

Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

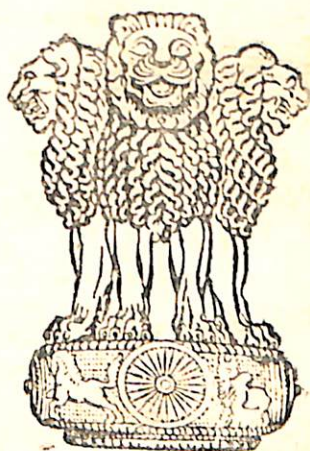
FIRST SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE SECOND
GENERAL ELECTION UNDER THE
SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF
INDIA

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

No. 12

The 22nd June, 1957



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1958

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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 Saturday, the 22nd June, 1957.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., L.L.B., Speaker, in the Chair,
eight Ministers, seven Deputy Ministers and sixty-six Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Construction of a road from Nalbari to Golakganj

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*19. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the people of North Kamrup and part of North Goalpara gave repeated representations to the State Government since 1948, to construct a road from Nalbari to Golakganj ?
- (b) If so, whether Government propose to start construction of that road without delay ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.) replied :

19.(a)—No such representations appear to have so far been received by the Government in the Public Works Department.

It may be mentioned that portion of Nalbari to Benki is an all-weather gravelled road (part of North Trunk Road West). Portion Benki to Chapaguri (North Trunk Road) has already been taken up for improvement. Chapaguri to North Salmara and thence to Golakganj, mostly black-topped, is mostly part of National Highway No. 31.

(b)—Does not arise.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : May I know from the Minister whether the Government propose to make the remaining portion of the road, *i. e.*, from Nalbari to Benki and then from Benki to Chapaguri and then from Chapaguri to Golakganj *via* North Salmara black-topped ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : The reply is there. It may be mentioned that the portion from Nalbari to Benki is an all-weather gravelled road. I cannot say offhand about black-topping the entire road. There is a proposal to black-top some portions of the North Trunk Road.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : My question is whether Government propose to black-top the entire road from Nalbari to Benki, Benki to Chapaguri and Chapaguri to Golakganj *via* North Salmara ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Will the hon. Member put his questions separately ?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : My first question is, irrespective of any representation from the public, whether they propose to black-top the portion from Nalbari to Benki ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : It is already an all-weather gravelled road, but I cannot say offhand which are the portions going to be black-topped in our Second Five-Year programme.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I want to know whether the portions from Nalbari to Benki and Benki to Chapaguri is going to be black-topped ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.): I want notice of this question.

Mr. SPEAKER: As the Hon'ble Minister wants notice of this, we may drop this question.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): My next question is whether there is any proposal to make any permanent or Pucca bridge over the river Benki?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: At present there is no such proposal but the matter is under examination of the Government.

Loan for improvement of North Lakhimpur Town

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked:

*20. Will the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the North Lakhimpur Town Committee has lately applied for a loan of Rs.3,00,000 for improvement of the North Lakhimpur Town?

(b) Whether Government has arranged for making the loan available to the Town Committee?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Local-Self Government) replied:

20.(a)—No proposal has yet been received.

(b)—Does not arise at this stage.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA: Is there any proposal to raise the status of the North Lakhimpur Town Committee to that of a Municipality?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: The question does not arise in this connection.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA: Is there any proposal to improve the condition of the North Lakhimpur Town?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: It is up to the Town Committee to submit such proposal to the Government.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

**Appointment of Surgeons and Pathologists
in Assam**

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked:

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

- (a) When did the Government last advertise for appointment of Surgeons and Pathologists for some of the Hospitals in Assam ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the terms and conditions of the service are not enough for getting qualified men ?
- (c) Whether Government received any application for these posts ?
- (d) If so, why no appointment is made up till now ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied:

58. (a)—The post of the Surgeons were last advertised through the Assam Public Service Commission on 25th July, 1956 and that of Pathologists on 23rd November, 1955.

(b)—No, the terms and conditions of service are reasonable to attract qualified men.

(c)—Yes, one candidate for the posts of Surgeons and eight candidates for the posts of Pathologists.

(d)—The case of Surgeon candidate is under consideration. The posts of the Pathologists have already been filled.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): About Question No. 58(b), it has been said, "No, the terms and conditions of service are reasonable to attract qualified men." But I find that there is one candidate for Surgeon and eight candidates for Pathologists, who have already applied, as it is indicated in answer to Question No. 58(c), and in the answer to Question No. 58(d), it is said, "The case of Surgeon candidate is under consideration. The posts of Pathologists have already been filled." It seems that terms and conditions are not enough. Sir, I want to know whether Government want to appoint a Pathologist immediately for the Civil Hospital, Silchar?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): The reply is already there, that the posts of Pathologists have already been filled and Silchar will get one of them.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA: But Silchar Civil Hospital has not got one as yet.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: My information is definite that this post has been filled and one of them has been posted to Silchar.

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra): कब तक Doctor के join करने की उम्मीद है ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: As I stated, it may be that some of them have been sent for training for a short period and as soon as they complete training, one of them will be sent there.

T. B. Ward in the Civil Hospital, Silchar

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked :

59. Will the Medical Minister be pleased to state ?

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister opened the T. B. Ward in the Civil Hospital, Silchar about a year ago, but no steps have yet been taken,—

(i) to arrange for beds for inpatients ; and

(ii) to appoint whole-time physician and staff ?

(b) When Government propose to make the said T. B. Ward full-fledged one ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

59. (a)—No, steps have been taken for beds and to appoint a physician.

(b)—As soon as the physician is appointed.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) : It has been said in answer to Question No. 59 (b) that as soon as the physician is appointed this hospital will be opened. When do we expect that the physician will be appointed ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : We have already taken step for appointing a physician there. It will be done shortly.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA : What is the present stage about this?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : That is a different question altogether. Yet I may inform the hon. Members that so far as I have got the information, the buildings are nearing completion and it will be possible to open it very early.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA : May I inform the Hon'ble Minister that buildings have already been constructed ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : But there are many things remaining to be done. Only construction of buildings will not do.

Survey of T. B. and Kala-azar Patients in Assam

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

60. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state :—

(a) Whether the Government is making survey about T. B. and Kala-azar patients in the State ?

(b) If so, what are their number Districtwise ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

60. (a)—No. T. B. survey has been done. Kala-azar survey is carried in the District as usual.

(b)—The number of attacks from Kala-azar in the State during 1956, district by district, is furnished below :

Garo Hills	...	...	...	...	3,292
United Mikir and North Cachar Hills...					1,847
Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	1,242
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	...	6
Kamrup	...	...	...	...	2,938
Goalpara	...	...	...	...	6,936
Mizo Hills	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nowgong	...	...	...	...	12,366
Darrang	...	...	...	...	493
					<hr/> 29,120 <hr/>

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding): What step is being taken by Government to combat Kala-azar in Nowgong district where the incidence is the highest, *i. e.*, 12,366 ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: I may inform the hon. Member that we have been taking necessary steps in the matter. I do exactly remember whether I gave out this information to the House during the general discussion of the Budget. Construction of a 16 bedded Kala-azar Hospital with staff quarters at a cost of about Rs.30,000 each was sanctioned for the following places in the Nowgong district, *viz.*, Lawpani, Ahom Gaon and Bhura Gaon. We have already spent Rs.36,000 for each Centre for these Kala-azar Hospitals. So we are taking all possible steps to combat this disease. Our idea is to make a thorough survey of the places where we get report about the incidence of Kala-azar. Then it is brought to the notice of the Medical Officer who takes prompt action to bring the area under treatment.

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Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to state whether there was no survey in the districts of Lakhimpur on the east and Cachar on the south ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): It may be so because there may not have been any incidence of Kala-azar. But whenever such incidence is brought to our notice, we certainly take up survey work.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palasbari) : What steps have been taken in Kamrup ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: In every district where we have the report of Kala-azar incidence, we immediately take all necessary steps. My Friend has perhaps referred to his constituency nearabout the hills. (*Loud laughter*).

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the Hon'ble Minister please reply to the question put by the hon. Member ? The question was, what steps are being taken in Kamrup ? So any reference to the constituency would open a flood-gate of unnecessary questions.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: All necessary steps have been taken as I have already replied in Question No. 60(b). The number of Kala-azar cases in Kamrup is 2,938.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: My question is what steps have been taken ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: We are opening Centres wherever necessary.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is very simple—whether any dispensary has been opened ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Dispensaries are already there in the district of Kamrup. We have opened dispensaries within a radius of 4 to 5 miles and we have made all necessary arrangement through these dispensaries for the treatment of Kala-azar.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding): Whether Government are willing to take any step on the south-east of Nowgong district which is very interior, namely, Kharikhana and Lumding ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Proper steps will be taken if there is any incidence of Kala-azar there.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): This all for the curative side. Is there any scheme for the preventive side?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Of course we have. Sometimes after the spraying of D. D. T. we have seen that good results are obtained. For example, in the case of Jhanzi in Sibsagar Subdivision, where we applied this D. D. T., it gave some good effect.

Umtru Hydro-Electric Scheme

Shri PRABHATNARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked:—

60. Will the Minister for Planning and Development be pleased to state :

- (a) When the Umtru-Hydro Electric Plan was started and when it was proposed to be completed?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the project is smaller than Hirakud, Damodar Valley and many other projects in other State of India?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that larger projects like Hirakud, Damodar Valley, etc., were completed earlier than Umtru?
- (d) When the Umtru Project be expected to function?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development) replied:—

61. (a)—The Project report on Umtro Hydro-Electric Scheme received the approval of the Planning Commission and the Government of India by the latter part of 1952. While some preliminary work on the access road and staff quarters was started thereafter, matters like finalisation of Colombo Plan Aid for the project and prepration of detailed designs by the Central Water and Power Commission took time. The work on the project proper was taken up in 1954-55. The date originally

proposed for generation of electricity from the Project was 1st April, 1957. Since then there had been some set-backs to the work due to unexpectedly high floods in the Umtru River during the last rainy season, leading to hold up of works, besides washing away of considerable quantities of materials like sand, stones, machinery, etc. There was also some delay in fabrication and transportation of pipes due to the last Steamer Strike

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Government have no information about the time taken by projects other than Umtru.

(d)—9th July, 1957 has been tentatively decided as the date for inauguration of the Project.

Functions of Library Van in Assam

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

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

(a) Whether there are some Library Vans ?

(b) If so, what are the functions of those vans ?

63. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state :

(a) Whether there is a proposal to start some Mofussil Libraries in the Rural Areas ?

(b) If the answer is in affirmative, whether the places have been selected ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

62. (a)—Yes.

There are four Library Vans at present. Three of these vans are meant for the scheme "Improvement of Library Service" and one for the scheme "Integrated Library Service".

(b) Functions of the vans under the scheme "Improvement of Library Service" are to distribute books to the seven District Libraries from the State Central Library and circulate books from one District Library to another. These vans are also meant to organise book exhibitions, to participate in social education rallies and other social and cultural functions, exhibitions like Assam Sahitya Sabha, exhibition of All-Assam Library Conference and other library conference like Gandhi Mela, etc., and circulation of books to local library centres in villages.

The van under the scheme "Integrated Library Service" is meant for supplying books to the 20 units libraries and 5 branch libraries at Titabar area which cover 100 villages.

63. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

Sri RAMNATH SARMA (Lumding): Is it a fact that the size of the van is so big that it cannot get into the interior villages ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education): It is not a fact.

Shri RAMNATH SARMA: Whether the Hon'ble Deputy Minister knows that the van had to come back without attending some functions in the interior because it is of a bigger size ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA. I have no information.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): May I know the weight of the van ?

Shri PURNANADA CHETIA: That is not possible for me to say.

Mr. SPEAKER: Another Unstarred Question can be put on the van. (*Laughter*)

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Will the Deputy Minister please state whether Lakhimpur district has been included in the list of 7 district library ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: Yes, one at Dibrugarh.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) :
Will the Hon'ble Deputy Minister-in-charge name these 7 district libraries ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) : Gauhati, Tezpur, Nowgong, Silchar, Jorhat, Dibrugarh and Dhubri.

Recommendation of the Pay Committee

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

64. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state why the last Pay Committee of the Government of Assam did not invite the representative of the Prince of Wales Technical School Workers' Union to appear before the Committee in spite of Union's submitting answer of the questionnaire and written offer to appear before the Committee ?

65. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Why the recommendation of the Pay Committee have not been implemented to the 4th Grade employees and employees of the commercial section of the Prince of Wales Technical School, Jorhat ?

(b) When the recommendation of the Pay Committee will be made applicable to the 4th Grade employees and employees of the commercial section of the Prince of Wales Technical School ?

(c) What considerations and decisions were made on the implementation of the recommendation of the Pay Committee of the Government of Assam which were pointed out by the Union by their letter No.P.W.-56/840 of 20th March, 1957 addressed to the School Authority ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) :
replied.—

64.—The programme of interview of Government Officers, Service Associations and Unions was made by the Pay Committee which have since been dissolved. Available papers do not indicate reasons.

65. (a)—The revised pay scale recommended by the Pay Committee for Grade IV employees is admissible only in case of employees who are in whole-time employment of Govern-

ment are on time scale of pay. The Education Department is examining the matter how far the recommendation of the Pay Committee can be implemented in case of Grade IV and other casual employees of the Institute.

The commercial section of the Institute is still in its experimental stage. The employees of this section are purely temporary and paid on daily wage basis. For this category of Government servants the Pay Committee did not recommend any time scale of pay.

- (b) So far as Grade IV employees are concerned, reply has already been given above. As regards the employees of the commercial section the question does not arise.
- (c) The communication referred to has not yet been received by Government.

Shillong Hydro-Electric Company

Srimati LILYSEN GUPTA (Lahowal) asked :

66. Will the Minister-in-charge of Electricity be pleased to state :—

- (a) What is the minimum voltage by which current is to be maintained or supplied by the Shillong Hydro-Electric Company to the public of Shillong for house connections on light according to the terms of the lease or contract ?
- (b) Whether the company is maintaining the same ?
- (c) If not, what steps Government have taken to enforce the terms of the lease or contract in this direction ?
- (d) Whether any loan was taken from Government by the Company for improvement within the course of last three years ?
- (e) If so, what amount ?
- (f) What is the specific purpose of improvement for which this loan is to be utilised ?

- (g) Whether the Company has made any palpable improvement in this regard ?
- (h) Whether Government are aware that there is very low voltage of current in the evening till about 10 p. m. causing great inconvenience to the consuming public?
- (i) On how many occasions there have been break down of machineries of the Company within the course of last three years ?
- (j) Whether the Company could repair the same within the period of assurance given on each occasion ?
- (k) What is the check that the Company has purchased new machines of approved quality for which loan has been taken ?
- (l) When Government propose to nationalise this concern ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development) replied :

66. (a)—The voltage prescribed by the license is 230 volts but in view of the 5 per cent variation allowed by Rule 54 of the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956, the minimum voltage to be maintained by the licensee at consumers' premises is 218.5 volts.

(b)—The Company has failed to maintain the required voltage in the whole area of supply.

(c)—From time to time Government have asked the licensee to show cause why his license should not be revoked and have otherwise tried to ensure that the licensee takes adequate steps for observing the terms of the license.

(d), (e), (f) and (g).—The Company obtained a loan of Rs.6 lakhs from the Assam Financial Corporation in 1956 for increasing the plant capacity and making other improvements in the distribution system, etc. With this loan and otherwise the Company has in recent years added one 350 Kw. hydro-set and one 200 Kw. diesel. Two new Sub-stations have also been constructed. The licensee is taking step to construct two more Sub-stations.

(h) The position was pretty bad until the installation of the additional sets. Although the position has since improved as indicated against (b), the prescribed voltage is not being maintained all over the town.

(i)—Two.

(j)—The repairs were effected within a reasonable period considering the circumstances.

(k)—This a matter for the Assam Financial Corporation which has advanced the loan. Government, however, ensures through the inspections of the Electrical Inspector that adequate safety precautions are taken by the licensee.

(l)—No such question had arisen.

Srimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal): এতিয়ানৈকে বিদ্যুৎশক্তিৰ কেইটা Sub-station খোলা হৈছে আৰু ক'ত ক'ত খোলা হৈছে, চৰকাৰে জনাবনে ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister, Planning and Development): সেইটো নতুন প্রশ্ন, তাৰ নোটিচ লাগে I want notice of it, Sir.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Sir, has the attention of the present Minister-in-charge been drawn to the reply given by his predecessor in office to a Cut Motion moved by me which appeared in the official proceedings of the Assembly at page 1056 wherein.....

Mr. SPEAKER: This supplementary question would have been relevant if it was put in a Starred Question. Here it is an Unstarred Question and as such the Minister-in-charge obviously cannot have the opportunity to refer to the records to reply to such a question, and I think he will ask for a notice of it.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, what I mean to suggest is that the present answer appears to be contrary to what his predecessor said on the previous occasion.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I think he is developing his point. It is not relevant here so far as a supplementary question to an Unstarred Question is concerned.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, with regard to this matter there was an answer from the Government that the position has improved, the generator has been installed and the question of nationalisation of the concern was under the consideration of the Government. But here we find no such question is under the consideration of the Government. While the matter was under the consideration of the Government one year before, how is it that the Government do not find the necessity now ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development): Sir, the question of nationalisation will be a matter of general policy followed from time to time. The hon. Member may know that we have taken steps with regard to the Gauhati Electric Supply Company. But Government do not at the moment want to encumber themselves by acquiring such undertakings all over Assam. So I say that it is not under the contemplation of the Government now.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): So, am I to understand that the idea of nationalisation of the Shillong Hydro-Electric Project is abandoned?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: No question of abandoning the idea is there. What I say is that we are to consider the conditions as they are at the present time.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, is it a fact that one of the Sub-stations was set up near the residence of the previous Minister-in-charge?

Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Schedule Castes)]: Sir, may I reply to the question? (*Laughter*).

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order. No question should be put which may cast a reflection on any hon. Member who might have been a Minister before.

Request for half an hour discussion on Unstarred Question No.66 of Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta on the Shillong Hydro-Electric Company

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, as the matter is very important, may I secure your permission to allow us to discuss this matter for half-an-hour after the business of the day is over?

Mr. SPEAKER: In this matter let me read the relevant portion of the Assembly rules which is—"No discussion shall be permitted in respect of any question or of

any answer given to a question: Provided that on notice given to the Speaker at question time, the Speaker may, in his discretion, allow half-an-hour after 4 p.m. or after the conclusion of the business of the day, whichever is earlier, to enable a member to raise a debate on any matter of urgent importance which has been the subject of a question on that day. No division shall be taken on such debate and such time shall not be available for the transaction of any other business”.

So you will find that it is the discretion of the Speaker to allow or not. I shall give my views later.

Now the questions are over ; we come to Demands for Grants.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Grant No.46

(63-B—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works)

Mr. SPEAKER : Now I have received a communication from the Chief Minister who is not in a position to attend the House. He has asked me to permit the Deputy Minister in charge of Community Projects to move the Motion which stands in his name.

Mr. Das.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.1,43,06,800 (Rupees one crore, forty-three lakhs, six thousand and eight hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head “63-B—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works.”

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,43,06,800 (Rupees one crore, forty-three lakhs, six thousand and eight hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head “63-B—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works”.

There are three Cut Motions.

The first one is in the name of Mr. Bhattacharyya.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.1,43,06,800 under Grant No.46, major head—63—B—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works, at page 508 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,43,06,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Mr. SPEAKER : I am sorry to interrupt here. I am asking about the time-table. We have saved half-an-hour from the Question time. Now I propose that this half-an-hour may be added to the time allotted for the discussion on this Grant No.46, so that we may get full one hour for the discussion. The hon. Members will get half-an-hour and the Deputy Minister will get the same time to reply. I therefore request the Mover of this Cut Motion to take this into account while making his observation.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while moving this Cut Motion I do not propose to go into the details of this Demand because at the time of discussing the address of the Governor and also during the general discussion on the Budget a great deal has been said about it. I should only like to point out to a few matters. Sir, the very first thing that strikes one when this provision comes to his notice is that quite a big sum is allocated for this purpose, but at the end of the year we find that quite a fair portion of it is surrendered and as the years are rolling, the greater has been the amount of ratio of this surrender. For example, in 1953-54 the budgetary allocation was Rs.66,80,000. But the actual expenditure was only Rs.21,41,000. That is to say, no less an amount than Rs.45,39,000 was surrendered. In 1954-55 the allocation was Rs.80,08,000 and the actual expenditure was Rs.72,57,000 and the surrender was Rs.7,51,000. In 1955-56 the budgetary allocation was Rs.1,12,67,000, the actual expenditure was Rs.80,33,000 and the surrender was Rs.32,34,000. In the year 1956-57 the budgetary allocation was Rs.1,04,80,000, the actual expenditure was Rs.58,39,000 and the surrender was Rs.46,41,000. In these last 5 years, that is, during the First Five-Year Plan, our total surrender in this way came to Rs.1,31,65,000. As I have already stated, the prime drive in the First Five-Year Plan was Agriculture and Community Development to make the countryside better and this figure of surrender is an example as to how we have implemented the recommendations and directives of the Planning Commission. Why has it been so? The matter has to be investigated whether it

is because people are apathetic towards their self-development or whether it is that the Government has not taken the proper course of action. That matter should be very thoroughly enquired into. Because, if the real cause of this failure is not found out then in the coming years also we shall not be able to make much progress. We find, Sir, in the explanation given at page 64 of the Memorandum of this Budget that certain schemes taken up in hand during 1956-57 could not be completed in full for want of technical hands, materials, etc. Now, is it to be believed by us that such a huge amount of budgetary allocations was refunded because there was no technical personnel for the village work or was it due to the inefficiency and incompetence of the Department itself and those who were in charge of it? I have already placed a suggestion before this august House. If the Government would have taken the matter in a spirit of building from below then technical personnel would have been found from amongst our peasantry itself. Five years have passed and yet our peasant youths have not been trained in the line of Community Development. The sons, sons-in-law, brothers-in-law of Ministers and Deputy Ministers are placed in charge there even without referring the appointments to the Public Service Commission. And what do they know of village life? There they cannot even go through paths of thick mud and through water and the result is that they become logged, stationed in the headquarters and everything is left to the so-called Inspectors or Gram-Sevaks who in their turn also are not youths coming from the tilling peasantry. Therefore, the whole matter has been superimposed, imposition from above. People are not taken into confidence. There would have been good progress if the Government, during the last 5 years, had taken up a scheme of training centres where peasant youths in batches of 15 or 20 would have been given the bare minimum of technical knowledge as to how the better type of manure is to be used or how the Japanese method of line cultivation can be given effect to, what types of seeds are to be used, etc. And such village youths, having the basic understanding of agriculture, being themselves the men behind the plough, would have understood it much better than the Arts Graduates who come from colleges and who come from 'Bhadralok' families. So, the whole approach has been a wrong approach.

Secondly, Sir, I want to place another suggestion. As I have referred to only yesterday, as early as in 1949 the Agrarian Reforms Committee constituted by the National Congress which worked under the Chairmanship of Shri Kumarappa, had

placed a suggestion that even for the purpose of Community Development or National Extension Service, etc., a peasant should not be evicted from his land unless he is given alternative land or alternative means of livelihood. I refer to page 185 of that valuable Report. Now, these Community Development Schemes and National Extension Projects are being used for '*party-baji*'. I give one concrete instance. There has been such a project in the Hajo area. For that purpose a seed farm was thought necessary in village Gerua. There are some cultivators and I know one who by dint of his labour, by dint of his interest in cultivation took to improved method and within the last 5 or 6 years he has improved his position both with regard to acreage and with regard to production. He had at the beginning about 18 bighas of land and ultimately he acquired 30 to 35 bighas....

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palasbari) : May I know the name of that person ?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : He is some Sarat Chandra or something like that. He became one of the rich cultivators in that village and he used to give very good yield in his land. When this National Extension Service was extended to that area, those people who were placed in charge of this were induced by some members of the ruling party in order to acquire the entire land of that cultivator for a seed farm and that cultivator will now become landless, completely landless, because the entire plot which he acquired and which he developed is going to be taken as a Seed Farm. Was there no other land available? Or even could not a portion be left for him? The minimum amount of land required for a seed firm is 80 bighas, but the Department is not satisfied with 80 bighas, they want 120 bighas because that man must be dispossessed! What is his crime? His crime is that during the last General Election he happened to be the polling agent and an active worker for the Praja Socialist Party candidate, who stood for Parliament, and also because he helped the other party which set up a candidate against the Chief Minister! Now, what has been the repercussion in that area? The people feel that community development and all such projects have come with the idea of dividing the village community, only to persecute those who do not see eye to eye politically with the ruling party. The other day I went through a book written by our revered leader, Shri Gulzarilal Nanda, and he has emphasised that in the matter of community development and national service affairs, there must not be any political consideration. To whatever political

party one might belong, he must be taken into confidence and there must be a generosity of feeling by which the entire village community may be drawn to the work irrespective of political and other differences. It must be seen that all the villagers can work together for the betterment of their areas. That advice, that exhortation by the Minister of Planning, Government of India, has been not only thoroughly ignored but entirely disrespected in this State. Therefore, in stead of winning the peasantry, in stead of drawing them into full co-operation for these measures, our Community Development Department or those who are in charge of it, have become disruptors of our village community. In my constituency, there is such a project and there also it is noticed that they have selected for the advisory committees and as other functionaries only those people who work for the Congress in election affairs. There are other peasants who are not connected with politics or who may even belong to other political parties and sympathise with them, but not a single one of them has been taken as a member of the advisory committee. And you know, Sir, in three successive general elections in that constituency, it was not the ruling party which won but the party opposed to the ruling party. That is to say, where the majority of the people do not belong to the ruling party, all who do not belong to the ruling party have been excluded from taking any part in the affairs of the community development or national extension service projects. The result has been that these community development affairs have become the affairs of the minority and that minority consists of those—I do not want to use any unparliamentary expression—who are agents of the election machinery of the Congress. I am saying this not out of any hatred or bitterness, but because I not only feel that in spite of all our political differences, it is urgently necessary that all of us, in matters concerning our national life, should put our heads together and should not make this scheme or this project a mere handmaid for election purpose.

So, Sir, in moving this Cut Motion I beg to place to the new Minister, who has taken charge and who I think is not responsible for the vices of the past, that in future at least this sort of '*party-baji*' should not be allowed and peasants should not be dispossessed of their land even under the plea of community development. If this is done, especially without giving them alternate land or alternative means of livelihood, they will think that this machinery has been set up only to dispossess them. Sir, we are accused sometimes of being expropriators, *i. e.*, that we want to dispossess the vested

interests. Well, Sir, if we do so, we make provision for everybody to live. But here, we find that the Government are out to dispossess the peasantry of whatever they have and are not making any alternative arrangement for their livelihood. Therefore, I beg to request that there should be a change in the policy and if I get an assurance from the Minister-in-charge that there will be such a change, I shall perhaps be the happiest person in this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Cut Motoin moved is that the total provision of Rs. 1,43,06,800 under Grant No. 46, major head 63-B-Community Development Projects—National Extension Service and Local Development Works at page 508 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 1, 43, 06, 800 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় ।

Mr. SPEAKER : আপুনি বহক, আগেয়ে যিবিলাক সদস্যই কৰ্ত্তন প্রস্তাব আনিছে তেওঁলোকে কব ।

শ্রীবববৰুৱা । আপুনি কওক, সময় কমটেক যাওক ।

Shri KHOGENDRANATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় Community Development Projectৰ উদ্দেশ্য গাঁৱলীয়া জনসাধাৰণৰ কল্যাণ সাধন কৰা । চৰকাৰে লোৱা অকল Community Development Projectৰ দ্বাৰাই আমাৰ গাঁৱলীয়া জন সাধাৰণৰ কল্যাণ সাধন কৰি অৰ্থনৈতিক মুক্তি দিব নোৱাৰে । ইয়াৰ কাৰণে, প্ৰথমতেই, Social Reform অৰ্থাৎ সমাজ সংস্কাৰৰ প্ৰয়োজন । ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই, আমাৰ গ্ৰাম বাসী দৰিদ্ৰ ভূমিহীন খেতিয়ক সকলক কাক কিমান দৰ্কাৰ সেই হিচাবে মাটি-বাৰী দি, খেতি-পথাৰ কৰিব পৰাকৈ আৰ্থিক সাহায্য দি সংস্থাপন কৰি দিব লাগিব । তেতিয়াহে গাঁৱলীয়া জনসাধাৰণৰ কল্যাণ কৰা হব । বৰ্ত্তমানে চৰকাৰে কমিউনিটি ডেভেলপমেণ্ট প্ৰজেক্ট হাতত লৈ নানা পৰিকল্পনাৰ যোগেদি আমেৰিকাৰ ধনী সম্প্ৰদায়টোৰ আহিকে লৈ আমাৰ বোকাৰ মাজত ‘স্কাই ক্ৰেপাৰ’ তুলিবলৈ যাওতে স্কাইক্ৰেপাৰৰ ওৰিটোৱে বোকাৰ ওপৰত থলে উভলি পৰি ভাগি যাব তালৈ লক্ষ্য কৰা নাই । আমেৰিকাৰ টকা আছে আমাৰ টকা নাই । কাজেই আমাৰ দৰিদ্ৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ মাজত, ওপৰত কোৱাবদৰে সমাজ সংস্কাৰ কৰি লৈ তাৰ লগত খাপখোৱা অন্য আচনি ললেহে তেওঁবিলাকৰ কল্যাণ হব । এতিয়া চৰকাৰে যিদৰে কাম হাতত লৈছে তাত প্ৰথমতে অলপ উৎসাহ থাকিলেও পাচত সকলো শূন্য—ফলত সকলো খটোৱা টকা পয়চা পানীত পৰিল । উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে চাওক—আমাৰ শিৱসাগৰ জিলাৰ ডিমৌ প্ৰজেক্ট, খাউবা, পানীদিহিং, কোৱৰপুৰ আদি মৌজাত যিবিলাক ডেভেলপমেণ্ট প্ৰজেক্টত পৰিছে তাত বাইজৰ খাবলৈ ভাত নাই । শিৱসাগৰ মহকুমাত এই কেইটা মৌজাতে দৰিদ্ৰ লোক বেচি গতিকে সেই বিলাকৰ পৰা অৰ্থাৎ এই প্ৰজেক্ট বিলাকৰ পৰা, আমাৰ গাঁৱলীয়া জনসাধাৰণ কোনো প্ৰকাৰেই উপকৃত হোৱা নাই । কাৰণ মই কৈয়ে আহিছো যে আমাৰ গাঁৱলীয়া জনসাধাৰণৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা বৰ শোকা লগা আৰু তেওঁবিলাক মাটি-বাৰী নোহোৱা মানুহ । এই কেন্দ্ৰ বিলাকতো তাৰেই প্ৰতিক্ৰিয়া দেখ দিছে আৰু ইয়াৰ বাবদ অজস্ৰ টকা খৰচ হৈছে । উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে ইয়াত খৰচ কৰিবলৈ

লোৱা ১লাখ ৪৩ হাজাৰ টকাৰ ভিতৰত ২৪ লাখ টকা বোলে অফিচৰ কাৰণেই খৰচ হ'ব। ই বৰ পৰিতাপৰ কথা। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও এই কেন্দ্ৰ বিলাক খুলিবলৈ গৈ যিবিলাক পকা ঘৰ কৰা হৈছে সেই বিলাক পাচত কি কৰিব? এই বিলাক এনেকৈ নকৰি, temporary measrue বত কৰি, বাইজৰ মাজতহে বাইজৰ উপকাৰৰ কাৰণে টকা পয়চা খৰচ কৰিব লাগিছিল।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় এই প্ৰসঙ্গতে যিবিলাক গ্ৰাম সেৱকৰ অনুষ্ঠান খুলিছে সেই বিলাকো দৰ্শনা খোৱা অনুষ্ঠানহে। ইংৰাজীত শিক্ষা দিয়া হয় সেই বিলাকত। বাইজৰ একো কামত অহা নহি। সেই কাৰণে মই কওঁ যদি চৰকাৰে প্ৰকৃততে বাইজৰ মঙ্গল সাধন কৰিব খুজিছে তেন্তে সমাজৰ অন্ধকাৰ আৱৰ্জনা বিলাক দূৰ কৰি তাৰ সংস্কাৰ কৰক আৰু কোনে কেনে প্ৰকাৰৰ সহায় পাব লাগে তাক নিৰ্দ্ধাৰণ কৰি টকা-পয়চা মাটি-বাৰীৰ সহায় কৰি উন্নতিৰ পথলৈ লৈ যাওক। নহলে চৰকাৰৰ উপৰি গধুৰ শাসন যন্ত্ৰৰ হেঁচাত গৱলীয়া বাইজৰ কোনো কালেই মঙ্গল নহ'ব।

Mr. SPEAKER : Shri Harinarayan Baruah.

U. JOR MANIK SIEM of Myllem [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : (standing to speak)—

Mr. SPEAKER : I have already allowed the hon. Member from Teok to speak. Although we are racing against time, I think I shall be able to give at least five minutes' time to the hon. Member also.

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় আমাৰ মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীযুক্ত গোবীণ্দ্ৰৰ ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো cut motion এই সদনত উপস্থাপিত কৰিছে আৰু যিটো সংশোধনী প্ৰস্তাৱ শ্ৰীবৰবৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই সমৰ্থন কৰিছে মই তাৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিছোঁ। জাতীয় সম্প্ৰসাৰণ কেন্দ্ৰ আৰু সমূহীয়া উন্নয়ন কেন্দ্ৰ স্থাপন কৰা শিতানত এই অনুষ্ঠান কেইটিৰ সমালোচনা সদনত দাঙি ধৰাৰ বাবে তেখেত সকলক ধন্যবাদ দিছোঁ কিন্তু তেখেতসকলক দুই চাৰিটা কথা সমালোচনাৰ পৰা আতৰি গৈ অলপ আক্ৰোশমূলক সমালোচনা হোৱাৰ কাৰণে, মই বেজাৰ পাইছোঁ। আমাৰ সকলোৱে অনুভৱ কৰিছে যে দেশ খন নতুনকৈ গঢ়িবলৈ হলে, আৰু গাঁও বিলাক নতুনকৈ গঠন কৰিবলৈ হলে কিছুমান অনুষ্ঠানৰ আবশ্যক। সেই উদ্দেশ্য লৈয়েই আমাৰ কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে National Extension Block আৰু Community Project আচনি হাতত লৈছে। আমি বিদেশী শাসনাধীনত থকা সময়ত আমাৰ গাঁওবিলাক যেনেকুৱা দুৰৱস্থাত আছিল সেই অবস্থাৰ পৰা আজি গাঁওবিলাকে কি হিচাবে এটা নতুন অবস্থা পাইছেহি সেইটো গাঁৱৰ মানুহে ভালদৰে জানে বা উপলব্ধি কৰিছে। এই আচনিৰ দ্বাৰা অফিচৰ নিযুক্ত কৰাই চৰকাৰৰ উদ্দেশ্য নহয়, প্ৰধান উদ্দেশ্য হৈছে গাঁও বিলাকৰ সৰ্ব প্ৰকাৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰা। অফিচৰ সকল এই দেশৰে মানুহ যিসকলে আমাৰ দেশৰ অবস্থা আৰু সমস্যাবিলাক জানে আৰু বুজে। এই অফিচৰ সকলৰ কিবা দোষ পালে বা কামৰ প্ৰতি অবহেলা দেখিলে, বা গাঁৱৰ ভিতৰত কৰ্ত্তব্য কৰাত হেলা কৰিলে কৰ্ত্তৃপক্ষৰ দৃষ্টি গোচৰ কৰিলে লাভবান হ'ব কিন্তু ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই কোৱাৰ দৰে যে কংগ্ৰেছ গৱণমেণ্টে পাৰ্টি বাজী কৰিবৰ কাৰণেহে এই অনুষ্ঠানবিলাক কৰিছে, এইটো বৰ আপত্তি জনক কথা। তেনেকুৱা সমালোচনাৰ দ্বাৰা কোনো লাভবান নহ'ব। এনেকুৱা কথা ধ্বংসমূলক হোৱাৰ বাহিৰে আন একো নহ'ব। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা বাইজৰো উপকাৰ সাধন নহয় আৰু চৰকাৰৰো কোনো উপকাৰ নহয়। চৰকাৰে গাঁৱৰ ডেকা লৰাকে শিক্ষাকেন্দ্ৰ খুলি উপযুক্ত প্ৰশিক্ষণ দি গ্ৰামসেৱক হিচাবে নিযুক্ত কৰিছে। নগৰৰ

লৰাক এইবোৰ কামত নিয়োগ কৰা নাই, কাৰণ নগৰৰ লৰা Community Project বা Development Block ত থাকি কাম কৰিবলৈ নিবিচাবে। আমি গ্ৰামসেৱক সকলৰ লগত কথাবতৰা পাতি জানিব পাৰিছো যে তেওঁলোক গাঁৱৰে ডেকা। গাঁৱৰ লৰাই গাঁও সংস্কাৰৰ নিমিত্তে নিশ্চয় চেষ্টা কৰিব। গাঁৱৰ এই ডেকাসকল গ্ৰামসেৱক হবৰ কাৰণে সম্পূৰ্ণ উপযুক্ত কৰি তুলিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে তেওঁলোকক প্ৰশিক্ষণ দি লৈছে। গতিকে মই কওঁ যে ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰক যেনেকৈ অপবাদ দিছে তাকে নকৰি যদি তেখেতে ভাল উপদেশ দিলেহেতেন তেনেহলে আমি নষ্ট আনন্দ পালোঁহেতেন। যিবিলাক কেন্দ্ৰত সম্প্ৰসাৰণ কাৰ্য্যত আমি উন্নতি দেখা পাইছোঁ তাৰ মূলত আছে সকলোৰে সহযোগীতা। যি ঠাইতেই সকলো দলে সহযোগীতা কৰিছে তাতেই কৃতকাৰ্য্যতা দেখা গৈছে আৰু ব'ত সহযোগীতা নাই তাত কোনো আশানুৰূপ হোৱা নাই। যদিহে তেখেতসকলে কয় যে কংগ্ৰেছ চৰকাৰে কংগ্ৰেছ পাৰ্টি বৃদ্ধি কৰিবৰ কাৰণে Community Project কৰিছে তেনেহলে সেইটো বিৰোধী দলৰ নীতিত ভুল ধাৰণা। যদিহে কোনো ঠাইত Community Development Committee ত বিৰোধী দলৰ লোক বাদ পৰিছে তেনেহলে সেইকথা জনালেই মোৰ বিশ্বাস তেখেতসকলৰ পৰাও নিশ্চয় সভ্য লোৱা হব। মুঠতে ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াৰ দুটামান কথা আসোৱাইজনক হোৱাৰ কাৰণেহে তেখেতৰ মনৰ ভুল ধাৰনাখিনি আঁতৰাবৰ কাৰণে অনুৰোধ জনাবলৈ মই এইখিনি কথা কলোঁ।

U JOR MANIK SIEM of Myllichem [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Cut Motion moved by Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. I made some observations last time, but we have not got any reply from the Hon'ble Finance Minister in his replies to the Budget criticisms. So I would like to mention certain facts again in support of the Cut Motion moved by Shri Bhattacharyya. As Shri Bhattacharyya has said, we also find that the N. E. S. Blocks and the Community Development Blocks are manned by the people who do not know their job even. There has been no supervision on the works of the Gram Sevaks by any superior officers. These Gram Sevaks have been running from village to village for doing their work. I do not know actually what work they are doing, and I do not know whether any tour diaries have been maintained by them. I know some of them even are not doing any real work, but on the other hand they have been a bad influence to the villagers.

I also find that the works in the Community Development Blocks and the N. E. S. Blocks have been concentrated on the roadsides only, instead of concentrating such works in the interior villages. Recently there was a proposal to start a model village scheme. I am one of the members of the Advisory Committee, and I suggested that a model village scheme should be put up in the interior. I suggested four places, three of them in the interior, and one on the roadside. But I find

afterwards that the place selected is one on the roadside, the remaining places suggested in the interior were discarded in spite of my suggestion. The places which I suggested were really backward where the model village scheme would have been better suited. So, I am afraid, that there has been no judicious selection of places for the model village scheme. In the matter of posting officers also there has been no judicious selection. Sir, I would like to mention also, although I am not an expert in this matter, but I find that some items which have been taken up by the Agriculture Department are also found to be taken up in the Community Development Blocks, like manure, demonstration and nursery, etc. I do not know how this could happen, they will overlap with one another in this matter, and as a result of which there may be duplication of work as well as waste of money. I find also now in Mairang that there have been other big items of work like transport and mobile health vans. Last time I mentioned about this. In certain places where there are dispensaries, the buildings have been completed over a year ago, but no doctors are available to run these dispensaries. I do not know if we have the doctors to run these mobile health vans.

Sir, I would also like to mention that I have not mentioned these things merely for the sake of criticism, but with a view to suggest that in future wherever the Government is taking up any work in N. E. S. Blocks and Community Development Blocks, persons who are competent and who know their job should only be appointed for such works, and that the people who know the particular area and particular work should be appointed, and those people who do not know the people of any particular area and who do not know their job and who happen to be the relatives or favourites of somebody should not be appointed.

Again, Sir, the local people should also be appointed to be members of the Advisory Committee so that they will be able to give their suggestion. People like village headmen and those who have got experience of the area should be given a place in the Advisory Committee of these N. E. S. Blocks and Community Development Blocks.

With these few words, Sir, I conclude my speech in support of the Cut Motion.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North):
Sir, may I make a submission? I want to speak a few words on the demand.....

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, Order.

The present arrangement has already been settled in consultation with the leaders of the parties. The hon. Members have been given notice that only half an hour's time is given.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Sir, may I speak a few words on the Cut Motion ? This is a very important subject—I mean the Community Development Projects.

Mr. SPEAKER : I would not like to prevail upon the half an hour that we snatched from the question hour. The hon. Deputy Minister will at least require 25 minutes to give his reply. So unless the House sits longer, I do not know what could be done.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : Sir, let us sit after 4-30 P. M., or I suggest, Sir, that we could minimise time in other grants which would follow now.

Mr. SPEAKER : It is very difficult to say. For Grant Nos. 30, 31 and 56 time allotted is only 45 minutes—each grant will get only 15 minutes. There are Cut Motions also. I have to be guided by the order papers that are placed before me. Therefore, I am sorry, I cannot allow any more time.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati) : Sir, may I make a suggestion ? We have got half an hour in the next Grant. That is Grant No. 47. Out of that some time may be allowed.

Mr. SPEAKER : I see that saves some time.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) : Sir, there may not be any time if the Cut Motions moved.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Tripathi, there is a suggestion that since no Cut Motions are going to be moved on Grant No. 47, therefore that half an hour from there would be allowed to this item, that is, Grant No. 46 which hon. Members consider to be very important.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning & Development) : That would be all right, Sir.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya. It has been said about these community projects during the last few years that by these projects which Government have imported from America and handed over to us like '*laddos*' from Delhi, they would be able to alter the face of the whole country within a short space of time and by that the people would get a rapture towards a better life or a socialist pattern of society. Sir, from the statement of the Finance Minister we have seen that more than $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the area or about 40 per cent of the total population of the State have been covered by the Community Development Projects and National Extension Blocks during the last five years. The main purpose of these Community Development Projects as enunciated by the Planning Commission covers such works like irrigation, land reclamation, health, rural sanitation, general education, social education, communications, rural arts and crafts, industries, etc. We see that all walks of life of the people living in a village are covered and which the Government wants to develop. But the main essence in these community development projects is to enthuse the people and to create a sort of enthusiasm among the masses. It is very easy to construct a road by the Public Works Department. So if it is easy for the Public Works Department to construct these roads what is the use of community project there? Government can open dispensaries under Public Health Department and so on and so forth. The main point is that the people of a particular area should be made to feel that enthusiasm for development themselves and all the work that a man does is being done for his personal interest, that a man is doing all the work as if for his own family and for his own house. But unfortunately, the Government has failed to create that enthusiasm among the people. It is said here in the Budget speech of the Finance Minister, "As against this, the contribution realised from the people is estimated at Rs.131 lakhs of which 32 lakhs was in cash and materials and the balance in voluntary labour". Sir, I can show that these figures are bogus. How, I shall explain. The main contribution which is sought to be the endeavour of the people actually comes from local bodies, like the Local Boards, Municipalities and Panchayats. It is known that when the Government starts work on a road or an irrigation the condition is that 25 per cent of the expense should be borne by the people if they want to develop—their particular area. So we have seen that the 25 per cent which the people could not afford to contribute have been contributed by the Local Boards, the Municipalities or the Panchayats. So these figures are all

bogus. The estimate about labour is also bogus when the Finance Minister himself said that it is very difficult to procure labour and to enthuse people for any particular work of development. There is shyness among the people. It has been rightly said by the Finance Minister in his Budget speech pages 11-12—"It has however, been observed that after attaining the fourth stage National Extension Service Blocks almost relapse once again to the pre-project condition and Government will therefore, in future lay greater emphasis on the actual production side rather than the ideological aspect of the scheme". What do we see from this? You will clearly see that whatever had been done during these five years, it had relapsed to the original position and we are again where we had been in 1951—this is the statement of the Finance Minister himself and not of the Opposition. We have seen from the beginning that the community projects as has been said by Mr. Bhattacharyya are not meant for the people because it was seen that in the matter of selection of sites for these community projects or National Extension Service Blocks the people were not consulted. The Government say, "We do not want your opinion" or we do not want the people to be consulted in the matter of selection of sites. The result is that sites are selected only in those areas where there are influential persons interested in them. The other day I wanted to know from the Government what is the policy laid down for selection of site, but Government could not give me a satisfactory reply. We know that it is enunciated by the Planning Commission that all backward areas should be the first to be covered by these National Extension Service Blocks. But, Sir, is it done so? No. Certain sites have been selected under the instruction and advice of some interested influential persons. Look at the Ratabari-Patharkandi Project, it is the constituency of Shri Baidyanath Mookherjee who was a Minister then. Also in Hajo a selection was made because it is the constituency of the Chief Minister. In this way selection of sites are made not in the interest of the people but in the interest of some influential people as I have already said. It was rightly said by Gandhian Philosopher, Shri Kamarrappa that planning is going on in the country and it is planning for some beneficiaries and planning for one's own benefit. It is so, if you look at the Ratabari-Patharkandi area; this is done for the benefit of one single Zamindar. It may be he wants that his Zamindari should be developed. I do not know whether the Chief Minister has any particular land which he wants to be developed. Whatever that may be, it is a fact that development is made in the interest of the interested few and not for the mass people in general.

Sir, it has been emphasised by the Finance Minister that production in the State also should be thought of in future. Now, in the last five years there was no production in the Community Projects. For comparison, let us compare the Ramkrishnanagar with that of Nilokheri. What do we find in Ramkrishnanagar? We find it is made into a town, we find electrification and tapwater connection and some retired Government officers have settled there and we find a new Inspection Bungalow set up there and we find some Ministers go there and spend one or two nights. But was any step taken there in order to feed the people who are clamouring for food? Government have taken no steps from the production side and not a single people of that area has been provided with employment and these are the reasons why a powerful Minister was defeated there. Big amounts of money was spent, but the Minister had to dig his grave. If the report is correct, one and every person in Nilokheri is employed and they are drawing between 300 to 400 rupees per month. If you want real Nilokheri do it, but we do not want Ramkrishnanagar to exploit the people and squander the money without giving either any employment to the people or any tangible help to the people.

(The bell rings indicating that the time limit has been reached.)

I am finishing, Sir. Lastly, I want to say about the Advisory Committees for the Community Development and N. E. S. Blocks and other Developments Boards which have been formed in the State. In those Boards only persons belonging to a particular party, the ruling party, *i. e.*, the Congress party, are nominated by the Government. For example, in Karimganj in the Community Development Board not a single person from other parties has been nominated, although we know that lakhs of rupees are spent there. For Karimganj Board it has been said that all M. L. As. and Chairman of the Municipality would be included but we have seen that one after the other all the Congressmen have been nominated to that Board in order to make the Congress Party a majority there. If this state of affairs continues, what is the use of the Development Boards, instead giving the whole money to the Congress organisation, let them do what they like. There is the Congress President, the Congress Secretary who can run the whole show.

(The bell rang again.)

With these few words, Sir, I support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) : Sir, I rise to oppose the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya.

He spoke that in the Boards for Community Development and N.E.S. all members are nominated from the Congress Party, i.e., the ruling party. In protest to it I say, for example, that in the Community Development Board in North Lakhimpur out of 11 or 10 of the non-official members 4 or 5 members belong to his (Shri Gaurisankar's) party and the rest are from other parties of which there are 3 or 4 parties. The fact is that there are 4 stalwarts of the Communist Party in that Board.

Then regarding appointment of village level workers, out of 11 or 12, there are only 2 persons from the Congress workers who are working as village level workers, of course, there were 3 of them but one got out afterwards. But there are 4 or 5 who definitely belong to the Communist party member's relation.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : May I know whether village level workers are selected on party basis ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) : Certainly there are not sons and relatives of the Ministers and Deputy Ministers.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA : When Shri Bhattacharyya said that Community Projects are manned by Congress people, I say it is not a fact but out of 9 village workers definitely 4 belong to the relatives of Communist Party workers. So his allegation that all village level workers are related to Congress men of North Lakhimpur is vague. I have taken my stand only to protest what Shri Bhattacharyya said in his speech and who wanted to cast some reflection on the ruling party. In order to prove it as futile I have given specific figures.

Sir, I want to give one or two suggestions to the Government. If we want to make successful this Community Projects then those people who follow the Gandhian ideology should be taken in as members and workers, as from our experience we have seen that majority of those persons who have been drawn from relations of other parties than Congress have been appointed as village level workers who are Sahibs and they do not want to go

over the muddy roads of the villages. So, my suggestion is that only people following the Gandhian ideology should be taken as members and village level workers. We do not want to have a country of Sahibs, we want to make this country for the Indians and Indians only and not for Americans and Russians and to achieve this it is possible only through Gandhian ideology. I emphasise the point that it is the Gandhian ideology alone which can improve the country and to make the country of India for the Indians.

Captain WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya. I will speak a few words about the working of the Community Projects and the N. E. S. Blocks in the Garo Hills. In the first instance I am to say that the Community Projects and the N.E.S. Blocks have not been working successfully in the district of Garo Hills. There are number of reasons for which these projects have not been able to work successfully. I shall point out the reasons in the course of my observation.

Firstly, Sir, it appears to me that the officers or the Government itself must have failed to understand the various social and economic difficulties and handicaps of the people for the removal of which such projects are located in the different parts of the State. It appears to me that the Government is a bit prompted to implement its own schemes through these projects without having any regard to various difficulties and handicaps of the people. Sir, when such a Block or a Project is inaugurated by a Minister who in the course of his illuminating speech makes it very clear that such a Block or a Project is the peoples' Scheme. It is therefore clear that the Project is intended to help the people in their attempt to improve their standard of living and to remove various social and economic difficulties of the people. From this we can understand, Sir, that the villagers themselves should be able to place before the officers and the Government what are their difficulties ; what are their requirements. But unfortunately what do we find ? The villagers have no say in these matters. They cannot come forward and place their various difficulties before the officers. Whatever scheme is decided by the Government must be implemented through the officers. But I say, unless and until the people themselves can come forward and express their difficulties and requirements, there cannot be any co-operation which we expect from the people. As all of us know the workers of the Community Development and N.E.S. Blocks are to depend mostly on the co-operation of the people, but as they have not been able to get the things done by these projects which they

require most, which are their immediate requirements, there has been no co operation up till now. Sometimes one thing which is wanted by them to be done is being turned down by the officers on the plea that they have drawn up a number of schemes which will cover the requirement of the entire villagers. It may be true, but their requirements and difficulties vary from place to place. So I would like to impress upon this House that in any organisation we should always bear in mind three very important points. Firstly, we should be very clear about our object. Secondly, comes the appreciation of the situation. By this I mean to say that we should be able to understand correctly the various local conditions, difficulties and handicaps which we are likely to come across while trying to achieve our object. Thirdly, having thus understood the various local conditions, difficulties and handicaps, comes proper planning, *i.e.*, we should plan in such a way as to how we can achieve our object under various local conditions, difficulties and handicaps. Then only comes the execution of the scheme. In addition to this in implementing the Community Projects we should be able to have the fullest co-operation of people for whose benefit the projects are being implemented. If we bear in mind the points raised by me then only we can have proper planning. If we proceed in this way, Sir, then we hope to succeed. So far as the Community Projects and N.E.S. Blocks are concerned, in the hills districts it will meet with a success, because before the introduction of these projects people there are very co-operative and community minded. In fact in the hill areas the people live a community life. For instance, if one man wants to have a house built, the people of the whole village will come forward and help him to build the house, and within a couple of days or so the house will be built up. Only the materials required for the house, such as bamboo, thatch, etc., are required to be procured by the owner. In spite of that, the authorities have failed to get co-operation of the people in implementing its various schemes in the hill areas, because they have failed to appreciate the actual difficulties of the people. In fact they never tried to understand their real difficulties. For example, villagers themselves should come up and suggest to have a school in their village. Then the officer-in-charge should be able to give a concrete suggestion as to how a school can be established in their village. However, this is not being done. Instead the Project Officers do not appreciate the real need of the people. It appears to me, as stated earlier, the Government are anxious to implement the stereotyped schemes all over the country without having any regard to various local, social and economic difficulties and handicaps of the people which vary from place to place.

Another point which I would like to raise has already been mentioned by my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya. It is a fact that some of the Project Officers, village level workers and others get themselves entangled in party politics. I am to say that the officers and other employees of the Projects must be above party politics if we want that a project should be a success.

It is purely a social organisation. I am sure the Minister-in-charge will reply that our officers have not been entangled in party politics. Sir, I say it is one of the most primary reasons why these Community Development and N.E.S. Blocks could not be working successfully. We have seen the Village Level Workers go with the President and workers of the local Congress Committees and tell the people that unless they enrol themselves as four anna Congress Member, they would not get any school or any road, etc. At least I have heard it with my own ears in our areas.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Every where.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: It is a fact, Sir. Many people in my district have represented to me about this and they have told me that if that is the position that unless they enrol themselves as Congress men they will not get any benefit, they are not in favour of having any such projects. They do not want any project which has to do with politics. They also say that even if they have been started, they should be withdrawn. This is a very serious thing, Sir. Neither Socialists nor Communists nor Garo National Council in the Garo Hills should also be allowed to have any party politics through these projects. No other party interferes in this way. Unless we put a stop to this it will not succeed anywhere in the State.

Sir, my submission is that if there is any mistake, let us correct it now. We should rectify the defects that we have noticed. Let the Government admit such mistakes and try to put it right for the benefit of the country.

With these words, Sir, I whole heartedly support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to the hon. Members for their active participation in the discussion of a vital subject relating to the Community Development

and N.E.S. Blocks. That shows that this Organisation is a living Organisation. Every hon. Member has expressed the anxiety how this Organisation can be brought on to sounder footing and they have advanced various suggestions which are most welcome. The fundamental thing on which much stress has been given by the Members is admittedly the participation and enthusiasm of the people in general on which the success of the entire Organisation and also the success of various other plans under this head will depend. Therefore, the care, earnestness and solicitude of every Member of this House is needed towards that end and without which it is not possible for a handful of Gram-Sevaks or a few officers to create that enthusiasm in the country for the successful implementation of the various schemes and plans under this head. We introduced Community Development Blocks in 1952 and we have now in the State 53 such Projects : 18 in the hills and the rest in the plains. Uptil now the response of the people, the co-operation of the people has been very much encouraging and satisfactory even though there were certain difficulties which made this Government halt from time to time in the matter of implementation of certain schemes of which I will speak later. What we have achieved so far is due to the active co-operation of the people whose enthusiasm has been created by the leaders, I mean the village leaders, local leaders and the Congress Organisation. But such enthusiasm, such participation, I am sorry to say, is lacking from the side of the Opposition parties, particularly from the P. S. P. and the Communist parties, in every district. (*A voice* : No, Sir.) They cannot cite a single instance that in any Community Project or Extension Block area they have created any enthusiasm in the minds of the people by holding any public meeting for construction of village roads, tanks, wells, etc. Whatever has been done so far in such areas is done through the co-operation of the local primary Congress Committees by holding meetings and thus creating enthusiasm of the people and for that the Congress workers and the village workers and also the officers worked together. You will find, Sir, that in every Block, whether in the hills or in the plains, hundreds of miles of roads are being constructed through people's enthusiasm. The figure given by us is described by our friends in the Opposition as bogus. There would have been more enthusiasm in the minds of the people and more achievements in our work had the Members in the Opposition, particularly from the P.S.P. and Communist party taken part or co-operated with the people concerned in this direction. But they are keeping *Choop*. Here they come to show defects in the workings only. They

have no contact with the people in the project areas and the project officers. Neither do they come forward for discussing matters with the Minister concerned nor do they put forward suggestions as to how best things can be done for successful implementation of the projects. Since the time my friends have been elected to this House we have failed to get their co-operation in the matter of successful implementation of our plans or projects. When they are in the House they speak one thing and when they go back to their respective places they speak quite another thing about our plans and projects, specially about our failures in their implementation. If there is any failure at all, I should like to say, they are also responsible for it for not taking active part in creating enthusiasm in the minds of the people. So far, Sir, we have been cordial to all people and we are trying to create hope and enthusiasm in the minds of all people without considering any party affiliation to which they may belong as we feel that interest of the people should come first and should outweigh all party considerations. I have no personal grudge against any of my friends—Shri Bhattacharyya, Shri Borbaruah or anybody. But I like that all their enthusiasm, their interest and suggestions are canalised for the purpose of ameliorating the conditions of the people by active participation in the implementation of the various schemes which this Government have placed before this House and with that end in view they will not allow party prestige to stand in the way and they will not consider this Government as alien and untouchable and in this respect I appeal to them for their hearty co-operation.

My Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya raised a point as to why we had to surrender so much money under this head. Every Department has to surrender some money because of various difficulties. So far this Department is concerned, Sir, bulk of the money under this head could not be spent by the Embankment and Drainage Department, but the work for which the money was allotted would be again taken up in the subsequent years. There are other causes too, *viz.*, shortage of technical personnel, want of adequate supply of C. I. Sheets, Cement and other materials. Only for these things some money had to be surrendered. But so far as money surrendered under E. and D. Department is concerned this will be utilised in subsequent years.

The second point raised was about the appointment of sons and son-in-laws of Ministers. Sir, while we are on a high level of discussion, I ask my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, who is a good parliamentarian, not to raise such small matters. He

should not have brought down the discussion to this level. It may be that he is the type "of the wise who soar but never roam true to the kindred points of heaven and home".

But, Sir, the fact is this : we make all appointments on the recommendation of a Committee, which selects candidates.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : On a point of information, Sir. Was any reference made to the Public Service Commission before the officers were appointed ?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects) : We have got a Committee who makes the selections. But we propose now to refer the appointments to the Public Service Commission.

(*A voice*—What Committee ? Congress Committee ?)

Not Congress Committee. Such questions show what is behind the mind of my friend. That Committee consists of the Director of Community Project Department, the Director of Agriculture, Shri Bijoy Chandra Bhagavati and some other disinterested persons. Now, we propose to refer the question of appointment of project officers to the Public Service Commission. Therefore, Sir, there will be no complaint about sons and son-in-laws of Ministers and Deputy Ministers in future. Then, Sir, I also do not understand how any complaint can arise on this score. If the sons and son-in-laws of Ministers and Deputy Ministers are qualified for holding these posts, should they be disqualified ? Does Mr. Bhattacharyya want to deprive them of their legitimate claims as citizens ?

Then, Sir, my friend said that our officers are not trained. My friend possibly knows that there are three Agricultural training centres for gram-sevaks, one at Khanapara, one at Jorhat and one at Upper Shillong, and we also give extension training in Upper Shillong and Jorhat. In this way we are training our gram-sevaks and gram-sevikas. So far as project officers are concerned, they are sent to Sriniketan and other centres in India, which have been established by the Government of India for training of these officers. At present for lack of trained staff we are having certain difficulties, but when our officers are trained these difficulties would be removed.

Now, Sir, about the allegation that the project staff is used for party politics, the less said the better. (*A voice —Why ?*)

Because it is a matter of opinion. I may say one thing, my friend may say another thing, and then comes the question of evidence. Instead of wasting the time of the House, I can assure the hon. Members that no party politics has entered into the project administration. My friend Mr. Bhattacharyya referred to the exclusion of people holding opposite political views than ours from the project advisory committees. My friend Shri Mahananda Bora has already replied to this charge. Sir, irrespective of party affiliations we form the project advisory committees where social workers, agriculturists, local M. L. As., the President, Co-operative Society, the Panchayat President, etc., numbering about 52 are in the committee, including our officers. My friend Mr. Bhattacharyya is a member of the Dimoria project advisory committee. My friend Mr. Ranendra Mohan Das is not a member because no Project Block has been taken up in his area up till now, as none was selected by the Subdivisional Board.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): Never will it be selected.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects): It will come in due course. The Subdivisional Board makes a list of project blocks according to the degree of backwardness of areas in the subdivision, the backward areas getting priority. In course of the Second Five Year Plan we propose to cover the entire State and Ranendra Babu will get a project block since he is not out of the State.

Then, Sir, my friend Mr. Bhattacharyya said that in selecting projects the constituencies of Ministers get preference. But, Sir, I can state that Mr. Bhattacharyya is not a Minister but he got the Dimoria project in his constituency as far back in 1952.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): That was the stick to beat me with, but stick broke !

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS: Of course, Sir, if the House gives a mandate that no project should be started in Ministers' constituencies, Mr. Bhattacharyya's wish may be fulfilled. But then, Sir, when the entire State will be covered, how can you keep out a Minister's district or constituency ?

Then, Sir, Mr. Bhattacharyya said that in Hajo we had taken land of a peasant for the purpose of a seed farm, because that peasant was the polling agent for the P.S.P. candidate. I have no information about it, but I am told that the land belonged to a Doloi, who has plenty of land in addition to the land taken from him.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): That is not correct. For the information of the Hon'ble Deputy Minister, I can say that the name of that man is Sarat Chandra Sarma, who is a cultivator. The Doloi's name is Jiban Chandra Sarma.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects): I am not aware of the full facts. I will enquire and, if necessary, discuss with Mr. Bhattacharyya.

Then, Sir, Shri Khagendra Nath Barbaruah said that too much money has been spent on staff. But, Sir, upto 31st March, 1957, we have spent a total sum of Rs.337.64 lakhs, and out of this, Rs. 67.82 lakhs for our staff, Rs.215.41 lakhs for development works, Rs.39.58 for loans and Rs.14.18 lakhs for equipment. Necessarily, of course, we have spent money for the staff, but the money spent for developmental works and other items is many times more.

My friend Shri Khagendranath Barbaruah said that there should be social reforms first. I do not understand, Sir, what he means by it. Then he further said that man must have lands, then there must be ceiling and such and such other things, and then after all these should come the Community Project. But Sir, these things are being done by our Government already, long before the hon. Member was here to benefit Government with his valuable advice. Government have already given adequate emphasis on the reform of our land tenure. Now my hon. Friend from Bhoi Area has said that there has been no supervision of the works of Gram Sevaks. Some of the Gram Sevaks move about from village to village doing nothing, and some others do their work on the road side. Sir, I understand from what he said that he is himself a member of the Project Advisory Committee. But Sir, unfortunately he has not given us any indication as to whether he had at any time tried to bring these facts to the notice of the Project Advisory Committee or the Deputy Commissioner who is the

Chairman of the Project Advisory Committee. It is, of course, a fact, Sir, our Gram Sevaks have to go about from village to village inasmuch as their duty is to come in closer contact with the villagers and the various village committees. Some of our friends are of the opinion that all our schemes are super-impositions. To say the least, Sir, such a notion is entirely baseless. Because all the schemes come from below, from these very persons who go about from village to village. Because these persons have got the first-hand knowledge of the genuine demands of the villagers, their real difficulties. They go about in the villages with a view to know things well when a project is first sought to be started. They go to the village with a view to ascertain the various problems facing the villagers, then they make a chart or a list of these problems and place it before the Project Advisory Committee. In every village also there is a committee which prepares the schemes and forward them to the Project Officer, and then the Project Officer, with the limited funds at his disposal, tries to implement these schemes as best as he can with the help of the villagers. Therefore, Sir, it is a travesty of truth to say that these schemes come from the top.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : It is incorrect to say, Sir, that because these village level workers move about from village to village, that these schemes come from the villagers themselves.

Mr. SPEAKER : I have noticed the hon. Member has given weight to what Capt. Sangma is going to say. If he do so, he should resume his seat. If, however, he does not, he should continue his speech and not to give way.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : What I want to say is, Sir, that it is incorrect to say that these schemes are coming from the villagers themselves. I definitely know that these schemes do not come from the villagers and that is why things cannot be done better. Please realise that such statement on the part of the Government serves only to camouflage the whole thing. Schemes are prepared by the department concerned and then brought before the Advisory Committee.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects) : Another thing that has been stated by my friend from Bhoi area is that the Community Development Project Administration concentrates their work on the road side only. This is also not correct. If the hon. Member would have cared to take some more interest in the works done by these Community Project Officials he would have

found that, not to speak of other places, even in his own home constituency miles and miles of road have been constructed in the remote and interior places from the highway.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : On a point of information, Sir, it has been stated by the hon'ble Finance Minister in his Budget speech at page 11.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects) : I am coming to the point raised by Shri Ranendra Babu. He has said that everything is becoming American. Now, Sir, I do not know if in his own home constituency at Karimganj everything has turned American. To me it seems to be an entirely wrong proposition. My friend seems to have been labouring under an American fobia. There are again some who labour under Russian fobia, and still others who seem to have been suffering from Chinese fobia.

(Great uproar and laughter)

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS : Therefore, Sir, when people labour under a fobia of some sort or other, their views are likely to be erroneous, and as such, I do not like to go further into this point.

In Cachar district Sir, we have got 7 Blocks, and they are—

1. Lakhipur Block.
2. Narsingpur Block.
3. Salchapra Block.
4. Ramkrishnanagar C. D. Block.
5. Hailakandi N.E.S. Block.
6. Patharkandi N.E.S. Block.
7. East Karimganj Block.

Of these 7 Blocks, Lakhipur, Narsingpur and Salchapra have been included in the Cachar Community Projects and

inaugurated in 1952-53 ; the fourth, namely, Ramkrishnanagar C. D. Block was inaugurated in 1953-54 and converted into a C. D. Block from 1st April 1956. The fifth and the sixth Block *i.e.*, Hailakandi N.E.S. Block and Patharkandi N.E.S. Block were formally inaugurated in October, 1956 and the seventh Block, that is, the East Karimganj Block was inaugurated only in October, 1956. Therefore it is now too early to judge the success or otherwise of these last named three Blocks. A lot of spade work is to be done before these Blocks can show any spectacular results to the public. Government is not a magician to be able to do everything at once only by a touch of the magic wand as it were. As such it takes time and if my hon. friends with their influence offer their good offices for implementation of the work undertaken by the projects, effective results can be obtained speedily. But if instead of doing this, they go on only criticising the Government, the Congress and the Congressmen no tangible result will accrue. Nor such an attitude will help either the people or the Government. Unfortunately during all the hours of our discussion on this matter to-day, I have not heard a single word of praise or admiration from the hon. Members of the Opposition side. I leave it to the House to judge if this is the correct attitude to be taken by our friends on the opposite. Is this the way to serve the people ?

Therefore I would appeal that my hon. friends give their whole-hearted co-operation so that the work in the Development Blocks could be pushed through very quickly.

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon'ble Deputy Minister will bear in mind that he wanted only 30 minutes time. He has already exceeded 30 minutes.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Deputy Minister, Community Projects) : Sir, my hon. Friend, Capt. Sangma, has given certain valuable suggestions and we will remember them. But I would like to say a few words to my friend that if we are to remember the past history of the project at Resubelpara we would also like to say that the District Council of the Garo Hills did not help us in the work of the Community Development Block at Resubelpara. We had to labour very hard.

Capt. A. WILLIAMSON SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Sir, the Garo Hills District Council have given every help.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS : Sir, I have that confidence in the ability of my hon. Friend, Capt. Sangma, and I hope our friend will utilise it not towards anything else but

towards the successful implementation of the project. My hon. friend has got a very big project. It is called Multi-purpose Development Block, which involves an expenditure of Rs.27 lakhs. So I beseech my hon. friend not to repeat the history of the past—I mean the history of the C. D. Block at Resubelpara—but to put forward all his energy towards the successful implementation of the schemes. There are friends like Shri Emon Singh Sangma and others who were working day in and day out for the success of the Multi-purpose Development Block in the Garo Hills. I would request Capt. Sangma to follow their example in this matter.

Now, Sir, as the time at my disposal is very short, I would not like to take much more time of the House. I hope although my submission in this respect may not be very palatable to some of the hon. Members of this new House, still I would like to say that if we pledge ourselves to act for the successful implementation of the schemes all our efforts will certainly bear fruits and the socialist pattern of society will not be a matter about which people may have any misgiving, but in reality we will have such socialist pattern of society.

With these few words, Sir, I request the hon. Member to withdraw the cut motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: Now does the hon. Member, Shri Bhattacharyya propose to withdraw the Cut Motion?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): No, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then I will have to put it to the vote of the House.

The question is that the total provision of Rs.1,43,06,800 under Grant No. 46, Major head 63—B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works at page 508 of the Budget be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,43,06,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(The Motion has lost).

(After a pause)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question now is :

That a sum of Rs.1,43,06,800 (Rupees one crore, forty-three lakhs, six thousand and eight hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head "63—B.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works".

(The Motion was adopted).

**Announcement by the Speaker of the day fixed for
half an hour discussion of Unstarred Question No.66
standing in the name of Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta
on the Shillong Hydro-Electric Company**

Mr. SPEAKER : Before I come to the next Grant, I would like to make an announcement in terms of rule No.44 of the Assembly Rules regarding the discussion of Unstarred Question No.66. Under the Rules of this House this half an hour discussion has to be held today after the business of the House is over and there is no notice on the Minister. All will agree that it is not quite conducive for a healthy discussion in the House. Unless notice is given to the Minister under the rules, he cannot come prepared.

The practice obtaining in Lok Sabha is, that three days in advance notice is given to the Minister along with points on which clarification is sought. I put this to the hon. Member for Gauhati and the hon. Member for Dibrugarh and they were pleased to abide by this arrangement that there would be three days' time, and in the meantime they will let the Minister know the points on which clarification is required. But this is an addition, or if I may say so, extension of the rules, which will require the pleasure of the House. So if the House pleases three days' notice would be required for that half an hour's discussion. Is that the pleasure of the House ?

(After a pause)

Therefore, I fix that on Monday next after conclusion of the day's Business when the House will have half an hour's discussion.

GRANT No.47

(63.-B--I.—Community Development Projects, National Extension Service and Local Development Works)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, a sum of Rs.20,00,000 (Rupees twenty lakhs), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "63-B—I.—Community Development Projects,—National Extension Service and Local Development Works."

Mr. SPEAKER : Motion moved:

That a sum of Rs.20,00,000 (Rupees twenty lakhs), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "63-B-1.—Community Development Projects,—National Extension Service and Local Development Works."

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion was put as a question before the House and adopted.

GRANT No.25

(43.—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, a sum of Rs.49,08,700 (Rupees forty-nine lakhs, eight thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "43.—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving."

Mr. SPEAKER : Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.49,08,700 (Rupees forty-nine lakhs, eight thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for administration of the head "43.—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving."

There is only one Cut Motion.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.49,08,700 under Grant No.25, Major head 43.—Industries and Supplies—I.—Sericulture and Weaving at page 369 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.49,08,700 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, the object of my cut motion is to discuss about the policy of the Government in the matter of location of industries: particularly weaving and sericulture. Sir, people expected that in this Budget they will see new plans and schemes of vocational and improved type of industries in the State. But surprisingly enough, the Budget does not contain anything like that. Of course, I have many things to say but as the time is short I just like to speak a few words only about some heads and

provision of amount therein. There is a Central Scheme for development of industries wherein a sum of 4 lakhs 37 thousand was sanctioned for 1956-57, but in the revised estimate it was reduced to Rs.1 lakh 99 thousand reducing by more than Rs. 2 lakhs 38 thousand—that means that this reduction was by surrender to the Central Fund. Since this is the most important subject in our State I think this surrender signifies the failure on the part of the Government in initiating and implementing all important schemes. In this year a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs 45 thousand has been estimated, but we have seen no scheme or any plan how this amount is going to be spent. So there is every reason to fear that this time also the amount would be surrendered to the Central Fund which will mean a loss to our State. Sir, not to speak of any development or even of starting improved type of industries in our State, even the most common “Ambar-charkha” plan which is expected to be started by the Central Government has not been introduced in our State. So I doubt if this amount in the long run is going to be surrendered incurring great national loss to Assam. Sir, to have this weaving and sericulture industries developed and improved some major points must be taken note of.

This time only Rs.21,200 has been estimated for marketing and from this I feel that it signifies that Government is not taking proper steps in this connection. It is always said by Government that they have no properly trained personnel or that they have no training organisation. I have found that last year under this head an amount of Rs. 3,09,800 was provided for but this has been reduced now to Rs.2,02,300. That amount which has been lessened by more than Rs. 1 lakh was a sure sign that Government is not trying to get properly trained personnel. It would have been proper for them to sanction more money, but surprisingly enough it is not done so.

Now Sir, under the head “Rural Organisation” I have found that less amount has been sanctioned. Government is always saying that rural basis is the main basis wherein we can have improved type of industries. But here the amount of money sanctioned is much less than that sanctioned in previous years; from this it can be said that Government is not giving proper attention to rural areas. Sir, I feel that it is disheartening to see that in previous years the Central Government sanctioned some amount from the Central Silk Board Scheme, but this time we find that no amount has been sanctioned perhaps because the Central Government found that the previous amount was surrendered so they do not like to sanction any amount from this Board.

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member will please note that it is already half-past twelve.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) : Sir, I am concluding by saying that this being the most important industry, that is, weaving and sericulture Government would please take note of what I have said.

Mr. SPEAKER The House stands adjourned to 2 P. M. today.

Adjournment

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

After Lunch

The Deputy Speaker in the Chair.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already dealt with the main points although hurriedly.

Now, I would request the Government that regarding allocation of money to the weavers it should be fair, that means in case of loan and grant so that all the poor weavers of the State can get them, but from personal experience and informations gathered I have come to know that in Sualkuchi village where there are some small scale silk industries in that village majority of the poor weavers have not received any loan or grant from the Government although they have been repeatedly making prayers to Government but some of the middle strata of people and some rich people of that area easily obtain loan and grant from Government.

Then, Sir, in some areas of our State, especially, in Sibsagar and Lakhimpur districts, the producers of Muga Leta are finding difficulties in selling their produce and some times they had to sell their produce at a cheap price and suggest that adequate grant and loan should be sanctioned to them so that this industry can be grown fully.

I want also to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that in some Sericultural Farms some affairs are taking place. For example, in a Sericultural Farm at Mangaldoi, I have received information from a reliable source that a contractor of Gauhati received a draft of Rs.17,000, without starting the work and attention of the Department was drawn to it but still no step has been taken, so I would request the Minister that

this thing should be checked properly so that public money is not wasted.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs. 49,08,700 under Grant No. 25, Major head 43.—Industries and Supplies—I.—Sericulture and Weaving at page 369 of the Budget be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 49,08,700 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the debate was expected to be on the question of location of industries because the Cut Motion which the hon. Member moved says, 'To discuss about the policy of the Government about the location of Industries.' But unfortunately during the discussion, we do not find any reference to the location or non-location of industries and points that have been raised are completely different from what was intended. However, the hon. Member being a new Member must be given some latitude, therefore, certain discussion which he raised must be answered.

Now, Sir, I am at a difficulty in this respect because some of the figures which have been pointed out by the hon. Member are completely inadequate for it seems the hon. Member did not study the budget properly, otherwise, the figures he quoted would not have been given at all. For instance, about marketing it has been said that Rs.21,200 has been provided, whereas, if you make a reference to the budget provisions, it is found that in many places the budget has been provided for the similar purpose, depending upon the type of requirement and if all these are put together the amount will be far greater than the amount provided for a single place which has been referred to. If we refer to page 374, under establishment of Emporia, the amount there is provided for establishment of Emporia both within and outside the State. Naturally in any cottage industry the key point is marketing of the products by a society. When I went to Japan it was said that there is a marketing society and it is this society which gets grants from the Government, distributes the same to manufacturers and manufacturers in their own turn distribute to sub-manufacturers, in this way there was complete liaison between those who produce and those who sell. This marketing society is found to be the basis of success in Japanese cottage industries and if Assam is to succeed there must be the apex, namely, the marketing society, which procures orders, procures technical knowledge, procures fund, distributes fund, gets the production, matches the quality of production to suit the requirement of people abroad and then

brings about the consumption. Therefore, we have been very much alive to this and within the last few years we have increased the number of Emporia to 34, not only within the State but also outside the State. We have one of this in Calcutta, one in Kalimpong and we are thinking of opening one in Bombay and we may also open another in Delhi. In this way our whole attempt is to expand the marketing, and thus only it will be possible to do justice to rural and cottage industries. There is another provision at page 370 of Rs. 33,500, and at page 374 of Rs. 18,400 and Rs. 2,44,400 for this purpose. So there are different provisions for marketing. Then the question is raised about rural organisation, for which we have earmarked a small money but if we look at page 370, there is a provision for Rs. 2,26,400 for Sericulture and Weaving Demonstration and at page 372 there is a provision of Rs. 18,500 *plus* Rs. 50,200, for the same purpose. Then at page 374 there is another provision of Rs. 2,81,000 and if we take all these figures together the amount comes to Rs. 5,76,200, so the amount provided is not less than what is required. Regarding training it is said that Rs. 51,900 is provided, it is not the whole amount. If you look at different provisions in the Budget it will be found that in different places different items of money have been provided. Besides the figure quotes there are two more provisions for this purpose of Rs. 13,200 and Rs. 30,500. Then, Weaving and Sericulture there is an item of Rs. 2,56,800. At page 375 there are several items such as textile institute, sericulture institute, weaving training class, training of officers outside the State, etc. All this comes to Rs. 9,05,400. So even for training purposes, we have provided adequate funds. Sir, training is a very important factor. Unless and until we have trained personnel the design of our cloth does not improve, the quality does not improve and the quality does not standardise. We have given great emphasis on training and therefore this 9 lakh and odd has been provided.

With regard to the Silk Board grants. There also my hon. friends in the Opposition have been misled. In 1955-56 we received a grant of Rs. 4,85,614 from the Central Silk Board, out of which we spent Rs. 3,49,091. Then in 1956-57 the grant was Rs. 3,66,945 out of which we spent Rs. 2,23,481.

With regard to Sericulture our State has made great strides. The House will be pleased to know that last year we stood 3rd

in the whole of India in the matter of expenditure on Sericulture. I give you certain figures:—

Mysore spent 20 per cent, Madras 36 per cent, West Bengal 30 per cent, Jammu and Kashmir 11 per cent, Assam 71·90 per cent, Bombay 21 per cent, Himachal Pradesh 10 per cent, Punjab 17 per cent, Manipur 20 per cent, Madhya Bharat 49 per cent, Orissa 74 per cent, but their figure is very small only Rs.1 lakh. Uttar Pradesh spent 72 per cent but their figure is also very small only Rs.1,31,000. Madhya Pradesh spent 20 per cent, Hyderabad 35 per cent and Bihar only 3 per cent.

So you will see that our achievement is not meagre. In the discussion which was held at Bombay one of the members of the Silk Board congratulated Assam saying like this:—

“He congratulated the Government of Assam for having spent the major portion of the grants given by the Board. He suggested that if the States which had taken up sericulture recently have been able to utilise the grants in time, they should be encouraged in all possible manner to develop the industry in these States”.

So far as Sericulture is concerned, far from being blamed we deserved credit for all that we have been able to do.

The difficulty about Cottage Industry is the difficulty of spending. When it was decided that a very large percentage of the increase in per capita consumption of cloth during the Second Five Year Plan should be met from hand-loom products, some people said that India would not be able to fulfil the target. Still so far as Cottage Industry is concerned we stuck to our gun. Discussions also took place in the All-India Congress Committee regarding production of hand-loom fabrics. There also it was decided that the increase in cloth consumption must be earmarked for cottage industry. The Mill-owners still said that handlooms would not be able to produce so much additional cloth. Why? Because the Organisation needed for the purpose of producing real cottage industry products is very big. It is very easy for one single mill with funds and machinery and a well organised labour force at its disposal to work for 300 days in a year and produce as much as possible. But if it is cottage industry you have got to go from village to village, organise people, organise co-operatives and give them knowledge. It is very easy to provide money for the cottage industry but the most difficult thing is how to spend that money. It is from this point of view that I request my hon. friends to put their heads and shoulder together so that a greater measure

of success can be achieved in this matter. I know Assam even today produces nearly 5 crore worth of goods from cottage industry which is enough to employ nearly 20 lakhs people directly or indirectly. This is not a negligible figure.

Coming to hand-loom, you will find that in 1956-57 the Central Hand-loom Board gave Assam a loan of Rs. 6,82,500 and a grant of Rs. 4,11,177, out of which Rs. 4,61,500 was spent on loans and Rs. 4,11,000 was spent on grants. We could not fully utilise the loan as there are certain formalities to be observed in granting loans. People have to give proper security and provide a balance sheet. One co-operative did provide the balance sheet and we paid them Rs. 20,000. There are some other co-operatives who have not yet submitted their balance sheets, but as soon as they do so their case will be considered. So far as loans are concerned, we are very careful. I am thinking of some schemes of decentralization of grants so that these grants may be allocated to the districts and then there should be a district machinery to issue the loans to deserving persons out of that allocation. Unless and until we find out a channel of decentralizing distribution of loans we shall always be handicapped and there will be bottleneck.

I regret to say that somehow or other this Department has not been properly staffed and organized. The number of officers we require as Inspectors, Demonstrators, Extension Service men is not there. Therefore we cannot provide personnel for checking balance sheets, security, etc. We have to go to the Sub-Deputy Collector who is so overworked that we do not get a reply from him even after 6 or 7 reminders and sometimes no reply comes at all. So, this is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. There must be a way of dealing with the situation quickly. I have no doubt Government will have to do something in the matter. We are thinking of expanding the Department so that there will not be any difficulty in issuing these loans. Therefore, I think, that when I have said this the hon. Member who has made certain remarks without much realising the difficulties involved and without realising the budget provision as a whole will realise where the difficulty lies and ultimately will not press his motion to vote.

He raised certain questions with regard to Sualkuchi. I have already said that the loan applications are pending and we will consider them. He had said that as regards Lakhimpur there is some difficulty about muga cocoons. So far as this

matter is concerned, we have tried to open centres in different parts of the whole State. As a matter of fact this Department is expanding phenomenally but we have tried to bring the benefit to the people in each different area. For these reasons and for want of money some people are finding some difficulties and that is why we are trying to liberalise our system of grant of loans and we have made some advance in this direction. Government will try to remove these difficulties as far as practicable.

So far as the sericulture at Mangaldai Subdivision is concerned, about which an allegation has been made, I have no personal knowledge. I shall look into this matter, and if any defect is discovered, we shall remedy the same. I have no doubt that the hon. Members as well as the Government have the same intention in view, *viz.*, rapid introduction of the cottage industries throughout the State for the purpose of giving gainful employment to the underemployed and unemployed. We have the same aim, and in spite of occasional lapses which might be here and there, I hope with the full support of the entire House, it will be possible for us to implement the Budget as a whole.

With these words, Sir, I would request the hon. Member not to press for the same.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Does the hon. Mover press his motion?

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari—West): No, Sir. (The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.49,08,700 (Rupees forty-nine lakhs, eight thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head, "43.—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No.26

(43.—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the

recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.31,15,300 (Rupees thirty-one lakhs, fifteen thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head, "43.—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries".

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.31,15,300 (Rupees thirty-one lakhs, fifteen thousand and three hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head, "43.—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries".

There are several Cut Motions.

Yes, Rev. Roy.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.31,15,300 under Grant No.26, Major head, 43.—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries, at page 394 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.31,15,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, my desire to move this Cut Motion is very simple. First of all I want to know what are the steps taken by the Government to spread the cottage industries in the Hills Districts, in a better way. When I look at the different Budget provisions—I find from page 394 upto the end of the page regarding this Grant—expenditure are mostly on institutions. Look at page 394, in column Sixth Schedule (Part A) Areas, there is nothing for the Hills. At page 395, I find certain amounts have been shown. These amounts are for pay of officers, pay of establishment, allowances and honoraria, contingencies, which comes to Rs.15,200. Then again there is an amount for an Industrial Institute—for Bee Keeping Institute. Sir, I do not find any amount for helping the people who are keeping bees. There may be some amount somewhere as grants-in-aid, but nothing is stated as to how much is set apart for giving grants for bee-keeping. A Bee Keeping Institute is going to be started and for pay of establishment, honoraria, contingencies, there is a sum of Rs.29,600. Then there is provision for a Paper Making Institute to be started in the Hills district under the Sixth Schedule areas. I do

not know what practical good will come out to the people from this institute if it is for making handmade paper. I do not think the people in the Hills and also mostly in the Plains will use the paper made by hand as mill-made paper is better and cheaper. So what is the use of spending money for the Paper Making Institute? It is a waste, in my opinion. There is an amount for Furniture Making Institute at page 395 and that also is going to be started in the Hills. Then there is a provision for an Umbrella Making Institute. There is provision for the Shellac Factory. I think it refers to the Government Shellac Factory at Chaparmukh. If I am not mistaken it is in the Plains area in Nowgong district, though the Shellac comes from the Mikir Hills District. It is run mostly by the people of Plains areas. For this factory which is in the Plains but put under the expenditure of the Sixth Schedule Areas, the amount comes to Rs.1,91,600. Then, Sir, I turn to page 396: under the Sixth Schedule it is all blank, except at the bottom where it is stated that for the establishment of a Toy Factory an amount of Rs.30,000 is provided. I do not know what benefit the toy factory will come to the Hills people. Then there is an amount for grants-in-aid of Rs.86,000. That is the only amount for grants-in-aid in the Sixth Schedule Areas. The details of this are given afterward. Then I turn to page 397—all blank; 398—all blank. Only there is the grand total which is 3 lakhs 90 thousand and 6 hundred rupees. Then come to page 399—all blank, under Sixth Schedule Areas; page 400—all blank under the Sixth Schedule Areas. Page 401 also all blank; at page 402 nothing, at Page 403 nothing also. At page 404—grants-in-aid, there also I do not find anything. Page 405 nothing also in that page. In page 406 I find only a few items here. This is only about Beekeeping Institute, repeating the same thing. Then Paper Making Institute—that is also the same thing. Then I come to page 407. Here I find an item about umbrella making training. In this case also I should say that the umbrella making training of the required standard should be given to the Hills people so that they can earn money for their food and clothes and thus they can be helped in their distress. In this page there are items which are details about the Government Shellac Factory. I have already spoken about that. Then I come to page 408. In this page there is a total amount of Rs.2,74,600, which includes the amount of Rs.1,91,500 for the Shellac Factory in Chaparmukh of which I have already spoken. At page 409 there is no item under the Sixth Schedule Areas. At page 410 there is an item—establishment of toy making factory. About this I have already spoken. It is the same thing. Then I come to page 411. Here we

find the details of the amount of the grants-in-aid of Rs.86,000 already stated before. For giving stipends for training in Assam, there is a provision of Rs.48,000; for grants to private individuals there is an amount of Rs.20,000; for grants to non-Government Industrial Schools Rs.18,000. The total comes to Rs.86,000. About this I have already stated before.

Then I come to page 412. There is nothing here.

Page 413. Here also there is nothing.

Page 414. Here also nothing is found.

Page 415. There is nothing here.

This is all about cottage industries.

Sir, there is great distress and scarcity in the Autonomous Hills Districts, specially in our United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and so it will be better if at this time grants are given to persons who have beekeeping and other cottage industries. Such cottage industry factories should be taken up immediately which will enable the people to earn money quickly for their food and clothing. I hope more money will be made available for the scarcity areas for giving more grants for starting such industries as will give them income immediately. The people who have some sort of cottage industries already should be given more encouragement by giving them subsidies, so that they can carry on their business in a better way and they should also be encouraged to carry on their industries in a better and new way. So, what I want to stress is that more money should be allotted for grants for those industries which can be started immediately so that the people can earn money.

I hope the Minister-in-charge of Industries will please consider this point.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.31,15,300, under Grant No.26, Major head, 43.—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries, at page 394 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.31,15,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak a few words in support of the Cut Motion moved by Rev. Nichols-Roy. I will speak about the paper making industry.

In connection with the Paper Making Institute, there appears to be some provision in the Budget for establishment. With regard to this, as far as Garo Hills is concerned, we have been pressing the Government that some sort of small scale industries like paper making industry should be started. I had an occasion to sit together in a conference with Mr. M. Saha, the Central Minister for Heavy Industries, and we were very much encouraged by the advice given by the Minister. He said that some small scale industries should be started. At that time there was one paper expert who accompanied the Minister and he told us that small scale paper pulp industries with a capital of Rs.10,000. As I have already informed the House, our people in the border areas are in great distress due to the partition of the country and their economic condition has been adversely affected. Up till now, as I have said before, nothing has been done by the Government to rehabilitate those people. May be because they have not left their homes and their villages. There seems to be no anxiety on the part of the Government for taking up any rehabilitation work for these border people. Those people have lost the market in the entire border area from Moheskhila right up to Mahendraganj. Though there is some relaxation in the trade with Pakistan even then we could not get any market for those perishable goods like bamboo which is also regarded as perishable goods. We have lots of bamboos in our district. But unfortunately nothing has been done to utilise these raw materials. If some sort of paper-pulp industry can be started in the border area then we would be able to create market for bamboo in the Garo Hills. Sir, however, nothing has been provided for any such industries except making provision of an amount of Rs. 13,300 for establishment. I do not know which particular Autonomous District is going to get benefit out of this provision. As far as I know, Sir, Garo Hills will be one of the biggest bamboo areas among all the Autonomous Districts. But I do not know what benefit will be derived by having officers and staff unless and until the actual work is started.

Another fact I bring to the notice of the House is that a number of people applied for loan for starting their cottage industries. But up till now not a single man has received any

loan. This shows that there is no encouragement for starting any small scale cottage industries in our District, which is a border district. Government will be pleased to realise the fact that we are very backward economically. So, our people require special attention of the Government because we are economically very backward and we are on the border and we are suffering very much the consequence of the partition of the country. Government's attention should therefore be fixed on the Autonomous Districts which are mostly on border areas and the people there have lost all market due to the partition of the country. There should be some sort of a rehabilitation scheme for proper rehabilitation of these border people and this can be done by installation of small scale industries for which raw materials are in plenty.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I understand that Cut Motion Nos. 3, 4 and 5 are not going to be moved. The Minister-in-charge will please give his reply now.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have some difficulty in following the way in which Rev. Nichols-Roy has tried to study the Budget. He had taken the Budget, glanced through from page to page and was trying to establish that the Sixth Schedule Areas had been completely neglected or omitted from the provisions under these heads.

Now, anybody who knows about the establishment of industries will admit that industries are started in some central places. You have to start an industry in a particular place and for starting that you have to set up an office. Some time ago there was a report that the office of the Assam Jute Mill, Limited, had been opened after two years. You might as well ask, "How is it? Only an office has been opened. Until the factory starts functioning and things are produced, no benefit is accrued". Such remark would be quite valid and true, but it would be untrue also because before the factory started the office had to be. It may be that in this particular case the office took an inordinately long time in coming. But in all industries, particularly of a pioneering type, the period of inception is longer than the period of production, because once production starts, it has a snowball effect. The other day, in Gauhati a flour mill was started and within the last one week about four or five parties came to me seeking licenses to start flour mills. They did not want any assistance from the Government. This is the nature of industrial development. The people are first unwilling to take the risk, but

once risk has been taken and a company floated people come forward to start it and the progress is quicker. For this reason, it is very necessary that industries which do not exist, the industries which have not been set up anywhere, be started somewhere and once we gain experience, you will find they will spread all over the place. Now, therefore, in reading the Budget for the purpose of industries, I would request my Friend, Rev. Nichols-Roy, not to follow this method. As soon as he finds some provision has been made for some industry somewhere, or some office to be opened for its sake, he should not construe that other areas have been neglected because development of industries in the State is one integrated matter.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: My point was not that. I said more money should have been provided to help the present existing cottage industries which are struggling. And especially during these difficult times, people should be helped to take to the cottage industries which will bring money quickly.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: (Minister, Cottage Industries): That was his second point. I shall come to that later. As I was saying, Sir, I would request the hon. Members of this House not to start looking on industrial projects in the way in which Rev. Nichols-Roy did, as the industry might itself be torpedoed.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY: Will the Hon'ble Minister please explain what benefit will be derived from the hand-made paper industry, when first class paper is available in the market at cheaper price?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I shall deal with this point later.

Now, Sir, suppose there is a provision for an office for an industry in which Government officers are provided, a fear has been expressed that the money will be eaten away by the officers and the people will not get any benefit. Surely, Sir, no intelligent person, who makes provision for industrial development of a State, merely provides for the office. But the office is essential and it comes first. Unless the office is there, Government does not start functioning at that end. The point is so far as the offices or even officials are concerned, provision is made according to the exigencies of office requirements. So far as provision for grants and loans to industries is concerned.....

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: On a point of information, Sir. This provision is for the Sixth Schedule Areas.

May I know whether this is meant for all the five or six such areas in the State? If it is meant for the entire Sixth Schedule Area; the provision is too meagre.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries): I am coming to his point. As I was saying, Sir, so far as provision for office is concerned, it is made according to the exigencies of circumstances; so far as grants and loans are concerned, they are made to people who come forward to them in the way in which they are provided and for the industries for which they are provided. I agree that more loans should be provided and more technical experts should be provided so that the development of those industries might go forward. So far as technical experts are concerned, the House will remember that we brought a Japanese expert. He has submitted a report and has advised us to purchase certain machinery costing more than a lakh of rupees. We have placed orders for the machinery and that machinery is likely to come soon. Once it comes we will be able to produce articles from bamboo the like of which I saw at the bamboo exhibition in Japan. I brought some articles with me; they were beautiful and delightful things. Once we get that machinery installed here, we will be able to produce those things and that would be an industry for the whole State. Then, take the instance of Khadi and village industries. The Khadi and Village Industries Board, which is an autonomous body, controls many industries. Obviously, funds will be provided for them. There will be a machinery for giving grants and loans to them and all the different people living in different areas, Sixth Schedule Areas and elsewhere, will be able to come for assistance to the Board, which will be providing assistance for the purpose.

Sir, I was surprised to hear that handmade paper industry is a worthless industry.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Who will buy your paper when good paper is available in the market at cheaper price?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: My Friend will remember that if it is a fact that we must get the best things in the world, then most of our industries in Assam

and most of our industries in India will go by the board. I may inform the House that the world has come to such a stage in the development of production that factories can be staffed with two persons only, one to switch on the factory and the other to take out the finished products. It is possible to run a motor car manufacturing factory with a single man, who will press a button on one side which will start off the machine, and on the other side a finished motor car will come out of the factory. There will be no other person inside because of the development of electronics.

The capacity to judge and adjust has been taken over from man by machine.

Rev. J.J.M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: My point is, Sir, the point to be considered before starting an industry is whether it will be a paying one or not. Now, if handmade papers are not used by the people—even in this Legislature, we do not use handmade paper—what is the use of such an industry ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries) : That is what I am saying. If we go by the mere cost of production, then many of the industries in the world will go by the board. Because in no State in the present-day world can go merely by the economics of the cost of production. Therefore every State is bound to subsidise industries which otherwise cannot exist. That is why even to-day many industries are being subsidised in this country. As a matter of fact, the Government of India have been subsidising handloom industry. The question asked by the hon. Member is how long will it go on ? But the question worth asking for is how long we will take to replace machine ? So to be modern, to be with time, we must look ahead, and then we will be convinced that time will come when there will be very few industries which will be unsubsidised. Therefore, I am in favour of subsidies being given to smaller industries. You will, perhaps, remember, in Poona a machine has been discovered for the purpose of hand production of paper which is of an improved type. Even in the cottage industry sector things can be improved. I am only surprised to hear the hon. Member when he made an attack on handmade paper. Even to-day several crores of rupees worth of handmade paper is being sold in the country.

(*A voice*—Why not supply handmade paper to the House ?)
I think that request may be made to the Speaker.

Anyway, my job as an Industry Minister is to look to the production side of the matter. So, I am confining my observations to the production side only.

With regard to paper-pulp industry, my hon. Friend, Mr. Sangma, was telling me that when Shri Manubhai Sah came to Assam, he told him that paper-pulp can be produced in a very small factory costing Rs. 10,000. Now, there are several such schemes. I think they have been introduced in some places. But we have not been able to introduce any of these yet. So far as paper-pulp factory is concerned, it is true we have recommended for a license to be given to Messrs. Balmer Lawrie and Company for the purpose of starting a factory in the North Cachar Hills. So far as smaller type of factory for paper-pulp production is concerned, I have no doubt that the Government will be in a position to do something in this matter.

So far as beekeeping is concerned, there are, I understand, demonstrators in all the Hills districts. As a matter of fact, Shillong is the central place for production of honey.

So far as the shellac factory is concerned, I understand that this factory is located at Chaparmukh and naturally the shellac production here is not of very high order as our shellac industry has not been properly and fully established.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Is Chaparmukh in any Autonomous District, or else why does the Hon'ble Minister refer to Chaparmukh when we are discussing about the Autonomous Districts ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries) : Chaparmukh is in Nowgong district. So far as why an industry is developed at a particular place—this is a romantic history. You have to study the reasons why at a particular point of time a particular industry was located in a particular place. But the point is, because it is in Chaparmukh, therefore it shall not be in some other place.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: The question is, Sir, why the expenditure borne in the Sixth Schedule Area Budget should be incurred in an area which comes under the general Budget ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Because you see shellac production starts from the Mikir Hills area. Processing is done in one place, and collection starts all

over the places. Therefore in every industry you will remember there is the processing side, then there is also the collection side.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Is there any difficulty for processing at Diphu ? If the money is not spent in the Autonomous District, it should not have been shown as expenditure incurred in the Sixth Schedule Area Budget. This is my objection. This is not only incorrect budgeting but, as I said the other day, it is also bluffing.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries) : No bluffing is intended. I was trying to explain the nature of an industry. An industry starts from raw material. In this case, rawmaterial is, of course, available in the Hills, and therefore there also expenditure is necessary.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Supposing there is a canning industry at Gauhati and all the oranges brought from Khasi Hills are taken to Gauhati, then nobody will think that the expenditure of the canning industry will be charged to the Hills areas. In this particular case, although a large sum of money has been spent in the Plains areas, the expenditure is debited to the Sixth Schedule Areas just to show that Government have incurred heavy expenditure for improvement and development of the Hill areas.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : The whole point is that if we find that Khasi Hills oranges are going to waste and it is necessary to set up a preservation plant and if, for transport reason, instead of putting the preservation plant in Shillong, it would be more convenient to put the plant at Gauhati, we should do so, so that the industry is run there with the oranges from the Khasi Hills.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : Suppose the mill be located in Calcutta, will the West Bengal Government import the oranges from Shillong ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Not certainly, it is dependent on the intention. For instance, our Rev. Roy who has got the fruit preservation plant at Burnihat, and after some time he finds that it is necessary to set up the preservation plant at Khanapara, he would naturally go there. So it depends on the intention and the requirement,

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Then, Sir, in that case there is no reason why the Oil Refinery should be located at Barauni in Bihar.

(A voice—This is a different thing).

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Cottage, Industries) : Yesterday I was talking about the Link. It is in North Bengal, but the Link is for Assam. You can give your example and I can give my example. It is up to you whether you accept it or not.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunjee (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we do not want to discuss this matter any more. We beg to differ from his arguments as they will not satisfy us. That is all.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : Well, has the hon. Member taken away as if he is the last member to speak on the subject? The whole point is that whether it is not quite convenient for a Member to be satisfied or not, I do not know, but I am giving this reply not in consideration of the Sixth Schedule Areas alone but in consideration of every other area in the State. I can prove every word of mine by reference to industrial practices prevalent in different part of the world.

Now with regard to toy factory, I would like to say that huge quantity of toys are imported into Assam. If we could start a toy factory in Assam, we could save a lot of money spent in importing them from outside. Therefore, the Japanese expert had to come and he has given some valuable suggestion with regard to toy making in Assam, and we are going to have a toy factory.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY : Sir, may I know where that toy factory will be established?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : It will be established at Diphu.

Then another point was raised with regard to umbrella making. I do not understand as to why we should not manufacture umbrella in Assam. When we use umbrella, and when sufficient raw material is available in Assam, I see no reason as to why we could not manufacture umbrella in Assam.

Sir, I now come to the Budget. The Budget is already there before the hon. Members. With regard to the Sixth Schedule Areas, I quite realise that the progress in the sphere of development is very meagre as also in the progress of industrial development of other areas in the State. Therefore, it is necessary for us not to look at each other with suspicion. Rather we should join hands together in order to build up industries in different parts of the State so that they could be of help to each other.

I have no doubt that the hon. Members representing the Sixth Schedule Areas should not only realise that they are representing in this House the interest of the Sixth Schedule Areas but also the interest of the non-Sixth Schedule Areas, and try to combine with the others who represent the non-Sixth Schedule Areas in the interest of the development of the State as a whole.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Does the hon. Member propose to withdraw the Cut Motion?

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

The question is that a sum of Rs. 31,15,300 (Rupees thirty-one lakhs, fifteen thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head, "43.—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries".

(The Motion was adopted)

GRANT No. 54

(72.—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development—III—
Development of Sericulture and Weaving and Cottage
Industries)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, to move that a sum of Rs. 65,18,100 (Rupees sixty five lakhs, eighteen thousand and one hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the

administration of the head "72—Capital Outlay, etc.—III—Development of Sericulture and Weaving and Cottage Industries".

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 65,18,100 (Rupees sixty-five lakhs, eighteen thousand and one hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958, for the administration of the head, "72.—Capital Outlay, etc.—III—Development of Sericulture and Weaving and Cottage Industries".

There are no Cut Motions.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, I may be allowed to speak a few words.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think under the provision of the rules, if you want to move a Cut Motion, notice of it should be given three days ahead. When you have not put the Cut Motion, you can discuss the general policy only. I hope you will not take a long time.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR : Mr. Deputy. Speaker, Sir, I am very happy to note that a sum of more than 65 lakhs of rupees has been earmarked under this head. During the last financial year also we saw that a huge amount was earmarked under this head but about 90 per cent of it could not be spent possibly due to non-implementation of the schemes. Here we find that a huge sum of money has been allotted for the development of handloom industry which is sought to be expanded through the emporia here in Assam. Sir, our handloom industry is very much undeveloped. Unless the handloom industry is geared up, I don't think we shall be able to compete with the handloom products which come from South India, specially from Madras. Therefore, I would suggest to the Hon'ble Minister to see if we can introduce power looms for the purpose. With electric energy from Umtru and the natural gas from the oil wells at Naharkatiya which is at present wasted and which may serve as cheap source of power, it may not be difficult to introduce power looms at least in two of the important areas of the State. In that case our handloom products can compete with similar products that come from other parts of India.

Sir, we find that no appreciable steps have been taken for the improvement of cottage industries. Similarly, we find that

a very small sum is earmarked for marketing. Sir, this 'marketing' is the most difficult part of the scheme. It is necessary that the products of our handloom and cottage industries get a proper market in the towns and suburbs and particularly outside the State. I think it would not be very difficult for Government to arrange for the marketing of the products of our cottage industries provided the Government are very serious about it.

Another suggestion that I want to make, Sir, is with regard to subsidy. It is not enough to give a subsidy to our industries, but we must create an incentive for small-scale industries by helping the villagers in that direction. People may be attracted by extra incomes if proper facilities are made available to them, and if they are given the necessary training for running these small industries. For example, some knowledge of small-scale industries may be given to our youths in our schools, which may give a healthy bias for industries to our younger generation.

Further, Sir, it is necessary to introduce new types of modern cottage industries. We may profitably start with small knitting machines, lace making, etc., which our people in the villages may be trained to us. But, Sir, the development of cottage industries is inseparably linked up with the developments of basic and key industries like the transport, machine tools and metallurgical industries, and depends to a large extent on the availability of cheap power. Therefore, Sir, the development of the transport systems and the proper use of the hydel potential of the State are absolutely essential to elevate and tone up our cottage industries.

With these few words, Sir, I would like to suggest to Government to see that the huge amount earmarked for this purpose should be spent profitably.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving): The suggestions made by the hon. Member are noted.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs.65,18,100 (Rupees sixty-five lakhs, eighteen thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head—"72.—Capital Outlay, etc.,—III—Development of Sericulture and Weaving and Cottage Industries".

(The Motion was adopted.)

GRANT No. 27

47—Miscellaneous Departments

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPAHTI (Minister, Labour): Mr. Deputy Speaker, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.8,98,700 (Rupees eight lakhs, ninety-eight thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "47.—Miscellaneous Departments".

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rupees Rs.8,98,700 (Rupees eight lakhs, ninty-eight thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head, "47—Miscellaneous Departments"

There are four Cut Motions.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): I beg to move that the provision of Rs.4,44,850 under Grant No.27, major head, 47—Miscellaneous Departments, minor head B.—Labour (total) at page 420 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.8,98,700 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, I am not going to take much time of the House. My intention is only to raise a discussion about the condition of retrenched labour in the State. We know, Sir, and the people who are in the Government side also know that hundred and thousands of tea garden labourers are living unemployed. But unfortunately whenever the question was put to Government asking whether Government are aware that such and such tea garden in such and such area the tea garden labour are unemployed—the obvious reply of the Government is that Government have no information. It is really unfortunate that Government do not keep information about the huge number of people who are unemployed. It is all the more unfortunate for the Members of this House that Government is suppressing facts. Only the other day when the Minister was replying to a question on this subject, the reply was that Government have no information. But I can tell the House that from the proceedings of the House in the last Session it will be seen that this subject was discussed more than once when the Public Works Department Minister said that he was aware that hundred and thousands of these tea garden labour are unemployed and that steps were being taken to employ them by the Public Works Department in road construction works and that contractors

have been instructed to employ labourers from the retrenched personnel of these tea garden labour. Sir, it is unfortunate that a Minister today can answer to question in this whimsical way which has no bearing to facts.

We expect, Sir, that at least we should know the exact position ; Government should be able to give the correct position, Government should be able to admit if there is any lacuna, Government should be bold enough to confess if there are faults and by so doing try to solve the problem before them. But unfortunately it has become the fashion for some Minister to deny the facts. Now, Sir, it is a fact, no one can deny, that hundreds and thousands of tea garden labourers specially in Cachar district live a miserable life of being unemployed. On top of this it has been said that in spite of the fact that there are these unemployed labour residing in the State, the tea industry is recruiting more men from outside the State. This will simply aggravate the problem. So unless and until Government is bold enough, this thing will continue and there will be no chance for the retrenched labourer to get employment.

Regarding industrial dispute, I would like to say that when justice is delayed justice is denied. In almost all cases we have seen that the cases linger months after months and years after years. So Government should take steps to see that whatever award they give, should be given within a limited time. Sir, I would refer to a dispute regarding a section of labour in Karimganj being employed under the Karimganj Steamerghat Station. This Karimganj Steamer Company is a private Company, under I. G. N. and R. S. N. and there the labour are employed by a contractor but we want that this system of employment of a big concern like this through a contractor should not remain and this should be discontinued. We have seen in other steamer ghats, the company directly employ the labour. Employing labour through a contractor is harmful because we know the labour do not get all the amenities and facilities which they should get under the rules framed by Government. Therefore, the Government should see that these people in the Karimganj steamerghat are directly employed by the company.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Cut Motion moved is that the provision of Rs. 4,44,850 under Grant No. 27. Major head, 47—Miscellaneous Departments, Minor head—B.—Labour, Labour (total) at page 420 of the Budget, be

reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 8,98,700 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in support of the Cut Motion, I want to place certain facts for the information of the Labour Minister. Our new Labour Minister is also a Labour Leader; so he will appreciate the labour's point of view and will see his way to remove the grievances of the labour.

It is regrettable that the settlement of labour disputes are considerably delayed and the Labour Tribunals take a long time to come to decision. Sometimes it takes even six months for a labour dispute to come to the Conciliation Board, and then if a settlement fails there, it goes for adjudication where it hangs, generally for two to three years. Thus it becomes an unnecessary burden on the society to maintain and feed the labour involved in a labour dispute. For the successful implementation of the Five Year Plan, it is necessary to prevent the waste of labour days. Therefore, Sir, the labour disputes should be resolved as early as possible, and for this the conciliation proceedings and adjudication should be disposed of speedily.

In a democratic set up one expects the Government to be impartial to all types of trade unions. But our Government have not only a soft corner for the I. N. T. U. C. but has a particular fancy for recognising the I. N. T. U. C. We have innumerable instances to show that our Labour Officers do not give any importance to other trade unions except the I. N. T. U. C.

Sir, it is high time that the Government should take legislative or other measures for compulsory recognition of registered trade unions having a prescribed qualification or fulfilling a prescribed condition. There are regulations for the recognition of Service Unions of Central Government employees, like the Railway Workers' Organisations, etc., Similar regulations may be made to suit the special conditions prevailing in our State. It may be prescribed for example that trade unions having a membership of 10 per cent of the total number of employees in a particular trade or industry, shall have to be recognised by the employers, irrespective of the colour of the unions and thereafter all the facilities of a recognised union to be prescribed and detailed in the regulation shall accrue to those trade unions.

There are Trade Unions having membership even upto 90 and there of course, are Trade Unions having 50 memberships but to them no recognition is given by the employers, but it is found that in the case of I. N. T. U. C. even in case of a lower percentage of membership recognition is given.

Another thing is noticeable, especially, in tea gardens. Employers do not follow the Rules, Regulations and the Standing Orders of the Government, for example they do not recognise those workers who reside outside the plantation as permanent workers and as a result they have to forego some of their privileges and benefits., e. g., the benefit of Provident Fund Scheme. If the rules are defective, they should be changed; and if it is the planters who make the rub, they should be brought to book. Also workers in tea estates are taken to task for minor reasons but there is no remedy for them. The Standing Orders for the Plantation workers in Assam are loaded heavily in favour of the employers. Here the right of interpretation of the rules have been left with the employers and when Government frame rules it is their duty to see that workers interest do not suffer.

Now, another point which I want to bring to the notice of the Labour Minister is that the employers, particularly in tea gardens, sometimes do sign agreements of conciliation at the instance of the Labour Officers, but they do not care to follow the agreements. We know in Upper Assam, particularly in Dibrugarh Subdivision, in certain cases the labour were not allowed to draw their dues even after such agreements. Unless certain legislative measures are adopted or statutory directives are given, the orders of the Government cannot be of any help.

Last of all, regarding industrial trade unions, particularly the Unions in small or subsidiary industries, they have an unenviable position. Trade Unions insist on collection bargaining, but the small Unions, in the subsidiary industries have a very low bargaining power, which always put them in a very disadvantageous position against the employers. Government should give special protection to these Unions. Trade Unions should not be conceived of from the narrow angle of the principle of collective bargaining. They have a great social part to play, viz., the participation in the process of production and the maintenance of the society. The workers are by far the most important section of the society and naturally therefore they have a big obligation to the entire society, which in return

should see that the rights of the workers to live, continue and progress are guaranteed. Government should therefore take special measures for the protection of the weaker section of the working class.

Then there are plywood factories, situated in remote places. There the workers are in a state of perpetual squalor, where there are no medical facilities, no houses to live in, no facilities for quick communication, etc., and therefore the Government should see that the workers of this particular industry which is getting protection from Central Government do get the necessary amenities.

In support of this Cut Motion, I have said these few words. I hope, the Labour Minister would bear in mind that the interest of labour in a welfare State dose not suffer.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabor): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় ২৭ নম্বৰ Grant সম্বন্ধে Labour Minister মহোদয়ে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিছে মই তাক সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। এই সম্পৰ্কে মই এটা কথা ক'ব খুজিছোঁ। সেইটো হৈছে এই যে অসমত যিখন Trade Union Act আছে সেই Act মতে একেটা শিল্প আৰু কাৰখানাতে বহুতো Union গঠন কৰিবৰ এটা সুবিধা আছে। মোৰ মতে বহুতো Union গঠন কৰিব পৰা সুবিধাটো গুচাব লাগে আৰু প্ৰতিনিধিমূলক Union ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰা সুবিধা থাকিব লাগে। বৰ্ত্তমানে ৭ জন সভ্য হলেই এখন Union গঠন কৰিব পাৰে আৰু Trade Union Act মতে ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰিব পাৰে। কিন্তু এনেকুৱা হোৱাৰ ফলত ইউনিয়নৰ শক্তিলৈ আৰু সভ্য সংখ্যালৈ লক্ষ্য নাৰাখি একেটা কাৰখানাতে বহুতো Registered Union গঠন হোৱাৰ কাৰণে শিল্প ক্ষেত্ৰত এটা গণ্ডগোলৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। ইংলণ্ড, আমেৰিকা বা ইউৰোপ আদি স্বাধীন দেশবিলাকত একোটা একোটা শিল্পত একোটা Union ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰাৰ আগতে সেই Unionৰ শক্তি বা সভ্য সংখ্যা ভালকৈ চাই লৈহে ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰে। মই বিবেচনা কৰোঁ যে অসম গৱৰ্ণমেণ্টে Union ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰাৰ নিয়ম সংশোধন কৰিব লাগে আৰু প্ৰতিনিধিমূলক Union ৰেজিষ্টাৰ কৰিব লাগে।

দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে এই যে স্বীকৃতি দিয়া সম্বন্ধে বৰঠাকুৰ ডাঙৰীয়াই যি কথা কৈছে সেইটোও বিশেষ ভাবে বিবেচনা কৰিবলগীয়া কথা। Employer এ এটা Unionকে স্বীকৃতি দিবৰ কাৰণে পুৰুষ শ্ৰমিকৰ ঠৈ ভাগ সভ্যৰ প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব বিচাৰে। ইয়াতে ক'ব লাগিব যে মজদুৰ সঙ্ঘ বিলাকৰ বহুতৰে এনেকুৱা সভ্য সংখ্যা নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে সেই সঙ্ঘ বিলাকে স্বীকৃতি পোৱা নাই। এনেকুৱা প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব মূলক আৰু সভ্য সংখ্যাৰ ওপৰত স্বীকৃতি দিয়াটো একেবাৰে বেয়া বুলি ক'ব নোৱাৰি, যদিহে

তাক ভাল ভাৱে লোৱা হয়। মই ভাবোঁ যে গৱৰ্ণমেণ্ট স্বীকৃতি দিবৰ সময়ত Unionৰ সভা সংখ্যা ভালদৰে বিবেচনা কৰি চাব লাগে। যদিহে Unionৰ সভা সংখ্যা অতি কম হয় বা শ্ৰমিকৰ প্ৰতিনিধিত্ব খুব কম হয়, তেনেকুৱা Union ক স্বীকৃতি দিব নালাগে আৰু বেজিষ্টাৰো কৰিব নালাগে। অৱশ্যে এইটো ঠিক যে যদি কোনো Industry বা কোনো ব্যৱসায়ত এটা Union গঠন কৰা হয় আৰু সেই Union যদি চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ Union হয় তেন্তে তাক স্বীকৃতি দিবই লাগে। চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীৰ Union হলেও যেনে State Transport P. W. D. বা আন কোনো স্কুলৰ Union হৈছে তেনেকুৱা যিবিলাক Union ক স্বীকৃতি দিয়া নাই সেই বিলাক স্বীকৃতি দিব লাগে। এনেকুৱা বহুতো অনুষ্ঠান আছে যিবিলাকক Conciliation লৈ যোৱাটো চৰকাৰে বন্ধ কৰিছে। তেনেকৈ বন্ধ নকৰি কোনো প্ৰশ্নৰ নীমাংসা নহলে সেইবিলাক বিবাদ Tribunal লৈ যাবলৈ সুবিধা দিব লাগে।

ইয়াৰ পিচত এটা বিশেষ কথা আছে যে চা'বাগিচা বিলাকত যি বিলাক Surplus মজদুৰ আছে আৰু যিবিলাকক Retrench কৰা হৈছে সেই বিলাকক সংস্থাপন কৰা সম্পৰ্কে মই মাননীয় ৰাজ্যপালৰ ভাষণৰ আলোচনা প্ৰসঙ্গত কৈছিলো যে চৰকাৰ আৰু ইউনিয়ন বিলাকৰ সহযোগত এই কাম কৰিব পাৰি। কাৰণ এতিয়া যি বিলাক নিবনুৱা মানুহ আছে আৰু বাহিৰৰ পৰা যি বিলাক মানুহ আনে তাৰ সংখ্যা কটাকট কৰি চৰকাৰ আৰু ইউনিয়ন উভয়ে বনুৱাক কাম দিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিলে বাহিৰৰ পৰা অনা বনুৱাৰ সংখ্যা কমি যাব আৰু আমাৰ ইয়াত থকা মানুহেই কাম পাবলৈ সক্ষম হ'ব। আজি আমাৰ এনে অৱস্থা হৈছে যে আমি আমাৰ মানুহক চাহ বাগানত কাম কৰিবলৈ বুজাব লাগিব। অকল সেয়ে নহয় চাহ বাগিচাৰ মালিক আৰু কোম্পানী বিলাককো এই কথাত ৰাজী হ'বলৈ ক'ব লাগিব। কাৰণ তেনে নকৰিলে চাহ মালিক আৰু কোম্পানী বিলাকে ইয়াৰ ঠলুৱা মানুহ নলব আৰু বাহিৰৰ পৰা অহা বনুৱাৰ সোত চলি থাকিব। এই বিষয়ে মোৰ অভিজ্ঞতা আছে আৰু মই নিজেই এইদৰে ঠলুৱা মানুহক বাগিচাত কাম দিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিও দিয়াৰ নোৱাৰিলো। সেই কাৰণে এই ক্ষেত্ৰত মালিক আৰু কোম্পানীৰো সহযোগীতা আমি বিচাৰো। এখন চাহ বাগিচাৰ ওচৰে পাজৰে বহুতো কাম নাইকিয়া মানুহ থাকে। আজি কালি বেতন বৃদ্ধিৰ লগে লগে, আগেয়ে কাম নকৰা মানুহেও বাগিচাত কাম কৰিবলৈ ইচ্ছা কৰিছে। যোৱাটোত প্ৰায় এহেজাৰ অসমীয়া মানুহ আজি চাহ বাগানত মজুৰ কাম কৰি আছে; গোলাঘাটৰ চাহ বাগিচাত মিকিৰ ভাই সকলৰ বহুতো কাম কৰে। এই সময়তে যদি নিবনুৱা মানুহ বিলাকক বাগানত সোমাই যাবলৈ উদগনি দি মানুহৰ মাজত প্ৰচাৰ অভিযান চলোৱা যায় তেনেহলে মোৰ বিশ্বাস আমাৰ মানুহ বাগানৰ কামলৈ ওলাব আৰু বাহিৰৰ পৰা অহা বনুৱাৰ সংখ্যা কমি যাব। T. D. L. A. ৰ জৰিয়তে এই প্ৰচেষ্টা চলিছিল প্ৰায় তিনি বছৰ, কিন্তু এটা পঞ্চম বাহিনীৰ প্ৰবোচনাত পৰি এই কাম বন্ধ হৈ গৈছে আৰু এতিয়া কেৱল চৰকাৰৰ Employment Exchange ৰ বাহিৰে আৰু আন অনুষ্ঠান নাই। T. D. L. A. আৰু চৰকাৰৰ Employment Exchange ৰ মাজত এয়ে পাৰ্থক্য যে T. D. L. A. ই মজদুৰক কাম দিয়াৰ লগতে টকাও দিয়ে কিন্তু Employment Exchange এ টকা দিব নোৱাৰে সেই কাৰণে T. D. L. A. ৰ নিচিনা অনুষ্ঠান প্ৰয়োজন আছে। ইয়াকে মই সময়ৰ অভাৱত কৈ ২৭ নং প্ৰাণ্টৰ মঞ্জুৰী বিচৰা মূল প্ৰস্তাবটোৰ সমন্বয় জনাও।

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): Sir, I think Mr. Barthakur has struck a right note that the function of the Trade Union in modern society is not

confined merely to settling accounts between the employers and the workers. It has in modern society become one of the most important and potent forces of dynamic progress not merely for the working class but for the society as a whole. The quicker in our country, the employers and the Government realise this, the better for all concerned. But unfortunately in our society there are employers even to-day who regard Trade Union Movement as a necessary evil. Until this mentality goes, I have no doubt, the stress and strain and conflict between the two groups of society—the workers and the employers—will remain. But there is a bright side of the picture. There are many employers in India, in Assam who have accepted Trade Union as a necessary part of industrial society, and therefore they do not feel it beneath their dignity to discuss and come to terms with the workers and their representatives and it is a good sign because in many ways what might have developed into a tremendous conflict between the workers and employers have been stayed and the society has taken a better turn *viz*: resolving conflict by negotiation, arbitration and conciliation. Now I come straightway to the difficulties which we are facing with regard to this new arm of our society *viz*: negotiation, arbitration and conciliation. We have said that to some extent the purpose has been fulfilled, because you will remember that when this new machinery was evolved the society was undergoing some hardship through the conflict between the workers and the employers. The working class was not well organised and the employers were organised. It was an unequal battle as out of the 100 strikes which used to take place nearly 60 per cent used to fail and when strikes failed the working class was reduced to ashes and so suffering was great. When the Government came to power the first thing they did was to oppose the legislation so that some support might be given to this unequal battle between the working class and the employers. For this reason legislation was passed for conciliation, failing conciliation, arbitration or tribunal. It has worked not miracle, but halting success came to the society and to-day inspite of the fact that it has caused great mental agony the pending cases between the workers and employers have brought about some relation and a staying power on the basis of which the workers organisations have grown from strength to strength. Today many of the working class organisations are capable of shouldering responsibilities which they were not before. Now, what the future will show I do not know. Much will depend on my Friend, Mr. Borthakur and others, who are on the opposite side, because society is a composite whole. One side alone cannot deliver the goods. It is the interaction of forces and

parties that produces result in the society. Therefore, if the opposition leaders are well advised and lead the working class in the right way and employers do the same I have no doubt that a fair portion of the machinery which we have created for industrial dispute will continue to succeed. The difficulty is that inspite of the tribunal we have not been able to rule out the jurisdiction of High Court, the Supreme Court and the result is that every employer through these Courts gets a substantial judgment in his favour.

It is not known under the existing circumstances whether such a jurisdiction can be ruled out. From practical point of view also people think that it would not be wise to rule out. Therefore no ruling out has been done and therefore delay continues. But it will be remembered that the Industrial Dispute Act was amended recently by Parliament and the result has been that we have been able to set up Industrial Tribunal and Industrial Courts. With these new alignment of industrial judiciary, the situation it is hoped will improve. The number of cases pending are very few. I am advised that so far as the tribunal is concerned 29 cases, new and old, are pending. So far as the Labour Court is concerned, 36 cases, new and old, are pending. Therefore, I have a feeling that in the new set up things will change.

Now, the question which was raised by Mr. Ranendra Mohan Das was with regard to retrenched labour. I think he referred to retrenched labour in 1952, when nearly 50,000 were out of employment. It was a serious crisis. So far as Assam Valley is concerned the crisis was not so serious as most of them were taken back. But as far as Cachar District was concerned it is an uneconomical area and so such a situation happened and the cases are going on. I understand from Mr. Chetia, Deputy Minister, who seems to be better informed in this matter than myself, that recently their cases have been referred to the Tribunal. I hope the decision would be arrived at. The Government of India passed a legislation that for retrenchment there shall be a compensation. Now, how far these workers are entitled to compensation I do not know. It is for the Tribunal to decide. I hope that something will be done so far future retrenchment is concerned. According to the legislation before closing an industry compensation will have to be given to the workers and that will base on the number of years of service put in and as such any employer who wants to close his industry will have to think twice before he closes.

The question of contractors' labour has been raised. I myself have been an advocate against contractors' labour and it is through our intermediation two years ago that there was a conciliation with the Steamer Companies whereby the Steamer Companies ultimately agreed to take the handling labour in direct employment. At that time a committee was set up and that Committee has not yet completed its labour. I think Mr. Bordoloi is a Member of that Committee. (*A voice*: Yes.) This Committee has perhaps completed their labour long ago. So, I think now this abolition of contract labour so far as Steamer Companies are concerned will be brought about. So far as Assam Valley is concerned, I understand it has already been brought about. If Karimganj has been left out it is unfortunate. It should be included.

A question has been raised that Government is partial to Indian National Trade Union Congress. I was a member myself of the Indian National Trade Union Congress. If the hon. Member begins to doubt me then I am helpless, but I hope that doubt will not begin simply because of my past affiliation. After joining the Cabinet I will not carry on that affiliation to the extent that leads to partiality. If I did, then I would not be worth the salt. I hope I would try to ride above board.

A question about compulsory recognition was raised. Whether we can have legislation for compulsory recognition is rather difficult to say. Last time in the Planning Commission there was a discussion and all the Trade Union organisations of India were present and we were not able to come to a concrete conclusion as whether there should be compulsory recognition. The example of America was cited whether there was such a compulsory recognition. The stock example cited is that workers' representatives came and the employers representative shook hands with him and asked, "How do you do, sit down, alright, goodbye".

Now such a recognition would hardly serve our purpose. The point is industrial relations are not a formal affair; they are a relation of minds. Unless the relation of minds grows no other relation generally bears fruit and, therefore, Sir, it is not negotiations which succeed but strikes which come and fail or succeed. Therefore, Sir, instead of focussing our attention on compulsory recognition, I think it would be wise, at least until the All-India organisations come to an agreed solution on this matter, to continue to think in terms of scientific

trade union movement, so that the employers may be forced to recognise us, not because of legislative provision but because of our inherent strength.

Then, Sir, regarding victimisation and standing orders, it has been said that standing orders are defective. If they are, they should be looked into and something done. We do not countenance victimisation and if employers practise victimisation, the workers will find us on their side.

Now, with regard to agreement, it has been said, "Oh, what is this Government? It must be week-kneed. It has submitted to the Tea Industry and, therefore, although there is a tribunal decision about rice cut compensation, individual employers are shirking the same. How do they dare?" About rice cut compensation, Sir, so far as I have ascertained from the General Secretary of the Indian National Trade Union Congress, Assam who is a specialist in this line, the question is something more difficult than what appears on the surface and for sometime he also has been thinking in terms of coming to an agreement with the industry on the question of rice cut compensation. You will remember, Sir, sometimes tribunals give awards, which are impracticable to implement. Recently a tribunal in Madras gave an award, which could not be implemented even if the entire invested capital of the tea industry was paid out. Even the labour leaders, who met me in Delhi, told me that they were willing to have a compromise. Sir, I do not know what is the real position regarding rice cut compensation, but I have no doubt that the labour leaders and the tea management in Assam, who are reasonable, will do the right thing at the right time. I understand that many of the employers have already made provision in their current budgets for the purpose of paying at least the first instalment of rice cut compensation and in many cases money is being paid.

With regard to the trade union movement and collective bargaining, I have already replied to the points raised. Now, coming to Mr. Bardoloi's point, viz., representative unions, it will be remembered that when Shri Jagjivan Ram was the Labour Minister in the Central Cabinet he brought a legislation for representative trade unions. Ultimately the elections came and the Bill lapsed and it was not revived because now the trade union leaders have begun to think otherwise. Many people do not think now that any law is necessary and it is because of this divided opinion that legislation for representative trade union has been dropped. Now, I fully realise the fear expressed by hon. Members that seven persons can combine, form a union, have it registered and then try to break up well-established unions. This is surely very unsatisfactory.

Because our country is in a formative stage, these things happen. But as the country develops and trade union movement comes to stay, there is a tendency for small unions to give place to big and big unions to give place to industrial unions. The Western World has developed so far because of its trade union movement, which has gradually evolved into industrial trade union movement; instead of being based on craft or factory unions. If it is based on industries you can have a proper study of the industrial economics on the basis of which you can make your demand. When it is so made the employers find it very difficult to resist. I have found that the trade union leaders are often better informed about economics of industries for which they work than even the employers and this itself has made the trade union leaders better bargainers than even the employers. It is from this that the progress in West came and it is from this that the progress of East is to come. Therefore, I think although legislatively we may provide for representative unions, yet it would be necessary for our trade union movement to grow on healthy lines, shorn of fissiparous tendencies not to bolster up the small dwindling units but replacing them with big industrial units irrespective of party politics, so that the strong units may have more bargaining power and strength, on the basis of which the unions as well as the society will grow.

With regard to recognition, my Friend has suggested that as about one-fifth membership is necessary for recognition, many of the Indian National Trade Union Congress Unions have not got recognition from the Indian Tea Association. That is true. Gradually the minimum requirements for recognition should be fulfilled and effort should be made to get recognition so that a mutual relation is set up between the employers and the workers.

Now, Sir, a point was made with regard to Transport and Public Works Department Workers' Unions. The Minister for Transport and Public Works Department is here and I do not know what he will say. But as Labour Minister and a labour leader, I feel that the working classes in the Transport and Public Works Department should be permitted to organise. I do not believe that organisations of workers are directed against discipline, although indirectly a situation may arise where discipline may be affected. But the point is if you have a responsible trade union movement it will be of more assistance to the management and from this point of view I feel that the Government departments should not look askance at trade union movement but rather accept it as the order of the day.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North) : On a point of information, Sir, may I know whether the Transport Department has not objected to it?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) : I don't know, but the Department has so many facets and which of the facets stands in the way is unknown to me.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport) : The matter is being examined.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : So, we might hold our patience.

Now lastly with regard to T.D.L.A. and retrenchment—the question which was raised by my Friend, Shri Bordoloi. Well in 1952 when we came to learn that so many people were unemployed in our State, we naturally moved that recruitment from outside the State should be stopped, and the T.D.L.A. machinery should be geared on to internal recruitment, and as a result of our efforts it was so geared on. In the beginning workers were given Rs. 50 p. m. as rehabilitation allowance. Afterwards, this was raised to Rs. 60 and ultimately some more recruitments inside the border was made. But somehow or other, I have a feeling that it was not pursued in right manner, and therefore the number of people so recruited, could not meet the requirement. Ultimately the Industry moved the Government for permission to recruitment of 5,000 labour from outside. That was allowed. Then again, another recruitment had to be permitted. With the passing of time, the Industry claimed that there were no labourers available inside. But now the Chairman, Indian Tea Association had made a statement that the population in the tea gardens is growing very fast, so that no employment can be given therefore it was very necessary for something to be done. It is therefore natural that internal unemployment will also grow. The point made by Shri Bordoloi is that T.D.L.A. machinery should be geared on for internal recruitment. It is wise to switch on to internal recruitment, or else many of our people in tea gardens will remain idle.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House to sit for half an hour more?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) : Half an hour will not be sufficient, Sir.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) : Then there should be guillotine, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Under the rules, guillotine is permissible only on the last day of the Assembly.

(Voices—Yes, yes, we can sit for half an hour.)

The House then extends up to 5 P.M. to day. Yes, Mr. Tripathi may now speak.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour): I have practically finished, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then Mr. Das, what do you propose to do with your Cut Motion? Do you propose to withdraw?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS (Karimganj-North): Yes, Sir.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs.8,98,700 (Rupees eight lakhs, ninety eight thousand and seven hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "47-Miscellaneous Departments."

(The Motion was adopted).

GRANT No.23

(42-Co-operation—I—Co-operative Societies)

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY: (Minister, Co-operative): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.27,46,900, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "42-Co-operation—I—Co-operative Societies".

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.27,46,900, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1958 for the administration of the head "42—Co-operation—1—Co-operative Societies".

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.27,46,900 under Grant No.23, major head 42—Co-operation—1—Co-operative Societies, at page 348 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.27,46,900 do stand reduced by Re.1.

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, চৰকাৰে যেতিয়া বাইজৰ পৰা টকা সংগ্ৰহ কৰিব লগা হয়, তেতিয়া খুব ভাল ভাল কথা কয়। হব, নাহে নাহে আগবাঢ়ি আহিছোঁহঁক। এইদৰে দৰিদ্ৰ জন-সাধাৰণক আশা দি টকা লৈ যায়। সমবায়ৰ সংখ্যা খুব বাঢ়িছে আৰু বহুত টকাও খটাইছে। ১৯৫৫ চনত কলে—“The co-operative movement has made considerable progress during a half century”. আকৌ ১৯৫৬ চনৰ “The Assam Co-operative” news bulletin ত কলে “The Co-operative movement during the past 50 years has not been able to wake any appreciable success”. It is self contradictory. এইদৰে জনসাধাৰণক চৰকাৰে দোষোৰমোষোত পেলাইছে। সমবায় অনুষ্ঠান হৈছে এনেকুৱা, ধৰক—‘আমি আটায়ে মিলি এখন চকি সাজিছো আৰু সেই চকিখন বেচি লাভৰ অংশ আমি পৰিশ্ৰম অনুপাতে ভগাই ল’ম’। কিন্তু চৰকাৰে সমবায় বুলি কোম্পানী খুলিছে যেনে—Co-operative Sugar Mill. তাৰ অংশ বিক্ৰী কৰিছে শিৱসাগৰ, ডিব্ৰুগড় আৰু গৌহাটীত। এই কোম্পানীত মানুহ নিয়োগ কৰি কাম কৰাব আৰু লাভৰ অংশ ভগাই লব অংশীদাৰসকলে। এতিয়া সমবায় আৰু কোম্পানীৰ পাৰ্থক্য কি বুজাই টান হৈছে। এই প্ৰসঙ্গত মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰীয়ে কৈছে যে তেওঁলোকে Co-operative Commonwealth কৰিব খুজিছে।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you object to that?

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: ভাল কথা, বৰ সুন্দৰ কথা। কিন্তু সেইটো ধনীৰহে Commonwealth হব। যদি Commonwealth কৰাটোৱেই প্ৰকৃত উদ্দেশ্য তেন্তে ইয়াক একেবাৰে তলখাপৰ লোকৰ পৰা আৰম্ভ কৰিব লাগে।

বৰ্তমান আটাইতকৈ ডাঙৰ সমস্যা হৈছে অনু সমস্যা। কালিৰ বাতৰি কাগজত দেখিবলৈ পাইছে যে মিকিৰ পাহাৰ জিলাৰ ডিফু অঞ্চলত প্ৰায় দহ হেজাৰ লোক দুৰ্ভিক্ষৰ সন্মুখীন হৈছে। তেওঁলোকে গছৰ শিপা আৰু বাঁহৰ গাজ খাই জীৱন ধাৰণ কৰিব লগা হৈছে। সেইকাৰণে মই ক’ও যে, অনু সংস্থানৰ বাবে সমবায় কৰিব লাগে। য’ত মাটি আছে তাতে মাটিহীন কৃষকলৈ Co-operative farming সমবায় কৰিব লাগে। অসমত মাটি নাই বুলি কয়। এইটো বৰ আচৰিত কথা। এতিয়াও কত হেজাৰ একৰ

মাটি পৰি আছে। সেই মাটিত সমবায় ভিত্তিত খেতি কৰি যি ফচল পাব তাক পৰিশ্ৰম অনুপাতে ভগাই লব, নাইবা মাটিৰ পৰিমাণ অনুপাতেও ফচল ভগাই লব পাৰে। সমবায় ভিত্তিত খেতি কৰিবৰ বাবে যদি জনসাধাৰণক আগ বঢ়াই আনিব নোৱাৰে তেনেহলে তেওঁলোকৰ উন্নতি কেতিয়াও হব নোৱাৰে। জনসাধাৰণৰ উন্নতিৰ বাবে সমবায় হৈছে একমাত্র উপায়। জনসাধাৰণক সমবায়ত উৎসাহ যোগাব পৰা নাই বাবেই আজি Co-operative সমবায় কৃতকাৰ্য্য হব পৰা নাই। দুখীয়া ৰাইজে মাটি মাটি কৰি হাহাকাৰ কৰিছে। তেওঁলোকক সমবায়ত লগাব পাৰিলে ৰাইজৰ বৰ উপকাৰ হব।

আজি সকলোৱে চৰকাৰক অযোগ্য বুলি কয়। নকৰ কিয়? ১৯৪৭-৪৮ চনতে দেৱলীয়া হোৱা সমবায় অনুষ্ঠানবোৰৰ অংশীদাৰে আজিও অংশৰ টকা পোৱানাই। যেনে নামতি, আমগুৰি, চাৰিং ইত্যাদি। মই জনাত শতকৰা ৯৯ জনে এই টকা পোৱা নাই। এইটো অযোগ্যতাৰ চিন নহয় আৰু কি? গতিকে মই চৰকাৰক কওঁ যে সঁচাকৈ যদি সমবায় কৰিব খুজিছে তেনেহলে একে বাবে নিম্ন খাপৰ পৰা আৰম্ভ কৰা উচিত। সমবায় কৃষি ফলিৰ যোগেদি জনসাধাৰণক লগলগাই এই অনুষ্ঠানটো গঢ়ি আনিলেহে সফল হব পাৰিব। নহলে আকৌ ধনীৰ হাততে পৰিব।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.27,46,900 under Grant No.23, major head 42.—Co-operation—I—Co-operative Societies, at page 348 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.27,46,900 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari West): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য শ্ৰীখণ্ডেন্দ্ৰ নাথ বৰবৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো কৰ্ত্তব্য প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে মই সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সৰ্বসন্মতিকৰণে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। কো-অপাৰেটিভ যিটো মূল বিষয় বস্তু সেই সম্বন্ধে স্বীকাৰ কৰিব লাগিব যে তাৰ মূল লক্ষ্য হৈছে সঁচাকৈয়ে দেশৰ আৰু সমাজৰ মঙ্গল সাধন। কিন্তু আমাৰ দেশত যি কো-অপাৰেটিভ আন্দোলন চলিছে আৰু তাৰ ওপৰত ভিত্তি কৰি যি বিলাক কো-অপাৰেটিভ Society গঢ়ি উঠিছে সেই বিলাকৰ অৱস্থা দুখজনক। কো-অপাৰেটিভ আন্দোলনৰ যিটো লক্ষ্য তাৰ লগত যেন এটা সংঘৰ্ষৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে যাৰ ফলত বেচি ভাগ জনসাধাৰণৰ মনত কো-অপাৰেটিভ Societyৰ প্ৰতি এটা বিৰোধ মনোভাৱৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে কব পাৰোঁ যে খেতিয়ক সকলক ধাৰৰ পৰা বেহাই দিবৰ উদ্দেশ্যে কো-অপাৰেটিভ Society কৰা হয় আৰু তাৰ পৰা টকা ধাৰ দিয়া হয়; কিন্তু মই নিজে জানোঁ যে যেতিয়া দুখীয়া খেতিয়কে ধাৰ বিচাৰি আছে তেতিয়া ধাৰৰ টকা পাবলৈ কম পক্ষেও ছনাহৰ ওপৰ লাগে আৰু সেই উকা পাবলৈ অহাযোৱা কৰোতে কৰোতেই আধাৰো বেচি টকা খৰচ হৈ নাইকিয়া হয়। আনহাতে আমি দেখিবলৈ পাইছো বহুতো ঠাইত কো-অপাৰেটিভ Society কৰিছে হয়, কিন্তু Societyৰ কৰ্ম কৰ্ত্তা সকল কংগ্ৰেছ দলৰ লোক হোৱাৰ কাৰণে সেই Societyৰ ভিতৰত যিবিলাক গলদ হয় সেই গলদ সম্বন্ধে বিভাগীয় কৰ্ত্তা সকলক কলেও কোনো সুবিচাৰ নহয় অৱশ্যে সকলো কংগ্ৰেছৰ লোকেই যে এনেকুৱা কৰিছে সেইটো মই কোৱা নাই। মই নিজ অভিজ্ঞতাৰ পৰা কব পাৰোঁ যে আমাৰ বাহজানিত এখন কো-অপাৰেটিভ Society হৈছিল আৰু তাৰ নিমিত্তে ৰাইজে বহুত টকা সংগ্ৰহ কৰিছিল; কিন্তু কৰ্ম-কাৰ্ত্তা সকলে তিনি হাজাৰৰ ওপৰ টকা খাই পেলালে। এই সম্বন্ধে ওপৰলৈ লিখা হৈছিল, কিন্তু আজিলৈকে তাৰ সুবিচাৰ নহল। এনেবিলাক ঘটনাৰ ফলতেই কো-অপাৰেটিভ Societyৰ ওপৰত জনসাধাৰণৰ মনত বিৰোধ ভাবৰ সৃষ্টি হৈছে।

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH (Teok) : তেখেতে যে কংগ্ৰেছৰ মানুহক দোষ দিছে, তেখেতৰ পৰা মই জানিব খজিছোঁ যে Communist, Socialist বা আন কোনো পাৰ্টিয়ে কো-অপাৰেটিভ Society কৰিছেনে ?

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari--West) : কংগ্ৰেছ নেতৃত্বৰ জৰিয়তে যিবিলাক কো-অপাৰেটিভ Society গঠিত হৈছে তাক নিজ চকুৰে দেখি মোৰ যি অভিজ্ঞতা হৈছে তাৰ পৰাই মই কৈছোঁ। অৱশ্যে অসমত Communist, Socialist বা আন কোনো পাৰ্টিয়ে যদি কিবা Society গঠন কৰিছে তাৰ খবৰ চৰকাৰী অফিচৰ পৰাই পাব।

আৰু এটা কথা হৈছে এই যে কো-অপাৰেটিভলৈ বুলি বহুতে চৰকাৰী ধন নিছে আৰু সেই ধন ৰাজহুৱা কামৰ নামত নি বহুতে ঠিকা আদি কৰি ধন ঘটিছে। সেই বিলাক কথা চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টিলৈ অনা স্বত্বেও কোনো সন্নিবিষ্ট হোৱা নাই। মই জনাব ভিতৰত Marketing Society, Hand Pounding Society আদিত বহুতো টকা অপব্যয় হৈছে। এনেকুৱা অখলোভী মানুহৰ কৰ্মৰ ফলত সৰ্ব সাধাৰণ ৰাইজে উপকাৰ নোপোৱা হৈছে আৰু কো-অপাৰেটিভৰ যিটো মূল উদ্দেশ্য সেইটো ভাঙি গৈছে। সেই কাৰণে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ যেন তেওঁবিলাকে এই বিলাক কথাটো লক্ষ্য কৰে।

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH : বৰবৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উত্থাপন কৰিছে মই তাৰ ঘোৰ প্ৰতিবাদ কৰোঁ। মই প্ৰতিবাদ কৰিছোঁ এই কাৰণে যে মাননীয় সদস্য জনে কো-অপাৰেটিভৰ যিটো definition দিছে সেইটো মই ভালকৈ বুজিব পৰা নাই।

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBORUAH (Amguri) : কো-অপাৰেটিভ আৰু কোম্পানীৰ পাৰ্থক্য কি তাক ময়ো বুজি পোৱা নাই।

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH : আৰু এটা কথা হৈছে এই যে আমাৰ ডেকা ডাঙৰীয়াই কংগ্ৰেছী লোক সকলৰ ওপৰত এটা অপবাদ দি কো-অপাৰেটিভৰ বিৰুদ্ধে কথা কৈছে।

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA : গোটেই বিলাক কংগ্ৰেছী মানুহৰ কথা কোৱা নাই।

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH : গোটেই বিলাকৰ কথা কোৱা নাই যদি ধন্যবাদ দিছোঁ। দুই এটা ক্ষেত্ৰত তেনেকুৱা হ'ব পাৰে; কিন্তু মই ভাঙি ক'ব পাৰোঁ যে সকলোক্ষেত্ৰতে তেনেকুৱা হোৱা নাই। প্ৰজা ছিইয়েলিষ্ট বা কমিউনিষ্ট যদি কো-অপাৰেটিভ গঠন কৰি গভৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ পৰা কোনো সহায় পোৱা নাই তেনেহলে সেইটো কবলগীয়া কথা। মই জনাত Party line ত কোনো কো-অপাৰেটিভ গঠন কৰা হোৱা নাই ৰাজহুৱা হিচাপেহে গঠন কৰা হৈছে।

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA : দলীয় ভিত্তিত আমি কো-অপাৰেটিভ গঠন কৰা নাই।

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH : তেখেতৰ মতে কংগ্ৰেছী মানুহে কো-অপাৰেটিভ গঠন কৰিলে গভৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ সহায় পায় আৰু তেওঁবিলাকে টকা খাই পেলায়। এই কথাৰ উত্তৰত মই কওঁ যে দুইচাৰিজন কংগ্ৰেছী মানুহৰ কাৰণে সকলো কংগ্ৰেছী মানুহক অপবাদ দিয়া কথা ঠিক নহয়।

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) :

माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय,

माननीय सदस्य श्रीवरवरवाजी ने सदनमें जो कर्त्तन प्रस्ताव रखा है, उसके समर्थन में दो चार शब्द बोलने के लिये मैं खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

चाय बगानों के श्रमिक भाइयों की और विशेषकर छांटे हुए श्रमिकों की और हमारी सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ और इसीमें अपना भाषण सीमित रखना चाहता हूँ।

सन १९५२ में जब चाय शिल्पके इतिहासमें सबसे बड़ा संकट उपस्थित हुआ था और हजारों की संख्यामें हमारी गरीब श्रमिक छांटे गये थे तब हमने उनकी समस्या का समाधान करने के लिये उनके बीच Co-operative movement शुरू किया था। श्रमिकों की रोटी और रोजी की इस विकट समस्या का समाधान करने में Co-operative के बड़ी सहायता पहुंच सकती थी। इसी उद्देश्य से हमने इसके लिये बड़ी कोशिश की थी।

हमारे पास समय बहुत कम है इसलिये मैं इस विषय पर संक्षेपमें प्रकाश डालना चाहता हूँ। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमने चाय श्रमिकोंमें एक सहकारी समिति Co-operative society की स्थापना की थी।

“The Board expresses its great concern at the present crisis in the tea industry as a result of which a large number of labourers have been retrenched and are facing starvation. It is feared that in future some more labourers might have to be retrenched to put the Cachar Industry on economic footing. The Board has given a very serious thought to this question and feels that if these people are not engaged elsewhere this will be a very difficult and baffling problem to the Government. With a view to give relief to these labourers by providing them with full or part time jobs the Board recommends to the Executive Committee of the Society to start on co-operative basis cottage industry like paper for which there is a good scope in this part of the country.”

(The time limit bell rings and the hon. Member resumed his seat.)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : How long will the hon'ble Minister take to reply ?

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operative) : About half an hour, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Then we can take up the next day. I will allow some other Members to speak. I hope that the hon. Member will conclude his speech in a minute.

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर १ ही मिनटमें बोलना है तो उससे बेहतर है कि यहीं मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त कर दूँ क्योंकि १ मिनटमें मैं कुछ नहीं बोल सकूँगा।

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergoan): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, সমবায় বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই—যিটো প্ৰস্তাব কৰিছে তাক মই সমৰ্থন কৰিবলৈ ঠিয় হৈছোঁ। সমবায় আন্দোলনৰ যোগেদি খেতিয়ক সকলৰ অৱস্থা টনকিয়াল কৰিব পৰা হয় আৰু এই আন্দোলনটোৰ যোগেদি আজি মানুহ সংগঠিত হৈ ইয়াৰ উপকাৰীতা বুজি আহিছে।

শ্ৰীযুত বৰবৰুৱাই, সমবায় চেণা কলটোৰ কথা সমালোচনা কৰিছে মই কওঁ এই সম্বন্ধীয় যি নীতি সেই নীতি অনুযায়ী Grower সকলৰ সুযোগ সুবিধা অটুত ৰখা হৈছে আৰু এই Grower সকলক ইয়াৰ অংশ কিনিবলৈ দিয়া হৈছে, তাৰ পিচত এই কলৰ যি লাভ হব তাৰ উচিত অংশ এই Grower অংশীদাৰ সকলেও পাব।

(Disturbances)

এইয়ে সমবায় ভেটিত চেণীৰ কলটো প্ৰতিস্থিতি হৈছে তাৰ দ্বাৰাই গোটেই অঞ্চলটোৰ পাৰিপাশ্ৰিক অৱস্থা উন্নত কৰি তুলিব আৰু বৰ্তমানে এই মিলৰ কাৰণে, তাৰ আশে পাশে ৫/৬ খন কুহিয়াৰ ফাৰ্ম গঢ়ি উঠিলেই। এইদৰে feeder অনুষ্ঠান বিলাক গঢ়ি উঠিবলৈ টকাৰ প্ৰয়োজন হৈ পৰিছে আৰু ইয়াৰ দাবী পূৰণ কৰিছে তাৰ লগত গঢ়ি উঠা Large Scaleৰ দাবী পূৰণ কৰিব পৰা Credit Society এ।

সমবায় আন্দোলনৰ দ্বাৰাই সেই অঞ্চলৰ মানুহ বিলাকৰ যথেষ্ট উন্নতি পৰিলক্ষিত হৈছে আৰু গাৱলীয়া জনসাধাৰণক ঋণ মুক্ত কৰাৰ প্ৰচেষ্টাত সমবায় আন্দোলনৰ প্ৰধান হৈ উঠিছে। কাৰণ মহাজন বিলাকে টকা ধাৰলৈ দিলে অতিৰিক্ত সুদ লয় আৰু জনসাধাৰণৰ অৱস্থা শোচনীয় কৰি তোলে। মহাজন বিলাকৰ এই ব্যৱসায়ৰ ঠাইত আজি শতকৰা ৮টকা হচাবে Co-operative Credit Society এ ধাৰ দিয়ে আৰু এই টকা চৰকাৰে পায় আৰু ইয়াৰ বিনিময়ে Society ক সহায় কৰে।

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): শতকৰা ৮ (আঠ) টকা হলেও চৰকাৰে লোৱা উচিত হৈছেনে?

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA : ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই আগৰ সুদখোৰ মহাজন সকলৰ হাতৰ পৰা আমাৰ গাৱলীয়া দৰিদ্ৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে ৰক্ষা পাইছে আৰু ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাইহে তেওঁবিলাকৰ আৰ্থিক আৰু সামাজিক উন্নতি হব। ইয়াকে কৈ মই সমবায় বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয় যি প্ৰস্তাব দাঙি ধৰিছে তাৰ সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ।

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA [Phulbari (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I must say that co-operative movement is most essential, but unfortunately due to lack of supervision most of the co-operative societies that have been already established die away soon. I will give one concrete instance, Sir. In the Garo Hills we have established one Central Trading Co-operative Society; it

was functioning very successfully. When I was a member of the Administrative Council of the Assam Apex Bank, I was informed by the Assam Apex Bank, that the Bank would be pleased to finance this co-operative society for taking up profitable business. But unfortunately due to mismanagement of some one that particular society collapsed, if I remember correct, in the year 1951 and now it is 1957 but no proper enquiry has been made into the affairs of this particular society which, as I have stated, was flourishing very well. I remember that at that time it earned a profit of Rs.75 thousand from cotton alone because the monopoly marketing of cotton was given to this society, we did not invest a single pie but simply engaged Marwari exporters to buy cotton on our behalf and we charged a commission of Rs.3 per maund—after deducting Rs.2 for payment to our representatives, and other contingency charges we could get a clear profit of Re.1 per maund of cotton. So for 75,000 maunds of cotton we could earn Rs.75,000 clear profit. But the next year that very flourishing society collapsed and up till now, as I have already stated, no proper action has been taken to enquire how and why this society collapsed and no action was taken against the man who is responsible for this. As such, Sir, the co-operative movement has become very unpopular now in the Garo Hills.

I am afraid the Ginning Mill at Phulbari will also not be successful for this very same reason. When we approach people for purchase of shares they reply that “We have invested one thousand or two thousand rupees in your Central Trading Co-operative Society but that society has been liquidated and no proper action was taken against the person through whose negligence the society collapsed. So how can we invest more money now?” Sir, that is the reply of the people and that is why we are unable to get share money for this cotton ginning mill. The Deputy Commissioner is taking keen interest in this society and he has been doing his best to see that the society functions well. However, due to want of sufficient fund this society had to buy cotton on credit and when this society fail to clear its dues we lent a sum of Rs.25,000 or so from the Cotton Growers’ Association attached to Garo Hills District Council. This had to be because we could not get sufficient money from the people by way of share money. So unless and until some serious action is taken against the man who was responsible for the collapse of the said Central Trading Co-operative Society in Garo Hills through

his negligence, I am sure such movement will fail in the Garo Hills.

Sir, we all appreciate the importance of co-operative movement and as such we should see to their proper supervision. It is only through co-operative societies that we can compete with the big merchants. So we must see that co-operative movement is successful so that we can benefit by it.

(The time limit bell rings and the hon. Member resumed his seat.)

The Hon'ble Minister will give his reply on Monday for half an hour.

Announcement result of Election to the Minority Commission

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I adjourn the House I have great pleasure to inform the Members that the Government and Opposition Parties by mutual settlement have made election to the Assam Minority Commission uncontested by limiting the number of candidates according to the number of members to be elected. The following hon. Members are therefore declared elected—

1. Sri Mahadev Das, and
2. Maulavi Mahammad Idris.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Monday, the 24th June 1957.

SHILLONG:

The 17th January 1958. }

R. N. BARUA,

Secretary,
Legislative Assembly,
Assam.

A. G. P. (L. A.) No. 300/57—216—21-1-1958.

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