

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. 19

The 2nd July, 1957



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(Budget Session)

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**Proceedings of the First Session of the Assam Legislative
Assembly Assembled after the Second General Elec-
tion under the Sovereign Democratic Republican
Constitution of India**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong,
at 10 A. M. on Tuesday, the 2nd July, 1957.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B. A., LL. B., Speaker, in the
Chair, the nine Ministers, seven Deputy Ministers and fifty
Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Starred Question No. 44 standing in the name of
Shri Hareswar Goswami was not put on account of absence of
the hon. Questioner.

Number of Venture Colleges in Assam

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

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

- (a) How many venture colleges are there in the
State of Assam and when each college was
started ?
- (b) What action the Government is taking for these
colleges in respect of giving financial aid ?
- (c) Whether the Government is aware that the
North Lakhimpur college was started in
1952 and the people are running it with
their own resources with great difficulty for
the last Five Years ?
- (d) Whether the Government is aware that the said
college has sufficient number of poor and
Tribal students ?
- (e) Whether the Government is aware that the
college possesses one good building and a
good hostel for the Tribal students ?

- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Government has lately decided to give aid to this college with a non-recurring grant for its smooth running ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

45. (a)—Ten. The names and years of establishment of each college are as follows—

1. North Lakhimpur college in 1952.
2. D. C. Barua Girls' College at Jorhat in 1955.
3. Tinsukia College, in 1956.
4. Goalpara College in 1955.
5. Abhayapuri College in 1955.
6. Bajali College in 1955.
7. Pragjaotish College in 1954.
8. Mangaldai College

9. Union Christian College, Barapani.

} Dates are not known.

10. Shillong College in 1956.

(b)—Government is taking no action at present.

(c)—Yes. It appears from Records that the North Lakhimpur College was started in 1952 and it is being run by the people with their own resources.

(d)—Total enrolment in February, 1956 was 85; 20 per cent of whom were Tribal.

(e)—Yes, the college has a hostel building worth Rs.20,000 which was sanctioned by Government under Article 275 of the Constitution during the last two years for construction of a Tribal Hostel and according to the Principal's report this amount has been utilised for the purpose. Government have no definite information about the college being housed in a good building.

(f)—Reply to question (b) may be referred to.

***Shri RAJENDRA NATH BARUA** (Golaghat East): May I know whether the Deputy Minister mentioned the name of D. R. Gollege at Golaghat ?

***Shri PURNANDA CHETIA**: No, because that is an Aided College. This is a list of venture colleges.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰ কলেজৰ বিশেষকৈ জনজাতি আৰু পিচপৰা ছাত্ৰলৈ লক্ষ্য কৰি, চৰকাৰে বিশেষ ভাবে বিবেচনা কৰিবনে?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education:): চৰকাৰে বিবেচনা কৰিব।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: এই বিবেচনা এই বছৰতে পাম বুলি আশা কৰিব পাৰোনে?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: এই বছৰটোৰ কাৰণে বাজেট পাচ হৈ গল! গতিকেই আশা কৰিব নোৱাৰে।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: অহা বছৰত আশা কৰিব পাৰোনে?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: বিবেচনা কৰা হব।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DALEY: চৰকাৰে ২০ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰী ১৯৫০ ইং তাৰিখৰ E.M.I/45/50 নং চাৰ্কুলাৰ মৰ্মে এইডেড কলেজ আৰু এইডেড স্কুলৰ শিক্ষক সকলৰ ওপৰত ৰাজনীতিত যোগ নিদিবলৈ যি অধ্যাদেশ জাৰি কৰিছিল আৰু পুনৰ ১২ ফেব্ৰুৱাৰী ১৯৫৬ ইং তাৰিখে দিয়া শিক্ষা বিভাগৰ ডাইৰেক্টৰৰ চাৰ্কুলাৰ প্ৰত্যাহাৰ কৰিবনে?

Mr. SPEAKER: এই প্ৰশ্নৰ উত্তৰ দিব নেলাগে।

Shri RADHAKRISHNA KHEMKA (Tinsukia): তিনচুকীয়া কলেজক সাহায্য দিয়া সম্বন্ধে চৰকাৰে বিবেচনা কৰিবনে?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Education Minister): তিনচুকীয়া কলেজক মাটি এদৰা দিয়া হৈছে।

Settlement Officer, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*46. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state what tangible work has been done by the Settlement Officer there except earmarking the two plots of lands formerly belonging to Panitola High School for some other purpose and proposing settlement or exchange of Local Board land for a market to a Mill owner and Tea Planter?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

46.—Settlement Officer, Dibrugarh, has been appointed for doing the resettlement work of Dibrugarh town, Panitola town and Buridihing and Tirap mouzas of Lakhimpur district

The area under resettlement consists of 136 villages including the Panitola town. The resettlement operation is now in its initial stage and the Settlement Officer is doing the first phase of resettlement work namely—survey, record writing and classification. The survey, record writing and classification of Panitola town (which is considered as one village for the purpose of resettlement) has since been completed in July 1956. Settlement Officer is not doing these works in other villages under resettlement. Upto April, 1957, the Settlement Officer has completed survey, record writing and classification of 64 villages and he is trying to complete the first phase of resettlement operation as early as possible.

Shri DEBENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Morongi): May I know why the Settlement Officer suggested on 12th September 1956 to give the Local Board land meant for a bazar in Dag No.53 of Panitola to a millowner and tea planter?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): I cannot say why he gave the suggestion.

Shri DEBENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Morongi): May I know why that suggestion was approved by Government on 17th January 1957?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I cannot say off-hand. If it was approved, it must have been approved on merit.

Shri DEBENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: Will the Minister-in-charge please make an enquiry?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: I shall do it.

Establishment of a new Sub-Deputy Collector's Circle in Barpeta Subdivision

Shri SURENDRA NATH DAS (Patacharkuchi) asked:

*47. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a new Revenue Sub-Deputy Collector's Circle is proposed to be established in Barpeta Subdivision?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to locate the same at Sarupeta proper?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

47. (a)—The matter is under consideration.

(b)—Question of location will be decided when final decision is made.

(Starred Question No. 48 standing in the name of Shri Hareswar Goswami was not put on account of the absence of the hon. Questioner.)

Re : Grants to Co-operative Credit Societies in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*49. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any amount has been granted by Government to the Co-operative Credit Societies in Sibsagar Subdivision for the purpose of cattle loans during the current financial year and last year ?

(b) If so, what is the number of Credit Societies and the total amount sanctioned for cattle loan ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Co-operative) replied :

49. (a)—No. "Cattle loans" are issued by Government in the Revenue Department through Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers and are disbursed by the Revenue staff in the Districts. Co-operative Credit Societies are given loans by the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank, Ltd., from funds received from the Reserve Bank of India and also from their own funds. There is no specific loan termed "Cattle Loan" for issue to Co-operative Credit Societies. Medium-term Loans which are issued to Co-operative Credit Societies amongst other purposes are also meant for purchase of cattle by Agriculturists. Medium-term loan amounting to Rs.98,750 in the last year and amounting to Rs.80,000 up-till now in the current financial year has been issued to the Agriculturists in the Sibsagar Subdivision.

(b)—Total number of Credit Societies receiving such loan during last year is 16 and during the current financial year is 15 and loans granted for purchasing Cattle is Rs.69,520 and Rs.67,590, respectively.

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal): চিৰাপ সীমান্ত অঞ্চলত নগাঁসকলক লৈ যি ক্রেডিট চোচাইটি গঠন কৰা হৈছে সেইবোৰে টকা পাইছেনে ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister): নটিচ লাগে।

Mr. SPEAKER: এই প্ৰশ্নটো শিৱসাগৰৰ সনবাৱৰ বিষয়েহে আছিল।

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA: গোটেই অসমৰ কথা থাকিব লাগে।

Mr. SPEAKER: গোটেই অসমৰ কথা নেথাকে।

Re: Establishment of a Circle Office at Doom Dooma

Shri MOLIA TATI (Doom Dooma) asked:

*50. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government propose to open a Circle Office under a Sub-Deputy Collector at the Doom Dooma ?

(b) If so, from when it will be started ?

(c) If not, whether Government contemplate to open it ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

50. (a)—There is no proposal to open a Circle Office at Doomdooma.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—There is no such contemplation at present.

Shri MOLIA TATI: তিনচুকীয়া চাকৌলত সাতোটা ডাঙৰ মৌজা আছে আৰু সেই কাৰণে তাত স্বকলমে কাম নোহোৱা কথাটো চৰকাৰে জানেনে ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: ডাঙৰ চাকৌল ভাঙি দুই তিনটা সৰু চাকৌল কৰাটো চৰকাৰৰ নীতি। ডুমডুমাৰ কথা এতিয়া ভবা নাই যদিও তাকে ভাঙি সৰু কৰা হ'ব পাৰে।

Sri DEBENDRANATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): Does the Minister-in-charge know that a proposal was submitted by Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, suggesting for a Sub-Deputy Collector's Circle at Doom Dooma ?

Sri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): There is no such proposal at present.

Starred Question No.51 standing in the name of Maulana Abdul Jalil Choudhury was not put on account of the absence of the Questioner.

Subdivisional Officer (P. W. D.) Majuli

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

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

- (a) Whether he is aware that the Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department, Majuli Subdivision had lately taken leave for medical treatment ?
- (b) If so, how long he had taken leave and to whom he had given charge for functioning his office works ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the payment of contractors was held up during the period of Subdivisional Officer's absence from the Office ?

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

52. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Subdivisional Officer went on casual leave on the 7th May 1957, on medical grounds. As he went on casual leave, the question of handing over charge did not arise then. Subsequently, for medical treatment he had to extend his leave upto 5th June 1957, and he rejoined his duties on the 6th June 1957. On the 20th May 1957, Executive Engineer assumed charge of the Subdivision on receipt of his application for extension of leave.

(c)—There was some delay in payment of some bills during the absence of the Subdivisional Officer.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: Subdivisional Officer অনুপস্থিত থাকার সময়ত কোনে Charge লৈছিল ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: Executive Engineer এ charge লৈছিল। প্রথমে তেওঁ মাত্ৰ কেণদিন মানব হে Casual leave লৈছিল।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: Executive Engineer যোৰহাট টাউনত থাকে আৰু Subdivisional Officer ৰ Office আছে মাজুলীত। তেনেস্থলত Executive Engineer এ কেনেকৈ Charge লব পাৰিছিল ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.): এইটো অস্থায়ী ব্যৱস্থা অলপ কেই দিনৰ কাৰণে হে কৰা হৈছিল।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: এই অলপ দিনৰ ভিতৰতে যে Contractor বিলাকৰ অনেক অসুবিধা হৈছিল সেইটো চৰকাৰে জানেনে?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: সেই অসুবিধা হৈছিল যাত্ৰ কেইদিন মানৰ কাৰণে হে।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: সেই সময়ৰ ভিতৰতে Contractor এ Labour বিলাকক টকা দিব নোৱাৰি নানা বকমৰ জুলুম পাইছিল সেইটো চৰকাৰে জানেনে?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA: সেইটো চৰকাৰে নাজানে।

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the Table)

Objection against location of Country Liquor Shop at Melang Hatkhola in Holongapar Mauza

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katanigaon)
asked:

128. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any public objection has lately been received by Government regarding the location of the country liquor shop of Meleng Hatkhola in Holongapar Mauza?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to abolish that shop henceforth thus saving the younger generation from temptation of contacting the vice of drinking?

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Excise)
replied:

128. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The matter is being examined.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: Will the Minister please state why the shop has been shifted from the previous site?

Sri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Excise): It was so considered necessary.

Sri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): What was the consideration, Sir, may I know?

Sri CHATRA SING TERON: সেইটো মই এতিয়া কব নোৱাৰিম।

Sri SARBESWAR BARDOLLOI: May we know when the result of the consideration will be made known to us?

Sri CHATRA SING TERON: On public petition this has already been ordered for enquiry and when the report will be received, necessary action will be taken.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katanigaon): Do Government know that there are two country liquor shops within a radius of one mile?

Sri CHATRA SING TERON: We have no information.

Sri SARBESWAR BARDOLLOI: Is Government aware that the shop has been transferred from a lonely place to a densely populated area?

Sri CHATRA SING TERON: I have no information.

Dearness Allowance to Aided College Teachers

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA asked:

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

(a) Whether any dearness allowance has been granted to the aided college teachers?

(b) If not, whether there is any proposal for sanctioning the same?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Education) replied:

129. (a)—No, except to teachers of the Handique Girls' College.

(b)—A proposal is under consideration of Government.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katanigaon): Will the Minister please state why this discrimination has been made ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Education): The Handique Girl's College at one time was taken over by the Government as a Government Girls' College and when it was taken up all benefits given to the Government Colleges were also given to this College. Subsequently it was brought into the list of Aided Colleges. When it was brought into the list of Aided Colleges the benefits that were enjoyed were allowed to continue.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): How could it be first a Government College and then Aided ?

Sri MOTIRAM BORA: In response to public demands at that time.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA: Will Government introduce a cadre of Senior Professor of Assamese in aided College as recommended by Radhakrishnan Commission?

Sri MOTIRAM BORA: How does that arise ? We are dealing with dearness allowance.

Mr. SPEAKER: That will not arise.

Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools under the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Karimganj

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID CHAUDHURY (Karimganj-South) asked :

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

- (a) The number of Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools under the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Karimganj with their names ?
- (b) How long is each of them posted under him ?
- (c) Whether these officers are transferable ?
- (d) If so, whether Government proposed to transfer them ?
- (e) If not, why not ?

(f) The normal duration up to which such an officer is kept to a particular place without transfer ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

130. (a)—Sub-Inspectors :—

1. Shri Subodh Ranjan Choudhury.
2. Shri Surendra Ch. Deb.
3. Shri Pradyumna Kr. Dutta.

Assistant Sub-Inspectors :—

1. Shri Jajneswar Das.
2. Shri Binode Behari Roy.
3. Shri Nilamoni Singha.

(b)—Sub-Inspectors—from :—

1. 1952.
2. 1949.
3. 1951.

Assistant Sub-Inspectors—from :—

1. 1947.
2. 1948.
3. 1951.

(c)—The posts held by these officers are transferable posts.

(d)—Yes. According to exigencies of service.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—There is no time limit.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South): ইং ১৯৪৭ সাল হইতে আজপর্যন্ত এক একজন Assistant Sub-Inspector এক জায়গায় থাকা-খারাপ দেখা যায় নাকি ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education): সেটা matter of opinion.

Maulavi ABDUL HAMID CHOUDHURY (Karimganj-South): আমাদের State এ একরকম আরাও কোন instance আছে নাকি ?

Mr. SPEAKER: Whether there are other instances ?

Sri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Education): Yes.

Sri RADHIKARAM DAS (Palasbari): How long these inspecting officers can be kept at one place ? Is there any rule that they should be transferred every three years ?

Sri PURNANANDA CHETIA: There is no such rule.

Sri RADHIKARAM DAS: Will Government take steps to see that such rules are made for the transfer of these officers ?

Sri PURNANANDA CHETIA: Government do not consider it necessary to frame such rules.

Sri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): Do Government consider it necessary that the officers should be transferred when they remain at a particular place for a long period ?

Sri PURNANANDA CHETIA: No, unless there are other circumstances.

Sri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI: Can a Government servant stay at one place all the time without being transferred ?

Sri PURNANANDA CHETIA: If there is any necessity of transfer, then a Government servant is transferred from one place to another.

Stipendiary Students undergoing training in Compoundership in the Assam Medical College

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA (Sonai) asked :

131. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state the number of the stipendiary students allowed for undergoing the course of Compoundership training at Assam Medical College at Dibrugarh in the years 1954-55, 1955-56 and 1956-57, and how many of them were selected from the candidates of Cachar District ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

131.— Year	Number of stipendiary students allowed for undergoing the course of Compoun- dership Training at the B. W. M. School, Dibrugarh				Number of candidates selected from Cachar District	
1954-55	80	...	5
1955-56	72	...	3
1956-57	91	...	4

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) : Will Government consider to increase the number of trainees in the Assam Medical College ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : As a matter of fact we have already increased the total number of trainees.

Eviction Order of the Sakura P.G.R. in Gohpur Mouza

Shri BISHNU LAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur) asked :

132. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) How many times up till now stay orders have been passed against eviction orders of the Sakura P.G.R. in the Gohpur Mouza during the last three years ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware of the public feeling that this procedure encourages the encroachers to encroach such land elsewhere ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to evict the encroachers from the said P.G.R. forthwith ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

132. (a)—Eviction was stayed on two occasions since 27th April 1953 on petitions from the encroachers.

(b)—This may be the view of one section of the public.

(c)—Government have decided to evict the encroachers after the end of this rainy season.

Shri BISHNULAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur): Is it not a fact that Government have failed to realise grazing tax of the cattle and the elephants from the said Professional Grazing Reserve for the last 7 years?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): That will require enquiry; I cannot reply off-hand.

Shri BISHNULAL UPADHYAYA: Is it a fact that grazing tax is being realised from the Chaparies which are not Professional Grazing Reserves?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: That is a totally different question. This question is with regard to staying of eviction of Sakura Professional Grazing Reserve. So realisation of grazing tax does not arise.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): May I know, Sir, how eviction will be effected?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Sir, the eviction will be effected by driving the encroachers.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI: Is Government aware that after eviction the same family is settled there again?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: Yes, in some cases that may happen.

Shri RADHIKARAM DAS (Palasbari): Is it not a case of encouragement of lawlessness?

Mr. SPEAKER: This is an obvious question.

Damage of crops in the Sorbhog Beel due to the absence of syphons in the Old Railway Line

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sarbhog) asked:

133. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government have enquired fully about the damage of crops done in the Sarbhog Beel area for not opening Syphons at the old Railway line in April, 1956?

(b) If so, what has been revealed out of that inquiry ?

(c) What is the amount of compensation that the Government have decided to pay for the areas affected ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

133. (a)—Yes, Government have already caused an enquiry by the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta, about the damage of crops in Sarbhog Beel area during 1956.

(b)—The report reveals that owing to unexpected and incessant rain in early part of May 1956 water accumulated in the low-lying Sarbhog Beel area—there being no outlet except the few Railway Syphons for drainage of water. Moreover the Syphons were under repairs at the time when water rose. It also appears that had there been proper drainage at the time, there would not have been so much damage of crops, etc. It shows that 50 per cent of the crops grown, mainly Ahu, Bao and Jute were damaged due to the areas being submerged for a long time.

(c)—The question of payment of compensation by this Government does not arise. The facts are being brought to the notice of the Railway authorities with a request to pay reasonable compensation to the affected persons.

Troubles in the Naga Hills

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

134. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) What areas of the Naga Hills were under the British Government prior to transfer of power ?

(b) What areas are now within the Indian Union ?

(c) How much unadministered area has been brought within the Indian Union ?

(d) Whether this was by consent of the people or by force ?

(e) What is the cause and origin of the Naga trouble ?

(f) How many persons were victims of Naga hostiles looting, since the recent troubles in Naga Hills broke out ?

(g) What is the value of the properties looted of each family ?

(h) Whether Government propose to submit a list of the persons so affected with the value of the properties looted ?

(i) Whether Government compensated the affected people ?

(j) If so, who are they ?

(k) If not, why ?

(l) Whether Government has represented to the Central Government to pay compensation to the affected people fully ?

(m) If not, whether Government propose to do so early ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

134. (a) to (m)—Information has been called for from the District authorities which will take time to collect.

Families affected by the Naga Depredation

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

135. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many families have been affected by Naga depredation in Sibsagar district, North Cachar and Mikir Hills since the Naga troubles had broken out ?

(b) How many houses and properties of the said families have been burnt ?

(c) How many families have been looted ?

(d) How many persons have been kidnapped ?

(e) How many persons have been killed ?

- (f) The total estimate of loss of properties of the civil population on the above reason ?
- (g) What relief the Government have given to the affected families ?
- (h) Whether Government granted any monthly monetary help to the families of kidnapped persons ?
- (i) If not, whether Government are aware how these families are maintaining their livelihood in absence of the earning member of the house ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

135. (a)—207 families in Sibsagar district and 224 families in United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district.

(b)—29 in Sibsagar district and 189 in United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district.

(c)—180 families in Sibsagar district and 35 in United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district.

(d)—16 persons were kidnapped from Sibsagar district out of which 8 have already returned and 1 kidnapped from United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district.

(e)—Two in Sibsagar district and 3 in United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district.

(f)—Rupees 3,27,199 in Sibsagar district and Rs.2,01,900 in United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district.

(g)—In Sibsagar district cash gratuitous relief amounting to Rs. 17,351-13-0, rehabilitation loan amounting to Rs.5,400 and relief in the shape of rice amounting to 90 maunds have been given. In addition, 2,082 blankets were issued in border areas including affected families. In United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district foodstuffs worth Rs.2,870 have been distributed and an amount of Rs.4,800 have been granted as gratuitous relief.

(h)—No. In Sibsagar district gratuitous relief in cash of Rs.1,350 was paid to the dependents of the kidnapped persons.

(i)—Their families are being maintained by their nearest relatives. Of the dependents of the 8 kidnapped persons of the Sibsagar district who could not return, families of 3 are working in Selenghat Tea Estate and the families of the other 5 are in their respective villages. The person kidnapped from United Mikir and North Cachar Hills district is reported to be a minor boy and was not an earning member.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): Do Government proposes to pay compensation to the persons who sustained loss due to Naga depredations ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Yes. The Deputy Commissioner of the Naga Hills has been authorised to enquire into the matter as to what relief and rehabilitation is necessary to such persons. The Deputy Commissioner has been asked to submit a plan and necessary relief and rehabilitation loan will be given to them.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI: Sir, is there any addition to the list submitted, or is it the list already submitted for which there is no fund for further help ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI : If there is any addition to the list of persons who sustained loss due to Naga depredations, if such instances are brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner he will consider the matter.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI: Have Government paid any compensation to any Government officer, person or businessman who sustained loss due to Naga depredation ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI : The idea of the Government is to give relief to any person who sustained loss due to Naga depredation. Even in the case of dacoities committed on any person by the Nagas, we consider, if he is in need of relief and rehabilitation, or he is unable to maintain himself, in that case also gratuitous relief and rehabilitation loan and cloths and other reliefs are given.

Bordoloi T.B. Memorial Hospital

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

136. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a huge amount was allotted to Bordoloi T.B. Memorial Hospital out of the funds received under Article 275 of the Constitution ?

(b) Whether seats are reserved there for the Tribal T. B. patients ?

(c) If so, what is the number of seats so reserved ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied:

136. (a)—The following grants-in-aid were sanctioned to Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Memorial Tuberculosis Hospital and Sanatorium, Gauhati, out of the grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution for Plains Tribal Areas—

(i) Rupees 1,00,000 (Rupees one lakh) only, for construction of a building and purchasing of necessary equipment for providing accommodation to Plains Tribals T. B. patients during 1955-56.

(ii) Rupees 20,000 (Rupees twenty thousand) only, during 1956-57 for providing additional accommodation for Plains Tribal T. B. patients.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Fourteen beds for Plains Tribal T.B. patients at present.

Umpling Refugee Colony Project

Shri BROJO MOHON ROY (Shillong) asked :

137. Will the Minister-in-charge of Relief and Rehabilitation Department be pleased to state—

(a) How long it will take them to materialise the Umpling Refugee Colony Project and what is the reason for this inordinate delay ?

- (b) What steps have so far been taken by Government for taking water supply in the said Colony?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the delay in implementing this scheme has caused serious hardships and inconveniences to the displaced persons?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Relief and Rehabilitation) replied :

137. (a)—The Project will be implemented as soon as water supply facilities to the site of the Colony can be arranged. Delay in implementation is due to difficulties regarding supply of water to the Colony.

(b)—Negotiations are in progress with the Ministry of Defence, Government of India, to obtain supply of water from the sources under the possession of the Military Authorities at Happy Valley.

(c)—Yes, and every effort is being made to solve the problem of water supply in Umpling Colony as soon as possible.

History of Independence Movements in Assam

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked :

138. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state what progress has been made about the compilation of the History of Independence Movements of Assam?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

138.—The work of compilation of materials for the History of the Independence Movements in Assam has proceeded according to plan drawn up by the Board of Editors appointed by the Government of India and the greater part of the work has already been accomplished.

All important and available source-materials such as records including Government records in the State and in the Centre and other documents relating to and bearing upon the different phases of the Freedom Struggle in Assam from the beginning of British Rule upto 1947, are being collected.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA: May I know whether the Government has completed the index of the History of Independence Movements of Assam.

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA (Deputy Minister): Yes, the Government have completed the index.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur): Are Government aware that this index was quite objectionable because it did not include the names of persons like Shri Bijoy Chandra Bhagawaty and Shri Bimala Prasad Chaliha whereas the names of many persons who fought against the independence movement and helped the British Government in the 1942 Movement, were included in the index ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: That pamphlet was withdrawn.

Shri RADHIKARAM DAS (Palasbari): Sir, may I know for how long the compilation of the History of Independence Movements of Assam will continue ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: It will depend on the progress of the work.

Shri RADHIKARAM DAS: Already 10 years have passed. May I know how many years will be required to complete it ?

Shri PURNANANDA CHETIA: It will not take long. The Special Officer was appointed only on 1st November 1950.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Education Minister): For the information of the House, I would like to say that it has almost come to an end.

Allotment of lands to the Assam Co-operative Sugar Mills, Ltd., Dergaon

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :

139. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the authority of Assam Co-operative Sugar Mills, Ltd., Dergaon lately wanted some land for the purpose of forming some Co-operatives for extension of sugar cane for the mill ?
- (b) If so, how much land was allotted to them for the above purpose and if not, what are the reasons ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

139. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Assam Co-operative Sugar Mills, Ltd., have been allotted a total area of 3,000 bighas and two other Co-operative Societies—the Navajyoti Co-operative Society and the Majirkuchi-Gohaigaon Krishipam Samabai Samiti, Ltd., 200 bighas and 140 bighas respectively.

Regular Steamer Ghat at Dibrugarh

Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) asked :

140. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) If the Government are making arrangements for having a regular Steamer Ghat at Dibrugarh ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the portion of the Brahmaputra between Desangmukh Ghat and Bogibil is navigable for all practical purposes?

(c) Whether Government are aware that the people of Dibrugarh have to pay heavily for the carriage of goods from Desangmukh Ghat to Dibrugarh?

(d) If so, what measures Government propose to take to offset this difficulty?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

140. (a)—The Steamer Companies Ghat at Dibrugarh had to be closed due to—

1. heavy erosion of the bank ; and
2. revetment and flood protection works.

The question of an alternative site for the ghat can be examined only after the investigations about the navigability of the Brahmaputra further up-stream beyond Desangmukh, referred to in reply to (b) are completed.

(b)—The matter is under investigation in conjunction with the Central Water and Power Commission.

(c)—The Brahmaputra River is reported to be unfit for navigation for heavy draft vessels beyond Desangmukh to Dibrugarh. Traders or interested persons have the option of bringing their goods either by rail or road. A comparative estimate of freight by rail and road is given below:—

Commodity	...	Rate per maund by rail from Desang- mukh to Dibrugarh Town.	Rate per maund by road from Desang- mukh to Dibrugarh.
-----------	-----	--	--

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Tea — — —	0	11	9	Varies from		
Mustard Oil (O.R.)	0	7	7	twelve annas to		
Piece goods (O.R.) ...	0	11	0	fourteen annas.		

The freight rates by rail from Desangmukh to Dibrugarh are inclusive of terminal charges and surcharges, wherever leviable.

(d)—Investigations are being carried out by the Central Water and Power Commission whether the Brahmaputra can be made navigable beyond Desangmukh and the question of restoration of Steamer services will be considered after completion of these investigations, if they reveal the Navigability of the river beyond Desangmukh.

In the meantime the number of public and private carriers on the road have also increased during the last seven years as per details given below in the area between Desangmukh, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Saikhowaghat—

	1949	1956
Private carriers	880	1,056
Public Carrier	75	407

Construction of Bridges over the Sonai, the Amjurkhal and the Rukni Rivers in Silchar Subdivision

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA (Sonai) asked :

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

(a) The reason of delay in constructing the bridges at—

(i) Sonaimukh over Sonai River,

(ii) Amjur over Amjurkhal,

(iii) Amraghat over Sonai River, and

(iv) Nagdirgram over Rukni River by replacing the existing hanging bridge in Silchar Subdivision ?

(b) Whether the construction of these bridges is expected to be completed during the current financial year ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that generally grants are sanctioned at the fag-end of every financial year for which the department cannot find time for proper progress of the works and this being the position, the works of the above projects could not be started so long ?

(d) What action is proposed to be taken to avoid unnecessary delay in executing such important projects in future ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

141. (a) (i), (iii) & (iv)—These schemes are included in the Second Five-Year Plan.

The construction of these major bridges involves various surveys and collection of elaborate hydraulic data, some to be collected during monsoon, and collection of data is in progress. The construction works will be taken up as soon as the collection of data is complete and the schemes are finalised and materials are arranged.

(ii) This is not in any Public Works Department Scheme.

(b)—No.

(c)—No. In case of these schemes under Second Five Year Plan, the question of delay in sanctioning grants does not arise as provisions of funds are made in the sanctioned Budget against each project.

(d)—Does not arise.

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA (Sonai) : Sir, May I know how long the Government will require to collect the data ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P.W.D.) : Collection of data will take a long time. I cannot give the definite date. Minimum two years will be required.

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra) : अगर data संग्रह करने में ही कम से कम दो साल लगे तो पुल का काम कब सुरु होगा और कब खत्म होगा ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : उसके बाद होगा ।

That will depend on the availability of the materials which will take a long time

Construction of Buroi Bridge

Shri BISHNU LAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur) asked :

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

(a) When will the construction of the Buroi Bridge begin ?

(b) Why there is such delay in constructing it even now ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) replied :

142. (a)—Next winter.

(b)—The alignment for the bridge has been approved by the Consulting Engineer, Government of India in May 1957 last. The work cannot be started during the monsoon.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (N. Lakhimpur) : May I know how long it will take to complete the construction of the Buroi Bridge ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, P.W.D.): The construction of the bridge would begin in the next winter. It will take at least two to three years time.

Construction of the Barak Bridge at Silchar

Dr. RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhimpur) asked:

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

- (a) The name of the Engineering concern which has been given contract for the construction of the Barak Bridge in Silchar ?
- (b) What is the total amount to be spent for the construction of the said bridge ?
- (c) When Government expect that the construction of the bridge to be finally completed ?

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

143. (a)—Messrs. S. B. Joshi & Co. (Private) Limited of Bombay.

(b)—The total estimated cost of the bridge with approaches is Rs.27,42,000. For the bridge proper the estimated cost is Rs.21,76,000.

(c)—It is expected that the construction of the bridge will be completed by May, 1959. But it is dependent on the following:—

Some foreign exchange is involved to import special steel materials for which the Government of India have been requested to issue necessary import licence after release of foreign exchange. It is expected that foreign exchange will be made available and import licence issued shortly.

Proposal for the construction of a Bridge over the Beki River

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sarbhog) asked :

144. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Government propose to construct a bridge over the Beki River for the public ?

(b) If so, whether the bridge will be constructed along with the existing Railway bridge ?

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

144. (a)—At present there is no proposal to construct a bridge over the Beki. The matter will be placed before the next meeting of the Assam Roads Communication Board for their consideration.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above it does not arise.

Amalgamation of the Medical Department with the Public Health Department

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

145. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Government have decided to amalgamate the two departments of Public Health and the Medical ?

(b) If so, why this is not being materialised ?

(c) If not, when the amalgamation will be really effected?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

145. (a)—No, the matter is under consideration.

(b) and (c)—Do not arise.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): Do Government consider that the Departments of Public Health and Medical will be amalgamated? The sooner it has done, the better it is for all concerned.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister,): As a matter of fact Sir, we have already amalgamated the two Departments. There were two posts previously, *viz.*, Director of Public Health and the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals. Now we have amalgamated these two posts into one, *viz.*, Director of Health Services. The matter has been thoroughly examined and it only remains to be examined by the Cabinet.

Re: Balance Sheet, etc., of the Assam State Transport

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Cherrapunji Reserved for Scheduled Tribes) asked:

146. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (i) The receipts for the last 3 years of the State Transport from the Shillong-Gauhati Road separately under these heads—(a) from passengers service (b) from the freight service; and
- (ii) the expenditure for the last 3 years on the said Shillong-Gauhati Road?

147. Will the Minister for Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the State Transport Department prepare a balance sheet of each road over which they run the State Transport?
- (b) Whether they have the Balance Sheet prepared for the Shillong-Gauhati Road?
- (c) If so, will the Minister be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the same?
- (d) How many motor trucks are there for carrying freights and cars for carrying passengers?
- (e) Whether with the present number of trucks which the State Transport Department have placed on this route they will be able to carry all the goods from Gauhati to Shillong promptly?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that a large amount of goods is lying at Gauhati for Shillong and that they are not brought to Shillong from Gauhati even after one week?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

146. (i)—The receipts for last three years of the State Transport from Shillong-Gauhati route are as under :—

	1953-54			1954-55			1955-56		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
(a) From passenger services (passenger luggage, Parcel and Miscellaneous Traffic).	18,21,611	3	6	17,39,870	14	6	19,69,788	14	9
(b) From freight service (goods traffic).	29,48,319	8	0	31,63,285	5	9	32,99,443	5	0
Total receipts ...	47,69,930	11	6	49,03,156	4	3	52,69,232	3	9

(ii)—The expenditure for last 3 years on the Gauhati-Shillong route are as under :—

	1953-54			1954-55			1955-56		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
	35,41,769	15	0	35,86,250	13	0	36,75,660	9	9

147. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—A copy of the audited Balance Sheet of the route for 1955-56 is given below:—

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, STATE TRANSPORT, ASSAM, SHILLONG

State Transport Organisation—Section III—Pandu-Gauhati-Shillong Service.

Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st March, 1956.

Capital and Liabilities

Previous year (in Rupees)	Particulars	Current Year (in Rupees)
------------------------------	-------------	-----------------------------

Previous Year (in Rupees)	Particulars	Current Year (in Rupees)
------------------------------	-------------	-----------------------------

QUESTIONS

[2ND JULY,

GOVERNMENT CAPITAL—

Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
9,46,719	3	0	(a) Government Capital as per last Balance Sheet.	29,37,815	12 8
26,27,478	1	9	Add—Withdrawals during the year.	42,77,305	0 3
35,74,197	4	9		72,15,120	12 11
50,66,947	2	9	Less—Remittance during the year.	58,22,187	0 3
14,92,749	14	0		13,92,933	12 8

PROPERTY

Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
92,623	0	0	Land	..	92,623 0 0
6,49,455	2	6	Buildings	..	7,65,732 10 0
2,25,536	7	0	Plant and Machinery	..	3,03,176 13 0
1,38,409	15	3	Tools and Implements	..	1,61,159 3 6

31,13,660	3	5	Add—Adjustment during the year.	9,41,999	14	8	59,468	3	3	Furniture and Equip-ments.	67,435	1	9
16,20,910	5	5		23,34,933	11	4	24,69,648	9	2	Vehicles	39,36,200	13	7
							36,35,141	5	2		53,26,327	9	10
13,16,905	3	7	Add—Profit during the year	15,93,571	10	0	26,39,114	14	9	Stores in hand	7,71,474	8	0
29,37,815	12	8					45,000	0	0				
17,00,710	9	0	Sundry Creditors										
35,000	0	0	General Reserve ..										
20,17,458	0	3	Depreciation Reserve Account				21,71,184	15	9	Sundry Debtors	11,65,126	13	9
2,56,798	9	0	Interest payable to Government.				3,68,017	15	0	Less Reserve for bad and doubtful debts.	20,000	0	0
			Vehicle Tax and Road Permit Fees payable—				21,20,573	14	9	D.R.R. Fund Investment Account (with Govts)	20,75,448	0	3
8,998	0	0	Leave Salary and Pension contribution Reserve.				10,097	0	0	Suspense			
82,282	0	0	Insurance Reserve				1,31,451	0	0	Cash in hand..	11,510	3	0
20,244	0	0	Audit fee				36,516	0	0				
70,59,306	14	11					93,29,887	2	10		93,29,887	2	10

Note :—Initial Government Capital .. Nil.

ADDITIONS TO CAPITAL—

		Rs. as, p.
I.—Net withdrawals from Treasuries <i>plus</i> net adjustment	..	(—) 51,04,553 1 9
II.—Net Profit earned upto 31st March 1954	..	60,51,272 4 9
Government Capital	..	<u>9,46,719 3 0</u>

Checked and found correct subject to separate audit comments.

Sd./-
Inspecting Auditor.

Sd./- R. K. SAIKIA,
Accounts Officer,
State Transport, Assam.

Sd./- H. P. RAJKHEWA,
Director, State Transport,
Assam, Shillong.

Certified copy.

Sd./-

Accounts Officer,
State Transport, Assam.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, STATE TRANSPORT, ASSAM, SHILLONG

Working and Profit and Loss Account for the year ending 31st March, 1956

SECTION III: PANDU-GAUHATI-SHILLONG SERVICE

CR.

DR.	During 1955-56	During 1954-55	During 1955-56	During 1954-55
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TO:

BY:

REVENUE EXPENDITURE—

TRAFFIC EARNING—

	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
I.—Establishment—Pay and Allowance of General Establishment.	3,63,177	2 0	3,53,107	1 6	3,03,130	7 0
Technical Estab-lishment.	1,74,002	15 9	1,68,281	13 0	1,71,992	3 6
Drivers and Handy-men.	2,67,624	8 0	2,72,997	4 0	2,83,717	14 6
Labour	1,82,447	3 0	1,60,464	0 0	1,33,832	9 0
Total	9,87,251	12 9	9,54,850	2 6	8,94,573	2 0

	Rs. a. p.	R. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	a. p.
Passenger Traffic	12,81,824	9 6	11,12,120	10 0
Luggage Traffic	65,715	3 0	52,954	14 0
Parcel Traffic ..	3,78,101	1 0	3,47,361	12 0
Goods Traffic ..	32,99,443	5 0	31,63,285	5 9
Miscellaneous Traffic.	2,44,148	1 3	2,27,433	10 6

1.—Contingencies—	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Power expenses (Petrol and Lubricant oil, etc.)	9,26,663 15	9,10,43,648 5	3,10,48,508 14
Store and Stock consumed.	6,23,105 7	3 5,95,166 4	6 4,78,838 15
Rent and Taxes	16,520 10	9 17,596 0	0 17,396 11
Contingency Menials.	336 0	0 328 0	0 512 0
Other charges—			
(a) Loss of cash	....	....	....
(b) Loss of Stores and Equipments.	....	....	....
(c) Workman's compensation, etc.	95,704 10	0 ....	....
(d) All other expenditure under the Sub-head.	....	74,645 12	3 61,521 7
Telephone	31,230 7	0 12,436 3	3 16,732 2
Medical expen- sures.	851 0	0 535 8	0 45 0
Vehicle Taxes and Road per- mit fee.	4,56,025 15	0 4,13,741 5	0 4,39,786 8
Works—Repairs	14,148 9	3 12,491 7	0 13,949 9
Total ..	21,64,586 11	0 21,70,588 13	3 20,77,291 4

CR.

During 1955-56 During 1954-55

BY:

Rs. a. p. Rs. a. p. Rs. a. p.

III. INDIRECT CHARGES—

	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Provision for Interest on Capital	1,11,219 6 0	72,426 13 0	49,167 13 0
Depreciation ..	3,36,062 12 0	3,23,461 0 3	4,50,621 12 0
Provision for General Reserve.	10,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	15,000 0 0
Reserve for bad and doubtful debts.	..	..	10,000 0 0
Provision for leave salary and pension contribution.	1,099 0 0	998 0 0	2,000 0 0
Provision for Insurance.	49,169 0 0	42,282 0 0	31,000 0 0
Audit Fees ..	16,272 0 0	16,644 0 0	2,016 0 0
	5,23,822 2 0	4,60,811 13 3	5,69,805 9 0

IV. Net profit in working transferred to Balance Sheet.	15,93,571 10 0	13,16,905 7 3	12,38,160 12 6
Total ..	52,69,232 3 9	49,03,156 4 3	47,69,930 11 6

Total

.. 52,69,232 3 9 49,03,156 4 3 47,69,930 11 6

Sd./—R. K. SAIKIA,
Accounts Officer,
State Transport, Assam.

Sd./—H. P. RAJKHEWA,
Director, State Transport, Assam, Shillong.

Certified Copy:—Sd./
Accounts Officer, State Transport, Assam.

(d)—The following standard fleet of Gauhati-Shillong route is used as at present.

Car	Station Wagon	Luggage Vans	Buses	Trucks	Total
18	4	18	28	120	188

Fleet of Gauhati-Shillong route.

(e)—Yes. The fleet is to be further increased by another 27 trucks during this year, and orders for these have already been placed.

(f)—The State Transport is normally able to clear all traffic offering from Gauhati to Shillong without unusual delays. But at times there is a temporary accumulation of goods due to irregular or unusually heavy arrivals of Railway Wagons or Cargo by Steamer. In such cases special arrangements are made for clearance of these goods.

Of late, however, traffic to Shillong *ex*-Gauhati has increased considerably and steps are being taken to cope with this increase.

Result of Election to the Assam Roads Communication Board

Mr. SPEAKER: I have an announcement to make before the House.

I hereby inform the House that both the Government and the Opposition Parties by mutual settlement have set up twelve candidates for election to the Assam Roads Communication Board. The number of candidates being equal to the number of vacancies, the following hon. Members are therefore declared elected as unopposed.

1. Shri Manik Chandra Das,
2. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma,
3. Shri Maulavi Mahammed Idris,
4. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami,
5. Shri Khagendra Nath Nath,

6. Shri Gauri Sankar Roy,
7. Shri Bishnulal Upadhyaya,
8. Shri Khelhose Sema,
9. Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy,
10. Capt. Williamson A. Sangma,
11. Shri Ranendra Mohan Das, and
12. Shri Pakhirai Deka.

Motion on the recent abnormal rise in prices of the daily necessities of the people in the State

Mr. SPEAKER : Now, there is a Motion in the names of Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, Shri Gopesh Namasudra, Shri Hiralal Patwari and Shri Ranendra Mohan Das, regarding the recent abnormal rise in prices of the daily necessities of the people in the State.

Hon. Members are now not in their seats. Therefore the Motion falls through.

Private Members' Resolutions

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, we have got the Resolutions. 1st Resolution is in the name of Shri Lalit Knmar Daley.

Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, I do not propose to move it.

Resolution *re*: Introduction of Employees State Insurance Scheme in big employment concerns of the State

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): I propose to move my Resolution, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the hon. Member is aware of the time limit for the Mover, which is 30 minutes and 15 minutes for other speakers, and I cannot deviate from it as it is the mandatory rule.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI : I shall not take more than five minutes, Sir, as I do not propose to speak much.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to introduce the Employers State Insurance Scheme in the big employment concerns of the State, such as Tea Plantation, Steamer Navigation Companies, etc.

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বৰ্ত্তমানে মই এই প্ৰস্তাবৰ দ্বাৰা সদনৰ মাননীয় সদস্যসকলক জনাব খুজিছো যে লাহে লাহে আমাৰ অসমত শ্ৰমজীৱীৰ সংখ্যা বাঢ়ি আহিছে। আমাৰ দেশৰ উন্নতি বিশেষকৈ এইলোক সকলৰ ওপৰত বেচিকৈ নিৰ্ভৰ কৰে। দেশত মানুহ বঢ়ি যোৱাৰ লগে লগে চাব লাগিব যাতে এই লোকসকল গোটেই জীৱনটো স্বাবলম্বী হব পাৰে। কিন্তু দেখা যায় যে আমাৰ স্বাবলম্বীৰ জনসংখ্যা দিনে দিনে কমি আহিছে।

উন্নত দেশ বিলাকত আমি সচৰাবৰ দেখিবলৈ পোও যে এই শ্ৰমজীৱীলোকৰ সংখ্যাই বেচি। আমাৰ আগমতো এই শ্ৰেণীৰ জনসংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি হোৱাটো এটা মঙ্গলবৰ্হে চিন। ইয়াৰ পৰাই অনুমান কৰিব পাৰি যে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যখনো কিছু পৰিমাণে শিল্প আৰু ব্যৱসায়ত অগ্ৰগতি হৈছে।

এখন ৰাজ্যৰ উন্নতি অকল কৃষিৰ ওপৰতে নিৰ্ভৰ নকৰে। আমাৰ লোকসংখ্যা ইমান বাঢ়িছে যে আমি মাটিৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰা দিন উকলিছে। আমাৰ শিল্পৰ সমৃদ্ধি কৰিবলৈ আমি যত্ন কৰিবই লাগিব।

এই শ্ৰমজীৱীসকলৰ সংখ্যা আৰু পৰিয়াল বঢ়াৰ লগে লগে তেওলোকৰ এজনৰ উপাৰ্জনকেনে চলা টান হৈপৰে। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও তেওলোকৰ বুঢ়াকালত বা নাটনিৰ সময়ৰ কাৰণে কোনো নিৰ্ভৰশাল ব্যৱস্থা আজিলৈকে হোৱা নাই। সেইফালৰ পৰা চালে অসমৰ এই শ্ৰেণীলোকৰ কাৰণে প্ৰয়োজনীয় বিধান কৰা আবশ্যকীয় বিষয় হৈ আহিছে।

১৯৪৮ চনতে ভাৰতৰ লোকসভাই Employees State Insurance Scheme এটাবে আইন এখন পাছকৰিলে। ১৯৫০ চনত এই আইনৰ কিছু অংশ সংশোধন কৰিলে।

Insurance বুলিলে সাধাৰণতে যি বুজাই এইটো ঠিক তেনে নহয়। Insurance Corporation of Indiaৰ অন্তৰ্ভুক্ত এই আচনি নহয়।

Employees State Insurance Scheme খন অসমত বলবৎ হলে এটা সুকীয়া ব্যৱস্থাবে এই আচনি কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিব লাগিব। অসম চৰকাৰে এখন “Committee” বা “Board” গঠন কৰিব লাগিব আৰু এটা Medical Board ও গঠন কৰিব লগাত পৰিব। এই আচনি মতে কাম হলে অসমত শ্ৰমীক কল্যাণৰ হয় খোজ আগবঢ়া হয়।

প্ৰথমখোজ Tea Plantation Provident Fund Act আৰু জাবৰতে এই অসম ৰাজ্যত সমাধা হয়।

এনে ব্যৱস্থাই কেবল শ্ৰমীক সকলৰে উন্নতি নকৰে সমাজৰ আৰু বাহিৰো মহৎ উপকাৰ হব। দেশৰ পুষ্টি সঞ্চয় হব।

সেইকাৰণে মই এই প্ৰস্তাব সদনত ডাঙি ধৰিছো যাতে আমাৰ ৰাজ্যত কামকৰা শ্ৰমিকসকলৰ ভৱিষ্যত জীৱনৰ নিৰাপত্তাৰ কাৰণে এই আচনি খন অসমতো বলৱৎ কৰা হয়।

মই সদনৰ সদস্যসকলক অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে সদস্যসকলে এই প্ৰস্তাব সমৰ্থন কৰে আৰু চৰকাৰেও গ্ৰহণ কৰে।

এই কথা কেইটা কৈ মই এই প্ৰস্তাব ডাঙি ধৰিলো।

Shri RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by my Friend, Shri Sarbeswar Bardoloi.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Resolution moved is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to introduce the Employers State Insurance Scheme in the big employment concerns of the State, such as Tea Plantation, Steamer Navigation Companies, etc.

There are two amendments, one in the name of hon. Member from Katlichera and the other from the hon. Member from Dergaon.

Shri GAURISANKAR ROY (Katlichera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move an amendment to this Resolution which is.—

Substitute the word "Employees" in place of the word "Employers" in the second line of the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER : The hon. Member wants only to substitute the word "Employees" in place of the word "Employers". If that is so, well that is only a patent mistake and no amendment is necessary.

Hon. Member from Dergaon may now move his amendment.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় শ্ৰীসৰ্বেশ্বৰ বৰদলৈয়ে যি প্ৰস্তাব দাঙি ধৰিছে মই তাক সংশোধিত আকাৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিব বিচাৰো :—

1. In the middle of the 3rd line delete the word "big" and add the words "industries and".

2. In the 4th line put a "fullstop" after the word "State".

3. In the 4th line *delete* the words "such as Tea Plantation, Steamer Navigation Companies, etc."

After these alterations the shape of the Resolution will be as follows:

"This Assembly is of opinion that the Government do take necessary steps to introduce the Employees State Insurance Scheme in the industries and employment concerns of the State".

বৰ্তমান ভাৰতবৰ্ষত বনুৱাসকলৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে যি State Insurance আছে সেইটো অসমতে প্ৰবৰ্তন কৰিবলৈ কাৰ্য্যকৰী ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰিব লাগে।

Mr. SPEAKER: I want a clarification in regard to the language. The Resolution as amended would be like this—

"This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to introduce the Employees State Insurance Scheme in the industrial and employment concerns of the State—or in the State....." 'of' the State means only those concerns which are owned by the State. What is the purpose of the hon. Member. Does he refer only to concerns 'of' the State or such concerns 'in' the State. This is a patent error which can however be corrected.

The hon. Member may continue his speech.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon): গতিকে পোন প্ৰথমতে এই আচনি মতে বনুৱা সকলে বিনা মাচুলে চিকিৎসা কৰিবলৈ পাব আৰু দ্বিতীয়তে তেওঁলোক বেমাৰ হৈ পৰি থাকিলেও দৰমহা পাই থাকিব। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও এই আচনি মতে, দুৰ্ঘটনা হলেও বনুৱা সকলে বুঢ়া কালত সুবিধা পাব। মই আশা কৰো এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সদস্যসকলে গ্ৰহণ কৰিব।

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. Mover of the Resolution accept the amendment?

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): I accept the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister will speak on the amended Resolution which runs as:

"This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to introduce the Employees

State Insurance Scheme in the industrial and employment concerns in the State:"

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have great pleasure to accept the amended Resolution. It will be realised that the Government of India came forward with this legislation some time back to provide for one of the social security measures which is absolutely essential for the working class. Other countries of the world have gone forward in certain directions for the purpose of raising the condition of labour and giving them social protection. One of the directions in which this has been possible is obviously the health insurance. In England, for instance, the health insurance scheme is such that, everybody who falls ill gets free treatment. We have not been able to go so far. But as a pilot project India started in the beginning with Kampur and within the course of last few years this scheme has been extended from city to city and from State to State. Our State is one of the last to come in the line and now the Government of Assam has accepted the idea that this should be introduced in our State also. The places where this is being introduced or is going to be introduced are Gauhati, Dhubri and Tinsukia. I think we are going to add Jorhat also to those three places.

In the beginning when this Act was provided it would have been more prudent if they had made provision for the treatment of the family and therefore in Calcutta and other places there was a great resistance to the enforcement of this Act by the working class. Some time back the Government of India re-examined the scheme in the light of income and came to the conclusion that the provision of the Act should be amended in such a way so that the families also might be included. That has been a great advanced step and now I think one of the major causes of objection to the introduction of the scheme in many places has been removed. I therofere have great pleasure in accepting the same.

Now, it is obvious that the amended shape of the Resolution for our purpose is better than it was, because the Resolution as it was with the words Tea Plantation, Steamer Navigation Companies, etc. does mention something specifically. But so far as tea industry is concerned, there is already a provision under the Plantation Labour Act. This is a simple Act

which provides medical facilities to the employees. Therefore there is a conflict and until this conflict is removed I think it would not be possible to introduce it in the tea industry. Some time back a discussion arose as to whether in the tea plantation in its present set-up certain benefits like housing, establishment of schools, medical benefit, etc., were provided by the employers themselves and that too in the most efficient way. That argument has not yet died down. In the meantime no advance has been made with regard to tea industry on this question. Until such time the tea industry has gone forward to take steps in this direction I do not think it would be possible. We have the desire to extend the provision for those benefits not only to the factory workers but to the Steamer Companies and other concerns. Therefore the Resolution as now amended suggests that we should introduce it to the employees concerns of the State. Now it would naturally be our endeavour to do things as intended, but as the Government of India itself is slow in this matter and has taken one step after another we also similarly intend to go slow and take one step after another. If after accepting this Resolution the hon. Members come and say that "you are not making much progress in the matter" then it would not be fair, because we want to advance with experience and therefore more time is necessary. In view of the intention of this Resolution I hope that the Mover of this Resolution as well as the Members of this House will take the matter into consideration, as it will take some time for us to come forward to extend the measure from town to town so that the working class might be included.

So far as benefits under the Act are concerned, as has already been stated, they are for sickness, maternity, employment injury, etc. For the purpose of tea industry we have our own Act and there is a Central Act for the purpose of other industries.

In the light of this remark I have great pleasure in announcing that we accept the principle of this Resolution and we intend to come forward to extend the benefit to those employees in the 4th place which I have already mentioned and that too in the light of experience gained in the meantime, and then we will extend the same to other towns.

Thank you, Sir.

Shri GOURI SHANKAR ROY (Katlicherra) : काछाड़ जिलेको इसी समय इसमें अन्तर्भूत किया जायगा या नहीं ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) : फिल अल हाल हमारी नीति यह है, जैसा कि मेरा कहना है कि हमलोग आहिस्ता आहिस्ता दूसरे शहरों में भी इसे फैलाते जायेंगे । उस वक्त काछाड़ के लिये सोचा जायेगा ।

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to introduce the Employees State Insurance Scheme in the industrial and employment concerns of the State.

(The question was adopted.)

Resolution *re:* Provision of sufficient funds to the Department of Social Welfare

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUAH (Katonigaon) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of the Department of Social Welfare for rendering help to the Children and Women Organisations of the State.

Sir, the object of moving the Resolution is to bring to the notice of the Government for placing more funds to the Social Welfare Organisations of our State. I must state that during these years, due to the steps taken by the Government, social welfare activities have developed to some extent. Central Government have placed funds at the disposal of the Central Social Welfare Board. Schemes for the welfare of children and women have been taken up by the voluntary social welfare organisations. In spite of the efforts made, I must state that we have been experiencing some difficulties. The voluntary organisations have no matching funds to work the schemes properly. The difficulties with regard to the trained personnel which we experienced at the early stage are being gradually removed owing to the fact that the Government had taken up training programme for bringing into the field of social service trained persons like Dhais and midwives. The State Social Welfare Board too has taken up a training programme. The fact of matching contribution is still there. My intention is to bring the fact to the notice of the Government that in the past, social welfare activities depended entirely on contribution from the people. The areas which had such liberal minded persons, advanced in welfare activities.

The rural areas lagged far behind in social welfare activities. Regional disparity appeared in the field. For illustration, some cities with the help of big contribution went ahead by establishing social welfare institutions. Children and women of these areas could take advantage of such institutions—whereas the children and women of the rural areas lagged far behind and there was no one to take care of them. The First Five-Year Plan took up this fact into consideration and with the liberal aid from the Central Government through the Central Social Welfare Board could make a beginning in the field. In our State voluntary agencies came into the scene. It is necessary now that we should consider the difficulties of the voluntary organisations and try to remove them. We are aiming at a Socialistic Pattern of Society. The areas with richer persons would go ahead and take advantage of the offer made by the Central Welfare Board, whereas the poorer areas, I mean the rural areas, would lag behind owing to their inability to take up the offer with matching contribution. Therefore, arrangement should be made to reduce the rate of matching contribution from 50 per cent to 25 per cent, so that the agencies of the rural areas can avail of the help rendered by the Central Welfare Board. Therefore, I appeal to the House to support my Resolution for the development of the children and women of our State.

Mr. SPEAKER : Resolution moved is that this Assembly is of opinion that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of the Department of Social Welfare for rendering help to the Children and Women Organisations of the State.

***Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] :** Sir, I rise to support the Motion moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Baruah.

Sir, in our State we have got the State Social Welfare Boards. In opening such social welfare centres in the rural areas the Board wants the public of the rural areas to contribute 50 per cent of the schemes. If a scheme involves Rs.25,000 the public has to give an equal amount. To give this contribution is very difficult for the villagers. Our State Government gives 25 per cent to the scheme but that amount is included in the amount given from the Central Social Welfare Board which does not help the public. That is why, although there are public who want to have such a centre but the share of 50 per cent contribution is not coming forward with the result they cannot start one. Now-a-days social

welfare centres are absolutely necessary in our rural areas where there is no scope in this sphere. Therefore, the Government should give aid for starting these centres. So, the intention of the Resolution to provide funds from the State just to render relief to the public to adopt the schemes is appropriate. Therefore, I support the Resolution and I hope, our Government will accept this Resolution.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua. In this connection, I would like to speak a few words.

Sir, you know that there is great need for Social Welfare Centres in our State. Previously our people, especially, our mothers were healthy enough and they were dependent on nature and nature helped them but now-a-days we find our mothers are gradually growing weaker and generally they find difficulty at the time of child bearing and child birth and consequently there is a greater number of mortality of mothers in rural areas.

Sir, this scheme is a nice one and if we can push it in every part of the State, I believe, it will greatly benefit our women-folk. In this connection, I would point out that these schemes are required to be contributed certain percentage by the public. In some parts of the State we find the people can go upto the mark to contribute towards these schemes, but there are places where the schemes cannot come into being as the people cannot contribute their share. In these places, our women-folk have only to depend on their fate. Of course, if we try to push in some of these schemes, I doubt, whether it will be effective at the first sight. But, Sir, if arrangement is made to train those people, who are comparatively backward, to enable them to feel homely, these schemes, I believe, will be successful.

So, Sir, I would like to suggest that the State Social Welfare Board and the District Welfare Board should be constituted to make effective bodies. There should be certain persons in the District Welfare Board to go into the interior villages to train up the people and to make the people acquainted with these schemes, so that the people can come forward to materialise the schemes effectively.

With these words, Sir, I like to support the Resolution moved by hon. Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua.

Shri SURENDRANATH DAS (Patacharkuri): মাননীয়া অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি মাননীয়া শ্রীযুক্তা কমলকুমারী বৰুৱাই যিটো প্ৰস্তাব অসমৰ মাতৃ-মঙ্গল শিশু সেৱা সদন অনুষ্ঠানৰ বাবে ইয়াত উপাৰ্জন কৰিছে, মই সেই প্ৰস্তাব সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। আমি জানো গোটেই অসমত যি বিলাক Maternity Welfare Centre আছে সেই বিলাকৰ অৱস্থা বিশেষ ভাল নহয়। অসমৰ প্ৰজেক্ট বিলাকত ৰাইজে নিজে ৩৪ বিঘা মাটি দিছে আৰু যৰ দুৱাৰ বান্ধি দিছে কাজেই ৰাইজৰ পৰা যি অনুদান সেই অনুদান আদায় দিয়া হৈছে। অসমৰ Maternity Project অনুযায়ী এই বিলাক অনুষ্ঠানৰ বাবে ৩ বিঘা বা ১ প্ৰবালৈ মাটি দিব লাগে আৰু এই মাতৃমঙ্গল কেন্দ্ৰ বিলাকৰ কাৰণে Central Social Welfare Centre এ ৫০ per cent খৰছ দিব। Local Government এ ২৫ per cent দিছে আৰু ৰাইজৰ তৰফৰ পৰা ২৫ per cent দিব লাগে। কিন্তু বৰ্তমান মাৰি মৰকৰ দিনত ৰাইজৰ যি contribution দিব লগীয়া সেই contribution ৰাইজৰ তৰফৰ পৰা আদায় কৰা টানহৈ পৰিছে। গতিকে মূল কথা এইটো যে, যি ২৫ per cent ৰাইজে দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা আছে, সেই ২৫ per cent ও আমাৰ চৰকাৰে বহন কৰিব লাগে। কিয়নো আমাৰ দেশৰ অসহাৰা তিবোতা আৰু শিশু সকলৰ মঙ্গলৰ বাবে অসমত মঙ্গল বিধায়ক চৰকাৰে মানবতাৰ দৃষ্টি কোণৰ পৰা সাহায্য কৰিব লাগে। গতিকে মই প্ৰস্তাবটো সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ।

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palasbari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua. Sir, after the attainment of Independence, there is a tendency in the minds of the people to start child welfare centres and also to take up schemes for similar organisations in our country and as a result of that, in many places, the people have started such organisations with their own money. But, Sir, we find that some of these organisations have died out for want of money. Some of the organisations have received some money, which is not sufficient to run the institution. Sir, unless and until, we can improve the health of our children, the health of the expectant mothers, and unless and until we take proper care for them, no country can prosper and our State cannot also develop.

Sir, as a matter of fact, these institutions should have been established by Government itself. But Government has not taken up any such step in this direction. To my mind, Government should come forward with finance and other necessary help. It is a pity that for want of money it has not become possible for many of these organisations to thrive well. So, if the Government places more money at the disposal of this Department, then not only the existing organisations will thrive, but also the people will be encouraged to start many other such organisations.

Sir, in this connection, I want to cite an example. The tribal people of Rani has constructed a house with their own money for starting a child welfare and maternity centre. The Minister-in-charge of Medical also visited the locality once.

But, Sir, I am sorry to announce that the house is being damaged as the people have not received any money from the Government.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) : Sir, I require notice of it.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palasbari) : Anyway, Sir, I am only giving an example, how these organisations are not thriving for want of money. That organisation of the tribal people has not been able to thrive, because the people have not received any help from Government.

So, I submit, Sir, unless and until Government come forward with sufficient money for these welfare organisations the prosperity and improvement of our country, improvement of the health of children and mothers, is not possible. So, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, মাননীয় শ্রীমতী কমল কুমারী বরুয়া যে প্রস্তাবটি উত্থাপন করেছেন, সেই প্রস্তাবটি আমি সর্বান্তঃকরণে সমর্থন করছি। আজ আমাদের দেশ Socialistic pattern এ গড়ে তোলার পথে অগ্রসর হয়েছে। স্বতরাং মাতৃ জাতিকে আমাদের এগিয়ে আনতে হবে। মায়েদের উপরেই সম্ভাবন সম্ভূতি এবং সমস্ত জাতির ভবিষ্যৎ নির্ভর করছে। এই প্রস্তাব সমর্থন করে আমি বলতে চাই যে মায়েদের বিশেষ উন্নতি করে মাতৃ মঙ্গল ও শিশু মঙ্গল কেন্দ্র বা সেই রকম যে সব প্রতিষ্ঠান আছে সেই গুলিতে আরও বেশী fund সরকারের দেওয়া উচিত।

এই সংগে আরও বলতে চাই যে, আমাদের দেশে অনেক মেয়ে অর্থনৈতিক চাপে পড়ে বা দৈবদুর্বিপাকে সমাজচ্যুত হয়ে জীবনকে দেশের ও দেশের কাজে লাগাতে পারছে না তাদের চরিত্র গঠন করে এবং স্বাবলম্বী করে তোলার দায়িত্ব সরকারেরই।

বর্তমানে অনেক জায়গায় মাতৃ মঙ্গল ও শিশু মঙ্গল কেন্দ্র জনসাধারণের প্রচেষ্টায় স্থাপিত হয়েছে। সেগুলিতে উপযুক্ত অর্থ সাহায্য দিয়েও চালু রাখার জন্য সরকার অবশ্যই স্বযোগ সৃষ্টি দিবেন।

যে সব ছেলে মেয়েরা পিতৃ মাতৃহীন হয়ে নিরাশ্রয় অবস্থায় রাস্তাঘাটে আশ্রয় নিয়েছে সরকার তাদের আশ্রয় দিয়ে পশ্চিম-বঙ্গ এবং অন্যান্য রাজ্যে যেকোন ব্যবস্থা হয়েছে Homes (অনাথ আশ্রম স্থাপন করে) সেরূপ ব্যবস্থা আমাদের রাজ্যেও ক'রে সরকার তাদের যোগ্য নাগরিক করে তুলবেন এই অনুরোধ।

এই অনাথ বালক-বালিকাদের প্রকৃত শিক্ষাদান করে তাদের trained personnel গড়ে তুলে তাদেরকে আমাদের রাজ্যের উন্নয়নের কার্যে নিয়োগ করতে সরকারকে অনুরোধ করছি। প্রস্তাবটি আমি সমর্থন করছি।

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় সদস্য শ্রীমতী কমলকুমারী বক্রাই মাতৃমঙ্গল আৰু শিশুমঙ্গল সম্বন্ধীয় যিটো অত্যাৱশ্যকীয় প্ৰস্তাৱ সদনত উত্থাপন কৰিছে সেইটো মই সবৰাস্তঃকৰণে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ।

এই খিনিতে মই এটা কথাত দোষ স্বীকাৰ কৰি কওঁ যে এনে এটা অত্যাৱশ্যকীয় প্ৰস্তাৱ প্ৰথমে আমাৰ পুৰুষ সকলৰ তৰফৰ পৰাই অহা দৰ্কাৰ আছিল। যাঁহওক, সেইটো নহ'ই মহিলা সকলেই যেতিয়া আগবঢ়ুৱা হৈছে তেতিয়া আমাৰ পুৰুষ সকলে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱটোৰ পৃষ্ঠপোষকতা কৰি আগবঢ়াই নিয়াটো নিতান্ত দৰ্কাৰ বুলি মই অনুভৱ কৰোঁ।

তথাপি বৰ্তমান দেখা যায় যে পুৰুষ সকলেও আমাৰ মাতৃ জাতিক সহায় কৰিবলৈ সকলো ক্ষেত্ৰতে আগবাঢ়ি আহিব লাগিছে। আমাৰ বৰ্তমান প্ৰসূতি বা মাতৃ মঙ্গল কেন্দ্ৰ বিলাকৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিবলৈ যে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ গ্ৰহণ কৰা নিতান্ত দৰ্কাৰ তাক মই নকলেও হব। আমাৰ দেশত ইমান দিনে প্ৰসূতিৰ পৰিচৰ্যা ক্ষেত্ৰত মাতৃ জাতিক অৱহেলাৰ চকুৰে চাই অহা হৈছে। এনে এটি কাৰ্য্যত আমাৰ জাতিনিৰ্মাণৰ কি গুৰুত্ব আছে তাক উপলব্ধি কৰিবলৈ এতিয়াও অপাৰগ হলে আমি স্বস্থ-সবল জাতি গঠনত বহু পিচত পৰি যাম। গতিকে মই ভাবোঁ যে আমাৰ জাতি নিৰ্মাণত এই মাতৃ মঙ্গল বিধায়ক কাৰ্য্য মূল ভেটি স্বৰূপ।

এনে এটা গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ বিষয়ৰ উন্নতিৰ কাৰণে তাক প্ৰথম আৰু প্ৰধান স্থান দিব লাগে। চৰকাৰৰ কালৰ পৰা যাতে তাৰ বাবে যত্নৰ অকণো ক্ৰটি নহয় আৰু চৰকাৰে সেই বিষয়ে সম্পূৰ্ণ সহায় সহানুভূতি দেখুৱায় তাৰ কাৰণে মই সানুনয়ে অনুৰোধ জনাওঁ আৰু মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱ সাদৰেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰোঁ।

Mrs. USHA BARTHA KUR (Deputy Minister, Social Welfare) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

Although the hon. Members can speak both the languages but the speeches from the Treasury Benches should be in English so that all sections of the House can understand. In case the hon. Members are not in a position to speak in English, then they can speak in Assamese.

***Mrs. USHA BARTHA KUR :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I offer my heartfelt thanks to the hon. Member, Shrimati Komol Kumari Baruah, the Mover of the Resolution, who has espoused the right cause before the House. But I want to speak a few words on this Resolution for her consideration.

In the First Five-Year Plan though there was no provision for Social Welfare yet Rs.50,000 was provided for giving grants to non-official organisation doing social work specially for

women and children by taking supplementary grant in the year 1955-56. Under the Second Five-Year Plan some provisions have been made to meet the need in this field. For the information of the House, I like to say that the following institutions have been given grants-in-aid—

	Rs.
1. Voluntary Welfare Organisation ...	2.31 lakhs
2. Welfare Extension Project	11.84 „
3. For Care services	14 „
4. For Plains Tribal people under Article 275.	6 „
5. For Hills Tribal people	9.54 „
6. For Scheduled Caste people	6.10 „

Besides these provisions, grants of non-recurring nature are available for the welfare institutions from the following resources :—

1. Self-help Grant, under Article 275,
2. Self-help Grant from the State Revenue,
3. From the Development Schemes,
4. From Cottage Industries Schemes,
5. From the Medical Department,
6. From the Rural Development and,
7. From the Co-operative Department.

Therefore you will see that grants are liberally made in favour of organisation engaged in welfare work, specially for women and children.

Apart from these, during the year 1956-57, 107 institutions received grants from the Central Social Welfare Board through the State Social Welfare Board, totalling Rs.2,77,800.

Under the Second Five-Year Plan period, Government of India has provided a considerable sum of money in the Central Social Welfare Board's Budget for giving grants to non-official organisation doing welfare services for women and children.

Sir, grants from the Central Social Welfare Board are distributed on the recommendation of the State Social Welfare Board. Though there is a considerable amount for giving grants to welfare organisations, it is a matter of regret that Assam has not been able to take this advantage due to dearth of applications from deserving institutions.

It is said that the procedure of making matching contribution has hampered the people from receiving the grants and, Sir, our people are poor. They are not in a position to offer this matching contribution. The matter was referred to Shrimati Durgabhai, Chairman of the Central Social Welfare Board, but she regretted that she could not divert from the procedure of making matching contribution as other States have accepted this. But I think we should not be disappointed and the Government are trying their best to remove these difficulties. It may also be added that in the First Five-Year Plan period, 17 welfare extension projects were allotted to this State, of which 12 projects have been set up. These extension projects, covering 20,000 people each, cater to the needs of women and children by establishing pre-basic schools, periodical health examination adult schools, maternity and child welfare centres and cottage industry centres. Under the Second Five-Year Plan every district will have four projects with the estimate of Rs.40,000 per project per year of which 25 per cent, that means Rs.10,000, is borne by the State Government and Rs.10,000 is borne by the public. To serve these institutions arrangements have already been made to train 30 gram sevikas and 7 midwives or *dhais* annually. Apart from this, the State Government, with the co-operation of the Central Government, has taken a scheme for 3 State homes amounting to Rs.20,90,000 for rescued women and after care persons discharged from correctional institutions and reformatories. To-day we find that the welfare of women and children of our State is not hampered for want of money but for want of women social workers and deserving institutions. So, it is considered that the existing provisions are adequate to meet the financial need of the *bona fide* welfare organisations and the mover is, therefore, requested to withdraw the Resolution.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Kotonigaon):
In view of the reply given by the Deputy Minister, I beg leave to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Resolution *re* : constitution of a Revenue Tribunal

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palasbari) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to constitute a Revenue Tribunal consisting of three members to hear all revenue appeals.

Sir, the main purpose of moving this Resolution is to remove certain anomalies which now exist with regard to revenue appeals. Before the establishment of High Court in Assam, the revenue appeals were heard by the Revenue Tribunal and by the Ministers concerned. After the establishment of the High Court some of the revenue appeals were transferred to the High Court. Sir, the High Court, being the second appellate authority, confines itself mostly to law points. The people find difficulty in getting proper relief because all these revenue cases are on facts and mostly not on law points. Besides this, there are still certain revenue appeals before the Minister of Revenue, before the Minister of Forests and certain excise appeals also. But the Ministers do not always find adequate time in view of the volume of work they have to do. So, if these appeals, which are now heard by the Minister, be transferred to the Revenue Tribunal, it will be better not only for the Government but also for the people.

Secondly, Sir, the number of excise appeals has greatly increased and the Government is getting about two crores of rupees from the Excise Department as revenue. There is a first appeal before the Commissioner of Excise, but since the Commissioner of Excise is also the executive authority he may not be in a position to do proper justice. The Government decided to constitute a tribunal to hear appeals from the Commissioner of Excise and a tribunal was constituted in 1953 consisting of three Secretaries. But as the three members of the tribunal were all Secretaries to Government, they could not meet together as often as necessary. So, finding difficulty, Government has now authorised the Commissioner of Hills and Appeals to hear all these excise appeals. But, Sir, the Commissioner of Hills and Appeals has also got multifarious works and as a result he cannot devote more time to hearing the appeals.

Moreover, Sir, in all appellate authorities we find that there are at least three judges. In the highest appellate authorities of the State, *viz.*, the High Courts and the Supreme Court, there are more than two judges. But here the Commissioner of Hills and Appeals is the highest appellate authority

and it is not unlikely that he may commit certain mistakes also. So, if the appeals are heard not by one but by three members, Government will also get proper revenue and, at the same time, the people will also get proper justice. So, if a Revenue Tribunal is constituted with three members, which will be the highest judicial authority, then all the appeals on the revenue side will be heard by this Tribunal and the people will be in a position to get proper relief on this score. With these few words, I commend my Resolution to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Resolution moved is that this Assembly is of the opinion that the Government of Assam do take immediate steps to constitute a Revenue Tribunal consisting of three members to hear all revenue appeals.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of these revenue matters were transferred to the High Court by an Act of the Legislature, and naturally the High Court will have to be consulted in these matters if we want to take away those revenue matters which had already been transferred to the High Court from their jurisdiction. It is doubtful whether a resolution can be moved by the hon. Member, with a view to take out Revenue matters entrusted to High Court by an Act from the jurisdiction of the High Court.

Then, the present High Court may not have sufficient work at present, as has been mentioned by the Mover of the Resolution. But I would like to place before the House that some of these revenue matters which had been transferred to the High Court involve very intricate questions, and naturally such matters should be decided by the High Court, so that any aggrieved person can go to the Supreme Court.

Again what are the items which can be conveniently taken away from the jurisdiction of the High Court, is a matter which should be considered very carefully. There are some difficulties with regard to revenue matters relating to settlement of fisheries, settlement of contracts, etc. These matters sometimes take unusually long time for their disposal, involving loss of Revenue. So the Government will have to be very careful before they proceed to take away these matters from the jurisdiction of the High Court, as the powers relating to these matters have already been conferred on the High Court by an Act.

Then, some appeals like Excise appeals, appeals relating to settlement of contracts, settlement of Mahals, etc., are also heard by the Commissioner of the Hills Division, in addition to his own duties. At the time when the Revenue Tribunal was there, a single member had to take up all these matters as it was thought unnecessary to have more than one member because it would involve huge expenditure. In view of this it is doubtful to increase the number of members in the Revenue Tribunal.

Secondly there is a tendency on the part of the representatives of the appellants that there should be speedy disposal of cases. So all these things are to be examined very carefully. Therefore, there is need for some sort of a Revenue Tribunal or Board of Revenue. In various States in India there are such Boards of Revenue which not only hear appeals on settlement of contracts, settlement of fisheries, etc., but they also deal with matters relating to land development. So all these matters will have to be carefully considered before we come to a decision. For these reasons the Government propose to set up a High Power Committee consisting of the Chief Secretary; two Commissioners of Divisions; Secretary, Revenue and the Finance Secretary to examine how we can solve all these problems by constituting a Board of Revenue. Such Board of Revenue is also necessary under the Income-tax Act. So this High Power Committee after examining all other circumstances prevailing in Assam, and the other States will submit a report to the Government for consideration. Therefore for that purpose we have proposed to set up the High Power Committee which will examine the question very carefully and submit their report for consideration of the Government. In view of this I would request the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palasbari): Sir, in view of the statement made by the Chief Minister on the floor of the House, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution.

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

Resolution re : construction of an improved bridge over the Bhogdoi river on the Assam Trunk Road near Jorhat Town

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that

the Government of Assam do construct a double way improved bridge on the Bhogdoi River on Assam Trunk Road near Jorhat Town within the financial year 1957-58.

মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো দাঙি ধৰি পৰিষদক জনাব খোজোঁ যে এই বাজেট অধিবেশনৰ ভিতৰতে ভালৈ কেইজন মাননীয় সদস্যই আৰু মই এই সম্পৰ্কে এনেকুৱা ধৰণৰ প্ৰশ্ন গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগৰ মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰীৰ ওচৰত দাঙি ধৰিছোঁ। আৰু সেই একেটা প্ৰশ্নকেই এটা প্ৰস্তাৱৰ আকাৰত দাঙি ধৰিছোঁ। এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো উত্থাপন কৰোঁতে এটা কথা বিবেচনা কৰা হৈছে যে অসম ট্ৰান্সপোৰ্টটো আজি অকল অসমৰেই নহয় ই গোটেই ভাৰতৰ লগত সংযোগ কৰা আৰু ভাৰতৰ একেবাৰেই উত্তৰ পূব প্ৰান্তলৈ যাব পৰা একেটা মাত্ৰ বাস্তাৱ। এই বাস্তাৱটোৰ দলং আৰু পুল বিলাক যাতে বহল হয় তাৰ কাৰণে বন্ধ কৰা আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ মুখ্য কৰ্ত্তব্য।

যুদ্ধৰ দিনত দলং আৰু পুল বিলাক কাঠেৰে বহল কৰি লৈছিল। কিন্তু যুদ্ধ পাৰ হৈ যোৱাৰ পিচত এতিয়া সেই কাঠ বিলাক পচি যোৱাৰ লগে লগে সেই দলং বিলাক ঠেক হৈ গল আৰু গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগে সেই দলঙৰ ইনুৰে আৰু সিমুৰে একোখন “ঠেক দলং” আৰু জাননী দি থৈছে। যোৰহাট নগৰৰ মাজত ভোগদৈৰ দলংখন আজি যি পৰিস্থিতিত আছে, যোৱা বছৰলৈকে নগাঁৱৰ কলঙৰ দলংখনো ঠিক সেই একে পৰিস্থিতিতে আছিল। কলঙৰ দলং পাৰ হোৱাত যেনেকৈ পুলিচে হুছেল মাৰি যাতায়াত নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰিছিল, আজি যদিও ভোগদৈৰ দলঙত সেইদৰে পুলিচে যাতায়াত নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কৰা নাই তথাপি বাইজে তেনেকুৱা বা তাতোকৈ বেচিকৈ অসুবিধা ভোগ কৰিব লগা হৈছে। কলঙৰ দলং পাৰ হওঁতে এখন বিক্কা পাৰ হৈ যাব পাৰিছিল, কিন্তু ভোগদৈৰ দলঙেদি গাঁৱি পাৰ হওঁতে বিক্কা পাৰ হৈ যাব নোৱাৰে আৰু যদিহে গৰুৰ গাড়া বা মটৰ এখন যায় তেনেহলে বাইচাইকেল এখনো যাব নোৱাৰে। বাইচাইকেল কেতিয়াবা কলঙৰ ভিতৰত সোমাই দুৰ্ঘটনা হোৱাৰ উদাহৰণো আছে। এই আলিটো অকল যোৰহাটৰ বাইজৰেই প্ৰয়োজন নহয়, এইটো গোটেই অসম আৰু ভাৰতৰ এটা সংযোগ পথ আৰু যোৰহাট কিয়, এই আলিয়েদি সকলো ঠাইৰ মানুহে যাতায়াত কৰোঁতে এই দলঙৰ ওচৰত বহি থাকিব লগীয়া হৈছে। ইয়াত প্ৰত্যেক দিন গাড়ী জাম (jam) হৈ যাম আৰু তাৰ ফলত যাতায়াতৰ অসুবিধা হয়। খুব জৰুৰী কামত ডিব্ৰুগড়লৈ যাওক বা শিলঙলৈকে আহক যাত্ৰী সকলে কেতিয়াবা কেতিয়াবা বহুত সময় বৈ থাকিব লগা হয় দুৰ্ঘটনাৰ হাত সাৰিব নোৱাৰা হয়।

ইয়াৰ আগতে প্ৰশ্ন বিলাকৰ ভিতৰত মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰীয়ে এটা কথা প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে যে যোৰহাটৰ উত্তৰ কাষেদি এটা bye pass (আলিবাট) খোলাৰ প্ৰস্তাৱ চলি আছে আৰু ভাৰত চৰকাৰে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱ মঞ্জুৰ কৰিছে। এই bye pass টো নতুন আলি হব। কিন্তু সেই আলি হলেও এই দলংখনৰ প্ৰয়োজন কোনোওপে কমাই দিব নোৱাৰে। সেই নতুন আলিটো মাত্ৰ হব পাৰে ডাঙৰ ট্ৰাকৰ কাৰণে G. M. C. ৰ নিচিনা বোজাই কৰা ট্ৰাকৰ কাৰণে। কিন্তু সাধাৰণ যাতায়াতৰ কাৰণে মনুহে সেই bye pass এদি কেতিয়াও নাযায়। তেওঁলোকে নগৰৰ মাজেদিহে যাব কাৰণ নগৰৰ মাজেদি গলে তেওঁবিলাকে লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকক নগৰ দেখুৱাবলৈ আৰু কিবা বস্তু বাহানি কিনিবলৈকো সুবিধা পাব। গতিকে সেই bye pass হলেও ভোগদৈৰ এই দলং খনৰ মূল্য কোনোওপে কমি নাযায়। আগতে আজিকালিৰ দৰে আমাৰ মানুহ আলিবাটলৈ নগৈছিল। এতিয়া বেচিকৈ মানুহে আহাযোৱা কৰাৰ কাৰণে দিনে দিনে, সপ্তাহে সপ্তাহে এই আলিটোত বা দলঙত ‘জাম’ (jam) হোৱাৰ কাৰণে বাইজে বেচিকৈ অসুবিধা অনুভৱ কৰিছে।

বহুত সময়ত এনেকুৱা সমালোচনা শুনিবলৈ পোৱা যায় “যে আজিকালি আমাৰ নিজৰ চৰকাৰ, আমাৰ M. A. L. সকলো আছে, কত দলং মঞ্জুৰ কৰিছে কিন্তু এই দলংখন কাৰো চকুত পৰা নাই নে কি? এই দলংখন যোৰহাটৰ M. L. A. সকলৰ চকুত পৰানাই এনে নহয়, কিন্তু কিয় এই দলংখন হোৱা নাই?” যি অসুবিধা নগঞা বাইজে ভোগ কৰিছিল আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ লগতে গোটেই অসমৰ বাইজেও ভোগ কৰিছিল, আমি সন্তোষ পাইছো। যে আজি নগাঁৱৰ সেই অসুবিধা দূৰ হৈছে আৰু অসমত re-inforced concrete ৰ এখন আধুনিক ধৰণৰ দলং নিৰ্মাণ হৈছে। সেই টকা ভাৰত চৰকাৰৰ পৰা আনিছে নে অসম চৰকাৰৰ পুঁজিৰ পৰা দিছে সেইকথা জানিবৰ আজি অসমৰ বাইজৰ বিশেষ প্ৰয়োজন নাই কিন্তু দলংখনৰ অসুবিধা যে দূৰ হৈছে সেইকাৰণে অসমৰ বাইজ আজি কৃতজ্ঞ। যোৰহাটৰ অসম ট্ৰান্সবোৰ্ডৰ ওপৰৰ দলংখন যদি অহাযোৱা কৰা যাত্ৰী সকল ‘জাম’ (Jam) হৈ বৈ থাকিব নলগা এখন দলং হয় তেনেহলে এই আলিটোয়েদি যাতায়াত কৰাত বাইজৰ বহুত সুবিধা হয়। এই সুবিধা নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে বাইজে অনেক কষ্ট ভোগ কৰিছে আৰু মাজে সময়ে দুৰ্ঘটনাৰ মুখত পৰিছে বুলি মই আগতে কৈছো আৰু সেই দলংখন ভাল নহলে বাইজে কষ্ট ভোগ কৰিয়েই থাকিব লাগিব। যিমানেই সাৱধান নহওক মাজে সময়ে দুই এটা দুৰ্ঘটনা হবই হব। অলপ দিনৰ আগতে দলঙৰ ইফালে আৰু সিকালে কাঠেৰে দুটা foot path তৈয়াৰ কৰা হৈছে। কিন্তু সেই কাঠৰ foot path ৰে মানুহ অহা যোৱা কৰিব পাৰে, বাইচাইকেল বা বিক্ৰা যাব নোৱাৰে। গৰুৰ গাড়ী মটৰ গাড়ী, ঘোৰাৰ গাড়ী ইত্যাদিৰ যাতায়াতৰ কাৰণে যিখন সাধাৰণ ঠেক দলং আছে সেই ঠেক দলঙেদি অহাযোৱা কৰিব লাগে আৰু যেতিয়ালৈকে এফালৰ ‘জাম’ নাভাঙে তেতিয়ালৈকে যান বাহনৰ যাত্ৰী সকল বৈ থাকিব লাগে। সেই কাৰণে এই পৰিঘটনৰ সদস্য সকলক জনাব পাৰোঁ। যে bye-path যেতিয়া হব তেতিয়াও এই দলং খনৰ মূল্য কম নহয়। অসমৰ এই ট্ৰান্সবোৰ্ডটোৰ দলং বিলাক যিমান দূৰ পৰা যায় সোনকালে বহল নকৰিলে যাতায়াতৰ যে কিমান অসুবিধা হৈ থাকিব সেইটো এই পৰিঘটনৰ সদস্য সকলে অনুভৱ কৰিছে। যোৰহাট নগৰৰ এই দলং খনৰ পৰা যে বাইজে বহুত অসুবিধা পাইছে সেইটোও পৰিঘটনৰ সদস্য সকলে অনুভৱ কৰিছে। সেইকাৰণেই মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সদনত দাখিল ধৰিছোঁ আৰু মোৰ বিশ্বাস সদনে মোৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো গ্ৰহণ কৰিব।

Mr. SPEAKER: The Resolution moved is that the Government of Assam do construct a double way improved bridge on the Bhogdoi River on Assam Trank Road near Jorhat Town within the financial year 1957-58.

There is an amendment to the resolution moved by Shri Sarbeswar Bardoloi in the name of the hon. Member, Shri Mohananda Bora. Hon. Member Shri Pegu will take his chance afterwards.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move an amendment to the resolution moved by Shri Sarbeswar Bardoloi. My amendment is this:

1. Insert between the word “do” and “construct a double way” the following—“recommend to the Government of India to”.

2. *Substitute* the words "Assam Trunk Road" by the words "Assam National High Way" occurring in the third line of the Resolution.

After these alterations the shape of the resolution will be like this :

This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do recommend to the Government of India to construct a double way improved bridge on the Bhogdoi River on Assam National Highway near Jorhat Town within the financial year 1957-58.

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ২১নং প্রস্তাবটোত যোৰ এটা সংশোধনী আছে। আমাৰ যিবিলাক 'নেচনেল' 'হাই ওৱেজ' আছে সেইবোৰ আৰু তাৰ ওপৰত যিবিলাক দলং আছে সেইবোৰ অসম চৰকাৰৰ নহয়। মূল প্রস্তাবত আছে Government of Assam do construct ; গতিকে Government of Assam do recommend to the Government of India to construct হ'ব লাগে। আকৌ আমাৰ এম্ব্লেমেন্টৰ ঠাইত হ'ব লাগে—"Assam National Highways"

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, অসমৰ নগৰ বিলাকৰ ভিতৰত যোৰহাট টাউন-ও এখন প্রধান নগৰ। যোৰহাট নগৰৰ পূব প্রান্তত থকা ভোগদৈ দলং খনৰ আজিলৈকে একো Improvement হোৱা নাই। অসমৰ বহুতো নগৰৰ প্ৰবেশ পথত এই ধৰণৰ দলং আছে আৰু অতীতত যেতিয়া এই দলং বিলাক সজা হৈছিল তেতিয়াৰ দিনত হয়তো ইয়েই ভাল দলং বুলি পৰিগণিত হৈছিল ; কিন্তু আজিৰ দিনত নহয়। গুৱাহাটী সোমান্ততে ভৰলুমুখৰ দলং, নগাঁও সোমান্ততে কলং দলঙৰ যোৰহাটৰ ভোগদৈ দলং, উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰৰ গৰীয়া যানৰ দলং, মঙ্গলদৈত মঙ্গলদৈৰ ওচৰৰ দলং আৰু বেনাৰ দলং আদি একে বিধৰ দলং। কালৰ গতিত ভৰলু, কলং আৰু মঙ্গলদৈৰ দলঙৰ উন্নিত হল কিন্তু যোৰহাটৰ ভোগদৈৰ দলং অকু উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰ গৰীয়া যানৰ দলং একেই থাকিল। National Highwayৰ ওপৰত থকা ভোগদৈৰ দলং ত্ৰিশ বছৰৰ আগত আমি ছাত্ৰ থাকোতে যিদৰে আছিল আজিও প্ৰায় সেই দৰেই আছে। এই দলং খনেই উজনি অসমলৈ যাতায়াত কৰাৰ এক মাত্ৰ দলং। এই খন পাৰহৈয়েই উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰলৈও যায়। এই দৰেই ইয়েই একমাত্ৰ উজনি অসমৰ সংযোগ পথ। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও যোৰহাটৰ নিচিনা এখন উঠি অহা জনবহুল নগৰৰ হাজাৰ হাজাৰ নবনাৰীৰ অহা যোৱা কৰিব লাগে।

কোনো উৎসৱৰ সময়ত, বিশেষকৈ দুৰ্গাপূজাৰ সময়ত, এই দলঙত যিমান ভিৰ হয় আৰু এই ভিৰৰ মাজেদি পাৰ হওতে গাৰী আদিৰ কথা কবই নালাগে খোজকঢ়া বা বাইচাইকেলত যোৱা মানুহকো একঘন্টা দেৰঘন্টা সময় লাগে। যেতিয়া এফালৰ পৰা এক লাইন গাৰী বা মটৰ পাৰ হ'ব লগা হয় তেতিয়া চাইকেল বা মানুহ পাৰ হোৱা সম্ভৱ নহয়। যোৰহাটৰ নিচিনা এখন আগবাঢ়া ঠাইত এই অবস্থা থকাটো অতি দুখৰ কথা ; আৰু বহুত দিনৰ আগতে এই অবস্থা গুচিব লাগিছিল।

মই আশা কৰো এই বছৰৰ ভিতৰতে আমাৰ অসম চৰকাৰৰ গড়কাপ্তানি বিভাগৰ তৰফৰ পৰা কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত জোৰ দি এই বাস্তাৱ দলং খন ভাল কৰিবৰ চেষ্টা কৰে। সেইমৰ্মে এই সদনৰ সদস্যসকলক অনুৰোধ জনাও যাতে এই প্রস্তাব সংশোধনী আকাৰে গৃহণ কৰা হয়।

Mr. SPEAKER : Is the Amendment moved just now is acceptable to the Mover of the Resolution? (The Mover of the Resolution, Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi, was not in his seat at the time). It is highly objectionable and unparliamentary on the part of the Mover of the Resolution to be away from his seat at the time when this is being discussed. (Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi then returns to his seat). I must point out to the hon. Member that this is an unparliamentary practice to be absent from his seat when he himself has moved his Motion.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : I am sorry, Sir, I went to discuss something with the Minister-in-charge on this Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER : He must not leave his seat while his Motion is being debated particularly when the amendment to his Motion is being moved, because it is the time when he is to be asked whether the amendment is acceptable to him or not. However, I want to know whether the amendment is acceptable to the hon. Member.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : I accept this amendment, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : Then the Resolution will run as:—

“This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do recommend to the Government of India to construct a double way improved bridge on the Bhogdoi River on the Assam National Highway near Jorhat within the financial year 1957-58.”

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : Sir, may I suggest one thing in this resolution. I have no objection in accepting this Resolution. But I would like to point out to the hon. Member as well as the House that execution of the work within the financial year 1957-58 will be impossible even if it is intended to give effect to the Resolution as no fund has been provided in this year's Budget and in view of this I suggest that the words “immediately” or “as early as possible” be substituted for the words “within the financial year 1957-58”.

Mr. SPEAKER : This amendment should have been moved formally and then to leave it to the hon. Member to accept it or not. Anyway, it is now for the House to decide whether this amendment is acceptable in the way it has been

presented. (Voices : "As early as possible" will be better). I want to know whether it is acceptable to the hon. Member from Titabar.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : Yes, Sir, it is acceptable to me.

Mr. SPEAKER : Then the words "within the financial year 1957-58" be substituted by the words "as early as possible". I now put the question before the House.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department) : Sir, I propose to make a few observations in this respect of the resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER : Yes, it will be better.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA : Sir, I have no objection to accept this Resolution, and to move the Government of India to give effect to the Resolution. But I want to point out certain difficulties in this respect. The present policy of the Government of India is to construct a bridge on a bye-pass on the National Highway and to avoid the congestion of traffic in the town and such a proposal is under examination of the Government of India for a bridge on National Highway at Jorhat. Plans and estimates are under preparation and collection of data is also in progress. Now, the question arises even if the bridge on bye-pass is constructed, even then the old bridge in the Municipal area will have to be replaced by a new double way bridge. I think that is the intention of the hon. Mover of the Resolution.

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance) : That is not the thing.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Resolution is very clear. It runs as : "This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do recommend to the Government of India to construct a double way improved bridge on the Bhogdoi River on the Assam National Highway near Jorhat town as early as possible."

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance):** The Bhogdoi river bridge as referred to is just on the Municipal boundary of the Jorhat town and the bye-pass which is under contemplation and for which some survey work was done is in a place about one mile away from the Trunk Road and to the west of the Municipal boundary. Therefore, if the bye-pass is constructed, there will have to be constructed another new bridge for the bye-pass. Sir, this bridge is in the National Highway, *i. e.*, Assam Trunk Road, therefore, the bye-path bridge is completely different from the present bridge, which the present resolution seeks to make double way and improve. If this bridge would not have been beyond the contact of the bye-path road of the National Highway, one bridge would have done but this bridge is on the border of the Municipality and the bye-path road contacts the Trunk Road at one mile further from this bridge to the east.

***Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department):** I know the present policy of the Government of India and I have explained that policy which directs not to construct big bridges ordinarily. Of course, Nowgong was an exception. Whether it will be possible to make an exception in this case also I cannot say, but we will move the Government of India in this matter. That is the reason why I wanted to know from the Mover the intention of moving this Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member from Jorhat, the Minister of Finance, said what the Resolution wants. It is that the old bridge should be improved and made a double way in the existing site. I suppose, there is no difference of opinion. What the hon. Member in moving this Resolution wanted to say has been further clarified by the Finance Minister. Now, the Hon'ble. Minister, Public Works Department, said before the House what is the policy of the Government of India in this regard and he said that he will try to move the Government of India for an exception, if exception need be, in this case.

***Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA:** I accept the Resolution.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister Finance):** Are we to understand that this is the policy of the Government of India to abandon all the bridges on the National Highway?

***Shri GIRINDRANATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Revenue):** Do I understand that the Minister, Public Works Department, has no conception of a bridge and a bye-path?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture): Since the Opposition Members are absent we are making demonstration of ourselves (*Laughter*).

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Public Works Department): As I said, I accept the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER. The question is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do recommend to the Government of India to construct a double way improved bridge on the Bhogdoi River on the Assam National Highway near Jorhat Town as early as possible.

(The Resolution was adopted.)

Resolution re: Provision of sufficient funds to the Cottage Industries Department and grants-in-aid to the Venture Weaving Institutions in rural areas

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly is of opinion that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of Cottage Industries Department for adequate financing and grants-in-aid to the Venture Weaving Institutions organised by the public in the rural areas for the benefit of women at large.

Sir, ours is a poor State. Our people are also very poor. They can hardly manage to get two meals a day. It will not be wrong to say that most of our people in the rural areas are underfed. It is not because they are lazy, but because they do not find additional avenues of work. They are mostly illiterate and hence they do not know how to utilise them. Most of them have no economic holding and many of them have no land at all. Hence they must be given

some works so that they may not idle away their time. If we are to make our country prosper and the people happy and if we are really to us her in a socialistic pattern of society, where all will get equal opportunities for work, we have no other alternatives but to lay stress on cottage industries. In an agricultural country like ours it is by developing cottage industries, that we can expect to raise the income of our people and also to give opportunity to our rural population to utilise their spare time in a proper and beneficial way.

Moreover, the publicity is lacking in the rural areas. They do not know how to form a Co-operative and what is its benefit. It is hoped that steps would be taken to popularise the cottage industries through proper publicity, especially in the rural areas.

Sir, the object of moving this Resolution is to bring to the notice of the Government the difficulties of the Weaving Societies. It is true that the Government have recognised the necessity for development of these societies in the rural areas. Weaving and sericulture are the traditional industries in our villages. For planned economy, these societies can play an important role. These societies can offer opportunities for employment and through these the income of the people and their standard of living will be raised.

I feel that the help rendered by the Department by contributing a loom, possibly a fly-shuttle or a Charkha, has not been sufficient to bring in conditions so that these societies can stabilise themselves. There is need for more help. These societies can be converted into training-cum-production centres and with organised marketing, these societies may be made to stand on their feet.

We are aiming at creating condition for structure of a decentralised society and at the same time bringing in conditions for rural employment and for raising the standard of living. The instrument through which we can achieve this object can be possibly achieved. We cannot deny that the Government has taken some steps in this matter. We are grateful that the Government has assured the position of cottage industries. But, in spite of that, these societies have not been able to go ahead to the extent we desire.

It is difficult for many societies to raise the share capital besides their lack of working finance. They find it difficult

to purchase the number of looms and other necessary equipment.

Planning Commission itself is not satisfied with the existing arrangement for provision of finance. The Government is aware of the condition of our banking system. To remove the difficulties, I would urge upon the Government to come to the aid of the societies with sufficient grants-in aid. With these words, Sir, I beg to move the Resolution and appeal to the hon. Members of the House to support it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Resolution moved is that this Assembly is of opinion that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of Cottage Industries Department for adequate financing and grants-in-aid to the Venture Weaving Institutions organised by the public in the rural areas for the benefit of women at large.

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal) : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, শ্রীমতী কমল কুমারী বকরাই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ উপাধন কৰিছে মই তাক সাদৰেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ। আমাৰ অসমত নিবনুৱা সমস্যা ইমান বেচিকৈ বাঢ়ি গৈছে যে কেৱল গাৱতেই নহয় আজি চাহ বাগিছাৰ যিবিলাক বনুৱা আছে তেওঁ বিলাকৰ লৰা ছোৱালীয়েও যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে কাম পোৱা নাই আৰু কি কৰিব লাগিব তাৰো উপায় বিচাৰি পোৱা নাই। আমি দেখিছোঁ যে বহুতো চাহ বাগিছাৰ বনুৱাৰ লৰা ছোৱালীয়ে বেতৰ কাম খুব ভাল দৰে কৰিব পাৰে। তেনে ক্ষেত্ৰত চাহ বাগিছাত যিবিলাক বেতৰ টুকুৰী supply কৰা হয় সেই টুকুৰী বিলাক supply কৰে কিছুমান অৱস্থাপন্ন লোকে, কিন্তু চাহ বাগিছাৰ লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকে সেই সুবিধা নাপায়। আজি I.N.T.U.C. এ এই বিলাক কাম হাতত লৈছে। এই অনুষ্ঠানক যদি চৰকাৰে টকা দি সহায় কৰে তেনে হলে ঘৰত কাম নথকা বনুৱাৰ লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকৰ দ্বাৰাই বেতৰ টুকুৰী কৰাই বাগিছাত supply কৰি তেওঁ বিলাকৰ নিবনুৱা সমস্যা সমাধান কৰিব পৰা যায়। আমি দেখিছোঁ যে Black-smithyৰ কৰণে I.N.T.U.C. এ ব্যৱস্থা হাতত লৈছে আৰু তাত বহুতো চাহ বাগিছাৰ বনুৱাৰ লৰা ছোৱালীয়ে কাম কৰিছে। বাগিছাৰ নিতা প্ৰয়োজনীয় কলমচুৰী খুবকি আদি তৈয়াৰ কৰা শিক্ষা দিয়াত যদি চৰকাৰৰ ফালৰ পৰা ভাল সাহায্য থাকে তেনে হলে সেই কাম শিকাই বনুৱাৰ লৰা ছোৱালী বিলাকৰ নিবনুৱা সমস্যা সমাধান কৰাত বহুত সহায় হব।

তাৰ পিচত আমি দেখিছোঁ যে rehabilitation ৰ যি ব্যৱস্থা আছে সেই ব্যৱস্থা মতে মানুহক টকা দিয়ে আৰু ফৰেষ্টৰ নাইবা চাহ বাগিছাৰ চাহ নোহোৱা মাটি খেতি কৰিবলৈ দিয়ে। তাত কৃষি বিভাগৰ পৰা সহায় নোপোৱাৰ কাৰণে বা যিবিলাক মানুহে কেতিয়াও খেতি কৰা নাই তেনে মানুহকো কেবল খেতিৰ কাৰণে এডবা মাটি দিয়েই চৰকাৰে এৰি দিয়ে।

যদি তদন্ত কৰা হয় তেনেহলে আমি দেখিবলৈ পাম যে এই ৰিহেবিলেশ্যনত বিভিন্ন শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহ আছে। এনেকুৱা কিছুমান মহিলা আছে যিবিলাকে হাতৰ কাম কৰিয়েই যথেষ্ট উপাৰ্জন কৰিব পাৰে। তেওঁ বিলাকক যদি এক কালীন সূতা আৰু সম্ভৱ হলে তাতৰ শাল দিব পৰা যায় তেনে হলে তেওঁ বিলাকে আত্মনিৰ্ভৰশীল হৈ জীৱিকা নিবৰাহ কৰিব পাৰে। আমাৰ যি বিলাক Emporium আছে, আমি

দেখিবলৈ পাইছে। যে সেই Emporium বিলাকে কিছু সূতা আনে আৰু সেই সূতা বিক্ৰি হোৱাৰ পিচত তাত সূতা নাথাকে। সেই অনুষ্ঠানত কেতিয়াবা মজলীয়া সূতা থাকে, কেতিয়াবা সৰু সূতা থাকে নাইবা কেতিয়াবা পকোৱা সূতা থাকে। এবাৰ এবিধ সূতা আনিলে পিচত সেই সূতা পোৱা টান হয়। তেওঁ বিলাকে এককালীন যথেষ্ট সূতাও supply কৰিব নোৱাৰে। সেই কাৰণে Emporium বিলাকত এক কালীন যথেষ্ট সূতা supply কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা থাকিব লাগে। সূতা স্তুবিধা মতে পালে মহিলা বিলাকে যথেষ্ট কাম কৰিব পাৰে।

কুটিৰ শিল্প এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ভিতৰত পৰে নে নপৰে মই কব নোৱাৰোঁ। কিন্তু আমি দেখিছো যে কিছুমান মহিলাই বেচা কিনা কাম কৰি জীৱিকা নিৰ্বাহ কৰে। তেওঁ বিলাকে বেচিকৈ শাকপাচলি আৰু মাছ বিক্ৰি কৰে। কিন্তু যেতিয়া তেওঁলোক বজাৰত বহে তেতিয়া মহিলাই যি সন্মান পাব লাগে সেই সন্মান তেওঁ বিলাকে কেতিয়াও নাপায়। তেওঁ বিলাকে মহাজনৰ পৰা টকা ধাৰ কৰি দুপইচা উপাৰ্জন কৰিবৰ কাৰণে যি চেষ্টা কৰিব লাগে বা যিদৰে কিনা বেচা কৰিব লাগে তাত নাৰীদ্বৰ সন্মানৰ পৰা আঁতৰি আহিবলৈ বাধ্য হয়। ইয়াৰ কাৰণে যদি চৰকাৰে একোখন Society কৰি গাওঁৰ পৰা সজী বা মাছ কিনিবলৈ আৰু চহৰত fresh supply কৰিবলৈ অন্ততঃ এখন মটৰ আৰু টকা দিলেহেতেন তেনেহলে এই মহিলা সকলৰ বহুত উপকাৰ হ'ল হেতেন।

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order, তেখেতে যি খিনি কথা কব খোজে সেই খিনি প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ভিতৰত থাকিব লাগিব। প্ৰস্তাৱত কোৱা হৈছে—

“This Assembly is of opinion that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of Cottage Industries Department for adequate financing and grants-in-aid to the Venture Weaving Institutes organised by the public in the rural areas for the benefit of women at large.”

গতিকে তেখেতে Weaving ৰ সম্পৰ্কে হে কব পাৰিব। আন কথা কলে এই প্ৰস্তাৱ মতে অবাঞ্ছন্য হ'ব।

Shrimati LILY SEN GUPTA (Lahowal): কুটিৰ শিল্প এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ভিতৰত পৰে নে নপৰে সেইটো নাজানোঁ। বুলি আগেয়েই কৈ আহিছে।

যি হওক আমাৰ Weaving Department ৰ যিবিলাক Emporium আছে তাত যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে সূতা তাত শালৰ আহিলাপাতি দিব লাগে আৰু মহিলা সকলৰ যি দুই চাৰিটা চলিত অনুষ্ঠান আছে তাক জীয়াই ৰাখিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে যেন যথেষ্ট টকা দি সহায় কৰে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিলোঁ।

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palasbari): Mr speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua. Sir, ours is an agricultural country. But 60 per cent of our population have got no economic holdings or they are landless. So, unless and until, this 60 per cent of our population are supplemented or subsidised by some other cottage industries, or in other words, if the cottage industries of our country are

not organised by the unemployed educated youth, the wealth of our country cannot be increased.

Sir, in every house-hold, we have got looms. In every Assamese family, the members know how to weave. As a result of this, in many places, weaving Co-operative Societies have been organised by the villagers. But, Sir, these Weaving Co-operative Societies have not been receiving sufficient help from the Government. It is the duty of the Government not only to help these weaving co-operative societies, but also to organise all weaving Co-operative Societies throughout our State and to give them necessary help.

Sir, I cannot but mention here that due to inefficient management of the Cottage Industries Department, these weaving Co-operative Societies, are not receiving any help from Government. In many places, we have seen that Co-operative Societies have been formed by the villagers. They applied for loans from the Government, but the Department instead of giving loans to the Societies surrendered the amount every year. So, Sir, I would request the Minister-in charge of Cottage Industries to see that it is not a question of surrendering money, but it is a question of allotting more money to the cottage industries' endeavours. He also should see that the Weavers' Co-operative Societies are organised throughout the entire State so that the deficiency in the wealth can be subsidised by these cottage industries.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shrimati Komol Kumari Barua.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ কাটনিগাঁৱৰ মাননীয়া সদস্যাই যি প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে মই তাক সমৰ্থন কৰি এটা কথা কব খোজো যে আমাৰ যি বিলাক weaving society আছে তাত গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে যিদৰে তদাৰক কৰিব লাগিছিল সেই অনুযায়ী চৰকাৰৰ পৰা তদাৰক পোৱা নাই। মই আশা কৰো বয়ন সমিতি বোৰে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা উপযুক্ত তদাৰক পাব। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰে এটা বিশেষ উল্লেখযোগ্য কথা যে চাহ বাগিছাৰ ছোৱালী বিলাকে আৰু মহিলা সকলে বয়ন শিল্প শিকিবলৈ আগ্ৰহ কৰিছে। বৰ্তমান মই ছিলঙত থকা সময়ৰ ভিতৰতে চাহ বাগিছাৰ পৰা কেবাখনো চিঠি পাইছো। গবৰ্ণমেণ্টলৈ দিয়া দৰখাস্ত বিলাক মোৰ হাততে দি পাঠিয়াইছে। মই ভাবো তেওঁলোকৰ আবেদন বোৰৰ খুঁটি নাটিলৈ নেচাই গবৰ্ণমেণ্টে তেওঁলোকৰ প্ৰতিস্থানক সহায় কৰিব। চাহ বাগিছাৰ মহিলা আৰু ছোৱালী বিলাকৰ এই উদ্যোগক আগতকৈ বেচিকৈয়ে সহায় কৰিব লাগে। চাহ বাগিছাৰ মজদুৰ সকলৰ মাজত তাত শিল্প প্ৰচাৰ কৰিব পাৰিলে আসামৰ এটা ডাঙৰ জাতীয় কল্যাণ সাধন হয়। এই খিনিয়েই মোৰ জনাব লগীয়া। কথা মই মাননীয়া শিল্প মন্ত্ৰীক জনাই সামৰনি মাৰিলো।

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that this Resolution has come before the House although the scope of the same is extremely limited. I will try to reply to the points which my Friends have raised in this regard. No doubt, Sir, the Resolution is truly very important and I will try to make my observation so far as the reply is concerned. It is said that Government is not very alive to this question, but I say it is not so, we are actually very anxious so far as the matters in this regard are concerned. It is said in the Resolution that "This Assembly is of opinion that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of Cottage Industries Department....." As far as is feasible in this regard, Government have placed sufficient funds in this department. I remember in 1952-53, there was a National Income Survey and in that Survey it is said that the big industries of India produced only 6 per cent of India's production whereas the Cottage Industries produced over 10 per cent of India's production. Now big investments have gone to the big industries and only small amount and labours are investment of cottage industries. In the case of big industries the expenditure is eked out from place to place but still the cottage industries have come to survive and thrive, and as I have already stated above that although the surplus money has gone to the big industries, yet the big industries produced only 6 per cent of India's production. Therefore, to say the least that sufficient funds should be placed at the disposal of the Cottage Industries Department is like making a statement without realising the magnitude of the problem of the Government. Sir, I don't think this Government or the Government of India or any other State in India will place sufficient funds to this Department. In this connection, I may inform the House that we are taking steps and we have already taken steps in the past that as far as possible funds will be placed at the disposal of the Cottage Industries Department.

Sir, I will throw some light to this House what we did last year. Last year the total provision in this regard was Rs.1,27,000 for plan, Rs.28,900 for normal (General) and Rs.28,900 under 6th Schedule and, therefore, the total was

Rs.1,184,500 and this entire amount we spent and the expenditure was utilised as follows:—

	Rs.
Conversion of throw shuttle loom at 25 per cent of the cost.	96,000
Subsidy to mulberry growers	10,000
Subsidy to Muga growers	9,900
Subsidy to Eri growers	10,700
Contribution to industries	36,205
Contribution to individuals	21,695
Total ...	<u>1,84,500</u>

So, Sir, you will find that the total expenditure is round about the same. With the sum provided, I quite agree that it was a very meagre sum in consideration of the nature of work of the State, and therefore, we are trying to increase the contribution under different heads and actually, Sir, we have already made more provision in this year's budget for this department in order that we may get greater benefit. In this connection the All-India Hand Loom Board is giving grants for conversion of throw shuttle looms at 50 per cent of the cost. But this is restricted to the members of the co-operative societies only. We may, however, reduce the amount spent for subsidies to non-members and raise the contributions to institutions to Rs.80,000. I may point out here Sir, that so far this cottage industries department is concerned, we are going to spread the industries throughout the entire State and in different places in individual capacities also so that the industries may not be limited to societies only and according to me, what is necessary in the State is that we should have marketing societies in the entire co-operative societies; over and above this there should be subdivisional marketing societies which will be liable not merely for marketing the produce but also for financing with money and technical know-how to produce more and to carry the knowledge of technique on to the villagers and to give the knowledge of shifts to the producers, and if this is done then we can have a net work whereby we can resuscitate and improve the cottage industries of the State. Therefore, I would say that though the intention behind this Resolution is very good,

it is not, in its present form, acceptable to us because it cannot be fulfilled. I would, therefore, request the Mover that she be pleased to withdraw her resolution with this assurance of ours that we would take every step to go on expanding the benefits under these heads and if the hon. Mover or any other Member of this House at any stage will point out certain places where we have not been able to fix our attention sufficiently it would be our endeavour to do the same as quickly as possible. I may also inform the hon. Members that we have got a full-fledged textile institute at Gauhati and 28 weaving training centres in all parts of the State from where we are arranging for training. With these training institutes we have tried to cover the entire State. If necessary, we will be willing to consider whether any other place can be taken into account also. We would humbly suggest that it is wise to have efficient training institutes rather than incipient ones. I would, therefore, request the Mover, if she agrees with me, to withdraw her Resolution on this assurance.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2 p.m.

After lunch

(The Deputy Speaker Presided.)

Resolution to stop the move to assess the income of the Assam Oil Company in Calcutta

Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of the fact that the move to assess Assam Oil Company's income in Calcutta will be detrimental to the State of Assam, this Assembly is of opinion that Government of Assam do move the Government of India to stop the said move.

Sir, while moving this Resolution I would like to refer to some of the grievances of the people outside the House consistent within the demand purview of the Resolution. But I should like to make some reference only because in view of the grievances we can judge the merit of this Resolution. Sometimes a confusion comes to my mind. I do not know whether this sort of confusion similarly comes to the mind of other

hon. Members of this House. But more or less it is a sort of confusion in my mind as to whether we all fall short of knowledge and ideas with regard to Federal Republic of India or the Central Government is falling short of the duties and responsibilities that it has to bear for the State of Assam.

Sir, it also reminds me of the famous statement made by our Prime Minister on the very first day of our Independence which was given in All-India Radio broadcast that there are 360 millions of people in India with 360 problems. "We are to wipe out every tear from every eye" etc.—were the Statements, if I am correct. Then it also reminds me of the Preamble of the Sovereign Democratic Republic of India that we the people of India having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Democratic Republic and to secure to all its citizens:

Justice, social, economic and political ; Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship ;

Equality of status and of opportunity ; and to promote among them all Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the Nation.

Sir, judging from this point of view the Central Government has the responsibility which should be discharged towards the State of Assam. (As I have already stated that it may not be consistent with the resolution, I should like to refer this which is only within the line of the resolution and on the merit of the resolution as to what attitude has been shown by the Central Government to the State of Assam.) Since we are advancing the cause of socialistic pattern of society, on the economic activities we could never expect this attitude from the Government of India to concentrate all sorts of organisations in a particular State like Bombay and West Bengal. Sir, I would like to say that the Central Government should stop the move to assess Assam Oil Company's income in Calcutta which will be detrimental to the State of Assam.

Sir, under the head—"Diffusion of Industry" which I would like to quote from a newspaper, it says.—

"Diffusion of industry" has of late acquired a new social and economic significance in the perspective of India's planned

development. Under it comes various concepts of deconcentration such as dispersal, decentralisation and diversification of industry."

Secondly it has been said that "dispersal is delocalisation, that is to say, territorial distribution of a given industry over different geographical regions."

Sir, these are the things which bear to the economic development of the country. Therefore, in the national interest I like to request the Government that they should bring this resolution to the notice of the Government of India.

Now coming direct to the Resolution I should like to refer to the recommendations made by the Finance Commission in the year 1952. It has been definitely stated that "on a broad view of the position, we propose that twenty per cent of the State's share of the divisible pool should be distributed among the States on the basis of the relative collections of States and eighty per cent on the basis of their relative population according to the census of 1951."

Then it has been said, "the relevance of the factor of contribution in the distribution of a shared tax will be generally acknowledged. It is recognised, however, that collection is an inadequate index of contribution. Some consideration of the facts regarding collection will serve to bring this out clearly. Between them, the two States of Bombay and West Bengal account for nearly three-quarters of the collections of income-tax in the country," ".....Of these collections again; about three-quarters are made within the cities of Bombay and Calcutta. It is clear that the collections of income-tax within the limits of these two cities which account for the greater part of the collections in the country, do not in the main arise on account of activities which are confined to those limits. Nor can the high collections be accounted for by economic activity which is restricted largely to the States of which they are the capitals. Indeed, though it is impossible to indicate in what degree income subjected to tax in these cities should be ascribed to other States, there is no doubt that a substantial part of the tax receipts in these big port cities accrues in respect of incomes originating beyond the boundaries of the respective States. The high collections of income-tax in these All-India cities are due in a large measure to their being in a sense *entrepôts* of the country's import and export

trade and to the concentration within their confines of the head offices of companies and other concerns operating all over the country”.

From this point of view I should like to say that the shifting of assessment from Assam to Calcutta will be detrimental to the economic development of Assam. It was the duty of the Government of India to establish and strengthen the economic position of Assam, but in this act we definitely see that the Central Government is trying to deprive Assam of her legitimate share of income-tax. I therefore submit that Assam or the Central Government has been caught by the nightmare and that the existence of East Pakistan on the border of Assam has been a source of nightmare to the Government of India. That is why we want to be alert and vigilant over this question. There is no moral justification in shifting of this assessment from Assam to Calcutta. I should like to emphasise that the benefits that would accrue from the assessment in Calcutta will surely go to Calcutta. In this sense the Government of Assam is going to be deprived of this benefit. This certainly goes against the very interest of Assam. Sir, even though our Union Government has declared in most unambiguous terms that their goal is to establish a socialistic pattern of society in the country, we have found in so many instances in the economic activities of the Government of India that it is doing things against the declared socialist society. In this connection, Sir, I would like to say, if I may say so, that our Central Government is consciously or unconsciously doing things as to revert back to capitalism against which we Indian people in particular revolted during British regime. Sir, I should like to refer to this book as to what has been said about capitalism, capitalism is more or less going out of picture from the modern world. Here it is said in this book—“Powers other than mere right to receive interest are gathered into the hands of the capitalists, powers of command over the lives and welfare of property less men and women, power to influence for good or ill the functioning of society’s industrial structure, preponderance of power in the political world, all of which—give the capitalists a sinister aspect in the view of common men. Reaction against the institution of interest as a private income leads to organised movements which propose a thorough going change in the present economic structure of society”. Sir, even here in this book though it has been said above there is still a tinge of leaning on capitalism because the book itself is written by American writers and America still advocates capitalism even though the world at large is bidding farewell to capitalism. We Indian people are expressly against capitalism and we want

that our Central Government should, in our view, be tallying with what people are wanting it to do with due regard to the declared socialistic pattern of society. Accordingly the Central Government should lay emphasis on decentralisation of powers and other economic resources and particularly the State of Assam should be given all prior and favourable consideration in view of the fact that Assam has been placed in a disparity in all the spheres of her life due to partition of the country. It is the prior duty of the Central Government to tide over the imbalance that Assam is pitiably facing amongst all other States of India.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is the name of the book please ?

Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY : [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Economics by Fairchild.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is the point ?

Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY: I am trying to show that I am opposed to the capitalistic attitude of the Government of India. They like to concentrate all the resources in a particular place like Calcutta or Bombay and thereby they are going to deprive Assam of her legitimate share of the benefits.

Shri BISHNURAMRAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): The hon. Member should not indulge in direct attack of the Government of India on the floor of this House. Of course, if there be certain policies which may be considered as not correct, there is a way of criticising them. But to attack the Central Government in this fashion may not be in the best interest of the country.

Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY: Sir, what I have thought proper, I may like to express it. But if there is anything wrong in my statement, I would like to withdraw it.

In conclusion, I should like to say that having made all these statements and having shown through those statements, the various aspects of the matter, I strongly oppose the Central Government's move to transfer the assessment of the Assam Oil Company to Calcutta. With these words I strongly move this Resolution and I hope the hon. Members will give their whole-hearted support to the Resolution.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Resolution moved is that :

“In view of the fact that the move to assess Assam Oil Company's income in Calcutta will be detrimental to the State

of Assam, this Assembly is of opinion that Government of Assam do move the Government of India to stop the said move."

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Finance): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, having learnt that the files and accounts of the Assam Oil Company and the Assam Tea Company of Nazira have been taken to Calcutta for assessment of income-tax, we took up the matter with the Government of India. The Hon'ble Finance Minister of the Central Government was pleased to assure us that the accounts were transferred to Calcutta for administrative convenience. That is to say, the removal of assessment from Assam to Calcutta did not in any way affect Assam's share of divisible pool of income-tax. It was further assured that the Finance Commission taking every factor in view ascertained Assam's share. However, we are taking up this matter with the Finance Commission and I hope our Friend will withdraw the Resolution.

Shri LALIT KUMAR DALEY [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the assurance given by the Finance Minister, I take leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Resolution re: closing down of all liquor shops in Assam within the year 1958

✓ **Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution.

"In view of the fact that the existence of the liquor shops stands in the way to prohibition and to effect successful prohibition in the State, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to close down all the liquor shops of the State within the year 1958."

মই বৰ দুখেৰে সৈতে এটা কথা জনাব লগীয়া হৈছো যে, কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে আগতে এটা ঘোষণা কৰিছিল যে, ১৯৫৮ চনৰ ভিতৰতে সমগ্ৰ ভাৰতত

মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিব, আৰু সেই নীতিৰ ভিত্তিতে অসম চৰকাৰেও ১৯৫৮ চনৰ ভিতৰতে মাদক দ্রব্য বৰ্জন কাৰ্য্য সমাধা কৰিবলৈ আগবাঢ়িছিল। কিন্তু এই নিৰ্দিষ্ট সময়ৰ ভিতৰত যে অসম চৰকাৰে মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন কাৰ্য্য সমাধা কৰিব পাৰিব তাৰ কোনো লক্ষণ দেখা নাই। আৰু ভাৰত চৰকাৰেও মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন নীতি চিলাই দিয়া যেন অনুভৱ কৰিছো। মই আৰু এটা কথা এই সদনক জনাব খোজো যে কংগ্ৰেছৰো এটা নীতি আছিল যি নীতিৰ মতে মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন কৰাৰ কথা স্বাধীনতা লাভ কৰাৰ আগতে ঘোষণা কৰিছিল আৰু পিচত প্ৰতি বছৰে ২৬ জানুৱাৰীৰ দিনা কংগ্ৰেছ কৰ্মী সকলে জাতীয় পতাকাৰ সমুখত ঠিয় হৈ মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন কৰিব বুলি সংকল্প কৰিছিল আৰু এই মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন কংগ্ৰেছ কৰ্মী সকলৰ এটা বিশেষ গুণ আছিল। আনকি মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন নকৰিলে কংগ্ৰেছত যোগ দিবকে নোৱাৰিছিল। এনেকুৱা কঠোৰ নীতি কংগ্ৰেছৰ আছিল।

আজি স্বাধীনতা লাভ কৰাৰ ১০ বছৰ পাচতো আৰু কেন্দ্ৰ আৰু ৰাজ্য বিলাকত কংগ্ৰেছ গৱৰ্ণমেণ্ট চলাব ১০ বছৰ পাচতো Prohibition বা মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন সম্পূৰ্ণ ৰূপে হোৱা নাই আৰু মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন কাম হাতত লোৱাৰ পাচতো এই কাম প্ৰায় বন্ধ হৈ আছে বুলি কব লাগিব। অসমত যেতিয়া কানি নিবাৰণী আন্দোলন চলিছিল, তাত কংগ্ৰেছে কৃতকাৰ্য্যতা লাভ কৰিছিল বুলি কব পাৰি। কিন্তু সেই কংগ্ৰেছৰে মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন আন্দোলন আংশিক ৰূপেও কৃতকাৰ্য্য হোৱা বুলি কব নোৱাৰি। স্বাধীনতা আন্দোলনৰ সময়ত এটা প্ৰকৃত আন্দোলন অসমত হৈছিল আৰু সেই আন্দোলনত আমি কৃতকাৰ্য্যতা লাভ কৰিলো। অসমত কানি বৰবিহ বৰ্জন কৰাৰ লগে লগে আৰু সেই সময়ত অসম চৰকাৰে কানি প্ৰচলন বন্ধ কৰিবৰ বাবে কানিৰ মহল বিলাক বন্ধ কৰি দিয়ে। কিন্তু ভাঙ্গৰ আৰু মদৰ দোকান বিলাক আজিও চৰকাৰে চলাই আছে। ভাং এটা বৰ অনিষ্টকাৰী বস্তু নহয়।

Shri MATIRAM BORA (Minister, Home) : How does 'Bhang' come in here, Sir ?

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : মই ভাঙলৈ ঠিক অহা নাই। কিন্তু মদৰ প্ৰচলন যে অসমত অতি সোনকালে বন্ধ হব লাগে তাত কোনো সন্দেহ নাই আৰু এই কথাত বোধ হয় চৰকাৰৰো দ্বিমত নাই। মাজতে বাধা দিছে সম্ভবতঃ চৰকাৰৰ ৰাজহে অৰ্থাৎ মদ বিক্ৰী কৰি অসম চৰকাৰে যি ধন পাইছে সেইটোৱেই। মই আশা কৰিছো অসম চৰকাৰে এই ৰাজহৰ প্ৰলোভন সম্বৰণ কৰিব আৰু নিজৰ পূৰ্বৰ ঘোষিত নীতি মতে অসমৰ মদৰ দোকান বিলাক বন্ধ কৰি অসমত মাদকদ্রব্য বৰ্জন সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিব।

এটা বুৰঞ্জী মূলক আখ্যান বা প্ৰকৃত ঘটনা আমাৰ অসমত আছে। অসমৰ পিচপৰা বা পাহাৰী জাতিৰ মাজত পূৰ্বৰে পৰা মদৰ প্ৰচলন আছিল আৰু চাহ বাগিছাৰ মজদুৰ শ্ৰেণীৰ মানুহে আগৰে পৰা মদ খাইছিল। চাহ বাগিছাৰ মজদুৰ সকলক যেতিয়া প্ৰথমতে অসমলৈ অনা হৈছিল তেতিয়া তেওঁলোকে মহলৰ পৰা মদ কিনি খোৱা নাছিল তেওঁলোকে হাৰিয়া বা লাউপানীহে খাইছিল। কিন্তু হাৰিয়া বা লাউপানীৰ প্ৰচলন বা খোৱা আইনমতে বন্ধ কৰি দোকানৰ পৰা কিনি খোৱা এটা আইন সঙ্কত অনুচিত উপায় চৰকাৰে প্ৰবৰ্ত্তন কৰিলে। অৱশ্যে ইয়াৰ আগৰ চৰকাৰেহে এই নিয়ম প্ৰবৰ্ত্তন কৰিছিল আৰু বৰ্ত্তমান চৰকাৰে সেই নীতি মাত্ৰ চলাইহে আছে।

Shri BAIKUNTHA NATH DAS [Rangiya (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : I think the hon. Member has gone beyond the scope of the Resolution.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister, Home) : The hon. Member is not within the scope of his Resolution, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : His argument is that so long as the liquor shops are there 'Haria' should continue.

Alright, Mr. Bora, what was your point ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) : The hon. Member has not confined his speech to the scope of the Resolution. First he referred to opium, then referred to Ganja and this time he is referring to 'Haria'. But the main intention of his Resolution is to do away with the liquor shops. It seems then that this Resolution has not been properly drafted. Any way, Sir, he is going away from the main principle of the Resolution. He should confine his speech to the liquor shops only.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) : মই নিজৰ ওপৰত বিশ্বাস ৰাখি কৈছো যে, মোৰ বক্তব্য প্ৰস্তাৱৰ ভিতৰত থাকিয়েই কৈছো, সীমাৰ বাহিৰ হোৱা নাই।

মই ভাবো যেতিয়ালৈকে মদৰ দোকান চলি থাকিব তেতিয়ালৈ হাৰিয়াও চলি থাকিবলৈ দিব লাগিব। যিদিনাই অন্যান্য মদৰ দোকান বন্ধ কৰিব সেই দিনাই হাডিয়াও বন্ধ কৰক। হাডিয়া চুলাই, মহলৰ মদ, প্ৰস্তাৱ অনুযায়ী ১৯৫৮ চনৰ ভিতৰত সম্পূৰ্ণ বন্ধ হব লাগে। যদি সেয়ে হয়, সেই অনুযায়ী হাৰিয়াও সেই সময়ৰ ভিতৰতে বন্ধ হৈ যাব। গতিকে অন্যান্য মদৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত যি নীতি প্ৰয়োগ কৰা হব হাৰিয়াৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতো সেই একে নীতিকে প্ৰয়োগ কৰা হব বুলি আশা কৰিলো। মদ নিৰাৱণৰ কাৰ্য্যত ট্ৰেডইউনিয়ন (সংঘ) বিলাকৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ সহযোগ পাব বুলি মই পৰিষদক জনালো।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Resolution moved is that in view of the fact that the existance of the liquor shops stands in the way to prohibition and to effect successful prohibition in the State, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take necessary steps to close down all the liquor shops of the State within the year 1958.

Shri CHATRA SING TERON (Minister, Excise) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really thankful to the hon. Member for his anxiety for extending Prohibition throughout the whole State, but at the same time, I would like to inform the hon. Members that the Government is not less anxious for it. I think, that if all the population of the State are as much anxious as he is then probably this policy of prohibition of the Government can be extended and successfully implemented. But the actual state of circumstances is quite contrary to the hon. Member's anxiety for prohibition. In the course of my reply to a Cut Motion the other day I already discussed this problem exhaustively and I hope the hon. Member listened to that. I stated then that because of the peculiar circumstances that are prevailing in our State, the Government is following a policy of gradual

prohibition and in pursuance of this policy I cannot tell him definitely whether in the year 1958 prohibition can be extended to the entire State of Assam. As one of my colleagues has pointed out, abolition of liquor shops does not mean prohibition altogether. On that day I pointed out that preparation of Pachwai was almost like a cottage industry in our State among the tribal people and if all the liquor shops are abolished then there is no guarantee that with all possible means at the command of the Government it will be possible to check illicit distillation immediately unless and until the people come forward to do away with this practice of taking liquor. I hope the hon. Member will agree with the Government and while Government is pursuing such a policy of gradual prohibition I would request the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): In view of the statement given by the Hon'ble Minister for Excise I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Resolution re-Provision of air transport facilities to the North Bank in between the river Brahmaputra and Subansiri.

Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that:

"In view of the hardships experienced by the people of North Bank in between the rivers Brahmaputra and Subansiri due to lack of proper communication and transport facilities this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do move the Government of India to take necessary steps to provide air transport facilities to the locality."

Sir, while moving this Resolution I should like to draw the attention of this House to the situation of the locality which I have referred to in this Resolution. The area between the rivers Brahmaputra and Subansiri is composed of as many as 7 Mouzas with a total population of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. This vast area sandwiched by the rivers Brahmaputra and Subansiri and the people for many years are experiencing great difficulties because of the geographical position of those mighty rivers Brahmaputra and Subansiri and that is why this portion of Lakhimpur district had been left neglected for years together and more so after the great earthquake. You know the river Brahmaputra has become very turbulent since the earthquake and

crossing of the river during summer has become extremely difficult. We have heard of boat disasters year after year and we have also heard of incidents of deaths that have been taking place in the river Brahmaputra. That is also the case with the river Subansiri. As the Government for the time being cannot make a complete control of the rivers, especially, during the summer season, and as the Government cannot provide good transport facilities such as steam ferry and people are experiencing tremendous difficulties in crossing the rivers. Besides, for administrative purpose this area is divided into two parts, one half in North Lakhimpur Subdivision and the other half in Dibrugarh Subdivision and the people there have got to cross the rivers with great risk in order to perform their business in connection with administration and for earning their livelihood. I have moved this resolution so that the difficulties of these people can be removed.

Sir, I would draw the pointed attention of the Government as well as the hon. Members to treat the case of this area as a special one and not to generalise it with communication difficulties of other parts of Assam. Therefore, I will urge upon the House to support my Resolution which will provide an air strip in that area connecting Dibrugarh. Of course, there is already an air service from Jorhat to North-Lakhimpur but as the people of North-Lakhimpur is directly connected with Dibrugarh this air service is not of much use to the people of North-Lakhimpur and as a result this has become a losing concern.

With these words, I again commend my Resolution for the acceptance of the House so that air facilities can be availed of by the people of this area and thus solve the transport difficulties of the people.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Resolution moved is that in view of the hardships experienced by the people of North Bank in between the rivers Brahmaputra and Subansiri due to lack of proper communication and transport facilities, this Assembly is of opinion that Government of Assam do move the Government of India to take necessary steps to provide air transport facilities to the locality.

Shri SIDDINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport Department).—Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have full sympathy with the people of the area for which my Friend, Shri Lalit Kumar Doley, has moved this Resolution to the effect that the area should be connected by an air transport service. I know,

Sir, and the House is also aware that after the earthquake the communication of that area has become worst. For provision of the such an air strip in that area is not within the purview of the State Government and it is doubtful whether a suitable air strip can be found in that area also. At the same time, the air transport service is a commercial organisation and it is difficult to say whether if an air service connecting the area will be profitable and whether sufficient passengers will be available. All these require careful examination and consideration of the Air Corporation of India but if the House wants to forward the Resolution, I shall be glad to do so, and move Government of India, to connect the area by air transport service.

Shri LALIT KUMAR DOLEY [Moran (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Sir, in view of the statement of the Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Resolution re : Prohibition of catching fish at the time of its laying eggs.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of the increase of population, the scarcity of fish in Assam is increasing to a great extent, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do prohibit the catching of fish at the time of its laying eggs.

এই প্রস্তাবটো মই সদনত দাঙি ধৰিছো এই কাৰণে যে আজি জনসংখ্যা বাঢ়ি আহাৰ লগে লগে অসমত খাদ্যৰ অনাটন হৈ পৰিছে। বিশেষকৈ অসমীয়া মানুহৰ পৰিমাণিক আহাৰ (Balanced Diet) ৰ অভাৱ হৈছে। আজি বজাৰত যি অলপ অচৰপ মাছ ওলাই তাকো বেচি দাম দি কিনিব নোৱাৰি মানুহ বজাৰৰ পৰা মাছ নিকিনি ঘৰি যাব লগীয়া হয়। কিন্তু মাছ মাৰি খোৱাৰ সুবিধাও নাই কিয়া হৈছে।

আজি কালি একোটা খঁৰীয়া মাছৰ দাম ৪ (চাৰি) টকা। আগেয়ে হয়তো তাৰ দাম ১০ অনাহে আছিল। আগতে বোমাছ যিটোৰ দাম ৪ টকা আছিল আজি সেইটো মাছৰ ৬০—৫০ টকা হৈছে। তাৰ ফলত আজি অসমীয়া বাইজৰ সেই আহাৰ দুপ্ৰাপ্য হৈছে। যদি এনে অবস্থাই হয় তেন্তে Protin খাদ্য প্ৰাণৰ অভাৱ হব তাত সন্দেহ নাই।

কেই বছৰ মানৰ পৰা অসম চৰকাৰে মাছৰ খেতি কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিছে, বহু ঠাইত বহু খাল বিলৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি মাছ পোহাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে। কিন্তু জন সংখ্যা ইমান বাঢ়িছে যে সেই অনুযায়ী আমাৰ মাছৰ যি খেতি সি যথেষ্ট নহয়।

স্বাভাৱিকতে নৈ, বিল আদিত যিসময়ত মাছে কনী পাৰে সেই সময়ত মাছ ধৰা বন্ধ কৰি মাছ সংৰক্ষণ কৰিব লাগে। তেতিয়া অসমত মাছ নদন-বদন হব। ফলত বজাৰত মাছৰ যোগান বৃদ্ধি পাব আৰু সাধাৰণ মানুহেও মাছ খাবলৈ পাব। মাছ ধৰি খোৱা মানুহেও ধৰিবলৈ মাছ পাব। এতিয়া মাছৰ দাম ইমান বেচি যে সাধাৰণ

মানুহৰটো কথাই নাই সদায় মাছ কিনি খোৱা অৱস্থাপনা সকলৰ পক্ষেও টান বৈ পৰিছে। গাঁৱলীয়া মানুহে মাছ খোৱা বুলিব নোৱাৰি মাছ ধৰাহে বুলিব পাৰি। আমাৰ গাঁৱৰ মানুহৰ জকাই বোৱা, জুলুকী বোৱা, লাক দিয়া আদি কিছমান মাছ ধৰা খেল আছে। সেই বোৱৰ দ্বাৰা মাছ খোৱাতকৈ ধৰাতহে বেচি আনন্দ। তেওঁলোকে বছৰত দুই তিনি মাহ মান হে এই দৰে মাছৰ মুখ দেখিবলৈ পায় বাকী ন মাহ মাছ খাবলৈকে নে পায়। কেতিয়াবা নগৰলৈ গলে বজাৰলৈ গৈ মাছ অকন আনে তাক খোৱা বুলিব নোৱাৰি। সেই কাৰণে কণী হোৱাৰ সময়ত মাছ ধৰা বন্ধ কৰিব লাগে যাতে মাছৰ বৃদ্ধিত বাধা নপৰে।

উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, যোৱাৰ বাৰিষা লহে ধীৰে আহিছিল। সেই কাৰণে যি মাছ হৈছিল তাক চেপা, খোকা আৰু ঠুহা আদিৰে ধৰি ক্ষুণ্ণ কৰিছিল ফলত গোটেই বছৰটো পঠাৰত মাছ নাইকিয়া হল। উজানৰ সময়ত মাছ খোৱাতকৈ মাছ মৰাতছে বেচি আনন্দ পোৱা যায়। সেই উজানৰ সময়তে গাঁৱৰ মানুহে গোটেই বছৰটোলৈ মাছ খোৱাৰ নিচিনা আমোদ পায়। কিন্তু এই বাৰ বাৰিষাটো যপহ কৰে আহিল—ফলত উজানত নাছ ধৰিব পৰা নহল। সেই কাৰণে এতিয়া আন বিল আৰু পুখুৰীত মাছৰ সংখ্যা বাঢ়িছে। বৰশী টোপায়ো মাছ ধৰিব পৰা হৈছে।

সিদিনা মই উত্তৰ লক্ষীমপুৰৰ পৰা আহোতে ২৫ টা বৌ মাছ এখন গাৰিত লাদিব খুজিছে। তাৰ ২৩টা মান বৌ কণী লগা। মই এটা বৌ মাছ কিনিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিলো।

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Mangaldai): সদস্য জনে মাছত কণী আছেনে নাই পেট ফালি চাইছিলে নে কি ?

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): মাছবোৰ পেটোলা হৈ আছিল। তাত থকা স্থানীয় মানুহ এজনে কলে যে বৌ মাছ নিকিনিব। কণী আছে। আজি কালি বৌ মাছত সোৱাদি নাই। এই কণী লগা মাছ খাই সোৱাদ নেপাব। এই বৌ মাছ যদি সংৰক্ষণ কৰিলেনেহেতেন তেনেহলে মাছৰ সংখ্যা যথেষ্ট বাঢ়িলহেঁতেন। সেই কাৰণে কেই মাহ মান নাছ খোৱাকৈ বন্ধ কৰিব লাগে।

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDER (Hailakandi): সেইবোৰ মাছ বিলৰ পৰা ধৰিছেনে নৈৰ পৰা ধৰিছে ?

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI: বিলৰ পৰা ধৰা মাছ। সেই কাৰণে মই এটা কথা বিশেষ ভাবে অনুভৱ কৰিছো যে যদি আমি মীন মহলৰ দ্বাৰা মাছৰ খেতি কৰি বৃদ্ধি কৰিব খোজো তেনেহলে আমি কণী লগা মাছ সংৰক্ষণ কৰিবই লাগিব, নহলে মাছৰ অভাৱ গুচুৱা টান হব। দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে যে, মীন মহল যেতিয়া বিষয়াই ডাকি লয় তেতিয়া ডাক বৰ বেচি হব নেলাগে অথবা ডাক উঠিবলৈ দিব নেলাগে। বেচি ডাক হলে বিষয়াই আটাইবোৰ মাছ ধৰি শেষ কৰিব। অলপ কম ডাক হলে বিষয়ায়ো কমাই মাছ মাৰিব। কাৰণ টকাটো বেগেতে উঠাব পাৰিব। আৰু ডাক কম কৰি চৰকাৰেও বিষয়াক কণী লগা মাছ ধৰিবলৈ হাক দিব পাৰে। ইয়াৰ পৰা অৱশ্যে চৰকাৰে কিছু ক্ষতি আছে কাৰণ দুই মাহ মাছ মৰা বন্ধ কৰিলে ডাক কমাব লাগিব। কিন্তু অসমীয়া বাইজৰ মুখলৈ চাই অলপ ক্ষতিলৈ লক্ষ্য কৰা অনুচিত ইয়াৰ লগে লগে বাইজৰ মাজত এটা জাগৰণ কৰিব লাগিব যে কণী লগা মাছ ধৰিব নেলাগে। মোৰ বিশ্বাস বাইজক কথাটো বুজাই দিলে নিশ্চয় বুজিব। আশাকৰো চৰকাৰে এই মতে এটা ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব।

আমাৰ খাদ্যৰ পৰিপূৰক মাছ সংৰক্ষণ আৰু বৃদ্ধিৰ হকে মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সদনত দাঙি ধৰিছো। মোৰ বিশ্বাস সদস্য সকলে ইয়াৰ গুৰুত্ব উপলব্ধি কৰি প্ৰস্তাৱটো গ্ৰহণ কৰিব।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Resolution moved is that in view of the increase of population, the scarcity of fish in Assam is increasing to a great extent, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do prohibit the catching of fish at the time of its laying eggs.

***M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Resolution was to be replied by my hon. Friend, the Revenue, Minister, but since he is held up for a very important work he is not in the House, so with your permission I am replying on his behalf.

Sir, I am really surprised that the potentialities of my Friend, the Mover of the Resolution, have been starting the day with the Bhogdoi Bridge and ending with belly of the fish, and I do not know where he will end. Sir, my Friend without indulging in all subjects should try to specialise himself in one subject.

In this connection, Sir, I would like to say that the principle underlying this Resolution has been accepted by Government and it is the policy of the Government to prohibit as far as is practicable catching of fish during the season of laying of eggs, but the real difficulty is during the season of laying of eggs the fishes generally go towards brink of the river and also in such area where it cannot normally be approached. Therefore, it is very difficult to give effect to the Resolution of such nature, but still then, Sir, the Government has decided to follow this policy in fish sanctuary and also in some jungle areas as prohibited area not to catch fish at any time. With regard to the rest of the areas, it is very difficult to stop such sort of fish catching with nets and also it is not possible to say which fish would be with eggs and which one without eggs. Therefore in the plains areas of the State it is impossible to accept a principle like this and where it is possible to follow this principle, Government will surely extend it and, therefore, in fish sanctuary and such prohibited areas fishes are not allowed to be caught

during the laying of eggs season. Apart from that, Sir, in some parts of the State Government do now allow fishing by nets and even if net fishing is allowed the size of the net should not be less than $\frac{1}{4}$ " in., this is done in order to protect the small fish from being caught in the net and thereby the fish supply continues. Therefore, Sir, it is not possible to accept this Resolution and Government of course is trying to do its best to conserve the fish supply in the rivers of the State.

With these few words Sir, I would request the mover of the Resolution kindly to withdraw his Resolution.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will the hon. Mover of the Resolution withdraw his Resolution ?

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Yes, Sir, I have no objection to withdraw it.

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

Resolution re-Enforcement of the Provident Fund Act for the benefit of transhipment workers of R. S. N., I. G. N. and Railway Co. Ltd., and certain other concerns.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of future security of the employees of the following Industries and Establishments, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government do take steps to enforce the Provident Fund Act for the benefit of workers.

- (1) Transhipment workers of R. S. N. and I. G. N. and Railway Co. Ltd.
- (2) Oil and Rice Mills.
- (3) Engineering Establishments.
- (4) Saw Mill and Ply-wood Factories.
- (5) Printing Presses.
- (6) Hotels and Restaurants and
- (7) Shops and Establishments.

উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, এই প্রস্তাৱটো উপাধন কৰিছে। এই কাৰণে যে আমাৰ যি সকল শ্ৰমিক অসমৰ চাৰিওফালে বেলেগ বেলেগ ব্যৱসায় আৰু কাৰখানাত সিঁচবতি হৈ আছে তেওঁলোকৰ সংৰক্ষণৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা এতিয়ালৈকে হোৱা নাই। ডাঙৰ ডাঙৰ শিল্প বিলাকৰ নিমিত্তে কিছু আইন হৈছে আৰু কিছু সংৰক্ষণৰ ব্যৱস্থাও হৈছে, যেনে চাহ শিল্পত হৈছে। সৰু সৰু কাৰখানা বিলাকত বহুত মানুহে কাম কৰিছে আৰু দিনে দিনে তেনেকুৱা শ্ৰমিকৰ সংখ্যা বাঢ়ি গৈছে। এনেকৈ লোকক শ্ৰম দি যি সকলে জীৱিকা অৰ্জন কৰিছে তেওঁলোকৰ নিৰাপত্তাৰ কাৰণে এই পৰিষদে ব্যৱস্থা অৱলম্বন কৰা উচিত আৰু সেই ভাৱতহে মই এই প্রস্তাৱটো দাঙি ধৰিছো।

এনেকুৱা বহুত উদাহৰণ আছে যে দুই পইচা জমা নোহোৱাকৈ জীৱনটো কাম কৰাই বৃদ্ধ কালত মৰ্গনীয়াৰ অৱস্থাত এৰি দিয়ে। এনেকৈ ভৱণপোষণৰ কোনো সম্বল নোহোৱাকৈ যোৱাৰ বহুতো উদাহৰণ পোৱা যায়। অলপতে যোৱাহাটৰ দাস কোম্পানীত ৩০ বছৰ কাম কৰি থকা এজন কৰ্মীয়ে যেতিয়া তেওৰ শৰীৰৰ শক্তি নাই কিয়া হ'ল, চাকৰি এৰি যাব লগা হৈছে। কিন্তু তেওঁ এপইচাও লগত লৈ যাব নোৱাৰিলে। যদিহে এই ব্যৱসায় আৰু কাৰখানা বিলাকত Provident Fundৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পৰা যায় তেনেহলে শ্ৰমজীৱী সকলৰ নিৰাপদতাৰ বহুত খিনি কাম আগ বাঢ়ে। শ্ৰমজীৱী সকলৰ কাৰণে সমাজত বহুতো আইন হৈছে আৰু সেই আইন প্ৰয়োগ কৰাও হৈছে। কিন্তু এইটো এটা ডাঙৰ কথা যে সৰু সৰু ব্যৱসায়ত কাম কৰা শ্ৰমিক সকলক কোনো আইনে সহায় কৰিবলৈ এতিয়ালৈকে চুকি পোৱা নাই আৰু কোনো আইনে এতিয়ালৈকে তেওঁলোকক সহায় কৰিব পৰা নাই। তেওঁবিলাক মালিকৰ মজিৰ ওপৰত থাকিব লগীয়া হয় আৰু বহুতে তেওঁলোকৰ কান মলাখাই সত্ৰৰ ওচৰত উপস্থিত হৈছে। তেওঁলোকৰ অৱস্থা দেখিলে সঁচাকৈয়ে দুখ লাগে। বহুত দিন কাম কৰাৰ পিচতো অলপ সন্দেহ হলেই নাইবা মালিকৰ অলপ ব্যাঘাত হলেই পথৰ ভিক্ষাৰী হব লগা হয়। কিন্তু তাত যদি Provident Fund থাকে তেনেহলে সি হাতত দুই পইচা লৈ ঘৰলৈ ওলাই যাব পাৰে আৰু লৰাছোৱালীকো দিব পাৰে। আজি অসমত তেনেকুৱা শ্ৰমিক সকলৰ কাৰণে Provident Fundৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা আমাৰ মূল কৰ্তব্য। এই Provident Fund অসমৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক উন্নতিৰ বাটত বহুত পৰিমাণে সহায় হ'ব। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে ক'ব পাৰোঁ যে চাহশিল্পত Provident Fundৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰাৰ ফলত অসমত প্ৰায় ৫ কোটি টকাৰ এটা পুঁজি সংগৃহীত হৈছে আৰু এই টকাৰ পৰা অসমত এটা ডাঙৰ পুঁজিৰ শক্তি সংগঠিত হৈছে। যিবিলাক চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰীৰ Provident Fund আছে আৰু আন আন ব্যৱসায়ৰ যি সকল মালিকে নিজ নিজ শ্ৰমিকৰ নিমিত্তে Provident Fund Scheme অৱলম্বন কৰিছে, সেই Provident Fundৰ যি পুঁজি সংগৃহীত হৈছে সেইটো অসম বা ভাৰতৰ এটা ডাঙৰ পুঁজি। তাৰ লগে লগে যদি এই সৰু সৰু কাৰখানা আৰু সংস্থান বিলাকৰ শ্ৰমিক সকলৰ কাৰণে Provident Fundৰ ব্যৱস্থা হয় তেনেহলে অসমৰ এটা ডাঙৰ পুঁজি সংগৃহীত হোৱাত বহুতখিনি কাম আগ বাঢ়ে। যেনেকৈ Provident Fundৰ পুঁজিটো দ্বিতীয় পঞ্চ বাৰ্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাৰ সংগৃহীত পুঁজি বুলি ধৰি লোৱা হৈছে, সেই দৰে আজি অসম বা ভাৰতত যি মূলধনৰ অভাৱ হৈছে তাত যদি আমি এই Provident Fundৰ পুঁজি অসম বা ভাৰতৰ উন্নতিৰ নিমিত্তে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰোঁ তেনেহলে Provident Fundৰ জৰিয়তে সংগৃহীত হোৱা পুঁজি অসম বা ভাৰতৰ অৰ্থনৈতিক উন্নতিত ভালেখিনি সহায় হ'ব আৰু লগতে তাৰ পৰা শ্ৰমিক সকলৰ জীৱনৰ এটা অমূল পৰিৱৰ্ত্তন হ'ব আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ ভবিষ্যত নিৰাপদতাৰ এটা ডাঙৰ সংস্থান হ'ব। সেই কাৰণে মই অসমৰ দিনকদিনে বাঢ়ি অহা শ্ৰমিক সকলৰ ভবিষ্যত সংৰক্ষণ আৰু সংস্থানৰ কাৰণে অসম চৰকাৰে যথোপযুক্ত ব্যৱস্থা অৱলম্বন কৰি কেন্দ্ৰীয় আইনখন বলৱৎ কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰি এই প্রস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিলো।

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Resolution moved is that in

view of future security of the employees of the following Industries and Establishments, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to enforce Provident Fund Act for the benefit of the workers :

(1) Transhipment workers of R. S. N. and I. G. N. and Railway Co., Ltd.

(2) Oil and Rice Mills.

(3) Engineering Establishments.

(4) Saw Mill and Plywood Factories.

(5) Printing Presses.

(6) Hotels and Restaurants.

(7) Shops and Establishments.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to move an amendment to the Resolution moved by my Friend, Shri Sarbeswar Bardoloi. The amendment is meant to delete item (6) and (7) in the last part of the Resolution.

Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar): I accept the amendment, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then the Resolution will stand upto item No. (5) only, (6) and (7) being *deleted*.

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Labour):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Resolution had two defects from our point of view. One was with regard to hotels, restaurants, shops and establishments. In our State these are not organised industries. We are glad that they have been withdrawn, otherwise, we could not have accepted them.

With regard to the rest of the Resolution, I think we should have no difficulty in accepting the principle of the Resolution. But as the Resolution stands drafted, I think it would be wise for us to make certain verbal amendments, if you permit. I suggest that the first line and the second line upto "Establishment" be completely deleted. The Resolution will begin like this: "This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to (here I suggest certain changes)

get the Employees' Provident Fund Act extended for the benefit of workers in Assam in the following industries". I propose this as an amendment.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): I accept it, Sir.

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister Labour):** I will read the Resolution as amended. "This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to get the Employees' Provident Fund Act extended for the benefit of the workers in Assam in the following industries":—

The industries are mentioned in the printed list and I need not read.

Now, Sir, so far as the Provident Fund Act is concerned, this House will remember that the main purpose of provident fund is to provide security in old age to the old man as well as his entire family. One thing which happens when a person gets proletarianised is that he becomes homeless and the results which arise out of this homelessness are never countermanded sufficiently by his subsequent life. Therefore, wherever and whenever the working class has grown in the country it has been found necessary to provide certain social security measures which in the agricultural life are not deemed necessary. One of these obviously is provident fund. Therefore, the Government of India enacted a legislation called the Employees' Provident Fund Act in 1952. Since then it has been gradually extended to different industries and different parts of the country. One other reason why we are going on ahead with the extension of the Provident Fund Act obviously is that we want to provide some sort of socialistic pattern of capital formation in the country. You will have seen, Sir, in the speech made by Shri G.D. Birla, where he had said that formerly nearly 75 per cent of the credit used to be provided by the private capitalists and 25 per cent by the institutional credit structure. Now the picture has completely changed. Now nearly 75 per cent of the credit is provided by institutional credit structure whereas only 25 per cent is provided by individual capitalist enterprise. Therefore, a great gap has arisen in the capital formation structure in the country. Unless this is countermanded by some other socialistic method of capital formation it may be very difficult for us in the long run. One of the ways in which socialistic capital formation

may occur is provident fund. My Friend himself now said that even in this poor State of Assam, the tea garden labourers, who are considered to be one of the poorest, have been able to contribute within the last two years nearly five crores of rupees, along with the contribution of the employers to this fund. Therefore, this is a way in which socialistic capital formation occurs and so the entire State, including the public, is interested in this matter. The Central Government as well as this Government as intend to go forward pushing the application of this Act in larger and larger measure.

Now, coming to the positions as it obtains, I may tell my Friend that he has mentioned seven industries of which he has taken out two ; five remain. Of these, Nos. (2), (3) and (5) have already been covered, that is to say, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Calcutta, has already taken steps for enforcement of the Act to oil and rice mills along with mechanical and general engineering establishments and printing presses. The Government of India are also contemplating to cover transport workers within the scope of this Act. This will perhaps include the employees of the R. S. N. and I.G.N. Companies. Doubt has been expressed as to whether transshipment labour may be included. I see no reason for doubt. Two years ago we had an agreement with the Railway and Steam Navigation Company when I was outside the Ministry and in the Trade Union. It will be remembered that the Company agreed to make them permanent employees. I do not think any difficulty would arise if this is extended to R. S. N. and I. G. N. Companies. With regard to transshipment labour, this Government has already moved the Government of India to include saw mills and plywood factories within the scope of this Act. So, we have taken steps in that direction also. It will, therefore, be seen that out of these five industries, action has already been taken with regard to five and we intend to go forward implementing the same. In view of this and in view of the amendments which have been proposed, one by myself and by the other member, which have already been accepted by the mover, I have great pleasure in accepting the Resolution as amended.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that the Resolution as amended be accepted.

(The Resolution, as finally amended, was adopted.)

Resolution re: Sanctioning of sufficient grants for improvement of water supply in the rural areas.

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHOUDHURY (Boko): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that in view of the acute scarcity of drinking water in the rural areas, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to improve the water supply in those areas by sanctioning sufficient grants for the purpose.

মহোদয়, আজি গাঁৱলীয়া ৰাইজৰ জনস্বাস্থ্য বিশেষকৈ দুটি বস্তুৰ ওপৰত নিভৰ কৰিছে। তাৰে প্ৰথমটো হ'ল খাদ্য আৰু দ্বিতীয়টো খোৱা পানী। আজি ৰাজ্যত খাদ্যৰ অভাৱ তাতে আকৌ খোৱাপানীৰ অভাৱত গাঁৱলীয়া ৰাইজৰ স্বাস্থ্য দিনকদিনে তললৈ গৈছে। ইয়াৰ অভাৱতে গাঁৱৰ মানুহে আজি কলেৰা আদি সংক্ৰামক ৰোগত ভুগিছে। পশ্চিম চমৰীয়া আৰু আন আন ৩-৪খন নৌজাৰ মানুহে খোৱাপানী পোৱাটো দূৰৰ কথা গৰু মহেও খোৱাৰ কাৰণে পানী নাপায়।

আজি অৱশ্য মই শলাগ লও যে চৰকাৰে বছৰে বছৰে Developmentৰ ফালৰ ১৮ৰ আৰু L. S. G.ৰ জৰিয়তে বহু টকা দিছে। তাৰে প্ৰত্যেক নৌজাত ২-৪ হাজাৰ টকা যদি খোৱা পানীৰ কাৰণে খৰচ হয়, তেতিয়া নৌজা এখনত ৫-১০টা টিউব ওৱেল হব পাৰে। কিন্তু এনে একোখন গাঁও আছে য'ত এখন গাঁওতে ৫-৬টা Tube Wellৰ দৰ্কাৰ। চৰকাৰে টকা যথেষ্টই খৰচ কৰিছে কিন্তু অভাৱ অনুযায়ী হোৱা নাই। সেইকাৰণে মই এই প্ৰস্তাবৰ জৰিয়তে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ জনাও যাতে গাঁৱলীয়া ৰাইজৰ জনস্বাস্থ্যৰ প্ৰতি লক্ষ্য কৰি যেনেকৈ আহাৰৰ যোগান দিব লাগে তেনেকৈ খোৱা পানীৰ ব্যৱস্থাও কৰে। তাৰ কাৰণে বাজেটত উপযোগী টকা ধৰিব লাগে।

সেইকাৰণে মই এই প্ৰস্তাবটো দাঙি ধৰিছো আৰু এনে এটা দৰ্কাৰী প্ৰস্তাব এই সদনত গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ বুলি মই মানুনয়ে অনুৰোধ কৰো।

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Resolution moved is that in view of the acute scarcity of drinking water in the rural areas, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to improve the water supply in those areas by sanctioning sufficient grants for the purpose.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Palashbari): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Shri Radha Charan Choudhury.

Sir, he has clearly mentioned that food and water are the two necessities of life if one wants to live in this world, and without food and water one cannot live. But what we find, even at the end of the 10th year of our independence, we are sorry to say that there is scarcity of drinking water in the rural areas of our State. Whenever there is epidemic we find that there is no proper drinking water. Recently

about two months ago there was Cholera epidemic at Palashbari side. Myself along with the Deputy Minister, Medical, visited the places. We found that for want of good drinking water the cholera epidemic had broken out. It is true, that the Government has allotted sufficient money for having good drinking water in the rural areas. But the money allotted is not quite sufficient in view of the demand for good drinking water.

Then, Sir, in some places for two months in the year, viz., Falgun and Chaitra, the wells and tanks dry up with the result that during these two months specially, there is scarcity of drinking water in the rural areas. I have seen in some places a new scheme has been drawn up by the Public Health Department by means deep tube well for supply of good drinking water. I submit, Sir, if the Government wants to remove scarcity of good drinking water in the rural areas then the Government should have a plan by means of deep tube well. If this procedure is followed then scarcity of drinking water in the rural areas will be removed, and at the same time the people will not suffer from such epidemic diseases.

Shri DANDIRAM DATTA (Mangaldai): মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মোৰ বন্ধু শ্ৰীবাধা চৌধুৰীয়ে যি প্ৰস্তাৱ ডাঙিধৰিছে তাক নই সমৰ্থন কৰিছো।

আমাৰ চৰকাৰে গাওঁবিলাকত পানী যোগানৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে হয় কিন্তু যেনেকৈ ব্যৱস্থা হ'ব লাগে, তেনে ব্যৱস্থা হোৱা নাই। আমি দেখিছো যে লোকেল বোৰ্ড আৰু পঞ্চায়তৰ জৰিয়তে যিবিলাক Tube well দিছে তাৰ বেচি ভাগেই গাৱলীয়া অঞ্চলত কাম নিদিয়ৈ। বহুত সময়ত গাঁৱত যিবিলাক Tube well দিয়া হয় সেই বিলাক গাওঁৰ সৰু সৰু লৰা-ছোৱালীয়ে নষ্ট কৰে। সেই কাৰণে সেই Tube well বিলাকৰ ঠাইত Deep Tube well ৰ এটা Scheme কৰি ৫ মাইল অন্তৰে অন্তৰে একোটাটক দিব লাগে।

আমাৰ চৰকাৰে বহুত ডাক্তৰখানাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে কিন্তু তাত ঔষধ তৈয়াৰ কৰিবলৈ পানী নাই। বহু ঠাইত নদীৰ পানীৰে ঔষধ তৈয়াৰ কৰি দিয়ে।

গাওঁবোৰত যেতিয়া কলেবা আৰম্ভ হয় সেই সময়তো নদীৰ ওচৰৰ মানুহবোৰে নদীৰে পানী খাবলৈ বাধ্য হয়, কাৰণ খোৱা পানীৰ দ্বিতীয় বা বিকল্প একো ব্যৱস্থা নাই। সেই কাৰণে নদীৰ ওচৰৰ গাওঁ বোৰত কুৱা খানি দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। আৰু আগৰ বজাদিনৰ যিবিলাক পুৰণি পুখুৰী আছে সেইবোৰ চাফ চিকুন কৰি উন্নত কৰি দিলে বহুত গাঁৱত সেই পুখুৰীৰ পৰাই খোৱা পানী যোগানৰ ভাল ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব পাৰিব।

আমাৰ চৰকাৰে লোকেল বোৰ্ড উঠাবলৈ স্থিৰ কৰিছে আৰু তাৰ পৰিবৰ্ত্তে পঞ্চায়ত গঠন কৰিছে। বৰ্ত্তমান যিবিলাক পঞ্চায়ত সম্পূৰ্ণ হৈছে সেই পঞ্চায়ত

বোৰক গাঁৱত পানী যোগানৰ ভাৱ দিব লাগে আৰু তাৰ বাবে তেওঁলোকক যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে টকাও দিব লাগে। আশাকৰে চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে বিশেষ দৃষ্টি ৰাখিব। ইয়াকে কৈ মোৰ বন্ধু শ্ৰীৰাধা চৰণ চৌধুৰীৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰিলো।

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Town and Country Planning):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Resolution is also very important and it also calls for sufficient grant for the purpose of implementation of its object. In another Resolution I explained the difficulty of the Government of India in making available to us sufficient grant. I fully agree with the qualification put to this 'sufficiency'. I am not myself satisfied with the extent of the work done. I believe covered water supply is one of the best ways for ensuring the health of the nation. When I went to America, I was told that the entire nation gets water supply from pipes. For this reason water-borne diseases are scarce there. Since our country has become independent, our Government has made planned provision of grants for the purpose of developing rural water supply. It is realised that a great deal of illness in the villages is water-borne Dysentery, Diarrhoea, Hook-worm, Cholera all these are water-borne diseases.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is hook-worm also water-borne?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Yes

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Town and Country Planning):** We have, therefore, been advised to give utmost importance on rural water supply. We find in the rural areas, even in towns, water supply is not sufficient; even in Shillong we find the same thing. Therefore we are coming forward, as stated in this Resolution, not only in the rural areas but also in urban areas, as far as possible, to extend facilities for water supply for drinking purposes. Now in Assam we have provided ring-wells, tube-wells, tanks, etc. We have also provided money for renovation of old tanks and tube-wells from our own funds. I think in this year's Budget there is a provision for Rs.20 lakhs for the purpose. Besides this, I understand from My Friend, the Hon'ble Health Minister, that there is a special scheme for water supply taken up by his Ministry which is over and above what is provided in these 20 lakhs. That will be another feather in our cap. Now the point is; have we made tangible improvement in regard to the health of our population as a result of these programmes?

This is to be evaluated. My own information is that during the last few years the health of the nation has shown remarkable improvement. Many of the epidemics in the villages which used to take heavy tolls previously, have died out. I am also told by experts that as a result of all these measures, our population has increased leading us to adopt birth control measures in all earnestness. Therefore, Sir, we are at one with the Mover, so far as the intention of this resolution is concerned. We have noted with great interest the valuable suggestions of the hon. Members who spoke on this Resolution, and we will try to implement these suggestions as best as we can so that the health of our people may improve. In our efforts, however, we invite the Co-operation of all to this problem. Because when we find that the rings made for wells built by the money given to Local Boards by our Government are of so inferior quality that they were not fit for utilisation, we feel very sad indeed. This is a sample of national wastage. So I hope such things may not recur in future.

With these few words, Sir, I invite the co-operation of the House and request the Mover to withdraw his Resolution.

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHOUDHURY (Boko): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Resolution *re*: Sanctioning of sufficient agricultural loan to the peasants

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHOUDHURY (Boko): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that with a view to help the peasants in production of crops, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to sanction sufficient agricultural loans to the peasants.

এইটো কথা আজি সকলোৱে উপলব্ধি কৰিছে যে অসমত খাদ্য সমস্যাই বৰ গুৰুতৰ ৰূপ ধাৰণ কৰিছে আৰু বহুত মানুহক জুৰুলা কৰিছে। এনে অৱস্থাত আজি আমি সকলোৱে চিন্তা কৰা উচিত যে কেনেকৈ আমি দেশত খাদ্য উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধি কৰিব পাৰো। আজি দেখিবলৈ পাইছো কৃষক সকলে চৰকাৰৰ পৰা যি বিলাক সা-সুবিধা পোৱা উচিত সেই সা-সুবিধা তেওঁলোকে পোৱা নাই। যি সময়ত কৃষি ঋণ পাৰ লাগে সেই সময়ত নেপায়, দুই-তিনি মাহৰ মূৰতহে পায়। যি কৃষকক এহাল গৰু কিনিবৰ বাবে অন্ততঃ দুশ টকাৰ দৰকাৰ, তেওঁ বহুত দিনৰ পিচতহে টকা পায় আৰু সিও ৪০-৫০ টকাৰ বেচি নহয়। যোৱা বছৰ যেতিয়া কৃষি ঋণ দিয়া হৈছিল তেতিয়া প্ৰথমতে এশ টকাকৈ দিয়াৰ কথা আছিল। কিন্তু কাৰ্য্যত ২০-২৫

টকাত কৈ বেচি কোনেও নেপালে। এই অলপীয়া টকাৰে একো কাম নহয়। অৱশ্যে ঋণ বিচৰা লোকৰ সংখ্যাও সবহ হব পাৰে। তথাপি যাক দিয়া হয় তেওঁক অন্ততঃ গৰু এহাল কিনিব পৰাকৈ দিয়া ভাল।

অসমৰ বহুত ঠাইত এতিয়া হালোৱা গৰু ম'হ বেনাৰত মৰিছে। সেই কৃষকক যদি চৰকাৰে সহায় নকৰে তেন্তে তেওঁলোকে মহাজনৰ পৰা টকা ধাৰে আনি খেতি কৰা টান। আজি আমি উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধি কৰিব লাগিলে যি সকল কৃষকৰ গৰু ম'হ মৰিছে তেওঁলোকক চৰকাৰে কৃষি ঋণ দিয়াটো উচিত বুলি ভাবো। আজি দুমাহমান আগতে কংগ্ৰেছৰ সাধাৰণ সম্পাদক শ্ৰীমান নাৰায়ন আহোতে কৈছিল যে কৃষকৰ প্ৰতি চৰকাৰ উদাৰ হব লাগে আৰু তেওঁলোকক যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে কৃষি ঋণ দিব লাগে।

বহুতো কৰ্মচাৰী আছে যি সকলে security নহলে ঋণ দিবলৈ টান পায়। কিন্তু এনেকুৱা কৃষকে আছে যাৰ security দিবলৈ মাটি নাই আৰু যি আৰি খাই আছে তেওঁলোকেও যদি security দিব লগা হয় তেনেহলে তেওঁলোকে ঋণ পোৱা টান হব। সেই কাৰণে যিবিলাকে লোকৰ মাটি আৰি বা চকানি লৈ চাহ কৰে তেওঁবিলাকেও যাতে কৃষি ঋণ পাব পাৰে গৱৰ্ণমেন্টে তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত হব, বুলি মই ভাবোঁ।

এই বিষয়ে বহুলাই কবলৈ একো নাই। মই গৱৰ্ণমেন্টক অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ যে কৃষি ঋণ বেচিকৈ দিব লাগে আৰু security ৰ বেমেজালি যাতে লাঘৱ হয় তাৰ কাৰণে বিবেচনা কৰিব লাগে।

The DEPUTY SPEAKER : Resolution moved is that :

“With a view to help the peasants in production of crops, this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to sanction sufficient agricultural loans to the peasants.”

Shri DANDI RAM DATTA (Mangaldai) : মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ বন্ধু শ্ৰী ৰাধাচৰণ চৌধুৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ দাঙি ধৰিছে সেই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ সমৰ্থণত মই দুআঘাৰ মান কবলৈ ওলাইছোঁ। তেখেতে কৃষি ঋণৰ বিষয়ে যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ আনিছে সেইটো বৰ দৰকাৰী। আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে সাধাৰণতে আহিলাপাতিৰ অভাৱ নহলে ধাৰ বিচাৰি নাহে। খেতিৰ ঘাই সমল হৈছে গৰু আৰু ম'হ। যেতিয়া ব্যাপক ব্যাধি হৈ গৰু ম'হ মৰে নাইবা যেতিয়া খেতিৰ সঁচ কিনিব লগা হয় তেতিয়াহে খেতিয়ক সকলে চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত ধাৰ বিচাৰি চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰ চাপে। কিন্তু সেই ধাৰ আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে ঠিক সময়-মতে পোৱা দেখা নাযায়। কাৰণ যেতিয়া কঠিয়া সিচিবৰ সময় হয় তেতিয়া সঁচ বিচাৰিলে সময়মতে সঁচ নাপায়। বহু ক্ষেত্ৰত দেখা যায় যে যেতিয়া ধান কাটিবৰ সময় হয় তেতিয়াহে সঁচ বিলোৱা দেখা যায়। সাধাৰণতে আমাৰ খেতিয়ক সকলে বহাগ, জেঠ মাহত কঠিয়া সিচে। বহাগৰ লগে লগে খেতি কৰিবৰ কাৰণে গৰু ম'হ কিনাৰ প্ৰয়োজন হয়, কিন্তু দখাস্ত দিও সময়মতে টকা নাপায়। সেইকাৰণে মাটি বন্ধক দি বা বেচি স্ত্ৰ দি মহাজনৰ পৰা টকা ধাৰ লব লগাত পৰে। সেই কাৰণে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰোঁ, ঠিক সময়ত যাতে খেতিয়ক সকলে টকা পৰা পায় তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে আৰু সেইটো যাতে খেতিৰ সা-সৰঞ্জাম কিনাত খটুৱাব পাৰে তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা উচিত। চৌধুৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে যিবিলাকৰ মাটি নাই সেইবিলাকে সাধাৰণতে কৃষি ঋণ পোৱা দেখা নাযায়। কাৰণ সা-সম্পত্তি নেদেখিলে চৰকাৰী কৰ্মচাৰী সকলে দৰ্খাস্ত নামঞ্জুৰ কৰে। সেই কাৰণে জমিন দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি মাটি নোহোৱা খেতিয়ক সকলেও যাতে টকা পাব পৰে তাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। ইয়াকে কৈ মই তেখেতৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থণ কৰিলোঁ।

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank my Friend, Shri Radha Charan Choudhury, very much for this Resolution, but I request him to withdraw it (*laughter*) not that I am in disagreement with him but because I am in full agreement with him. The Resolution is just in line with what Government wants to do. So, when the policy of the Government and the Resolution of my Friend agree with each other there is no use of this Resolution. So, Sir, I request him to withdraw his Resolution.

As a matter of fact, Sir, we are following this policy for the last 6 years and we have issued agricultural loans of Rs.97,39,750 and the Agriculture Department has issued land improvement loan to the tune of Rs.12,09,000. Thus the total amount of loan issued comes to Rs.1,09,00,000. Now I will show how much we have realised. Out of the loan of Rs.97,39,750 in 6 years there is an outstanding amount of Rs.86,26,503. So, it is not possible for Government to give enough money to each individual of one crore population of Assam. There must be some check somewhere because Government has not got so much money. When there is actual scarcity the agricultural loan is necessary. Any amount we cannot sanction. We want the co-operation of my Friend to see that the money sanctioned actually goes to the needy.

Regarding the suggestion about anomalies and irregularities in distribution and also his suggestion that the loan should go to proper quarters, I want to tell him that we will remember this and see that in future irregularities do not occur.

As regards security for loan I must say that there must be some security. But we have issued instruction to the effect that when a cultivator does not hold periodic land, if 4 or 5 of such cultivators combine and execute the bond then loan can be issued on personal security only.

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHOUDHURY (Boko): Sir, in view of what has been stated by the Hon'ble Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Resolution re: Construction of strong stone spur embankment at the eroded places of the Brahmaputra to stabilise the Neamati Steamer Ghat

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move: "This Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to construct strong stone spur embankment at the eroded places of the Brahmaputra at the Neamati Steamer Ghat so that the Ghat may be stabilised."

Here, Sir, in place of the word "eroded" I want to put it as "erosioned". This amendment has been submitted in writing.

In moving this Resolution I would like to say a few words that this Ghat is the only connection with North Lakhimpur. Previously the connection with North Lakhimpur from Jorhat was through Kokilamukh and Kamalabari. But during the war time the Military found out this place of Neamati and so they considered it better to run their activities through Neamati-Ghat than through Kakilamukh Ghat. The war is over but the Neamatighat remains and it has developed rapidly. But when in 1950 the great earthquake came the Dibrugarh Ghat became useless and the Steamer Company, i. e., R.S.N. and I. G. N. Company, shifted Dibrugarhghat mainly to Neamati and partially to Dishangmukh. From Neamati there is almost a straight way towards Kamalabari and there is a connected service towards Dakhinpat and Salmara and, as such, Neamati has become a big commercial and communication centre not only of Jorhat and North-Lakhimpur but for the whole of Assam. Sir, thousands of tons of goods are coming and going from Neamati everyday through R. S. N. and I. G. N. Company. More than one thousand workers are living there on transhipment work; apart from that a number of new business have grown up and a large number of people have taken up trades in the Ghat. But during the last three years, the Railway line has been eroded and the huts of some of the labourers and venders have gone down under water and the Ghat has become unstable. After the Dibrugarh Ghat had to be shifted and now that Neamati has become unstable, what will be the condition of supply towards Upper Assam, including the supply of coal, oil and other things? Besides, tea is the main commodity which is moving from Upper Assam through this Ghat towards Calcutta. Sir, it is the duty of the State Government and it is very important to see to the

security of the Ghat by the Government and also they should see towards the security of supply and commerce that has developed between Upper Assam area with this Ghat. This Ghat must be protected and in doing this it will not be so costly an affair as that of Dibrugarh embankment. It will be very much less expensive to protect this important hat Gbut some of my Friends, who are Engineers, say that if stones will be put at the bank for protection the Ghat it will not be feasible but I think, a strong stone spur embankment towards the river will protect the Ghat. It is a matter of course of experts to decide, but I want to impress on the House that the Government must protect this Neamatighat at any cost.

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

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Resolution moved is that this Assembly is of opinion that the Government of Assam do take steps to construct a strong stone spur embankment at the eroded places of the Brahmaputra at the Neamati Steamer Ghat so that the Ghat may be stabilised.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister, Transport): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will narrate the steps already taken by the Government in order to stabilise this Neamatighat. Aerial photography of this area was taken in November—December 1954. Two cross sections of the Brahmaputra at this place one in the upstream of Neamati and another in the down stream of Neamati have already been taken. The scheme for protection of Neamatighat is already included in the 2nd Five-Year Plan under Flood Control Programme. Necessary surveys are being carried out for operation of the scheme and work will be taken up as soon as the surveys are completed and necessary hydrological data are collected. A sum of Rs.3 lakhs has been provided tentatively for the work in the 2nd Five-Year Plan Besides, a sum of Rs.60,000 is provided during the current financial year, 1957-58. But, I am sorry, I cannot accept the Resolution as it suggests to construct a strong stone spur embankment to stabilise the Ghat. It is for the expert to formulate a scheme how best to protect the Ghat from erosion.

Sir, in view of the fact that a scheme has been included in the 2nd Five-Year Plan and the Government is taking initial steps already, I would request my Friend to withdraw his Resolution.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar): Sir, I have listened to the Minister's statement. Of course, I have already said that I bow down to expert's opinion in this respect. I am grateful to the statement made by the Minister and I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

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

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 10 A.M. on Thursday, the 4th July, 1957.

Shillong,

The 6th June, 1958.

R. N. BARUA,

Secretary,

Legislative Assembly, Assam.

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