এই লাভ কম লাভ নহয়। মই নাজানো যে আৰু কিবা ব্যৱসায়ত ইমান লাভ হয়নে নহয়। এনে অনুকূল অৱস্থাতো শোষণাগাৰ অসমত স্থাপন নকৰাৰ কাৰণ কি? যদি অসম তেল কোম্পানীৰ বিৰোধীতাৰ কাৰণেই এনে এটা জনমত বিৰোধী সিদ্ধান্ত লবলগীয়া হৈছে তেনে হলে মই ভাৰত চৰকাৰক প্ৰশ্ন কৰিব খোজোঁ যে এই তেল কোম্পানীৰ বাহিৰে পৃথিৱীত আৰু কোম্পানী নোলাবনেকি—যি অসমৰ তেলৰ কাৰণে অসমতেই ইয়াৰ



শোষণাৰ স্থাপন কৰিব পাৰে ? অথবা ভাৰত চৰকাৰে ভাৰতৰ বাহিৰৰ আৰু আন দেশক আহৰান কৰিব নোৱাৰে নেকি—যি দেশে এই কাম কৰিব পাৰে, নাইবা ভাৰতৰ এনে ধনী সম্প্ৰদায় নাইনেকি যি আমাৰ তেল আমাৰ দেশতেই শোধন কৰিবলৈ শোষণাৰ পাত্ৰি পাৰে ? তেল শোষণাৰ স্থাপন সমস্যা বৰ ডাঙৰ সমস্যা, অসমৰ জীৱন মৰণ সমস্যা। তেল কোম্পানীৰ গচিছত স্বার্থৰ কাৰণে এই তেল শোষণাৰ অসমৰ বাহিৰলৈ উলিয়াই দিব নোৱাৰি। যদি এই কোম্পানীয়ে নোৱাৰে অন্য কোম্পানী আহক—আমি সম্বন্ধনা জনাম। আমি তেল শোষণাৰ পাবলৈ আশা কৰিছো—আৰু ইয়াৰ লগত আমাৰ দেশবাসীৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ উন্নতি বিচাৰিছো। কিন্তু সেই বুলি আমাৰ জাতীয় স্বাধীনতা বিক্ৰী কৰিব খোজা নাই। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আৰু এটা কথা মই এই সদনৰ সদস্যৰ আগত দাঙি ধৰিব খুজিছো—সেইটো হৈছে এই যে, নাহবকটীয়া তেলখাদ খুলিবৰ সময়ত আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে তেঁওলোকৰ বাপতি সাহোন সেই মাটি বিলাক কেৱল দুই চাৰি টকাতেই এৰি দিছিল। কিয় ? ভাবিছিল এই মাটিৰ গৰ্ভৰ পৰা যি তেল ওলাব—তাৰ শোধনৰ কাম ইয়াতে হব আৰু তাৰ কাৰণে শোষণাগাৰো আমাৰ ইয়াতেই হব। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা টনকিয়াল হব আৰু আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ কল্যাণ হব অসমলৈ পৰিবহন ব্যৱস্থাৰ সূচল হব। কিন্তু আজি কি হল—লক্ষ লক্ষ অসমীয়া নবনাবীৰ এই বঙিগ সপোন—পূৰণ খুলিব লগত মিলি গল। তেঁওলোকেই বা আমাক আজি কি ভাবিব ? যাক আমি বুজাই বঢ়াই সাজুনা দি মাটি এবিটাবলৈ কৈছিলো তেঁওলোকক আজি আমি কি বুলি উত্তৰ দিম, কি বুলি কৈকিয়ৎ দিম ? মোৰ গাৰ তেজ মোৰ শৰীৰৰ ভিতৰতেই শোধন হোৱাটো বিচাৰো—মোৰ তেজ মোৰ গাৰপৰা extract কৰি নি বাহিৰত শোধন কৰাটো নিবিচাৰোঁ।

আজি এই সদনত শোষণাৰ স্থাপনৰ বিষয়ত সকলোৱে এক মত। মই ও দূৰ ভাবে জনমতৰ দাবীৰ প্ৰতি পূৰ্ণ সমৰ্থন জনাইছো। এইখিনিতে এটা কথা মই স্পষ্ট ভাবে কব খোজো যে তেল শোষণাৰ যদি অসমত সচাকৈয়ে নহয়, তেনেহলে গোটেই অসমত এটা জনবিপ্লৱ হোৱাৰ সম্ভাৱনা মই দেখিছোঁ। আৰু যদি দুৰ্ভাগ্যবশতঃ তেনে বিপ্লৱ হয় তেনেহলে তাৰ বাবে দায়ী অসম চৰকাৰ বা অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণ নহয়, ইয়াৰ দায়িত্ব লব লাগিব Assam Oil Company আৰু কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে। এই বিষয়ে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে গভীৰ ভাবে চিন্তা কৰা উচিত। অসমীয়া মানুহ শান্তিপ্ৰিয়, আতিথ্যপৰায়ণ। শৃংখলা ভঙ্গ কৰা অসমীয়া মানুহৰ স্বভাব নহয়। এতিয়া বুজিব পাৰিছোঁ যে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে অসমীয়া মানুহৰ এই স্বভাবৰ misuse কৰিছে। অসমৰ দুৰৱস্থালৈ চাই আৰু ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ ভিতৰত অসমৰ আৰ্থিক অনাটনলৈ চাই অসমৰ দাবী যে যুক্তিসংগত দাবী তাত কোনো সন্দেহ নাই। অকল বিফাইনাৰীৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতেই নহয় অসমৰ পৰিবহন ব্যৱস্থাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতো সেই একে কথা। অসমৰ পৰিবহন ব্যৱস্থাৰ অসুবিধাৰ কাৰণেই অসমবাসীয়ে নিত্য প্ৰয়োজনীয় বস্তু ভাৰতৰ আন আন ঠাইৰ তুলনাত বেচি দাম দি কিনিব লগীয়া হৈছে। ইয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে কি কৰিছে ? পৰিবহন ব্যৱস্থাৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ দায়িত্ব কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ হাতত নহয়নে ? আয় নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে আৰু বস্তুৰ মূল্য অতি বৃদ্ধিৰ কাৰণে আজি আমাৰ অসমৰ সৰ্বসাধাৰণ মানুহৰ ক্ৰয় শক্তি কমি গৈছে। এই অৱস্থাৰ সুসমাধানৰ কাৰণেই আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত বৃহৎ আৰু উন্নত শিল্পৰ পৰিবহন ব্যৱস্থাৰ প্ৰয়োজন। এনে গুৰুতৰ বিষয়ৰ প্ৰতি কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ উদাসীনতা অতি পৰিতাপৰ কথা। অকল পৰিতাপেই নহয় ইয়েই অসমত অশান্তি সৃষ্টি কৰাৰো সম্ভাৱনা। গতিকে মই আশা কৰিছোঁ যে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে অসম চৰকাৰ আৰু অসম বিধান সভাৰ তথা অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ ন্যায্য দাবী গ্ৰহণ কৰি অসমৰ প্ৰতি ন্যায্য বিচাৰ কৰিব আৰু সম্ভাৱ্য অসন্তোষ অশান্তি ও দূৰ কৰিব।

**Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal)** মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় অসমৰ তেল শোষণাৰ দাবী জনাই এই সদনত যি সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰা হৈছে তাৰ



সম্পূৰ্ণ সমৰ্থন জনাবলৈ মই ঠিয় দিছো। যোৱা এপ্ৰিল মাহত যেতিয়া শ্ৰীমোৰাৰজী দেশাই ডিব্ৰুগড়লৈ আহিছিল তেতিয়া আমাৰ কেন্দ্ৰীয় পালিয়ামেণ্টাৰী চেফ্টেৰী শ্ৰীমোৰােন্দ্ৰ নাথ হাজৰীকালৈ সুধিছিল যে অসমত তেল শোধনাগাৰৰ কাৰণে বাইজৰ মাজত যি আন্দোলন সৃষ্টি হৈছে তাত আমাক কি কৰিবলৈ উপদেশ দিয়ে? তাৰ উত্তৰত তেখেতে কয় যে বাইজৰ দাবীত আপোনালোকে নেতৃত্ব কৰি যাওক। আজি আমাৰ এই সদনৰ সকলো সদস্য একমত হৈ যি প্ৰচেষ্টা হাতত লৈছে তাৰ বাবে মই বৰ সুখী হৈছো। এই প্ৰসংগত আমাৰ মহিলা অনুষ্ঠান সমূহে একমত। গতিকে মই কওঁ যে এই দাবী মুনিহ তিবোত। ভৈয়াম পৰ্বত, সকলোৰে সম্মিলিত দাবী, গতিকে মই আশাকৰো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে এই দাবী যেন অবজ্ঞা নকৰে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱটি পূৰ্ণ সমৰ্থন জনাইছো।

**Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon)** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় শ্ৰীবিশ্বদেব শৰ্মা ডাঙৰীয়াই আজি সদনত যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ অৱতাৰণা কৰিছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ সমৰ্থন জনাই মই কব খোজো যে গোটেই ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ উন্নতি কৰিবলৈ যি অৰ্থনৈতিক আচনি প্ৰস্তুত কৰা হৈছে অৰ্থাৎ পঞ্চবাৰ্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাৰ জৰিয়তে ভাৰতবৰ্ষক আগবঢ়াই নিয়াৰ প্ৰচেষ্টা কৰিছে সেই পৰিকল্পনাৰ, প্ৰথম ৫ বছৰীয়া আঁচনিত, অসমে কাৰ্য্যক্ষেত্ৰত বিশেষ আগুৱাব পৰা নাই। ইয়াৰ মূল কাৰণ হৈছে অসমৰ বৰ্ত্তমান অবস্থা। যিখিনি সুবিধা অসমক দিব লাগিছিল সেই পৰিমানে সুবিধা কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে অসমক দিয়া নাই। এতিয়া অসমত হবলগীয়া তেল শোধনাগাৰ যদি অসমৰ পৰা বাহিৰলৈ যাব লগা হয় তেনেহলে অসমত আন কোনো বৃহৎ শিল্প (Industry) গঠন কৰিব পৰাৰ সম্ভাৱনা নাই। বৃহৎ শিল্প গঠন কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে আমাৰ নিবনুৱা সমস্যা সমাধান হ'ব নোৱাৰে আৰু তাৰ লগে লগে অসম ৰাজ্য খন অন্য অন্য সকলো ক্ষেত্ৰতে পিচ পৰি থাকিব। এই গুৰু সমস্যা উপলদ্ধি কৰি আজি অসমৰ সকলো ৰাজনৈতিক দলে, মিলিত হৈ আজিৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ জৰিয়তে তেল শোধনাগাৰৰ দাবী জনাইছে। এই দাবী কেৱল এই সদনৰ ভিতৰৰ দাবী নহয়, এই দাবী অসমৰ সমূহ বাইজৰ দাবী। এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ দ্বাৰা সমূহ বাইজৰ মত প্ৰকাশ পাইছে।

আমি সকলো বিলাক মিলি একেলগ হৈ এনে এটা অত্যাৱশ্যকীয় প্ৰস্তাৱত উপনীত হবলৈ সক্ষম হৈছো। যেতিয়া আমাৰ এই ৰাজ্যিক সত্ত্বা কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে গ্ৰহণ কৰিবই লাগিব। মোৰ দৃঢ় বিশ্বাস যে এনে দাবী কেন্দ্ৰই উপেক্ষা কৰিব নোৱাৰে। এইটো ঠিক কথা যে সমগ্ৰ ভাৰতবৰ্ষৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিব খুজিলে অসমক ভাৰতৰ পৰা বাদ দিব নোৱাৰে, কিয়নো অসম ভাৰতৰ অপৰিহাৰ্য্য অঙ্গ। এই অঙ্গটি নিশকতীয়া কৰি দেশখনক সুস্থ সবল কৰি কেনেকৈ আগবঢ়াই নিব?

আমি সকলোৱে জানো যে এই তেল শোধনাগাৰটো অসমত প্ৰতিষ্ঠা হলে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ বৃহৎ শিল্পানুষ্ঠান গঢ়ি উঠাত সহায় কৰিব। ইয়াৰ বিনিময়ে কোনো বৃহৎ শিল্পানুষ্ঠান গঢ়ি উঠিব নোৱাৰে। আজি অসমক সমৃদ্ধিশালী কৰিবলৈ বহুতো পৰিকল্পনা প্ৰস্তুত কৰিব পাৰে কিন্তু ৰাজ্যৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক সত্ত্বা অক্ষুণ্ণ ৰাখিবলৈ বৃহৎ শিল্পানুষ্ঠান ৰাজ্যত গঢ়ি তুলিবই লাগিব। তাকে যদি নকৰে তেন্তে প্ৰথম পাঁচ বছৰীয়া পৰিকল্পনাই নহয় দ্বিতীয় ৫ বছৰীয়া পৰিকল্পনা আনকি তৃতীয় ৫ বছৰীয়া পৰিকল্পনা কৰিও অসমক আগবঢ়াব নোৱাৰে।

গতিকে আমাৰ কথাও এইটোৱেই। পোন প্ৰথমৰে পৰা এইটোৱেই আমাৰ দাবী। সমগ্ৰ অসমৰ নৱ-নাৰীয়ে যি মনোভাব পোষণ কৰি আহিছে আৰু ব্যক্ত কৰিছে, সেই একে ভাৱকে কংগ্ৰেছ নেতাসকলে বা কংগ্ৰেছৰ দলেও পোষণ কৰি আহিছে। কাৰণ তেওঁলোকও বাইজৰ অংশ। আজিও অসমৰ সমগ্ৰ বাইজ এক মত হৈ এই গুৰু-সমস্যাটো সমাধান কৰিবলৈ আগবাঢ়ি যাব বুলিয়েই মোৰ আশা।



আজি সকলো বাইজে একমত হৈ সহযোগ কৰি অসমৰ প্ৰাকৃতিক সম্পদ যে তেল, তাৰ শোধনাগাৰ বাহিৰত স্থাপন নকৰি অসমত স্থাপন কৰি অসমৰ বৃহৎ শিল্পানুষ্ঠান গঢ়ি উঠাত সহায় কৰিবলৈ কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত আমাৰ ন্যায্য দাবী কৰিবলৈ আগবাঢ়ি আহিব বুলি মোৰ দৃঢ় বিশ্বাস।

**PU LALMAWIA [Aijal—East (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that I must join in the discussion of the Resolution on the question of Oil Refinery in Assam. I hope the Government of India must have considered all the possible questions that might be brought while making a decision for location of the refinery. Although it is the highest authority to make the decision on this vital question, they might have omitted important and vital points. Well, there are arguments for and against the location of the oil refinery in Assam. The arguments in favour of locating the refinery in Assam have been mentioned by the hon. Members, but I would like to add a few words, even if it means mentioning the same things. Sir, I shall confine my arguments for locating the refinery in Assam to a few points. Sir, so far as I could imagine, the question of transport difficulties has been put forward in favour of location of the refinery outside Assam. Sir, as you know the problem of transport difficulty is standing in the way of development of Assam as we cannot send our goods outside Assam as rapidly as we wish to do. They may say that the oil refined in Assam may not be sent outside Assam because of this transport bottleneck. To this I would like to say that the location of the oil refinery in Assam will solve this problem of transport bottleneck because we will get the oil and by the by-product which will have to be exported to outside Assam. For that reason the railway line will have to be improved by making broad gauge railway line or making a double line and as construction of the oil refinery is started the construction work for improvement of the railway line will have to start also and this will solve the transport problem of Assam. Sir, the economic consideration is the second point which might have induced the Government of India to set up the refinery outside Assam. Sir, some argument in favour of locating the refinery in Assam might have slipped off their mind. When the oil is refined outside Assam first the crude oil goes outside Assam. The refined oil and by-product will have to be brought back from outside Assam for consumption here at enormous cost. I think this point has escaped their notice while considering this question.

Another point I would like to mention is the question of defence. It has been said that if the oil refinery is located in Assam it will be vulnerable to enemy attack, but as my



Friend, Shri Goswami has stated, in this atomic age there is no place safe from enemy bombing or atom bomb and hydrogen bomb. So that argument falls through, because there is no place safe anywhere in this world in this atomic age. On the other hand if a long pipe line is constructed from Assam to Barauni it will be vulnerable to enemy attack or to the attack by the saboteurs. The saboteurs may destroy the pipe line anywhere. We know in Burma the Communists used to destroy the water pipe which used to supply water to Rangoon. Rangoon town had to remain without water for sometime and that long line was the target of the Communist attack. Similarly the long pipe line will be a very good target for anybody who would like to create trouble. By locating the oil refinery in Assam the cost of construction of the long pipe line will be saved. But if the refinery is located at Barauni several battalions of army or police will be required to protect the long pipeline and the cost for this will be enormous. From the point of defence also its location in Assam will be safer and will be less expensive. Some might say that this matter does not concern the Government of Assam, but it concerns the Government of India. To some extent it is true. India should sacrifice some of their interests for the sake of this State and I am sure the people of Assam will not be pleased if that is not done. First of all I seek the interest of myself unless it harms or spoils the interest of others. My own interest comes first and then the interest of my State and my country. I heard Mr. Nehru said during his visit to Aijal that "your main responsibilities lie in your own district and then in your own State and lastly in your own country—India." To safeguard the interest of Assam and to make it prosperous we want that our natural resources be developed and utilised for the benefit of our State. There may be slight economic disadvantage for the Government of India if the refinery is located here in Assam, but considering so many advantages which the people of Assam are going to get we cannot but demand for the location of the oil refinery in Assam. I hope that the Government of Assam will go to the extent of showing their dissatisfaction on the decision of the India Government by resigning from the Ministry.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Amendment moved by my Friend because I feel that the wording of the Resolution is too soft and it should be made stronger as "we are now living under abnormal condition".

I now resume my seat.



## Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [(Patharkandi Reserved)]

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমরা সেদিন অত্যন্ত ধৈর্যের সংগে আমাদের মাননীয় অর্থমন্ত্রীর বাজেট বক্তৃতা শুনেছি। তিনি তৈল পরিশোধনাগার সম্পর্কে তার সরকারের উদ্দেশ্য এবং কর্মনীতির কথা বলেছেন। পর দিন যখন সংবাদ পত্রে তৈল পরিশোধনাগার স্থাপনের স্থান নির্বাচন সম্পর্কে কেন্দ্রীয় সরকারের সিদ্ধান্তের কথা পড়লাম বিস্মিত হয়ে গেলাম, কারণ মাননীয় মন্ত্রীর বক্তৃতা তার বহু পূর্বেই পি, টি, আই-র সংবাদ দাতা এই সিদ্ধান্তের কথা বিশ্বের সম্বন্ধে পৌছিয়ে দিয়েছেন এবং তা লক্ষ লক্ষ লোকের কাছে সংবাদ-পত্র মারফৎ প্রচার হয়ে গেছে অথচ জানতে পারলেন না একই পার্টি দ্বারা পরিচালিত একটা রাজ্য সরকার যে সরকার এই ব্যাপারে খুব উদ্বিগ্ন এবং এর স্বার্থের সংগে জড়িত। বড় দুঃখ হল এই ভেবে যে শ্বেতাংগে একচেটিয়া তৈল ব্যবসায়ীদের মুনাফার কাছে আমাদের কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার কতটুকু আত্মসমর্পণ করলে পর এরূপ একটা মনোস্তবিক ঘটনা ঘটিতে পারে।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমরা বেসরকারী সূত্রে যে সংবাদ পেয়েছি তাতে দেখা যায় কলিকাতায় এই শোধনাগার স্থাপন করলে কোম্পানীর মুনাফা প্রতি গ্যালনে হয় ১১ আনা, বারউনিতে হলে হয় ১১৪ পাই আর আসামে স্থাপন করলে হয় ১৭ আনা হয় পাই। স্থানার মনে হয় শুধু এই মুনাফার জন্য কোম্পানী বিহারে স্থান নির্বাচন করতে সরকারকে চাপ দেয়নি। আমরা বেসরকারী সূত্রে যে খবর পেয়েছি তাতে দেখা যায় পশ্চিম বাংলা সরকার আমেরিকার একটা কোম্পানীর সংগে Synthetic petrol তৈরীর কারখানা স্থাপনের জন্য আলোচনা চালাচ্ছেন এবং বোধ হয় একটা চুক্তি হয়ে যাবে। যদি পশ্চিম বাংলায় ঐ রকম একটা কারখানা স্থাপিত হয় তবে উই বর্তমান আসাম অয়েল কোম্পানীর প্রতিদ্বন্দী হিসাবে ভারতের বাজারে দেখা দিবে এবং তার বর্তমান একচেটিয়া মুনাফার আঘাত আনবে। তাই কোম্পানী চায় তার ভবিষ্যৎ প্রতিযোগীতার জন্য পড়তা খরচ বাঁচাতে। অথচ এই একচেটিয়া মুনাফার স্বার্থের দ্বন্দের কাছে কিনা আত্মসমর্পণ করলেন আমাদের কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার। এর চাইতে লজ্জাজনক পরিস্থিতি আর কি হতে পারে কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার একবার চিন্তাকরে দেখলেন না যে আসামবাসীর এই ন্যায্য দাবী মানলে সরকারের আয় ও বাড়ে। যদি আসামে তৈল পরিশোধনাগার স্থাপিত হয় তবে পরিবহনের সমস্ত মাণ্ডল পাবে আমাদের সরকার; কারণ রেলপথ আমাদের জাতীয় সম্পত্তি। আর পাইপ লাইন দিয়ে নিয়ে গেলে এর একটা পরমাণু পাবে না আমাদের সরকার বরং এবং কোম্পানীর মুনাফার খাতায় জমা হবে। বিদেশীয় মুনাফার কাছে এই আত্মসমর্পণ আমাদের জাতীয় কলঙ্ক ছাড়া আর কি হতে পারে? যখন একটার পর আর একটা বিশেষজ্ঞ কমিটি বসতে লাগল আমরা তখনই এরকম একটা কিছু আশা করছিলাম কিন্তু এত নিলজ্জ ভাবে যে একটা প্রকাশ পাবে তা ভাবতেও পারিনি।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, প্রথম পঞ্চবার্ষিক পরিকল্পনা রচয়িতাদের বোধ হয় এটাই উদ্দেশ্য ছিল যে দেশের খাদ্য-সম্পদ এবং কাঁচা-মালের যোগান একটা পরিকল্পনার আয়তনের মধ্যে নিয়ে আসা; যোগা-যোগ ব্যবস্থার উন্নতির মাধ্যমে প্রত্যেক অংশে যে সম্পদের অপচয় হচ্ছে তা আহরণের ব্যবস্থা করা। এই কল্প পন্থার মাধ্যমে একটা কিছু পরিমাণ শক্তি ভিত্তি দাঁড় করানো যে ভিত্তির উপর দাঁড়িয়ে দ্বিতীয় পঞ্চ-বার্ষিকী পরিকল্পনা গ্রহণ করা সম্ভব যেটা হবে ভারী শিল্প সম্প্রসারণের একমাত্র রাস্তা। মাহলানবিশ পরিকল্পনার এটাই ছিল মূল বক্তব্য এবং পরিকল্পনা কমিশন এই সুপারিসই গ্রহণ করেছেন। এই দৃষ্টিকোণ থেকে যদি আমরা আসামের অবস্থা বিচার করি তবে দেখবো প্রথম পরিকল্পনার লক্ষ্যও এখানে ব্যর্থ হয়েছে। আমাদের অফুরন্ত কাঁচামাল তার বিভিন্ন অংশে পড়ে রয়েছে তা আহরণের জন্য একটা উল্লেখযোগ্য যোগাযোগ ব্যবস্থার উন্নতি-সাধন করা যায়নি। যে ব্রহ্মপুত্রের পুল ত্রিপুরার প্রত্যেক সীমা পর্যন্ত যোগাযোগ ব্যবস্থাকে উন্নততর করতে পারতো দুঃখের বিষয় আজও চলছে তার সার্ভে এবং কবে



শেষ হবে তা জানেনা, বোধ হয় স্বয়ং ভগবানও । যুদ্ধের প্রয়োজনে ওটা হয়ে যাবার কথা ছিল । অথচ এই যোগাযোগ ব্যবস্থার অজুহাতে দেখানো হয় তৈল পরিশোধনাগার স্থাপনের বেলায় । আজ যদি সীমান্ত প্রদেশ আক্রান্ত হয় তবে কি কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার যোগাযোগ ব্যবস্থার অজুহাত দেখিয়ে আসামকে ছেড়ে দিবেন বিদেশীর হাতে ? শুধু শিল্প বিকাশের জন্য নয় দেশরক্ষার খাতিরেও এই পশ্চাদপদ রাজ্য আসামের যোগাযোগ ব্যবস্থার উন্নতি প্রয়োজন এবং তৈল পরিশোধনাগার আসামে স্থাপিত হলে একান্ত তরাসিত হবে । কারণ সরকারের অর্থাভাব অনেক কমে যাবে এই শিল্পের যাত্রী এবং মালের ভাড়া আদায় কল্পে ।

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এটা আমাদের অত্যন্ত গর্বের বিষয় যে আসামে বহু ভেদাভেদ থাকা স্বত্বেও এই জাতীয় স্বার্থের জন্য আমরা ঐক্যবদ্ধ । পাহাড়ী জেলা এবং আমাদের কাছাড় জেলার অনেক ন্যায্য বিক্ষোভ আছে এই সরকারের প্রতি । যার জন্য দেখা যায় তৈলশোধনাগার স্থাপনের দাবী নিয়ে যখন গত বৎসর আসামে একটা গণ অভ্যুত্থান হয় তখন পাহাড়ী জিলা এবং কাছাড় এই আন্দোলন থেকে বাহিরে ছিল । এটা আমাদের জাতীয় স্বার্থের দাবীর আন্দোলনের একটা দর্বলতা । এর আশ্রয় সমালোচনা প্রয়োজন । কিন্তু এ প্রশ্নটাকে এখন তুলে আনি আমাদের মূল দাবীকে ঘোলাটেকরে দিতে চায়না । এটা হল আমাদের আভ্যন্তরীণ ব্যাপার-Inter district একটা মনোমালিন্য । বৃহত্তর স্বার্থের জন্য ক্ষুদ্রতর স্বার্থকে বলি দিতে অন্ততঃ আমাদের কাছাড়ের জমসাঁধারণ পশ্চাদপদ হবে না—এ আশা আমার আছে এবং আমি আশা করি এই বিধান সভা আসামের এই জাতীয় স্বার্থ আদায়ের জন্য প্রকৃত নেতৃত্ব দিতে পারবে এবং আমি আরও আশা করি আমরা এই দাবী আদায়ের সাফল্য লাভ করব ।

**Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) :** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমার

শ্রীবিশ্বদেব শর্মা ডাঙরীয়াই যিটো প্রস্তাব দাঙি ধরিছে সেই প্রস্তাব মই সাদরেবে সমর্থন কৰিছোঁ । এই সম্পর্কে মই এটা কথা কনলৈ উঠিছোঁ । সেইটো হৈছে এই যে আজি আমাৰ আগত যিটো প্রস্তাব দাঙি ধৰা হৈছে, ইয়াৰ উত্থাপন কৰাৰ সময় অতীত হৈ গৈছে যেন অনুমান হৈছে । উত্তৰলক্ষীমপুৰৰ সদস্যজনে এটা কথা কলে যে তৈল শোধনাগাৰ আমাৰ ইয়াত নহৈ বাকনীতেহে হব সেই কথা তেখেতে এতিয়াও বিশ্বাস নকৰে, কিন্তু নির্বাচনৰ সময়ত আমাৰ ডেকা বন্ধু সকলে আমাক সুধিছিল—আপোনালোকৰ তৈল শোধনাগাৰ অসমত নহব নেকি ? তেওঁলোকক পিঠিত হাত দি মৰমেৰে কৈছিলো যি হেতু আমাৰ জাতীয় চৰকাৰ আছে, যি হেতু আমাৰ জাতীয় নেতা জহবলাল নেহৰু আছে তেনে অৱস্থাত অসমৰ দাবী মঞ্জুৰ নকৰি পাৰেনে ? এইটো আপোনালোকে বিশ্বাস কৰেনে ? তাৰ পিচত আমাৰ দেশৰ বৰমুৰীয়া সকলৰ পৰা শুনিছোঁ আৰু দুই চাৰিজন M. P. ব লগতো সেই বিষয়ে কথাবাতৰী পাতিছিলো । তেখেত সকলৰ কথাৰ পৰা আমি কেতিয়াও বিশ্বাস কৰা নাছিলো যে আমি এই সদনত পুনৰাই এই প্রস্তাব দাঙি ধৰিব লাগিব । আজি যিটো প্রস্তাব দাঙি ধৰাইছে সেইটো কাৰ বিৰুদ্ধে ? কোন দেশৰ কাৰণে ? কোন জাতিৰ কাৰণে ? আমাৰ দেশ ভাৰতৰ ভিতৰত নহয় নেকি ? আমাৰ জাতি ভাৰতীয় জাতি নহয় নেকি ? আমাৰ চৰকাৰ জাতীয় চৰকাৰ নহয় নেকি ? অসম দেশ ভাৰতৰ এটা অঙ্গ নহয় নেকি ? যদি সচাঁকৈয়ে ভাৰতবৰ্ষ আমাৰ দেশ হয় তেন্তে আজি দেশ স্বাধীন হোৱাৰ পিচতো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত বাবে বাবে দাবী উত্থাপন কৰিব লগা হৈছে কিয় ? বাস্তৱিকতে ই অতি দুখৰ কথা, এনে কথাত গা গৰম হৈ যায় । (Laughter) আমাৰ অসমত কয়লাৰ খনি আছে, তৈলৰ খনি আছে, কিন্তু আমি পাইছোঁ কি ? বহুৰ ঘোঁৰাটো (Laughter) আপোনালোকে হাঁহিব পাৰে কিন্তু মই অন্তৰৰ কথা কৈছোঁ । দেখিবলৈ পাইছোঁ যে মালিক সকলে যেনেকৈ বনুৱা সকলক প্রতি কথাত প্ৰবঞ্চনা কৰিবলৈ যায় তেনেকৈ আজি আমাকো কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে প্ৰবঞ্চনা কৰিবলৈ গৈছে । যদি সেয়ে হয় তেন্তে



ইয়াৰ পৰিণাম ভয়াবহ হ'ব আৰু সেই অৱস্থা আহি পৰিছে। আমাৰ এতিয়া এটা সিদ্ধান্ত কৰিবৰ সময় হৈছে, বৈ থাকিলে নহ'ব। আমাৰ সাহস নাইনে যে আমি আগবাঢ়িব নোৱাৰিম? অসমৰ নিচিনা এখন সমস্যাৰহীন প্ৰদেশক এনেকৈ দৰাই বাধিব পাৰিবনে? কেতিয়াও নোৱাৰে। অসমীয়াৰ সাহস আছে, বুকুত তেজ আছে। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে যদি প্ৰাণ দিব লগা হয় তেন্তে অসমীয়াৰ প্ৰত্যেক ডেকা, ল'ৰা, ছোৱালী কোনেও সহি থাকিব নোৱাৰে।

আমি চকুৰ আগতে দেখিবলৈ পাইছোঁ। আমাৰ দু মাইল দূৰৈত মৰাণত তেল ওলাইছে। আমি আশা কৰিছিলোঁ যে আমি তাক ভোগ কৰিম। কিন্তু দেখিছোঁ কি? কত ঠিকা distribution হৈ গৈছে। তাৰ employee হ'ল কোনোবা ঠাইৰ পৰা অহা মানুহ। অসমীয়া মানুহে সেই অঞ্চলত কাম পোৱা নাই। কাৰ প্ৰবোচনাত? কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ প্ৰবোচনাত নে মালিকবিলাকৰ প্ৰবোচনাত এনেকুৱা হৈছে? মালিকৰ প্ৰবোচনাত আমি পৰিছোঁ নে কি? যদি পৰিছোঁ তেনেহলে এয়ে জাতি গঠনৰ নমুনাকৈ? গতিকে আমি আশা কৰিছোঁ যে আজি এই সদনত যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰা হৈছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱ অতি উপযুক্ত হৈছে।

আমাৰ মন্ত্ৰী সকল আৰু আমি যি সকল প্ৰতিনিধি হৈ আহিছোঁ। আৱশ্যক হ'লে আমি সকলোৱে সদস্যপদ ইস্তফা দিও কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰক সত্যাপ্ত কৰি হলেও আমাৰ প্ৰতিবাদ জনাব লাগে। গুৱাহাটীৰ বেলৰ লাইনত উঠি দিল্লীলৈ গৈ দিল্লীৰ পাৰ্লামেন্ট ভৱনৰ সন্মুখত আৰু কেন্দ্ৰীয় মন্ত্ৰী শ্ৰীমালব্যজী আৰু প্ৰধান মন্ত্ৰী শ্ৰীজহৰলালৰ বাস ভৱনৰ সন্মুখত আমি সত্যাপ্ত আন্দোলন কৰিব লাগে।

এই কথা কেই আমাৰ কৈ যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰা হৈছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱ মই অন্তৰেৰে, সাহসেৰে আৰু অতি ধৈৰ্য্যৰ সৈতে সমৰ্থন কৰিলোঁ।

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The hon. Member from Udarband will please speak.

**Shri TAJAMMUL ALI BARLASKAR (Udarband):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by the hon. Member Shri Biswadev Sarma regarding the establishment of oil refinery in Assam.

I am fully aware of the sincere efforts made by the Government to have this industry in Assam. But unfortunately it is reported that the Central Government has decided to establish the Oil Refinery at Barauni in Bihar. On receipt of the news our Government is moving the Central Government to revise their decision.

In this effort I shall be failing in my duty if I do not extend my whole-hearted support by standing by the side of the Government. I on behalf of all sections of the people of Assam appeal to the Central Government that they should change their decision and establish the refinery in Assam which is the genuine demand of the people of Assam. Assam has a good deal of production of oil which justifies the establishment of the oil refinery in Assam. Hence it is the legitimate claim of the people of Assam.



It is reported that the decision has been taken by the Central Government on the plea that the transport system is still undeveloped to have an industry of this type to be established in Assam. In that case I would request the Central Government to improve the transport system of Assam immediately and establish the oil industry in Assam.

If the Central Government do not change their decision, in that case I am afraid the people of Assam will take it so seriously that the Government may have to face a serious problem on this issue. I hope and trust that the Central Government will consider sympathetically over this issue and change their decision and locate the refinery in Assam.

I find that we are all one in this issue. I think Mr. Sarma will have no objection to accept the amendment moved by Mr. Goswami.

With these few words I offer my whole-hearted support to the motion moved by Shri Biswadev Sarma.

### Shri MAHADEV DAS [Barpeta (Reserved)] :

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মোৰ বন্ধু শ্ৰীবিষ্ণুদেৱ শৰ্মা ডাঙৰীয়াই এই সদনত শোধনাগাৰ সম্পৰ্কে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপন কৰিছে মই তাক সৰ্বসন্মতিকৰণে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। মোৰ আগত বহু সভাই বহু কথা কৈ গৈছে। মই সেইবিলাক পুনৰুক্তি নকৰি নাত্ৰ এটা কথা কবলৈ আহিছোঁ।

অসমৰ তেল সম্পদ আজি বাহিৰলৈ নিবলৈ ওলোৱাত সমগ্ৰ অসমীয়াৰ আগত যি এটি বিষাদৰ বেখা দেখা দিছে সেই বিষাদৰ বেখা অসমৰ ইমূৰৰ পৰা সিমূৰলৈ লৰা বুঢ়া আদি কৰি সকলোৰে মুখত দেখিবলৈ পোৱা গৈছে। অসম বাসীয়ে অসমৰ সম্পদ সমূহ অসমলৈ অহা বিদেশীক ভোগ কৰিবলৈ দিব পাৰে; কিন্তু সেই সম্পদ সমূহ কেতিয়াও বাহিৰলৈ উলিয়াই নিবলৈ দিব নোৱাৰে। সেই কাৰণে মই কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টক টানি অনুৰোধ কৰিব খোজোঁ যে আজি বহু দিনৰে পৰা অসমৰ বুকুত থকা যিটো সম্পদ তেওঁবিলাকে বদল কৰি বাহিৰলৈ নিনি অসমৰ সম্পদ অসমতেই ৰাখে। কেন্দ্ৰীয় গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ যি কোনো নেতৃস্থানীয় লোক অসম ভ্ৰমণলৈ আহিলে অসমীয়া মানুহৰ দুখ দেখি তেওঁলোকেও দুখ প্ৰকাশ কৰে। কিন্তু আজি শোধনাগাৰ সম্পৰ্কে আনি যি অৱস্থাত পৰিছোঁ সেই অৱস্থালৈ চাই দেখিবলৈ পাওঁ যে আমাৰ প্ৰতি তেওঁবিলাকৰ সহানুভূতি কিছু কম। যদিহে শোধনাগাৰ সচাকৈয়ে অসমৰ পৰা উলিয়াই নিয়ে তেন্তে অসম বুৰঞ্জীত এটা বিষাদৰ চিন বৈ যাব।

আজি অসমত এটা নতুন জাগৰণ উঠিছে; আৰু তাত বিৰোধী সকলৰ সদস্য সকলেও আমাৰ লগত সহযোগিতা কৰি অসমৰ সম্পদ ৰক্ষাৰ কাৰণে এক প্ৰাণে তেওঁ-জীৱ সিমানেই শিৰ বুলি মই ভাবোঁ। যদিহে আমি অসমবাসী, শিৱে অথবা সকলো ৰাইজে কেন্দ্ৰীয় শিৱ অথবা ভাৰপ্ৰাপ্ত নেতা সকলৰ আগত এক কথাবে আবেদন বা প্ৰাৰ্থনা কৰোঁ তেন্তে কেন্দ্ৰীয় ভাৰপ্ৰাপ্ত নেতা সকলে নিশ্চয় আমাৰ কালে চকু দিব। সেই কাৰণে মই আজি এই সদনত অসমীয়া ৰাইজৰ হকে আমাৰ সম্পদ বাহিৰলৈ উলিয়াই



নিম্ন অৰ্থাৎ ৰাষ্ট্ৰপতি শোধানাগাৰ নাপাতি অসমৰ যি কোনো ঠাইতে শোধানাগাৰ পাতিবলৈ দাবী জনাওঁ। কাৰণ, অসমীয়া ৰাইজ আন আন দেশৰ তুলনাত অতি দুখীয়া তাক কোনেও নুই কৰিব নোৱাৰে। যদি এই সম্পদ থকা স্বত্বেও আমি তাৰ ভাল ব্যৱহাৰলৈ আনি চহকী হবৰ সুবিধা নাপাওঁ তেন্তে শোধানাগাৰ সম্পদ ওলাই গলে জানো আমি ভৱিষ্যতে সুখী বা চহকী হব পাৰিম? বোধহয় এই কথাটো কোনো অসমীয়াৰ অমত নাই—নৰা, বুঢ়া আদি কৰি সকলোৱেই এই দাবীত সমৰ্থন জনাব আৰু এই সম্পদ অসমৰ বুকুতে ৰখাৰ কাৰণে চেষ্টা কৰিব। শোধানাগাৰ আমাৰ বুকুৰ কলিজা আৰু তেল, কলিজাৰ ৰঙা তেজ কলিজা বিহীন মানুহ যেনেকৈ বস্তিৰ নোৱাৰে ঠিক সেই দৰে শোধানাগাৰ বিহীন অসমীয়াও বস্তিৰ নোৱাৰে। ইয়াক ৰক্ষা কৰা অসমীয়াৰ প্ৰধান কৰ্ত্তব্য।

অৱশ্যেই কেন্দ্ৰীয় ভাৰপ্রাপ্ত নেতা সকলক টানি অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ যাতে তেওঁলোকে আমাক নিপদত নেপেলায় আৰু যাতে আমাৰ দাবী পূৰণ কৰি সোণৰ অসম গঢ়া পথত আমাৰ সম্পদ আমাৰ দেশতে ৰাখি আমাক সহায় কৰে।

**Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery):** অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, অসমত তেল শোধানাগাৰ স্থাপন সম্বন্ধে মাননীয় বন্ধু শ্ৰীযুত গোস্বামী দেৱে যিখিনি যুক্তি এই সদনৰ সদস্য সকলৰ আগত দাঙি ধৰিলে সেইখিনি সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ আৰু বেচি কব নোখোজোঁ। মাত্ৰ কব খোজোঁ যে আজি যিবিলাক দায়িত্বপূৰ্ণ সদস্যই এই সমস্যাৰ আলোচনাত একমতত উপনীত হৈছে তেওঁলোকে যেন সময়ৰ সোঁতৰ গতিত সুযোগ সুবিধাৰ আশাত মত সলনি নকৰে। এই সমস্যা লৈ যোৱা ২৮ আগষ্টৰ জন আন্দোলনৰ যি ৰূপ পৰিলক্ষিত হৈছিল সেই সময়ত এক শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহে জনসাধাৰণক “শোধানাগাৰৰ কাৰণে গুণ্ডগোল কিয় কৰিব লাগে?” বুলি শাস্ত কৰিবলৈ আহিছিল আজি মই সুখী হৈছোঁ যে শ্ৰীযুত ব্ৰহ্ম ডাঙৰীয়াই, শ্ৰীযুত গোস্বামীয়ে আন সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ সমৰ্থন কৰিছে। আনহাতে আমাৰ মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী শ্ৰীযুত মেধী ডাঙৰীয়াই কংগ্ৰেছ প্ৰেচিডেণ্ট দেৱৰৰ ওচৰত পৰামৰ্শ বিচাৰিছে—এই শোধানাগাৰ সংক্ৰান্তত পদত্যাগ কৰিবনে নকৰে? মই এইটো জানো যে দেৱৰদেৱে যদিওবা অনুমতি দিদিয়—অসমৰ জনসাধাৰণে জানো মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰীক এৰিব? গতিকে মই আপোনালোকৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব খোজোঁ যে অসমৰ সকলো শ্ৰেণীৰ লোকেই এই বিষয়ত সহযোগ কৰা উচিত হব—বিশেষকৈ মন্ত্ৰীমণ্ডলীয়ে জনসাধাৰণৰ নতত একমত হোৱাটো। আজি সমাজতাত্ত্বিক সমাজ ব্যৱস্থাৰ নীতি উপেক্ষা কৰিও ভুল কৰি কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে কেতিয়াবা অন্য নীতিত চলে, মানুহৰ মাজত বিভেদ সৃষ্টি হয়। এই সমস্যাৰ উপৰিও S. R. C.-ৰ সমস্যালৈ পশ্চিম বঙ্গৰ লগত আমাৰ বিভেদ সৃষ্টি হল এতিয়া এই নতুন সমস্যা লৈ বিচাৰৰ লগত অসমৰ বিভেদ আহিছে। ই আমাৰ মূৰত বজপাত পৰাৰ দৰেহে হৈছে। অসমখন ভাৰতৰ বাকী অংশৰ উপনিবেশ নহয়, য'ৰ পৰা অসমৰ ন্যায় দাবী উপেক্ষা কৰি অসমত গঢ়ি উঠিব লগা প্ৰধান শিল্পাৱস্থা অসমৰ বাহিৰত পাতি অন্যান্য ৰাজ্য সমূহক সম্পত্তিশালী কৰিব। ইয়াৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা অতিকৈ দুখলগা হব যদি কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ এই প্ৰচেষ্টাত আমাৰ চৰকাৰে বাধা দিব নোৱাৰে। মৰমৰ সদস্যবন্ধু শ্ৰীযুত হাজৰীকাই এই সংক্ৰান্তত যি কথা কৈছে মই তাক শনিবাৰেই কৈছোঁ।

(A Voice: হাজৰীকা নহয়, শইকীয়াহে।)

মাফ কৰিব, মই শইকীয়াহে কব খুজিছিলোঁ।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই প্ৰসঙ্গত এই কথা কলে অতিৰিক্ত কৰা নহ'ব যে সকলো ক্ষেত্ৰতে জনসাধাৰণ ঠিকেই থাকে মাত্ৰ মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী সকলকে আদি কৰি নেতৃস্থানীয় বৰমূৰীয়া সকলেহে মতৰ সলনি কৰে। সেই কাৰণে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ, এই বিষয়ত মত



নাই বুলি, দলীয় শৃঙ্খলাবদ্ধতাৰ নামত যেন মত সলনি নহয়। এই সমস্যাটো ডাঙৰ সমস্যা আৰু ই অসমৰ ন্যায্য দাবী। ই অকল চহৰৰ নহয়; নগৰ চহৰ নিবিবশেষে অসমৰ গাওঁ ভূঁই বাগী সকলোৰে দাবী বুলি যেন চৰকাৰে গণ্য কৰে আৰু যেতিয়া পদত্যাগৰ সময় আহে তেতিয়া যেন এই বিষয়ত ইতস্ততঃ নকৰে আৰু পুনৰ কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ কাষ নাচাপে।

ইয়াকে কৈ মোৰ কথলগীয়া শেষ কৰিলো।

**Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members belonging to all sections of this House have taken part in this debate. Government would associate with most of the sentiments expressed although would not approve of the language in certain cases. So, Sir, I need not take the time of the House in seeking to reply to various Members. But Sir, the observations made by three hon. Members need attention on my part. The hon. Member from Ratabari-Patharkandi was pleased to say that the Members belonging to the ruling party go to Delhi not to represent the views of the people nor the woes and troubles of the people of this State, but to ensure their own fishes and loaves, to urge upon the High Command for their offices of Ministers or Deputy Ministers. Sir, the hon. Member is quite new to the environments of to-day in which he has been placed. So I have no doubt the House will take a lenient view to his utterances and I also hope that he will find out in no time that his gibes are rather cheap to be advanced on the floor of this House and are fit only for a market place.

Sir, I would also submit that while I was listening to the flow and eloquence of the speech of the hon. Member from Bilasipara, my mind wandered back to a period of nearly two decades back when the hon. Member and myself were about 18 years younger. At that time the majority party was contending bitterly that India has been tied to a chariot wheel of foreign masters and has been dragged to a war in which she was not interested. At that time Sir, the hon. Member was very amiable and obliging to the foreign masters. But, Sir, times have changed—1938-39 are not 1957! and the Brahmaputra no longer flows through Bharat alone. So, Sir, we find our Friend rejuvenated and I welcome his present enthusiasm!

✓ Then again Sir, the hon. Member from Thowra brought to light a thing which was supported in a way by the hon. Member from Panery and it was to the effect that the Leader of the House and the M. Ps. do not disclose what they learnt regarding the refinery, either due to the fact that the elections



were in the offing or because they do not like to displease some Members of the High Command. Sir, I need not protest loudly about it, but I can only request the hon. Members to recollect what our beloved Prime Minister was pleased to say when a big deputation waited upon him at your place, Sir, at Nowgong. The Hon'ble Prime Minister received the deputation, listened with great patience and explained the whole thing. He said, "Your agitation would not carry you far. Try to establish your case by facts and figures and if the proposition is economically and technically feasible, surely the refinery would be located in Assam." So, Sir, no one in India, and I would also make bold to say, in the world also, would accuse our Prime Minister of talking with two ideas in his mind. Sir, we were hoping that the refinery would be located in Assam. Sir, I may be excused my incorrigible optimism standing as I am here in this House that even at this moment I am hoping that the refinery would be established here in Assam—(*Applause from all sides of the House*).

Sir, there is another small point which I need refer to and particularly because our Chief Minister is indisposed and is not present in this House. Our Friend, the hon. Member, from Panery was finding fault with him for having sought permission of the Congress Parliamentary Board to resign. He thought that our Chief Minister should seek permission of the Oil Refinery Action Committee—if I listened to him aright—(voices from the Treasury Benches—Yes, Yes). Well may I submit that our Chief Minister is not a free lance as probably my Friend Mr. Patwary is, or in other words as we would say in Assamese language 'নাকি চিঙা মহ' that is 'a buffalo with a nose string let loose'.....(*loud laughter*). Sir, Members of the Congress Party are to submit to discipline and it is the great discipline of this great party which contributed by and large for the independence of India and we may be pardoned if we have this little weakness, *i. e.*, our discipline.

Now, Sir, Government have followed the debate on the Resolution relating to the establishment of the Petrol Refinery for processing crude oil in Naharkatiya and other oil fields in Assam with great attention. They are fully convinced that such a refinery in Assam is technically feasible and economically profitable. They also feel that its establishment in Assam is necessary for economic and industrial development of the State as well as for removing the disparity in the standard of development in the different States in India. Government have not



been able to appreciate the justification on merit for any move which seeks to deprive Assam of the proposed oil refinery. They accordingly took serious note of the various press reports which appeared during the last few days indicating that the Government of India had well nigh decided that the refinery in question should be established at Barauni in Bihar.

In those circumstances, Government after most serious and careful consideration sent a wireless message to the Prime Minister, the Union Home Minister and other Central Ministers at about 12 noon on 13th June 1957 expressing grave concern at these reported developments and requesting them to revise decision in favour of locating the refinery in Assam or at least to postpone any decision on the subject till the Prime Minister's return from abroad. They also clearly and unequivocally conveyed the strong feelings of all sections of the people of Assam in this matter and took care to explain the extremely embarrassing position in which the Government would be placed in the event of a decision being taken against the establishment of the refinery in Assam.

We have great hopes that the Prime Minister and the Central Cabinet will give necessary consideration to the demand of the people of Assam on the question of the refinery. On 14th June 1957 at about 11 A. M. we received a communication from the Prime Minister which was despatched on the 12th June 1957, *i. e.*, before our wireless message was received in Delhi by him. It indicated that the Government of India, in spite of their best wishes have been obliged tentatively to arrive at a conclusion for establishment of the refinery at Barauni in Bihar. This tentative decision was taken without consultation with this State Government. As this letter was despatched before our important communication was received by the Prime Minister, a reply to our communication had necessarily to be awaited.

Then, a reply by wireless to our earlier message of 13th June 1957 has been received from the Union Home Minister at about 8-30 P. M. on 15th June 1957, in which it has been assured that he himself and his colleagues in the Union Cabinet have full sympathy for our State and her people in their natural desire for a speedy economic development, which we are all trying to promote. It has further been stated that as the Prime Minister has already left for abroad, consideration of the views expressed by us in the aforementioned wireless message could be possible only after his return to India. The Union Home Minister has also expressed a desire to discuss the whole matter with us during his forthcoming visit to Assam.



Meanwhile a delegation on behalf of the Government, consisting of Shri Siddhinath Sarma, Minister, Shri Chatrasing Teron, Minister, Shri Omeo Kumar Das and Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, M. L. A. and Shri Bimala Prosad Chaliha, President, Assam Pradesh Congress Committee, has proceeded to Delhi to represent our interest to the Union Ministers and the President of the A. I. C. C. The delegation waited upon the Congress President and the Union Ministers and I am happy to be able to tell the House that they met Shri Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Union Minister, at his residence this morning. Maulana Saheb gave them a patient hearing and assured that so far as the claim of Assam for location of the oil refinery in Assam is concerned, the Central Government has full sympathy and would be happy if the refinery is located in Assam. The technical and other difficulties have to be considered in this regard. The tentative decision arrived at in this regard is being further examined in this light. He said that all such questions would be discussed in the conference which he proposes to convene in the month of July 1957. At this conference, representatives of Assam Government and also the representative of Pradesh Congress Committee would be invited and would be given full opportunity to discuss the matter with the Expert Committee, and after such discussion, we hope that a decision acceptable to all will be arrived at.

We hope that hon. Members of this House and the people of Assam will appreciate the significance and importance of the steps already taken by the Cabinet on this question. We take this opportunity to assure the House that every possible step will be taken by Government to ensure that the legitimate claims of the people of Assam in this regard are not in any way ignored. We also appeal to the hon. Members of the House in this connection to extend their co-operation to the Government so that their efforts in this direction can be continued in an atmosphere of calm and dignity.

I have, therefore, no difficulty in accepting the Resolution moved by the hon. Member with the amendments moved by Shri Hareswar Goswami and Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, that is to say the amending Resolution.

Thank you, Sir.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** The House is seized of both the amendments. I find from the statement made by the Hon'ble Finance Minister that he is willing to accept the amendments



moved by the hon. Member from Rampur as well as the hon. Member from Gauhati. I will now ask the hon. Mover of the Resolution, whether he is willing to accept the amendments moved by them.

**Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Balipara):** Sir, I have no objection to accept the amendments moved by Shri Hareswar Goswami and Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

In this connection, I would like to say that some of the hon. Members in discussing this subject said that the wordings in my Resolution were not as strong as they ought to have been. I would welcome any number of strong words but, Sir, provided it befits the dignity and prestige of this House.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The question is that:

“This Assembly takes into account the resentment of the people of Assam against the reported decision of the Government of India to locate the Oil Refinery outside Assam and stands behind the people in their demand for its location in Assam.

This Assembly reiterates the Short Notice Resolution unanimously passed by this House on 3rd April, 1956 and is of the opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India to take immediate steps to instal the Oil Refinery in Assam for processing the crude oil of Assam with a view to remove the imbalance in the economy of Assam and to help the regional development of under-developed areas like Assam so that there may be even industrial development of all States in India.”

(This was adopted unanimously.)

(Loud applause).



**Election of Members to State Soldier's, Sailors' and  
Airmen's Board.**

**Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Home):** Sir, I beg to move that two Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly be elected by majority votes of the Assembly to the State Soldiers,' Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Assam."

Functions—The State Soldiers,' Sailors' and Airmen's Board will work under the general control and supervision of the Indian Sailors,' Soldiers' and Airmen's Board and will be responsible for :—

- (a) Co-ordinating the work of District Soldiers,' Sailors' and Airmen's Boards in the State,
- (b) promoting measures of welfare of *Ex*-servicemen and the families of serving soldiers,
- (c) disseminating information to the general public regarding the Armed Forces in the country and to take measures to rouse an intelligent interest in the Armed Forces among the members of the general public.

**Mr. SPEAKER :** The question is that two Members of the Assam Legislative Assembly be elected by majority votes of the Assembly to the State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Assam.

Functions—The State Soldiers,' Sailors' and Airmen's Board will work under the general control and supervision of the Indian Sailors,' Soldiers' and Airmen's Board and will be responsible for :—

- (a) Co-ordinating the work of District Soldiers,' Sailors' and Airmen's Board in the State.
- (b) promoting measure of welfare of *Ex*-servicemen and the families of serving soldiers,



- (c) disseminating information to the general public regarding the Armed Forces in the country and to take measures to rouse an intelligent interest in the Armed Forces among the members of the general public.

(The Motion was adopted.)

Secretary will issue the notice intimating the date, time and place for voting the election.

### General Discussion on the Budget

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Now, we will take up general discussion on the budget. The hon. Member for Barpeta (General) will speak.

**Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Finance Minister for the illuminating speech he delivered in this House in presenting the budget, but I am sorry to know that due consideration has not been given to medical and public health in his speech. I would like to mention in this connection a few points. It appears that at present we are facing with many unwarranted, unwanted, natural and man-made mishaps. In whichever direction we focus our attention we see that people are half-starved, ill-nourished and under-nourished and the economic condition of the people is at present such that they cannot imagine to get two square meals a day and consequently they are very prone to infection. Their resistance power is gradually diminishing and the deceased condition of the people are in the increase. We should consider that infection is an important point from medical point of view, and the cause of infection is mainly want of strong health to resist disease germs.

Sir, I would request the hon. Minister-in-charge of Medical Department to see that preventive side should be given more consideration although curative side requires attention as saying goes like that, "Prevention is better than Cure".

Sir, in the budget speech there is mention that increased number of beds have been provided in the T. B. Hospitals in the State for indoor patients but in comparison to the number of persons infected (with this disease) these beds are negligible. Government, it appears has been opening Chest Clinic but they are not sufficient in comparison to the number of patients, for example, I should like to cite the case of Barpeta Sub-divisional Chest Clinic. In Barpeta Sub-division there is a huge number of population out of which there is a big number of T. B. patients but there is one Chest Clinic in this whole sub-division which is not sufficient to cater to the needs of the large number of patients there. In this connection, I would



like to draw the attention of the Medical Minister regarding the X-Ray Plant in the Barpeta Civil Hospital. I think Sir, it is not properly installed, there may be some defects somewhere. As a professional man I think some mechanics should be deputed to see the defects and put them right, if there be any as it is also an important means for detection of the disease.

Next Sir, I come to the question of electricity. Electricity is very important in the modern scientific world. Electricity is absolutely necessary for operation and in the surgical wards, it is also very important for day and specially at night when one has to operate and attend to any emergency. So, Sir, I simply bring this to the notice of the Medical Minister to draw his particular attention to this also in order that the hospitals are properly fitted with sufficient electricity, specially mentioning our Barpeta Civil Hospital which has not yet been done. So, Sir, in the Budget speech there is no mention regarding B. C. G. campaign. This is a very important method to determine and check at the very beginning in order to prevent the spread of diseases. Since B. C. G. campaign is important, I would also like to draw the attention of Medical Minister that necessary steps regarding the B. C. G. campaign may be taken.

Next, Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the Medical Minister regarding the condition of the hospital at Gauhati. There, Sir, the number of patients are increasing but the staff is inadequate. There is such an inadequate number of doctors, etc., that even the indoor patients cannot be properly looked after not to speak of the outdoor patients. So, Sir, I request the Medical Minister to look to this also so that the staff in the Gauhati Hospital as well as in the other hospitals may be adequately increased to meet the needs of both the indoor and outdoor patients. In this connection, I may say that the really deserving patients are generally neglected but those who are not really deserving get all the facilities of the hospital through back door policy.

Then again, Sir, I want to say regarding the emergency ward in the Gauhati Civil Hospital. Here also I stress that some enterprise should be made in the matter of constructing the ward. Sir, I think Medical Minister will see to this particular ward and take necessary steps to expedite it. Another point with regard to this hospital is the question of Blood-bank. Blood is also an essential means to save the suffering humanity, specially when the Surgical or Gynaecological cases are concerned. So, Sir, I am bringing this matter to the notice of Medical



Minister by way of focussing it. Sir, in this way in all the hospitals things are not in order. The other day the hon. Members from Dhubri and Silchar have stated about the conditions of the hospitals in their respective districts. I hope the Medical Minister will be pleased to see to this so that all the hospitals are properly staffed with sufficient quantity of medicines, etc. I hope the Medical Minister will take effective steps in this direction.

Sir, another thing, we find that mosquitoes are increasing. Here in Shillong also in our Members' Hostels we find plenty of mosquitoes. Sir, we have got a malaria control programme, but the mosquitoes are on the increase. I am focussing this in order to draw the attention of the Minister-in-charge to take quick and effective steps in order that this menace from a large number of mosquitoes is got rid of and thereby the disease also will greatly be reduced.

Again, Sir, I want to focus the attention of the House to another point, *i. e.*, regarding increasing number of cancer cases in our State, recently. Although no cause is yet known, I stress the authority concerned that particular steps be taken regarding investigation of the predisposing cases of it.

Lastly, Sir, I want to say a few words about the amalgamation of the Medical and Public Health Departments. This question is still hanging and nothing so far tangible has been done. I am focussing this in order to draw the attention of Medical Minister so that early necessary steps may be taken in order that these two departments—Medical and Public Health—may be amalgamated as quickly as possible.

Sir, there are development schemes and these are bound to fail if we do not take care about the health of the people—as goes the saying “If there is health there is wealth”.

**U JOR MANIK Siem of Myllem [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, after hearing the speeches of the hon. Members in connection with the Budget speech of the Finance Minister, there is hardly anything for me to add. However, I have got some other points. The first item I would like to refer to is regarding the Development Projects or National Extension Service Blocks and Community Projects. I am afraid, Sir, that these Development Projects have been concentrated along the road side where we can see. We have beautiful little bungalows, summer house and flower beds. So people living on the road side can expect to get



some benefit but not those who are in the interior areas which are really backward and such areas, have been neglected. In the interior in the most backward areas we don't find any National Extension Service Block or Community Projects where they deserve most. I am referring to the interior of Khyrim and Nongstoin areas.

Now, Sir, in the existing Development Blocks which we had in the First Five Year Plan there is not enough staff for those projects. Sir, I find that dispensaries have been built but no doctor, no compounder. The reason given is that they have no doctor. Now if they have no doctor what was the use of building a dispensary. These dispensaries have to be attended to. I mean we are to incur expenditure for their upkeep and chowkidars are required to be appointed to keep a watch over them.

**Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical):** Sir, will the hon. Member let me have the names of the dispensaries which are going without doctors ?

**U JOR MANIK Siem of Mylliem [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]:** Sir there is one such Dispensary at Bhoilymbong. Sir I do not know why Government cannot complete building of a leper dispensary for which outside help were sought when even non-Indians went to help building it. Sir, I am afraid that the officers in the development blocks did not really take the trouble of doing justice to the people living in the interior. Even the veterinary doctors have not done any work at all. I have got complaints to the effect that they do not attend to the call of the people ; they really have not helped the people in this matter. There is complaint from the District Council who said that if the work could have been entrusted to them, then there would have been more response from the people because voluntary programme is always better and produces quicker result than the imposed programmes.

Another point, Sir, which I would like to observe is about the communication and road transport. Sir, the roads in the hills are very few in number. Those which have been taken were fair weather roads—perhaps one or two are jeepable or motorable all the year round. I am afraid this work have been taken up very late in the First Five Year Plan period. If proper attention in this respect would have been given in time, perhaps there would not have been so much cry from the border people and probably



there would have been no famine in Nongstoin area. It is because of this want of all weather road communication that we have so much complains from all sides. So my point is that during the Second Five-Year Plan Government should take particular care in this item of development.

The next point is about the grant of scholarships to the tribal students. Sir, we are indeed very grateful to the Government for giving so many scholarships to the tribal students. But I am afraid in some cases really deserving students have not got the scholarships. I am afraid there is something wrong somewhere. It appears there is partiality or fovourotism in some cases. I hope the Minister-in-charge who is not here-will see that this is stopped.

Now, I come to the question of agriculture. Sir, much has been said here about the Training Centre for Agricultural Inspectors and the like at Upper Shillong. I am yet to be informed how many trainees have been sent to the interior, what services they are rendering to the cultivators in the hills. I do not know how many of the Inspectors are tribals, if they have the experience of soil, the crop, the mode of cultivation, etc., of the hills people. I would also like to know if these officers are touring in the interior of the district. It is to some extent true that the cultivators in the hills are somewhat conservative in adopting modern method of cultivation. But I am sure if the Agricultural Inspectors can give a practical demonstration of the usefulness of the modern method of cultivation this conservatism on the part of the cultivators will disappear in course of time.

Another point, Sir, I want to mention is with regard to the question of irrigation. Sir, we find that those who know how to approach the persons in authority can succeed in getting the benefit. But those who have no time to come to Shillong and have no idea to handle the matter they are not getting any help at all. Sir, during the last few months there were several complains to the effect that while some people in some area have got the help in this direction others in the same area have been deprived of the same, they have been neglected. I do not know what is the reason. I hope the authority will see that this kind of partiality goes.

Sir, I do not want to say anything more with regard to the question of oil refinery. I am glad that a unanimous resolution has been accepted by this House. In this connection,



I hope the Government of India will revise their tentative decision. The refinery should be located in Assam and that place selected on the advice of experts should be accepted.

Sir, I would like to say that the progress during the First Five Year Plan period has not been commendable. I hope the progress during the Second Five Year Plan will bring about more prosperity to the people.

Sir, before I sit down, I would like to make an appeal to the hon. Members of this House so that they would kindly speak in this House in a language which is understood by most of the Members of this House—I mean by those who know the language. In that case we can appreciate their points of view better, we can enjoy their humour, we can exchange our ideas better. So I hope the hon. Members would please speak in such a way and in such a language that we can understand them.

With these words, Sir, I conclude my speech.

### Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A. M. on Tuesday, the 18th June, 1957.

Shillong :

The 19th December, 1957.

R. N. BARUA,

Secretary,  
Legislative Assembly, Assam.



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